



Garden Club Newsletter

Gardening For All Seasons

September, 2008

<http://www.chesapeakegardenclub.org>



Dates to Remember

September 2008

16th CGC meeting @ All Saints Church
22nd Autumnal Equinox

October 2008

1st Audubon's meeting @ Leonardtown library. Topic:
"Off shore wind power in MD" 7:30 pm
13th Columbus Day
21st CGC meeting @ All Saints church 10:am



Sept Birthdays

6th Bev Steadman
26th Bernie Halloran
24th Virginia O'Neil

Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Sybil Russell

Balance on Hand as of Aug 19th: 5,088.79
Fall federated fund raiser is a raffle for 3 nights to Kings Creek Plantation. Please be prepared to purchase or sell 5.00\$ tickets at the Sept meeting.

September Meeting:

Location: All Saints Church

Hosts :

Program: JoEllen's publisher presentation

Horticulture: Cut specimen non flowering, decorative foliage. Ex. Coleus, Caladium, Hosta

Plantings from the President

Well Members,

It is back to Garden Club time! We have some fun and busy things planned for everyone. Lisa is sponsoring a Boat Trip out of Chesapeake Beach to benefit the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. You will see the Sharps Island and Bloody Point Lighthouses and I am sure some interesting wildlife. The dates are Sept 17th and 21st. cost is \$35. Call Lisa if you are interested at 301-805-4858.

Anyone with children or grandchildren there are two contest sponsored by Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland:

Poetry Contest - Grades K - 9 "Natures Song"

Essay Contest - Grades 9 - 12 "Nurture the Earth - Foster the Environment"

Must be submitted by November 1, 2008

Reservations have been made for a space at the Festival of Trees; we have a 10 x 10 foot space so we will have room for many wonderful items to sell.

Last June, during our Flower Show I noticed that the main showcase in the library was empty - so I thought this would be a very good project for us to put in some Educational exhibits in there. I found out they do blocks of two months so I did make arrangements to do July & August 2009. (June was not available)

So you can see once again we have a busy schedule and we will need everyone to help out. See you all on Sept. 16th

Thanks,
Mary Alys

Conservation Corner



We Can Effect Climate Change

By Bernie Halloran

When the Boxer-Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act came forward in late May, another half-dozen law-makers supported a 'cloture' vote to push the measure on to the amendment process. Was this widely reported? Is this inside baseball? Should you care?

In all 54 Senators stood up for the need to debate solutions to global warming, far surpassing the 38 votes in 2005 and 43 votes in 2003. Supporters included 10 senators who had opposed cap-and-trade legislation in prior votes, which may mean our votes, letters and emails did make a difference. But voters are easily outspent and out-manuevered and need to pay closer attention.

For instance, cable news didn't report Larry Schweigler, President of the National Wildlife Foundation, saying "Conflicted by their ties to affected industries and facing a surge of public pressure for action, nine senators failed to show up for perhaps the most important vote in their legislative careers. Leadership is about courage, integrity and dusty. Those senators failed the test." But they apparently "those senators" were more interested in passing the American Petroleum Institute's test.

The oil and gas industry has long been considered a powerhouse in Washington, thanks to its big spending inside the Beltway and quietly extensive ties to influential lawmakers from the oil patch. The industry is the third-largest campaign contributor among major industry groups and the fourth-largest buyer of lobbying services. So it's not surprising that this year the API is blitzing America with a public relations campaign acknowledged to be "less than \$100 million," or about the size of the "Got Milk" campaign. Big oil wants more big tax breaks. Big oil has big bucks.

While talking about high gasoline prices, the senators who voted against continued debate on the Climate Security Act actually voted against

investing in a cleaner energy future. They succeeded in attempting to thwart important initiatives that could energize our struggling economy with new, clean sources of domestic energy. Seen another way, these senators voted against safeguarding our families from the tyranny of big oil and Middle East dictators, and they voted against protecting and restoring America's natural resources. So, maybe they're not up for re-election this year.

Dr. James E. Hansen, head of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Flight Studies blew the whistle on global warming over 20 years ago, recently had this to say about the long history of legislative and administrative inaction: "There is little merit in casting blame for inaction, unless it helps point toward a solution. It seems to me that special interests have been a roadblock, wielding undue influence over policy makers." What an understatement. Casting blame is one thing, but casting votes against those who have ignored the public good is quite another.

Despite this disappointing vote, things should change next year when we have a new Congress and White House. Because, thanks to the web vote tracking, we now know which senators are paying attention to science and listening to the public, and which ones are listening instead to their big buck benefactors. You can find out how your senators voted by visiting www.nwf.org/climateaction.

Did You Know...

Woolly bear Caterpillars cross the roads seeking shelter. In the spring they will turn into tiger moths.

Migrating butterflies rely on goldenrods and asters as a source of nectar.

One gardener's trash is another gardener's treasure!

Things you would like to share or swap.

Please email your items by the 3rd of every month for publishing in the newsletter.

Chesapeake Bay Lighthouse & Wildlife Half day tours Sponsored by:

Wednesday, September 17th & Sunday, September 21st 11-2:30
(arrive at 10:30)

**** Additional special weekend trip - Sunday, September 14th**

Come aboard the *Mary Lou Too* out of beautiful Chesapeake Beach, MD for a relaxing ½ day trip to see up close, lighthouses, possibly of few osprey fishing in the Chesapeake Bay plus other unique views of wildlife on and around the lighthouses and islands.

Cost is only \$35.00 per person. The tax, tip and fees are included. Your participation benefits the Friends of Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and Patuxent Research Refuge. Minimum of 12 and a maximum of 20 passengers each trip.



We will set sail for the 3 to 3.5 hour tour from Chesapeake Beach, MD at 11:00am, so please arrive no later than 10:30. The

Mary Lou Too is docked behind Abner's Crab House.

The trip will include views of Sharps Island and Bloody Point lighthouses, as well as the Poplar Island NWR. A wildlife naturalist will be aboard to point out some of the interesting sights and Bay history. *Don't forget your binoculars and/or a camera and you can pack a snack too!*

If interested please register with Sparky Sparks at sparky@friendspwrc.org, (301) 497-5789
Or Lisa Garrett wildbirdcenter@comcast.net (301) 805-4858 for more information.
Driving directions provided if needed.

Payment must be made 5 days prior to the trip.

Make checks to "Friends of Patuxent" and mail to:
Friends of Patuxent
National Wildlife Visitor Center
10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop
Laurel, MD 20708-4027

***** Capt. Russ also suggests a Boat trip with buffet lunch at Harrison's Seafood House on Tilghman Island on Sunday September 14th 11:00 am. Cost is just \$60.00 per person and includes the boat tour and full lunch buffet with coffee/tea! Minimum of 12 and a maximum of 20***

Friends of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and Patuxent Research Refuge, Inc. are a designated Section 501(c) (3) public charity. It is a membership organization whose mission is to financially support the research of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and the environmental education, outreach, and recreation missions at the Patuxent Research Refuge. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Our Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) designation number 63960 in the National Capital & Central Maryland campaign areas. Maryland Charitable Organization Registration