



Chesapeake Garden Club Newsletter

Gardening For All Seasons

January 2007

<http://www.chesapeakegardenclub.org>

Design from Flower Show School

Plantings from the President

Happy New Year to All

As a new year begins it seems only natural to take time to reflect on where we are and what we hope for the coming year.

In this fast-paced world, our personal traditions ground and inspire us. Traditions are meant to be observed and nurtured but they should also be allowed to evolve. I wish each of you a new year full of health and joy, one in which all of your favorite traditions are carried on.

As we usher in the New Year, we all have our resolutions. Emerging from the indulgent holidays, many of us will vow to eat less and exercise more. Others hope to spend more time with family and friends. We have a fun filled year ahead of us and some hard work along with it, so let's continue with enthusiasm and spirit.

Our Christmas Celebration

Wow was that not a special Christmas party at Jo Ellen's warm and inviting home? Thank you for having the party, we all know how much work it took getting the house so beautifully decorated. Thanks also go out to all of you for the delicious food served. Please send those recipes to me so we can share them with all the members. I'll be happy to give a copy to everyone.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow members for the most appreciated gift that was such an unexpected surprise. I'll be thinking of you all each time I use the pedestal

plate. My Christmas cookies will have a place of honor this year.

Thank you Dorrie, for the blessing of food and members at our celebration, it was such a beautiful prayer. We should all reflect on why we celebrate the Christmas holiday and give thanks.

Wishing everyone health, happiness and prosperity in the New Year.

Fondly,

Peggy

January's Meeting

Executive Board Meeting at Kitty Walker's Home in Dunkirk

January 16, 2007 at 10:00

February's Meeting

Meeting	February 20, 2007
Time	10:00 AM
Place	All Saints Church Sunderland, MD
Hostess	Dorrie McDonald
Program	A Presentation by the Thousand Friends of Maryland
Business	Committee Reports
Design	"In the Eye of the Beholder" A small reflective design no more than 8" in height, width and depth. Using fresh and/or dried material. Reflective Design see HB p. 141
Horticulture	Any houseplant grown in a container no wider than 10" 1. Foliage 2. Flowering



January and February Birthdays

MaryAlys Sweetman	January 1
Mary Jo Blaine	January 13
Lisa Garrett	February 2
Mary Porter	February 6
Sybil Russell	February 7
Nancy Cooke	February 17

Trivia Corner

by Kitty Walker

We didn't invent doing too much. So often, we think we are all alone in our rushing and busyness.



The sign in the grocery store that says "39 cents per lb." may cause you to wonder, if you're a curious soul, how "lb." ever came to stand for pound. Well, "lb." is actually an abbreviation of the Latin word "libra" and "libra" means pound.

Spanish silver dollars, the popular currency of the early West, were cut up into eight parts by the Indians. Each part was known as a "bit." Thus, when an Indian sold a beaver pelt, he charged one-quarter of the Spanish silver dollars, or two bits.

Dates to Remember

January

16	Executive Board Meeting
27	Miniature & Small Design Workshop

February

9	District II Meeting Crofton Library
14	Garden Club of Annapolis Fund Raiser
17	Behnke Workshops
	Call for reservations 301 937 1100
	Orchids in the Home 10:00
	Orchid Repotting 1:00
20	Chesapeake Garden Club Meeting

March

4-11	Philadelphia Flower Show
8-11	Washington Home & Garden Show
27	State Annual Meeting
29	Art Blooms at the Walters

Question of the Month?

Did you know that wood ashes are a good source of potash? Save your fireplace ashes for early spring application. From Garden Tips from Piney Thicket a wonderful little garden book that June Petty shared with me. I'll be including tips from this book as the months go by.

Up and Coming Events

Miniature & Small Design Workshop

January 27, 2007 see link to sign up sheet on our website.

Hospice Festival of Trees

Mary Alys Sweetman and Bev Steadman

The theme of our Hospice tree this year was "Memories of Calvert" decorated in crystal, silver, and white. We had lots of help decorating the tree this year. Our helpers included Grace, her daughter and grandchildren, Bev, Sybil, Peggy, and Kitty. We worked on it Friday morning and when it was done, it looked beautiful. Bev and I walked around to see all the other trees and I think ours was one of the best.

editor's note (sorry this is so late)

How Does Your Garden Grow

- If you're interested in going to workshops this winter, Behnke's will be offering a wide variety. I'll post a link to them on our website.
- If any of you go to the orchid workshops please take copious notes for me.
- A little humor from Sybil: You don't need to cut back a plum tree – just leave it alone and eventually it will "Prune itself"
- Let's start a list of Things we love about gardening. I'll start an email and then you have to send it to another club member after you have added something to the list. Let's see how many things we get.

Note from the Editor

I can't believe Paul and I will be leaving for Florida in 2 weeks so I won't be seeing you until our April meeting. If you're in the area of Mt. Dora, please stop by and see us. My cell phone number is in the yearbook.

A Little Bird Told Me

What's In Your Garage or Garden Shed? And Tell Us Again About Pesticides and How Many Birds Perish Each Year? PART 2

By Bernie Halloran

So far, about 40 active ingredients in pesticides have been found to be lethal to birds, even when used according to the instructions on the label. Only about a quarter of these ingredients have been banned in the United States, and most are still used elsewhere. The active ingredients that have proven to be deadliest to birds include Diazinon, phorate, carbofuran, monocrotophos, isofenphos, chlorpyrifos, aldicarb, azinphos-methyl, and parathion.

Of course, repeated exposure to some pesticides can also lead to sub-lethal effects such as decreased breeding success. These effects are hard to measure but produce dramatic specie declines over time. Such was the case with DDT, which nearly wiped out several bird species in the U.S., including the Peregrine Falcon and Brown Pelican, by thinning the shells of their eggs to the point where they broke before hatching. But the story goes far beyond DDT.

Approximately 40 pesticides still used in the U.S. are documented to have caused bird die-offs. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has recorded more than 1,700 incidents of bird kills -- many including hundreds of individual birds -- attributable to pesticide use. In many cases, the pesticides concerned were used completely legally. These incidents likely represent just the tip of a huge iceberg. Studies have shown that predators remove most dead birds within a short period, and because of their small size, many pesticide-killed birds are likely never found.

In response to continuing pesticide-related bird kills throughout the Americas and a general lack of information and action on the issue, the American Bird Conservancy established the Pesticides & Birds Campaign in 1998. The Audubon Society, **EXTOXNET (Extension Toxicology Network)** is a Pesticide Information Project of the Cooperative Extension Offices of Cornell University, Michigan State University, Oregon State University, and University of California at Davis; the **National Pesticide Information Center**, a cooperative effort of Oregon State University and the U.S. EPA; the **Pesticide Action Network; Beyond Pesticides/National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides**; and **NCAP (Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides)** are all onboard and can be Googled for more information

What Can You Do? You can pay a little more and buy organically grown food. You can avoid using pesticides in and around your house. You can prevent mosquitoes from breeding in and around your home by removing

standing water. You can report bird deaths or poisoning incidents to the Department of Natural Resources. You can also check out the information available from the National Pesticide Reform Coalition, another a consortium of groups concerned with pesticide effects on birds, wildlife, the environment, and humans too.

