

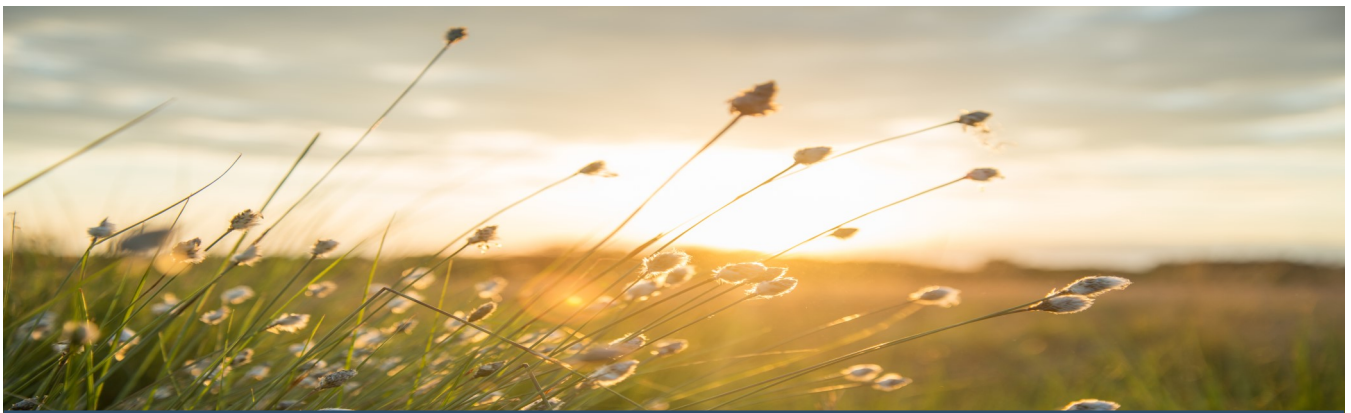
Flora and Fauna

The Mahoning County ANR Volunteer Newsletter
Ohio State University Extension – Mahoning County
490 South Broad Street
Canfield, Ohio 44406
330-533-5538
<http://mahoning.osu.edu>



Volume 16 Issue 11

November/December 2017



Please send any articles,
pictures, etc. to MGVnewsletter@gmail.com. All items intended for publication
MUST be submitted by the 25th of each month.

We welcome and need your input. This is
our newsletter. Let's keep it
going as strong as ever!



Marilyn's Last Musing

MGV President 2013-2017

I have mixed feelings; my four-yearlong amazing experience, is about to come to an end. I realize that there may be some rejoicing, there may be loud cheering – that's finally over, new blood is coming in– yea! Be that as it may, it has been my honor and pleasure to serve as your president for the last four years. I have learned so much, made so many wonderful friends, had many fun and educational experiences, and truly enjoyed the tenure.

Looking back to 2013, as a group, my what changes have taken place. Our numbers have grown, our presence in the county has increased, we have a top -notch plant and pest clinic – the envy of many counties around the state. Other counties are 'utilizing' our ideas like 'Coffee with Master Gardeners', etc. MGV Coordinators around the state are in awe that we have a whole page in the *VINDICATOR* every week, that people actually write articles. We are often asked to provide information regarding our training module for MGV interns from counties throughout the state. Our Local flavor project has become a model for other counties.

One of my goals as president was to finally have state recognize the wonderful work that goes on in Mahoning County. That happened this year, we walked away with three awards! I am so proud of our group. I might add, that Pam Bennett, OSU State Director of MGVS, has made many complementary remarks about the MGV program Mahoning County.

I want to thank Dr. Dirt aka, Bill Snyder, who has been my mentor and friend since day ONE. A very special thanks to a very special educational leader, Eric. As you know Eric was recognized by his peers as being THE Outstanding Educator for 2016. His amazing energy, passion, direction and leadership is indeed a unique combination for success.

Having Eric as our leader has vastly improved our organization in so many ways.

Thank you so much to each MGV for being so supportive – carry on!

Marilyn



MGV 2017 Meeting Schedule

November 9—Fellows Tree, Preparation 6:30 pm at OSU Extension office

November 13—Coffee with the Master Gardeners - 9:30 am Coffee & doughnuts, 10am—noon

November 13—Holiday Containers 2pm . (**See additional information under Odds and Ends**)

December 2nd—Wreaths for our veterans ceremony at Jackson Township Cemetery, North Jackson. **11a.m. Note time change!!!**

December 4 — *Garen Art Series: Alcohol Inks Class - 1pm, OSU Extension Office*

December 5 -ANR Volunteer Banquet at Tavola 7098 Mahoning Avenue. Doors open at 6 pm—Buffet at 6:30pm

OCVN 2017 Meeting Schedule

November 15— Heather Merritt of Birds In Flight - Raptors: *Birds of Prey* 6:30pm, Canfield Library

December 5— ANR Volunteer Banquet (see information above)

October MGV Meeting

Opening

The regular meeting of the Master Gardener Volunteers was called to order at 6:30pm on October 12, 2017 in Ohio State Extension Office by Marilyn McKinley.

Program

Cynthia Foust presented a very interesting program on Ikebana—the Japanese art of flower arrangement. Cynthia showed several different arrangements stressing the importance of line and how important the leaves are in the arrangement.

Committee Business

Wreaths Across America—Mike

Beaudis—Thank you to everyone who showed up to make bows for the wreaths! Eighteen volunteers made a total of 163 bows in the work session held before our monthly meeting on Oct. 12th. No additional bows are needed. Another meeting will be held in late November to attach bows and tags to the wreaths. Watch your email for dates and times. We will be placing the wreaths on gravesites at Jackson Township Cemetery in North Jackson on December 2, 2017.

Fair Committee—Barb Delisio—Barb is looking for a new chairperson to take over as chairman of the committee for 2018. She has compiled a notebook with all the relevant information needed. Please talk to Barb, Marilyn or Pam if you are interested in volunteering.

Fellows Riverside Garden—Theresa

Harris—Tree decorating at Mill Creek parks tree display will be done on November 28th/29th. Little toys such as hot wheels cars are needed to hang on the tree. Please bring them to the November

meeting. In addition, we will be making ornaments/decorations for the tree at the November meeting.

Awards Banquet—June Nolasco—The annual recognition banquet will be held on Tuesday, December 5th, 2017 at Tavola restaurant. The cost will be \$15.00/person. Flyers were mailed to all members and reservations are due by November 20th. If you did not get one - call 533-5538. The committee has been busy with plans to make this a fun event for everyone so get your reservations in early!

Garden Arts & Crafts—Margaret Biroschak--Holiday Container Class will be given in November with date TBD later. Please look in your garden for items that can be used such as Penstemon, Astilbe (Cut & Dried); curly willow; white stems; Hydrangea blossoms, etc. Bring your own pot—no larger than 10"-12" in diameter.

Coffee with the Master Gardeners—Programs have been set up for early next year. Watch your newsletter and email for more information.

Announcements

Congratulations to Barb Delisio and Eric Barrett for winning state awards at the MGV conference in September. Our group also won an award for the Vindicator articles! Way to go Mahoning County!!!

A slate of officers for 2018 has been presented and will be voted on at the November meeting with newly elected officers starting there two year terms in January.

A new committee has been set up to review what we are doing as a group and what we would like to be doing in the future. The first committee meeting will be held at the office at 1:30 on Wednesday, November 1st. All creative ideas/suggestions are welcome—please let a committee member know. The following members have volunteered for the committee—Marilee Pilkington, Nancy Brundage, Johanne Edel, Kary Shive-

ly, John Perry, Marilyn McKinley and Peg Zeleznik.

State Master Gardener conference will be held the weekend of September 29, 2018 at the Sharonville convention Center in Cincinnati. Mark your calendars now! There is much to be learned along with lots of fun to be had at the conference so let's make sure Mahoning, Columbiana and Trumbull counties are well represented!

New Master Gardener Classes will be held starting in March. We will also be holding an Open House for the clinic and the new MGV in the spring. It will be announced in the Vindicator.

Eric has asked for more articles for the Vindicator—he is running low. Suggested topics include what did you do in your garden this year and what are your garden goals for next year. Remember, hours researching articles count towards the education hours needed each year.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 by Marilyn McKinley.

The next general meeting will be at 6:30pm, November 9th, 2017 at the Extension Office.

Minutes submitted by: Peg Zeleznik



One of the many master bow makers

OCVN September meeting

At the OCVN meeting on 10/18, the following business was discussed.

- * For reporting hours online, meetings can be lumped together.
- * Valley Grows for Winter will have a winter theme. Katie Shipka will be doing tracking, Nancy Brundage winter birds, Kevin Anthony winter tree identification, Sheila Cubick enjoy nature in back yard, Jim Thornton geology in the park. There are still more needed. Please volunteer.
- * There is to be a Junior OCVN program with Mill Creek MetroPark. It is for grades 9 through 12 and will run for 5 weeks.
- * The new Naturalist class will begin in early 2018 and be on Monday evenings. There also will be some Saturday meetings off site and quizzes each weeks.
- * Dates and times of meetings need to be sent to the newsletter.
- * OCVN's need to spread beyond Canfield.
- * Sister Janet Burkhart was in an automobile accident. Cards can be sent to her at 1065 Patricia Drive, Girard, Ohio 44420.
- * Jim Kerr has resigned from the Beaver Creek Nature Center. He also received a Legacy award.
- * The State Convention will be June 8 and 9 at Holden Arboretum
- * Sheila Cubick and Sara Scudier are on the State Advisory Board.
- * To sign up for the OCVN newsletter, check the May 2017 AGNR newsletter.
- * The NOVEMBER 15TH PROGRAM WILL BE RAPTORS by HEATHER MERRITT from BIRDS IN FLIGHT SANCTUARY. See birds up close and personal and learn about their role in nature and your backyard. The program will be held at the CANFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY at 6:30 PM. REGISTER AT [http:// go.osu.edu/raptors](http://go.osu.edu/raptors). The program is FREE and please invite your friends and neighbors for this informative program on NOVEMBER 15, 2017

OUR HEIRLOOM PERENNIALS

BARB DELISIO – 25 YEARS of SERVICE

Marilyn McKinley OSU MGVS

Think back, what were you doing 25 years ago? When Barb thinks back she recalls the beginning of two and one-half decades of service to Mahoning County. It was then Barb started her Master Gardener Volunteer experience. I spent some time with Barb recently talking about just a few of her many accomplishments. The list is a long one indeed!

Under Barb's recommendation the MGVS in Mahoning County became a reality in 1992. According to Barb, there were 35 people who, under the direction of Eric Draper – now in Geauga County - started the MGVS class in 1992, graduating in 1993. As Barb tells it, taking the course was "just like a college class". She said they went over every bit of the manual, had a test each week, none of this open book stuff, could not refer to notes, it was not easy!

It used to be different. For several years Mahoning County MGVS had no educator, few committees, no money, and gave no classes. The MGVS operated as a group, that was loosely organized. When she started the hot line and plant and pest clinic begin the internet was a brand-new thing, few had access. Can you imagine doing all this without a computer – Barb did!

Barb took me on a walking tour of Poland, where she and Dan have lived for 17 years. We walked across the bridge, if you have ever been on that bridge during

the summer you have seen the lovely and colorful planters. Barb did that. We walked down the stairs to where the "theater in the park" used to be held, and then to Centennial Gardens, you guessed it – Barb did that. Barb has a talent for organizing, explaining, and engaging people.

You all know what an amazing job she did this year for the Canfield Fair! Barb has been doing amazing things for years. Did you know she: wrote a book about community gardening, headed up a group who developed and set up Jubilee Gardens, thus Local Flavor was born, and developed and set up Good Natured Garden Partners? She has been a state volunteer coordinator.

Barb has spent countless hours doing research, written many, many articles, Barb has taught many garden related classes to many groups, used to have a little herb shop, makes all sorts of things using herbs, ever had her pesto – yum! She helped plan and set up the gardens at the Canfield Fairgrounds, for twelve years she conducted tours at Mill Creek Park, established a greenhouse at a local middle school, taken the lead on educating the public on invasive species, etc., etc. I know this is not a complete list, but just talking with her about all she has done makes my head spin.

I asked Barb what her favorite thing about gardening might be. For Barb, planting a seed, watching over it, caring for it, then harvesting it is something she cannot get enough of. I asked Barb about why she has stayed so active all these years. Her reply; it has always been a great group to belong to, sharing a passion for gardening, friendships, being involved, and always learning.

I checked the VMS, Barb has logged (since 2011) 3,144 volunteer hours, and 92 education hours. I wonder how many thousands of hours she accumulated from 1993-2010, and how

many she just didn't think about logging?

Barb is the epidemic of "if you need something done, ask a busy person"!

Barb was honored as one of the top 5 MGVs in the state this year. Congratulations to Barb! As far as I am concerned, Barb should be THE MGV every year. We should all be so thankful that Barb Delisio is a Mahoning County MGV, she has set the bar high and continues to demand and expect excellence from all. She is a true leader, a gem we must always treasure.



Odds and Ends— continued

1. Needled Evergreens – a diverse group of, pine, spruce, arborvitae, cedar and others are welcome.
2. Broadleafed Evergreens – Rhododendron, holly, boxwood, and even yucca
3. Flowerheads – Hydrangea, Husker Red Penstemon,
4. Berries – Viburnum, crabapple, beautyberry, hawthorn, etc.
5. Corkscrew willow branches
6. White branches (or white painted branches)
7. Any anything you think would be part of a beautiful holiday container!

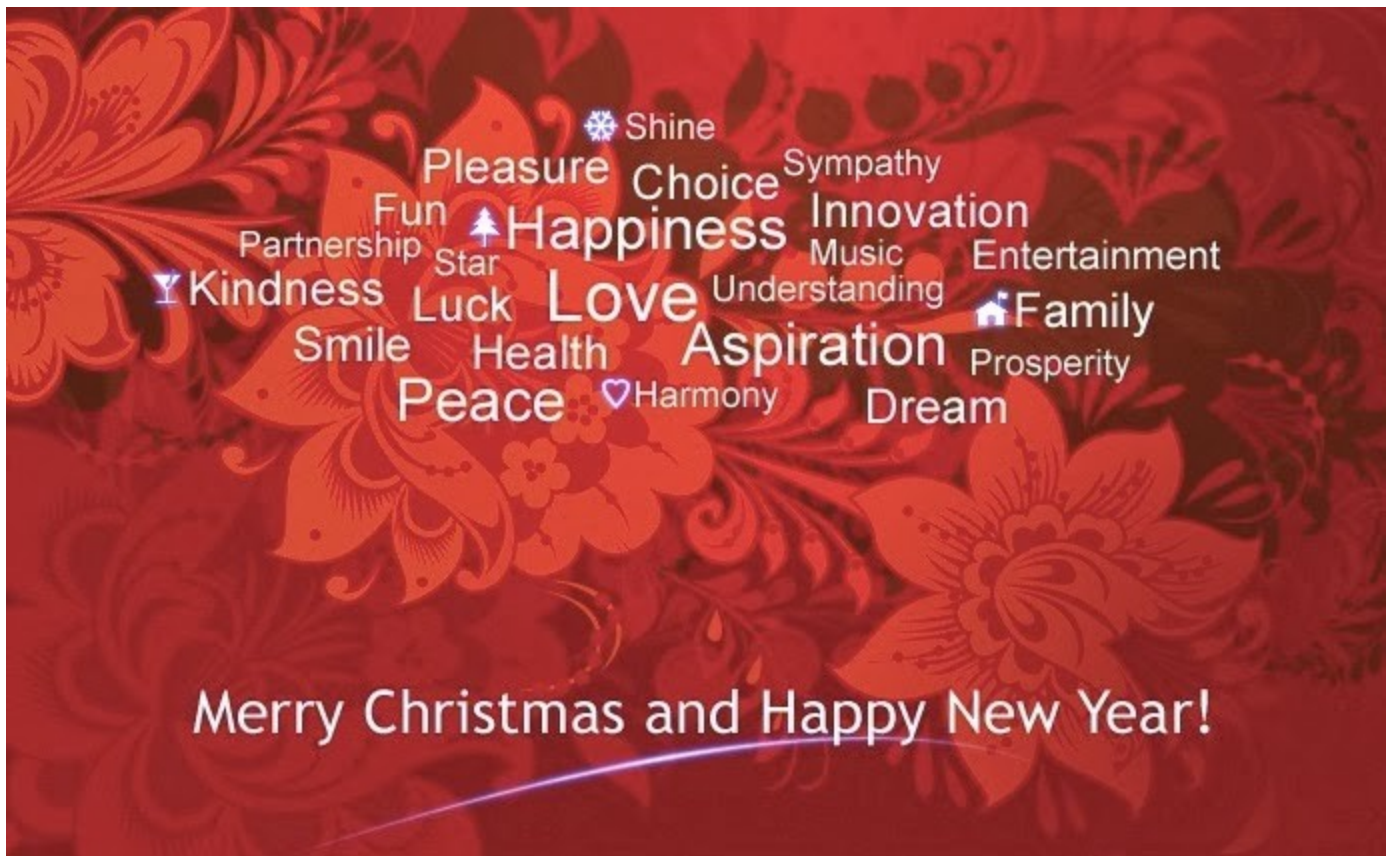
Please leave the items outside by the flag pole to minimize the mess brought into the office.

Thanks for your help!

Odds and Ends

Please bring your greenery and other items to the November 9 MGV meeting to be used in the Holiday Containers class. Please remind folks that they need to bring a 12' container or smaller with soil still in place. They just cut the plants off at the soil level and do not disturb the soil. This makes the best media for the container arrangement.

Items to bring:



HAVE A SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON AND MAY ALL
YOUR WISHES COME TRUE IN 2018. NEWSLET-
TER IS SIGNING OFF FOR 2017 BUT WILL SEE
YOU IN JANUARY! - PEGGY GRIFFITH- MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER

Traveling From Your Armchair

The Crown of the Continent: Glacier National Park

By Gerri Mikes

Glacier National Park in Montana is God's country! It is one

of my husband, Tom, and my favorite places in all the world!

I took him there in September to celebrate his birthday and to

soak in the beauty of the glaciated mountains. We have been to Glacier and hiked on its trails many times and the beauty and serenity that we find there always revives us.

The 10,000 ft. high mountains were right at our doorstep at Many Glacier Hotel, a Swiss mountain lodge built in 1914 by The Great Northern Railroad situated on the banks of Swiftcurrent Lake. A hike

on any one of the trails beginning at the Hotel leads to beautiful alpine meadows, strikingly blue glacial lakes and incredible wildlife. The quietness of the high country, where all you hear is the sound of) nearby waterfall, and the fresh alpine smell in the crisp autumn air replenishes us.

This year, however, was a little different. Forest fires raged just over the top of the mountain range on the western side and you could smell smoke from 3 hours away! It had been very hot and dry there as it was here with temperatures in the 80's. They had had no rain since June. Lightning strikes a month earlier had ignited fires in the Sprague area and were being flamed by shifting winds causing the fires to spread. Some 16,900 acres were burnt. The air was so thick with smoke you couldn't even see the mountains!

It is National Park policy to let naturally ignited fires burn to renew the forests once they are old and have a lot of downed timber and little undergrowth. (1) The exceptions to this are if the

fires are threatening commercial development, are human-caused, or when weather conditions could cause a fire to spread rapidly. Then they will try to suppress the fire. They did not try to suppress the fire in Glacier until it began to threaten an historical backcountry chalet. But then the winds shifted and grew stronger and it was too late. The chalet burnt to the ground.

I understand the Park Services' desire to refurbish old forests and it is ecologically beneficial to the plants and animals that make their home there, but it is really sad to see miles and miles of burnt lodgepole pines sticking up like charred sticks where once stood majestic pines and lush forests. It takes years for the forests to regenerate and whole generations of Americans miss out on the beauty of the mountains while they are re-growing.

There are ecological benefits from the fires. The heat of the fire opens the cones of the lodgepole pines and the seeds are released. (2) The seeds love the carbon rich soil and after the fires die down seedlings pop up quickly. In about one or two years you can begin to see lush new growth. However until that time, all that remains is a charred landscape with charred sticks. "Serotinous" is a scientific term for a seed that requires an environmental trigger in order to be released. For the lodgepole pine, that trigger is heat."

During our stay, we were lucky to have 3 good days when the winds were out of the east and pushed the smoke over the mountains and cleared the air for awhile.

Usually in the fall, the colors are beautiful in the high country where the Aspens turn brilliant yellow and the Indian Paintbrush add striking red color. Beargrass stalks and the spring remnants of Glacial Lilies cover the valley floor. This year most of the berries and the vegetation was dried up and stressed out just like ours and the trails had turned to dust. Our boots were covered with dust by the end of the day's hike. But it was still beautiful.

Besides the beauty and serenity of the mountains, the excitement of hiking on the trails in

Glacier is heightened by the anticipation of coming upon a bear, a moose, a mountain goat or a Dahl Sheep which happens often.

Fall is also the time when the Grizzly and Black bears in Glacier are active and easily spotted on the trails and mountainsides. These big bears can weigh from 400 to 1500 lbs and their cubs, who stay with their mother for 2 to 3 years, are omnivores. They eat berries, roots, nuts, insects, fish and small animals. They occasionally prey on larger animals like elk and sheep. They also binge on ladybird beetles, and army cutworm moths during their seasons. Winter-killed carrion supplement their spring diet with much-needed protein.

In late summer and early fall, when the huckleberries are ripe, they eat constantly storing up food for winter hibernation. Glacier is one of only a few places in the lower 48 states that Grizzlies are found so it is a big treat to see these majestic creatures in the wild.

On previous trips, we always saw grizzlies. Five years ago, we counted 14 grizzly bears as we hiked and road through Glacier, some from closer than we wanted to be! Despite how big they are, they can run 35 mph. Mothers, with 2 or 3 cubs, who are the most dangerous, would work their way down the mountain eating all day and then would come down to drink from the lakes at dusk so they would have to cross the hiking trails. Often they would use the trails for easier traveling rather than going through the brush.

But this year they weren't as plentiful. We saw one from a distance on a nearby mountain and a few were cited on some trails. A big black bear did jump out at us on the trail from a huckleberry bush, stood up, looked at us, and went on his merry way. (More about that later.) The Ranger said that because of the lack of berries they were staying high and turning to other food sources like roots and small animals.. Ground

squirrels and marmots were nowhere to be found – they went underground!

Glacier National Park has 25 glaciers that hang in cirques around the mountaintops. This is down from 150 that were there in 1850, the end of the Little Ice Age, and 50 in 1968. You can hike right up on them. They are thick, dirty crusty masses of thick snow and ice interesting to see. But they are definitely shrinking. Grinnell Glacier was significantly smaller than when we saw it five years ago

Wildfires, animals, flowers, glaciers and beautiful mountains. Glacier National Park is a very special place.

1. National Park Service, Glacier, "Fire Management"

<https://www.nps.gov/glac/learn/nature/fire-management.htm>

2. Indianapublic media.org "Lodgepole Pine Trees Love Forest Fires"/A Moment of Science, by Heather Love, Dec. 10, 2012

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=3&ved=0ahUKEwjtKNT1iJfXAhWK5IM-KHc6JBs0QFgg0MAI&url=http%3A%2F%2FIndianapublicmedia.org%2Famomentofscience%2Flodgepole-pine-trees-love-forest-fires%2F&usq=AOvVaw3c9WZN4KzESkoHxqyPFwKQ>



Glaciers from the trail



Grizzly and her cub



Redrock Falls



Smoke from forest fire



Hiking Trail in Glacier National Park



Swiftcurrent Lake and Mt. Grinnell

Coffee with the Master Gardeners

Winter Fun with Houseplants

Looking to spruce up the house this winter? If so, join us to learn all about winter houseplants. During this class, you will learn how to grow and care for your houseplants, and will also pot a plant to take home.

Speaker: Dan Burns and Rhonda Harris, Master Gardener Volunteers



Monday, November 13

9:30 am—Coffee, Donuts, Refreshments

10 am-12 pm—Program

Location: 490 S. Broad St. Canfield, OH

Cost: \$15/person

Details: Register ASAP – Seating is limited

Contact: 330-533-5538

REGISTRATION INFORMATION. Registration for *Coffee with the Master Gardeners* includes the program, coffee and a light breakfast, and handouts. Please mail to 490 S. Broad St. Canfield, OH 44406, fax (330-533-2424), or drop off the registration to the OSU Extension Office. The program is filled on a “first come, first served basis.”

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Number Attending (x \$15): _____ Amount Enclosed: _____



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Master Gardener Volunteer
Garden Art Series

Holiday Containers

Join us to a look at turning your pots into holiday masterpieces! We'll cover form and style, along with finding and using several kinds of greenery, berries and other cuttings from your landscape. Go beyond the filler, thriller and spiller to turn your pots and planters into stunning displays for the holiday season. **NOTE: Bring up to a 12" diameter pot to fill during the class to get a leg up on your holiday designs. Leave soil in pot. Cut off plants, do not dig. This will help the design stay in place.**

November 13, 2017

2 p.m. - Program

Speakers: Pam Baytos and Margaret Biroschak

Location: 490 S. Broad St. Canfield, OH

Cost: \$20/person

Details: Register ASAP – Seating is limited

Contact: 330-533-5538

REGISTRATION INFORMATION. Registration includes the program, coffee and a light snack, and handouts. Please mail to 490 S. Broad St. Canfield, OH 44406, fax (330-533-2424), or drop off the registration to the OSU Extension Office. The program is filled on a "first come, first served basis."

Name: _____

Address: _____

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OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

2017 Agriculture & Natural Resource Volunteer Recognition Banquet

Tuesday, December 5

Doors open 6 p.m. | Buffet dinner 6:30 p.m.

Tavola Banquet Center, 7098 Mahoning Ave., Austintown

As MGVS and OCVNs, you are cordially invited to attend the Annual Recognition Banquet. At this event, we will recognize our dedicated volunteers for their service throughout the Mahoning Valley in 2017 and their dedication to OSU Extension programming.



Thanks
To
YOU



***Alcoholic drinks may not be brought in**

Volunteer Name _____ Guest _____

Total Attending _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____ (\$15.00 per person)

Reservations MUST be received by **Monday, November 20th**

Please make checks payable to:

OSU Extension—Mahoning County, 490 S. Broad St., Canfield, OH 44406



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Alcohol Inks Painting

Learn to make decorative pots for the garden and patio using alcohol and inks. All materials and a pot will be provided per participant!

.....
Lil Quaranta & Pam
Baytos, OSU Extension
Master Gardener
Volunteers

Monday, December 4th
1-3pm

Location: 490 S. Broad St. Canfield, OH

Cost: \$20/person

Details: Register ASAP – Seating is limited

Contact: 330-533-5538

REGISTRATION INFORMATION. Registration includes the program and materials for project to take home. Please mail to 490 S. Broad St. Canfield, OH 44406, fax (330-533-2424), or drop off the registration to the OSU Extension Office. The program is filled on a “first come, first served basis.”

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Number Attending (x \$20): _____ Amount Enclosed: _____



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