

# NEWS YOU CAN USE

For Montgomery County Master Gardener Volunteers

December 2019

*We are Ohio State University Extension trained volunteers empowered to educate others with timely research-based gardening information.*

## At The Root of It All



As 2019 becomes part of history, I downloaded the 2019 volunteer and continuing education hours for all active OSUE Master Gardener Volunteers and the 2019 interns on December 16, 2019. OSU Extension Montgomery County Master Gardener Volunteers who procrastinated entering their volunteer and continuing education hours have less than 14 days to complete the task. If you are still entering hours and wish to re-certify, please send me an email ([mills-wasniak.1@osu.edu](mailto:mills-wasniak.1@osu.edu)) when you complete entering your hours.

The recertification documents will be activated near the end of 2019. You will receive an email when the documents are posted and ready for your electronic signature.

Pat Martin sent an email out in early December regarding two very important meetings, January 13 and February 10, 2020. Her email is re-printed on page 2. Since Ohio State University Extension initiated the six Priority Areas, Montgomery County has not done a comprehensive review of the current project sites. OSU Extension Montgomery County Master Gardener Volunteers are being asked to help review Montgomery County project sites. The initial review to gather your input is on January 13, 2020. Please mark your calendars to attend, provide input, and help to start the new decade with a focus on OSU Extension Priority Areas.

~ Suzanne

Happy Holidays!



Fri 12/13/2019 8:28 AM



Pat Martin <noreply@ucanr.edu>

January & February Planning Meetings

To Ford, Theresa L.

Dear OSU Extension Montgomery County Master Gardener Volunteers,

ATTENDANCE IS Crucial

Two important meetings next year hosted at Montgomery County OSU Extension at 580 Calumet Lane. The Monday dates coincide with another group having an evening meeting so the building and parking will be well populated.

**Monday, January 13, at 1pm and 6pm**

**Monday, February 10, at 1pm and 6pm**

Purpose of the meetings is to define & refine OSUE projects approved for volunteer hours in 2020. You are requested to **attend a meeting in both months**. While these reviews in future years will be in the fall, we are very happy to be included in the 2020 review. While a survey will allow input from snowbirds or those not able to attend, the best outcomes will depend on rich, thoughtful dialog.

Suzanne Mills-Wasniak, OSU Educator, and our Vice President Yvonne Dunphe will lead the meetings to facilitate a collaborative review of our projects and maybe identify new projects. These meetings are an exciting opportunity, and I hope they will be well attended. Arrangements will be made for inclement weather, but the timing should allow snow plows to work if overnight snow occurs. The meeting time will count as 2020 volunteer hours, an opportunity especially if you have physical limitations. Look for more details from Suzanne.

ATTENDANCE IS CRUCIAL.

Happy Holidays and Best Regards,

Pat Martin and Sue Howorth, GMCMGA Co-Presidents

This email was sent from the Master Gardener Volunteer Management System.

## *January Events*

### **2020 OSUE MGV Project Review Meetings**

(Your attendance is crucial)

<b>Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>
<b>Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>1 p.m.</b>	<b>6 p.m.</b>

OSU Extension Montgomery County, Gymnasium, 580 Calumet Lane, Dayton, OH 45417

OSUE Montgomery County MGVs attended the last 2019 Quarterly General Membership Meeting on **November 19<sup>th</sup>** at the OSU Extension office on Calumet Lane. We were introduced to Amanda Bennett, OSU Extension Area 15 Leader and Agriculture & Natural Resources Extension Educator Miami County. Amanda provided the **education portion** of the morning meeting. She reviewed the hierarchy for the Master Gardener Volunteer Program, starting with Ohio State University at the top of the graph; stepping down to the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CFAES); followed by the State Master Gardener Program Director, Pam Bennett; then the OSUE Area 15 Leader, Amanda Bennett; and finishing with the OSUE Agriculture & Natural Resources Extension Educator Montgomery County, Suzanne Mills-Wasniak. After reviewing this information, Amanda went into some of the goals and objectives to be implemented in 2020, including opening up more programs for the general public. .... (**Education portion - 1.0 CEU**)

The **business portion** of the meeting was opened by Co-President Pat Martin. Pat reminded everyone to pay their GCMCGA dues before December 29<sup>th</sup>. A basket was circulated to collect the MGV State Support fee checks that members brought to the meeting. Pat also complimented the Program Committee for the wonderful Awards and Recognition Banquet that was held on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Treasurer Robin Mann went over the 2019 budget and the projected 2020 budget. .... (**Business portion - 0.5 CEU**)

**State Support Fee** payment by check, made payable to:  
**OSU Extension** - In the memo line write: **MGV State Support Fee**.  
*State Support Fee payment by cash **MUST** be made in person at the Montgomery County Extension Office.  
(Please ask for a receipt when making a cash payment.)*

**GCMCGA Association Fee** payments should be **received** before December 29, 2019.

<p>Mail <b>\$15.00</b> Association check to:</p> <p><b>GCMCGA</b>  P.O. Box 292421  Stroop Road Facility  Kettering, OH 45429</p>	<p>Mail <b>\$10.00</b> State Support Fee check to:</p> <p><b>OSU Extension Montgomery County</b>  580 Calumet Lane  Dayton, OH 45417  Attn: Theresa Ford</p>
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We were also reminded to:

***Enter CE and Volunteer Hours into the VMS by December 13th!!***

Enter your **November 19<sup>th</sup>** Quarterly Meeting hours into VMS

Description: **Amanda Bennett** / Project: **Continuing Education** / Hours: **CE - 1.0** (1 hour)  
Description: **Quarterly Meeting** / Project: **Administration** / Hours: **Volunteer - 0.5** (30 minutes)

# Annual Banquet Highlights

The evening of November 6, 2019, the Greater Montgomery County Master Gardener Association (GMCMGA) held the Annual OSUE Montgomery County MGV Banquet at the Presidential Banquet Center in Kettering, Ohio. Sue Howorth, Co-President, began by acknowledging and thanking the 2018 Executive Officers, the outgoing 2019 Committee Chairs, and the Program Committee for the wonderful programs that were offered this past year. A special thank you went out to Jan Davis and Judy Wanamaker for arranging the delightful evening for the Master Gardeners. The food was delicious, and attendees were entertained throughout the evening with a wonderful slideshow presentation that was created by Judy Steiger. Joan Lumpkin, Volunteer Support Co-Chair, then took the microphone to read the names of those MGVs who volunteered significant Milestone Hours for 2018 and to recognize their service. Then the annual banquet award - The Golden Watering Can Award - was presented to Jan Burke-Brown for her commitment and leadership to the Association!



Joyce Zech, Janet Hickey, Donna Zobrist, and Carol Williams (not pictured) were recognized for their service as Executive Officers ending in 2018. They were given flowers and thanked for sharing their time and talent.



Photos courtesy of Gail Carone



"Thank you" and flowers went to outgoing Committee Chairs: Judy Steiger and Pam Tilton (Program); Jane Falck (Volunteer Support); and Gail Carone (Communication) for their service ending in 2019.



The recipient of the **2019 Golden Watering Can Award** was **Jan Burke-Brown**. Jan has coordinated the Washington Township project for 8 years – she makes it happen. Jan chaired the committee to modify work schedules for the project to better provide opportunities to fit all Master Gardener's schedules and coordinated the 7-month project. She is humble, organized and respectful.

**A Hearty Congratulations to Jan!**

We also want to **Congratulate** the other nominees for the 2019 award:

**Susan Baker, Jan Davis, Jeanne Keffer, Karen Moody, Judy Wanamaker, and Joyce Zech.**

## Milestones for 2018 Hours Exceeded for the first time in 2018

### 500 Hours

Stephanie Bange  
Jan Burke-Brown  
Dianne Frimel  
Sherry Leighty  
Rose Monnin  
Karen Moody  
Joseph Oswald

### 750 Hours

Carol Bennett  
Gail Carone

### 1000 Hours

Cheryl Bickel  
Judy Steiger

### 1250 Hours

Jane Falck  
Christine Vagedes

### 1500 Hours

Jan Davis

This is a reminder to pay your membership dues **to be received before** December 29, 2019. Please remit a check for \$15.00 made payable to GMCMGA and mail to: GMCMGA, c/o Treasurer, P.O. Box 292421, Stroop Road Facility, Kettering, OH 45429.

## More News . . .

The Program Committee had the 2020 packets ready for pick up at the banquet last month. The packets included the 2020 continuing education programs offered, with program descriptions, dates and registration information, plus . . . the return of the **green pocket calendar** we all love!

Please review the programs and sign up for the classes you want.

**Registration is due no later than February 15, 2020.**

***Please note: Some of the classes can accommodate a limited number of participants, so register early to reserve your spot.***

Here is a brief summary of what to expect in 2020.

*(Full description included in your packet information)*

Date	Time	Program	Speaker	Location	Fee	CE
Wed. 3/4/20	10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Bulbs for Other Seasons: Not Just Spring Witch Hazels: Wegerzyn and Beyond	Betty Hoevel Chris Jensen	Wegerzyn		2.5
Thurs. 4/16/20	10 a.m.	Mosses, Bryophytes and Lichens: An Introduction <b>(Limit 25)</b>	Tara Poling	Mount St. John		1.5
Thurs. 5/7/20	10 a.m.	Water Gardening 101	Jerry Woodbury	OSU Extension 580 Calumet Lane		1.5
Wed. 6/10/20	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Earth Friendly Pest Management and Unknown Pollinators in your Backyard <i>(Bring a brown bag lunch - water provided)</i>	Denise Ellsworth	Wegerzyn		3.0
Thurs. 7/2/20	10 a.m.	Raised-Bed Gardening and Beekeeping <b>(Limit 35)</b>	James Hoffer	Dayton Foodbank 56 Armor Place		1.5
Mon. 7/27/20	10 a.m.	Shrubs II	Greg Christie	Wegerzyn		2.5
Wed. 9/9/20	10 a.m. – 3 p.m.	Heaven is a Garden	Jan Johnsen	Walnut Grove Country Club	\$25	3.5
Mon. 10/5/20	10 a.m.	Good Plants for the Fall Garden <b>(Limit 40)</b>	Kevin Kepler	Aullwood Garden		1.5
Thurs. 10/22/20	10 a.m.	Tool Sharpening Workshop <i>(Bring your pruners and loppers)</i> <b>(Limit 30)</b>	MGVs	OSU Extension 580 Calumet Lane		

From your Packet Information, determine the programs you wish to attend, then . . .

**retain a copy** for your records and **return a copy** of your registration with your check for the fee made payable to GMCMGA no later than **Feb. 15, 2020**, to:

**Judy Wanamaker, 2849 Meadow Park Drive, Kettering, OH 45440**, or register online to Judy Wanamaker at [jkw1712@aol.com](mailto:jkw1712@aol.com) with **Continuing Education** in the subject line. *Your cancelled check is your receipt.*

### Executive Committee Officers

*Co-Presidents:* Sue Howorth and Pat Martin

*Vice President:* Yvonne Dunphe

*Secretary:* Stephanie Bange

*Treasurer:* Robin Mann

### Members at Large

*Program Committee Co-Chairs:* Jan Davis and Judy Wanamaker

*Volunteer Support Committee Co-Chairs:* Carol Bennett and Joan Lumpkin

*Member-at-Large:* Janet Hickey

### Other

*News You Can Use:* Gail Carone

*Historian:* Chuck Dickerson

### OSU Extension Montgomery County Office

*Montgomery County Extension Educator:* Suzanne Mills-Wasniak

*Area Leader:* Amanda Bennett

*State MG Program Director:* Pam Bennett

# Highlights from the 2019 Master Gardener State Conference

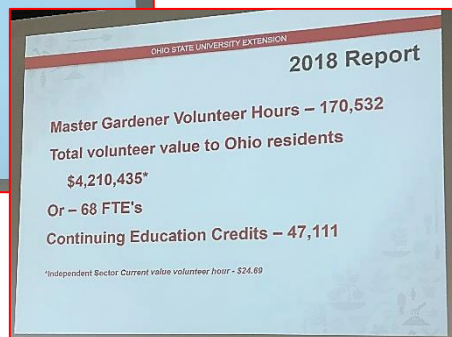
## “The Best of the Best”

The Ohio State Nationwide & Farm Bureau 4-H Center welcomed volunteer Master Gardeners from around the state the morning of November 8<sup>th</sup>. This one-day conference acknowledged the dedication and commitment of the volunteers and awarded those who went **above and beyond** in their communities. It was a chance to renew friendships that have been made and branch out to make new friends. It was an opportunity to see what other counties are providing in their communities and foster ideas to bring back to our county.

There were four breakout sessions throughout the day, and each session offered four different presentations from which to choose. The speakers were from all around the state, and each spoke on a number of different and diverse topics. Thank you to the 2019 Conference Planning Committee for a very informative and well-rounded program schedule.

During the awards portion of the conference, OSUE Montgomery County Master Gardeners were awarded a **Platinum** “Standards for Excellence Award.” This means that we completed the 6 areas for the *Gold* level of the award, and an additional 3 of the 5 areas for *Platinum*.

### Congratulations OSUE Montgomery County Master Gardeners!



Photos courtesy of Gail Carone



A group of OSUE Montgomery County Master Gardeners ventured out on an unseasonably cold November morning to attend the conference. They were: Gail Carone, Yvonne Dunphe, Linda Froehlich, Jeanne Keffer, Robin Mann, Karen Moody, and Sandra Worley.



**Save The Date** - The **2020** Master Gardener State Conference will be **September 11-12, 2020**, in Beachwood, Ohio, hosted by the Master Gardener Volunteers of Cuyahoga County.

# Potpourri

When the leaves have fallen, it is common to observe the "Woolly Bear" (*Pyrrharctia isabella*) caterpillar on the move. This caterpillar, found across the United States, Canada, and Mexico, has a variety of monikers: "Fuzzy Bear" caterpillar, "Woolly Worm" caterpillar and "Hedgehog" caterpillar. I spied, on two separate occasions, at least a dozen of these little creatures as I was raking leaves. And the Woolly Bear caterpillar has long been associated with predicting the upcoming weather season in your area.

Well, I found some interesting information about this common caterpillar that I think you will find fascinating!



Above photos courtesy of Gail Carone

The information below is an excerpt from an article found on the National Weather Service website.

Even though it is widely believed that the woolly bear caterpillar can predict the upcoming winter's severity, the truth is that this caterpillar can't predict what Old Man Winter has in store for us in the upcoming winter. The woolly bear caterpillar's coloring is based on how long caterpillar has been feeding, its age, and species. The better the growing season is the bigger it will grow. This results in narrower red-orange bands in its middle. Thus, the width of the banding is an indicator of the current or past season's growth rather than an indicator of the severity of the upcoming winter. Also, the coloring indicates the age of the woolly bear caterpillar. The caterpillars shed their skins or molt six times before reaching adult size. With each successive molt, their colors change, becoming less black and more reddish. In addition, there are approximately 260 species of tiger moths (the adult of the woolly bear caterpillar) in North America, and each species has slightly different color patterns and hair coverings. As a result, some of the color and hair variations that we see each fall are a result of these different species.

As far as the story about the woolly caterpillar's coat, this is how Mother Nature helps it survive winter. The fur is called setae and it isn't there to protect them from the cold weather. Instead it actually helps them to freeze more controllably. Here is something truly remarkable. Once settled in, the caterpillars hibernate, creating a natural organic antifreeze called glycerol. They freeze bit by bit, until everything but the interior of their cells are frozen. These interior cells are protected by the hemolymph. Woolly bears can - and do - survive to temperatures as low as -90°F. This ability to adapt to cold shows up particularly in the Arctic, where the woolly worms live in a strange state of slow motion. Most caterpillars live for two to four weeks before becoming moths. The Arctic woolly worms, however, spend at least 14 years in the process! The woolly bear caterpillar has even been known to survive an entire winter completely frozen in an ice cube.

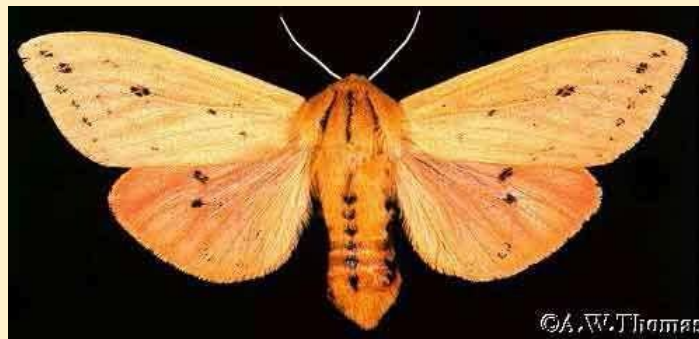


Image of **Isabella Tiger Moth** (*Pyrrharctia isabella*) courtesy of Anthony W. Thomas.

Even though there is great interest in its caterpillar stage, very few people know what it grows up to be. Each fuzzy, 1½ inch caterpillar becomes an [Isabella Tiger Moth](#). After wintering in its chosen spot, the caterpillar awakens on a warm spring day and continues to feed. Soon it forms a cocoon and pupates. In about two weeks, an orange-yellow moth with 1½ to 2-inch wingspan emerges. The wings lack distinctive markings but the abdomen is spotted with three longitudinal rows of small black dots. These moths are active at night throughout summer.

<https://www.weather.gov/arx/woollybear>

**Montgomery Co. Master Gardener Volunteer Program**

# December 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
No Committee or Board Meetings this Month						
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
						 <p>First Day of Winter</p>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
		 <p>OSU Ext. office CLOSED</p>				
29	30	31				
						



**Submit information before the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month for the upcoming issue  
of "News You Can Use" to Gail Carone: [getcarone@hotmail.com](mailto:getcarone@hotmail.com)**

**montgomery.osu.edu**

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