

# GREEN THUMB PRINTS

Gardening is our Passion ..... Education is our Purpose

April 2022



### **MGV Annual Awards Program-Potluck**

April 21, 2022 at 6:00 PM.  
(Please arrive at 5:45 PM)

Come join us at the Annual Awards Program. We will recognize our active MGV's along with the new 2022 trainees.

Lee's Famous Recipe Chicken, drinks and cake will be provided.

We ask that you bring a side dish to share.

Please RSVP to Rose Morrison by April 14 at 419-889-3931 or [rmorrison@woh.rr.com](mailto:rmorrison@woh.rr.com) if planning to attend.

See page 7 for more details.

### **Schedule of Events**

- April 8-10.....Home & Garden Show
- April 11.....Spotted Lanternfly Seminar
- April 21.....April Awards Program
- April 23.....Discovering Nature
- May 3.....Low Maintenance Vegetable Gardens-50N
- May 7.....Let's Go Gardening
- May 12.....Plant Exchange
- May 26.....Star Farms Field Trip

### **IN THIS ISSUE.....**

- Upcoming Events.....Pg 1
- Reuben's Ruminations.....Pg 2
- March 10 Meeting Minutes.....Pgs 3-5
- 2022 Interns and Mentors.....Pg 6
- MG Happenings.....Pgs 7-10
- Starting Tuberous begonias Inside.....Pgs 11-12
- It's Time To.....Pg 13

## ***Reuben's Ruminations***

### ***April 2022***

President's Notes for April, 2022

I'm tempted to just reprint my notes from a year ago, except that too much has happened since then. Like last year, there are all kinds of signs of Spring – crocuses already starting to fade, daffodils starting to pop out (but mine are mostly in locations without the warming sun of some I've seen around town), maples blooming, forsythia are close, fresh chives in the herb garden. Wildlife like a year ago – robins aplenty, geese trying to use the pond while bass and bluegills are active below the surface and pond weeds are still not showing themselves. Oh yeah, and deer have been scraping their antlers on small trees. Something new: I watched a mink cavorting along the bank of the pond the other day. A more definitive sign of spring would be the GDD, which stand at 65 as of March 24, a tad less than last year. But we know those numbers can stay flat or change in a hurry this time of year.

I'm sorry to report that two members who have been very active over the years have decided to become inactive because of other priorities that have made their lives very busy – Linda Laux and Lyn Maa. We wish them well.

MGV Training classes will have concluded by the time you see this. I thought that the trainee presentations were a great addition to the curriculum! Thank you to Ed & Karl for pulling this together, and to everyone who contributed treats or time to set up educational displays, or room set up, clean up, etc.

Thank you to Karl for his service as Volunteer Coordinator through the last few years, which have had some significant challenges. Even in just the few months of this year he will have coordinated not only the MGV training classes, but also the training for all of us on Hands on Connect.

The Findlay Home & Garden Show is back this year April 8-10, and fortunately, Karl heard a blurb about it on the radio. Short notice, but we are planning to have a booth there.

We are definitely making progress on our goal to be out in the public more. (A year ago, we were begging people to get involved.) Thanks to Linda Finsel and Tim, we have sessions for 50 North and the Library lined up. In fact, I heard something on the radio that we were going to be at the library. Tim and Brint are working on educational sessions for gardeners at 50 North and the Community Garden. By the way, I attended a United Way function last night, and I feel that they have a renewed interest in the Community Garden.

Busy meeting months ahead – Awards in April, Plant exchange in May. Two fun events!

I'm sure everyone is anxious to get out in the garden – as soon as it dries out a little. Happy gardening!

***Reuben DeBalt***

**Hancock County Master Gardener Volunteer  
Meeting Minutes  
March 10, 2022**

Meeting was called to order by President Reuben DeBolt 6:05 PM

Brown Bag: Karla Dennis spoke on Lower Maintenance Gardening.

The formal meeting began at 7:01 PM

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the 2/10/2022 meeting were approved; motion: Patrick Flynn; second: Linda Finsel.

Treasurer's Report: Ann Woolum

- \$6,282.69 cash on hand
- \$750.91 restricted for Community Garden
- \$5,531.78 unrestricted funds
- \$571.11 expenditures in February for shirts and Master Gardener training supplies
- Treasurer's Report approved; motion: Tim Brugeman; second: Patrick Flynn.

OSU Report: Ed Lentz

- Ed reported that the new class has a great group of trainees and commended active Master Gardeners for attending classes.
- There will be no noon topic at the training on March 16<sup>th</sup> as there will be 2 morning speakers. Kathy Smith on Tree ID and Suter's on "How to Trim Apple Trees".
- Ed encouraged Master Gardeners to participate in the Adopt-A-Tree of Heaven Program.
- Reported to us that the State Extension Office and ODA will be presenting a workshop on Spotted Lanternfly on April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Hancock County office.

President's Report: Reuben DeBolt

- A thank you note was received from the Findlay-Hancock Co. Library for our \$25 donation in memory of Cheryl Miller.
- Reuben encouraged everyone to attend any upcoming HOC trainings.
- Reuben stated we have a large reserve in our account due to COVID, but we have a lot to accomplish this year.
- Next month on April 14<sup>th</sup> we will have our Awards Program which will be a potluck. Lee's Chicken will be provided and everyone will be asked to bring a dish. This will be for active volunteers and trainees only.

(Continued)

**Hancock County Master Gardener Volunteer  
Meeting Minutes  
March 10, 2022  
(Continued)**

Committee Reports:

- Administration-Lisa McClain for Lynn Farwig

- Debra Evans is waiting for the new order form from OSU and hopes to place an order no later than May. She will include new trainees.
- Debra Evans plans to get history file organized once the office is cleaned out.
- Reuben thanked Betsy for including educational posts on our Facebook page.

- Social-Rose Morrison

- Rose Morrison and Linda Finsel will coordinate the May Plant Exchange to be held at the OSUE Building. It will be held on May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.
- The social committee will be organizing cookies for the April 11<sup>th</sup> Spotted Lanternfly workshop. Please contact Rose if you are willing to donate 1 dozen cookies.

- Service-Tim Brugeman

- OSUE Garden -Peggy will get the committee together in April for a spring cleanup. May have to meet again to mulch. Tim is working on an educational component for the garden.
- Sensory Garden-Tim reported that it is being maintained for now.
- Community Garden-Brint reported there will be an educational component with the garden this year. There will be demonstrations along with education. An initial presentation will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 50N at 6:30 PM on Low Maintenance Gardening and 3 more sessions will be held at the Community Garden throughout the summer:

- \*June-IPM-Weed Management-Use of Insecticides
- \*July-Garden Maintenance and Harvesting
- \*September-Fall Clean Up

Poster sized signs highlighting the elements of the presentations will be posted in the garden.

- Tim is organizing the “Gardening in Our Golden Years” program at 50N.

- Teaching-Judi Clymer

- All spots for Courier articles have been filled except for June.
- Judi Clymer and Linda Finsel have been approached about having a space at this year’s Farmers’ Market.

(Continued)

**Hancock County Master Gardener Volunteer  
Meeting Minutes  
March 10, 2022  
(Continued)**

Committee Reports: (Continued)

- Education -Peggy Biolchini

- Field Trip is planned for Star Farms on May 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. If you have other ideas for Field trips, please contact Ann Woolum.
- Brown Bags for 2022 are filled.
- Mentorship program with new trainees has been going well. Mentors and trainees have been making good connections.
- A seminar for the fall is being planned. Lisa will be sending out an email in several weeks to the committee for ideas.

Old Business: None

New Business: April Events already discussed.

Motion to Adjourn: Rose Morrison; second Peggy Biolchini. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Next Meeting: April 14, 2022 Awards' Potluck.

*Respectfully Submitted: Lisa McClain*

**How to Banish Bagworms**

The Courier-March 5, 2022

Doris Salis

<https://mynewsonthego.com/courier/Reader/Story.aspx?id=9f7e7444-fa71-4c4f-8847-c0db1c19bf91>

## **2022 Hancock County MGV Interns and Mentors**



Congratulations to the following interns  
who completed their training on Wednesday, March 30th.

A special thank you to Karl Farwig and Ed Lentz for organizing the 2022 classes  
and to the mentors for being there to support the new trainees.

### **Intern**

Paige Badertscher

Rob Biolchini

Sandy Breidenbach

Jerry Bryant

Margi Habegger

Emily Hinderliter

John King

Craig Lamme

Nick Moore

Pete Reynolds Jr.

Denise Smith

Amanda Gnepper

Jeff Jump

### **Mentor**

Linda Finsel

Bill Jones

Ann Woolum

Lisa McClain

Judi Clymer

Betsy DeFrancesco

Elaine Reynolds

Lynn Farwig

Tim Brugeman

Elaine Reynolds

Jeri Wenger

Tim Brugeman

Tim Brugeman

**All interns are invited to attend the MGV Awards Program on  
Thursday, April 21st at 6:00 PM**

# ***MG Happenings***

## **2022 Findlay Home and Garden Show**

**April 8th-10th**

We have a great opportunity to showcase our Hancock Co. Master Gardener Volunteers and the services we provide for the community at this year's Home and Garden Show which will be held at The Cube-3430 N. Main Street.

If you are interested in volunteering to staff the booth please contact Judi Clymer at 419-345-8086 or [clymerjudith@gmail.com](mailto:clymerjudith@gmail.com).

### **SCHEDULE**

#### **Friday, April 8th**

4:00 PM-6:30 PM  
6:30 PM-9:00 PM

#### **Saturday, April 9th**

10:00 AM-1:00 PM  
1:00 PM-4:00 PM  
4:00 PM-7:00 PM

#### **Sunday, April 10th**

11:00 AM-2:00 PM  
2:00 PM-5:00 PM

## **Spotted Lanternfly Seminar**

**Monday, April 11th**

Ohio State University Extension-Hancock County will hold a management workshop on the newly invasive Spotted lanternfly (SLF). There will be 2 programs on April 11th at the Hancock County Agricultural Center.

- 1) 2:30 PM-4:30 PM is designed for industry professionals working in vineyards, orchards, and hop yards.
- 2) 5:00 PM-7:00 PM is designed for the public.

Programs are free, but registration is required at [go.osu.edu/slf22](https://go.osu.edu/slf22).

Be sure to read Ed Lentz's article in the March 30th Courier issue.  
*"Destructive Insect Continues in Ohio Spread"*

**Cookies Needed:** The MGVs are providing cookies and coffee for both sessions. Thanks to Lisa McClain for already volunteering to bring cookies and to Randy Greeno for donating money for cookies. Please let Rose Morrison know at 419-889-3931 or [rmorrison@woh.rr.com](mailto:rmorrison@woh.rr.com) by April 8th if you are willing to donate cookies. Cookies will need to be dropped off to the Extension office by Noon on the 11th.

***(Continued)***

# ***MG Happenings***

***(Continued)***

## **Annual Awards Program-Potluck**

**Thursday, April 21st**

The MGV Awards Program-Potluck will be held on April 21. Please arrive at 5:45 PM so we can start promptly at 6:00 PM. Lee's Famous Recipe Chicken, cake, water and coffee will be provided. Each person attending is asked to bring a side dish for a potluck.

Patrick Flinn-will be presenting our Brown Bag on Garden Tool Maintenance while we are eating with the awards program to follow.

If you did not sign up at the March MGV meeting please contact Rose Morrison at 419-889-3931 or [rmorrison@woh.rr.com](mailto:rmorrison@woh.rr.com) by April 14 so she can have an accurate number for ordering the meat.

## **Discovering Nature**

**Saturday, April 23**

**from 10:00 AM-12:00 Noon**

Volunteers are needed to assist with the "Discovering Nature" Program to be held at the Findlay-Hancock Co. Public Library. Linda Finsel is organizing this hands-on event for children ages 4-14. She will have all instructions and materials available that day.

Children will rotate through the following stations:

\*Through the Microscope

\*Planting of the Seed

\*Stone Identification

\*Worm Farm

\*Animal Foot Tracks

\*And More

If you are interested in helping, please contact Linda Finsel by April 8th at 419-788-1969 or [lindamf@earthlink.net](mailto:lindamf@earthlink.net).

## **Mother's Day "Let's Go Gardening"**

**Saturday, May 7th**

On the Saturday of Mother's Day weekend we answer questions at local nurseries as this is one of the busiest days of the season.

We will be available for questions at Lowes, Feasel's, Brinkman's and Garden Central.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact Judi Clymer at 419-345-8086 or [clymerjudith@gmail.com](mailto:clymerjudith@gmail.com) or sign up at The Awards Program on the 21st.

***(Continued)***



# ***MG Happenings***

*(Continued)*

## **Community Garden**

Brint Simmons

There will be an educational component with the garden this year which will include demonstrations. An initial presentation will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 50N (339 East Melrose Ave.) at 6:30 PM on Low Maintenance Gardening with Karla Dennis and Tim Brugeman presenting.

3 more sessions will be held at the Community Garden throughout the summer:

- \*June 7th-IPM-Weed Management-Use of Insecticides
- \*July 12th-Garden Maintenance and Harvesting
- \*September 13th-Fall Clean Up

## **50N “Gardening in Our Golden Years” Returns May 3rd**

Tim Brugeman

Master Gardeners are returning after a 2 year absence with the “Gardening In Our Golden Years” series. We will plan a program every month thru November on the first Tuesday at 10:30 AM just for 50 North members.

We will kick off on Tuesday, May 3rd at 6:30 pm however with a presentation for the public. We would like to target residents who will have garden plots at 50N and the Community Gardens.

### **May 3 (Tuesday) - 6:30 pm at 50 North “Low Maintenance Vegetable Gardens & Planters”**

Pre-planning strategy, planting and care of small vegetable garden plots and planters for easy care with Master Gardeners, Karla Dennis, Brint Simmons and Tim Brugeman.

### **June 7 (Tuesday) – 10:30 am at 50 North “Everything’s Coming Up Roses”**

All about roses, the beauty and smells of summer gardens: kinds of roses, selecting for various locations, planting, and care with Master Gardeners, Linda Finsel and Tim Brugeman.

Topics and speakers for July through November are still needed. Contact Linda Finsel at 419-424-3213 or [lindamf@earthlink.net](mailto:lindamf@earthlink.net) or Tim Brugeman at 419-672-8897 or [tbrugeman@woh.rr.com](mailto:tbrugeman@woh.rr.com).

*(Continued)*

# ***MG Happenings***

*(Continued)*

## **May Plant Exchange** **Thursday, May 12**

Tom Lawrence, a local gardening expert, will be speaking in the OSUE Conference Room at 6:00 pm on small fruits and vegetable growing. Afterwards, we will have a brief business meeting and then the plant exchange outside on the south side of the building if weather permits.

Each MGV should bring at least one plant to exchange. This can include home grown or purchased annuals, perennials, or shrubs. Ice cream will be served for refreshments. Please bring a lawn chair. This annual event is always fun!!!

The best part is getting some new plants for your garden!  
The question is always where will we put a new plant?

## **Speaking Opportunities.....**

People in the community enjoy hearing and learning about your areas of expertise or interest. Please consider speaking at one of our Hancock Co. MGV sponsored engagements:

### Findlay-Hancock County Library

April 19th	6:00 PM	Debra Evans	Spotted Lanterfly
May 18th	6:00 PM	Linda Finsel	Roses

### 50N-"Gardening in Our Golden Years"

May 3rd	6:30 PM	<b>Low Maintenance Vegetable Gardens &amp; Planters</b>
		Karla Dennis    Brint Simmons    Tim Brugeman

June 7th	10:30 AM	<b>"Everything's Coming Up Roses"</b>
		Linda Finsel    Tim Brugeman

\*Topics and speakers for July through November for 50N are still needed.

Contact Linda Finsel at 419-424-3213 or [lindamf@earthlink.net](mailto:lindamf@earthlink.net) or Tim Brugeman at 419-672-8897 or [tbrugeman@woh.rr.com](mailto:tbrugeman@woh.rr.com) if interested in speaking.

# Starting Tuberous begonias Inside

University of Minnesota Extension

Tuberous begonias are popular for their beautiful flowers that come in a variety of colors and forms. Red, orange, yellow, white, salmon and pink blooms may be single or double and may be plain, ruffled or toothed. Their petals may have margins, crests or blotches of contrasting color.

Tuberous begonias bloom throughout the summer, thriving in shady spots where few other plants with long bloom periods and showy flowers can grow. They are often used as container plants on patios and porches, in hanging baskets, and as bedding plants.

Tuberous begonia species are native to tropical South America and southern Africa. Most varieties available in garden centers or through catalogs are hybrids with complex parentage, but all share the same growing requirements.



An orange tuberous begonia.

## Starting begonia tubers



A tuberous begonia tuber sprouting in a container

In late winter or early spring, purchase tubers or start those you have stored. Tubers started in February should begin to bloom in June; those started in March or early April should bloom in July.

Plant the tubers in a flat of peat moss or vermiculite. If the stored tubers show no signs of disease, you can use the same medium in which they were stored. Otherwise, fill the flat with fresh peat moss or vermiculite. Find the upper surface of each tuber, the side with the depression or hollow. Plant the tubers right-side up in the flat, so the peat moss or vermiculite just covers them.

During this time, the tubers are very susceptible to rot, so it's important to keep the medium fairly moist, but not wet, and not to let water accumulate in the hollow part of the tuber. Place the flats where the temperature is around 70F, and they will receive indirect light. Supplemental lighting, such as grow lights, is not necessary during this stage of growth.

## Transplanting to larger containers

Roots will develop from the bottom, sides and top of the tuber, and stems will sprout from the top. After about one month, the stems will be 1 inch tall. Once they have reached this size, it's time to repot the tubers into larger containers, either 5- to 6-inch pots, or their permanent summer containers. Providing supplemental lighting or moving the plants to a brighter location will help form short, sturdy stems rather than tall, leggy ones.



Tuberous begonias growing in a decorative container

(Continued)

# Starting Tuberous begonias Inside (Continued)

## Thinning stems

Small tubers will produce small plants; large tubers, large plants. Flower size is not affected by tuber size, but by the number of stems on each tuber. If you would like bigger flowers, thin the shoots when they're about 3 inches tall. Small tubers should have two or three stems, large tubers three to six stems, so pinch off any extras.

Some varieties, such as those used in hanging baskets, are grown for quantity of flowers, not for large blooms. These should not be thinned. They will be bushy and bear lots of smaller flowers, especially if the tips of the stems are pinched in May or early June.

## Hardening off

To accustom the plants to outdoor conditions, begin hardening them off about two weeks before the last frost date. Move the plants outdoors on a warm day to a shaded, protected place. Bring them back in before temperatures cool off at night. The next day, put them out and bring them in again. Gradually move them out into brighter light and expose them to more wind, but continue to bring them in at night.

Once the weather has settled, the soil is warm, and all danger of frost is past (usually by late May or early June in Minnesota), transplant them to hanging baskets on the porch or out in the garden, or move containers to their permanent place on the deck or patio.



A pink tuberous begonia flower with slightly ruffled petals.

## Planting



Tuberous begonias ('Go Go Yellow') planted in a shady, protected site

You can buy tuberous begonia plants in spring at garden centers or you can start tuberous begonias from tubers. Once you have plants, choose a site for tuberous begonias that is somewhat protected from wind, where the soil is well-drained, and plants will be shaded during most of the day. Early morning and late afternoon sun will not harm them, but they need good indirect or dappled light at other times.

Although tuberous begonias must be grown in well-drained soil, they are not drought tolerant, so it's important to water them when it hasn't rained. If they're growing in the shade of trees or in containers under a roof, you must pay even more attention to keeping the soil properly moist. Allow the soil in containers to become slightly dry before watering. Moss-lined wire hanging baskets work particularly well to provide adequate drainage.

Tuberous begonias are fairly heavy "feeders", so fertilize with a dilute balanced fertilizer throughout the growing season for best bloom and growth.



# IT'S Time To.....April

## Ohio State University Extension

### April 3

- \*Plant carrots, Swiss chard, peas, collards, kale, kohlrabi, leaf lettuce, onions, parsley, parsnips, radishes, salsify and spinach as soil and weather conditions permit.
- \*Sow seeds of hardy annual flowers (calendula, clarkia, larkspur, California poppy, and sweet pea).
- \*Apply pre-emergent herbicides to control crabgrass
- \*Fertilize the lawn.
- \*Sow tomato seeds indoors.
- \*Fertilize woody plants, raspberries and roses.
- \*Finish pruning fruit trees, grapevines, raspberries and roses.
- \*Plant pansies.
- \*Provide food and water for wildlife.

### April 10

- \*Crabgrass pre-emergent control while the forsythia are in bloom.
- \*Fertilize woody plants.
- \*Plant early cabbage and broccoli plants outdoors.
- \*Start tuberous begonias and caladium indoors.
- \*Sow seeds of beets, carrots, leaf lettuce and radishes in the garden.
- \*Plant trees, shrubs, ground covers, and perennials as soil and weather conditions permit.
- \*Allow the soil to warm and dry a bit before applying mulch.
- \*Add organic matter to soil to improve soil tilth and drainage.
- \*Continue to provide food and water for wildlife.

### April 17

- \*Apply pre-emergent herbicides to control crabgrass.
- \*Start tuberous begonias and caladiums indoors.
- \*Plant a second crop of beets, carrots, leaf lettuce and radishes
- \*Plant woody plants and perennials as soil conditions permit.
- \*Begin fertilizing houseplants.
- \*Apply horticultural oil to trees and shrubs that had mites, scale or aphids last year. Read the label.
- \*Divide perennials that need it.
- \*Add organic matter to improve soil tilth.
- \*Fertilize asparagus with nitrogen-rich fertilizer.

### April 24

- \*Plant a tree for Earth Day
- \*Plant trees, shrubs and perennials as soil conditions allow.
- \*Check roses for black spot and insect pests.
- \*Spread aged manure and humus around woody plants, keeping it at least four inches from the trunk.
- \*Create a grass-free zone around trees in the lawn and apply organic mulch over the roots.
- \*Plant scab-resistant varieties of potato.
- \*Use horticultural oil to control spruce spider mites.
- \*Remove tent caterpillar nests from fruit trees.
- \*Plant a row for the hungry in your vegetable garden.



## THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Ohio State University Extension  
Hancock County  
7868 County Road 140 Suite B  
Findlay, OH 45840  
419-422-3851  
Facebook: Master Gardeners of Hancock County Ohio  
hancock.osu.edu



The Master Gardener “Green Thumb Prints” is a publication of the Ohio State University Extension, Hancock County, 7868 County Road 140 Suite B Findlay, OH 45840 419-422-3851.

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information, visit [cfaesdiversity.osu.edu](http://cfaesdiversity.osu.edu). For an accessible format of this publication, visit [cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility](http://cfaes.osu.edu/accessibility).