



Blades and Blooms

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Master Gardener
Ohio State University Extension Volunteer

Master Gardeners of Clark County
PO Box 158, Springfield, Ohio 45501-0158 Volume 19 Number 1 January 12

Mark Your Calendar !

January

- 1 Happy New Year
- 2 New Year's Day observed Office Closed
- 5 11-12 Education Mtg (Speakers)
- 9 10-12 OSUE Staff Office Conf.
1-3 Garden Fling
- 10 1-3 Finance Comm. Mtg.
- 11 5 pm Perennial Comm. Mtg
6 pm Social & Short Course Volunteers
6:30 General Meeting
- 12 10-11 Facebook Training **on-line @ home**
- 13 1-2 Facebook Training **on-line @ home**
- 16 Office Closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 18 10-12 am Field Trip Comm.
- 19 10-12 am Utzinger Planning
Applebee's Dine to Donate
- 20 B&B Articles due
- 22 Perennial Plant Association Symposium
- 23 Nursery Short Course
- 24 Nursery Short Course
- 25 Nursery Short Course
- 27 9 am Short Course Evaluations @ OSUE
- 30 Finish Evals if needed

President's Message:

Happy New Year to all! It seems like this should be a quiet, reflective season for a gardener, but it is not! I want to give special thanks to everyone who made last year a success



for MGV's of Clark County. We moved forward with our master plan by adding the water feature to the front entrance. We renovated the perennial shade garden and built two extensive arbors at the Gateway Learning Garden. We introduced our gardens to many by hosting events that included the Springfield In Full Bloom reception, our annual Gateway Garden Jubilee and the Amazing Race.

We also have given back to our community in a significant way by supporting SEEDS Victory Garden, assisting with downtown Springfield clean up, participating in the Altrusa Spelling Bee, and completing a tree inventory for the City of Springfield!

My Grandma Markley often said that many hands make small work and it is certainly true with our great group of volunteers. Now as we look forward, we have exciting times ahead as well. Recently, Carolyn and several others had the pleasure of interviewing twenty-three MGV applicants. This new class will begin their course of study next month and I hope that each of you is able to break away for at least one Wednesday lunch to be able to welcome and get to know them.

There is definitely no need for winter doldrums. Many committees are beginning planning for their garden projects and the Education and Garden Fling committees are well underway developing programs for our annual fling. Please remember to check your calendar, keep informed by reading your Blades and Blooms and join us for a special presentation by Pam Thullen and Susie Broidy at the January general meeting.

Wishing each of you a blessed, happy and healthy New Year,

Cindy Schneider



I would like to express my sincere thanks to the 36 Master Gardener Volunteers who showered me with cards for my 80th birthday last month on November 25. This was such a delightful surprise and I appreciate your thoughtfulness so very much.

Carlene Grassle

Pam's Posies

Happy New Year and a prosperous and hearty garden season to all! Most of the time, winter drags its feet and takes forever to let



spring in the picture. However, this winter will be quite different because we have a new MGCV training class. In the years that we have training, the winter flies by. I can't wait - according to Carolyn and others who participated in the interviews (thanks for your time and commitment), we have a great group of volunteers coming into our program. Welcome them with open arms and minds and help them integrate into our program, activities, and learning opportunities.

Remember that you can attend any of the MGCV training classes for Continuing Education credit. This is an excellent opportunity to brush up on your horticulture skills as well as meet the new class members. I ask that you sit in the back of the room and respect the new class and their opportunity to learn. It's also a good time to meet your Mentee if you are a Mentor (see about training in this newsletter).

Thank you to Ruth Ann Rahim for her outstanding leadership in 2011. Ruth Ann and her leadership team prepared us for the new year and paved the way for Cindy Schneider and her team. We are very blessed to have volunteers with leadership skills to help guide this program.

Thank you if you signed up to work at the OSU Nursery Short Course at the end of this month and if you plan on helping with the Evaluation Fundraiser after the Short Course. It will be our last time together in this event so let's have fun!

Thanks for all you do for the OSU Extension program in Clark County. I am truly grateful to have such a wonderful group of people to work with and who make my job so enjoyable.

Pam

"Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer."
~Author Unknown

MGV NEW CLASS MENTORS TRAINING FEBRUARY 1, 2012 - 10:00 A.M.

Over the years, we have learned that the success of the new MGCVs increases when the individuals have a Mentor (old - whoops, seasoned MGCV) to help them integrate into the program. Anyone who has signed up to be a Mentor to a new MGCV needs to attend this training at the Extension office. You will learn who you will be mentoring as well as some of the recommendations to help you succeed. In addition, Carolyn noted that we might need an additional 2-3 mentors for those who signed up later for the class. If you are interested, contact Carolyn and let her know and attend this training.

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



Jo's Notes

REMINDER:

Please inform Jo/Office if there are changes or additional meeting dates to add to the calendar so that members will know when meetings are scheduled or changed. Thank you.

Thoughts and Prayers

Please keep Ed Jenkins in your prayers for his continual health issues. His address is 2030 Memorial Drive, Springfield, Oh 45505.

Jim Hamilton is home from his surgery. His address is 4348 West Enon Drive, Enon, OH 45323.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Grandparents Becky & Rodger Menozzi. Harper Lewis was born on November 17, 2011. She weighed in at 7lbs 7oz, and was 21 inches long. Rodger and Becky can't wait to meet Colson's little sister at Christmas.

Fred & Kathy Miller have a new granddaughter. Her name is Adeline Lily Woolf, 7lbs 10oz, 20 inches. Parents and brothers are enjoying their new family member.

50th Wedding Anniversary

Dea and Mike Rucker celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in December.

New Email

Sandi Birt new email address is sbirthouse@yahoo.com
Please update your lists.

Carolyn's Corner

Hope you all had a Great Holiday

Now it is time to get back to work. We have gardens to plan and design, programs to develop, and a new class



starting in February. As of now, we have 27 interns and I am expecting a couple of more. They are busy getting their fingerprints done. I will pass a clip board around at the January General Meeting for Committee Chairs to sign up to give a brief introduction on what their committees do. Another clip board will be sent around for anyone to volunteer for room set-up and tear down. This includes arranging the room, starting coffee, and passing out handouts. Afternoon crew will clean up kitchen, put away coffee condiments, and pass out handouts.

New Addition to Gardens

On Thursday, December 22 the sidewalks in the Herb Garden were finished with the placement of edgings on all sections of the walk. Terry Fredrich from Habitat Creations did the installation. The edgings make the walk ways really stand out and it will help hold the mulch in the beds. Hope you can all get a look soon. It is something of which to be proud.

Dine To Donate

Next opportunity to help raise funds for the Master Gardener program will be Thursday, January 19 at Applebee's. Take your coupon and have lunch or dinner at Applebee's and a percentage will come back to our Master Gardener organization. Each diner will have to have a coupon, so if you need more coupons for guests, you can pick them up at the office. Help support the program.

Short Course Volunteers

I will start passing out your monitor assignments at 6:00 pm. before general meeting. Please be prompt because we want to arrange carpooling for each day of the Short Course. It is better to ride with each other, if at all possible, as parking spots are at a premium. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you will have to visit the office and pick up your monitor assignments.

On Friday, January 27 at 9:00 a.m., we will start to tally all of the speaker evaluations from the Short Course. Anyone wanting to volunteer to do this, sign the sheet going around at January General Meeting. Lunch is provided. Prepare to spend the day if you are available, because it takes this long. Directions will be given at 9:00 a.m. and then we will begin. If anyone can type and can bring a laptop sign up to do this on the sheet. All workers welcome.

Committee Chairs Meeting

Thanks to all of the committee chairs who attended the annual meeting. Hope it was helpful and some of your questions were answered. To the chairs who were unable to attend, your packets are in your folders at the office. There are new reimbursement forms for next year and your list of volunteers wanting to work on your committee are in your packets. If you have any questions, give me a call.

Advanced Training Hours.

Perennial Plant Symposium a day filled with speakers on perennials.

Columbus Convention Center

Sunday, January 22, 2012

Worth 5 Hours.

Check the web site out: perennialplant.org

Short Course Workers

Any programs you are monitoring in can be counted as Advanced training hours or volunteer hours, not both.



Special thanks from Crystal Justice (Executive Director of Hollandia Botanic Garden):

Thank you for helping to plant the numerous bulbs in downtown Springfield! "Their help was amazing and I love getting to know them. You have awesome people!" Thanks to Jean and Bud Rickards, Natheta Mercer, and Fred Miller.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PERENNIAL PLANT & BARN SALE

Our fundraiser, "The Perennial Plant & Barn Sale", will be held on the first Saturday in May (May 5th) again this year! We would love to have a great variety of plants to sell. I hope that as you divided plants this past fall or will be doing so this spring, keep the "PP & B" sale in mind if you would like to donate a few of them. I will once again have pots, tags, and potting soil available if you need it. Think of the variety we could have to choose from if we all donated a few plants from our own beautiful gardens!

We will also be looking for garden themed items for the Barn Sale. So, as you are cleaning up and putting away from Christmas in your attics, garages, basements, and barns, take note of any items that you would consider donating to the "Barn Sale".

As you look thru the 2012 Master Gardener Calendar, note the first "PP & B" meeting will be on March 7th following the Perennial Meeting. I am always looking for ideas and suggestions on how we can make this a great fundraiser to support our various projects! Please bring your ideas or email them to me (mkh1324@aol.com). I also have potting work days scheduled to start on April 23rd so that the plants are looking nice by the sale date.
Marilyn Hinderer

GARDEN FLING

This is just a reminder of the next meeting for the Garden Fling will be on Monday, January 9th, at 1:00 to 3:00 in the large conference room at the Extension. All members are welcome to come and we are always looking for suggestion or new ideas, so please come. Please remember to hold on to your used garden books for resale at the Fling in April as we will be collecting the books in March. Thanks for all your help.

Fred Rufener and Jean Rickards

PERENNIAL COMMITTEE

Just a HEADS UP regarding a short Perennial Committee Meeting at 5 pm on Wed., Jan. 11, 2012. All interested MGVs welcome. Be thinking of summer education ideas using our gardens.

Kathy McConkey & Dot Burkholder

HELPLINE

Only 3 months till we start again. Remember: The color of spring is the flowers. The color of winter is the imagination

Rick McKinstry 324-5344



EDUCATION

Carolyn Allen is having an Education Meeting to discuss the speakers for the Garden Fling on Thursday, January 5 from 11-12 at OSU Extension.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL MG'S

Here is a dessert recipe that I brought to the board meeting potluck in December. Kathy McConkey said I should put it in the newsletter because it is yummy!

I hope everyone who likes gingerbread and eggnog will enjoy it. See you next year,
Sally Day

Gingerbread & Eggnog Trifle

Ingredients:

- 1 (14.5 oz) pkg. gingerbread cake mix
- 3 cups eggnog
- 1 (5.1 oz) pkg instant vanilla pudding mix
- 2 cups heavy cream
- 1/4 cup white sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/4 cup sweetened dried cranberries
- 2 tbsp gingersnap cookie crumbs

Directions:

Prepare gingerbread cake mix and bake according to package directions. Cool completely

Place the pudding mix in a large bowl. Pour in the eggnog and whisk for 2 minutes. Refrigerate pudding.

In a large bowl, whip cream until stiff peaks almost form. Beat in sugar and vanilla until stiff peaks form.

Crumble 1/2 of the gingerbread into the bottom of a trifle bowl or a large glass bowl. Spread 1/2 of the eggnog pudding over the gingerbread. Follow with 1/2 of the whipped cream on top of the pudding. Repeat with remaining ingredients. Refrigerate 6 hours or overnight. Sprinkle the top with the cranberries and cookie crumbs right before serving. Serves 20



PLANT OF THE MONTH:

SALPIGLOSSIS (sal-pih-GLOSS- iss)

Painted tongue, Satin flower

This annual flower has a great texture and looks a lot like velvet. The 2 inch funnel-shaped, five lobed flowers have Salpiglossis doesn't like hot summer weather. Temperatures up to 80 degrees are acceptable as long as it doesn't go on for weeks at a time. It's only in truly torrid summers that this plant will give up the ghost and die. Even so, you can start the plants indoors and plant them out early for color in spring and early summer. The plants will usually bloom non-stop through summer, especially if they are deadheaded. They have a soft, strokable appearance highlighted by deep veins and overlaid with a metallic sheen close to a true gold.



Salpiglossis is sometimes available in six packs but this is one plant that you will probably have to start from seed. It does not like to have its roots disturbed, so it's best to sow the seeds in peat pots. Start indoors 8 to 10 weeks before the last frost date. Sprinkle 2 or 3 seeds in a pot and press into the growing mix and cover with dark plastic to keep out the light because they germinate best in total darkness. Germination takes 1 to 4 weeks at 70 degrees. Thin to 1 seedling per pot. Set the plants about 1 foot apart as closer spacing results in wispy plants. This plant will mix well with your vegetables.

If you have a growing season of 4 months or more, the seeds can be planted directly outdoors. Press the fine seed into the soil but don't cover. Keep the sun out until germination by placing an overturned pot or seed flat over the planting area. Remove the covering after germination. Thin seedlings to about 1 foot apart. When the plants have about 6 true leaves, pinch back the stems to give better branching. You can mulch plants at this point to keep them cooler.

Let the plants dry out slightly before watering during the growing season. You can stick a few twiggy branches into the bed for extra support. Keep plants deadheaded to stimulate continuous bloom. Feed with liquid organic fertilizer if soil is on the poor side. Poor drainage can result in various leaf diseases, such as gray mold or stem rot. In heavy clay soil raised beds may be a solution. Aphids love these plants, but insecticidal soap sprays will help control this.

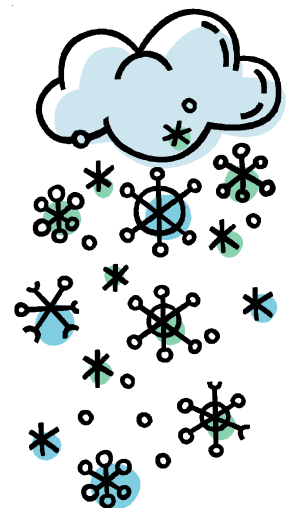
Dot Burkholder

"From Heaven I fall, though from earth I begin.
No lady alive can show such a skin.
I'm bright as an angel, and light as a feather,
But heavy and dark, when you squeeze me
together.
Though candor and truth in my aspect I bear,
Yet many poor creatures I help to insnare.
Though so much of Heaven appears in my make,
The foulest impressions I easily take.
My parent and I produce one another,
The mother the daughter, the daughter the
mother."

- James Parton, A Riddle - On Snow

"January is here, with eyes
that keenly glow,
A frost-mailed warrior
striding a shadowy steed
of snow."

- Edgar Fawcett



Phil received the Master Gardener Santa for Christmas.



Herb of the Month

Mustard Seeds
(genera Brassuca
and Sinapis)



Mustard is a condiment and unlike most herbs, is mixed with other ingredients before being used. There are three major color categories into which mustard is divided: yellow or white, brown and black. In a descending order of the flavor's strength are: German, English and French mustard. In both the United States and Canada, yellow mustard is so common that it is merely referred to as mustard. In the rest of the world it is called American mustard and is similar in strength to the English. Often homemade is hotter and considered the strongest of any of the previous categories.

Initially, mustard was utilized by the ancient Greeks for medicinal uses and some of them survive today in the forms of poultices and plasters. The early Romans were the first to use the mustard seed for culinary purposes. They crushed the seeds and mix them with wine to form a paste which is believed to be very similar to the consistency of the mustard we enjoy today.

The wine was unfermented, that is grape juice, and was called *mustum*. *Ardens* was the term used for ground mustard seeds. It was known as "burning must", or *mustum ardens* from which we get the word "mustard". Although one can grow mustard plants it is much simpler to purchase the seeds and start at that phase of the process. As Americans, we enjoy a variety of condiments as well as variations of existing items; mustard has added several more colors to its spectrum. Because of individual tastes, the flavors are endless. It is interesting to note that many of the common herbs which grow in some obscurity are anything but obscure when prepared for our consumption.

With the intermingling of cultures, mustard in its various forms is a common condiment around the world.

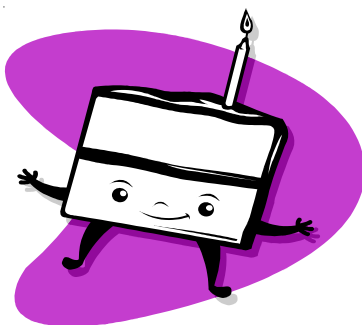
G. B. Simon II

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Bowra, C. A. Imperial Rome. Time Incorporated, New York. 1965.

Culinary Herb Guide. culinaryherbguide.com. 2011.
Editorial staff. Gardening made Easy. International Masters Publishers, Boston. 2005.

Happy
Birthday
to...



Jody	Frisby	4th
Diane	Catenacci	8th
Pamela	Thullen	8th
Joan	McLean	9th
Susan	Kogler	16th
Nancy	Vanderglas	25th
Eydie	Cox	26th
Fred	Miller	26th
Lola	Walston	26th

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