

News You Can Use !!

April 2019

Hello Karen,

Here is the April 2019 edition of News You Can Use !

Please grab a cup of your favorite drink and join us here for a few minutes of important news for all Master Gardeners.

In this month's newsletter, you'll find news about Plants in the Park, information about Bonus Bucks and new procedures for our Information cards and lots of CE and volunteering opportunities.

If you have any **questions** on information found in News You Can Use - contact Kathy DeJohn at kathy4dj@yahoo.com

If you have **information to share** in the next News You Can Use contact Kim Hawkins at hawkinsek@gmail.com



A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL MASTER GARDENERS who attended the Annual Meeting on March 13, 2019 at the Fairhill Office. (approximately 110 Master Gardener volunteers) It was so good for all of us to gather, see some old friends and meet some new ones. So many people mentioned the great energy in the room - excitement about hosting the 2020 Conference -

everyone was fascinated by Beth Murphy's presentation on Solitary Bees. Thank you, Beth.

A fantastic meal was organized as only Cathy Barr and her team can do -- including beautiful table decorations and an amazing assortment of delicious food including vegan and vegetarian selections.

A Word from our ANR Educator - Maggie Fitzpatrick

Fulfilling the mission in Spring.

I recently had an amazing teaching experience I wanted to share because I believe it illustrates a big part of the future of Master Gardener Volunteering in Cuyahoga County. I responded to a request from a 2018 participant in my community gardener class. She got in touch to ask if I would give an overview of community gardens to a group that she was gathering for a series she had organized called "Fresh Faith Spring". Topics ranged from fresh healthy eating, physical activity and community gardening.

My response was "I would LOVE to!" On April 10, I made my way over to the Cornucopia Café in the Kinsman neighborhood of Cleveland to talk with this group. They were interested in growing houseplants and learning more about the community gardens that exist in their neighborhoods. After 30 minutes, I was on my way home for the day knowing I had just connected 10 people with OSU Extension.

I believe that every MGV of Cuyahoga County is capable of giving a 30-minute overview like the one I gave—and in the future I hope can do more to respond to community requests like this one.

Need Hours?

So here are some ideas for weekend or time-flexible activities:

- The Ben Franklin demonstration gardens (children's, perennial, herb, vegetable) will be open for volunteering at least one Monday evening and one Saturday morning a month, probably beginning in April. Details TBA.**
- Dig, divide, pot up, and label plants from your own garden for Plants in the Park.**
- Help label the 200+ plants that Ben Franklin contributes to Plants in the Park. This happens the last week of May and can usually be arranged for an evening. Details TBA.**
- Plan to work all day Saturday (6/1) at Plants in the Park. This can give you 7 or 8 hours.**
- Write articles for the Trumpet Vine. Contact Pat Koch (patriciaakoch75@gmail.com) or Sandy Welches (sandygorbywelches@gmail.com) with story ideas.**
- Develop PowerPoint presentations for the Speakers Bureau (even if you don't want to present them). Look at the Speakers Bureau list of topics on the Master Gardener website to identify new possibilities. Contact Pat Koch (patriciaakoch75@gmail.com).**
- Join the Speakers Bureau. Many presentations are done in the**

evening. Contact Pat Koch.

- Talk with Maggie about special projects that she needs help with that can be done from home!

Did You Know ?

Bonus bucks are available to all established Master Gardeners! Bonus bucks are earned (1 for every 50 hours of volunteer service) and can be used to provide payment for our Continuing Education opportunities!

Also, interns can begin to earn bonus bucks too! For every 50 hours they may earn over and above the 50 hours required, will earn them a bonus buck.

Generally, Bonus Bucks will be passed out at every annual meeting to all who have earned them.

Talk to Kathy DeJohn if you have questions. kathy4dj@yahoo.com



Plants in the Park Update!!

Welcome to our new co-chairs Melanie Biche and Ruth Connell.

- **Needed: Interesting large and medium size pots to make container gardens for Plants in the Park. We have plenty of small containers and more baskets than we can use in a lifetime. But our customers are asking for large arrangements and they command higher prices. If you have some you can share, you can drop them off on Ruth Connell's back porch at 1791 Cadwell Ave., Cleveland Heights, or in front of Kim Hawkins's garage at 1867 Wynwood Dr., Rocky River. You can also contact Ruth (connell@jcu.edu, 216-246-2225) or Kim (hawkinsek@gmail.com, 440-331-6463).**
- **If you haven't already, be sure to read the email you received from Melanie Biche on April 6 about all the ways you can be involved in Plants in the Park.**

Watch for upcoming requests for your time and talents as we dig, plant, price, deliver and set up all the beautiful plants we will sell to the public in June.

The event takes place Saturday, June 1st and setup is Friday, May 31st!

This fundraiser provides resources that we will use throughout the year to fund our educational programs to the people of Cuyahoga County.

Upcoming Continuing Education Opportunities in Cuyahoga County

May 1 (Wed) 8 am – 6 pm

Bus Trip to Lake County Nurseries

Site: Pick up bus at West or East side

Klyn Nurseries: Wagon trip to view 500 acres of the Klyn wholesale nursery.

Lunch: Cornerstone Brewery

Middle Ridge Gardens: Learn what's new for plants in 2019 and background of retail nursery. Shop great selection of annuals, baskets and perennials.

Bluestone Perennials: Learn the history of Bluestone, methods of propagation and commercial production. Shop Bluestone perennials at discount prices.

CE units: 3

\$40.00

[Click Here for More Information on Bus Trip](#)

June 15 (Sat) 1 pm – 3 pm

Trip to Rust Belt Riders: Food Recycling Service

Site: 5401 Hamilton Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44114

Presenter: Nathan Rutz, Director of Soil

Program: The Soil Food Web and how to make good compost.

CE Units: 2

Limit: 40

Look for your registration email that came out this week!



June 26 (Wed) 10:00 am - Noon

Discover the Gardens, Fields, Pastures and Plots of Hale Farm & Village

Site: Hale Farm and Village, 2686 Oak Hill Road, Peninsula, OH 44264

Tour Leader: Sherri Wesner, Agriculture and Horticulture Coordinator

Program: Discover the gardens, fields, pastures and plots of Hale Farm & Village and how they provide a tangible path through the history of Ohio's Western Reserve pioneers. The tour includes the following:

Pioneer Garden: the story of subsistence farming; Hale House Dye Garden: color from nature; Herrick Kitchen Garden: foods for the 19th century table; Goldsmith Garden: an ornamental flower garden; Salt Box Herb Garden: medicinal and culinary...as well as pastures, crop fields and the Hale Farm greenhouse.

CE units: 2

Limit: 30

Committee Member: Melanie Biche

July 10 (Wed) 10:00 am –Noon, 12:30 pm -2:30 pm

Harvesting, Freezing and Drying Vegetables

Site: Garfield Heights Library

Presenter: Chris Harris MGV, and Courtney Woefl, OSUE Family and Consumer Science Agent

Program: This presentation will discuss how to harvest, freeze and dry fruits and vegetables using safe techniques.

Share the Health Learning Garden Reopens April 1 at 10:00 a.m.

The garden is located at 390 County Line Road in Gates Mills. Laura Elersich has the seeds we need for this season. If anyone is interested in growing any of our seedlings for the garden this year they can contact Laura at 440-954-2340 or by email arual74@hotmail.com. It's a great way to get involved with the garden and to get some hours.

New Procedures for Managing the Information Cards

A note from Pat Smith, Publicity Chair, as we begin a new gardening year:

- **The room off the reception area is well-stocked with all our cards for your convenience. All cards are packaged; either banded or shrink-wrapped in groups of 50. Please, please do not break the packets apart (sorting and counting them took the better part of a day for two MGVs), but take one or more intact packets as you need them.**
- **There is a blue binder on the table. Please fill out the date, name of card(s) taken, quantity and your name. This helps us with inventory control so we can reorder as needed and keep the stock ready for your convenience.**
- **Don't forget to bring a bag or box with you to put your cards in.**

Also, the receptionist no longer has any responsibility when it comes to these cards. Please do not call her and ask her to pull cards for you in advance.

Note: card pickup is only available weekdays from 9a-1p. If you need cards outside this time, please contact Pat Smith: patsmith211@gmail.com or 216-469-3659.

Most gardeners have more than one gardening interest so please take at least one pack of each card with you. Also encourage gardeners to take cards for their family and friends who garden. These cards are not only educational, they are great marketing tools for us to help spread the word that we are here to help the residents of Cuyahoga County at any time.

So please...get those cards out in the public! Don't forget to take the *Gardening Questions* cards and the *Ask the Master Gardener* business cards.

Advisory Committee News

Advisory Committee officers were elected at the November 2018 meeting:

**Chair – Kathy DeJohn
Vice Chair – Kim Hawkins
Secretary – Mary Jo Rawlins
Treasurer – Mary Clink
Assistant Treasurer – Betti Drake**

Other members of the Advisory Committee for 2019 are:

**Mariella Banez
Melanie Biche
Carol Anne Cohen
Jo dehaseth
Barb Franzen
Dave Gilronan
Christine Harris
Nadalene Joseph
Ed Levine
Teri Maurer-Lyons
Beth Murphy
Kip Schmidt
Sandy Welches
Shoshana Wodzisz
Wendy Yasaki
Jennifer Young**

MGVs are invited to attend all AC meetings from 4:30 – 6:30 at the Fairhill - office, 12200 Fairhill -

If you plan to attend, to observe and listen, please contact Kathy DeJohn at (440) 725-2700 or kathy4dj@yahoo.com.

**April 22
June 17
August 26
November 4**

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information, visit cfaesdiversity.osu.edu.

 **THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
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