

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>



May 2016

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Marilyn's Musings



At last! Let the planting begin. So many things that I had thought would be “Winter Projects” are now pushed into the background...maybe next winter. Is there any greater joy than being outside, hearing the birds sing, seeing things pop up all over the yard, feeling the warm sun, mowing the grass, on & on. LOVE IT! Being a farm kid, I have always loved being outdoors, but as I continue to age and physical limitations are a reality, how I wish I had been even more in tune with nature when I was younger. I was busy, as we all were, raising kids, working, just trying to keep up with everyday demands. I am so very thankful that somehow my husband and I did manage to pass on the appreciation of the ‘wonders of nature’ gene to our boys. As I know you are, we are trying to get our grandchildren to take time and ‘smell the roses’. I am so happy that they all seem to be interested in being outside and

discovering the natural beauty that surrounds us. Last weekend I visited with my 14, 12, and 10 year old grandsons. The four of us went walking, found a robin's nest, ducks nest with eggs, toads, identified some wildflowers, took pictures of a bald eagle soaring above, imagined what clouds looked like, - that's like taking the ink blot test - and maybe a bit scary, watched a hawk swoop in for the kill, turned over stones and counted earthworms. I was never so proud! We all have said it – just as our parents did – what on earth will the next generations be like, how bad can it get? There is a lesson here for all of us. Lead, show them the way, and they will follow.

The 2016 MGV's and OCVN's will have graduated by the time this newsletter reaches you. What a great bunch of volunteers we are adding to our ranks. 18, yep 18 MGV's!!!! And 6 OCVN's!!!! MGV's have been assigned ‘buddies / mentors’. If you would like to be a personal mentor to a new intern, please feel free let a new intern know! Remember when you were the new kid? Being made to feel welcome and appreciated is key to keeping us all interested in volunteering. Together we can and do make such a difference.

MGV Interns will be joining us for our May meeting OCVN's always welcome to join us – Bring One Take One –

potluck. Paper products and drinks will be furnished. PLEASE be sure to **WEAR YOUR OSU Volunteer BADGE.**



See ya there!

Marilyn McKinley
OSUE MGV and OCVN

May MGV Meeting

The May MGV meeting will take place on May 12th at 6:00 pm at the OSU Extension office. The meeting will be our annual member plant exchange and covered dish dinner. The meeting will feature the introduction of our eighteen new members.

So bring a dish, bring a plant and bring yourself. **Please note the early start time.**

May OCVN Meeting

Our next OCVN meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18th, at 6:30 pm. No further information has been confirmed to date.



April MGV Meeting

Our April MGV meeting featured Eric Barrett, who demonstrated some of the kits available to MGVs and OCVNs to assist them in presentations throughout the community.



April OCVN Meeting

Our April OCVN meeting featured Dr. Stan Gehrt, an associate professor of wildlife ecology at Ohio State University and an expert on coyotes. About 60 OCVNs and members

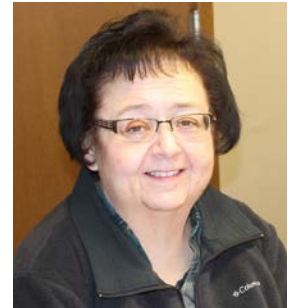


of the community attended the informative discussion of coyotes in an urban environment.

MGV Class of 2016 In Their Own Words

Cynthia Foust

Hello “Yunz” – meaning “all of you” in Pittsburghese, the language of Pittsburg, PA, place of my birth. My name is Cynthia Foust. I am the “mum” of two adult children who are doing wonderful.



When younger I mowed the lawn at my family’s home. I became a gardener when my younger sister married a farmer. We both really wanted to be outside. Our gardening started with some annuals in pots and a few daffodil bulbs. The next spring I decided to enter the Mill Creek Metro Parks Daffodil show. One blue ribbon later I was hooked on growing daffodils for show.

A few years ago I moved and had to start all over with my bulb selections. That got me to thinking of soil conditions for my bulb beds and about needing to mow my lawn less. I completed Fellows Riverside Garden’s master gardener’s class in 2015. I learned about having soil tested at the OSU extension in Canfield. I found I have a pH of 7.0. So what I was doing to amend my soil correct.

I have discovered I love to learn about all kinds of gardening subjects. I will complete the OSU Master Gardener Volunteer program this May – class of 2016. I know a little about a lot. I still don’t think of myself as a gardener. I love to share what I have learned with

others. As my friend Mille says about me, "You are a volunteer extraordinary".

I do a lot of kinds of volunteering. Autism, and musical concerts. I am a Victim Advocate, legal support person.

Wishing everyone a great growing season.

Cynthia Foust

***OCVN Class of 2016
In Their Own Words***

Kevin Anthony

I was born in Kittanning, Pennsylvania situated along the east bank of the Allegheny River. Much of my extended family lives in the surrounding areas. My grandparents and uncle both lived on farms that include large tracts of hardwood trees. My family moved to Struthers, Ohio when I was young and this is where I grew up.



Both my father and mother enjoyed being in the outdoors; especially in the forest. This led to them purchasing a six-acre plot of land near Cook Forest State Park in Pennsylvania where they established our family camp. It was at this camp; coupled with the family farms that a got a real appreciation for nature and the outdoors.

We would spend most weekends from early Spring through late Fall at our camp. I along with my brothers and sisters spent a lot of time hiking and exploring the surrounding hardwood forest. This provided opportunities to observe many wildlife species of both mammals and reptiles. We seen whitetail deer, foxes, black bear,

raccoons, squirrels (including flying squirrels), wild turkeys, turtles, and black snakes to name a few.

After completing a career in the Navy, my wife and I moved to North Lima where we bought a home situated on 15 acres of mostly deciduous and conifer trees. Our property shares a boundary with the Beaver Township Nature Preserve, an 80 acre preserve with a little more than two miles of trails through grass lands and hardwood forest located on State Route 165. We really enjoy having easy access to the nature preserve, so much so, that I joined the Beaver Township Park Board Advisory Committee. As a member, much of my focus is on the nature preserve.

My involvement with this organization is where I first learned about the Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist (OCVN) program. It was apparent that the OCVN program would provide me with the additional science-based education necessary to promote awareness and stewardship of our natural resources at the nature preserve. The goal of the Beaver Township Park Administrator and Advisory Committee is to further develop the educational experience of our visitors to the nature preserve. The OCVN course has given me to tools necessary to enhance our visitor's understanding of the natural resources we enjoy at the nature preserve as well as develop outreach activities that will encourage additional visitors to stop by and will thereby benefit our community.

In addition to enjoying nature, I also like woodcarving, following collegiate football, and the Cleveland Browns.

Kevin Anthony

***Volunteers are not paid,
not because they are worthless,
but because they are priceless.***

Volunteer Voice – Thresea Harris

Gardener's Creed

I believe in good brown earth,
Sun and seed and soil.
Rest is sweetest when it comes
After happy toil.

I believe in miracles -
Bud and leaf and fruit
Springing into loveliness
From the hidden root.

I believe that God who made
Rose and bird and bee
Wanted us *to* make His world
Beautiful to see,
Meant us to be gardeners,
Making green things grow.
I believe we do His work
When we plant and sow.

I believe that He whose hand
Fashioned Eden's bowers
Put into the heart of man
Love of trees and flowers.
That is why a garden gives us
Blessings manifold,
Health and healing and contentment,
Peace and joys untold.

Patience Strong

Thresea Harris
OSUE MGV

Volunteer Voice – Pam Baytos

Tips for our July 14 - 1st. Annual Master Gardener Flower Show:

I'll start including information on our flower show to be held in July. I didn't realize how many "rules" were involved. I thought we'd line up our flowers and pick a pretty one! This will be a good way for us to learn the basics and still have fun.

We'll start with Terms Used in Exhibiting Flowers and Houseplants.

BALANCE: The visual "weight" of an exhibit should look equal on either side of an imaginary line drawn through the center. A flower arrangement that appears to tilt to either side has poor balance.

COLOR: Good color is uniform, vivid, and typical of plant type. Flower colors should not show muddiness or fading. Foliage color should show no evidence of sunburn, scorching, bleaching or uncharacteristic spotting.

COMMON NAME: Plants may have one or several commonly known names. The same common name may refer to two different plants. Some plants, such as zinnia, have the same common and scientific name.

CONDITION: A judging term that reflects how close an entry is to its ideal stage of development at the time of judging.

CULTIVAR: A cultivar is the cultivated variety of a plant and was developed through a controlled breeding or hybridizing program. Single quote marks are used to indicate a cultivar name, such as *Zinnia angustifolia* 'Crystal White'.

CULTURAL PERFECTION: Cultural perfection is a judging category that may be used to evaluate how the flower was grown. The appearance of the flower will show evidence of cultural techniques, such as proper fertilization, watering, pest control, disbudding, dividing, removal of spent blooms, and quality potting soil. A judge may deduct for any injury caused by poor growing conditions.

DISBUDDING: Removing the side shoots of a flower is called disbudding. This technique helps produce one large single flower per stem on plants that

would otherwise have branched stems with smaller flowers.

FLORET: A small individual flower in a cluster of flowers on a stem.

FORM: A judging term that refers to a plant's ideal characteristics. For example, the petals of a single daisy are expected to be equal in length and similar in shape. To win all possible points for form, a flower must have a shape true to its type. Poor form may result from mechanical injury, insect and disease damage, or poor cultural practices.

GROOMING: A step in preparing flowers to exhibit that may include removing dirt or dead foliage or flowers. Grooming should not alter typical features of the flower.

PROPORTION: A term that refers to the relationship between parts.

SCIENTIFIC NAME: Each plant has only one scientific name that is given according to an international set of rules. The first part is always capitalized and identifies the genus to which the plant belongs. The second part is the species name and is not capitalized. Both genus and species names are underlined or printed in italics.

SIZE: A judging category that helps evaluate how a plant has been grown. The size of a flower should be as large as the variety allows under proper growing conditions. The stem and foliage should be proportional to the bloom size. Large blooms are not desirable if they are in poor condition or form.

SPACING: A term that may be used in judging to indicate the closeness of florets in a spike or spray type flower.

SPIKE: A lengthened flower cluster in which the florets are stem-less.

SPRAY: A main stem with side branches and blooms on all sides.

STANDARD: A term sometimes used to identify round-form flowers that are exhibited as a single flower at the tip of a stem. Side shoots need to be removed early in flower development to produce the desirable single, large bloom.

STEM AND FOLIAGE: A judging category that evaluates the non-flower part of the specimen. The stem supporting the blooms should be strong and in proportion to the flower. Points are deducted if the stem is crooked, weak, damaged, or too short. If a stem grows with foliage attached, such as roses or chrysanthemums, the foliage should be left on the stem unless they will be in water. The leaves should be in good condition and in proportional size to the bloom and stem.

SUBSTANCE: A judging term that describes the thickness and firmness of flower petals and foliage. Fewer points are given to flowers that show wilting, curling, fading, or browning.

SYMMETRY: A judging term that describes the proportion of parts on a flower. The ideal specimen has a balanced proportion; if a line were drawn from top to bottom through the middle, both sides would look similar and balanced.

UNIFORMITY: When a category or class requires more than one flower, the judge is likely to look for blooms that are similar in size, shape, and color on stems cut to equal lengths.

Pam Baytos

Upcoming Events

May – **MCCTC Spring Plant Sale**, Mahoning County Career and Technical Center, Monday through Friday, 9 am – 2 pm. The annual spring plant sale, sponsored by the horticulture program at MCCTC in Canfield, will continue throughout May until all items are sold. The horticulture students have prepared a large selection of plants and

arrangements. For more information contact Mary June Emerson at 330-729-4000, ext. 1671.

May and June Events at the Huston – Brumbaugh Nature Center can be found in the Spring 2016 newsletter at <http://go.osu.edu/HB-Spring16>

May Events at the Mill Creek Metroparks can be found at <http://www.millcreekmetroparks.org/events/2016-05/>

May 11 – Let's Talk Roses, Agriculture and Family Center (520 W. Main St., Cortland), Wednesday, 6 pm. Part of the Trumbull County Master Gardeners 2016 Free Garden Programs.

May 16 – Containers and Baskets: Beautiful Displays! Coffee with the Master Gardeners Program, OSU Extension – Mahoning County office, Monday, 9:30 am – 12:00 pm. Margaret Biroshak and June Nolasco will present new innovative ideas for making the containers for your lawn or patio. <http://go.osu.edu/fabulouscontainers>

The program flyer can be found attached to this newsletter.

May 25 – Top Tomato Tips, Agriculture and Family Center (520 W. Main St., Cortland), Wednesday, 6 pm. Part of the Trumbull County Master Gardeners 2016 Free Garden Programs.

June Events at the Mill Creek Metroparks can be found at <http://www.millcreekmetroparks.org/events/2016-06/>

June 4 – There's Always Up: Vertical Gardening, 4-H Building, Lake County Fairgrounds, Saturday, 10 am. Part of the Lake County MGVs' Meet Us in the Garden discussion and interactive demonstration series. Free Event but registration required. Phone 440-350-2206 or email MGAdmin@lakecountyohio.gov

June 8 – Gardening with Dogs, Agriculture and Family Center (520 W. Main St., Cortland), Wednesday, 6 pm.

Part of the Trumbull County Master Gardeners 2016 Free Garden Programs. **Do Not** bring dogs!

September 16 & 17 - 2016 Ohio MGVS State MGVS Conference, Cuyahoga Falls, Friday and Saturday. The "Cultivating Passion" conference will feature two keynote speakers: Michael Dirr, author of "Manual of Woody Landscape Plants," and Doug Tallamy, author of "Bringing Nature Home." Visit <http://u.osu.edu/mgv2016/> for more information.

MGV 2016 Meeting Schedule

May 12 - Plant Exchange and Pot Luck Dinner, OSUE office, 6:30 pm.

June 9 - A trip to Kreidler's Gardens in Homeworth. Owner Barry will give a presentation on New and Unusual Plants. Times for carpooling TBA

July 14 - *1st. Annual Master Gardener Flower Show*, details TBA

August 11 - A Home Garden Tour to be held at Eric's where we will also hold our Fair Planning meeting.

September 8 – *Green Team Composting Class*, OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

October 13 - TBA

November 10 - We will work on the Fellows Christmas Tree decorations OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

December - Recognition Banquet TBA

OCVN 2016 Meeting Schedule

May 18 – *Bald Eagles*, Jim Kavelatis??

June 15 – *Millcreek Trolley Cohasset Express Field Trip*

July 20 – *Quail Hollow Park* – Field Trip

August 17 – *Fair Preparation*

September 21 – *Beaver Township Nature Preserve Field Trip*, Scott Conway

October 19 – *Amphibians*, Gregory Lipps

November 16 – *Deer*, Marne Titchenell

December - Recognition Banquet TBA

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

Containers & Baskets: Beautiful Displays!

Are you ready for new innovative ideas?
Learn to make the best containers for your lawn or patio.

Margaret Biroschak & June Nolasco
OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers

Monday, May 16th

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

REGISTRATION INFORMATION. Registration 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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Coffee with the Master Gardeners

Planting Perennials for Bees and Butterflies

Presented by OSU
Master Gardener
Volunteers
Marilyn McKinley
& Peg Zeleznik



A showy blend of flowers can charm bees, birds, and butterflies. But which kinds of flowers should you choose? We will explore native pollinators, enjoy coffee and a light breakfast with our Master Gardener Volunteers and have an opportunity to take home valuable information.

Monday June 20th

9:30am: Coffee and Donuts

10-12pm: Program

LOCATION: 490 South Broad St, Canfield, Ohio

COST: \$15

DETAILS: Register ASAP...Seating Limited

CONTACT: 330-533-5538

REGISTRATION INFORMATION. Registration 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."

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MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS



Diagnostic Workshop for Master Gardener Volunteers

What: Join other MGVs who love to learn and hone your diagnostic skills at the same time! The morning session, "A Review of Insects and Diseases of 2015" will focus on the top pest problems observed in 2015 as well as an update on invasive insects (EAB, ALB, etc.) and diseases such as *Impatiens* downy mildew, and boxwood blight and more. In the afternoon you will have an opportunity to practice your skills. There will be hands-on samples for you to practice the diagnostic process, allowing you to increase your confidence in diagnosing plant problems.

Instructors include: Ashley Kulhanek, Nancy Taylor, Erik Draper, Jacqueline Kowalski and Eric Barrett

When: July 14, 2016

Time: Registration 8:30; program 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Where: *Canfield Fairgrounds, 7265 Columbiana-Canfield Rd*, Building 44

Cost: \$35 includes lunch, snacks, and handouts

Space is limited so register now!
6 Continuing Education Credit hours are available to MGVs.

Diagnostic Update for Master Gardener Volunteers

Deadline to register: Monday, July 11 @ NOON

Make \$35.00 check payable to: OSU Extension

490 S. Broad St, Canfield, OH 44406

Contact: Eric Barrett, 330-533-5538

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

Email (print) _____

County in which you are a Master Gardener Volunteer _____

Check here if you are involved with the Ask a MGV online program _____

Please indicate any special dietary or other needs you have below:

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For Deaf and Hard of Hearing, please contact Ohio State University Extension using your preferred communication (e-mail, relay services, or video relay services). Phone 1-800-750-0750 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. EST Monday through Friday. Inform the operator to dial 614-292-6181.

BRING ONE...TAKE ONE

FLOWER AND SEED EXCHANGE

August 20, 2016
10:00 am - 11:30 am
Canfield Fairgrounds
(next to Pumpkin Bldg)

Bring plants @ 10:00 am for ID and to view selection
Exchange starts promptly @ 11:00 am

Bring plants, seeds, or bulbs to share...

Label each plant so the new owner will know the name, planting instructions, color, bloom, seasons, ect. Houseplants are welcome! Rules on back.

Containers, Tools, and Garden Art Exchange...

If you have extra shovels, gardening tools, aprons, pots, unopened soil & fertilizer and garden decoration bring them along and see what you can exchange them for! These items must be in good condition, clean and useable.

Name that Plant!

Master Gardener Volunteers and staff will help you with plant ID and labeling. We'll get you the common and botanical name. No invasive plants permitted.

Bring your Gardening Questions

Have your gardening questions answered by Master Gardener Volunteers at the event.

RULES FOR EXCHANGE:

1. Each person bringing an item will be asked to obtain one plant, bulb, or seed package at the ringing of the bell;
2. If additional items remain, each person will be asked to obtain a second item at the next ringing of the bell;
3. If additional items still remain, each person will be asked to obtain a third item at the next ringing of the bell;
4. And so on until all items have been distributed fairly.

Come enjoy the morning with fellow gardeners
in and around the Mahoning Valley!

PLANT TIP: Transplant perennials in early spring just after growth starts or in early September. To relocate perennials during the main growing season, remove all flowers and cut back foliage. Water frequently as needed for good establishment.

PLANT TIP: Avoid selecting plants in bloom unless you must be assured of specific color. Remove any flowers at planting time to promote root establishment.

Bring One...Take One
August 20, 2016 - Saturday
CANFIELD FAIRGOUNDS @ 10 AM

South of Canfield on SR 46

Plant Exchange starts promptly @ 11 am



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