

The Colonial Master Gardener

PUBLICATION OF JCC/WMASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION &
VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



July 2010

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY LINDA LUCAS

Our newly-elected JCC/W MG Association Board members are: Margene Hartsough, Class of 2009, Vice President of Administration; Jerry Babski, a 2006 transfer from New York with many years of MG experience there, VP of Internal Education; Marilyn Riddle, Class of 2001, and Angela Cingale, Class of 2000, who will serve jointly as VMGA Representatives. They will all officially take over from outgoing Board members on July 1st; and we are delighted to have them join our team.

John Giffin has done a great job as VP of Administration, a position that was newly created in 2008 and that he has defined and organized these past two years. One of his many accomplishments was establishing a Membership Committee; and fortunately he will continue as Membership Chair...in addition to all of the project work he does.

Carol Fryer has provided us with delightful newsletter columns each month, keeping us informed on upcoming speakers for our meetings and on all the other advanced education opportunities we have, including field trips that she and the Education Committee arrange. She, too, will stay very active since she and Barb Landa will be in charge of our 2011 Training Class.

Nelda and Jim Pressly have kept us informed on VMGA activities and have been such a valuable source of association history and guidance for the Board these past two years. Many thanks to all of them for the time and talent they have shared—and will continue to share—with our JCC/W MG Association.

With the James City County Fair, the New Kent Farm Tour and at least eight JCC/W MGs heading to Blacksburg for Master Gardener College, this is a busy time! We look forward to hearing all about the classes and events at Virginia Tech at our August meeting. (*Remember, there is no general meeting in July.*)

NO JULY MEETING

Next Monthly Meeting:

August 5, 9 a.m.,
Williamsburg Regional Library;
Lisa Ziegler, owner of the Gardeners'
Workshop, "Fall Planting"

MILESTONE AWARDS

BY LINDA LUCAS



Master Gardener Milestone Awards will be presented at MG College to those who attend. For those who are not able to attend, we will present certificates and pins at our August meeting. Congratulations to all!

6000 Hours: Sue Liddell

2000 Hours: Carol Fryer, Genrose Lashing, Jim Pressly

1000 Hours: Jerry Babski, Patricia Crowe, Lois Enlow, John Giffin, Jack Gross, Jim Kavitz, Minouche Robinson and Ruth Schultz

500 Hours: Flora Adams, Virginia Banks, Rosemarie Brennan, Sherry Curtis, Nancy Greene, Jack Gross, Nancy Harris, Denny Mehigan, Jeanne Millin, Anne Nielsen, Donald Parker, Harriet Parsons, Deb Secrist, Toni Webb, Bob Winters and Jim Word

250 Hours: Annette Bell, Carolyn Gaertner, Nancy Harding, Caroline Hedrick, Pembroke Hoffmire, Patricia Janot, Barb Landa, Caryl LeFever, Kathy Lykins, Pat Markey, Jim Massengill, Jeanne Millin, Katherine Nice, Harriet Parsons, Richard Prosl, Edith Schoenig, Deb Secrist, Linda Wever and Dennis Wool

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INTERNAL EDUCATION



BY CAROL FRYER

On, May 26th, eleven people attended the field trip to the New Kent Forestry Center. Lisa Deaton, Forest Education Specialist, VA Dept. of Forestry, generously spent 3 hours with our group. She explained the history of the research center, gave us a tour of the testing fields for the Loblolly Pine and Chestnut Tree research projects, and led a tour on the trail through the Bald Cypress swamp. She shared brochures with the group about State Parks, and waterways in Virginia. We not only learned a great deal during our time with Lisa, but also had enjoyable exercise walking the trail. Thanks to Jim Word for organizing this field trip.

Jim Orband, extension agent from York County, certainly held our attention during his presentation on *Ferns* at the June monthly meeting. Look for the list of ferns in this newsletter (page 4) that Jim discussed during his talk. We will all miss him and hope he enjoys his retirement. You can tune in to Cathy Lewis *Hear Say* radio program, 12noon to 1 PM, 89.5 FM, on the third Wednesday of each month to hear Jim answer questions about gardening.

At the August meeting, Lisa Ziegler, flower grower from Newport News, will be our speaker. Detailed information about Lisa was posted in the June newsletter. Lisa will be speaking at 10 AM, following the business meeting. She will bring items from her Gardener's Workshop catalog that will be available to see following her presentation.

Eight Master Gardeners will be attending MG College, June 23-27th, 2010 - Anne Nielsen, Donna Xander, Toni Webb, Nancy Greene, Jean Millin, Barbara and Art Gufstason and Carol Fryer. You will hear about our experiences, hopefully in the next newsletter.

Special thanks to all the Education Committee members for all the work you have done over the last 2 years. We look forward to working with Jerry Babski as the chair of the committee and VP of Internal Education. Enjoy the Summer and July 4th!



Bob Winters demonstrates the core sampler.

UP-COMING WORKSHOPS

* July 12, 2010

Edible Flowers Educational Workshop.

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Ware Episcopal Church Parish Hall, John Clayton Memorial Highway, Gloucester, Virginia with Chef Eric Garcia of Inn at Warner Hall, Gloucester.

This workshop will include presentations on types of flowers that are edible, their culture and their use in culinary creations. Chef Garcia will prepare lunch and will talk about his experiences using edible flowers. Marion Baker, Duchess of Gloucester Flowers, will share information on flowers that are edible, their culture, and information for participants who want to continue learning about using flowers for culinary purposes.

Registration is limited to 25 participants. A fee of \$30 will be charged to cover workshop expenses. To register, e-mail marion@duchessflowers.com for a registration form.

* Sept. 16 & 17, 2010

Good Green, Bad Green – Invasive Plant Control for Habitat Restoration

A MID-ATLANTIC FOCUSED CONFERENCE
Northern Virginia 4-H Center and Smithsonian Conservation Ecology Center, Front Royal, Virginia

Auditorium and Field-sessions include:

- * Species identification techniques
- * Integrated Pest Management
- * Treatment demonstrations
- * Strategies for conducting site triage
- * Herbicide safety
- * Restoration successes and challenges

Who should attend:

Natural Resource Professionals. Master Naturalists, Consulting Foresters, Landowners. Arborists & Horticulturalists, Master Gardeners.

Contact Adam Downing for sponsorship info: 540-948-6881 or adowning@vt.edu

SUPER TURF SATURDAY

BY BARB FOLEY

Super Turf Saturday will be hosted by Virginia Cooperative Extension, James City County Office, on **August 7**, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the James City Recreation Center. Pre-Registration is required (564-2170).

2009
MG Board

President:
Linda Lucas
565-0335

VP Projects:
Jeanne Millin
258-4724

VP Internal Ed:
Carol Fryer
220-0759

VP Administration:
John Giffin
345-5209

Secretary:
Pat Janot
221-0289

Treasurer:
Linda Wever
566-0286

VMGA Reps:
Jim & Nelda Pressly
220-1858

Past President:
Dave Banks
258-8632

Co-op Ext Rep:
Doris Heath
564-2170

The MG Board meets on the third Friday of each month, at 9:00 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.

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LANDSCAPE LOVE SPRING PROGRAM

BY ANNE NIELSEN, PROJECT CHAIR

April and May were very busy for our LANDSCAPE LOVE volunteers. Five teams composed of Master Gardeners and Interns made 46 visits to area residents to educate them on Best Management Practices for their landscapes. Judging from the responses from residents, the teams were more successful than ever!! Thank you to everyone who participated. I hope all of you learned something as well as enjoyed the experience of educating others.

Participating MGs were: Tod Allen, Jerry Babski, Ailene Bartlett, Annette Bell, Milt Berube, Suzanne Brown, Carol Connor, Gary Driscole, Mitzie Emory, Carol Fryer, Carolyn Gaertner, John Giffin, Helen Hamilton, Margene Hartsough, Barb Landa, Caryl LeFever, Anne Nielsen, Jane Healy-

Norbrega, Jeanne Millin, Becky Morgan, Ruth Ann Pemberthy, Sally Sissel, Rich Strenkowski, Dan Tevlin and Janice Wolford.



Participating Interns were: Patricia Abraham, Mitzi Balma, Eric Bramfitt, Karen Brooks, Virginia Burrows, Judy Casone, Nancy Cassano, Carol Cavanaugh, Susan Donnelly, Lee Fehrenkamp, Denise Fleischman, Barbara Floyd, Yvonne Forbes, Janet Giffin, Erin Halleran, Karen Harkins, Chere Harper, Kathy Johnson, Katherine Miniclier, Patsy McGrady, Renee Napolitano, Gary Rehm, Jan Rockoff, David Sisson, Richard Stratton and Kathleen Wilhide.

Well done, everyone. I look forward to working with you again for the October visits.

ATTENTION MGs ! RESERVE SEPT. 22 ON YOUR CALENDAR!

BY PAT CROWE

The Virginia Cooperative Extension office of James City County and the James City County-Williamsburg Master Gardener Association will present a one-day symposium, *Healing thru Gardening* at the JCC Recreation Center on Longhill Road on Wednesday, September 22, 2010.

The symposium is designed for professionals, allied professionals, community volunteers who work with persons with special needs and Master Gardeners who work or are interested in working in the area of therapeutic gardening. Our Keynote speaker will be Dr. Diane Relf, founding member of the AHTA and the People-Plant Council and Professor Emeritus, VA Tech. Other speakers include Kirk Ballin, Virginia AgrAbility; Dr. Pamela Perkins, a member of the American Psychological Association and currently practicing with Jewish Family Services in Richmond; Peggy Krapf, licensed landscape designer and Master Gardener and JCC-W Master Gardeners involved in our therapeutic gardening program. Topics such as



wheelchair gardening, developing horticulture skills for the workplace and starting a therapeutic gardening program will be included. We will also have exhibits and vendors.

Cost will be \$20 per person. This will include continental breakfast, box lunch, beverages throughout the day and participant materials. We will offer .5 CEU following successful symposium completion. In addition, you will receive advanced training hours for your participation.

Registration will open in mid-July and will extend through September 8. Additional information will be distributed to all Master Gardeners soon. We hope we can count on many of you to support this effort and to attend the program.

Contact Barbara Gustafson or Linda Lucas if you would like to volunteer to help with this event.

BUTTERFLIES AT BOTANICAL GARDEN

BY HELEN HAMILTON



Saturday, July 24, 10:00-11:00 am: Join Barb Dunbar to learn about the life of monarch butterflies at the Williamsburg Botanical Garden in Freedom Park (intersection of Centerville and Longhill Roads). The program is free and open to the public, and of special interest to children. Rain Date Saturday, July 31. Contact Programs Chair Barb Dunbar for information: 757-880-8875, twotac@cox.net.

FARMER'S MARKET SCHEDULE:

SUMMER 2010

BY SALLY SISSEL

July 3: Flower Gardens
July 17: *Incredible Edibles*
(vegetable container gardening)
July 31: *Therapeutic Gardening*

Tuesday Farmers' Markets:
10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

FERNS



Below is a list of Ferns discussed by Jim Orband at the 6/3/10 monthly meeting presentation.

Cultural needs:

- Ferns need moist and well drained soil
- Use compost to get soil moist
- Ferns require filtered shade to full sun for some types
- Old fronds deteriorate into garden; don't pull old fronds off – prune for a clean cut.
- Dryopteris ferns can take a little drier soil than other types.

Evergreen Ferns:

* Autumn Fern, *Dryopteris erythosora*, - pink/maroon in autumn

* Christmas Fern, *Polystichum acrostichoides* – fronds upright in summer; slant in the fall; lay down on ground in winter.

* Deer fern, *Blechnum spicant* – fertile fronds have ebony ribs; non-fertile don't.

* East Indian Holly Ferns, *Arachnoides simplicor variegata* – yellow midriff; good with Daphne

* Hart's Tongue Fern, *Asplenium scolopendrium* – likes alkaline soil; plant in containers; break up shells and put in container

* Holly Fern, *Cyrtomium falcatum* – large plant, place near hosta and hydrangeas

* Male Fern, *Dryopteris filix-mas*

* Shaggy Shield Fern, *Dryopteris cycadina*

* Tassel Fern, *Polystichum polyblpharum*, – good in front of Itea and Holly Fern

* Fancy Fern, *Dryopteris intermedia*, - wood fern; takes up a large area, spreads

* Marginal Fern or Evergreen Wood Fern, *Dryopteris marginalis* – spores are on the margins.

Deciduous Ferns:

* Beech Fern, *Thelypteris hexagon* - light and airy.

* Cinnamon Fern, *Osmunda cinnamomea* – spores are on the upright cinnamon colored fertile fronds, not on the green fronds.

* Southern Maiden Fern, *Thelypteris normalis*– 2-4'; can take full sun/ part shade; moist soil but also drought tolerant

* Lowland Fragile Fern, Brittle Fern, *Cystopteris protrusa* – 4-6"

* Tennessee Bladder Fern, *Cystopteris tennesseensis* Shaver – grows on limestone

* Hay Scented Fern, *Dennstaedtia punctiloba* – sun or part shade

* Japanese Painted Fern, *Athyrium nipponicum* – variegated, lightens other plants nearby

* Lady Fern, *Athyrium filix-femina* - slow growing

* Maidenhair Fern, *Adiantum raddianum* – delicate in form

* Netted Chain Fern, *Woodwardia areolata* – spores in chain-like rows on fronds

* New York Fern, *Thelypteris noveboracensis* – invasive; don't put in garden

* Ostrich Fern, *Matteuccia struthiopteris*- 3-6', spreads, fertile fronds come up in late Aug.

* Royal Fern, *Osmunda regalis* – long rachis

* Sensitive Fern, *Onoclea sensibilis* – tolerates run with good moisture; margins curved; fronds have beaded spores; often confused with Netted Chain Fern.

Selaginella species: not actual ferns – fern allies

* Peacock Fern, *Selaginella* - spreads by rhizomes; can take filtered sun, not full sun; deciduous.

* Arborvitae Fern, *Selaginella braunii* - 10" tall

Other shade plant:

* Sweetbox, *Sarcococca humilis* – underground rhizomes; fragrant in Jan., groundcover 1-2'.

Plant combinations/applications:

- * Plant Christmas fern with maidenhair fern, and foam flower, or arum.
- * Use Holly fern as a permanent shrub.
- * Plant Ostrich fern behind and around a Trident maple
- * Ferns are good with Itea, Hostas, Foam flower; use *Sarcococca* as a groundcover in front of taller ferns.
- * New guinea impatiens looks good with sun tolerant ferns.
- * Sensitive ferns are planted between yews at Dunbarton Oaks, DC; designed by Beatrice Rand.

References:

* Ferns for American Gardens- John Mickel, curator of fern, NY Botanical Garden

Notes taken by Carol Fryer 6/3/2010

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E2 TRAINING

BY KARI ABBOTT



E2 training for the upcoming school year (2010-2011) will be held **Tuesday, 24 August, 2010** at the Health and Human Services Building, in the front conference room.

Training will begin promptly at 9am and will last until 3pm. Advanced Training credit is awarded for this class. Everyone is welcome.

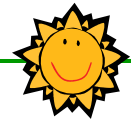
It would help to know who is coming, as you will receive materials, and make things at this workshop.

Please RSVP to Kari Abbott, Project Chairperson E2 at bearsbaskets@cox.net

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

The deadline for submission of material for the **August Newsletter** is **Monday, July 19.**

Please send to Cathy Lohwater, newsletter editor, at cathy.lohwater@cox.net or call 757-259-1133.



SUNSHINE NOTES

A get well note was sent to Dale and Shirley Firestone following an auto accident.

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 Janot. She will send a note or take appropriate action on behalf of the organization. Pat may be reached at 221-0289 or janotap@verizon.net.

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.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- July 19 August Newsletter Deadline
- Aug. 5 Monthly Mtg. @WRL; 9 a.m.; Lisa Ziegler, "Fall Planting"
- Aug. 7 Super Turf Saturday
- Aug. 24 E2 Training, 9 AM–3 PM
- Sept. 22 Therapeutic Gardening Symposium

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.

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2010 SUPER TURF SATURDAY



AUGUST 7

8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Registration at 8:30 a.m. Program starts at 9 a.m.
JAMES CITY WILLIAMSBURG RECREATION CENTER
Longhill Road

Pre-Registration Required! Deadline to Register: August 6

**Call Virginia Cooperative Extension,
James City County, 757-564-2179,
and leave a message:**

- your name
- phone number
- no. planning to attend



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How to Buy the Right Seed

How to Manage Your Soil

Mowing Strategies

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If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in these activities, please contact Sandra Kee, Virginia Cooperative Extension, James City County Office, at 757-564-2170 or TDD (800) 828-1120 during business hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event.