

Master Gardeners of Clark County
General Meeting Minutes September 10, 2025

The September 10, 2025 meeting was called to order by Jill Pfister President at 6:10 PM other officers attending was: Christi Lockhart outgoing president, George Simon II Treasurer, Teresa Magill Assistant Treasurer Karen Parsons, Gigi Wise Members at Large, Gary Watson Incoming President, Linda Asebrook Secretary, Pam Bennett, Beth Brooks and with 47 members present. President Jill Pfister asked Linda Asebrook, Secretary to ask for a motion to accept the minutes of the July 9, 2025 meeting. A motion by Deb Brugger was made and seconded by George Simon II to accept the minutes as reported and, as there were no objections, the minutes were approved as published.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's Report as of July 31, 2025 is \$14,079.74 and total assets \$104,381.89. The Treasurer's report will be placed on file for audit. George also reported that we received a \$250 award from the Clark County Garden Champions Training program and a thank you from The Springfield Symphony Orchestra for a donation.

Pam Bennett Report:

Mission Moment

Christy Lockhart, Susan Smith, and Rita Lane were called to the front of the group to be recognized for going above and beyond. They were instrumental in MGVs of Clark County having their annual Garden Jubilee in 2025. If they hadn't stepped up to take it on "one more year," there wouldn't have been a Jubilee. Thank you, ladies, for your outstanding service this and the previous years. They provided leadership for us to meet our mission of teaching people about gardens, landscapes, and horticulture.

Additionally, six of us provided a tour for Bob and Flossie Hulsizer and Bob's brother, Jim. Jim is 99 years old and started caddying at Snyder Park Golf Course in the 1940s when he was 10, and Bob did the same a few years later. They regaled us with stories and humorous anecdotes of their days on the golf course. As they left, they were thrilled with what the golf course had become. They were quite pleased, which is a big feather in our cap.

Garden Jubilee 2026?

Will there be one? If we don't have committee chairs, we may not have a Garden Jubilee. Pam led a discussion on the value of the Jubilee for the MGVs and the public. Once the discussion is concluded, PBJ will discuss moving forward.

Budgets and Year-End Report

Pam reminded all Committee Chairs to prepare their budgets to turn in to George and Teresa and Year-End committee reports to Beth.

America 250

Next year is the 250th birthday of the US. There are all kinds of events, etc., planned for the state. OSU staff is involved in this planning and will be working to come up with something for to turn gardens and MGVs to implement for the celebration. One of the easy, low-hanging fruits is to have the Early Ohio Settlers' Garden on display all season, along with educational programs.

Pam met with the State MGV Advisory committee recently, and MGVs will be asked to plant an oak tree in their county to mark the birthday. More to come on this soon.

Springfield 2051

Pam noted that a small contingency of MGVs attended this information-gathering meeting in August. There is a small group of invested residents working together with a consultant to develop a plan for the future of Springfield and Clark County. If you have the time, try to attend these meetings. Parks and SPGA came up frequently in some of the brainstorming regarding what people want to see in the future for our community.

State Conference

There is a waiting list for the MGV State Conference and Awards Program. Pam mentioned that there was a great turnout for the program in Wooster. Deb Brugger is our nominee for the Outstanding MGV of the state, and she is in the top 10. The top five for the state will be announced at the conference. Project winners will be announced as well.

Sidewalks

Our concrete guy, Brent, said that he is backlogged and hopes to get this project started in September; however, Pam has a suspicion it won't be until November. Stay tuned.

The Spot at SPGA

Pam reintroduced the project that the Leadership Academy graduates from the Ohio Realtors Association are planning for SPGA. The garden area is The Spot at SPGA, and they are currently raising money. If they raise 100K, they can do all of the pods, but at this time, they have funds to do at least one pod. Completion will depend on the sidewalks as well. Hopefully, they will be able to complete at least one pod this fall.

Park Levy

The Clark County Parks District, dba National Trail Parks and Recreation District, will have its replacement levy on the November ballot. She urged all of us to vote yes on this levy. It is critical for the overall success of the park district. There will be positions eliminated if the levy does not pass. This may have a direct effect on the assistance that we receive in the gardens. Pam distributed yard signs and palm cards. If you are interested in helping to distribute any materials, let Pam know. You can also donate to the cause if interested. Pam asked if there was any interest in MGVs donating to the levy?

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Intern Training Team

Pam invited anyone who would like to be involved in the training of our new intern class to let Beth know that you are interested in serving on this committee. We will meet on September 25, 2025, in the OSUE large conference rooms. We will divide up the duties needed to have an outstanding intern class in 2026. Training dates will be February 11-April 8, 2026.

BTM and SLF

Pam gave an update on box tree moth and spotted lanternfly as it has been discovered in Clark County. Stay tuned for more because there will be a lot of training opportunities in the near future. MGVs will be integrally involved in teaching the public about these invasive.

Reports of the Committees

LWN

Yesterday we watered with the sprinkler for the first time this summer. Most plants have done well from nicely spaced rain with only 2 weeks left of summer. Bees and other pollinators are awaiting goldenrod and aster blooms to nourish reproduction with pollen and nectar. Monarch and Swallowtail butterflies are enjoying our bouquets of hyssop, tithonia, sunflowers and zinnias. We are especially proud of our blooming native honeysuckle enclosing the pergola and the new growth on our oak and cherry trees. Come sit on one of our 4 garden benches and enjoy the colorful park.

Stone entrance from the sidewalk to the garden is partially complete.

Green picnic table was moved from under the pergola and the older benches are in place. Painting of benches has not started. Garden cleanup is complete. Lush plant growth is being edited. An invasion of thistles took place. Tom is working on bringing Ohio native bees to the garden.

Golf Committee

Major success for the committee, and check out the pictures.

Total made: \$7,847 **Congratulations!!!!!!!!!!**

EOS

We just had a work day Mon Sept 8th to keep garden clean and orderly. During the work day we found a groundhog hole in our corn and squash, corn, and tomatoes harvested by 2-legged pest, along with some damage to the Buckboard wagon which appears was made climbing into the back of the wagon. Our lone Pumpkin is still intact and starting to turn orange. Repair of the chicken wire

fence will be made in near future along with repairs to the deer deterrent hoses that have cracked and split over time. Thanks to Dennis which has already worked on the fittings for the hose connections. this summer to keep system operational. How and Why settlers came to Springfield and Blackberry and Black Raspberry education programs in August were well attended and very informative. Thanks to all the busy helpers in the EOS Garden this summer to make it another successful season. Chairs: Kim Bachman, Judy Finnegan, Mark Finnegan

Garden of Eatin'

Reminder that the Seed Saving Program is next Thursday, September 18th, at 6 in the Garden of Eatin'. Florentina will be presenting. Seeds will be available to be gathered from the garden.

Tree Committee

I got a congratulations at the Jubilee for becoming level 1 certified Arboretum and I want to clarify that. We are not a level 1 certified Arboretum - the project has been put back while the main season of the gardens have been upon us. My new hope is by Arbor Day 2026 we will have the certification. There is still work to be done. And that work is: A Map of trees, which I have recently learned can just be our jubilee map modified needs done and uploaded to our website. The spreadsheet of all the information about our trees needs completed and converted to a google document. I think we are adding a QR code about each tree onto that. Some more photos need to be added to the application and the application needs to be reviewed and signed off on by the management. The need for a public event for the year has been exceeded by 5. We had 1 private event and 5 public events this year. Our last event for the year will be on Saturday October 11th. At 10am Deb Brugger will lead a fall walk & talk. Tree Care Work Days: September 18th starting at 9am. I was going to start our work day by having a tree walk and talk doing the same thing that I did at the Jubilee. After that we will head out into the back fairways to clear up under the new trees. The work day on October 9th needs to be cancelled as that is State Conference Day and I will be out of town.

Perennial Committee

Patio pots and Annual Beds looked fantastic, very bright colors were used. Many compliments have been received from the Public.

Perennial beds have matured and are doing quite well.

April 10, 2025 - Spring Pruning of Shrubs & Trees completed by Kathy

McConkey-April 29, 2025 - Amherst Field Trip May 29, 2025 - Hypertufa class

JUBILEE –

Plant Sale Committee

Monday, September 15, 2025 9:am to noon-workday to wash pots and price sticks
Committee for 2026 – 1-3pm Large Conference Room

January 13, 2026, February 10, 2026, March 10, 2026 and April 14, 2026.

The final total of the plant sale: \$8,080.96. **Congratulations!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

The plant sale committee met on September 5, 2025 at Deb Brugger's home.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In attendance were: Jill Pfister• Deb Brugger• Connie Mitchell	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loretta Blazer• Jill Hope• Beth Brooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dennis Latimer• Sandy Forstrom
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Discussions included:

- Putting trees for sale on hold at this time. It would be a lot of work/time to plant, water and overwinter them.
- Having Park Services add additional gravel if needed for the Porta Pottie area and low spots.
- The traffic flow worked well as well as the additional small checkout area.
- The Committee will be meeting with Pam Bennett to determine what orders should be reduced or expanded.
- If additional tents could be acquired
- Organize the Plant signs by Alphabet?
- Reorganize Barn 2 for a Plant Sale cubby
- Determine where the Berry boxes will be stored for 2026

Plant Sale Chairs-Jill Pfister, Deb Brugger, Connie Mitchell, Loretta Blazer, Jill Hope

SWAG COMMITTEE

Monday November 24, 2025 Greenery Collection at 12pm

Tuesday December 2, 2025 Set up old Franks Garden Center 8am

Wednesday December 3, 2025 Assembly of swags 8:00am to 4:00pm

Thursday December 4, 2025 Distribution at Cancer Center 8:00am to 4:00pm

Recognition Banquet

Banquet will be November 10, 2025 at Grace Lutheran Church on St. Paris Pike and the Theme is “Enchanted Forest” and everyone is invited to build a Fairy Garden with friendly competition. Next Committee Meeting is September 22, 2025 at 11:00 am at the shaded barn area or clubhouse depending on the weather.

Victory Garden

Continue to work on Thursdays but after September 13, we will start at 9:00 am So far, we have donated 4,000 lbs. and should have more But, the animals are having a feast.

New Business

Pam introduced Jim Townsend who is replacing Salena. He worked as a teacher in the City Schools and recently retired. He will oversee the Calendar and his email address is: townsend.936@osu.edu.

Jo Brown is working on gathering the data from the cultivar trial evaluations so, please send your forms in asap.

The 250 birthdays of Ohio and what counties will be doing was discussed.
Planting an Oak Tree at SPGA was discussed.

Bad News – Pam announced that the Spotted Lantern Fly was seen in South
Charleston, OH around the railroads and the box tree moth was discovered in Clark
County.

As there was no further business, a motion was made by George Simon II and
seconded by Teresa Magill to adjourn at 7:45 PM. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J Asebrook

Recording Secretary