



Master Gardener
Ohio State University Extension Volunteer

Blades and Blooms

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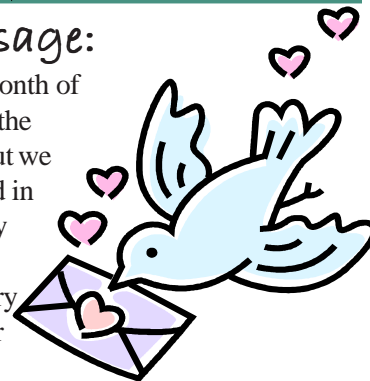
Master Gardeners of Clark County
PO Box 158, Springfield, Ohio 45501-0158 Volume 19 Number 2 February 12

Mark Your Calendar !

February	
1	10-11:30 am Mentoring Mtg
6	10-12 OSUE Staff Office Conf.
8	8:30-4 MGV Intern Training 6:30 Exec. Board
10	9-11 Fair Flower Show 10-Noon Gateway Learning Gardens Comm. @OSU Extension 11 am Perennial Committee @CTC
15	8:30-4 MGV Intern Training
20	B&B Articles Due
22	8:30-4 MGV Intern Training
25	11:30 Maple Sugaring. Meet @ Young's Dairy 2:30 Winter Tree ID Hike @Cliff Park
26	Columbus Home & Garden Show thru March 4th
28	10 am Field Trip Comm. @OSU Ext.
29	8:30-4 MGV Intern Training

President's Message:

Ah, here we are in the shortest month of winter! I will take full credit for the snows that will possibly follow, but we have been lucky to not be snowed in yet. We actually held our January meeting and with this writing, the weather forecast for Ohio Nursery Short Course is rain. My calendar is not chocked full of cancelled and rescheduled meetings. Let's hope that this trend continues into our first garden clean up in March!



By the time that you are receiving this letter, we will be welcoming a new class of MGV interns. This very talented group will give us all another reason to look forward to Spring! I will be anxious to hear their thoughts on our gardens, our mission to educate others, and their goals for the MGV program. Keep in mind that you too can attend an educational session each Wednesday and receive advanced training credit. Maybe you were in the "snow season" class, or had another commitment that forced you to miss a session during your training. With the recent news of soil problems at OSUE, it may benefit all to audit the soils class again. Just remember to take a seat in the back of the room and no side bar discussions. We want our students to receive the best training possible.

With February, comes our annual trip to Nancy Vanderglas' farm for Maple Sugaring. May we all keep our fingers crossed that the snows stay away for Saturday, February 25th. Meet at Young's at 11:30 for a guide to Nancy's farm. This outing also counts as advanced training hours.

By reviewing just the first quarter of our calendar, there are numerous offerings for advanced training: Ohio Nursery Short Course, intern classes, maple sugaring, perennial school, Facebook training, Garden Fling, and wildflower walks in the Glen. Judy Niggemeyer is also preparing a workshop that will teach us how to effectively use a field guide and not only abuse them as "picture" books. Mark that date, because not only will it be helpful for wildflower walks, but also tree and weed ID. Hopefully everyone can reach their required training goals early!

Twenty-eight short days to tick off and we are closer to Spring!

Happy Birthday to...

Debbie Henry	1st
Cheryl Walsh	4th
Barbara Brown	14th
Marty Harley	17th
Fran Davidson	18th
Carolyn Allen	21st
Cynthia Valente	22nd
Deanne Rucker	23rd



Take care,
Cindy

Pam's Posies



<http://www.geekphilosopher.com/GeekPhilosopher.com/photos/photos.aspx>
GeekPhilosopher: Instant download of free stock photos, images, backgrounds, and desktop wallpapers. Pictures can be used for personal and commercial web sites.

By now we are all recovering from helping at the OSU Nursery Short Course and I want to take a few minutes to tell you how much I value your help with this program. When I started in 1998, I had volunteered as an Extension Nursery Landscape and Turf Team member to take on the leadership. Our task was to give Positively Outrageous Service; the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association staff was not happy with some of the things from previous years and came to us for help.

We jumped in and really upped the quality of the program and the bar. The MGVs were instrumental in the customer service end of the whole process. With your assistance to details and handling all of the logistics of the room and handouts, we were able to give both the attendees and speakers and outstanding experience. We often receive comments each year regarding the level of customer service, especially from the speakers.

At this time, MGVs will not be used in the future and I am really disappointed in this. However, I am sure that we will also find other things to do - there seems to be no lack of opportunity for our skills and services! Thanks once again for all of your efforts and dedication to making this program as great as it is.

The other day I had a phone call from someone regarding gardening problems and we talked awhile about his challenges. It was really exciting to start talking about gardening and it really gave me the itch to get outside!

Spring is not far off and of course, MGVs are always busy year-round talking about gardening!

I am so excited to start a new class. Please make yourself known during the classes if you attend. Visit with the new interns at lunch and breaks and make them feel welcome! And, again, you can attend any of the classes you want for Continuing Education credits. Just be sure to sit around the outside of the room - it's going to be a bit crowded!

See you in the garden soon!

“My garden is my favorite teacher!” - Besty Canas Garmon
Pam

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

Jo's Notes



Thoughts and Prayers

Nancy Vanderglas had knee surgery. Her address is 6187 Garrison Road, Enon, OH 45323

Kathie Harbaugh broke her arm on Friday 13th. She had surgery on Jan. 19. Her address is 2041 East Mile Road, Springfield, OH 45503.

Corrected Email Address

Please correct your 2012 MGV Roster George Simon's email address to gbsimon2@att.net

New Address

LaDonna Lowe has a new home address. It is 660 Aberfelda Drive, Springfield, OH 45504.

REMINDER:

Please inform Jo/Office if there are changes or additional meeting dates add to the calendar. It would be helpful to know when meetings are being held for when members call to confirm a date/time that they get the correct information. Thank you.

Reminder: All fees for recertification, programs, events, etc. that are sponsored by the Master Gardeners of Clark County need to be payable to Master Gardeners of Clark County and mailed to Master Gardeners of Clark County, PO Box 158, Springfield, OH 45501-0158. OSU Extension cannot accept any checks for the Master Gardeners. Thank you.

Carolyn's Corner

Class of 2012 Begins

31 New Interns are ready to begin their training to become Master Gardener Volunteers. The first class begins on Wednesday, February 8 at 8:30 am.



They are a very diverse group with talents to share with us. I know you will all be proud to welcome them to the group.

We have a few that still need mentors. Would any of you be interested in filling this role for someone? Contact Becky Menozzi if you are willing. I am enclosing a copy of the schedule as we still need some am monitors for the training classes. Call Carolyn if you would like to be a monitor. Duties include: making coffee, setting up room, passing out handouts, and collecting paperwork.

Advanced Training Opportunities

Monitor at Short Course—Count the programs you attend (1 hour per program)

Perennial School—Thursday March 1 at the Marriott
Registration \$50.00 (5.25 Hours)

Wildflower, Weeds, and Woodies—Learning to Use
Keys to do ID (3 hours) @ OSUE

Intern Training Classes—Any Wednesday, February and
March (see enclosed Schedule) 2.5-3 hr.

Mentor Meeting

Wednesday, February 1 all mentors need to attend a meeting to prepare to welcome our new interns. We will share activities and ideas for you to use to make your mentee feel part of the group. 10-11:30 am. See you then.

13th Annual Central Ohio Perennial Flower School

Thursday, March 1 Courtyard by Marriot 8:30-4:00 pm
Registration \$50.00 due by February 23, 2012 make checks payable to OSU Extension.

Featured Speaker will be Irvin Etienne from the Indianapolis Museum of Art presenting *Tough Perennials* and *Contained Joy*. Irvin Etienne is a Horticulturist and award-winning blogger at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. He is especially fond of gaudy tropicals and southern accents.

Jennifer Radcliffe is the Perennial and Shrub Grower for the Wm. A. Natorp Nursery in Cincinnati. Jennifer's presentation is on *Heucheras*— the history, uses, popularity and bold new varieties. How to use and culture with success.

Carolyn Allen will present the *Winter Garden*—Secrets on how to make your garden inviting in the winter.

Pam Bennett will be presenting *Managing Pests*. She will share techniques on reducing problems before they become an issue

Register early as space is limited.



Irvin Etienne

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Garden Fling

The Garden Fling is coming fast for it will be on Saturday, April 7th from 8:30-3:00 at Kenton Ridge High School and we will need you. The last organizational meeting was on Monday, January 9th with 16 people in attendance. We discuss ideas for setting up, vendors, speakers, and food. We will need you to put out yard signs which can be picked up at the office and we would like them put out by March 1st. We also need your donation of used garden books by March 1st in the office. We will be contacting you for working at the Garden Fling. Please remember to support this fundraiser by either working or coming and bringing a friend. Thanks for all you do. Our next meeting will be Monday, March 12th at the Extension from 1-3 we hope to see you there.
Jean Rickards and Fred Rufener

The Clark County Fair Flower Show

The Fair Flower Show Committee welcomes all the 2012 Interns and extends an invitation to attend the February 10 meeting at 9 a.m. in the small conference room.

The first meeting of the Fair Flower Show committee for 2012 will be held on **Friday, February 10, 2012** at 9 a.m. in the small conference room. All Master Gardeners are invited to attend. We have secured the same judge as last year. Please come and share your ideas for another great Flower Show.

Becky Menozzi, Susie Anderson, and Debbie Dean, co-chairs.

Field Trip Committee

The Field Trip Committee, well-infused with new committee members, met to discuss possible field trip opportunities for 2012 and beyond.

Possibilities for this year:

1. Cincinnati Zoo at tulip time
2. Secest Arboretum
3. 3-day bus excursion to Missouri Botanical Gardens, St. Louis, in early fall.

Watch for details in the March Blades and Blooms for the Zoo Day Trip.

Next meeting....Tuesday, February 28th at 10:00 in small conference room.

Sally Day and Dea Rucker, co-chairs

Perennial Committee

The Perennial Committee had a short meeting on Wed. Jan. 11 at 5 p.m. We reviewed what we accomplished in 2011 and discussed plans for 2012. A more in depth planning meeting/lunch will be held on Friday, Feb. 10 at 11:00 at the Springfield- Clark Career Technology Center (CTC, formerly JVS). If you are interested in being on the Perennial Committee, please join us. All are welcome!
We must have an RSVP from you by Feb. 1 if you plan to eat lunch at the Jaguar Room in order for the chefs to have time to order enough food. Cost for lunch is \$6 and includes a buffet of hot entrée, salad, dessert and drink. CTC is located at 1901 Selma Rd. Enter the school from the main entrance, go straight to the building and look for the entrance labeled "Jaguar Room." You will see Dot or I waiting.

If there is a 2 hour delay or closing at CTC because of weather, the meeting will be cancelled.

See you there!

Kathy McConkey and Dot Burkholder



Gateway Learning Gardens

There will be a meeting for this committee on February 10, 10:00 - noon at the Extension office to discuss our master plan and upcoming plans for the summer. The ad hoc subcommittee is looking into banners for the front entrance (a less expensive variety) and will update us on this. In addition, I have a few exciting new opportunities for our volunteers (a national ornamental grass trial site located here) that I need some thought on.

Pam Bennett

Helpline

There are only 2 months left until April. That is when we start garden HelpLine, every Monday and Thursday morning through Sept. April is an easy month. There are usually only 3 to 5 calls or less per morning and most likely dealing with basic garden questions, "What do I do next?" There are only 3 days open for HelpLine in April, Monday, April 2 and Thursday, April 19 & 26. So if you want an easy way to get 4 hours of MGV work credit, give me a call 324-5344. Also all of May is open.

Plant catalog terminology: "Zone 5 with protection" is another variation of the phrase "Russian roulette".

Rick McKinstry

PLANT OF THE MONTH:

SENECIO (seh-NEE-cee-oh)

Dusty Miller



Gardeners have grown and loved this plant for years. It's easy to grow and nursery transplants are widely available. The silvery leaves range from broad and spoonlike, lightly cut toward the base, to deep cut lobes, just like a thick-fronded fern. The stems are also silver colored. The flowers, usually only seen the second year (if the plant overwinters) are dirty, little yellow daisies and don't have interest. I cut off the flowers. The beautiful foliage looks good with just about any companions.

Dusty miller is one annual you can plant 2 to 3 weeks before the last frost. You can also wait and plant it at the same time you plant your other annuals. Just about any soil will do, from rich and humusy to poor and stony, but you do need good drainage. It grows best in full sun to partial shade. If you only have shade, grow it anyway. It might not grow much but it will look good all summer. Summer care is minimal. If you have second year plants, you might want to cut them back to give a fuller look. My plants have been in for 2 or more years, I've cut them back and they still look good, even in January. They are drought tolerant but will do best with regular watering.

Don't rush to pull up these plants in the fall. They will last right through the first few frosts and add color to the garden or your containers until the snow falls and often beyond. They may be alive in the spring, especially if planted close to the house as mine are. Pot up some plants in early fall to enjoy indoors in winter. You can then

use these cuttings for your spring and summer garden.

Dusty miller is a neat edging plant for flowerbeds, but it's also useful as a transition between plants of different colors. Dusty miller has few problems except in wet soil where it can rot. You should not plant in wet soil anyway. The height will vary from 8 to 24 inches and has a spread of about 6 to 10 inches. Use these plants in your containers, for edging, mass plantings, in mixed borders, and in your rock gardens.

Dot Burkholder



Arrow Of Love
Back To February
My name is Cupid
my arrow's in flight,
my missile of love
hits two people tonight.

My weapon returns
with two special names,
I know they will not
again, be the same.

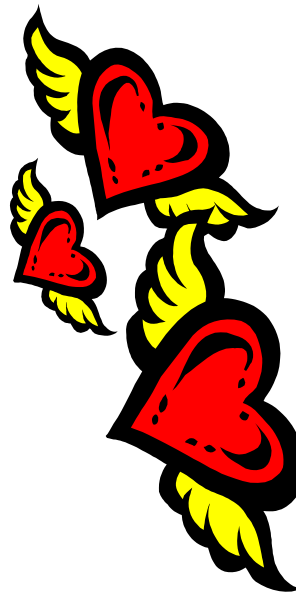
When I see them smile
oh,my, what a sight,
to see them sparkle
with lover's delight.

For they are flying
everly so high,
their hearts are reaching
way up to the sky.

They will soar as one
forever and a day,
because it's true love
love is sure to stay.

My mission is done
so onward I go,
to find two more hearts
and let my shaft flow.

Lorraine Nisbet



A Winter Tree Identification Hike will be held on Saturday, February 25 at 2:30 p.m. at Cliff Park. Learn how to identify trees in the winter by their barks and twigs on this one hour walk. The leader of the walk will be Bonnie Martens. Participants should meet at the Springfield Art Museum parking area. For more information call National Trail Parks and Recreation District at 328-7275.
Penny Dunbar, CYSA

Woman's Town Club Dinner before Symphony February 25th

WTC will be offering another fine dining experience with the following menu:

Mixed greens salad

Flank steak w/mushrooms OR chicken breasts

Baked potato w/butter & sour cream

Steamed broccoli

Bread

Cheesecake w/topping OR carrot cake

Serving from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. (so that you can get to the Kuss Auditorium in time for the performance) you are sure to be pleased. You may place a reservation for dinner even if not attending the evening's performance.

Dinner (\$25.00) includes full-course dinner, dessert, and a complimentary glass of wine, tax and gratuity. Reservations must be called to Linda Kuhn 937.325.5667 by Tuesday, February 21st.



Woman's Town Club
805 East High Street
Springfield, Ohio
www.womanstownclub.com

Ohio State University Extension
Clark County
4400 Gateway Blvd., Suite 104
Springfield, OH 45502-6330



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

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