Hello everyone! For many of you, I am a “new face” in the office here in Mahoning County. Over the summer, I am serving as an Intern for the Mahoning County Extension office.

A little background about myself:

I was born and raised on my family’s 112 acre dairy farm in Beloit, Ohio where we still milk approximately 75 Holstein cows. I am currently a junior at OSU-ATI in Wooster, Ohio where I am majoring in Dairy Science with a minor in Ag Communications. Over the years, I have grown a passion for animals and all of God’s creation. As I am here for the summer, I will be working with you by helping transition over the job of Newsletter Coordinator. We are looking for an individual who has a passion for writing, who works in a timely manner, and who loves being a Master Gardener Volunteer. If you think this is you, please contact me. I look forward to working with each of you over the summer.

Hannah Dye
OSUE Intern

July

Please welcome our summer editor: Hannah Dye, OSU Extension Intern. Yes, the newsletter may look a bit different, but Bill needed a much-deserved break after 11 years! This is our MGV/OCVN monthly newsletter. This is where you get lots of info about what and who’s new, what’s going on, and what you need to know. PLEASE, PLEASE do NOT fail to read this and all Flora and Fauna issues. Also, please contribute to OUR newsletter! Photos & articles needed. Photos must be your original photography as photos from the internet may be protected and monies are charged to republished!

New Editor: As Hannah is only here as a summer intern, we need an MGV/OCVN to be the new editor of the newsletter. Hannah will help train you. If we don’t get a volunteer, we will be ending the newsletter and going to email updates only. Please let Eric know if you are interested.

Hours: Are you putting volunteer and educational hour in VMS – at least monthly? Don’t wait!
To the interns: Please enter hours ASAP. We have had a glitch or two with first time VMS users. If there is any problem or questions entering hours (anyone!) contact Marilyn.

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For all those who teach classes and give talks: THANK YOU! A special entry option under PROJECTS has been added. If you are involved in training new MGV’s, If you prepare and teach “Coffee with MGVs, or If you prepare and give a talk to a garden club, etc. PLEASE place your volunteer hours in the project listed as “MGV Training and Presenting Preparation”. There has been confusion as to where to put these hours, now you know!

IF you are writing for the Vindicator, research and writing time volunteer hours should go under project “Media Vindicator / Valley Grows.

Here are some tips on other projects in the VMS system:

1. There are projects listed that really do NOT pertain to Mahoning County MGVs, but rather STATEWIDE projects which are: Ask a MGV / online – that’s the OSU (in Columbus) plant & pest clinic ONLY, In the Garden with MGVs–ONLY, International outreach –Ecuador -Ohio Heritage Ambassador – in Columbus, MGV Manual update –

2. So, what this means: DO NOT enter any hours in these projects, unless you specifically did those “state” projects. Unless instructed to do so - DO NOT put hours in under project listed as: administration / data entry / office (clinic data entry should go in under Mahoning Plant & Pest Clinic. Very few volunteer hours should be entered under the administration / data entry / office.

3. There should be very few hours listed in project “Others / misc.

If you are uncertain if it’s volunteer or education – think – am I giving (volunteer) or am I getting (education) is a general rule to remember.

I hope this helps clear up some of the confusion and questions about logging hours. Let’s try to be consistent about where we are entering our hours. If you have any questions please contact Marilyn.

Marilyn McKinley
OSUE MGV and OCVN

July MGV Meeting
The next general meeting will be at 6:30pm, July 13th, 2017 at the Extension office.

July OCVN Meeting
The next OCVN meeting will be held on July 19 along with Jim Thornton for the Mill Creek Park Hike

June MGV Meeting
At our June meeting, Stan Vuletick gave a wonderful talk on growing dahlias. Stan provides dahlias for Mill Creek Park, Austintown Parks and other parks and gardens throughout our area.
June OCVN Meeting

Mahoning Riverfest – June 3rd

Jamey Emmert and Laurie Graber, ODNR Division of Wildlife, presented Wildlife Encounters for the June OCVN Public Meeting at OSU Extension on June 21. Our speakers began by outlining the laws regarding interaction with and jurisdiction of wildlife. Then they discussed two aspects of wildlife interaction: how to discourage unwanted wildlife around the home/property and what to do when encountering apparently orphaned and injured wildlife. The 32 participants (and viewers of WFMJ, I hope, since they filmed some of the talk and interviewed Jamey afterward) were able to view a variety of taxidermy specimens such as coyote, opossum, chipmunk, weasel, red-tailed hawk, and several snakes. Division of Wildlife provided many educational pamphlets on injured/orphaned animals and nuisance animal deterrents. Thanks to Jamey and Laurie for such a great and popular program!

Sheila Cubick
OCVN & MG

Fair Sighted
Looking Forward to the 2017 Canfield Fair

Count down to the fair!!! Only about 50 days. Hope all of the Stations are getting their plans finalized. Station leaders, I'd like to get together Wed, Aug. 2 at 12:30 at the OSU Extension office. We'll make sure we have the table set up you'll need as well as the tri-fold sat. I've told Lori, at the office that we need 4 tri-folds and 1 easel. Hopefully we can get all 4, she's checking to make sure no one else needs them. So, June Nolasco, Michelle Spernak, Katie Shipka, Pam Batos, Margaret Biroschak, David Sprague and Dan Burns let me know if you can or can't make the meeting.

Vegetable Station-Marilee, John, Peg, Peggy, Nanette, Pinky, Lil, Valeria, Margaret, Thresea, Paula, Carolyn F., Bob E., Al, Kary and Rhonda we're going to meet on Aug. 2nd at 9:30 at the Office. We'll need to discuss several things as how your plants are growing, actual set of plants at the fair, getting all the plants to the fair, watering of plants at the fair, etc. so please try to attend. Let me know if you are coming or not.

If anyone who has not signed up to help a particular station for the fair you can sign up at the July meeting or call me at 330-707-1866. Remember all the hours you spend planning your station gets you volunteer hours. Also we would like everyone to sign up to work the fair, 2 days at 4 hr. Shifts. All these hours count as volunteer hours also, so they're easy to get.

If you have any questions, we can answer them at the July MGV meeting on Thurs. July
13th. Thanks for all your help in this tremendous undertaking.

Barb Delisio
OSUE MGV

MGV Class of 2017
In Their Own Words

Carol Swartz

I’m a Canfield, Ohio native growing up on the family farm dating back to 1802 at Lynns Corners. The farmland is now occupied by the Ursuline Motherhouse and The Cloisters. A graduate of Canfield schools, I received my BA degree in Geography from Bowling Green State University. I have had a successful administrative career working in private, public, and religious arenas for over 30 years in Columbus, Ohio, San Diego, and San Jose, California. In 2014 we had the opportunity to move to Canfield to the wonderful property on which my in-laws had built their home and carriage house. After 18 years in Silicon Valley, it was time to move. So in 2015 we moved back to Canfield, along with our daughter, son-in-law, 2 grandchildren, 3 horses and 3 dogs. Fortunately, my daughter got a job transfer to Apple Computer in Cleveland and her husband was hired as an RN at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital.

My maternal grandparents introduced me to gardening on the family farm. They always had a cold frame constructed of concrete sides with old windows on top, a garden, compost pile, many robust plants, a grape arbor, and trees and shrubbery. Nothing went to waste. In addition they supplemented their teaching incomes by raising chickens. We always got a head start in early Spring on lettuce and green onions in the cold frame. My maternal grandfather, the biology teacher and librarian at Canfield High School, always had Mason jars of various powder concoctions that he made for fertilizing or for pest/fungicide management. My maternal grandmother raised concord grapes which were used for the communion juice at our church. She always had a field of daffodils in the Spring, followed later in the Spring by a large area of peonies. Bleeding hearts and rhododendrons were favorites of hers. I would help her weed. Their property was rich in apple trees, particularly golden delicious which we made applesauce from, cherry trees for cherry pies, red raspberry bushes, and huge black walnut trees. We also had hickory nut trees, and it was my job every Thanksgiving to collect the nuts and then scoop out the nutmeats for various quick breads for the Thanksgiving meal. I remember fondly wandering through the fields of oats and wheat. We use to take the oat kernels and pop them in our mouths to make chewing gum. Haying was always fun in the Fall. On my father’s side, my Polish paternal grandmother and aunt living in Ellwood City, PA, grew vegetables, and had a grape trellis. Their gardens were always neat and tidy.

My mother always had beautiful flower beds, and my father had huge vegetable gardens with beets, sweet corn, cabbage, tomatoes, beans, and cucumbers. He worked for Farm Bureau in Canfield for over 25 years, with his final stop as manager of the fertilizer plant in North Benton. He knew every farmer in the Mahoning County area and had great stories to tell. He was a great supporter of the American farmer.

Through my gardening journey in Ohio, Pennsylvania and California, I have experienced clay, hardpan, and volcanic/rocky soils to raised beds, landscaped all of our properties, grown flowers, vegetables, citrus, apricot, and pomegranate trees, participated in garden clubs, helped with garden therapy at a local hospital, and worked to develop gardening programs with children in schools and Girl Scouts. But having been away for so long
from Ohio, I felt like I could benefit from more gardening knowledge. When I saw the advertisement for the Master Garden program at OSU Extension this past winter, I felt that it was going to be an invaluable experience. The timing was perfect and it really was worth all the time and effort. I've learned so much, and know that I will continue to learn even more over the years through the ongoing classes the program provides, through the fabulous leaders and volunteers that make it happen. Love of gardening is such a holistic, spiritual and creative journey, with its own challenges, affording the novice or experienced gardener to nurture plants at all stages of their development, with the end result allowing you to reap many rewards, always learning and sharing the bounty and beauty of nature with others. How blessed we all are.

Carol Swartz
MGV Intern

I have extensive gardens around my Silver Fox home, which started in 1992 in memory of my father’s passing. I also have a vegetable garden at the Boardman Community Gardens, and maintain the plantings at the three Welcome to Boardman signs.

In addition, I work part-time at NEOMED in Rootstown as a standardized patient, practicing with students in office scenarios. I still occasionally tutor Spanish, and for the last 20 years, I have been very active in area community theater, appearing in over 80 shows at the Youngstown Playhouse, Salem Community Theater, TNT, Oakland, New Castle Playhouse, Victorian Players, and have also appeared in 2 local movies, with a third one filming this summer. He is a past president of the Boardman Lions Club, and helps the club in doing eye screening, road cleanup, and Arbor Day tree distribution to township fourth-graders.

Patti and I enjoy traveling, having just returned from Barcelona and Paris, and in recent years have traveled to Machu Picchu in Peru, Scandinavia and Russia, the Danube countries, and will visit Iceland in September.

Terry Shears
MGV Intern

“No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, and no culture comparable to that of the garden”
-Thomas Jefferson
A garden must combine the poetic and the mysterious with a feeling of serenity and joy.”

Luis Barragan

Henrietta Lewis, Carol Swartz and Lil Quaranta made a field trip to Pinky and Bob Steffen’s home. They reported a wonderful tour of the grounds and their remodeled 1846 house. Pinky giving tour and tips

Photos provided by Lillian Quaranta

Hope for Newport Garden Community

Rodney, Greg, and Henrietta putting up new fence

Elizabeth, Toma, Eric, Carol, Nancy, Eileen

Eric and Carol

We Planted 25 Gold Rush Enterprise Apple Trees!
Upcoming Events

July 17 - Good Bugs vs. Bad Bugs, Coffee with the Master Gardeners Program, OSU Extension – Mahoning County office, Monday, 9:30 am – 12:00 pm. OSU Extension MGVs, Stephanie Hughes and Peg Zeleznik will discuss the bugs that you have in your garden and help you determine which are helpful and which are not. Information and a registration form can be found in the flyer attached to this newsletter. http://go.osu.edu/findthegoodones

July 31 – Alcohol Inks, a part of Master Gardener Volunteer Garden Art Series, OSU Extension – Mahoning County office, Monday, 1-3 pm. OSU Extension MGVs, Lil Quaranta and Pam Baytos, will teach us to make decorative tiles for the garden and patio using alcohol inks. Each person will receive two tiles to complete. Information and a registration form can be found in the flyer attached to this newsletter. http://go.osu.edu/inktiles

August 12 – Bring One …. Take One (BOTO) Flower and Seed Exchange, Canfield Fairgrounds (next to the Pumpkin Bldg.), Saturday, 10 – 11:30 am. Our annual plant exchange is open to the general public. Information and exchange rules can be found in the flyer attached to this newsletter. http://go.osu.edu/boto

August 12 – Garden Art Sale, Canfield Fairgrounds – Pumpkin Building, Saturday, 10 – 11:30 am. Join the OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers for a sale of the unusual and whimsical for your garden! Handmade hypertufa pots, concrete leaf casings, and other whimsical and colorful items will highlight the selection. This event will be held in conjunction with our Bring One …. Take One (BOTO) program. Information can be found in the flyer attached to this newsletter. http://go.osu.edu/gardenartsale

August 21 – Those Pesky Weeds, Coffee with the Master Gardeners Program, OSU Extension – Mahoning County office, Monday, 9:30 am – 12:00 pm. OSU Extension Educator, Eric Barrett, will discuss how to take care of those pesky weeds that can spoil the beauty of our landscapes. Information and a registration form can be found in the flyer attached to this newsletter. http://go.osu.edu/peskyweeds

MGV 2017 Meeting Schedule

July 13 – Mahoning MGVs 2nd Annual Flower Show - 6:30 pm at the OSUE office.

August 3 – Home Garden Tour & Fair Planning at Peg Zeleznik’s home.

September 14 – TBA

October 12 – Ikebana Demo given by our own Cynthia Foust.

November 9 – Fellows Tree Preparation.

December – ANR Volunteer Banquet

OCVN 2017 Meeting Schedule

July 19 – Jim Thornton, Mill Creek Park Hike
August 3 – Thursday Meeting with MGVs. Home Garden Tour & Fair Planning at Peg Zeleznik’s home.

September 8 – Marnie Titchenell presents Dealing with Deer.

October 18 – Betty Ann Nagy presents Yellowstone Travels.

November 15 – Heather Merritt of Birds in Flight presents Birds of Prey.

December – ANR Volunteer Banquet

Visit Pam at her Open House & Sale

July 22 & 23 - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

16195 Shilling Rd.

Berlin Station, Ohio 44401

Sneak peek:

“Garden” Shopping
Hypertufa Containers
Gourd Items
Glass Garden Flowers
Succulent Picture Frames
Leaf Cast Birdbaths
Bird, Bat, and Bee Houses
Alcohol Ink Items
Angels
& many other garden “art” items!!