

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

August 2022

Dear fellow OSU Master Gardener Volunteers,

The month of August is usually a heat wave in the garden. We take care of our plants by pest controls and watering. How can our garden help to take care of us? We can enjoy cut flowers and delicious fruits and nutritious vegetables. Spending time in the garden can also be a stress reliever. Do you have any whimsy or crafty items that add some personality to your garden? I have 4 windmills and some colored lights. These are aesthetically pleasing, and I believe help deter the deer from parading through my veggies.

Plan to add a bench or shady archway to your garden to enjoy next summer. I added a birdbath by my front walkway this year. When I am relaxing inside by a front window, I can still watch the birds and butterflies cool down a bit. I also sometimes put out a few painted steppingstones along the entrance walkway. I usually find that I really do enjoy spending time caring for my garden and landscape. I find most beverages taste better after I spend some time in the garden.

If you have children in your family, consider all the fun times you had when you were a child. Maybe plan to add an area under the trees in the yard where they can play. Set up a fairy garden or a sandbox. Set up a crafting table. Have a picnic lunch outside. How about a small inflatable pool or set up a play area with a sprinkler to cool off? Then drain the pool, collecting the water for your garden. Remember, gardening takes time and effort, but save some time for fun with friends in the garden this summer.

Bob Eister

President

EMAIL RESPONSES

When you receive an email from our listservs (MGV, OCVN, Gardens, etc.), please simply click on **“Reply”**. Do not type in the email addresses again. **Please do not “Reply All”**. When you send messages back to the listservs, it creates issues. This is because we protect the listservs to avoid unwanted SPAM messages. When you reply, please be sure to just reply to one of us OR start a new email message to the person you need to communicate with at the office. If you have questions about emailing and responding, just let us know and we will walk you through the steps. Thanks!

YOUR CALADIUMS & FAVORITE FLOWERS

How are your caladiums? Everyone who wore their badge to the meeting got some to plan and grow for the fair, in memory of Hugh. Let's all get our ideas for submitting entries into the Canfield Fair Flower show this year! YOU CAN DO IT! Plus, there are premiums for doing so. From roses to herbs and zinnias to hydrangeas – there are a great number of classes at the fair open to youth and adults. Be sure to read the rules to know the details on the number of stems, tips for choosing a great entry, and more. Anyone can enter flowers and arrangements in the show. Entries are twice during the fair – Tuesday afternoon and Saturday morning. Know that it takes a couple of minutes to prep your entries upon arrival at the fairgrounds during those times – so do not wait until the last minute to arrive. Return address

labels will speed up the process. There are even design contests that make it fun to share what you are growing in the garden.



How are your caladiums doing? Here are Eric's – leafing out and soon to be ready for entry in the Canfield Fair Flower Show! Be prepared to take yours to the fair to show off our MGV 'green thumbs', to honor Hugh, and to help grow the floral show!

For details on the show and categories are at <http://go.osu.edu/canfieldflowers>

EMAIL LISTSERV

We have fixed all of the emails in the listserv – there were three that we think were issues. So, everyone should be receiving this. Can you each take a minute to call an MGV friend to ask them if they received this newsletter? That will help us figure out if anyone is not receiving it. All emails are correct on our end and none of them say they are bouncing.

Please remember our requirements to be an active member are:

HOUR DEADLINES

- Active MGVs are required to have their hours in by December 31 at 5 PM
 - Hours for 2022 will run from November 1, 2021, until December 31, 2022, for this year only.
- Intern MGVs are required to have their 50 volunteer hours in by April 12, 2023, at 5 PM

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

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

- The Canfield Fair Schedule was emailed last week and is also available at the extension office. To sign up for a shift, please call the office at 330-533-5538. There are also time slots for set up and tear down. Set up will be Monday, August 29th from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, and Tear down will be Tuesday, September 6th from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm.
- 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

MGV MINUTES

July Minutes: <https://u.osu.edu/barrett.90/2022/07/21/mgv-minutes-for-july-14-2022/>

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!

- August 11th- **Will be held at the Extension office**
- September 8th At the Smucker House (purple house) 271 S. Broadway St. We will have a dinner/potluck that night. Please bring a covered dish to share.
- October 13th
- November 10th

- December 8th

Spotlight is On Katie Shipka aka Bluebird/Monarch Lady

Katie was born and raised in Youngstown. She attended St. Edward, UHS, and YSU, majoring in education. Her first car was a graduation gift from her parents – a yellow Ford Fairlane.

Katie's first job was babysitting for a whopping \$.50 per hour. She also worked at Mc Kelveys (sales and modeling for the college board. She has taught 1st and 4th grade. She retired after 29 years as a medical librarian.

Hobbies are kayaking, biking, gardening, reading, hiking, and raising monarchs. Katie belongs to the Mahoning Garden Club, Midlothian Free Clinic and Panhellenic, St Edwards Church. She is not superstitious, has traveled to Ireland, and longs to go on an African safari. She sees herself doing the same things in five years, possibly adding more activities! If she could live anywhere, it would be right here close to family and enjoying the change of seasons. Her favorite color is red, her favorite flower - loves all wildflowers. Katie grows herbs but gave up on gardening due to thistles. She has a crop of milkweeds and other pollinator plants for the monarchs she loves. She has no pets but is the proud grandma to rescue Greyhounds.

Katie mentions that her work at Mercy Health medical and searching through the National Library of Medicine has helped her so much. She says that when she started working in our Plant & Pest clinic it ran parallel to the way she was researching at the Medical Library. Her task was to read the material and then provide accurate information to the patron. As she researches, she continues to learn, which has become a valuable asset.

Katie is a people person. One of the things she likes about being an MGV and the OCVN is meeting people, people with similar interests and abilities.

Thru MGV and OCVN programs Katie has done something she never thought she would do. She writes articles for the Valley Grows page in the Vindicator, plus she has given talks to all kinds of groups. This has provided personal growth and opportunities she did not expect.

If Katie could spend one hour with someone it would be Sir David Attenborough.

~By Marilyn McKinley

Mill Creek Trolley Tours

The MGVs are no longer organizing a group tour, if you would like to arrange a tour on your own the cost is \$10 per person. Contact Mill Creek at 330-740-7116 for more information.

2022 Events for All Mahoning County Programs

Upcoming Classes:

***Note the date changes for Garden Art Fairy Gardens and Bird Wreath Feeder**

- *Garden Art Series: Container Hypertufa*
 - Date: Tuesday, August 9
 - Time: 6 pm
 - Location: Mahoning Extension Office
 - Taught by Pam Baytos
 - Cost: \$20
 - To register visit: <https://go.osu.edu/08-09hypertufacontainer>

- *Naturalist Series: A Concert of Crickets and Katydid*
 - Date: Tuesday, August 16th
 - Time: 6:30 pm
 - Location: Mahoning County Extension
 - To register visit <https://go.osu.edu/cricketsandkatydids>

- *Garden Art Series: For the Birds Wreath Feeder*
 - Date: Tuesday, September 13
 - Time: 6 pm
 - Location: Mahoning Extension Office
 - Taught by Pam Baytos
 - Cost: \$20
 - To register visit: <https://go.osu.edu/10-05birdwreath>

- *Naturalist Series: Aquatic Invasive Species in Ohio*
 - Date: Thursday, September 29th
 - Time: 6:30 pm
 - Location: Mahoning County Extension Office
 - Speaker: Eugene Braig, Program Director- Aquatic Ecosystems
 - Cost: Free
 - To register visit: <https://go.osu.edu/09-29aquaticinvasives>

- *Garden Art Series: Fairy Garden*
 - Date: Wednesday, October 5
 - Time: 6 pm
 - Location: Mahoning Extension Office
 - Taught by Natalie Fraser
 - Cost: \$20
 - To register visit: <https://go.osu.edu/09-13fairygarden>

- *Naturalist Series: The Many Lives of Lichens*
 - Date: Thursday, October 20th
 - Time: 6:30 pm
 - Location: Mahoning County Extension Office
 - To register visit <https://go.osu.edu/livesoflichens>

- *Garden Art Series: Holiday Container*
 - Date: Tuesday, November 15
 - Time: 6 pm
 - Location: Mahoning Extension Office
 - Taught by Pam Baytos
 - Cost: \$20
 - To register visit: <https://go.osu.edu/11-15holidaycontainer>

- *Naturalist Series: Hunting Wild Mushrooms in Eastern Ohio*
 - Date: Thursday, November 17th
 - Time: 6:30 pm
 - Location: Mahoning County Extension Office
 - To register visit <https://go.osu.edu/wildmushrooms>

- *Garden Art Series: Holiday Container*

- 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>

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

Other Events and Happenings (not eligible volunteer hours)

- Gardeners of Greater Youngstown is holding their 56th Annual Horticulture Show on August 20 at Fellows Riverside Gardens in Mill Creek Park. For event and judging info visit: <https://gg-yo.org/horticultural-show>

Photos of the beautiful wreath, made by Marilyn and Pam, for Hugh Earnhart



Photos of the interns making hypertufa for BOTO



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.