

**Welcome to the Master Gardener Volunteer Newsletter:
News, Events, and Activities for MGVs**

February 2023

February 1, 2023

Dear fellow OSU Master Gardener Volunteers,

I am sitting in my den looking out the window during this bright winter day. It seems like not a lot is growing outside, but this is the right time of the year to think and plan for our future. You may be thinking about how to improve your garden and lawn. It is also time to research which new seeds or new plants are available. How can we choose from all those seed and nursery catalogs that focus on showing all types of colorful new plants?

I decided to become a Master Gardener because I was tired of wasting money on plants that would not grow and produce. I wasted time digging holes to plant items in and the item was not well suited for that location. With proper education, we can make good choices to grow the right crops and have a successful harvest. We can plan to succeed or not plan and have a higher risk of failure.

We need to decide what we want to accomplish like having an early crop of lettuce and spinach. So first, we select the proper seeds that produce cold-tolerant plants. Next, find the right time to plant and under what conditions that the seeds will sprout. We can then till, plant, and maintain the plantings until our crops of lettuce and spinach can be harvested. We need to take proper care of our plantings.

It is time to consider our next MGV training class. The same care is needed for our program and the trainees we recruit. We need to plan to have a successful harvest. We need to cultivate the conditions where our trainees like our plants can grow to be beautiful and fruitful. We need to be committed to work and mentor them so they can help us maintain our growth.

Are you a seed scatterer, just hoping that something will grow, or do you plan, plant, and maintain your garden? Plan to get involved more this year and make a commitment to the growth of our program. We can work as a team to produce the gardening program that makes all of us proud.

Bob Eister

President

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

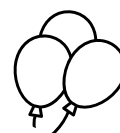
2- Barb Delisio

7- Edythe Fertig

10- Lynne Duchon

3- Valeria Goncalves

10- Marge Greenisen



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ The \$10 yearly MGV dues are due by March 1st to the Office. This can be cash or check, please make checks payable to OSU Extension. These are required state dues.
- ❖ We need empty baby food jars to be used for an upcoming class. If you have any that you can donate, please bring them to the office. Thank you!
- ❖ Speaking of babies... Eric and Leslie welcomed their new baby boy, James Raymond, on December 12th.
- ❖ Congratulations to Kathy Martin, Lois Martin – Uscianowski, and Marilyn McKinley for being the first to call with the answer to last month's question and winning a Miracle-Gro Garden Feeder. What is the January birth flower? The answer is both the carnation and the snowdrop. Keep an eye out for other chances to win!
- ❖ MGV Training is starting in February, if you would like to attend a class as a refresher or continuing education hours, please let Candace know so we can plan for the correct number of attendees.
- ❖ Committee Chairs if you would like to have a meeting at the office, please contact Candace or Kristen in advance to ensure we have a meeting space. If you would like to have a ZOOM meeting set up for your committee the office can help set this up as well.
 - Think about convenience for your committee members can you hold the meeting during training class so they can meet with their committee and gain CE hours?
- ❖ Rhonda Harris called in to thank all for sending a card after she broke her leg. She says she is recovering well at home.

Please remember our requirements to be an active member are:

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 meetings – 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 complete your 50 volunteer hours and enter 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.

SPEAKING AND TEACHING OPPORTUNITIES

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

- Green Leaves Garden Club: Wednesday, May 10th at 7 pm.
 - o Container gardening is the preferred topic, 15 adults expected
 - o Address will be at a private residence in Canfield

MGV MINUTES

Jan minutes: See below for pictures from the MGV volunteer recognition banquet.

MEETING CALENDARS

2023 Meetings

- **February 9th** - First meeting of 2023
- March 9th
- April 13th
- May 11th
- June 8th
- July 13th
- August 10th
- September 14th
- October 12th
- November 9th
- December 14th

2023 Events for All Mahoning County Programs

Upcoming Classes:

- *Naturalist Series: 6:30 pm Cost \$5 per class or \$30 for the full year*
 - o February 16: White-Tailed Deer: <https://go.osu.edu/deer2-16>
 - o March 16: Vernal Pools with Marne Titchenell: <https://go.osu.edu/vernalpools3-16>
 - o April 20: Fishing at Lake Milton
 - o May 18: Butterflies with Ashley Kulhanek
 - o June 1: Mushrooms with Erika Lyon
 - o July 20: Invasive Insects with Amy Stone
 - o August 17: Mahoning River with Stephanie Dyer
 - o Sept 21: Coyotes with John Cepek

- Oct 19: Foraging with Angie Arnold
- November 16: Arrowheads / Native American Tools with Thomas Delvaux

- *Garden Art Series: 6 pm Cost \$25*
 - April 5: Flower Pressing, Peg Zeleznik
 - May 3: Rain Chain, Pam Baytos
 - June 7: Air Plants, Patty K, and Steph H
 - July 5: Fairy Gardens with Natalie
 - Aug 2: Bird Feeder Wreaths, Pam
 - Sept 20: Infused Vinegar with Fresh Herbs, Anissa
 - Oct 4: Mosaic Lady Bug Garden Stone, Anissa
 - Nov 15: Holiday Container, Pam
 - Dec 6: Holiday Centerpiece, Pam

- *Mornings with the Masters 10 am Cost \$15*
 - March 14: Seed Starting, Peg Z: <https://go.osu.edu/startingseeds03-14>
 - April 11: Growing Degree Days, David Sprague
 - May 9: Growing Herbs – Carol Woodring
 - June 13: Herbal Teas, Carol Smith
 - July 11: Essential Oils, Marilyn McKinley
 - Aug 8: Monarchs, Kary Shively
 - Sept 12: Sensory Garden, Kathy Emptage
 - Oct 10: Large or Small – Japanese Gardens, Stephanie Hughes

- *Spring Garden Workshop 1*
 - Date: Saturday, April 22
 - Time: 9 am – 3 pm
 - Location: Mahoning Extension Office

- *Spring Garden Workshop 2*
 - Date: April 29
 - Time: 9 am – 3 pm
 - Location: Mahoning Extension Office

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

Photos from the MGV recognition banquet



Mahoning County Highlights:

7,095.10 Volunteer hours

1,187.25 Continuing Education hours

Thank you all for attending the MGV Volunteer recognition banquet, we had a great turnout! We are so grateful to have you all making the MGV program great.

Please let us know your thoughts so we can improve the banquet for next year by taking the anonymous survey below or by contacting the office with your suggestions.

Survey: <https://go.osu.edu/2022mgvbanquet>



Future Buckeye, James Raymond



If you want an announcement or information in the MGV 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.