

Mahoning ANR Volunteer

Ohio State University Extension – Mahoning County
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November-December 2014

Volume 13 Issue 11

Marilyn's Musings

Nov! How did this happen? I barely remember spring and summer. Crazy weather. Now we are hearing chances of "s" in the forecast! We have leaves, leaves, and more leaves, everywhere.



Yes, I'm mulching, busy doing 'doughnuts' and crop circles in the yard. We have mostly oak, the last tree to finally let its leaves fly to the ground. Of course the neighbor's yards are leaf free (except for our traveling ones), just not fair. I feel like Mother Nature is testing this old lady....again!

Six of your fellow MGVS Bonnie Twaddle, Karen Santee, Danita Davis, Celia Ball, Hugh Earnhardt, and I, attended all or part of the recent State MGVS Conference in Delaware, OH. A nice variety of classes were offered. They varied from landscaping, to native perennials, attracting birds to your yard, daylilies, a winery trip, recycling, and more. The keynote speakers were entertaining and interesting. Next year's conference will be held late August in Maumee, just outside of Toledo. I would encourage all to attend this gathering. It's a good way to talk with other MGVS's, get some great ideas, and hear about what's going on around the state.

Now's the time to start forcing bulbs for Christmas blooms. I read in Horticulture Magazine that the best paperwhite for forcing is Erlicheer, beautiful double, creamy petals, they suggest Galilee also. Maybe Lynn or Hugh can verify and suggest others. It's time to get the ever favorite amaryllis going too. Ever think of making a live Advent wreath. I made one last year for gift and included a list of what each plant and herb used represented. It's easy, fun, smells wonderful and makes a great early Christmas gift.

Winter weather. Come on you weather specialists, can't you get a better handle on this? The Farmer's Almanac says it will be worse than last year. Other sites say due to El Nino, expect a fairly mild with not much snow winter. Yet another site predicts not much snow but bone chilling cold. How can they be so far apart? Isn't this all based on something reliable like a groundhog?

MGV volunteer and education hours. I'm proud to say, that after many hours pecking at the keyboard, everyone who submitted hours by the deadline of Oct. 31, has hours submitted online. My hope is that starting Nov. 1, 2014 everyone keeps a running total of all their hours and enters them, on line, on a regular basis. Please review the guidelines explaining what counts for continuing education and what counts as volunteer hours. A lot of time was spent trying to get this process up and running. Thanks to all for your efforts

and cooperation. FYI, for us Naturalists, the old style paper submissions are still the only way to go.

Don't forget to send in your reservation for the Recognition Banquet. Promise, no repeat of "Santa Baby"! However I can guarantee some surprises! Please join your fellow OCVN's and MGV's for an enjoyable evening. Bring the spouse or significant other. It would be nice for them to meet all the great people you hang around with.

Halloween is over, Thanksgiving just around the corner. I hope you have a wonder day of giving thanks while enjoying the fellowship of family and friends. May your turkey be moist and your team win!

Marilyn McKinley

OSU Master Gardener Volunteer
Ohio certified Volunteer Naturalist

November MGV Meeting

Our next Master Gardener meeting will be held on Thursday, November 13th at 6:30 pm at the OSU Extension office. The meeting will focus on preparations for our OSUE Master Gardener Holiday Tree at Fellows Riverside Gardens.



Also, I have been told that the meeting will include a program entitled *Sharing a Holiday Garden Wish List*.

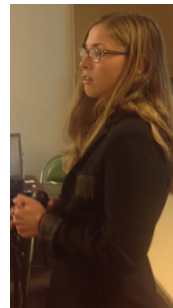
November OCVN Meeting

There will be no OCVN meeting in November due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

October MGV Meeting

Our October Master Gardener Volunteer Meeting featured two District Engineers from the Ohio EPA office in Twinsburg, Allison Ccyk and John Kwolek. Allison

gave an excellent presentation, which featured a discussion of the history of the Mahoning River and the progress that has been made to reclaim the river as an environmental asset.



October OCVN Meeting

The October OCVN meeting began with an excellent presentation by June Nolasco about creating a Backyard Wildlife Habitat. June also discussed organizations that would certify these projects and the various requirements for official recognition.



The remainder of the meeting consisted of a roundtable discussion of the OCVN program in Mahoning County. Many suggestions were presented with the goal of improving and revitalizing our valuable program.

Thanks to OCVNs Nancy Brundage, Sheila Cubick, Bettyann Nagy, Katie Shipka and Hugh Earnhart for their attendance and participation.

Wreaths Across America 2014

Our annual Veterans wreath ceremony will be held on Saturday, December 13th, beginning at 10:00 am at Poland's Old Church Graveyard, located at 2 Poland Manor in Poland. Next we will move to the Cornersburg Cemetery at 3898 Tippecanoe Road in Youngstown, where the ceremony is scheduled to begin at 11 am.



All are welcome to attend and participate. Volunteers should plan to arrive at the first site at 9:30 am.

MGV Class of 2014 In Their Own Words

Carol Redmond

My name is Carol Redmond and I live in Portage County where I grow food organically in my home garden. I also tend to perennial gardens at our cottage on Lake Erie in Ashtabula County. My primary interests are pesticide and



herbicide-free gardening, soil building, composting and cottage gardens. Although I have had a lifelong interest in gardening, I did not have the time to develop this interest while I was employed full time as a school psychologist. Since retiring, however, I have enjoyed many hours working in my gardens and learning new things about gardening. The Master Gardener Volunteer training program in Mahoning County was a perfect match for my interests at this time. Many thanks to all who made this a great learning experience.

Carol Redmond

Carolyn Frankhauser

I now live in Canfield but graduated from Boardman High School and have lived in this area my whole life. Always, I've been doing some type of garden work because my mother and grandparents loved all types of gardening and the



kids were expected to help. My grandmother was 100 when she passed away and was in her her yard (on her walker) raking leaves the day before she died.

All kinds of perennials and herbs appeal to me, but I am most fond of daylilies & hostas. They are usually no fail and so easy for me. My biggest problem is just not getting plants into their permanent place. Dividing and sharing is so much fun though!!! It is hard to turn away new plants.

My good friend, Toni Beard introduced me to the MGV program. For 2 years my schedule did not work out but finally it all came together & I was able to join the group. The class has been an invaluable experience. It is wonderful to meet so many great and knowledgeable people who my share a love of gardening. I belonged to a garden club 30 years ago and it is exciting to be a part of a group like that again.

Currently, I am a school bus driver for Canfield Schools and own my own home-based business. In the late 70's to mid 80's, I had a small gift shop (The Hole In The Wall) in Poland and Boardman. Since then, my craft interest has grown into my current wholesale and retail custom framing and decorative painting business.

Ten years ago, my husband and I bought our current house in Canfield with 4 acres and 2 barns. We have "his and hers barns" for our hobbies and lots of space that needs some loving care and hard work sometimes!

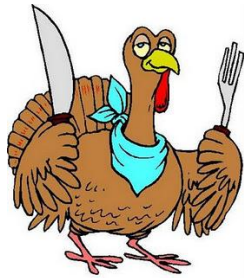
I am nearing retirement and looking forward to spending more time improving my gardens and spending time with my new group of friends.

Carolyn Frankhauser

Volunteer Voice

Thanksgiving Challenge

Due to overwhelming popularity ?????? of the Halloween quiz and because I love trivia, I decided to challenge you a bit with some Thanksgiving trivia. Answers are somewhere in this newsletter.



1. The Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, in what state?
2. Which beverage did the pilgrims bring with them?
3. What did the pilgrims plan to build at the site of the rock?
4. The Macy's parade is known for the large balloon figures. What was the first balloon figure?
5. The pilgrims were supposed to travel on two ships. What was the name of the ship that returned to England?
6. Did the first Thanksgiving feast include pumpkin pie?
7. What vegetables was available for Thanksgiving but not eaten because it was believed to be poisonous?
8. What was the first department store to hold a Thanksgiving Day parade?
9. In what country is the most turkey consumed?
10. Who wanted the national bird to be a turkey?
11. How many pilgrims were on the Mayflower?
12. What was the name of the girl who saved John Smith's life?
13. How many days did the first Thanksgiving last?

14. Who "gobbles" male or female turkey?

15. How many feathers does a mature turkey have?

Marilyn McKinley
OSU MG/OCVN

Upcoming Holidays

Once again the "Holidays" are fast approaching. The term "Holiday" bothers me. I would like Thanksgiving, be recognized as a time of thanks and reflection. I would be happy if we didn't see or hear anything associated with Christmas shopping until Thanksgiving had passed. For our Jewish friends, let Hanukkah be celebrated as traditionally intended. All the commercial hype bores me. The monetary emphasis makes me long for the days when Grandma gave you underwear or pj's for Christmas. Of course, when that was the case I longed for cooler, bigger, more expensive presents.



In years gone by, each special day really had its own separate celebration and meaning, none of this crazy barrage of advertisements or women's magazines filled with pages on how to have the perfect "Holiday". No QVC, no Christmas decorations seen at Hobby Lobby in July, no "but wait, order now and we will- bla, bla, bla". There were simpler times, more meaningful, more treasured family times. Now our families are scattered near and far we struggle to keep them close. It seems even important to create and keep family traditions that will be long remembered and celebrated by our kids and grandkids. Once again this year, that's my Christmas wish.

I think this is the season when people care more, and share more. I'd just like

to say "THANKS" to each of you. I have thoroughly enjoyed being a MG/OCVN this year. I feel so lucky to have found this great group of people. I think we work well together, laugh a lot, accomplished much, and have so much to look forward to in coming year.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING
HAPPY HANUKKAH
MERRY CHRISTMAS
HAPPY KWANZAA
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Marilyn McKinley
OSU MG/OCVN

Minutes of the October 9, 2014 Master Gardener Meeting

Theresa Harris's comprehensive notes for our last meeting were too lengthy to include here. However, they will be made available at the November 13th meeting. However, they were used extensively to produce this newsletter. Thank you, Theresa

Keen Observations

Bettyann Nagy at the passenger pigeon memorial by sculptor Todd McGrain at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center in Columbus. There are 5 extinct birds he has crafted for the "Lost Bird Project" located thru out North America.



Upcoming Events

November 15 - **Birding The Sanctuary**, Saturday, 8 – 9:30 am. Search for birds with Jeff Harvey of Wild Birds Unlimited. Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary. Boots required. Register at Ford Nature Center by 11/14.

November 19 - **All Evergreens Are Not Pine Trees**, Wednesday, 6:30 – 8 pm. Enjoy a walk through the Gardens and

explore the many different types of evergreen plants. Fellows Riverside Gardens. \$10; FFRG member \$8.

November 20 - **Botanical Delights: Ginger**, Thursday, 6 – 7:30 pm. Spice up your fall by exploring the history and uses of ginger. Fellows Riverside Gardens. \$16; FFRG member \$12.

November 25 - **Audubon Society of Mahoning Valley: Birding By Habitat**, Tuesday, 7 – 8 pm. Cheryl Harner of the Greater Mohican Audubon Society and Richland County Master Gardeners will group birds by habitat and discuss the best plants and places for specific species. MetroParks Farm. Call Wild Birds Unlimited at 330.629.2473 for details.

November 30 - **Evergreen Wreaths**, Sunday, 2-4 p.m. Holiday wreaths have been on display for hundreds of years and are a symbol of growth and everlasting life. Join us and create your own natural evergreen wreath. There is no fee and all materials will be provided. If you have something of your own to add to your wreath, please bring it along. This workshop will involve some tools and techniques that will be difficult for children. We are asking that the participants be 12 years of age and older. Registration is required and begins on November 1. Attendance is limited to 16 participants. Huston – Brumbaugh Nature Center, 330-823-7487.

December 4 - **Myths & Truths Of Holiday Plants**, Thursday, 6-7:30 pm. Discover myths, legends and fun facts about many of our popular holiday plants, including poinsettia, mistletoe and amaryllis. Ellen Speicher will share some unique stories behind these fascinating plants, along with tips on caring for them. Each participant will receive a poinsettia to take home. \$18; FFRG member \$16.

December 7 - **Holiday Decorations Workshop**, Sunday, 2-4 p.m. Drop in between 2 and 4 p.m. to make beautiful holiday decorations from natural and recycled materials. No registration required. Huston – Brumbaugh Nature Center, 330-823-7487.

December 20 - **Christmas Bird Count - Greater Youngstown Area**, Saturday, All

Day. In the late 1800s, hunting every species of bird was common practice. Frank Chapman of the American Museum of Natural History in NYC tried to change this in 1900 by starting the Christmas Bird Count. Our area has been participating since 1904. National Audubon Society administers the CBC and chapters organize local counts. Volunteers are invited to help census birds within the count circle. All abilities are welcome. Devote as much time as you want. Focus on your backyard if you wish. Contact CBC Coordinator Gary Meiter at 234.564.7900.

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

Master Gardeners 2014 Meeting Schedule

November 13 - *Holiday Tree Prep Meeting and Sharing a Holiday Garden Wish List.* OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

December 3 - **Annual Recognition Banquet, December 3rd, 6:00 pm at A La Cart Catering (429 Lisbon St, Canfield). Reservations must be received by Wednesday, November 19th (\$18 per person).**

OCVN 2014 Meeting Schedule

November 26 - No Meeting in November

December 3 - **Annual Recognition Banquet, see above listing.**

Tentative Master Gardeners 2015 Meeting Schedule

January 8 – *Organizational Meeting.* OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

February 12 – *Growing Our Future Gardeners,* Jim Converse. OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

March 12 – *Phenology,* Bill Snyder. OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

April 9 – *Update on State MGVC Committee,* Hugh Earnhart. OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

May 14 – *Yellowstone, Patty Basic.* Also, Member Plant Exchange and Covered Dish. OSU Extension Office, 6:00 pm.

June 11 – *Visit to Western Reserve Village,* Herb Guild Members. Meet at the OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

July 9 – *DJ's Greenhouse Visit (Grounds Tour and Picnic),* 6:30 pm. Meet at OSU Extension Office at 5:30 pm or Meet at Poland Library at 5:45 pm.

August 13 – *An Evening in the Garden,* Details TBA.

September 10 – *Cooking With Herbs,* Barb Delisio. Mill Creek MetroParks Farm, 6:30 pm. There will be a charge of \$5 per person for groceries.

October 8 – *Winery Visit,* Details TBA.

November 12 - *Holiday Tree Prep Meeting and Sharing a Holiday Garden Wish List.* OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

December - *Annual Recognition Banquet.*

Tentative OCVN 2015 Meeting Schedule

January 28 - *Annual Organizational Meeting,* OSU Extension Office, 6:30 pm.

December - *Annual Recognition Banquet.*

Answers to the Thanksgiving Quiz:

1. Massachusetts
2. Beer
3. A wharf
4. Felix the Cat
5. Speedwell
6. No – no ovens
7. Potatoes
8. Gimbals in Philly
9. Israel
10. Benjamin Franklin
11. 102
12. Pocahontas
13. 3 days
14. Male (of course!!!)
15. 3500

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

OSU Mahoning County:

Agriculture & Natural Resource Volunteer Recognition Banquet

Wednesday, December 3rd, 2014 beginning at 6:00 p.m.

At A La Cart Catering

429 Lisbon St.

Canfield, OH 44406

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 2014 and their dedication to the Ohio State University Extension programming.

The dinner will be served buffet-style and will include:



Name _____ Guest _____

Total Attending _____ X \$18.00 per person _____

Reservations MUST be received by **Wednesday, November 19th, 2014.**

Please make checks payable to:

OSU Extension—Mahoning County

Mail to: OSU Extension, Mahoning County

Attn: AGNR Recognition Banquet

490 S. Broad St.

Canfield, OH 44406