

Chesapeake Garden Club Newsletter



Dates to Remember

May Dates

1st - Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage: Baltimore County, Ruxton

8th - Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage: Charles County

10-12th Judges Symposium, Ocean City

11th- Judges Counsel Meeting, Ocean City

14-16th - National GC Convention, Atlanta, GA

15th - Oxford GC Small Standard Flower Show

15th District III Mayfair

15th - Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage, Talbot County

16th - Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage: Cecil County

18th - CGC Monthly Meeting, All Saints Church, Sunderland, MD

19th Landscape Design Council Tour of the Nemours Mansion and Gardens and the Elizabeth Gardens designed by Bill Duncan, Landscape Designer. (Cont pg. 2)

May 2010

Gardening For a All Seasons

<http://www.chesapeakegardenclub.org>

Plantings from the President



We had our April meeting and it was nice to see everyone. Thank you Kay for the informative presentation on Green Houses you did a great job. We haven't scheduled our annual member garden tour so let's make plans for one at our May meeting.

If we haven't seen your garden please invite us (you don't have to fuss). It is always a fun event. Maybe we can schedule it during National Garden. Club week June 6-12. That might be a great way to celebrate Garden Week.

Maybe we can open it up to people interested in gardening. It might encourage some new members. Just a thought!!

Kay, Dorrie, and I started our spring cleanup of the Appreciation Garden and it is looking good. Stop by for a look-see when you get a chance and while you're there pull a few weeds!!!

Bev and her team are beginning work on the Butterfly Garden at Cypress Swamp Park. Kitty Walker and Grace Gay will be working on the planters at the library. Both groups need volunteers give them a call.

I finally have the inserts for our yearbook you will receive them at our May meeting. I was not able to get them from Rick for our April meeting. If you are curious about what is planned for this year our programs are posted on our website.

www.chesapeakegardenclub.org

Our May meeting will be exciting with a May Basket demonstration by Vicki Trego. She has asked that all members bring their own flowers. The club will supply the oasis. She will purchase the baskets and the club will reimburse her.

Important!!! Save the date:

Dorrie is planning a meeting for the flower show on Monday May 24 at 10:00 at All Saints all are encouraged to attend.

This is a great time to share plants so let's have a plant exchange at our May meeting.

May your weeds be wildflowers,
JoEllen

Dates to Remember continued:

Contact Karen Offutt at 410-771-4799.

21st – Severn River GC
Standard Flower Show
22nd – Francis Scott Key Iris
Society Spring Show at the
Shops at Kenilworth.
22-23rd – District III and
District IV Seminar and
Flower Show, Vollmer
Center and Mansion,
Cylburn Arboretum.

May Meeting

May 18th, 2010

10:00 AM please arrive by 9:45
so the meeting can start on
time.

All Saints Church
Sunderland, MD

**Hosts: Grace Sturdevant
Mary Alys Sweetman**

Program:

Vicki Trego will demonstrate how
to build a May Basket. She will
supply a small basket. Please bring
some flowers keeping in mind that
the basket is on the small size, and
if you can bring a few to share.

Design: "May Garden" Stretch Design

A creative design using fresh plant
material to be staged on a table 29
inches tall, 30 inches wide, and 30
inches deep. A stretch design is a
creative design of two units (or
containers) one smaller than the
other and having a prominent
component connecting the two
units which is referred to as the
stretch component. h.bk pg 209

Horticulture:

Class 1 Rose FSHB pg. 147

Class 2 Herbaceous Perennial –
FSHB pg. 82

Class 2 Hosta & Ferns –FSHB
pg. 131

How to Bird Watch in Maryland

By, Denise Wesolowski



Pair of Black-Necked Stilts

When I'm not sitting in my own backyard watching the pair of Canadian Geese stroll along the banks of our pond, or a Heron making a dramatic landing on the water, I think about getting in my car and taking a drive.

A wonderful place to bird watch is the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge.

It is one of nine refuges located on the Delmarva Peninsula. It provides homes for over 150,000 migrating ducks and geese each year. Other birds you might see are Ospreys, Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, Black-crowned Night Herons, Willets and Glossy Ibis.

Assateague Island is another great place for bird-watching, especially in the spring.

Closer to home, Deal Island is another fabulous place to bird watch. It is home to Black-necked Stilts and you may even see the rare European Widgeon.

Susquehanna State Park offers beautiful habitat in the Susquehanna River Valley. The best spot to see the greatest number of bird species is the area along the river near the Chesapeake Bay.

So what are you waiting for? Pickup your camera and grab the car keys. Now hit the road.

Things you'll need:

Bird watching guide, binoculars, sunscreen, water, and a notebook if you want to keep track of all the beautiful birds you will see.

Federation News

On Saturday, October 2, 2010 The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc. will be sponsoring our first Maryland Youth Environmental Awareness Day "Celebrating Our Beautiful World" at the Irvine Nature Center located at 11201 Garrison Forest Road, Owings Mills, Maryland 21117.

Participants aged 8-14 are encouraged to attend. The program will run from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Rain or shine. The opening ceremony will begin at 9:45 am and the closing ceremony will take place at approximately 2:15 p.m. Participants must provide their own transportation to and from the event.

Please arrive by 9:45 am for the opening ceremony and afternoon pick-up must be no later than 3:00 pm. Parents and/or Guardians are invited to stay for the day and explore the Irvine Nature Center on their own.

Participants must bring a brown bag lunch. The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc. will provide lemonade and water during lunchtime.

The cost of the program is \$5.00 per participant. There may be limited scholarship money available for this program - please contact your District Director for more information on scholarship availability in your District.

In order for your child to participate your permission must be given. Every precaution to ensure your child's safety will be taken. It is possible that accidents over which neither the Irvine Nature Center and/or the Federated Garden Club of Maryland, Inc have no control may occur. If such is the case, it is understood that the Irvine Nature or the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc. will not be held responsible.

***Special Note: Brownies and Girls Scouts who participate in this program will earn the National Garden Clubs "Native Plants" Girl Scout Patch.

REGISTER EARLY - SPACE LIMITED

Questions: Contact Barb Small, State Youth Chairman bsn144@aol.com or 410-647-4455.

National Garden Club News

National Garden week June 6 - 12



New Daffodil and Vine Pins

Above are the new pins that are available for purchase through the NGC. These nature inspired pins have been designed exclusively for NGC, and are stamped with our hallmark of quality. The pins feature clean modern lines with a sophisticated flare which will appeal to every member.

NGC President, Renee Blaschke's **Daffodil Pin**, is a beautiful profile of a daffodil, hand crafted in enamel. A nature inspired **vine pin** has also been designed. This pin is crafted with a mixture of metals - 50% silver over brass - has five leaves, with delicate tendrils placed along a slightly curved stem.

May Birthdays

Mary Beth Krovisky - May 26th

Flower of the Month

The **Lilly of the valley**. It is a tiny flower whose white blossoms are sometimes called "May bells" or "bells of heaven," and whose scent has long been valued in the making of perfume.



What Happens at the Biltmore Stays at the Biltmore!

What I can tell you is that these club members all had a fabulous time.

My Little Feathered Friend

Last month I told the story of a little Blue Bird that visits me every day, tapping on my back door. Things haven't changed much. She still taps on the back door every day, but only a couple of times because she has better things to do now. She became a mother this spring. I haven't seen her babies yet, but I see her and her mate taking food to them throughout the day. The funny part of this story is where she built her home. Last fall my husband came across an 85 year old man selling birdhouses along the roadside. He felt badly for this gentleman and decided to buy one of his birdhouses. When he showed it to me I could see that it was definitely a "pity buy". He must have really liked this man to buy such a crazy looking house. Well my pretty little blue bird friend evidently doesn't agree with my taste in homes. She chose it for the place to raise her family.



Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill



As I listen to and watch the latest news reports tracking the BP Oil Spill in the Gulf of Mexico and how it has just reached shoreline of North Island, Louisiana, I think back to April 7, 2000 when a 12 inch underground oil pipeline at the Pepco chalk Point generating station's sprung a leak and spilled 140,000 gallons of fuel oil into Swanson Creek, a small tributary of the Patuxent River. What a mess that was for some communities along the banks of the Patuxent, when on the night of April 8th severe weather conditions caused the oil to breach the booms. About 40 miles of shoreline was adversely impacted. The oil damaged wetland and beaches, injuring wildlife, birds, fish, shellfish, turtles, muskrats and resulting in loss of recreational use, for a number of communities along the shoreline. I'm not sure all the lawsuits have even been settled to-date.

The newest leak estimate for the BP Oil Spill is about 5,000 barrels a day!! That's barrels...not gallons. That would be 210,000 gallons a day!! So just consider what that much oil will do to the shorelines of Louisiana, Florida, and Mississippi, as it pours into the Gulf day after day. As of today (May 9th), there are 1,100 people working on the cleanup, and so far only 685,000 gallons of oil/water mix have been collected. Today's cleanup cost estimate is 8 Billion Dollars. What a disaster!!

The Deepwater Horizon rig was reportedly not equipped with an acoustic shutoff switch that could have been used to try to close the well. Such switches are not required in the US, but are used in other countries such as Norway and Brazil. We can only pray that our leaders will require a shutoff switch be installed on all oil rigs in the near future.



Last month these lady volunteers met at the North Beach Senior Center, with their bags packed full of goodies to share with the Senior participants. Under Kay's detailed supervision they worked together with the seniors to create beautiful terrariums that will be enjoyed for months to come. Great Job as always Ladies!!

Chesapeake Garden Club
c/o Denise Wesolowski
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