

The Colonial Master Gardener

PUBLICATION OF JCC/WMASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION &
VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



April 2014

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY MARGENE HARTSOUGH

On March 8 a group of our local members were in Lexington attending a Tree Symposium. What a great treat it was to hear two wonderful authorities talk about the beauty and life of trees as well as to enjoy the humor of one of football's greatest coaches, Coach Vince Dooley of the University of Georgia (more on page 7). Even my husband enjoyed this educational experience and both of us agreed we will never look at trees the same again. I encourage you to take advantage of these types of educational experiences, make it a little get away to a fun place and have a learning experience.

In only a month our plant sale will be occurring. I hope you have planted your seeds and are tenderly caring for them, or have that dig planned to divide some of those over abundant plants in your yard and have signed on to

volunteer the week and day of the event. Everyone is needed to make this a successful happening. Remember every project in which we participate receives funding from the plant sale and for that reason alone each of us needs to do our part to make it the best. Our friends, neighbors and other members of the community will be looking for the quality plants we can provide, so get started with your contribution. Oh, if you are going to be away, you can always write a check to represent what you would have spent purchasing plants for your own yard.

Let's hope the last snow has fallen and those spring flowers can start to emerge representing the new life all around. Happy Gardening, Margene

**Next Meeting:
Thursday, April 3**

**Speaker:
Mike Androckz - Camellias**

E2 NEWS FOR SPRING 2014

BY KARI ABBOTT



Thank you to all the interns that visited E2 during the Project Fair April 24. E2 will be contacting you shortly.

E2 will be presenting at Master Gardener College this summer. I understand we will have a Friday class. The E2 team is preparing and gearing up to take Blacksburg by storm.

Our annual field trips are right around the corner. Everyone is welcome to join us. The walk through day is Thursday, April 24th at 9:00 a.m. at York River State Park. If you want to join us on April 24th, please email Kari Abbott at bearsbaskets@cox.net. I will make sure you get the materials so you will have a fun time at the park. The schools will be touring the park as follows:

Monday, May 5 Clara Byrd Baker
Tuesday, May 6 DJM

Wednesday, May 7

Matthew Whaley

Friday, May 9

JBB

Tues. and Wed., May 13 & 14

Matoaka

Each year we have a different adventure. E2 volunteers know when a tree falls in a forest it makes a lot of noise...the things you learn with E2 are amazing.

A thank you shout-out to Genrose Lashinger: The film canisters are greatly appreciated. If anyone else has any empty 45 mm film canisters, E2 would appreciate your donation. We have an activity that uses the canisters and we need a few more. Thanks so much, Kari

The Colonial Master Gardener April 2014

2014
MG Board

President:
Margene
Hartsough

President Elect:
Sue Liddell

VP Projects:
Debbie Griesinger

VP Internal Ed:
Judy Casone

VP Administration:
Dennis Wool

Secretary:
Patsy McGrady

Treasurer:
Bob Winther

VMGA Reps:
Marilyn Riddle and
Angela Cingale

Past President:
Linda Lucas

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.

INTERNAL EDUCATION

BY JUDY CASONE

The JCC Education Committee is offering a Field trip to Richmond on Monday, May 19th for \$15.50 per person. Our first stop will be the Moss Garden, Eden Woods, of Norie Burnett. This walking tour will be from 10:00 until 11:00 a.m.

Once the tour is concluded, we'll go Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden for lunch and then an afternoon tour of the various gardens with Ralph Ashton, a JCCW MG.

The \$15.50 fee will be collected at the May 1st meeting. Please bring your check made out JCCWVG, and give it to Angela Cingale. Our

group fee needs to be sent in to LGBG as per their group tour policy.

Space for the tour is limited and is on a "first come, first served" basis, so please be sure to sign up on May 1st. Further information regarding car pooling will be sent separately with time and place.

Also, please join us at the April 3 meeting. Mike Androckz will be speaking about Camellias.

NEW KENT ENVIROTHON/EARTH DAY

BY SUE DONNELLY

On Saturday, April 12, 2014, the New Kent Virginia Cooperative Extension Office, in conjunction with the New Kent Clean County Committee, and Virginia Farm Bureau, will celebrate Earth Day.

Envirothon/Earth Day, a day of activities for all ages, is designed to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's environment. The event will be held at the New Kent Virginia Cooperative Extension Office, which is located at 11809 New Kent Highway (at the Historic New Kent High School).

Earth friendly educational demonstrations will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the whole family, featuring "Ocean in Motion," an aquarium and touch tank, in addition to a live animal demonstration by AWARE rehabilitators and

educators interested in helping injured and orphaned wildlife.

Other attractions include:

- New Kent Lions Club
- State Farm Insurance
- Central Virginia Waste Management
- New Kent County Public Utilities
- Restored Windows with Lee Dail
- Couch's Corner Berries
- New Kent Heritage Library
- Growing Mushrooms
- Dehydrating Fruits and Vegetables
- And more!

Questions concerning this event may be directed toward the New Kent Virginia Cooperative Extension Office at 804-966-9645.



ARBOR DAY AWARDS

BY JUDY CASONE

Each year the Williamsburg Area Council of Garden Clubs hosts the Arbor Day Ceremony and Reception. It is co-sponsored by either the City of Williamsburg, Yorktown, or Jamestown on a rotating basis. Each year a tree is planted and this year the City of Williamsburg donated a Fringe tree to be planted in Getty Park. The ceremony was at 10:00 and was attended by members of the WACGC.

Nominations for the various awards are made by the Garden Clubs who are members of the WACGCs. The nomination should tell why the nominee should be considered and in the case of a garden include pictures.

Our own Master Gardener, Anne Nielsen and Geneva Hunt presented the awards. We are proud to announce two (2) of our Master Gardeners won awards.

Mandy Baldrige won the Arbor Day Individual Award. As you can imagine this is quite an honor and one so well deserved. (Mandy shown with Anne and Geneva waiting for award).
↓



Mandy

The Water Wise Garden, Project Director Iris Grant and co-chair Stacy DeMeo were awarded an Arbor Day Certificate of Appreciation. Shown with Iris and Stacy is Harriet Parsons, previous Chair of Water Wise Garden. ↓



TURF LOVE TOOLS

Attention Past Turf Love Lawn Rangers:
If you still have tools but are no longer interested in participating in the program, could you please call or return the tools to the Extension Office. Thank you!

DIAGNOSTIC CLINIC

BY DONNA XANDER

The diagnostic Clinic will be starting up on the 5th of May through the 28th. It will be held in the Extension Service building in Toano every Monday and Wednesday from 8:30 to Noon except for May 26th, which is Memorial Day. Everyone is invited to come and join in a great learning experience.



LANDSCAPE LOVE

BY GARY STREB



Welcome to the nineteen (19!) Interns of the Class of 2014 who signed up for Landscape Love during the recent Project Fair!

Landscape Love is in the midst of the month-long registration period (March 15 to April 15) and we are preparing and organizing for the upcoming Spring homeowner visits. We have queried all of the current Landscape Love volunteers for your continued commitment. If you haven't yet responded I'd appreciate your decision—team composition is almost complete. I'm at www.gstreb11@gmail.com.

Consider joining us if you have not previously participated or if you had in the past and needed to take off for some personal time. Our solid reputation, especially spread by word of mouth, has us in continued demand. We need your experience and help! This unique project puts all of your Master Gardener training and skills to work for the community. And it will personally enrich you---you learn from each of your fellow team members and from the homeowners.

Our Spring training and organization meetings are scheduled for **Thursday, April 17th at 9 a.m. in Room A of the JCC Rec Center** and the second session on **Monday, April 21st at 9 a.m. in Room A of the JCC Rec Center**. Please let me know which **one** (and only one) you are able to attend. Please bring your calendar of availability for the last week of April thru the end of May so your team leader can organize into the homeowner visit sub teams.

We have already received 57 requests for homeowner visits in our first 12 days of open registration. We will need your assistance to give the JCC and Williamsburg residents the best possible landscape advice. And I know you are all up to the task!

Think Spring! Mother Nature sure hasn't.....
Gary

BARRELS AND BINS

BY DENNIS WOOL

Barrels and Bins Project is available for demonstrations and programs to garden clubs, neighborhood associations, garden workshops, etc.

It is always a fun interaction between MGs and participants demonstrating how to make and use rain barrels, composters, and grow boxes. Contact: Dennis Wool

UPCOMING FARMERS' MARKET DATES

April 5	Water Wise + Barrels and Bins
April 19	Gardening with Children
May 3	<i>National Herb Day</i>
May 17	Flowers
May 31	Water Stewards
June 14	Incredible Edibles
June 28	Vegetables

The Colonial Master Gardener April 2014

PENINSULA TREE STEWARDS

BY SUE LIDDELL

The 14th annual Roanoke Tree Care Workshop sponsored by Trees Virginia was hosted by Virginia Western Community College early in March. Sixty-nine registrants represented a broad range of professionals and volunteers in tree related fields. Master Gardeners and Tree Stewards were among those attending. The publicity promised a view "Under the Big Top: The Wild Life of Trees". The speakers covered a wide range of topics from the urban tree canopy to the leaf miners in the tree's leaf. The morning lectures were informative:

Dr. Eric Wiseman, Associate Professor, Virginia Tech, looked at the loss of urban tree canopy and its connection with air and water quality, storm water runoff and public health.

David Sivyer, a forester familiar to our Tree Stewards, and now Forestry Services Manager for the City of Milwaukee, WI, gave us an update on the movement of the emerald ash borer showing methods for improved species mapping, risk assessment, forest health monitoring and management of other serious urban forest pests.

Dr. Steven Frank, Asst. Professor Entomology, North Carolina State University, related pests and the warming of cities to tree health in the urban canopy.

Lorraine Graney, Plant Disease & Insect Diagnostician, from Bartlett Tree Research Laboratory gave a most unusual presentation of the microscopic view of insect pests.

After lunch we divided into three groups and attended interactive workshops. Each group in turn had a walk through the Community Arboretum of the College, noting diseased trees, scale and other insect activity; a session demonstrating methods of mapping urban tree canopy; and most fascinating, a close up of cutting into leaves under a microscope seeing the leaf miners at work and seeing the parts of the insect under the hard cover of scale. The workshop was continuing education at its best.



David Sivyer



Community Arboretum



Leaf Miners

WILDFLOWER OF THE MONTH – APRIL 2014

BY HELEN HAMILTON

JOHN CLAYTON CHAPTER, VIRGINIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Arrowwood Viburnum *Viburnum dentatum*

This shrub has many stems, growing 6-8 feet tall with erect-arching stems in a loose, round habit. White, flat-topped flower clusters appear in late spring, followed by dark blue berries, very attractive to birds and butterflies. Lustrous, dark-green foliage turns yellow to wine-red in fall. Arrowwood Viburnum is distinctive for the wide, pointed leaves, coarsely toothed and downy twigs.

Easily grown in average, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade the plant will tolerate clay soil. Winter hardy, a vigorous and reliable grower, it can be planted as a hedge or screen. Arrowwood Viburnum is scattered throughout Virginia, and ranges from Maine south to Florida and Texas, mainly on the Coastal Plain. The plant blooms March through April and the fruits appear July through September.

The Spring Azure Butterfly lays its eggs in the flowers which also furnishes nectar to the adult butterfly. Fruits are eaten by many songbirds.



Photo: Arrowwood (*Viburnum dentatum*)
taken by Helen Hamilton

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

PLANT SALE BOOKS

BY KENDRA SWANN

Garden Books and small garden accessories are being accepted for the 2014 MG Plant Sale, April 26. Please bring your donations to the April 3 monthly meeting or make arrangements for drop off with Kendra Swann kendrar179@aol.com

VMGA: BIG NEWS!

BY MARILYN RIDDLE

It is with pleasure that I announce that Angela Cingale has been elected Vice President of VMGA. Congratulations!

Also, don't forget that MG College will be held in late June. More information will be given out as it becomes available.

The Colonial Master Gardener April 2014

GROW 2014

BY ANNE NIELSEN

This is the 2nd year for the GROW conference in Lexington sponsored by the Rockbridge Master Gardeners and BOXERWOOD Nature Center and Woodland Garden. They really hit the ball out of the park with this one!! It was everything we expected and more.

A group of 8 of our JCC/W Master Gardeners were joined by Jeanne Millin's two sisters, Gerri Frazier (a Maryland MG) and Jill O'Leary (a New York MG) . Everyone but Harriet was able to arrive by 2 pm on Friday to do the free tour of Lexington. Seventy-seven of the conference attendees had signed up. We toured the town, Washington and Lee University, VMI (the Va. Military Institute), historic homes, statues and even a cemetery. Although the wind was brisk and the temperature cold, we all learned a lot of history along the way.

Saturday morning at 9 a.m. after coffee and pastries, we were settled in a lovely conference center to hear our first speaker. Nancy Ross Hugo, co-author of "Remarkable Trees of Virginia," spoke about her latest book, "Seeing Trees: Discover the Extraordinary Secret Lives of Everyday Trees". The photographs were exceptional and the information essential, especially for those Tree Stewards among us I had to add this book to my ever-growing horticulture library.

Next up was the surprise of the day, Coach Vince Dooley, the former football coach of the University of Georgia Bulldogs. He was witty at every turn and when he showed us slides of his garden, we experienced envy as well as astonishment. When does a football coach have time to produce a garden of outstanding beauty stocked with such unusual horticultural specimens?? The answer: When he has exposure to Dr. Michael Dirr in the classroom and in the research arena. Who among us wouldn't vie for the chance to have Dr. Dirr's castoffs??? Now they travel the world together searching for new cultivars to produce the specimens of the future. A fabulous presentation!!

After lunch came the main event, Dr. Michael Dirr, premier authority on trees in the U.S. He was so knowledgeable that many of us got lost in the terminology as well as the Latin. I wish I could have recorded his words for later reflection. If you thought you knew trees, he grounded you in a hurry. My estimation of Coach Dooley rose when I realized that he was a chosen companion and must understand it all. I guess I will have to resort to Dr. Dirr's "Manual of Woody Landscape Plants," written for the likes of me, and attend the next lecture by Dr. Dirr that comes my way.

The next GROW symposium is slated for 2016. Don't miss it. They will have a lot to live up to and I'm sure they will succeed.



Pictured are:

Front row L to R : Gerri Frazier (Maryland MG; Jeanne Millin's sister), Anne Nielsen, Jeanne Millin, Margene Hartsough.

Back row: Sue Liddell, Harriet Parsons, Carol Fryer, Dan Tevlin, Patsy McGrady

The Colonial Master Gardener April 2014

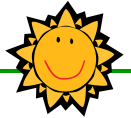
Important Dates

- 4/3 Monthly Meeting @ WRL
- 3/29 Incredible Edibles Symposium
- 4/5 Farmers' Market
- 4/12 Envirothon/Earth Day @ New Kent
- 4/12 CNU Gardening Symposium
- 4/21 Newsletter Submissions Due
- 4/26 Plant Sale
- 5/19 Field Trip

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for submissions to the **May** newsletter will be **Monday, April 21**.

Please send any submissions to Cathy Lohwater, newsletter editor, at cathy.lohwater@cox.net.



SUNSHINE NOTES

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, Patsy McGrady, 258-1181, patsymcgrady@cox.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.

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.

Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments. Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.