

Chesapeake Garden Club Newsletter



**Dates to
Remember**

October 2009

**5th - 10:00 Greens Show
Committee meeting at
Denise's house**

**9th - 8:00a.m. District II meeting
at All Saints Church.**

**10th - Bulb Bazaar - Cylburn
Arboretum**

**11th - Daffodil expert Leslie
Leijenhorst Lecture**

**14th - District I Flower Show
Preston, MD**

**17th - Flower Show L'Enfant
Plaza Hotel WAFA**

**20th - 10:00 a.m.
CGC Monthly Meeting.
All Saints Church, Sunderland**

**23rd - Flower arrangements for
the Jessup inmates**

**26th - Garden Therapy at
North Beach Senior Center.
See Kay for time.**

**30th-31st - CAR Conference
Tarrytown, NY**

October 2009

Gardening for All Seasons

<http://www.chesapeakegardenclub.org>

Plantings from the President

Where did September go!!! October is one of the prettiest months of the year as the leaves start to change and also a month when we start thinking about the beautiful bulbs that will be blooming next spring and where we want to plant new ones in our gardens. Our program for our October meeting is *Bulbs for 9 Months of Magic in the Landscape* presented by Pauline Vollmer from the Landscape Design Council. I'm looking forward to hearing about some suggestions for my garden. Remember that the program will start at 10:00 A.M. so please be prompt. The doors of the church hall will be open by 9:30 so try to get there early so you'll have time to chat with friends, sign up for trips, and get your designs set up.

This month is our annual fall plant exchange. I'll make sure that we have time set aside for this fun activity. It might be good to bring a tag with a description of your plants. If you're like me, I never remember the name of things!!!

I hope we have some volunteers to help with the fall clean up of the Appreciation Garden after the meeting it shouldn't take long. We need to get it ready for the winter.

For those of you who have not received my emails I want to thank you for all the input that we received at the last meeting. Sybil and I will be taking your suggestions as we make plans for the 2010-11 yearbook.

The Holly Hill Maryland Environmental Trust event was a great success the weather was perfect and the floral arrangements were a hit. Brook and Virginia Clagett and the MET committee were so appreciative of all of our work. They wanted to know if we would consider doing flowers for weddings!! I want to thank Dorrie, Marybeth, Sybil, Carol and Patti for all their hard work. We had lots of fun as we put together at least 25 arrangements for the tables and the house. The MET is such a worthwhile cause and I feel it was the least we could do for the environment.

Last reminder, upcoming events and all the details are posted on the website so if you're wondering what is happening don't forget to use it as a resource.

May your weeds be wildflowers,

JoEllen

October/November

Birthdays

Jane Losey -- October 22

Peggy Zachousky-- October 31

Patti AtLee -- November 16

Melinda Smith --November 16

JoEllen Youngblud- November 17

Grace Gay -- November 18

October Meeting

Host: Wanda Kuhn &
Marybeth Krovisky

Business: Plans for Greens Show and
Hospice Tree.

Program: Bulbs for 9 months of
Magic in Landscape presented by
Pauline Vollmer. Landscape Design
Council 410-377-7165.

Design: "Touchdown", a spatial
thrust design is a creative design in
which two parallel placements (lines)
of like materials are used to define a
volume of space, creating a feeling
of thrust. Space is equidistant from
start to finish between the parallel
lines. The lines never meet or
radiate from the same line, but one
line may be longer for interest and
balance. Design is restricted to two
emerging units. HB pg. 208-209



Horticulture: Plant Exchange and
Fall Clean Up of the Appreciation
Garden.



Glug, Glug, We're Sinking

By Bernie Halloran

When I was a kid, I was thoroughly convinced I wanted to be a submariner. Chalk it up to "Victory at Sea," "The Silent Service," Disney's "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea," "Sea Hunt," "Run Silent, Run Deep," "Torpedo Run," and "The Enemy Below."

And what has this to do with conservation? Well, 50 years later and we're going under; that's what.

Thanks to Mother Nature and Global Warming, the waters are arising and we're a-sinking at the same time. It works like this: once upon a time -- the last ice age -- the great glaciers tipped up the Earth's surface that we decided to call home. And as we all know, what goes up must come down. But at least we're not alone. The entire Mid-Atlantic region -- not just the Jefferson Memorial -- are slowly sinking.

Meanwhile, thanks to global warming, the polar caps are melting at a faster rate than first predicted, rising the levels of the world's oceans and our favorite estuary as well.

The nasty brown water in the Chesapeake Bay is now rising at an annual rate of 1/8 of an inch a year. In the District of Columbia, the water level is rising at 0.12 inches a year, or twice the global average of 0.066 inches.

And what's to be done about it? Building bulkheads is not the answer although about a quarter of Maryland's shoreline has been "protected" with man-made seawalls or jetties as of last count. And in the long run, that's just money wasted because those jetties, seawalls and rock piles will be undermined. The shore keeps moving out.

I remember reading about the residents of Fire Island trying to save it from erosion many years ago. Many big bucks were spent. Now the National Park Service says,

“Continuing past practices that have been shown to be in conflict with scientific understanding of best management practices is imprudent and short sighted.”

I could translate, but you get it.

Each year Virginia Beach dumps millions of tons of sand along its beach only to watch it wash away. In 2006, Ocean City spent a total of \$7 million federal, state and local dollars on 100,000 dump trucks worth of sand and will need more next year.

Bottom-line. The only reasonable thing to do is plant sand-loving plants, which are not particularly compatible with beach umbrellas or beach blankets, but they work.

Maryland changed its laws last year so that \$1.5 million in no-interest loans could be made available for living shorelines instead of bulkheads. Highland Beach got a small \$22,000 grant to install a “living shoreline.” If you have shoreline, think native grasses.

A Little Boid Told Me



Best Seeds for Fall and Winter

By Bernie Halloran

Go into Wally-World, head for the pet/garden department, and you’ll see many, many big bags of so-called wild bird seed at really good prices. Or are they?

Consumer Reports has never done a bird seed comparison test, but that’s forgivable. Consumer Reports tends to focus more on human rather than avian consumer needs. So the question remains: What Birdseed to Buy? Inquiring minds want to know.

David Horn might just have the answer. The National Wildlife Federation claims Horn is an expert on the nutritional needs of wild birds. When asked the big question, Horns says, “Wild bird feeding is one of our most understudied wildlife management issues.”

To combat this egregious ignorance, Horn recently established the National Bird-Feeding Society (www.birdfeeding.org) and published the results of three-year study he conducted with the help of thousands of volunteers.

And the bird seed winners are:

Black Oil Sunflower Seeds
White Proso Millet
Nyjer (Thistle) Seeds
And Sunflower Chips

To stay healthy, birds have to consume a mix of fats, proteins, carbohydrates and various vitamins and minerals just like us but unlike us, bird metabolism can require up to 10,000 calories a day or the equivalent of us consuming 155,000 calories a day.

The bird's little body burns especially hot during flight, breeding season and on the coldest of days, which means these guys must make highly efficient food choices. And like us, they eat fast.

Some folks wonder if stocking bird feeders might make birds dependent on human intervention. Or stop them from migrating. Not to worry. Visiting birds will not become dependent on your feeder, even during the winter. Evolution has taken care of that. Birds will continue to sample a wide variety of foods throughout their environment because deep in their little bird brains they know if one kind of chow runs out, they can find something else.

In a classic study at the University of Wisconsin years ago, it was discovered that chickadees with unlimited access to feeder food still got 79 percent of their energy needs from the wild.

So, stock up. Evidence shows that backyard feeding improves birds' growth rates, survival rates, breeding success and clutch sizes. Store seeds in a dry clean place. Toss anything that looks moldy. Put out fresh, high quality seeds. Keep the feeders clean and plant some natives that will bear berries, fat seeds and other good things for the little guys to eat.

Treasurer's Report \$3,794.73



**Can Anyone Tell Me What This Is? Bring Your Answer To
Our Next Meeting and Win a Prize.**

Club Awards

Our Newsletter was submitted to the Federated Garden Clubs for consideration of an award. If you are planning to apply for an award, the applications are due to the Federation by November 1st and will be judged over the winter. Winners will be notified at the spring 2010 Federation Meeting. Some winning entries are sent on to be judged by the National association and those winners are announced in the Fall of 2010.

