

# Blades and Blooms



Master Gardeners of Clark County  
 PO Box 158, Springfield, Ohio 45501-0158

Volume 29 Number 5 May, 2022



*Deb Brugger, Jo Brown and Dennis Latimer, winners of the Groovy Seventies Competition.*



*MGVs planting pots of pansies for early season color in Snyder Park Gardens and Arboretum.*



### Mark Your Calendar

- 2 8:30 am - 12 pm EOS Garden Workday at SPGA
- 4 9 am - 12 pm SPGA Garden Work day
- 6 12 pm - 4 pm SPGA Garden Plant Sell-A-Bration Classes
- 7 9 am - 3 pm SPGA Garden Plant Sell-A-Bration
- 10 1 pm - 3 pm Docent Cmte. Mtg. at SPGA Clubhouse
- 11 6 pm - 8 pm Night Weeders work session at SPGA
- 16 8:30 am - 12 pm EOS Garden Workday at SPGA
- 17 9 am - 3 pm Field Trial Cultivar Planting Day at SPGA
- 18 9 am - 12 pm SPGA Garden Work day  
 9 am - 12 pm LWN Workday at SPGA
- 25 6 pm - 8 pm Night Weeders work session at SPGA
- 28 10 am - 2 pm Plant Swap at 270 S. Broadmoor
- 30 8:30 am - 12 pm EOS Garden Workday at SPGA

The Mitchell Greenhouse has workdays every Tuesday and Thursday from 9 am to 11 am. until May 12. Please sign up on the HOC website

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## **PRESIDENTS CORNER**

Dear Fellow Master Gardener Volunteers,

Well, those April showers (sleet, snow, and ice pellets!) did not disappoint! And, through it all, our beautiful spring bulbs pushed their way upward and gave us that first glimpse of color that we all await anxiously for through the cold, relentless winter. We are not out of the woods quite yet, but the days are longer and the soil will soon be warm enough to get those tender plants into the ground, and our joy of digging begins again.

We had a very productive month of April with much accomplished like:

- The graduation of our wonderful 2022 MGV Intern Class! This class is already “in the groove.”
- Which, by the way, was the theme of our Intern Celebration on April 7th. There was a huge turnout of support by the Master Gardener Volunteers (60 RSVP’s) and a great deal of fun (and good food) was had by all!
- A hugely successful fundraiser was held at Mother Stewart’s (Plant and Pints). It was well attended and nearly sold-out!
- The IT Committee successfully completed its HOC training. If you still need help of any kind, please contact us.
- SPGA Docents are busy training and will soon be guiding tours.
- The Entrance Sign Committee is nearly there, and new signage is going up everywhere!
- The Plant Sell-A-Bration Committee is working like little bees to make this the best sale ever!
- Garden Education Programming is off to a great start.
- “Meet Me In the Park” for Music and Yoga this summer. Check the calendar and publicity for more information.
- We are working closely with NTPRD this summer with space graciously given to us in their Summer publication, and we are now part of their “Letter Box” activity for Summer 2022. Watch for our very own Letterbox going up soon, near the Clubhouse.

That’s only a preview of what we have in the works for this summer. Whew! We are really stepping it up, and we owe it all to YOU, the backbone of everything we do.

Thank you, everyone.  
Deb Brugger  
2022 President

## ***Pam’s Posies***

Dear MGVs,

How did it become May so fast??? We have a huge summer ahead of us thanks to all the volunteers who have stepped up and jumped into leadership roles. You all have been incredible. Rich and I have been overwhelmed without Jo and Kathy’s assistance and you all have felt that and jumped in with both feet to help. THANK YOU!

May is going to be a very busy month. Make sure to check the calendar on the Clark County Extension site ([clark.osu.edu](http://clark.osu.edu)). Once you get to the site, click on the Master Gardener Volunteer link on the left to go to all the MGV stuff. The calendar is there along with the upcoming programs, documents, etc. This is still a work in process; since we don’t have access to a calendar in HOC, this will be the location of all events. We are working on training a few volunteers to be able to have access to the OSUE website to keep it up to date. Again, thanks to our volunteers who are willing to help with this effort.

Our office is in the process of interviewing for the Office Assistant position and hopefully we will find someone who can stay with us for a while! In addition, applications are open for the Program Assistant for MGVs and community gardens (Kathy’s position). Again, hopefully we will find a gem like we had in Kathy!

Communication is the key to our success. We are working on ensuring that everyone has access to all the information. The newsletter is for committees to update everyone on their specific monthly activities as well as important dates. Please be sure to read the newsletter!

We are working on getting HOC to allow our volunteer leaders (chairs) to email the committees and to find out who is on the committee and signed up. Hang in there, this is a work in progress!

Again, thanks for all you do for the Ohio State University Extension and the Master Gardener Volunteer program. See you all at the plant sale!

Pam

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

## **RICH'S REMARKS**

As I begin to write, I am still in the glow of amazement at the participation and extraordinary accomplishments of the many MGVS present in multiple areas, tasks, and committees at SPGA today, Wednesday, 4/20. Volunteers began to arrive a little before 9:00. Several migrated to the Landscape With Nature Garden for their first gathering of the season. Others congregated near the Clubhouse and began a thorough completion of the clean-up of the Springfield Foundation Feature Garden beds, a little touch up in the Pansy beds, and then over to the River of Daffodils for a needed rematch with that bold and daring weed population. Two adventurous MGVS migrated to the Peony bed and managed to thoroughly clean-up the interior of the bed, working from the inside out. As those groups were completing their sessions, a squadron of pick-up trucks arrived and descended on the barn fence area loaded with power tools. In a relatively short time, all of the existing tables were evaluated and repaired or harvested for parts, and, several/many new tables were constructed from the recent bounty of pallets. WOW! Now we are ready for the arrival of ALL those plants for the Garden and Plant Sell-A-Bration! While that was productively buzzing and banging along, the Plant Sale Committee was meeting in the clubhouse and getting the labels and price tags ready. There was a brief pause and then at 6:00 the new (K)Night Weeders group arrived and energetically jumped in – actually knelt down – to continue everyone's favorite past time of weeding! For this first session/meeting of this new group formed to provide opportunity for those not available during "regular hours" there were 8 – 10 energetic and productive MGVS and Interns, some coming back for more fun than they had earlier in the day! WOW!!! What an amazing and productive group of MGVS!

### **Wingert Tossey Pavilion; Springfield Foundation Feature Garden; SPGA Site Development**

30 flats of blooming Pansies arrived Monday, 4/11, and were planted later that week in the new annual beds as soon as weather permitted. Then, some of us wondered exactly how hardened off and/or tough those plants were as we enjoyed temperatures in the low 30's and intermittent and accumulating snow over the weekend. Aside from a few buried-in-the-mud Pansy faces, all made it through and are there brightening up the area.

The Annual Committee developed a design and plant list for these beds for the 2022 season and we are currently awaiting the arrival of MANY plugs to grow in the Mitchell Greenhouse for eventual, soon planting. Hey that sounds like a lot more, great fun opportunity!

The Blades and Blooms apologizes to Janet for inadvertently leaving her thank you note out of the April newsletter.



- |             |                        |
|-------------|------------------------|
| <i>1st</i>  | <i>Edward Wichaehl</i> |
| <i>5th</i>  | <i>Laura Foley</i>     |
| <i>5th</i>  | <i>Ann Kaup-Fett</i>   |
| <i>5th</i>  | <i>Rosalind Soles</i>  |
| <i>10th</i> | <i>Jean Ann Baker</i>  |
| <i>11th</i> | <i>Carol Hanusik</i>   |
| <i>16th</i> | <i>Donna Myers</i>     |
| <i>20th</i> | <i>Tom Davidson</i>    |
| <i>25th</i> | <i>Jan O'Neill</i>     |
| <i>29th</i> | <i>Dennis Latimer</i>  |
| <i>31st</i> | <i>Deb Brugger</i>     |

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## **NIGHT WEEDERS COMMITTEE**

The Night Weeders met for the first time on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 6 p.m. After endless rainy days, the clouds parted and we had a beautiful sunny evening to weed in the River of Daffodils, the Penstemon bed, the Peonies, Ninebark and Smoke bush beds. Thanks to the fun and hardy souls who helped out! We will meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 6 p.m. It's a lovely time to work, and you meet such wonderful people!

Susan and Tom Miller  
Cochairs

## **VICTORY GARDEN COMMITTEE**

Mother Nature has created a very late spring for gardeners and farmers, but it's not too late. By the time you read this article the potatoes and onions should be in the ground and waiting for warm weather. The garden plots are available and marked with the name of each owner. We will have up coming work calls for planting cabbage, beans and corn. I will send out emails for the planting based on weather conditions.

Ed Wozniak / Drew Titone

## **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

Hello, Fellow Master Gardener Volunteers,  
The Fundraising Committee will be offering a quilt raffle at our Summer Events. This adorable quilt was created and donated by our own Mary Ellen Martin. Tickets will be on sale at the Plant Sell-A-Bration and the SPGA Jubilee. The drawing will be held at the end of the Jubilee. Tickets are \$1.00 each, so see your MGV Fundraising table for chances to take home this lovely quilt.

Thanks for your support,  
The Fundraising Committee



## ***Music in the Gardens***

The inaugural season of Music in the Gardens will be every 2nd Monday of the Month at 7:00 PM starting in May and running through September. George Simon and I have found a variety of performers this season in hopes of getting as many people out to see the Gardens and enjoy an evening of music. Music will be performed at the SPGA in the Wingert Tossey Pavilion or adjacent pad in front of the clubhouse when the Yellow Springs Community Band will perform. Bring your lawn chairs and own refreshments for an evening of music.

### **May 9th**

The Springfield Youth Symphony Ensemble

### **June 13th**

Lafferty Pike Traditional Blue Grass ( 4 sisters and mom from Cedarville)

### **July 11th**

Yellow Springs Community Band

### **August 15th**

Terry Van Auker acoustic guitar and vocalist

### **September 12th**

Chuck Young and his Lite Jazz Trio



## MITCHELL GREENHOUSE COMMITTEE

Mitchell greenhouse volunteers have been busy in April transplanting the All-America Selections (AAS) annual seedlings. Also, approximately 200 AAS perennial plugs were received and transplanted in April.

AAS plants started at the Mitchell greenhouse will be moved to SPGA on Monday, May 9th for hardening off for a little over one week before they are planted in the Field Trial beds on Tuesday, May 17th.

Plants started at OSU in Columbus will be tentatively moved to SPGA on Tuesday, May 10th for hardening off for a little over one week before they are planted in the Field Trial beds on Tuesday, May 17th.

The Mitchell Greenhouse chairs, Linda McCann, Rosalind Soles, Karen Parsons and Theresa Gregory

*MGV intern Pam Young watering newly transplanted AAS seedlings.*



*Another MGV intern Joyce Watson moving new seedlings to their new home in greenhouse.*

*MGV Mary Ellen Martin transplanting seedlings to pots.*



## EARLY OHIO SETTLER'S COMMITTEE

The Early Ohio Settler's Garden got in the pioneer spirit mode for the first work day of 2022. They wrestled the chicken wire (more like a slinky toy with razor-wire teeth) into tidy cylinders, properly marked, and tied with bona fide settler twine. Rakes were flying so fast, they were just a blur, and they bagged a lot of the leaves to go back to the compost pile. It was a return present for Dennis Latimer, who bagged them last fall. A nice thin layer of decomposing leaf mulch was left that was tilled into the soil.

A few weeds that dared to appear on the perimeter of our mulched beds were pulled. Good green is already appearing inside the picket fence. Strawberry plants—or what the deer refer to as breakfast, lunch, and dinner—are abundant. Walking onions are in two tidy healthy rows, at least for now. Two rhubarb, one garlic, compass plant start, lamb's ear, chamomile, roses, one hollyhock, blackberry lilies, tansy (we think), mint, sorrel, yarrow, bedstraw, and New Jersey tea survived the winter. It's already a beginning garden. The hops were also corralled.

As you can see from the pictures, (below and on the back page) we are excited to have our information board mounted for educating the public about our garden. Our wagon now has a working seat, thanks to the talents of Drew Tatone.

Looking forward to the straw path workday, Monday, May 2, 8:30 a.m. to noon. All MGV are welcome! If you are saving newspapers, you can bring them with you. Might want to wear gloves and have a pair of dry shoes to change into, or wear rubber boots - its fun, but can get messy!

Peggy Shank, Mark Finnegan, Judy Finnegan, Kim Bachman—the four-legged chair



*MGVs Gloria Sparks, Jo Brown, Peggy Shank, Jean Rickards, and Judy Finnegan working in the EOSG.*

## **FAIR FLOWER SHOW** **COMMITTEE**

So, what is a fairy garden? A fairy garden is a scene from a story depicted with small plants and structures such as dwellings, furniture, animals, and little creatures like those from fairy tales. Everything must be in proportion and there are NO PLASTIC PLANTS!

On April 9 the Master Gardeners of Clark County were so lucky to have Barbara J. Myers present a class on LITTLE GARDENS FOR LITTLE PEOPLE. Barbara helps organize the Master Gardeners in London, Ohio and is in charge of Region 16 of the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs. We had 21 participants in the class, plus Marianne and me, and Rich Pearson, who was so kind to open the door on that horrible day of blowing wind and snow. Participants in our class spanned quite an age range, from a six year old girl in 4H Clover Buds to our wonderful Fair Ladies that have turned eighty. That tells me that there is a great interest in fairy gardens no matter what age.

So where do we start a fairy garden? The garden should be carefully designed with balance, repeat color, contrast, rhythm, and scale. In a good fairy garden plants are dominant.

The type of garden determines the accessories (any component that enhances the garden.) For example, one can have a beach garden with a beach fairy or no fairy at all-she could be asleep or on vacation.

Some plants that work well in a fairy garden include: rosemary, moss, thyme, Johnny Jump Ups, red fountain grass, and Norfolk Island Pine, 4-5" dianthus, baby peace lilies, and an Arborvitae called "Tater Tot", which only grows 12 to 24 inches tall. Since you are growing your fairy garden in a container, be sure to change the soil every year. Barbara uses chick grit (tiny broken-down rocks found at places like Rural King) on top of the soil to form tiny fairy paths.

Coconut coir fiber and pine mulch work well for this, too. Water all your plants before putting them in your container, letting them drain before placing them. Don't forget a hole in the bottom of your container! You can cover the hole with something like a coffee filter so that water can drain but dirt does not run out. If you are entering your garden in the fair or another competition, be sure to write down all the plant material you used on a 3x5 card.

Whatever fairy garden you design--have Fun with it. We hope to see numerous entries in our Clark County Fair this year. Entries must be turned in to the fair by June 30, 2022.

The theme of the fair this year is "Christmas in July". We know you can have fun with that!!!

After a year when urban vegetable gardens have been both therapy and a food source while we huddled in our homes hiding from Covid-19, fairy gardens have again become a delightful trend as we emerge from our homes and head back outside for Spring 2022.

The first meeting of the Fair Flower Show Committee is May 13, 9:30 - 11:30 am at OSUE in the Large Conference Room. Please join us.

Jani Malowney and Marianne Ober

## **LANDSCAPE WITH NATURE** **COMMITTEE**

The Landscape with Nature gardens are coming to life as winter departs. We are getting excited about gardening again as soon as the weather cooperates with some dry and warm days instead of rain snow and frost. The LWN Committee plans to begin purchase of materials and construction of the Gazebo as soon as weather conditions improve. Construction will be done by volunteers off-site at home workshops and assembly accomplished in the LWN compound when parts are completed. We plan purchase of four benches that convert into 2 picnic tables as pictured in the model below.



*Projects this year include building Gazebo and Benches*

Redesign of the Bee Haven garden to include a native bee habitat and added nectar plants.

Join us for fun in the sun - preparing, designing, planting and building a Butterfly Buffet!

**NEXT MEETING AND WORK DAY**  
**MAY 18th 9:00 - NOON**

Tom Davidson, Donna Meister and Jani Malowney  
co-chairs

## Gatherings about Gardens

Reading so many poems about springtime, I couldn't decide which I liked most; the ones below are just a few I chose to share. They are odes to beauty, humor, the gardener, and peace. Hope you enjoy:

### Poet Thomas Hood, on Spring

"'Tis like the birthday of the world,  
When earth was born in bloom;  
The light is made of many dyes,  
The air is all perfume:  
There's crimson buds, and white and blue,  
The very rainbow showers  
Have turned to blossoms where they fell,  
And sown the earth with flowers."

### The Gardener's Morning

The robin's song at daybreak  
Is a clarion call to me. Get up and get out in the garden,  
For the morning hours flee.

I cannot resist the summons,  
What earnest gardener could?  
For the golden hours of morning  
Get into the gardener's blood.

The magic spell is upon me,  
I'm glad that I did not wait;  
For life's at its best in the morning,  
As you pass through the garden gate.  
— Howard Dolf

### Garden Magic

This is the garden's magic,  
That through the sunny hours  
The gardener who tends it,  
Himself outgrows his flowers.  
He grows by gift of patience,  
Since he who sows must know  
That only in the Lord's good time  
Does any seedling grow.

He learns from buds unfolding,  
From each tight leaf unfurled,  
That his own heart, expanding,  
Is one with all the world.

He bares his head to sunshine,  
His bending back a sign  
Of grace, and ev'ry shower becomes  
His sacramental wine.

And when at last his labors  
Bring forth the very stuff



And substance of all beauty  
This is reward enough.  
— Marie Nettelton Carroll

### Trees

Trees are joy-inspiring  
In those first sweet days of May  
Stretching forth their lacy tendrils  
To entice the lark to stay.  
Trees are gracious, charming  
When glossed with summer sheen

They catch the vagrant breezes  
And spread their shady green. . .  
And somehow in the Autumn  
When the magic touch of time  
Has clad these trees in russet-gold  
We sense a hand divine.  
Yet Trees in winter fascinate  
When their gaunt, nude forms arise  
And trace in grotesque patterns,  
Silhouettes against the skies.

—C. H. Bolton

This next one is from a different time when men had obviously not yet learned that household chores were shared responsibilities. But it does speak to the overwhelming pull of the garden!

### My Wife the Gardener

— Peter (poem in old magazine)

She dug the plot on Monday –  
the soil was rich and fine,  
She forgot to thaw out dinner –  
so we went out to dine...  
She planted roses Tuesday –  
she says they are a must,  
They really are quite lovely  
but she quite forgot to dust.  
On Wednesday it was daisies –  
they opened up with sun,  
All whites and pinks and yellows –  
but the laundry wasn't done...  
The poppies came on Thursday -  
a bright and cherry red,  
I guess she really was engrossed –  
she never made the bed...  
It was violets on Friday –  
in colours she adores,  
It never bothered her at all –  
all crumbs upon the floors  
I hired a maid on Saturday –  
my week is now complete,  
My wife can garden all she wants –  
the house will still be neat!

**Gatherings about Gardens** cont. on pg.9

# Backyard News

There are so many things I love about being a Master Gardener. One of my very favorite things is the Plant Sell-A-Bration. Not only do I get to volunteer at this fun event, I get to buy plants! This year, we will have more plants than ever, including my favorites, native plants and nativars, which are cultivated natives. We will also have activities on both Friday, May 6 and Saturday, May 7. On Friday at noon there is a Make and Take class (cost \$30), a bee talk by Fran and Tom Davidson at 1 p.m., and a gardening talk by Kathy McConkey at 2 p.m. And don't forget our private Master Gardener gathering at 5 p.m., where each of us can purchase up to 3 plants. We can also purchase the day of the sale.

There are lots of ways to help out. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Karen Titone ([klspt81@outlook.com](mailto:klspt81@outlook.com)), Connie Mitchell ([conrn73@aol.com](mailto:conrn73@aol.com)), or Loretta Blazer ([lblazer123@gmail.com](mailto:lblazer123@gmail.com)). Last year, even with the Covid craziness, we had a fabulous turnout, and it was so fun to see so many excited gardeners swarming around the plants. I hope I see you on Saturday, May 7th, either volunteering or purchasing!

As for me, I have a list of plants I will be searching for. I'm on the hunt for some spring and early summer bloomers, so I hope to find some Eastern Blue Star (*Amsonia tabernaemontana*). I love the beautiful blue star-shaped flowers. They bloom in late spring and early summer and like sun to part sun. I'm also hoping to find some cultivated *Coreopsis* in various colors. *Coreopsis* has daisy-shaped flowers that now come in many colors, and bloom from early until late summer. A lot of the nativars are only 18 inches tall. They are supposed to be tolerant of both heat and humidity, which pretty much describes my backyard. I have a perfect spot for such a plant. Another gorgeous spring bloomer is Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*). You can plant these from seeds in many colors, but I am looking for the native species, which are a beautiful red and yellow. They are hardy too, blooming in April, May and June, in full sun to shade. Needless to say, all of these plants are loved by pollinators.

I'll have my eyes open for other plants, too. I'll be looking for Blue Mistflower (*Conoclinium Coelestinum*). Mistflower is about two feet tall and reminds me of tall *Ageratum* and has the common name of Hardy *Ageratum*. It extends the growing season, blooming in September and October, and helps late season butterflies and other pollinators.

Even if I don't find a single one of the plants on my wish list, it's unlikely I will come home empty handed. I can't wait to see what treasures await me. Hope to see you there.

Happy Gardening, Friends!  
Susan Miller

## Susan's plant wish list.



*Eastern Blue Star*  
(*Amsonia tabernaemontana*  
'Blue Star')



*Coreopsis Red Satin*  
*Permathread series*



*Columbine (Aquilegia canadensis)*



*Blue Mistflower*  
(*Conoclinium*  
*Coelestinum*)

The pictures are from (top to bottom) Proven Winners, Bluestone Perennials and last two Prairie Moon Nursery.



**Gatherings about Gardens** cont. on pg.7

It's nearly lunchtime Sunday –  
and I cannot find the maid,  
Oh no! I don't believe it!  
She's out there with the spade!

**Weeder's Thoughts**

I have raked the soil and planted the seeds  
Now I've joined the army that fights the weeds.  
For me no flashing saber and sword,  
To battle the swiftly marching horde;  
With a valiant heart, I fight the foe,  
My only weapon a trusty hoe.  
No martial music to swing me along,  
I march to the robin redbreast song.  
No stirring anthem of bugle and drum  
But the cricket's chirp and the honey bee's hum.  
No anti-aircraft or siren yell  
But there's Trumpet-creeper and Lily-bell.  
With a loving heart and a sturdy hand,  
I defend the borders of flower-land;  
While high over Larkspur and Leopardsbane,  
A butterfly pilots his tiny plane;  
But I shall not fear his skillful hand,  
My enemy charges only by land.  
Would those who lead nations in war and hate  
But lay down their guns at some garden gate,  
There, bury- their bombs and their bloody deeds,  
And join the grand army that's fighting the weeds.  
-ALMA B. Eymann

'Til next time, Judy Finnegan

**Herb Gardening is for Everyone**

Each year I expand my herb garden and add something new. Last year it was lemongrass. Now, I'm one of the dying breed who actually still cooks nearly every day, and love my kitchen herbs. When most people are asked to picture the common kitchen herb they turn to that old Simon & Garfunkel song about "parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme." They forgot my favorite, basil. Most gardeners know that herbs have been used for centuries for their culinary and healing properties, and today they are as popular as ever. We love the unique flavors that herbs lend to all kinds of food and drinks. Herbalists treasure those healing qualities of certain flowers, leaves and roots. Crafters even preserve the beauty and fragrance of flowers and leaves in potpourri, wreaths, sachets and dried arrangements. Gardeners like us value herbs for their low maintenance and natural resistance to pests.

Since I germinated Basil and Rosemary seeds in my little Winter Seed Sowing experiment, I am going to share with you one of my favorite simple and quick recipes.

**Mixed Herb Butter**

**Ingredients:**

- ½ cup butter soften at room temperature (Don't skimp, use quality like Irish butter or Land O' Lakes.)
- ¼ cup fresh herbs minced rosemary, parsley, thyme, basil
- ½ teaspoon sea salt optional if using salted butter
- 1 teaspoon fresh cracked pepper

Other herbs to try- sage, dill, chives, tarragon, oregano, or green onions

**Directions:**

1. Leave the butter out at room temperature for a few hours to soften.
2. Go out to your herb garden and snip (with clean kitchen scissors) those fresh herbs and place in a small mug or glass jar of water until ready to use.
3. Finely mince all herbs.
4. Mix softened butter, ¼ cup finely chopped herbs, ½ teaspoon sea salt and 1 teaspoon fresh cracked pepper in a small bowl with a spatula.
5. Place your herb butter in a small sealed container with a lid; it will keep in the fridge for a week. If I'm making a large batch I place it on parchment paper (or plastic wrap), form into a log shape, roll and twist ends closed. Then I keep it in the fridge or you can freeze it for longer storage.

I use my herb on: grilled steaks, stuffed under skin of my Thanksgiving turkey, on grilled French bread, on pasta, and so much more. Bon Appetite!

Deb Brugger

**You are invited to the 5th annual  
Perennial PLANT SWAP**

MAY 28th, 10AM - 1PM  
270 S. Broadmoor, Springfield 45504

**"4 for \$5"** (Bring 5 perennials in labeled, disposable containers and pay \$5 fee; No perennials? No problem! Pay \$10 fee)  
Leave with 4 perennials  
(one is for sale along with garden items)

Proceeds benefit Clark County MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS!!!

For info, contact Linda Butler  
(linda1950@ameritech.net; 937-408-6295)

**Rich's Remarks** cont. from pg.3

The Perennial Committee is completing a design and plant list for a renovation and expansion of the bed with the Clematis Arbor and the beds along the west side of the Clubhouse.

### **Entrance Garden**

A detailed design for the sign is completed. Details and logistics are underway. Input is solicited from local engineering, architectural, and construction firms. We are also reaching out to NTPRD for assistance in selecting and relocating Memorial Hall artifacts for the project

### **Volunteer Events**

**Pints and Plants** at Mother Stewarts was a big success. There was much interest from the public and Kevin, the owner of Mother Stewarts, was very happy with the unexpectedly large crowd for a Sunday.

Individual garden workdays are beginning with good turn out – weather permitting, and that – the weather – has been a wildcard in the deck so far this season.

The first Garden Workday had limited attendance but very dedicated and hard working MGV and Interns did a great clean-up and mulching of the River of Daffs. Subsequent activity days have been resoundingly productive – see my opening paragraph above! We have a Community Volunteer Day coming up April 29 and need extra hands to lead the community groups and additional help with the projects at hand like weeding, edging, mulching.

Plans are well underway for the **Garden and Plant Sell-A-Bration**. Tables are repaired and new ones constructed. Plant orders are in, and delivery schedules are confirming. Please stay tuned for multiple opportunities to help with receiving orders, setting up the site, perhaps an unexpected OFM! (OH FROST Moment!) when we will need a few quickly available MGV to help with frost cloth and other techniques to protect the crops.

Many new committees forming, and plans are underway for SPGA Jubilee. Please check your email regularly and often for updates and opportunities!

### **Salesforce/Hands on Connect**

Connie and Deb assembled a great committee to help MGVs with accessing and using this new database system. Perhaps we need to continue this process? The help sessions were very well received, and I had multiple positive feedbacks. Trust me, I truly understand the challenges many are experiencing, I am still in “learning mode” myself!

### **Information and Communication**

Communication is now a frequent discussion point and conversations I am having with many agree that we need to refine, improve, and emphasize its quality and importance. We are working on defining and refining a systematic process of working through me to create and launch publicity items, ensure the Website Calendar is accurate and updated, and schedule the large and small conference rooms and the Clubhouse for meetings and events. Please understand “we” – OSUE offices staff and MGV officers and chairs/co-chairs are working to keep you as informed as possible in the timeliest way possible. Yes, there have been some glitches, but we are working hard to correct those as we find them and develop effective solutions. Everyone is probably more than aware that I have been using the miracle of the modern “BCC” function to email you ALL information you need. I also understand that that is a large number of emails sometimes. I respectfully request that Chairs/Co-chairs, others with important and timely information that needs distributed quickly to the masses, please send it to me early in the week and I will work toward compiling multiple topics in a “bullet point” format to supply that information in fewer but necessarily larger emails. I welcome your input and any suggestions on improving that.

### **MGV Intern Class 2022**

Class sessions have successfully completed at the Clark County ESC. Our last session for the MGV Intern Class 2022 was at the Snyder Park Clubhouse. The Final Exam presentations were excellent, and then, the long awaited celebratory Potluck lunch was well supplied with so many excellent, tasty offerings and a great contingency of certified MGV to welcome and get to know the new Interns. It was an incredible day!

Many of those new interns are attending various work projects and activities, frequently arriving first! I continue to believe we have a great incoming group and look forward to assimilating them into our “green army”.

We are at the threshold – the Garden Gate of a great, vibrant, and busy gardening season! I know we will all join and meet the challenges and opportunities head on with gloves and garden tools at the ready! You ALL are such amazing components of this amazing team and I continue to thrill at being part of it! Thank you ALL for ALL your input and hard work! Happy Spring and let's have a great gardening season!

---Rich---



*This was at the Entrance Committee meeting Tuesday as we determine size and location of new entrance signs. There will be a duplicate on the opposite side as well.*



*MGV's filling the annual beds in front of the SPGA clubhouse with the cheerful color of early season pansies.*

*Several varieties of perennials that arrived at the Mitchell Greenhouse from All American Selections that will eventually be planted in the Trial Beds at SPGA.*



*Our new Night Weeders group at their first weeding event at SPGA in the River of Daffodils.*



*MGVs and friends designing and planting "Fairy Gardens" at the OSU Extension office on April 9th. This event was put on by the Fair Flower Show Committee.*



## ***Pictures from the Gardens and More.***



*Pam Bennett and Dennis Latimer groovin' at the 2021/2022 Intern Class Celebration Pot Luck.*



## **THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

EXTENSION

Ohio State University Extension  
Clark County  
3130 East Main Street  
Springfield, OH 45505



*MGV Drew Titone getting the wagon ready to become a part of the Early Ohio Settler's Garden.*

***Don't Forget  
May 4th and 18th 2022  
SPGA Garden Clean ups  
9:00 am to Noon  
Also Don't Forget the  
Garden and Plant  
Sell-A-Bration  
May 6th and 7th***

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