

# The Colonial Master Gardener

PUBLICATION OF JCC/WBG MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION & VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



December 2008

## RING IN THE NEW YEAR! MAKE A RESOLUTION. . .

to attend the annual Master Gardener Graduation/Awards Dinner!

The event will be held on Thursday, January 15 at 6 PM at the Williamsburg Unitarian Universalist Church, 3051 Ironbound Road. All Master Gardeners and their spouses/partners are welcome!

This year's menu and program will include some changes, including a new menu (no lasagna) and volunteer-provided appetizers and desserts. Wine, coffee, tea and juice will be available.

Master Gardeners are asked to volunteer to bring appetizers. A sign-up sheet will be available at the December 4 General Meeting.

## MEET THE GARDENER SUE LIDDELL

Master Gardeners partnered with Colonial Williamsburg in giving George Reid tours from March through October. Ruth Murphy organized teams of two which met on Mondays and Thursdays to show off the Reid garden and explain how we maintain it. One hundred twenty eight tours brought 2,353 guests in 2008. May was the heaviest month with 348 guests. July and August were our lightest months with 151 and 126 respectively. Pictured is Pat Rathke discussing weeds with an attentive group.



Master Gardener programs new in 2008 will be recognized.

Members of the class of 2008 are invited to attend the dinner as guests of the Master Gardeners. Please advise Mary Liz Sadler that you will be coming.

Price of the dinner for Master Gardeners and all spouses/partners is \$15 per person. Reserve your place by giving your check to Sarah Dougherty, Treasurer, at the December 4 or January 8 General Meeting, or by mailing your check to Sarah.

You may contact Patricia Crowe or any Master Gardener Board member if you have questions.

We hope to see you there!

## Next Monthly Meeting

December 4, 9:00am,  
Williamsburg Regional Library,  
Bob Goodhart, retired head of  
Landscaping at CNU,  
Camellias

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## WILLIAMSBURG'S NEW NEIGHBORHOOD LANDSCAPE GRANT PROGRAM SUBMITTED BY SALLY SISSELL

The Williamsburg Beautification Advisory Committee (WBAC) has established a program which will offer yearly grants of funds to qualifying neighborhoods within the City of Williamsburg for landscaping work in the common areas of a given neighborhood.

These grants are similar to those the Master Gardeners

have given in the past, from their reserves, to the Neighborhood Connection for disbursement. In fact, last year, two neighborhoods in the City were recipients, which is where the WBAC got the idea (and they thank us for it).

If anyone is interested in more information on applying for one of these grants, please contact Sally Sissel, a member of the WBAC, for more details and an application. The applications are due to the WBAC by February 15, 2009 and awards announced March 31, 2009. Just remember these grants will be given to Williamsburg neighborhoods only— not throughout JCC.

President:  
Dave Banks  
258-8632

VP Projects:  
Judy Hansen  
345-0958

VP Internal Ed:  
Carol Fryer  
220-0759

VP Administration:  
John Giffin  
345-5209

Secretary:  
Pat Crowe  
645-4538

Treasurer:  
Sarah Dougherty  
565-7954

VMGA Reps:  
Jim & Nelda Pressly  
220-1858

Past President:  
Charlie Clapper  
564-6191

Extension Agent:  
Vacant

The MG Board meets on the third Friday of each month, at 9:00am, at the James City County Health and Human Services Building, on Olde Towne Road.

The Board meetings are open to all Master Gardeners, and all are encouraged to attend.

There is a new policy in place at VCE for requesting meeting space. Anyone interested should contact Sandra Kee at (757) 564-2160.

## INTERNAL EDUCATION NEWS CAROL FRYER

The Master Gardeners who planned and presented the Water Workshop this past May were recognized by James City County at a reception on November 12<sup>th</sup> 2008 at the county government offices. Larry Foster, manager of the James City Service Authority, nominated the Master Gardeners for their work in promoting water quality and conservation. The nominees included Carol Fryer, Beth Fugate, Art Gustafson, Barbara Gustafson, Judy Hansen, Libby Hedstrom, Sue Liddell, Linda Lucas, Anne Nielsen, Rudy Roberts and Rich Strenkowski. The plaque which was given to the group will be at our December meeting. Congratulations everyone!

We are happy to have Bob Goodhart, retired head of landscaping at CNU, at our December meeting to speak to us about Camellias. It is always wonderful to hear someone speak on a topic who has vast knowledge and years of experience in the field. For those of us who may be new to Camellias in our gardens, I found two good articles from Clemson Extension on the Internet that discussed types of camellias and disease and pests problems.

<http://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheets/hgic1062.html>  
and

<http://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheets/hgic2053.htm>

You may have noticed that I spelled Camellias incorrectly in a couple of places on our website. When I Googled 'Camellias' (with one L), I found this very lovely Victorian poster from the Lawrence University Digital Collection that I would not have seen otherwise.

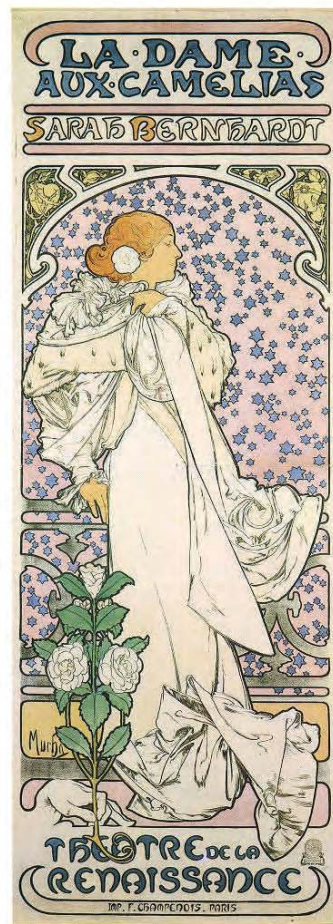
On February 7<sup>th</sup> 2009, we will have a Seminar on Habitat and energy, presented by Sue Powell, President of the Master Naturalist. Watch for more information on this in our January newsletter.

The Education Committee is also working on a Drip Irrigation hands-on Workshop that will be scheduled for March 2009. Watch for more information on

both of these training events.

The schedule of speakers for our monthly meetings through May 2009 is on our website. You can find the listing on the *Calendar of Educational Events* and on our *Members Page*. In January, Wesley Greene will speak about the Evolution of the Palace Garden, and in February, Bob Goodhart will be back to talk about Landscape Design.

*The Education Committee looks forward to seeing you at the December meeting. Please feel free to give us input at any time regarding programs and trainings.*



## MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER SARA DOUGHERTY

Dues for 2009 will be collected at the December 4<sup>th</sup> General Membership Meeting. Please make out your check for \$15.00 payable to JCC/W MGA. Our annual dinner will be held on January 15<sup>th</sup>. The cost for the dinner will be \$15.00 per

person. The graduating class of 2008 will attend as guests of our association. However, spouses will be required to pay for their dinners. If you wish, you may include the dinner payment and dues payment on one check. If you are unable to attend December's meeting, you can mail your checks to: Sarah Dougherty, MG Treasurer; 144 Tolers Road; Williamsburg, VA 23185.

## OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS SUBMITTED BY RICH STRENKOWSKI

Eleven Master Gardeners received "Outstanding Volunteer" recognition by the Board of Supervisors of James City County. The Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Bruce Goodson, presented a plaque along with individual awards to the Water Quality and Conservation team that developed the Water Workshop in the spring of this year. The team was recognized for providing opportunities for broad involvement, learning and information

sharing. The Master Gardeners planned and implemented a half day workshop that was open to the public at no cost to educate local citizens on practical hands-on ways that they can have a positive impact on their environment. Presentations included information on landscape options for environmental buffer zones, how to build and the benefits of rain gardens, drought tolerant plants and drip irrigation.

The team was sponsored by Larry Foster of the James City Service Authority.

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Jan 8 monthly MG meeting, 9 am, Williamsburg Regional Library, **NOTE DATE CHANGE**, Wesley Greene, *The Evolution of the Palace Garden at Colonial Williamsburg*
- Jan 15 MG Annual Dinner
- Feb 5 monthly MG meeting, Bob Goodhart, retired landscaper at CNU, *Landscape Design*
- Mar 6 monthly MG meeting, Wendy Wubbels, owner, Forestlane Botanicals, *Hostas and Shade Plants*
- Apr 2 monthly MG meeting, Andrew Koenig, Arborist, Bartlett Tree Experts, *Tree Problems and Care*
- May 1 monthly MG meeting, Marie Butler, landscaper, *Gardening at the VA Zoo*

## SUNSHINE NOTES

If you know a Master Gardener who is ill, facing surgery, has suffered a family loss, or any event in which that person might benefit from a **sunshine note**, please contact the MG Secretary, Pat Crowe. She will send a note or take appropriate action on behalf on the organization. Pat may be reached at 645-4538 or [pk.Crowe@cox.net](mailto:pk.Crowe@cox.net).



## SCHEDULE FOR THE 2009 MG TRAINING CLASS MARY LIZ SADLER

The following is a condensed list of the dates and speakers for the 2009 Training Class. If you would like to audit some of them, please contact Rich Bunger, [shadyldy1@verizon.net](mailto:shadyldy1@verizon.net). Please note that a total of 4 auditors will be allowed at any one session, due to space limitations, so places will be allotted on a first-come, first-served basis. All sessions will be held at the Human Services Building on Olde Towne Road, 9-12 Noon.

Jan. 8--Botany—Dr. Linda Johnson, CNU  
Jan. 12—Soils—Paul Davis, New Kent Ext. Agent  
Jan. 15—Entomology—Megan Ketcham, Hampton Ext. Agent  
Jan. 22.—Pathology—Mike Likins, Chesterfield Ext. Agent

Jan. 26—Fruits and Veggies—Andy Bradshaw, local lawyer/farmer

Jan. 29—Annuals, Bulbs, Herbs—Laura Viancour, CW

Feb. 9—Trees & Shrubs—Joel Koci, arborist

Feb. 12—Pruning—Wesley Greene, CW

Feb. 23—Perennials—Larry Griffith, CW

Feb. 26—Landscape—Karen Kelly, Landscape architect

Mar. 5—Pest Management—Ken Thompson, Green Guard Assoc.

Mar. 9—Organic Gardening—Bill Garlette, NN MG

Mar. 16—Lawns & Weeds—Bob Winter

Mar. 19—Water Quality—Larry Foster, Clifton Bell

Mar. 23—Chesapeake Bay—Libby Norris, CBF

EDITORS NOTE: The deadline for submission of material for the January MG Newsletter is December 22. Please send to Lise Kline, newsletter editor, at [legskline@cox.net](mailto:legskline@cox.net) or call 757-259-9477. Comments and questions about the newsletter are also welcome. Thank you.

## JCC/W Master Gardener Mission Statement

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.

Check out our new **CALENDAR OF GARDEN EVENTS** on our webpage. Go to our website: [www.jccwmg.org](http://www.jccwmg.org) and **CLICK** on the calendar in the **LEFT COLUMN**.