

GREEN THUMB PRINTS

Gardening is our Passion Education is our Purpose

August 2019



July Picnic at the
home of Dick
Deerhake and
Lyn Mae



Upcoming Events:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Aug 5th | <u>Courier Article Due</u> |
| Aug 5th | <u>Fair Booth Planning Meeting</u> |
| Aug 6th | <u>Monarchs & Pollinators</u> |
| Aug 7th | <u>NW Ohio Green Industry</u> |
| Aug 8th | <u>Brown Bag-Removal of Geese from Ponds/Yards</u> |
| Aug 8th | <u>MG Monthly Meeting</u> |
| Aug 15th | <u>MG Executive Committee Meeting</u> |
| Aug 20th | <u>Gardening In the Golden Years</u> |
| Aug 27th | <u>Fair Booth Set-Up</u> |
| Aug 28th-Sept 2nd | <u>Fair Booth Volunteering</u> |
| Sept 3rd | <u>Fair Booth Tear Down</u> |
| Sept 5th | <u>Courier Article Due</u> |

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Coordinator's Corner

It was so nice to see so many of you at the summer picnic in July. Thanks to Dick and Lyn for hosting this event and to the Social Committee for planning it.

It was good to see so many people sign up to work at the fair booth. There are a few slots still open on the schedule. The Teaching Committee requested that we start with having only 3 people during each shift. Should we need to expand this, it is possible to have more.

On August 7, the Northwest Ohio Green Industry Education Session will be held at Owens in Perrysburg. Registration information is on the calendar for August 7. Please register following the instructions on the attached document to this event and volunteer on the VMS so we know who is going for carpooling purposes.

I am working on trying to obtain information about the upcoming MGV classes to be held in West Liberty, OH from September 25 to November 20. This may be an opportunity for any intern who needs to make up a class.

Hope you are now enjoying the heat of the summer. This is what we were asking for a few weeks ago.

Again, if you have any questions about program requirements or horticulture please ask me.

Karl Farwig



Fair Update-Judi Clymer

If you would like to help plan the Master Gardener's fair booth please meet at Doris Salis's house, 1327 Brookside Street, Findlay, on Monday, August 5th at 1:00 p.m. The theme is **"Flower Power"**.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered to answer questions at the fair booth.
There are still a few volunteer opportunities.

Rambling Rose

August 2019

The heat is on and I love it. Welcome to August and the dog days of summer.

A huge thank you to Dick Deerhake and Lyn Maa for hosting the July MGVS Picnic. They are gracious hosts with a beautiful home and garden. We appreciate their kindness.

Congratulations to MGVS Doris Salis and Marilyn Beltz for putting their gardening on display during the Findlay Garden Tour. Both were great representatives of the Master Gardener Volunteers.

Fair is less than a month away. Thank you to all who have already signed up for shifts at the MGVS Booth. This is the opportunity to share with Hancock County the MGVS program and educate many Hancock County residents. I look forward to the August meeting to hear the Fair Committee plans for the booth.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped on the service committee at the Community Garden, OSU Front Gardens and the Phenology Garden. Your service is recognized and your contributions to our Grow Ohio goal of 4000 pounds of donated fruits and vegetables help our organization thrive.

Thank you to Lisa McClain for volunteering to publish the GTP Newsletter each month. Let's assist her by getting our articles and pictures in by the 25th of each month.

August 8th at 6:00 pm at the OSU Extension Office is the Brown Bag presentation by ODNR Representative on Geese and Ponds. Following the brown bag, will be the August general meeting. Refreshments are provided by Marlene Brunswick, Linda Casey and Ann Woolum.

Hope to see you there.

Rose



Education Committee Update – July, 2019

Field Trips: (Lynn Farwig & Ann Woolum)

Thursday, August 1st, Raker Roberta's Trial Gardens, Litchfield, Michigan
8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Sign-up on the VMS or contact Ann Woolum. **(CANCELED)**

Brown Bag Monthly Schedule: (Peggy Biolchini & Patrick Flinn)

The Brown Bag presentation on August 8th will be from Linda Casey. She will discuss how to remove geese from ponds or yards. Please be sure to attend as this will be very informative and helpful in answering questions from the public on this important issue. Presentation begins promptly at 6:00 pm. Light snacks will be available.

We are in need of a brown bag presentation for October. If you have a special interest, expertise or have something you would like to share that would pertain to master gardeners please contact Peggy Biolchini at biolchini@aol.com. I welcome new interns to do a presentation!

The remaining Brown Bag presentations are as follows:

September – None (Fair)

October –

November – Cheryl Miller, the Art of Presentations

December – None (Christmas Potluck)

Ask-A-Master Gardener Program

For the month of July, the AMG program received 10 questions from 9 people.

3 were on tree issues:

- What can be sprayed on a tree to get rid of Japanese Beetles?
- What can be done for a Callery Pear that is dying?
- What is causing a maple tree to die and why is my spruce tree losing needles?

5 questions on vegetables:

- Why aren't his pumpkins getting pollinated?
- Will spraying fungicide on his pumpkins effect bees?
- Vegetable bed soil issues – soil test results
- Customer is experiencing growing issues in vegetables that are grown in a shallow raised bed, what is causing the decline in growth?
- What can I use on my zucchini to get rid of squash bugs?

1 question on plant identification: Common crabgrass

1 question on fruit: What is causing black spots on his grapes?

I'd like to thank Bill Jones for his help and expertise in solving the questions that were brought in and for taking over for me while I was on vacation. If you would like to be a member of this important function of the Master Gardener Volunteer program, please contact Peggy Biolchini as soon as possible. I do need more master gardeners to help with this program as I frequently rely on only a few people. If you are an intern and would like to try your hand at answering questions, please don't hesitate to call Peggy Biolchini.

Peggy Biolchini, MGV

Education Committee Chairperson

Thoughts from a Master Gardener Volunteer Intern

by Sharon Milligan

My dad was a good Huckleberry Finn. He convinced me at an early age that working in the garden with him was fun, even pulling weeds but especially eating fresh picked ripe tomatoes and raw sweet corn right in the garden. Since his passing, our garden produce productivity has dropped and I have killed some of his grape vines and even the rhubarb. A tornado took out 17 of our trees, most of them fruit trees about 6 or 7 years ago. I needed help. Then I spotted a notice in the Courier about the Master Gardener class forming for February – March, 2019. Could this be what I needed? Wow, Yes, and then some!

But, honestly, I thought all day sessions of classes would be difficult to sit through. Boy was I wrong. Every class, taught by such passionate experts in their field, far exceeded my expectations. Well, the snacks provided each week by the members helped too. Class time just flew by and after class each day I was eager to search for answers to our weekly quizzes in our “Holy Grail” of a gardener’s bible/manual. After one class I even felt impelled to come home and apologize to my houseplants for not rotating and watering them routinely. Among many other things, I’ve had soil testing of our garden completed, test results interpreted and recommendations made, and am experimenting with how to rid our yard of groundhogs without hurting them!

Beyond class time a most enjoyable spin off of the class has been two recent field trips attended---to Secrest and Schedel Garden, and a plant exchange before our May meeting. I’m anxious to learn more about the gardening techniques practiced in the community garden, and I look forward to volunteering at the fair, and the wreath making project at Christmas time. But, best of all has been the friendships that have “grown” over the past 6 months. They are even sweeter than ripe peaches!

In closing, here is an ancient Chinese saying that I believe to be true. “If a man would be happy for a week, take a wife; if he planned happiness for a month, he must kill a pig; if he desired happiness for ever, he should plant a garden.” Quoted from Behind the Wall by Colin Thubron, p. 137.



Bee Proactive in Protecting Pollinators

By: Rosie Lerner

Bee on Hydrangea flowers

Photo Credits: Rosie Lerner, Purdue Extension

Gardeners play a critical role in the nurturing and conservation of both native and introduced pollinators. Gardens and landscapes provide pollinators with food, water, shelter and habitat to complete their life cycles. Urban areas typically feature large areas of pavement and buildings and offer little in the way of food or shelter for pollinators. Garden plantings can help bridge the gap.

By federal proclamation, June 17-23, 2019, is National Pollinator Week. Now in its 12th year, the focus of this designation by the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and the Interior is to promote the health of pollinators, so critical to food and ecosystems. It may surprise you to learn that the honeybee is native to Europe and was introduced to the U.S. But there are numerous other pollinator species, including native bees, butterflies and moths, beetles, birds and bats. Many pollinators have suffered from loss of habitat, chemical misuse, diseases and parasites.

Honeybees and other pollinators need protein from flower pollen and carbohydrates from flower nectar. Plan to provide a variety of different types of flowers, and aim to have three different flower species in bloom throughout the growing season. Showy, colorful flowers and massed groups of flowers, particularly in small gardens, provide efficient feeding stations for the pollinators. Flowering trees and shrubs also provide excellent food sources.

Pollinators also need shelter from wind, scorching sun and heavy rains. Plants, garden structures such as fences, and windbreaks may make the garden more attractive to pollinators.

Pesticides can harm bees and other pollinators directly or may change their behavior or reproductive potential. Some chemicals make pollinators more susceptible to disease. You can protect pollinators by using alternative prevention and control strategies, such as hand-picking pests, mulching and by being selective when it becomes necessary to use pesticides.

Read and follow all label directions, and pay particular attention to timing your application to minimize impact on pollinators. Generally, bees and others are less active in very early morning or at dusk. Choose spray rather than dust formulations of pesticides to lessen potential for contact. Avoid using pesticides in areas where pollinators are likely to forage. Maintain a buffer “no-spray area” when possible. Wait until flowers have faded (petal-fall) before applying. Mow the lawn to remove flowers of weeds before spraying.

Submitted By: Linda Casey

MG Happenings.....

Master Gardener Produce Donations



John and Linda
Leiendecker

With the recent rain and warm weather gardens have really started to produce. Please don't forget to let Linda L. know the number of #'s you donate so she can keep an accurate record. Thanks!



Produce from
Community Garden

Jeri Wenger Speaks at Jr. Gardener Club

Hosted by Linda Finsel

The Jr. Gardeners Club met at the Hancock County Extension office for their monthly meeting on July 8, 2019 hosted by Master Gardener intern, Linda Finsel. Several youngsters and parents learned about different pollinating plants. Speaker Jeri Wenger, who has been a local beekeeper for 3 years and a Master Gardener intern, shared her knowledge of beekeeping tools of the trade and general bee characteristics. The group had lots of excellent questions about how bees collect pollen, nectar, and propolis. There were lots of questions about the difference between store bought honey and local raw honey. Everyone got a good kick out of handling real comb from the hive where the queen used to lay eggs.

A good time was had by all!

Jeri Wenger



Schedel Arboretum Field Trip – June 25, 2019

On Saturday, June 25th, Master Gardener Volunteers and their guests visited the beautiful Schedel Arboretum & Gardens located along the bank of the Portage River in Elmore, Ohio. It was a lovely day to tour the grounds. An outstanding lunch was catered in and enjoyed by everyone. The arboretum is a hidden gem in northwest Ohio. The lavish gardens are the product of Joe and Marie Schedel. The gardens are Japanese inspired with plants and sculptures integrated throughout.

“Around the mansion they developed an arboretum, planting 25 varieties of Japanese maple, 16 species of pine, including Bristlecone pine, Bald cypress, Golden chain tree, cucumber and umbrella magnolia, Japanese silver bell, various types of beech, bamboo, katsura, Franklin Trees, and nearly 50 lilac varieties. In several separate beds they introduced English-style landscapes, flowering displays, and a Japanese garden. They installed greenhouses, where annuals are prepared; each spring some 15,000 plants are transplanted from the greenhouse to the grounds, installed among perennials, trees, and shrubs. The Japanese Garden includes bridges, stone lanterns, and a stupa. Two waterfalls empty into pools or streams which flow into two lakes.” (Wikipedia)

If you missed this MGV field trip, I would highly suggest you put it on your list to visit in the near future.

To learn more about the history of Schedel Arboretum & Gardens or, to plan your visit, go to www.schedel-gardens.org.

Submitted By:

Peggy Biolchini, MGV





**Betsy Martindale-DeFrancesco
Speaks at Bluffton Community Gardens
on Propagation**



**Master Gardener
Volunteer
Picnic**





IT'S TIME TO.....

HOME (Houseplants and indoor activities)

- ♦ Closely watch houseplants that have been set outdoors. They need more water than they did indoors. They can dry out rapidly in hot, summer breezes.
- ♦ Propagate houseplants by taking cuttings from vigorously growing plants. Place the cut end in rooting media (such as perlite, vermiculite, or peat moss soil mix). Enclose in plastic and keep out of direct sunlight.

YARD (Lawns, woody ornamentals, and fruits)

- ♦ Keep newly established plants watered during dry weather. Allow water to penetrate deeply into soil rather than sprinkling frequently and lightly.
- ♦ Apply mulch around young plants to help conserve soil moisture and control weeds.
- ♦ Do not plant bare-root or ball-and-burlap stock at this time of year. Container-grown plants still may be planted, but only if you can keep them well watered.
- ♦ Continue a fruit tree spray program to keep diseases and insects under control.
- ♦ Remove water sprouts (sprouts from the trunk) and suckers (sprouts from the roots) from fruit trees.
- ♦ For those fortunate growers who have a good crop this year, prop up fruit tree branches that are heavily loaded with fruit.
- ♦ Pinch off faded rose blossoms. Continue rose spray program to control insects and diseases.
- ♦ Many Indiana trees are plagued by “lawnmower blight.” Be careful to avoid nicking tree trunks while mowing.
- ♦ When watering lawns, apply 1 to 1.5 inches of water in a single application per week. Frequent, light sprinklings will encourage roots to stay shallow, making them more susceptible to drought.
- ♦ Bluegrass is a cool-season plant and is under great stress during hot, dry summers. If water is not applied, the bluegrass will become dormant and will turn brown, until more favorable conditions arrive in autumn. For extreme dry conditions, rescue watering is required to keep the plants alive, while still dormant. Apply one-half inch of water every 2-4 weeks.
- ♦ Mow grass one-half inch higher than usual during the dry, summer months to help conserve soil moisture. Do not mow when the lawn is under severe drought stress.
- ♦ Don't remove clippings from the lawn unless grass is excessively tall or weedy. Clippings return some nutrients to the soil and do not add to thatch buildup.

(Continued)



IT'S TIME TO..... Continued

GARDEN (Vegetables, small fruits, and flowers)

- ♦ Supplement natural rainfall, if any, to supply 1 to 1.5 inches of water per week in a single application.
- ♦ Start seeds of broccoli, cabbage, and Brussels sprouts to transplant later for a fall harvest. Harvest crops such as tomatoes, squash, okra, peppers, beans, and cucumbers frequently to encourage further production.
- ♦ Complete succession planting of bush beans and sweet corn.
- ♦ Harvest summer squash while small and tender for best quality.
- ♦ Standard sweet corn is at its peak for only a day or so. Super-sweet corn varieties maintain their peak quality for a longer period. Harvest when silks begin to dry and kernels exude a milky, rather than watery or doughy, juice when punctured.
- ♦ Broccoli will form edible side shoots after the main head is removed.
- ♦ Mulch garden to control weeds and conserve soil moisture.
- ♦ Make sure potato tubers, carrot shoulders, and onion bulbs are covered with soil to prevent them from developing a green color and off flavors. Applying a layer of mulch will help keep them covered.
- ♦ Allow blossoms on newly planted ever-bearing strawberry plants to develop for a fall crop.
- ♦ July is a good time to fertilize strawberries with 0.5 pound of actual nitrogen per 100 feet of row.
- ♦ Harvest raspberries when fully colored and easily separated from stem. After harvest is complete, prune out the fruiting canes to make room for new growth.
- ♦ Remove faded blossoms from annual and perennial flowers to prevent seeds from forming.
- ♦ Condition flowers cut from the garden for arranging by removing the lower leaves, placing cut stem ends in warm water, and storing them overnight in a cool location.
- ♦ The foliage of spring-flowering bulbs can be removed safely after it fades. This also is a good time to lift the bulbs for transplanting or propagation.

Submitted By: Linda Casey



Referencing Newsletters and Documents within the VMS

This article discusses how to reference newsletters and documents within the VMS. You start by going to the General Information section of the home page and clicking on Newsletters/Documents.

| General Information |
|---------------------------------------|
| Member Roster |
| Projects |
| Newsletters/Documents |

From there you will come to a page that has [Newsletters and Documents](#). You select what you would like to refer to such as the Green Thumbs Print. If you click on the Green Thumbs Print, you will see this:

Green Thumbs Print

[Return to Main List](#)

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Click on any issue to read that month's newsletter.

Referencing Newsletters and Documents within the VMS (Continued)

Currently, under the Documents section, you will see categories of documents.

Documents

| Document Group | Description |
|---|--|
| Powerpoint Branded Slides | This is used to store base PowerPoint slides that should be used to prepare any MG slide presentation. |
| Membership Directory | No description provided |
| Presentations | No description provided |
| 2019 MGV Training Class | No description provided |
| Process Documents | No description provided |

The [PowerPoint Branded Slide](#) is a set of branded slides you can use when putting together a presentation. All presentations should use these branded slides for presenting material at speaking events or meetings. Simply click on it to access that file.

The [Membership Directory](#) is a snapshot of the members and committees and project leads.

[Presentations](#) can be any presentations someone would like to share with the group or file for future use. Currently, you will find a presentation on how to use the VMS system and a walkthrough of how to. If anyone would like to store any presentation here please forward it to me and I will post it.

The [2019 MGV Training Class](#) was intended to store information regarding our past class. It currently contains the agenda only.

[Process Documents](#) is intended to store files that tell us how to do things. Currently, there is a document on how to record contacts. Again, if there are other process type documents you might want to store, please forward them to me.

As you can see, this system allows us to use it as an electronic filing cabinet so we can find information that is important to us. The plan is to add more content within the upcoming months.

If you need help or have any questions, please contact Karl Farwig.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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HANCOCK COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS **MEETING MINUTES – July 11, 2019**

Due to the shortened meeting at the Picnic there are no minutes for July. Next Brown Bag and monthly meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 8th at 6:00 PM.



Cheryl Miller

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