

Blades and Blooms

<http://clark.osu.edu/topics/horticulture/blades-blooms-newsletters>

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Master Gardeners of Clark County

PO Box 158, Springfield, Ohio 45501-0158 Volume 21 Number 2 February 14

Mark Your Calendar !

February

- 3rd 5:30 pm Recognition Celebration, Courtyard by Marriott
- 5th 8-4 Start MGV Intern Training
- 6th 1-3 pm Knitting
- 7th 9-11 Fair Flower Show
1-2:30 SEEDS committee mtg
- 10rd 9:30-11:30 Staff Office Conference
- 12th 8-4 MGV Intern Training
6:30 pm Executive Board
- 13th 9-10:30 Herb committee mtg.
10:30-12 Field Trips mtg.
1-3 pm Knitting
- 15th Springfield Home and Garden Show
- 16th Springfield Home and Garden Show
- 19th 8-4 MGV Intern Training
- 20th B&B Articles Due
1-3 pm Knitting
- 26th 8-4 MGV Intern Training
- 27th 1-3 pm Knitting



*"Surely as cometh the Winter, I know
There are Spring violets under the snow."
- R. H. Newell*



*"Away in a meadow all covered with snow
The little old groundhog looks for his
shadow
The clouds in the sky determine our fate
If winter will leave us all early or late."
- Don Halley*

President's Message:

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! MGVs of Clark County are 20 years old and plan to celebrate the rest of this year, beginning with our Recognition Celebration on Monday February 3. Hope to see most of you there. Karen Neer and her team always do a wonderful job. Congratulations to all the members who will be specially recognized.

During February we will have the new class of Interns starting their classes on Wednesday February 5. Welcome to all the Interns, Have FUN! Remember these classes can be used for our continuing education credits for active MGVs and it is a good way to meet the new class.

February is also the start of greenhouse work. Knitting continues on Thursdays, and I would imagine that if you have the need to escape from the cabin fever of February, the Knitting group would love to have you join in and do cross stitch or others types of hand work. Maybe the snow and wind and cold would look different if we share it with friends.

The office staff is still planning on the move to Springview possibly at the end of February. MGVs are planning to have lots to do in the gardens and working with the other committees this year.

February! I believe the Romans and calendar makers were very smart to have made this the shortest month. After all the snow, and 'polar vortex' in January, March and April are starting to look awfully good. I think I'll go read those seeds catalogs again and decide what tomato plants to order for this year. I just hope the snow covering the garden melts by the time the plants are ready to put in the ground.

Stay warm, think about Perennial School in March, and get the order in for those new plants you want to try this summer. Spring is coming, I hope!
Becky Menozzi, President

Pam's Posies

Dear Master Gardeners;

As we celebrate 20 years of the MGV program in Clark County, I can't help but reflect on how far we have come and how much impact we have had in this community. A little history of our program:



I started in Extension in 1992 November as a Program Assistant replacing the gentle giant Jack Kame. Jack had been handling horticulture for Mike Haubner for many years and retired. I already had a relationship with Cooperative Extension because whenever Mike or Jack took vacation, they would refer their clientele's questions to me. I was working right around the corner at Tom and Jerry's Gardenland. This is back when the Extension office was on Bechtle Ave.

Before I even got the job I had heard about the MGV program and was encouraged to look into it by a sweet little lady named Candy Johnson (Marty Harley's sister). Candy was a regular shopper at T & J's and had just moved from Kansas where she was an MGV. When I got the job at Extension, Candy hunted me down and we talked about starting the program and there you have it!

It was part of my job description when hired because about that time the MGV program in Ohio was making a comeback. It started in 1974 in Washington and Ohio started the next year, however, due to budget cuts and other issues, the 3 urban counties (Cuyahoga, Franklin, and Hamilton) that had the program dropped it. Extension saw the value of the program and was also hiring more horticulture Educators at that time as well.

Joining Extension, teaching and working with Master Gardeners both here and around the state has given me the dream job that people look for. I am always overwhelmed with the amount of time and effort and passion that our MGVs give to this community and I thank you for this. I also thank you for making my job so enjoyable!

In regards to our future, the window opened a little wider in respect to the possibility of moving to Snyder Park. At this time, there is still the need for office space before it can happen. I am exploring this option and will let you know as soon as I know something. In regards to our office moving, we are still on target for later this month.

I know everyone is tired of winter; hang in there, before you know it spring will come and we'll be busier than ever!

Pam

"Volunteers don't just do the work - they make it work." - Carol Pettit

Pamela J. Bennett
State Master Gardener Volunteer Coordinator
Extension Educator, Horticulture
Ohio State University Extension

Congratulations to Bill Queen, a recipient of the Phil Kozel Memorial Scholarship that was given at the recent Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association annual meeting.

The Phil Kozel Memorial Scholarships are given in memory of Dr. Phil Kozel, professor of horticulture at The Ohio State University. Dr. Kozel was also director of the Shade Tree Evaluation Program and a long time ONLA supporter.

Jo's Notes:



Thought & Prayers

Frank Demma, knee replacement. His address is 1200 Kingsgate Road, Springfield, OH 45503.

Jon Joyce, health issues. Anne's and Jon's address is 3553 Lakota Lane, Springfield, OH 45502

New Phone Number

Ron Kurth cell phone 937.536.9618. He no longer has a land line.

Carolyn's Corner

MGV Training Class



Our new class of interns will begin training on Wednesday, February 5. We have 21 scheduled to start. As usual they are a diverse group and will add their individual skills to the wide list of skills the MGVs have. Remember you can sit in on any classes to refresh your knowledge and earn continuing education hours for 2014. Please welcome our new members.

Greenhouse Training

The Training session went quite well even if half of the time we were in the dark. Literally (power outage). We did manage to go over greenhouse operations and sign up for work days. The seeds are here waiting to be planted. We will have our first seeding on Tuesday, February 12 at the greenhouse. Many of you attended the training sessions and scheduled work times for seeding. The new furnace will be installed as soon as weather permits the parks guys to work on it. Please do not drop in at the greenhouse if you are not scheduled to work as we will not have jobs for you to do. If we are working in the greenhouse can spring be far behind? I am ready.

Recertification

Volunteers, thanks to all of you who have completed the recertification process. I will be sending Clark County's reports to the state on **Thursday, January 30**. After this date I will have to assume that you will not be recertifying and will put you in the inactive category.

Continuing Education

Here are some opportunities for you to start earning CE hours. Remember we have to do 10 hours this year.

1. Wednesday Training Classes. Class begins at 9:00 a.m. (1 hour for each hour in class)
2. Wildflower Walks begin on Friday, March 7-Friday, April 25 Clifton Garage. (1 credit for each hour you walk.
3. Garden Fling April 5 @Kenton Ridge High School (1 hour per class)

4. *15th Annual Central Ohio Perennial Flower School March 6, 2014*

Registration form and program information is on Volunteer Management System (VMS) under Newsletter/Documents, Programs/Events, 15th Annual Central Ohio Perennial Flower School. Cost \$60. Sign up early. New Location: Hollenbeck Bayley Creative Arts and Conference Center, 275 South Limestone Street, Springfield, OH 45505. (CEUs 5.25 for the day)

VMS Tip of the Month

Volunteers, go into the VMS and click on **Projects** (committees) that you volunteered for last year. Any **Projects** you wish to continue, edit and make any necessary corrections. If there are Projects you do not wish to continue, go to the bottom of the page and click "Unvolunteer." This will help all committee chairs get organized for the new year.

Keep your profile up to date. Make sure your phone, address and email are current. Put a photo of yourself on your profile. This really helps some of our newer members learn our names. I have pictures of most of you from the time we used to have a directory that I could use and put pictures in for you???

ANNOUNCEMENT: MAPLE SUGERING

Jon Vanderglas would like to announce that there will be **no** Maple Sugaring outing this year. He plans to host that every other year, so stay tuned to the VMS calendar for February or March of 2015.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PERENNIAL PLANT & BARN SALE

We are starting to accumulate a nice selection of plants for the plant sale. We have ordered a selection of some beautiful & unique plants; we bought out a booth at the CENTS show of plants and bulbs and have been busy getting those potted up; and we had a local gardener donate a large selection of plants from her garden.

Natheta met Romona Thompson of Thompson Farms at the FSR who offered some of her plants for our fundraiser. This led us (Natheta, Ruth Ann, Terry & I) to spend a beautiful and very fun fall morning digging and dividing a huge variety of plants and getting to know this energetic artist and passionate gardener. Romona also gave us a tour of her beautiful home to see her art work, wall murals, light fixtures and the furniture that she had created and painted. She is an amazing person and it was so fun for us to get to spend that day with her. As we pulled out of her driveway with our trucks and cars loaded down with plants, she came out and stopped us with a “goodie bag” for each of us! I look forward to the PP & B Sale on May 3rd so that I can add some of her plants to my garden!

Marilyn Hinderer

FAIR FLOWER SHOW

The Fair Flower Show will have its first meeting for 2014 on Friday February 7, at 9 a.m. in the small conference room. The Committee extends an invitation to all MGVs and a special invitation to all of the new **Interns**. We will begin to plan for the Fair and discuss any and all suggestions to improve the Flower Show. So start dreaming of the Pork Chops, Sugar Waffles, and maybe this is the year that we will try the Chocolate covered Bacon! See you on February 7!

Becky Menozzi

FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE

Our first field trip meeting will be Feb. 13th from 10:30 - 12:00 at OSU Extension. Terry, my newest co-chair, and I invite anyone who loves to travel around our great state and beyond to come and help us plan trips.

We will first be hooking up with Ruth Ann and Cindy, the new Herb Garden chairs, to discuss a trip to a nursery or two. We're sure to find something to plant in our own gardens. If you like to travel, especially day trips, join us on the 13th. We can't wait to get going.

Sally Day and Terry Reid

SEEDS

We will be holding our first SEEDS committee meeting Friday, February 7th at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at OSU Extension in the large conference room. We will be offering 3 areas of interest this growing season. These areas include: The Victory Garden, Community Gardens and a new Local Foods Movement. There will be opportunities in seeding in the greenhouse, educational programs, garden maintenance, helping with a community garden and more. So if you are interested in vegetable gardening please come join us to learn more about what the SEEDS program has to offer you.

Pam Thullen and Susie Broidy

HERB COMMITTEE

In case you haven't heard, Cindy Schneider and I are the new Co-Chairs for the Herb Garden. The first Herb Committee meeting for 2014 will be February 13, Thursday from 9 - 10:30 in the small conference room. Please come with your ideas for making a great display in our herb garden this year. Also, we are planning on several field trips, so come with some suggestions of where you would like to visit. We need to take a look at other Herb Gardens and see how we would like to structure a new one. Hope to see you there.

Ruth Ann Rahim and Cindy Schneider

PERENNIAL COMMITTEE

Perennial Committee met Jan. 8, 2014 at 5 p.m. at OSUE. We had 15 in attendance. We discussed maintenance plans for this year's growing season, the need to divide, transplant & re-label the day lilies near the barn into the bare spots in the perennial beds. We also discussed plant divisions for the Perennial Plant and Barn Sale, and our scheduled Pruning Perennials Workshop program June 19 at 5 p.m. Further details will be forthcoming via May and June B & B. New ideas for future programming were shared and members were also encouraged to consider “getting their feet wet” by sharing their knowledge and acquired skills through teaching small groups. Anyone who would like a cc of the minutes and/or agenda may email Kathy at mcconkey.4@osu.edu.

Kathy McConkey and Dot Burkholder

HELPLINE

Only 2 months until we start HelpLine. We begin on Thursday, April 3rd, Monday and Thursday mornings thru September. (September, only Monday mornings) Sign up now for your best spot on HelpLine for the summer. Rick McKinstry and Ed Wichael

The real Meaning of Plant Catalog

Terminology:

"A favorite of birds" means to avoid planting near cars, sidewalks, or clotheslines.

"Grows more beautiful each year" means "Looks like roadkill for the foreseeable future."

"Zone 5 with protection" is a variation on the phrase "Russian roulette."

"May require support" means your daughter's engineering degree will finally pay off.

"Moisture-loving" plants are ideal for landscaping all your bogs and swamps.

"Carefree" refers more to the plant's attitude than to your workload.

"Vigorous" is code for "has a Napoleonic compulsion to take over the world."

"Grandma's Favorite" -- until she discovered free-flowering, disease-resistant hybrids.

Rick McKinstry & Ed Wichael

*Happy
Birthday
to...*



<i>1st</i>	<i>Debbie Henry</i>
<i>12th</i>	<i>Renee McNutt</i>
<i>17th</i>	<i>Marty Harley</i>
<i>18th</i>	<i>Fran Davidson</i>
<i>21st</i>	<i>Carolyn Allen</i>
<i>22nd</i>	<i>Cynthia Valente</i>
<i>23rd</i>	<i>Deanne Rucker</i>
<i>29th</i>	<i>Frank Demma</i>

History Corner

Twenty years of building a program that would benefit the Clark County Community. Starting with a green space in the rear of the Agricultural Building at 4400 Gateway Blvd., this green space has changed from a small garden to a vision of beauty wrapping around this building and extending down the drive to the roadway. The entrance with its Gateway Sign announces the spectacular learning gardens you are about to see as you drive and then walk around this space. Each garden brings you into a different style of gardening, introducing you to new and old plants, space allowances, garden architecture and scientific research. We must include the Master Gardener training programs. The new interns must learn the proper way to amend soil, identify plants, care for them and harvest fruits, vegetables and seeds. Even the animals that visit this beautiful place enjoy the "fruits" of our labor. The birds nestle on the fence posts and in the bird houses that we provide for them. The rabbits build nests in the flower beds and vegetable gardens, deer munch on plants, trees and whatever bounty they like best. Just another learning experience to identify who (animal) has been enjoying our gardens too. As the old saying goes "Time flies when you are having fun" and these twenty years have truly flown by for us. We have made friends with people we would have never known except for this program. We have watched them come and go, both in death and because their lives had just simply changed. Now a new phase will take us to a new building space, a new challenge and new friends. Here's looking forward to a bright and prosperous future with the Clark County Master Gardener Program.

Betty Grimes, Historian



MGV Continuing Education Opportunity

First Christian Church interest group activities by Karen Neer. All sessions will be from 6-7:30 p.m. and will need to sign up with Karen @937-568-4212.

April 8 Planting annuals: what, where and why
April 15 Choosing the right perennial
April 22 Eat what you grow, vegetable gardening

Everyone is welcome to come, participate and help!!!

PLANT OF THE MONTH:

TOAD LILY *Tricyrtis hirta*

A number of years ago the listing for toad lilies in the Plants Delight catalog read as follows: They're "sort of like Smuckers jellies....with a name like that, they gotta be good."



It's too bad this attractive, unusual flower has the common name of toad lily. The amphibian reference refers to the blotches and markings on the flowers. The genus name is from the Greek for "three" and "convex" because the 3 outer petals have tiny bags or swellings at the base.

These perennial plants prefer moist, fertile soil that is high in organic matter--similar to what you would find in a forest glade. Toad lilies don't like either soggy or bone-dry soil. Morning sunlight will speed fall flowering in cooler areas. Where winters are cold, grow these plants in a sheltered area. Toad lilies are subject to foliar burn in intense sunlight, so give them refuge from midday rays. Mulch the soil in late fall with a couple inches of composted leaves to protect the roots.

The plants are best described as unusual rather than showy. The orchid-like flowers will tend to get lost at a distance, so place the plants where they can be viewed up close. This could be the front of a border or placed in a container. Quart size plants can reach a mature width of 2 feet in about two years.

The stems of *T. hirta* 'Miyazaki' are arching with the plant topping out at about 2 feet tall. It's covered with slightly hairy, medium green leaves. The flowers are intriguing but only 1 inch long and are not very showy. The orchid-like blooms with dark purple spots appear early to mid-fall and last about five weeks.

When evenings cool down and nights have a touch of frost, the golden toad lily '*Tricyrtis macranths*' emerge with bright gold bells on graceful, arching stems. The interior of the flowers are dotted with burgundy which will pick up the colors of epimedium leaves and make a nice companion. You could also pair toad lilies with Solomon's seal, windflowers, hosta, and ferns.
Dot Burkholder

Stuck On You

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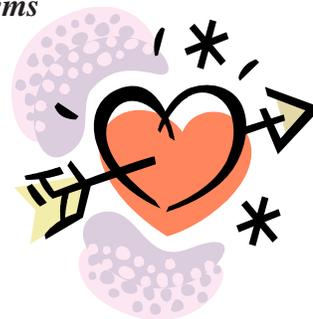
*You're sucrose, you're glucose,
You're fructose and more,
From your head to your feet...
Which are stuck to the floor.*

*You're Hershey's, you're Snickers,
You're sweet English Toffee.
If you spit in my cup,
You'll just sweeten my coffee.*

*I love you so much
That I'm getting frenetic,
But I can't even kiss you,
'cause I'm diabetic.*

Source: *Stuck On You, Funny Valentines Day Poem* <http://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/stuck-on-you#ixzz2raI61AS0>

Family Friend Poems



*"Announced by all the trumpets of the sky,
Arrives the snow, and, driving o'er the fields,
Seems nowhere to alight: the withered air
Hides hills and woods, the river, and the heaven,
And veils the farm-house at the garden's end.
The sled and traveler stopped, the courier's feet
Delayed, all friends shut out, and housemates sit
Around the radiant fireplace, enclosed
In a tumultuous privacy of storm."
- Ralph Waldo Emerson*

MASTER GARDENERS OF CLARK COUNTY

January 21, 2014

MGVs:

The 12th Annual American Dream Raffle is underway!

We are a partner in a unique fundraiser that was very successful for us last year and our organization will directly benefit from every ticket purchased again this year.

(BTW...Pam Bennett was a WINNER last year!)

OUR **benefits of this fundraiser** are as follows:

- NO RISK on our part.
- NO COST—flyers free with our name and a code to track our sales
- 1st CLASS EVENT—Clark, Schaefer, Hackett CPA firm handles all finances and tracks all sales
- NO HANDLING OF CASH—All buyers are encouraged to place orders by mail, phone, on-line, or walk in locations.
- WE NET 20% OF SALES

Fundraiser Features:

- GUARANTEED \$100,000.00 Grand Prize CASH
- 2nd Place - \$15,000.00 cash
- 3rd Place Prize - \$2,500.00 cash
- Many more prizes ranging from \$250 to \$1,000
- NEW!! All entry numbers will be RANDOM numbers instead of consecutive as in the past
- SPECIAL for 2014 - \$12,000 in exclusive past buyers' drawings. If you purchased a ticket in any past year and you buy a ticket in 2014, you are automatically entered to win one of 12 - \$1000 prizes.
- Low 1:19 ODDS to win a prize with purchase of a GOLD ticket
- Tiered Pricing Structure with multiple chances per ticket package
- 20 Early Bird Winners of \$500 each (ten on March 13th and ten on April 10th) **Grand Prize Drawing is May 8**

Early Bird winners are eligible to win all remaining prizes.

Sunday's News-Sun article regarding this event specifically mentions Master Gardeners of Clark County as being one of the nonprofits that will benefit from this fundraiser. Our friends and supporters can be winners as well as helping us with our fundraising effort. **This is how you can help...**

- 1) Buy a ticket - use our code **900** to get a 10% discount
- 2) Hand/mail/email flyers to friends, family and co-workers and encourage them to participate
PICK UP FLYERS AT OSU EXTENSION TO TAKE TO BUSINESSES AND GIVE TO FAMILY, FRIENDS, CO-WORKERS!
- 3) Both of the above.
- 4) Group purchasing is allowed.

Fundraising Committee,

Dea Rucker drucker@woh.rr.com

If you have questions about this raffle, please contact bdoane@ccirish.org or 937.380.3799.

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Dreaming of Spring...



The Master Gardener “Blades & Blooms” is a publication of the Clark County Extension, 4400 Gateway Boulevard, Suite 104, Springfield, Ohio, 45502, 937-521-3860. The Master Gardener Advisor is Pam Bennett.

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