



The Colonial Master Gardener

Publication of JCC/WBG Master Gardener Association & Virginia Cooperative Extension

APRIL 2004

SUSTAINABLE DESIGN (Continued)

“Treatment of Landscapes as Interdependent and Interconnected. Conventional development often increases fragmentation of the landscape. The small remaining islands of natural landscape are typically surrounded by a fabric of development that diminishes their ability to support a variety of plant communities and habitats. This situation must be reversed. Larger whole systems must be created by reconnecting fragmented landscapes and establishing contiguous networks with other natural systems both within a site and beyond its boundaries.” from “Sustainable Design: A Collaborative National Park Service Initiative”

PRESIDENT

Barbara Schroeder '99

HORTICULTURAL PROJECTS

ASSOCIATE

Leanne DuBois, '96
JCC Coop. Extension
564-2170

WEBMASTER

David Banks '03
258-8632

NEWSLETTER

Charlie Clapper '02

The purpose of the James City County/Williamsburg Master Gardener is to learn, educate and communicate environmentally sound horticultural practices to the community. Trained by the Virginia Cooperative Extension, Master Gardener volunteers are committed to offering information to the public through sustainable landscape management educational programs.

Spring is a natural resurrection, an experience in immortality.
Thoreau

THROUGH THE GATE...to the George Reid Garden

We welcome your visits to admire the wonders that our teams have wrought. Come exercise with us as we produce more lush vistas. As an overview, let me introduce the team leaders for this year. Suzanne Brown and Mary Ann Carlson are returning to lead the Perennials team for the third year. All other teams have new leaders. Vegetable leaders are Rebecca Sutton and Helen Walter. Herbs are co-chaired by Linda Lucas and Tom Rogers. Composting Chair Cathy Ripley will be supplying black gold for the two teams by late April. Rudy Roberts will present a landscaping plan to Colonial Williamsburg that will highlight suggested tree plantings to replace hurricane-damaged trees. A new team, Jim and Nelda Pressly, have planted roses and will add more once they have been identified at the Nursery. Watch for the date of a lecture on colonial vegetables by Wesley Greene, CW's Master Gardener. All MGs are invited. Solve the mystery puzzle and receive a prize that any MG would prize. First correct e-mail to me is the winner!

mriddle@cox.net

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The buds of the forsythia are popping open and master gardeners have programs and projects bursting forth everywhere. The Reforestation Project, on March 13 was a great success. It was an inspiring example of community groups, businesses and governmental agencies all working together to help repair the damage Isabel wrought.

Next month we'll continue this series of community outreach programs with the Gardening With Children workshop April 3 and the Master Gardener Plant Sale April 24.

The Nominating Committee is still busy filling the slate of prospective board members for this coming year. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to discuss them with Sue Liddell, Lynn Flood or Dave Banks. The Survey Committee is also hard at work. I do hope all of you manage to return the completed survey to Greg Allen so we can get an accurate picture of our group's concerns.

By the time I write my next President's Corner, I will have gone through a major name-changing experience. It is perhaps one of the few current adventures not dictated by our lovely spring weather –though, come to think of it, the gardening which begins in the spring was a determining factor. **Barbara Schroeder**

THE BOOK CORNER

I've got a book to recommend --the *Garden Stone*, by Barbara Pleasant. ISBN 1-58017-406-X. My wife fell in love with it at the library, and I got it for her last Christmas. We like to use stone as accent pieces or to set up displays, and the vast number of ideas in this book, as well as its stunning photography, highly recommend it to our gardening audience.

Tony Dion

Thank you, Tony! If there are others who would like to tout their favorite gardening books or provide an in-depth review please e-mail me at bartpear@widomaker.com! **Ailene Bartlett.**

ROOTS (Continued from last month)

Curious how master gardeners came to be? And why we are so closely associated with land grant universities? In 1972, Dr. David Gibby, an extension agent with an expanding workload in Washington State, came up with the idea of training volunteers in extension type work. Voila! The first Master Gardener volunteers were trained to provide expert assistance to home gardeners. Until then, extension agents helped home gardeners as time permitted in their already busy schedule of helping the commercial agricultural community. The idea soon spread nationwide and even internationally. Today, Virginia has an extension office associated with every county and Master Gardener volunteers work in concert with each Extension Agent's mission (plan of work) -- why at Master Gardeners are often called unpaid Extension staff. Now you know the Master Gardener beginning and you should be proud of our heritage. The Extension Office and our community appreciate our time and efforts. Our newest research based knowledge is passed on to our fellow citizens at every opportunity. **Angela Cingale**

Editor's Note: Monthly meeting minutes are available at the meetings.

Thanks to this month's contributors. Please keep the articles coming. Charlie Clapper

VMGA INFORMATION FROM DEBBIE MADDOCKS,

Hi Debbie, you completed your application on December 3, 2003. The VMGA membership rules require me to carry all membership applications received before December 31st of any year through the following expiration of May 31st. I know it seems harsh, and doubtless had you known you would have held you application for another month, but you will appreciate we have to pick a cut off date - and it was decided that it would be December 31st. On this date any non-renewing member from the previous May 31st is dropped from the roster. The Jan/Feb newsletter was the first one published since you joined. You can expect to receive additional newsletters every eight weeks through the Nov/Dec 2004 issue - and beyond should you decide to renew. You will receive a renewal reminder in April. Of course if you decide to renew your membership for another year your membership will then expire on May 31, 2005. I hope this answers your questions. VMGA Membership Staff

DELECTABLE AND FUN FUNDRAISER

We all have favorite recipes people ask us to copy. With this in mind, the board has approved the cookbook idea as a minimal way to maximize our dollars by creating our very own JCC/Williamsburg MG Cookbook as a fund-raiser. We're asking every member to send in as many recipes as you want to share. The categories are, Appetizers & Beverages, Soups & Salads, Main Dishes, Bread & Rolls, Desserts, and Cookies & Candy. However, we are not limited to those categories. We also have many herb recipes, i.e., Lavender Cookies, used in Therapeutic Gardening which could be incorporated. Garden and Herb/Vegetable Helpful hints, would be appreciated. As you can see, though there are specific categories, some recipes go into several categories, so please tell us which category your recipe should be entered. Also, if you're an artist willing to share culinary art which could go into the cookbook please feel free to send us a copy. Kindly include your name and phone number on the recipe/helpful hints/art work to give you credit for the contribution and in case we have an editing question. Thank you. Please start sending the recipes to **Angela Cingale** either by e-mail, cingale@attglobal.net. Co-chairs **Angela Cingale** and **Debbie Maddocks** thank you.

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

April 1, 2004, 9:00 a.m. Bruton Heights

Anne Olsen, Northern Neck Master Gardener, will present a program on Just Gardens, a tour of gardens on the Northern Neck to benefit The Haven for Battered Women. Anne will give a preview of this year's tour as well as tell us how the group has put together the tour over the last three years.

GARDENING WITH CHILDREN

A program for Scout Leaders, 4-H Leaders, Teachers, Parents. Child-Care Givers. And Any Adult who Wants to Learn How to Garden with Children

April 3, 9 am to 1:30 pm

JCC/Williamsburg Community Center

For more information on this event please call Charlene Talcott @ 258-0317

PLANT SALE –APRIL 24th – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

JCC/Williamsburg Community Center

Help Prepare 1:00 pm Friday April 23

To increase our profit, please bring at least 12 seedlings and 12 transplants. If you need help potting or have extra pots, e-mail bobcathyripley@yahoo.com No bake sale this year. Put on those "potting thinking caps." **Cathy Ripley**



*All Master Gardeners are cordially
Invited to attend a Reception
in honor of the upcoming marriage of
Barbara Schroeder
and
Arthur Gustafson
to be held following the
Master Gardener meeting
Thursday, April 1, 2004*

Wish Barbara and Art a happy life together and wonderful wedding trip to the Gardens of Ireland by bringing notes and cards to fill the pot o' gold at the end of their rainbow.



Policies adopted by the JCC/WBG Board 1. **Inactive Members.** Page v-9 of the VCE Master Gardener guide states: "Inactive status is temporary and is available for a one or two year period upon request of the individual and approval of the local coordinator. Coordinators may choose to review this status annually and may require additional training to reactivate an individual to VCE-MG status. The individual is subject to removal from mailing lists and is not eligible to attend advanced training programs during the inactive period". **To clarify for the local JCC/W Master Gardeners:** If an active member wishes to become inactive for a year or two, he/she may make the request of the **President, a board member or the local coordinator**. After a two year absence, the member may be required to take some additional training. **An inactive member pays the yearly dues, and is not removed from the mailing list and may continue to contribute to the organization.**

2. **Sunshine.** As the budget will allow, upon the serious illness, hospitalization or death of a member of the JCC/W Master Gardeners or an immediate family member (generally one who resides in the same household), a plant, flowers or a contribution to charity shall be made. A \$25 maximum amount is suggested. Remembrances for others such as more distant family members, former members and friends of the MG organization shall be made at the discretion of the board.

Visit the Master Gardeners Association website at <http://jccwmg.org> for a complete listing of upcoming events and educational opportunities. Use of the county van may be possible for out of town events. Call Ann Odle if interested.

Karen Shackelford has agreed to collect all trips you hear of that you feel our members might be interested in attending--coordinating them and then sending them on to Charlie and Dave for publication in our newsletter and website. She has set up a special email for this purpose: karensmqinfo@aol.com.