



The Colonial Master Gardener

January
2016

PUBLICATION OF JCC/WMASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION &
VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY DEBORAH GRIESINGER

A very Happy New Year to all of our association members as we begin this EXCITING and CHALLENGING new year. I have been on the James City County Williamsburg Master Gardener Association Board for four years, and I am very proud to assume the presidency of our organization, a group of two-hundred-plus dedicated, talented, hard-working, very well-meaning members.

It will be an EXCITING year ahead---exciting because change can always be expected as the months pass. Change is anticipated and yet change can also be managed. I do promise you an exciting year. And now to the CHALLENGING part.....

I believe I can promise you that also. Our organization finds itself at a crossroads. Over the years our Master Gardener Association, in light of the lack of leadership (until Kate Robbins's recent arrival) from our local Virginia Cooperative Extension Office, has assumed many of the duties that, in reality, are the domain of VCE alone. Our board members will help to delineate the differences and boundaries of the two entities at the February general meeting on February 4.

It is going to be a challenge to decide how it is best for us to proceed, as liability concerns are everywhere, and support from Virginia Tech and VCE on the state level is less prevalent and less evident. In the next month, I hope the board can make this clear to each member. I look forward to working closely with Kate Robbins to help us understand our role.

The Virginia Master Gardener Association meeting held at the Williamsburg Regional Library on December 12, 2015, and attended by many of our local members, featured a local attorney, Jo Ursini, who addressed questions of incorporation, insurance coverages, and the liabilities prevalent in today's society. Of the MG associations in the state of Virginia, twelve associations have become incorporated as a way to protect their members. Risks are everywhere, and proactive groups are seeking whatever protections they can and are working to educate themselves, for they feel an obligation to all their members.



The crossroads at which we find ourselves requires us to seek the path that is most beneficial to the greatest number of our members. The board met with Ms. Ursini, at its December 18 meeting, seeking knowledge and advice. We are most appreciative to her for her guidance. The board will seek the input of our members at our February 4 meeting.

I want to thank Jeanne Millin and Marilyn Riddle and their crews for the organization and the lovely setup of the VMGA breakfast, the meeting, and the luncheon. I was very proud of our MG Association volunteers for their presentation and their visual support of the event. Our own Angela Cingale will soon be elected president of the VMGA.

I also wish to thank Margene Hartsough and Kendra Swann for their coordination of the December 3 MG meeting's holiday refreshments.

(The President's Message continues on the next page)

Next Meeting:

Thursday, January 7

Program:

Class of 2015 Graduation

2016
MG Board

President:
Debby Griesinger

President Elect:
Gary Streb

VP Administration:
Diane Hare

VP Projects:
Wilma Sharp

VP Internal Ed:
Kathy Bush

Secretary:
Cathy Johnson

Treasurer:
Amy Higgins

VMGA Reps:
Marilyn Riddle and
Jeanne Millin

Past President:
Sue Liddell

Co-op Ext Rep:
Doris Heath
564-2170

*Program Asst.,
ANR:*
Kate Robbins

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

When I was in the role of VP for Projects, I received monthly reports from so many of you. And I know how much you do in your projects to educate members of our community. I praise you for your dedication and for what you do to help VCE, the community, and the association. Being a Master Gardener is truly a badge of honor, of which one can be proud. All the best to you in this new year ahead. Keep up the fantastic work in your projects and your leadership. Please attend our general business meetings and programs the first Thursday of each month.

Our most recent class graduates on January 7, and we hope you are all present to welcome them to our organization. There will be a reception after their graduation ceremony, and we hope everyone will stay to show support and appreciation to our newest members. Thank you to Patti Lupton and Barbara Floyd for leading the graduation class this past calendar year. You have made a profound and lasting positive impression on our newest members. Thank you.



ADMINISTRATION BY DIANE HARE

\$\$\$ Dues are Due \$\$\$

Just a gentle reminder: Our association dues of \$15 are now due. Please be sure to remit payment of your dues by check or PayPal (on our website) before January 31, 2016. **Members will be automatically dropped if dues are not received by January 31, and a \$10 reinstatement fee will be required after that date.**

Your Membership Matters

As I write this, the close of another year is fast approaching. And I want the passing of time to slow down, even just a little bit. Pondering this made me think of Felder Rushing's book *Slow Gardening*. The premise of the book is that by slowing down in our gardens, we might slip into the natural rhythm of our garden in step with the seasons; take it easy, take our time and get more enjoyment out of our gardens. This is a philosophy we can apply to so many things in our lives.

So I am pausing now to reflect on you and our unit. Our membership brings synergy to a whole new level! We come together, one by one, join our forces, and accomplish so much more together for our community than we ever could alone. And in the process of all of the work that we do, we find our lives enriched by the dearest of friendships.

Hope you will take a deep breath, slow down just a bit, give thanks, and enJOY!

The MG Board meets on the third Friday of each month at 9:30 am 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.

UPCOMING CLASSES, SEMINARS, SYMPOSIUMS, AND PLANT SALES

BY KATHY BUSH

Now-February 25 (Jamestown Settlement). **Clayton and Catesby: Botanical Virginia.** Exhibit, special lectures, and classes.

- * Tuesday, January 5 – “Illustrating the Flora of Virginia,” presented by Lara Call Gastinger, lead illustrator of *Flora of Virginia*.
- * Tuesday, January 19 – “From Clayton’s *Flora Virginica* to the Late 20th Century,” presented by Dr. Donna M.E. Ware, College of William and Mary research associate professor of biology and curator emerita
- * Tuesday, February 2 - “Wildflowers and Grasses on Virginia’s Coastal Plain,” presented by Helen Hamilton.

Each lecture is preceded by a one-hour Jamestown Settlement outdoor guided tour at 2:00pm, “Through the Eyes of Catesby,” focusing on the flora and fauna depicted in Catesby’s watercolors, and a forty-five-minute tour of the exhibit at 3:30pm.

These tours are included with museum admission.

Workshops are 10:00am-2:00pm and start in the Robert V. Hatcher, Jr., Rotunda.

- * Thursday, January 14 – “Learning to Use Pen to Illustrate the Flora of Virginia,” instructed by Lara Call Gastinger
- * Thursday, January 28 – “Nature Journaling,” instructed by Betty Gatewood, educator, nature journalist, and watercolorist.
- * Thursday, February 25 – “Naked Tree Walk,” presented by Dr. Stewart Ware, College of William and Mary professor of biology emeritus

Advance reservations are required for the 10am-2:00pm workshops. Register online or call (757) 253-4939. Cost is \$45 per workshop and includes lunch. Members of Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Annual Fund gift clubs (donors of \$100 or more) receive a discount and can call (757) 253-4139 or email giving@jyf.virginia.gov for a code to use in online registration.

January 16 (Freedom Park Interpretive Center). **Making the Right Cut.** Master Gardeners demonstrate proper pruning and tree and shrub care. Suggested donation \$5.00.

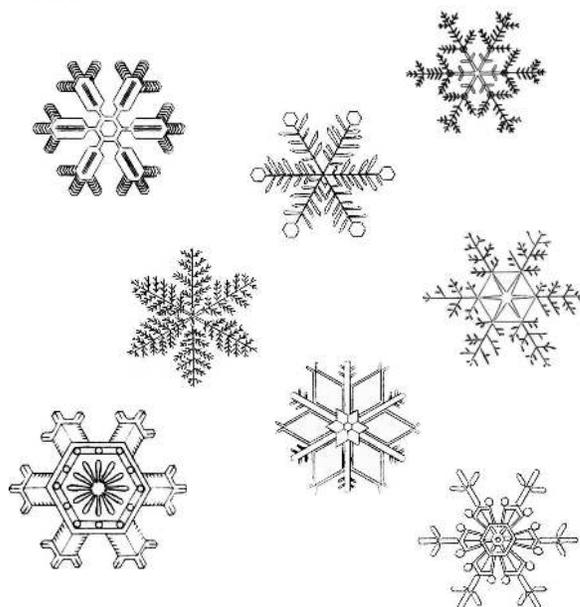
January 18 (Virginia Beach, the Founder’s Inn and Spa). **2016 Home Gardener Day.** 8:00am—4:00pm. Registration: <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ebissv0haf08977a&llr=v5ryi8bab>

Includes hot lunch, free parking, and a gardener’s dream day of fellowship and knowledge! Has our world changed? Is your garden prepared? Speakers invited to this event include Thomas Rainer, Doug Tallamy, Vincent Simeone, Karen Bussolini, John Kartesz, and Pam Beck.

January 19-22 (same location as above). **Mid Atlantic Horticultural Short Course.** Nationally Recognized training for professionals in the green industries sponsored by Virginia Horticultural Foundation. For more info and registration <http://www.mahsc.org/registration-details/>

February 9 (Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, Norge) **Victorian Valentine’s Day Tussie Mussies by Julie Stanton.** 1:00pm. An open meeting sponsored by the Colonial Triangle of Virginia Unit of the Herb Society of America.

March 18 (Waynesboro, Va., Parks and Recreation). **2016 Shenandoah Valley Plant Symposium.** 8:00am - 4:00pm. A *Gardener’s Palette* of speakers. It requires an overnight stay but is well worth the effort. Details will be coming soon.



INTERNAL EDUCATION

BY KATHY BUSH

While waiting in a doctor's office last month I came across a really interesting article on deer. Since many of us battle with the azalea-munching menaces, and many of our questions from the community are how to keep them out of our yards, I thought I would share some interesting tidbits from the article *#Deerpocalypse* by Caroline Kettlewell in the December 2015 issue of *Virginia Living Magazine*.



Shutterstock.com

Early in the twentieth century, there were so few deer in Virginia that in the 1920s deer were actually imported to the state! Now with predators limited to bears, bobcats, and coyotes, the deer populations can double every two-three years. In the lush landscape of suburbia, deer find food and shelter, and enjoy the wood's-edge environment that our subdivisions provide. Fences don't help to keep them out. They can jump an eight-ten-foot fence, cover thirty feet in a single bound, and can have a burst of speed topping thirty-five miles per hour.

Nationwide, thirty million deer are responsible for more than a million car collisions and over one hundred human deaths. They are also to blame for agricultural losses to exceed \$4 billion. They are responsible for chewing through fifteen million metric tons of vegetation every year and clear out woodland under-canopies, wreck landscape, and destroy cover habitat for birds and small mammals.



Wikipedia

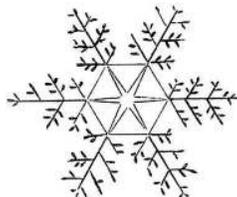


Jan Tik, Flickr

Having said that, we are as much living in their world as they are living in ours. They have adapted to their suburban habitat, and so we must find ways to protect our shrubbery and vegetation from their voracious appetites. The land grant universities tell us that deer spray, planting things they don't like, and tall fencing are the best deterrents. For more detailed information, check out this link: <https://chatham.ces.ncsu.edu/reducing-deer-damage-in-landscapes/>

There is something to be said for the beauty of silhouetted deer in a field or forest quietly munching their dinner. They are agile, powerful, amazing animals who are frightened by us and our vehicles. Maybe this will be the year that you have victory over their destructive habits and an appreciation for the graceful animals God created.

Happy New Year!



VIRGINIA MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION REPORT

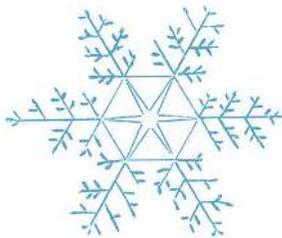
BY MARILYN RIDDLE

The breakfast and lunch committees did an excellent job hosting VMGA on December 12 in the Schell Room at the Williamsburg Regional Library. As coordinator and an MG rep, I welcomed the group to Williamsburg and introduced Kate Robbins and Debby Griesinger who, in turn, discussed various aspects of our unit. Much of the meeting centered around the remarks of a local attorney, Josephine Ursini Krantz, an expert on 501(c)(3)s. (Section 501 (c)(3) is the portion of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code that allows for federal tax exemption of nonprofit organizations).

Dave Close repeated that Master Gardener College will start on Friday, June 24, with check in. Classes will be held on June 25-26, with Monday reserved for bus trips. VMGA night, with a catered event, will take place on Sunday. This is a change from previous years, since a large conference is trumping our usual time slot. All current MGs may purchase either edition (pdf or print) of the new MG manual for \$50 plus shipping. It is highly recommended that we consolidate orders for cheaper shipping charges. Feedback, both positive and negative, is encouraged about the new edition before May 1 and should be directed to CALS (College of Life Sciences) at Va Tech. The chapters on *Perennials* and *Woodies* written by Holly Scoggins and Alex Niemara, respectively, are new. They are both longtime VT professors in CALS. February 23 is the date for ANR coordinators' training.

Colonial Williamsburg and Brent and Becky's Bulbs contributed plant material and some of the bulbs that we used for door prizes and items in the bags. The rest of the bulbs were purchased at the warehouse sale in Gloucester County.

The next VMGA meeting will be held in Northumberland County on February 13. If you would like to attend, see Jeanne Millen or me.



About forty people from units all over the state attended the meeting. Marilyn and her many elves provided a breakfast buffet and fulfilled lunch orders from Panera.



Wishing everyone a
happy and healthy new
year!



OUR CW GARDENS IN WINTER

BY SUE LIDDELL

The George Reid and Shields gardens are looking pretty good, and the buildings are as well. The George Reid house won a blue ribbon (one of six) in the CW decorating contest. Thanks for keeping the gardens beautiful and productive this year.



Photos by Sue Liddell.





E2 NEWS BY KARI ABBOTT

Salutations!

I hope everyone had a warm and wonderful holiday. December was a great month in E2! JBB and DJM went out to the Apperson's Tree Farm. We had beautiful weather to walk around the farm and learn about trees. Both trips were so much fun no one wanted to leave to go back to school. The volunteers had good fun as well.

Also in December, the kindergartners learned about evergreens and did some beautiful abstract art with the pine needles we gave them.

January will bring water lessons and the beginning of a new year brimming with excitement.

If you want to come join us you are always welcome.



HONEY BEE HOSTING BY KATHY BUSH



In November, Don Cole from Back Forty Bees came and spoke at our monthly meeting about keeping honey bees and the amazing work they do for us pollinating our trees, gardens, and flowers. He wrote me recently to tell of a new service he is offering to put bees in your yard or neighborhood. He writes "I've developed a new service, Honey Bee Hosting, that is for folks who want the benefits of having honey bees, but not the work and investment with owning them. The info on the program is on my web site here - <http://www.backfortybees.com/host-honey-bees/> ." Check it out. It is an interesting concept!

Please attend our monthly meeting on January 7th as we welcome our graduating class of 2015 Master Gardeners and their guests with a ceremony and buffet.

CONGRATULATIONS!

YEAR-ROUND TURF LOVE AND GARDEN LOVE PROGRAMS IMPROVE WATER QUALITY—JOIN THE TEAM

BY JUDY KINSHAW-ELLIS

Turf Love was one of the earliest turf programs in Virginia, and now, after more than fifteen years of teaching JCC residents how to care for their lawns, the Virginia Cooperative Extension is rolling out a statewide program that local cooperative extension offices can adopt called Healthy Virginia Lawns (HVL). It is a tiered program in which residents can participate on three levels: Gold, Silver, or Bronze. The HVL program mirrors the current JCC/W MG program in many ways, and the benefits offered locally are close to Gold level participation in the state program.

Complementing Turf Love is Garden Love, a rain garden program that helps homeowners in the design and location of the gardens. Rain gardens serve to prevent run-off and filter storm water, and they are a good way for homeowners to help prevent sediment in area waterways.

The success and growth of Turf Love depends on MG volunteers who measure lawns and collect soil samples in addition to identifying drainage issues where a rain garden could be a solution. Our Lawn Rangers are our front line volunteers who meet with homeowners, address any issues they have for their turf or drainage, and then measure and sample the yard. Lawn Rangers can opt to work in neighborhoods near their homes and can also work in pairs. Training classes for 2016 will be held February 18 or 22 from 9:30 am —11:30 am at the JCC Virginia Cooperative Extension Office in Toano and will include information on measuring, completing forms, and some general weed and turf grass identification and soil information.

This year, Turf Love will also develop a lawn care program for residents who want a nice lawn while reducing chemical use. The upcoming Turf Love University in April will feature presentations on composting and other organic treatments available to residents as well as water quality/conservation topics such as rain gardens and barrels.

HVL, like the Turf Love program, is designed to help residents make good decisions about their properties and improve turf growth through accurate fertilization and soil amendment. Healthy turf also helps slow untreated storm water and sediment from reaching our waterways, thus helping to reduce pollution. People often think of Turf Love as primarily a grass program when, in fact, it has always been and remains a water quality program.



Photo by Judy Kinshaw-Ellis

A third training opportunity will be offered after the new MG class is finished. That training will include more information on rain gardens.

For more information or to sign up for training, call Judy Kinshaw-Ellis at 757-564-2172. Current Lawn Rangers should attend the first hour of training.

Join the Turf Love team.

Training Classes for Turf Love Lawn Rangers are February 18 or 22, 9:30 am to 11:30 am, JCC Extension Office

WINTER/EARLY SPRING PLANT WALKS

BY HELEN HAMILTON

All walks are sponsored by the John Clayton Chapter, Virginia Native Plant Society.

Skunk Cabbage Walk. Saturday, January 23. Come look for skunk cabbage in Longhill Swamp. Helen Hamilton, and Gus Hall will lead a walk through nearby upland woods. Meet at the Christian Life Center on Longhill Road across from Lafayette High School at 1:00 pm (and wear waterproof footwear). To register, call Helen at (757) 564-4494 or email at helen48@cox.net.

Evergreen Walk. Saturday, February 6. Join Gus Hall at 10:00 am on a quest for everything green at the Wahrani Nature Trail in New Kent County. Expect to see a lot of over-wintering plants – there are two species of orchids, several species of mosses, and lichens, sedges, ground cedar, clubmoss, ferns, a grass or two, and a few herbaceous leaves. Dress for the weather and expect uneven trails and some muddy areas along the trail.

Please register so that, in case the walk has to be re-scheduled because of inclement weather, we will be able to let you know. To register, contact Helen Hamilton at (757) 564- 4494 or helen48@cox.net.

Directions from the east (Williamsburg): Take 64 west towards Richmond, then take the 2nd West Point exit (Exit 220). Travel approximately four miles on Hwy. 33 towards West Point; trail entrance will be on the right hand side.

From the north (West Point): Take Hwy 33 across the bridge at West Point towards New Kent and travel approximately three-four miles on Hwy. 33 past the bridge; trail entrance will be on the left hand side.

For more information and a map, visit www.hikingupward.com/ovh/wahrani.

Nude Tree Walk. February 13, 10:00 am.

Walk with Charlie Dubay to learn about identification of trees in winter condition. At the top of the hill is a nice comparison of three Virginia pines – loblolly, Virginia, and shortleaf. Participants may park in the William and Mary Hall parking lot, which is open to the public on weekends. Meet Charlie at the Sports Center, 400 Brooks Street to walk to the College Woods. And remember—although most trees will be nude at this time of year, decency suggests that walk participants be clothed!

Contact Charlie Dubay at (757) 870-0284 to register and in case of bad weather.

Weeds or Wildflowers? Saturday, March 26 at 1:30 pm. Helen Hamilton will lead this walk in the Freedom Park area to identify emerging spring weeds and wildflowers. Learn which weeds are welcome and why others should be eliminated, and expect to see the first flowers of spring! Meet at the Freedom Park Interpretive Center parking lot. Contact Helen at (757) 564-4494 or helen48@cox.net for more information.

Weeds and Orchids. Saturday, April 16, from 9:30 to noon. Join Donna Ware at Freedom Park to see native and non-native weeds [such as bluets (*Houstonia* spp. and *Veronica* spp.) of early spring in the big fields near the Interpretive Center and to visit a calcareous ravine to see showy orchis (*Galearis spectabilis*) and other species that prefer high nutrient soils. For information and to register contact Donna at (757) 565-0657 or dmeware@verizon.net

Wildflowers and Orchids! Saturday, April 23, at 10:am, at Grafton Ponds area. Join environmental consultant Meegan Wallace to look for showy orchis (*Galearis spectabilis*) which should be in bloom as well as many spring wildflowers.

Travel east on Fort Eustis Blvd (Va-105), pass Richneck Road on the right, look for a small parking area on the left, marked with VNPS signs. Contact Meegan at (757) 291-1099 to register and for more information.

“The love of gardening is a seed once sown that never dies.” —Gertrude Jekyll

WILDFLOWER OF THE MONTH - JANUARY 2016

BY HELEN HAMILTON

PAST PRESIDENT, JOHN CLAYTON CHAPTER, VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

PUTTY-ROOT ORCHID

Aplectrum hyemale

A single leaf above the leaf litter marks the location of this little native orchid in the winter. When flowers appear in May and June, there is no sign of the leaf. While not very common in our area, now and then in rich woods a green-and-white-striped, pleated leaf can be seen lying flat on top of dead leaves. The underside is pale purple.

Like its more common relative, Crane-fly Orchid, *Tipularia discolor*, this plant reverses the normal cycle of leaves in the summer, and takes advantage of the bare forest trees. Without the trees' heavy leaf cover, more light reaches the ground, and the purplish underside functions to collect the winter light, allowing photosynthesis to occur in the cells on the silvery-green topside.



Putty-root Orchid leaf (*Aplectrum hyemale*)
taken by Helen Hamilton



Putty-root Orchid flowers taken by
Phillip Merritt

The flowering stalk is less conspicuous than the leaf. Standing only a foot tall, tiny yellowish flowers are spaced along the stalk. Various bees visit the flowers which are also self-fertile. The resulting seeds are distributed by the wind.

Putty-root Orchid is more frequent in the Piedmont and Mountain regions of Virginia, but can be found occasionally in our area, growing in calcareous ravines, in woods with beech and maple trees. The plant probably requires association with certain mycorrhizal fungi that enhance the uptake of water and minerals from surrounding soils. This little orchid ranges throughout eastern and central U.S. and Canada, usually at higher elevations.

Clones of this plant can form from the fibrous roots spreading out from the bulbous corms. The alternate common name "Adam and Eve" refers to the basal corms which are usually in pairs connected by a rhizome.

"Putty-root" refers to a mucilaginous substance which can be removed from the tubers when they are crushed. When mixed with water, the resulting sticky substance was used to mend broken crockery by early European settlers. Native Americans made a paste from the roots to treat boils, and a tea was used to treat bronchial troubles.

Aplectrum comes from the Latin, meaning that the flowers are "without spurs." The species name *hyemale* means "winter" and refers to the fact that this orchid has a solitary leaf that persists all winter.

For more information about native plants visit www.vnps.org.

Important Dates

- 1/5 Illustrating the Flora of Virginia, Jamestown Settlement
- 1/14 Using Pen to Illustrate Flora, Jamestown Settlement
- 1/16 Making the Right Cut, Freedom Park
- 1/18 Home Gardener Day, Virginia Beach
- 1/19 Flora Virginica, Jamestown Settlement
- 1/19-22 Mid-Atlantic Horticulture Short Course, Virginia Beach
- 1/23 Skunk Cabbage Walk, Christian Life Center
- 1/28 Nature Journaling, Jamestown Settlement
- 2/2 Wildflowers & Grasses, Jamestown Settlement
- 2/6 Evergreen Walk, Wahrani Nature Trail
- 2/9 Tussie Mussies, Our Saviour's
- 2/13 Nude Tree Walk, College Woods
- 2/13 VMGA meeting, Northumberland Co.
- 2/18 Turf Love Training, VCE office
- 2/22 Turf Love Training, VCE office
- 2/25 Naked Tree Walk, Jamestown Settlement
- 3/18 2016 Shenandoah Plant Symposium, Waynesboro
- 3/26 Weeds or Wildflowers?, Freedom Park
- 4/16: 19th Gardening Symposium, CNU
- 4/16 Weeds and Orchids, Freedom Park
- 4/23 Wildflowers and Orchids!, Grafton Ponds area
- 4/30: Annual Plant Sale, Jamestown Beach Park

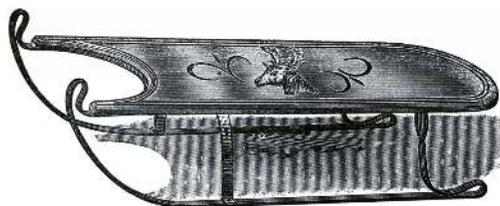
SUNSHINE NOTES



This past month we sent a card to:

Ginny Cranford (surgery)
Dan Tevlin (surgery)

The organization would like to send cards to members with difficult medical issues or who have experienced a death in the immediate family. Please provide names to the MG secretary, Cathy Johnson, at (757) 208-0065, or cathypj@gmail.com.



NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions to the February newsletter will be Monday, January 25.

Please send any submissions to Hope Yelich, newsletter editor, at hopeyulich@gmail.com

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.

ABOUT THE VIRGINIA MASTER GARDENERS AND VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Virginia Master Gardeners are volunteer educators who work within their communities to encourage and promote environmentally sound horticulture practices through sustainable landscape management education and training. As an educational program of Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Master Gardeners bring the resources of Virginia's land-grant universities, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, to the people of the commonwealth.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnie, Interim Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg.