



Chesapeake Garden Club Newsletter

Gardening For All Seasons

November, 2007

<http://www.chesapeakegardenclub.org>

Virginia and Grace at our October meeting



Dates to Remember

NOVEMBER

- 10th Moonflower Garden Club Design Show
- 12th Blue Star Dedication Davidsonville
- 13th **CGC Club meeting**
Field trip to DC Botanical gardens
- 23rd Hospice Tree Decorating
- 27th Workshop for Greens show- 10:00 AM
at Melinda's home
- 30th All Hands to Set up for Green show
- 26-28th NGC Conference Wilmington
Delaware

DECEMBER

- 1st Annual Greens Show Fund Raiser
- 11th **CGC Christmas Party**
- 21st Winter Solstice
- 25th Christmas Day

JANUARYS

- 1st New Year's Day
- 15th Executive Board Meeting



November Birthdays

- Patti At Lee 16th
- Melinda Smith 16th
- Jo Ellen Youngblud 17th
- Grace Gay 18th

Penny Pines

Don't forget to come to our meetings with some spare change or a couple of dollar bills for the Penny Pines jar.



November Meeting

CGC travels to the US Botanic Garden on November 13th.
 Botanical Gardens Hours 10:00 – 5:00
 245 1st St SW
 Washington, DC 20024
 (202) 225-8333
 Contact person:
 Laura Anthony
Lanthony@aoc.gov

Form carpools at All Saints Church at 8:45 Metro Station - Largo Town Center **Blue Line Parking \$3.50 all Day**

The easiest way to reach the gardens is by taking the Blue line to the Federal Center SW station. Upon exiting the station, walk north (left) along Third Street for two blocks, cross Independence Avenue and continue one more block to Maryland Avenue. Look toward the Capitol and you will see the glass dome of the Conservatory. Enter on Maryland Avenue.

When we arrive at the Federal Center Station, we will stop and buy lunch at the local deli. We have a tour set up and it begins at 11:30 at the conservatory entrance.

For more information about the US Botanic Garden, visit their web site.

<http://www.usbg.gov>

National Garden

On October 17, 2001, ground was broken for construction to begin on the National Garden. Five years later, the National Garden opened to the public on October 1, 2006. It provides "living laboratories" for environmental, horticultural, and botanical education in a contemplative setting. The major features of the National Garden are the Rose Garden, **the Butterfly Garden**, the Lawn Terrace, the First Ladies' Water Garden, the Regional Garden, and an outdoor amphitheater. The Rose Garden is designed as an outdoor garden room featuring many varieties of the rose, our national flower. The First Ladies' Water Garden, a simple but elegant square with a frame of surrounding paving, is designed to create a memorable image of the central role that water plays in the well-being of plants, animals, and humankind. The Water Garden honors the First Ladies of the United States by recognizing their notable service to our country. The Regional Garden presents outstanding plants native to the mid-Atlantic region in naturalistic settings arranged along a moisture gradient.

Plantings from the President

Submitted by Mary Alys

Hi Everyone,

The Greens Show is fast approaching and it is now "Crunch time", everyone is needed to help, we are paying \$250.00 for use of the hall, so all members should buy one ticket and then try to sell as many as possible. Please call all friends neighbors and relatives

We need 12 or so members to bake three to four dozen cookies each and 12 other members to buy apple cider and cranberry juice for punch. Please call me @ 410-474-5304 or email me at memaw4014@aol.com and let me know what you can do to help. The

more we as members donate the more profit we make.

November 23rd ~ will be the day we decorate the hospice Tree at the Huntingtown High School. If you can help please call Grace Sturdevant 410 535 0896 or Kay Parris 301 257 0137.

November 27th ~ The Greens Show Workshop at 10:00 at Melinda Smith's home 2453 5th Street Owings, MD. We need all the help we can get to make the table centerpieces for the show! We'll have an assembly line to make things go faster. Many hands make light work.

Things to bring:

- ✓ Lots of fresh cut greens from your yard
- ✓ A *bag lunch and drink* (we'll be working through lunch).
- ✓ scissors, garden clippers, a hot glue gun if you have one.
- ✓ And a sense of humor so we can make it a fun day.

November 30th ~ All Hands On Deck to help with the set up of the Hall etc.

December 1 ~ The Greens Show – Last minute preparations begin at 9:00 AM at the church hall. The show begins at 12:30. People will probably begin showing up around 12:00.

After the Greens Show is over we can all take a deep breath and relax for a little while. Our Christmas party will be at Marybeth's home on December 11th, at 11am, everyone should bring a covered dish or desert, and up to a \$10 ornament to exchange.

Let's all pitch in and have fun!.

Thanks,
Mary Alys



Gardening Tips

This is a great time of year to plant your bulbs for Spring

One simple way to deter garden pest is using mothballs. If you have pets bury the mothball with your bulbs. If you don't then you can

sprinkle them on top of the ground where you planted them.
Don't forget to water your bulbs even when they are dormant as they still need water to regenerate for their next blooming time.



Conservation Corner

Submitted by Bernie Halloran

Reality Check: Think Globally, Act Locally

- Deaths from storms and floods across China during the summer of '07 reached nearly 700 with floods affecting 119 million people. The official Chinese news agency had this to say: "The frequency and intensity of extreme weather events are increasing. Records for worst in a century rainstorms, droughts, and heat waves are being broken more often. This, in fact, is closely associated with global warming."

- Wildfires, unchecked by rains, burn-out tens of thousands of acres in California, while the southeast suffers the worst drought in 30 years.

- Power companies have tentative plans to build 28 new nuclear reactors at 19 sites around the country. Wall Street will not provide the billions needed to build these reactors unless the federal government provides loan guarantees. Meanwhile, the consumer advocacy group, Public Citizens, warns: "None of these so-called 'advanced' nuclear reactors deals with the fundamental flaws of nuclear power such as dangerous radioactive waste, vulnerabilities to air attack, and excessive cost."

- You read that correctly, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission has ruled that new nuclear plants don't have to be air-plane-proof. After all, who would ever think of using a loaded airliner to crash into a nuclear power plant?

What about our Bay? You may have missed the news, but earlier this month the Anne Arundel county engineer's office has laid out the cost of removing existing water pollution in the county next door. The cost is 5 *billion* dollars.

That estimate includes all the costs to fix polluted streams, install pollution control technology in new homes and retrofit older neighborhoods with proper storm water systems. Taking care of streams and rivers alone will cost \$1.3 billion, or more.

Storm water runoff is the major culprit. Runoff from rains – when we have them – carries sediment, phosphorus and nitrogen into the waterways, smothering oysters, ushering in toxic algae blooms and choking fish.

The county council has seriously considering an excise tax expected to raise \$5 million a year. At that rate, discounting inflation, it would only take 1,000 years to pay for correcting the mess that has been allowed to develop.

The polls next door have suggested a tax on new development, but that doesn't solve old problems. Another next door neighborhood poll has suggested tax breaks for developers and individuals who *voluntarily* invest in better storm water management practices. Oh sure.

The problem is impervious surfaces, like roads, parking lots and roofs, which prevent rainwater from soaking into the ground. A parking lot, for instance, causes 40 times more pollution to run into the Bay than a yard of the same size.

Anne Arundel already spends \$11 million a year on storm water projects. But it's clearly not enough. To truly get a grip on its storm water problem, Anne Arundel would have to charge every man, woman and child in the county about \$10,000.00 each.

How is Calvert County handling its storm water? And what are you doing to mitigate your home and driveway runoff? More to follow.



November Simplicities

Let's remember this is the month that we give Thanks.

~ Collect some fall leaves and press them between wax paper and then iron with a low heat setting. Cut them close to the edges and make pretty book marks or glue them to card stock (found at an office supply store) and make your own Note cards.

Garden Therapy

submitted by Melinda Smith

Our Pumpkin centerpieces that we made with the North Beach Seniors went very well as always it was standing room only. We had 23

join us, plus a couple of our members made them as well. They turned out beautiful!

A Little Bird Told Me..



West Nile Virus By Bernie Halloran

West Nile virus has emerged in recent years in temperate regions of Europe and North America, presenting a threat to public and animal health. In worst case scenarios, the infection is fatal encephalitis -- inflammation of the brain -- in humans and horses, as well as death in certain domestic and wild birds, likes crows and jays.

West Nile was a significant cause of human illness in the United States in 2002 and 2003, but not so very much lately. Could we be doing something right?

The West Nile virus is spread by infected mosquitoes, which can cause serious or fatal infections. The days may be getting cooler now, but until a solid freeze, mosquitoes are still biting. Don't let your guard down. Keep insect repellent handy, wear long sleeves, long pants, and get rid of mosquito breeding sites in your yard.

As of October 30, 2007, there were only 10 cases reported to the Center for Disease Control of humans being infected by West Nile in Maryland. And the CDC reported no avian cases in Maryland, although birds have been found infected by West Nile in Washington, D.C. and West Virginia.

West Nile virus was first isolated – not surprisingly – in the West Nile district of Uganda in 1937. The virus became recognized as a cause of severe human meningitis, or encephalitis, in elderly patients during an outbreak in Israel in 1957. The disease was then found in horses in both Egypt and France in the early 1960s.

West Nile first appeared in the United States in 1999, when encephalitis was reported in humans and horses. Since then, the virus has spread throughout the country. Maryland has had

few reported cases recently, but there were 360 human cases reported this year in California, 207 in South Dakota, 544 in Colorado, and 132 in Texas in what appears to be a very random pattern.

West Nile virus has been detected in dead birds of at least 317 species but most frequently in crows and jays. Wild birds infected with West Nile can die or become ill; although most infected birds do survive.

There is no evidence that a person can get West Nile virus from handling live or dead infected birds, but people should avoid bare-handed contact when handling any dead animals, and use gloves or double plastic bags to place the bird carcass in a garbage bag or contact their local health department for guidance.

And therein, ladies, lies the rub. If our birds are dying off and nobody brings the carcasses to the health department for analysis, who's to know?



Celebration

We are celebrating with:

a Standard Flower Show on June 5-6 , which will include the judging of, entered horticulture, designs, and a display of our Club's history and membership. The show will be open to the public.

On the morning of June 6th we will be having a brunch and program for members and guests at a local restaurant.

If you have any questions about this event, Marybeth Krovisky can answer them for you.



Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Sybil Russell

Balance on Hand \$7217.74

\$3000.00 CD was cashed in and added to our account to make up the current balance in order to have enough cash on hand for up and coming club events.

Happy Gardening & Birding!!

Get Well Peggy. We're all praying for you. ☺