



# A Garden Of Friends Is Always In Bloom

*Defiance County Master Gardeners*



Volume 13, Issue 1

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## Planning Ahead

**MG Meeting**  
Feb 16th @ 6:30pm  
Extension Office

**MG Meeting**  
March 15th @ 6:30pm  
Extension Office

**State Dues**  
Feb 17th  
Extension Office

## New Meeting Time 6:30pm

At the January Meeting a motion was made and passed to change the MG Meetings from 7:00pm to 6:30pm. This change will take effect for the February 16th meeting at the Extension Office.

## January Meeting Minutes

The meeting was opened by President Jamie Walters to 15 members and one guest present.

The last secretaries report was accepted as sent. Linda Maag gave the financial report and it appears we are doing well. Linda made a request to "retain" present year and 3 prior year and shred the remaining financial records that are no longer required. Norm Tadsen made the motion to grant the request and 2nd by Tammy Bowers, all present responded with an "aye" vote.

Historian, Mary Kasuga, has saved two articles for the history scrap book.

Bruce Clevenger communicated that this years' Master Gardener class has been canceled due to lack of interest. Boo Hoo.

State fees are due by February 17th, a sign up sheet was sent around.

COMMITTEES: Norm Tadsen reported no action, is too early to get garden ready.

There were no reports from Hicksville or Sherwood areas.

Education Day: will not be held this year as most will be attending the P. Allen Smith Seminar in Van Wert on April 16th.

Plant sale: Jane Clark was not present to talk about the Plant Sale that always takes place the 1st Saturday after Mothers' Day.

Jamie passed around the City Park sign up sheet for those who want to volunteer to care for a city park.

Other business: Tammy Bowers and Gwen Anderson attended a Plant Preservation Seminar in Hilliard, Ohio and heard Stephanie Cohen "the plant Diva" speak. Linda Hoffman shared an APP for cell phones. Like that garden app.com Thank you all for sharing.

New: Tammy and Gwen are reviewing the "Handbook"

New Meeting Time: A motion was made by Linda Maag to change meeting time to "6:30". Dwyn Lichty 2nded, more "ayes" than "nays", "ayes" made approval. So the February meeting will start new start time of 6:30 pm.

We sent around a card for Orville Clark who is recuperating from knee replacement surgery.

Dwyn Lichty made a motion to adjourn with Norm Tadsen 2nd, all agreed.

Refreshments were graciously supplied by Pres. Jamie and his lovely wife Dee, having a Valentine theme of tasty brownies and some punch displayed quite nicely. Thank you both. Happy Birthday to all January and February folks.

Respectfully, Rose Tadsen, Sec'y



- 1/6 Barb Coolman
- 1/25 Gwen Anderson
- 1/29 Judy Hasch
- 2/1 Virginia Mackling
- 2/1 Gerald Short
- 2/12 Mike Nix
- 2/18 Norma English
- 2/27 Gwen Haller



Make sure you go to <https://ohio.volunteersystem.org/UniversalLogin.cfm> to complete your Master Gardener Volunteer Agreement And Release with OSU. The State dues are also due by Feb 17th. If you have any questions / problems, please contact Deb at the Extension Office 419.782.4771 There are 3 agreements:

- Annual Volunteer Agreement & Recertification
- OSUE Standard of Behavior/MGV Name Usage
- Pesticide Management Policy

State  
\$10  
Dues

### Seed Starting

Team up with another MG for starting seeds, since a packet often yields much more than you will need. Don't start your seeds too early, especially tomatoes! Most annual flowers and vegetables should be sown indoors about 6 weeks before the last frost in your area. You may have to soak, scratch, or chill seeds before planting, as directed on packet. Use clean containers. Most seed catalogs offer seedling flats, peat pots, and other growing containers, but egg carton compartments make good containers, too. Be sure to poke holes in the sides near the bottom of the containers you use.

**Label your containers now!** There's nothing more frustrating than forgetting what you planted.

### How to Start Seeds

Fill clean containers with seedling mix. Use soilless peat moss and mix in equal parts vermiculite and perlite to hold enough water and allow oxygen to flow. Don't use potting soil. Pour soilless mix into a large bucket and moisten with warm water. Fill your containers to just below the rim. Plant your seeds according to your seed packet. Most seeds can simply be gently pressed into the mixture; you can use the eraser end of a pencil to push in seeds. When planting seeds, plant the largest seeds in the package to get the best germination rate. Cover containers with plastic. Prick holes with a toothpick for ventilation. Water as directed. Water newly started seedlings carefully. A pitcher may let the water out too forcefully. A mist sprayer is gentle but can take a long time. Try using a meat-basting syringe, which will dispense the water effectively without causing too much soil disruption. Find a place in the kitchen where there is natural bottom heat—on top of the refrigerator or near the oven. Seeds sprout best at temperatures of 65 to 75°F (18 to 24°C). When seedlings appear, remove the plastic and move containers into bright light. When the seedlings get their second pair of leaves, prepare individual pots filled with a potting mix with plenty of compost. Move the seedlings carefully to the new pots and water well. Keep pots out of direct sun for a few days.



*The garden is a love song, a duet between a human being and Mother Nature. ~Jeff Cox*



February 25th - 28th

Thursday & Friday 11a-9p, Saturday 10a-9p, Sunday 11a-5p

Visit <http://home-gardenshow.com> to get \$2 off coupon!

**Next Meeting - February 16th, 6:30p.m., Defiance Extension Office**

**Speaker: Bruce Clevenger - Tree Pruning**