



Garden Club Newsletter

Gardening For All Seasons

August, 2008

<http://www.chesapeakegardenclub.org>

You can access your newsletter here also.



Dates to Remember

September 2008

1st Labor Day
6th Landscape Design workshop
16th CGC Regular Meeting At Church 10AM

October 2008

13th Columbus Day
21 CGC Officers Introduction

Plantings from the President

Hi Everyone,

Hope you all are having a great summer. I went to the Outer Banks for a week with some of my children and grandchildren.

So I needed a rest when I arrived back home!

We have a few names of people from our flower show and garden therapy that are interested in our garden club. They will be invited to our **September** meeting, so if you have friends or neighbors interested please invite them also. The program has been changed from the book, we will meet at All Saints Church at 10 am, and JoEllen will do a program showing our website and some memories from the year.

We will be trying something new this year instead of a Greens Show; we will have a couple of tables at the Hospice Tree Festival. I hope to have more information on this at our Sept meeting.

Many thanks to all the ladies who helped Melinda with The Intergenerational Camp Day at The Calvert Pines Center. They did a fantastic job with Garden Therapy. Children and Grandparents first tasted some herbal teas and then made table arrangements to take home.

Great fun was had by all.

See you all on September 16th,
The August meeting is for Executive Committee only.

MaryAlys



August Birthdays

Dorrie Macdonald 22nd

Kay Parris 18th

Grace Sturdevant 16th

Kathy Trimble 15th

Kitty Walker 21st

Jenny Wolf 26th



One Gardeners "Trash is another Gardeners Treasure!"

We have been very lucky this summer to have more rain than usual and our gardens are thriving.

Just one note of caution, however. Just as June, July, have flown by, the lovely days of August will soon slip through our fingers and early fall is just around the corner.

This is just my way of suggesting that it is time to start planting seed for fall and winter vegetables such as cabbage, broccoli and lettuce.

Jo Ellen tells me that they harvest lettuce all winter long from a hot bed and I have had similar luck in a raised bed covered with plastic.

It is probably best to plant seed in an area that gets some shade during the day and near a water supply to keep it moist. Planting in trays would probably be better for transplanting in a sunny spot as the weather cools.

Last year I tried a propagation method in Better Homes and Gardens.

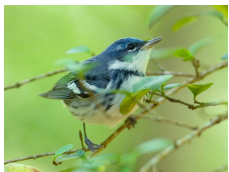
It involved filling a large clay pot with good potting soil and sinking a small clay pot in the dirt.

I plugged the hole in the small pot with a tiny cork and filled it with water.

I used a small dowel to make holes in the exposed soil and dropped in cuttings that had been treated with rooting compound. I suggest you find a friend that has Rootone or a similar product on hand, because you won't need very much.

Finally, compact the soil around the cuttings and wait for success! I put my pot in a shady area and check it every few days to refill the inner pot. Last year I used this method for coleus and hydrangeas and I'm trying lavender this year.

If you have questions, feel free to call or email. I would love to hear from other members who have secret tricks in the garden. Kay Parris



A Little Bird Asked Me

Save the Cerulean Warbler
(*Dendroica cerulean*)
By Bernie Halloran

The cerulean warbler, *Dendroica cerulean*, treasured by bird lovers across the country, is in serious trouble. This little, 4-inch, sky-blue bird's population is dropping faster than any other warbler species in the United States, as habitat loss and other threats make survival more difficult.

Without serious, ongoing conservation efforts, the songs of these and many other bug-eating, neotropical birds may fade from America's wild places.

Like many other bird, this species suffers from habitat loss and degradation in both its summer and winter range. The remaining population breeds in the northeastern and central parts of the United States as far north as Ontario, and as far south as Arkansas, as far east as the Atlantic Coast, and as far west as Iowa. You may never have seen a Cerulean because they are not evenly distributed throughout this range.

Historically, Cerulean warblers were especially abundant in the old-growth bottomland forests of the

Mississippi Alluvial Valley, but these forests no longer exist. Upland forests are just as scarce.

These birds winter in the canopies and borders of broad-leaved, evergreen forests and woodlands in middle to lower elevations on the eastern and western slopes of the Andes and mountain forests of northern South America. But that's where the land is being cultivated for the growing of coca.

It is no wonder then, that according to the Breeding Bird Survey, Ceruleans have shown one of the steepest declines of any warbler species, 4.5 percent a year from 1966-2001.

The U.S. National Wildlife Refuges provide essential habitat for Cerulean Warblers, and a great number of other species throughout the U.S. and its territories, but the refuge system is often underfunded during the U.S. government's budgeting process. What a surprise.

Nevertheless, you can certainly help save these and other neotropical birds by urging your representative to cosponsor legislation reauthorizing the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act (H.R. 5756).

The Act provides millions of dollars for vital conservation efforts, including monitoring efforts, habitat restoration, education, and other projects in the United States, Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Since its inception in 2002, the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act has supported vital conservation projects in 44 U.S. states and territories, 33 Latin American and Caribbean countries, and 12 Canadian provinces, benefitting roughly 3 million acres of migratory bird habitat.

If not for projects like these, neotropical migratory birds like the Cerulean warbler might be even more imperiled. Yet many essential conservation projects remain unfunded.

Congressmen Ron Kind (D-WI) and Wayne Gilchrest (R-MD) have introduced this vital legislation that will reauthorize the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act at increased funding levels. It's one of the most important bird conservation bills that Congress will consider this session, and we need your help to ensure its passage.

Ask Steny to co-sponsor the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act and speak out for birds in our backyards and across the world. <http://hoyer.house.gov> Click the box at the top that says "Email Congressman Hoyer."



Adult Cerulean Warbler
© 2006 Bruce G. Smith

Conservation Corner

Want Fries With That?

By Bernie Halloran

Well, Senators Ben Cardin and Barbara Mikulski are doing their part of the job. Both have asked the Federal Government to declare the Chesapeake Bay a “fishery disaster.”

Most of us associate Federal disasters with some act of God, but not this time. The sad condition of Chesapeake Blue Crabs is the result of failed environmental management and years of gutless political indifference. The Blue Crab population is in pitiful shape.

A few months ago, surveys showed there were about 280 million crabs in the Bay and about 120 million were adults, down from 140 million only a year ago. Last year, 60 percent of the crabs available were harvested – 44 million pounds-worth -- for a take of about \$51.8 million. It was one of the worst years on record.

Scientists know perfectly well that for the crab population to stand a chance for sustained survival there should be 200 million adult crabs crawling around to insure steady reproduction and that no more than 43 percent should be harvested in any given year. Over harvesting is never a good idea. It's guaranteed unsustainable. And has been.

Fortunately, Governors Kane and O'Malley have stepped up to the plate to restrict the harvest by law, which doesn't sit well with the sea food industry or watermen, and that's why the Senators are asking for disaster relief.

Maryland and Virginia are asking for \$15 million over three years to help watermen while harvests are curtailed to reduce the catch of female crabs by a full 34 percent. Maryland most recently set aside \$3 million for similar purposes.

But let's face it, the watermen are in sorry straights not only because Maryland and Virginia politicians have pandered to them for years by failing to enact restrictions on past harvests, but because the states have allowed the quality of the Bay to deteriorate utterly by under funding water treatment plants and under regulating agricultural pollution.

So next time you're in a seafood joint, pass on the crab cakes, order up some fried chicken and lift a frosty to politicians who are finally willing to face reality.