

Flora and Fauna

The Mahoning County ANR Volunteer Newsletter
Ohio State University Extension – Mahoning County
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January 2017

Volume 16 Issue 1

Marilyn's Musings

2016 – Over, finished, in the books, another year has passed. It was a good year, lots of MGJV – OCVN nice memories. Thank you to all for your hard work. You are truly amazing. Over 6,000 volunteer hours were reported.

A special thanks to:

The overworked Eric Barrett. Thank you for all the time you devoted to the MGJV/OCVN programs.

Bill Snyder for producing our wonderful monthly newsletter – “Flora and Fauna”.

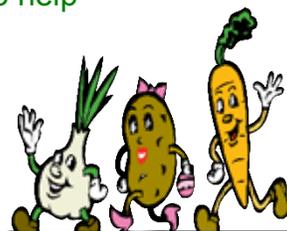
All Committee Chairpersons.

YOU!

IMPORTANT!

PLEASE ATTEND THE JANUARY 12th MGJV MEETING IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.

- 1. Sign up for committees
- 2. Learn about 2017 Canfield Fair plans – sign up to help



Looking Ahead

Ten MGJV 2017 New Year's Resolutions

Resolved for 2017:

1. To record and enter ALL hours in to the VMS preferably, once a month. Remember it is very important to record every single volunteer and education hour (or 1/2 hour). The MGJV program, and in turn, YOU will benefit. Based on hours we record as a group, we can get OSU experts to come speak to us at no charge.
2. Attend as many MGJV/OCVN meetings as possible.
3. Volunteer and then participate in committee activities. (Committee chairperson is responsible for communication with and to committee members).
4. Participate in MGJV activities.
5. Offer suggestions, ideas, etc.
6. Attend seminars.
7. Keep a garden journal.
8. Attend (or teach) some “Coffee With The Master Gardeners” sessions.
9. Write an article for *Flora and Fauna*.
10. Write an article for *Valley Grows* – in the “Vindicator”.

Master Gardner Volunteer Class 2017

Applications are now being accepted for the MGV class of 2017. If you know someone who is interested have them download an application from the OSU MGV website, get one for them, or have them stop by the office and pick one up. Class size will be limited. For the first time we will have an information session for those interested in attending the 2017 class. It will be held on Jan. 27th at 10:00 am at the extension office. It would be nice if as many MGVs as possible stop by the office that morning to talk with prospective new MGV interns answer their questions and share your experience.

MGV Yearly Dues

It's that time again; pay up! Annual MGV dues are \$10.00. Our dues are sent directly to OSU MGV State program. To remain active please submit ASAP. Thank you.

Committees /Projects

ALL approved volunteer hours are committee driven. Please sign up ASAP. Thank you

Which committee(s) would you like to be a part of this year? Sign up! Beginning in January ALL MGVs should sign up for their selected committees before March 1st. Any questions -contact Marilyn.

As of now our standing committees are:

Pest & Plant Clinic (Mon. & Thurs mornings April – Oct.) – David Sprague has agreed to chair again, lots of volunteer hours needed,

Canfield Fair –Eric to chair - we are going to do something different this year and will need a lot of participation from everyone. See another article in this issue by Barb Delisio, who has agreed to head up this project. See her article in this newsletter for more information on this committee/project.

Coffee with the Master Gardeners / food programs - Peggy Griffith has agreed to chair – why not share your knowledge – teach a class,

Fauna and Fauna Newsletter – Bill Snyder, editor and Marilyn McKinley to co-chair. You need you to contribute.

State Awards – Marilyn McKinley to chair, need a co-chair, and several volunteers,

Phenology –David Sprague to chair,

MGV Handbook – Marilyn McKinley & Bill Snyder to co-chair.

Garden Arts & Crafts - Pam Baytos to chair. (New this year!),

Fellows Christmas Tree – Theresa Harris to chair,

Local Flavor / Good Natured Garden Partners – Thresea Harris, Cynthia Foust, & Valeria Goncalves, need many more MGVs to participate.

OSU Grounds – Bob Scuhlick.

That leaves several committees in need of direction.

Hospitality,

Wreaths Across America,

Recognition Banquet,

Bring One Take One, and

Community Service (includes Speakers Bureau – Judy Rodkey in charge of Speakers Bureau, City Scape, Veterans Memorial (usually Al Leonhart does this) at the fairgrounds, perhaps working at a local school – Barb Loewit, need volunteers).

Which one will you chair or co - chair? In which one(s) will you be an active member? There are some activities that are in the planning stages that will also need committee chairs and members – more on that as plans develop or are scrapped! New grads & those still working on their certification – jump in! (If you are unable to attend the Jan. meeting, please contact Marilyn to sign

up for your committees). Any questions please contact Marilyn.

Yearly MGV Re Certification – Do ASAP Please

You may recall that last year we were required to recertify that we wanted to remain active MGVs and that we agreed to the policies. We did that on line – with the exception of the policy on abuse and neglect. To date the abuse and neglect policy is not on line and will require a paper signature. State has requested ALL recerts be completed before Jan. 25, 2017. You need to go on line, click on recertification and hit submit. A paper re the abuse and neglect policy will be made available for your signature. ***
New 2016 MGVs: These are the documents you signed when you entered the program. Go on line and recertify for 2017 please. Contact Marilyn with questions.

Looking Forward

With your dedication we can and do make a difference in our community – all while having a good time! Let's make 2017 our best year yet!!

Marilyn McKinley
OSUE MGV and OCVN

January 2017 MGV Meeting

Hi all. Just a note about the importance of attending our January 12, 2017 MGV meeting. It will be an organizational meeting for the 2017 year which will include what our programs will be, when our new MGV class will begin, fair planning and anything else that will help us have a successful 2017.

The fair isn't until the end of August and it may seem early to get plans together, but the 2017 fair will have a completely different set up from the past. We will need all MGV to make this our best fair yet. We want to make vegetables a

major part of our set up this year. We will have stations (1. perennials, 2. pollinators & insects, 3. herbs & annual flowers, 4. trees & shrubs and 5. vegetables) where you can choose to volunteer and share information about your specialty. We all have a specialty, near and dear to our hearts, about which we feel more comfortable sharing information.

We will make a vegetable garden in the center area. The garden will be put together the Monday of fair week. We will need Master Gardeners to grow the vegetables at home. We, as a committee, will choose the vegetables that we will grow. There will be no expense to you other than your time. OSU will provide growers with seeds, plants, containers, soil, fertilizer and anything else needed to grow your vegetables. The vegetable committee will meet **Thursday January 19th at 10 am** at the extension office. We will select seeds, order seeds, discuss planting dates, etc. This committee will be really fun for all those who have grown from seed and for those who want to learn.

Each station will need a leader. A leader will be someone to oversee each station. You don't need to be an expert in that field. A leaders job would be to be in charge of setting meetings, the to organize materials, to communicate with other members of their station and do follow-up to see all materials needed will be ready for the fair. We need to sign up all station leaders at the January MGV meeting. The meeting for station leaders will be **Tuesday, January 24th at 12:30 pm** at the extension office.

So please join us for this very interesting and exciting monthly MGV meeting **Thursday, January 12th at 6 pm** at the extension office.

Thanks,
Barb Delisio
OSUE MGV

January 2017 OCVN Meeting

Our first OCVN meeting of 2017 will be held on Wednesday, January 18th at 6:30 pm at the OSU Extension Office. We will finalize program events for February, April, June, September and November. We will review State Level program updates and discuss Partnerships/Contracts for parks.

Eric

A New Friend Of Extension

At the recent OSU Extension Annual conference, held December 7 in Columbus, Hugh Earnhart received the "Friend of Extension" award. Earnhart, a long-time Extension Advisory Committee member, Master Gardener Volunteer, and Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist, lives in Poland and devotes much of his time to OSU Extension and the Mahoning County Extension office.



Pictured are (L-R): Yvette Graham, Lori Moff, Beth Stefura, Hugh Earnhart, Eric Barrett, and Dianne Shoemaker

The Friend of Extension award is the highest recognition that can be presented by Epsilon Sigma Phi (ESP) to a non-Extension person, business or organization and is designed to recognize truly outstanding support and involvement in Extension efforts.

Haley Drake

Program Coordinator
OSUE Mahoning County

Notice: 2017 Ceremony Site for Wreaths Across America

We are seeking input from MGVs and OCVNs to select a new cemetery location for next year's Wreath Across America ceremony.

We need to get the new site registered as soon as possible after the first of the year. - **Mike Beaudis**

Notice: MGV State Support Fee

Attached to this newsletter is your invoice for the State 2017 Master Gardener Volunteer Support Fee. This \$10 yearly fee supports the program at the state level. The money is used for the state conference, the volunteer management system and several other worthwhile causes. This fee is payable by MGVs who have completed the required hours for certification. - **Lori**

Notice: 2017 MGV Training

Our next class has tentatively been set to begin on Tuesday, March 14th at the OSU Extension office. Please inform those who have expressed interest in joining our groups.

Volunteer Voice – Marilyn McKinley

January Garden Duties

Itching to get out there? I still have fall clean up to complete. Guess it's now winter-early spring clean up!



January to do: Order from the catalogs. Rework your garden design – don't you do that every year? Review last year's garden journal – start a new journal for 2017. Check on those stored bulbs. Do a walk around to check for any heaving. Start planning to prune. Feed the birds and give them some unfrozen water. Take a seminar or class. Get your garden tools in shape.

MM

Volunteer Voice – Kathy Miller

The Last Kiss of Summer

It's Autumn! I have always been under the opinion that Autumn was Mother Nature's way of compensating us for what's to come.

It seems like yesterday I was peaking out my window at the refreshing sight of snowdrops and crocus' in my partially frozen garden. Then to my delight came tulips, daffodils, and my favorite Bleeding Hearts. Followed by an abundance of spring flowers.

I was overjoyed at the warming of the earth once more, with all this promise of beauty and bounty.

Birds were singing, bunnies running around the yards, and the wonderful smell of freshly cut grass once again.

How I love watching the trees bud out and the fresh colors of the earth return. Each day brought more warmth and brightness to my beloved gardens.

Soon it was time to start visiting my favorite garden centers. Just to smell the potting soil and fertilizers was exciting for me. And the varieties of plants! All colors and fragrances. My mind is delirious with possibilities.

The day I bring home my first load of treasures is most joyous. Usually it is the ferns for my porches. Then I know spring has arrived.

Next will come all my annuals followed by some new variety of something that I simply must have.

The composting and mulching is next and I'm in my glory when I top dress it all. Next I will animate and decorate with all my focal treasures from many years of collecting.

Now I spend the next months nurturing and caring for the gardens like a newborn infant.

The warmth of summer days will bring roses of many species into bloom. The welcome rainfalls will darken the hues of the bark on the trees and shrubs like the fresh paint on a palate.

I enjoyed the smell of both herbs and earthworms both refreshed from the wetness. Summer evenings will grace me with late night garden walks, lit with both fireflies and my treasure collection of solar lights. (What an invention)!

My Sunday mornings will delight me with a backdrop for reading my paper and enjoying morning coffee.

How I love summer.

Then, it's Autumn. There is a chill in the air most mornings. The sun's light is a whiter shade in Autumn. Leaves on both the trees and shrubs are fading in their shade of green as are the fields that surround me.

There is a faint smell of musk and mold in the rustling leaves that start to fall. I notice more and more color to the trees each day. The leaves get brighter and more vibrant like they are celebrating their last hurrah.

I want to bottle the experience up and keep it safe in my home for the impending winter. But it's impossible.

Instead, I put my gardens to bed with hopes and promises of a new start in the spring.

The garden is quiet now. Sleeping. I gave it one last kiss before turning off the solar lights.

Christmas morning will delight my family with the warmth of freshly baked scones and my famous peach-raspberry jam, and I will smile at the color and the memory of the harvest.

January will bring kettles of homemade soups and stews flavored with my herbs and filled with the abundance of vegetables I preserved on those sultry summer afternoons.

February, I will sit in front of my fireplace and glance at garden catalogues, with an occasional smile at the bowl of dried hydrangeas on my coffee table.

March will find me addressing all my houseplants, feeding, repotting, dividing and such. Then I will start my seeds with the hope of another season of God's glory.

Yes, it's Autumn, but only for a while.

Kathy Miller
OSUE MGV

Upcoming Events

January – **Events at the Huston – Brumbaugh Nature Center** can be found in the Fall/Winter 2016 newsletter at <http://go.osu.edu/HB-F-W16>

January – **Events at the Mill Creek Metroparks** can be found at <http://www.millcreekmetroparks.org/events/2017-01/>

February 18 – **The Men’s Garden Club of Youngstown Annual Winter Seminar, “Great Gardens Start Here,”** Fellows Riverside Gardens, Saturday, **Save the Date.** For continuingly updated information, visit: <http://www.mgcy.org/Pages/WinterSeminar.aspx>

February – **Events at the Mill Creek Metroparks** can be found at <http://www.millcreekmetroparks.org/events/2017-02/>

Wreaths Across America 2016

In spite of the weather conditions, Mike Beaudis was responsible for an incredibly successful event.



Keen Observation

MGV Fellows Tree 2016



Congratulations to Thresea Harris, her committee and volunteers.

It proved to be a memorable event charged with emotions.



Enough Said



Thresea

Images from the 2016 Volunteer Recognition Banquet



Honoring The 2016 PPDC Volunteers



Marilyn



Sheila

The Certified Class of 2016



No Comment

MGV 2017 Meeting Schedule

January 12 – Organizational Meeting, OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

February 9 – TBA

March 9 – TBA

April 13 – TBA

May 11 – TBA

June 8 – TBA

July 13 – TBA

August 10 – Meeting with OCVNs to work on 2017 Canfield Fair display.

October 12 – TBA

November 9 – TBA

December – ANR Volunteer Banquet

OCVN 2017 Schedule

January 18 – Organizational Meeting, OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

February – Program Event, TBA

March 15 – Meeting, TBA

April – Program Event, TBA

May 17 – Meeting, TBA

June – Program Event, TBA

July 19 – Meeting, TBA

August 10 – Thursday Meeting with MGVs to work on 2017 Canfield Fair display.

September – Program Event, TBA

October 18 – Meeting, TBA

November – Program Event, TBA

December – ANR Volunteer Banquet

CFAES provides research and related education programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: <http://go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity>

Coffee with the Master Gardeners - 2017

February 20	Growing and Caring for Succulents
March 20	Planting A Fragrant Garden
April 24	Creating an Edible Landscape
May 15	Gardening Ideas for Children
June 19	Native Plants for Your Landscape
July 17	Good Bugs vs. Bad Bugs
August 21	Those Pesky Weeds!
September 18	Creating a Kitchen Garden
October 16	Working with Gourds
November 13	Indoor Color for Winter
January 22, 2018	How to Interpret Seed Catalogues

9:30 am—Coffee, Donuts,
Refreshments

10am-12pm—Program

Location: 490 S. Broad St. Canfield, OH

Cost: \$15/person

Details: Register ASAP – Seating is limited

Contact: 330-533-5538



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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