

Welcome to the AGNR Volunteer Newsletter for December:
News, Events, and Activities for OCVNs and MGVs

December 2022

December 1, 2022

Dear fellow OSU Master Gardener Volunteers,

What an amazing year! I learned a lot and met some great people. My thanks to all of you who contributed in so many ways. Your efforts are appreciated and are one of the things that make ours an outstanding program. Thanks so much to all who could make it out to our events, it was so great to see so many familiar faces at the meetings too. I know our new MGVs really appreciate your support and are looking forward to contributing in the next year.

We all need to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing in leadership. Our program excels when our people are interdependent on each other's skills, capabilities, and unique arrangement of gifts, talents or resources. This reminds me of a flock of geese in their V shape I recently saw flying overhead.

A goose was struggling to lead the formation and rise out of the field. Each bird following was flying slightly above the bird in front of them, reducing wind resistance. The geese take turns being the leader, falling back to the end of the v when they get tired. This means they can fly for a long time before they need to rest. The V formation makes it easier to keep track of every bird in the group. They "Honk" for recognition and to encourage each other (including the leaders) to keep each one motivated.

When a goose gets injured or sick, two other geese will fall out of formation to stay with the goose and stay with it until it is able to fly again. When they head back out, they work together to catch up with the rest of the flock. As a whole, the team is only as strong as your weakest team member.

Below are just a few lessons we can learn from these birds:

- Support each other to reach a common goal.
- Working together as a team is invaluable.
- Accept support when needed.
- Give recognition often.
- Create a sense of community.

Will you "Honk" if you think our leaders are worth following? Yes, you can email your "Honks" too.

*** Please make arrangements with the office to have your picture and bio completed. We want to publish the pictorial soon.

Bob Eister

President

MGV Banquet!



Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the Master Gardener Program. As a thank you we would like to invite you and a guest to the 2022 Master Gardener Banquet!

The banquet will be on Thursday, January 12th at A La Cart Catering. Doors will open at 6:00 pm and the program will start at 6:30 pm. Appetizers and Desserts will be provided

Both you and your guest will be free of charge with the completion of annual hour requirements and having your hours entered into Hands On Connect by Dec. 31st.

Without your hours the cost is \$15 a person.

Please RSVP to the office by calling 330-533-5538 or emailing Buonavolonta.1@osu.edu by January 1st.

MGV SHIRTS

Please make arrangements to pick up your apparel at the Mahoning County Extension Office if you have not done so already.

Please remember our requirements to be an active member are:

Deadline to submit hours is December 31, 2022

OBTAINING VOLUNTEER HOURS:

20 documented volunteer hours are required annually to maintain active status. Approved volunteer hours must be MGV related and may include:

- 2 hours must come from Backyard and Local Food events
- 2 hours must come from Environmental Horticulture events
- Approved projects to obtain volunteer hours are committee-driven
- If you desire to volunteer for a project not committee-driven, you must submit your request in writing for approval from an OSU Educator at the beginning of the year
- Attending monthly meetings will equal one volunteer hour (and one education hour – see below)
- Refer to the committee list and description
- You may NOT record any hours you are paid for

OBTAINING CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS:

10 documented education hours are required annually to maintain active status. Approved continuing education hours must be MGV related and may include:

- 2 hours must be from integrated pest management classes or presentations

- 2 hours must be from invasive species classes or presentations
- Attending monthly MGV meeting – where a speaker presents a program
- Attend an MGV-sponsored field trip with a specialist tour guide

MGV Intern Hours

You have until April 24th to get your 50 volunteer hours completed and entered into Hands On Connect. Only after the completion of your 50 volunteer hours will you be considered an Active Master Gardener. Please let Kristen know if you have any questions.

OCVN HOURS

Please continue to contact Ann Baird at baird.41@osu.edu with any questions about the system or inputting hours. OCVN hours are managed by the state.

OPPORTUNITIES

- **Wreaths for Veterans** is on **Dec.3** at 10 am. Volunteers need to be there at Eckis Cemetery at 9 am. Eckis is located at 2381 S. Newton Falls Rd., Diamond, OH 44412.
- Mahoning County Land Bank- a non-profit agency that works closely with local governments and other partners to return abandoned, tax-delinquent property to productive use. Some of the properties become sites for native wildflowers or agricultural crops, which means there are opportunities for both MGs and OCVNs to volunteer--mulching the sunflower field, checking the apple trees' health, surveying plant animal species, giving educational talks about native wildflowers, and more. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Gary Davenport, Project Coordinator for the Land Bank (and OCVN), at 330-259-1040;1 or gdavenport@mahoninglandbank.com.
- Trumbull County Soil and Water Conservation District - Amy Reeher, 330-637-2056 ext. 8624, amy@trumbullohswcd.org

SPEAKING AND TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested, please contact Kristen (Eisenhauer.30@osu.edu)

- Garden Art Classes, April – December 2023
 - o If you have a fun garden art craft that you are willing to teach people how to make, please let Pam Baytos or Kristen know. Dates will be worked out at a later time.
- Morning with the Masters – March – October 2023
 - o Morning with the Masters is the post-Covid version of Coffee with the Masters. This is once a month from March to October 2023. We are looking for people to speak on a wide variety of gardening topics. You may use a PowerPoint, but do not have to. Speakers must have an Outline and Factsheet turned in; these will be given to all the attendees. You may also include a list of other resources if you would like. If you are interested, please contact Kristen) with the topic, you would like to present. Dates will be worked out at a later time.

MGV MINUTES

November minutes: <https://go.osu.edu/mgvnovminutes>

New applications are available if you know anyone interested in taking the MGV or OCVN course in 2023.

MEETING CALENDARS

2022 MGV Meetings...

Second Thursday of the Month, 6 pm garden talk/socializing. Meeting 6:30 pm. Meetings will be held at the office unless otherwise stated

- December 8th

2023 Meetings...

- **January 12th** – 2022 MGV Banquet, A La Cart Catering - 429 Lisbon St. Canfield, OH 44406. Doors open at 6 pm, program is at 6:30. Apps and desserts provided.
- **February 9th** - Snow-out date for the 2022 MGV Banquet. If the banquet occurs in January, this will be our first meeting of 2023.
- March 9th
- April 13th
- May 11th
- June 8th
- July 13th
- August 10th
- September 14th
- October 12th
- November 9th
- December 14th

2022 Events for All Mahoning County Programs

Upcoming Classes:

- *Garden Art Series: Holiday Centerpiece (class is full)*
 - Date: Tuesday, December 13
 - Time: 6 pm
 - Location: Mahoning Extension Office
 - Taught by Pam Baytos
 - Cost: \$20
 - To register visit: <https://go.osu.edu/12-14holidaycenterpiece>
- *Garden Art Series: Holiday Centerpiece (newly added)*
 - Date: Tuesday, December 14
 - Time: 6 pm
 - Location: Mahoning Extension Office
 - Taught by Pam Baytos
 - Cost: \$20

For a complete and up-to-date list of events please visit <https://mahoning.osu.edu/events>

If you want an announcement or information in the AGNR Newsletter, please e-mail Candace at Buonavolonta.1@osu.edu by the 23rd of the month. We welcome articles about you – and your fellow MGVs! It is great to learn even more about our friends and colleagues.