



Brunswick County Master Gardener
Volunteer Association

NEWSLETTER

January, 2008

Upcoming Events...

Jan 14th State Convention Planning Meeting @ 9:00

Jan 24th Regular Meeting

Oct 5-8 2008 MG Conference in Brunswick County

Upcoming Speakers

Jan 24th Dean Bennett - Brunswick Community College - Plant Diseases

Feb 28th Chris Moorman - Wildlife Management

March 27th Ken Fager NCSU Growing Organic

April 24th Peter Hertyl - NCSU - Ground Pearls

May 22nd Bryce Lane NCSU Gardening Ideas

June 28th Frank Galloway - Plants for local use

July 24th Dr. Frank Blazich - NCSU - Summer Propagation

Aug 28th Charlotte Glen - Plants for difficult situations

Sept. 25th Ronda Sherman - Vermicomposting

Oct 24th Toby Bost

Nov. 20th updates by horticulture staff

Joe Requests... that you try to get any news items to me by the 5th of each month. I would like to start to get the newsletter out a little earlier. I also update the calendar, so anytime you know an event the members would be interested in, let me know.

Thanks, Joe Loughlin jloughlin@ec.rr.com

2008 Conference Planning Meeting

on January 14, 2008 @ 9 am

We need to get working on the conference to have everything ready in a timely fashion.

Items to be discussed

Committee updates

Establish a small conference Committee

Decide on a conference name.

Do we need a logo? Why not just the outline of NC?

Update on workshops and speakers

Fund raising and more.

Some suggested names:

Old North State Gardening

Gardening in the Old North State

Growing through Gardening

Achieving Gardening Knowledge

Gardening in North Carolina

Growing through Gardening

Gateway to Gardening

Gardening in the State You Are In

Don' forget all work on the conference counts as volunteer time.

Shirley Waggoner-Eisenman

shirley312@webtv.net

910-754-4148

New officer for 2008

President - Shirley Waggoner-Eisenman

Vice President – Grace Wrigley

Treasurer – Al Smith

Joe Loughlin and Dominique Loewenstein will be the nominating committee for 08

2008 Dues are due! See back page.

**Will we see you at the January Meeting
on the 24th at 9:00 am**

From the Presidents Desk ...

Hope everyone had a great holiday. 2008 is going to be a busy year. We should have one new class maybe two depending on how much interest is shown in becoming a Master Gardener. We have a list of great speakers lined up for 2008. Mark your calendar. We meet the 4th Thursday of each month expect for November. If there are items you would like to discuss please let me know and if necessary I will place them on the agenda for action.

We need items for the newsletter. Let us know what you would like to see in the newsletter. Do you go on line and read the newsletter? How do you get information about what is happening with the Master Gardeners? Does our newsletter need a "Name"? What can you contribute to the newsletter?

Volunteer early and often.

Look forward to seeing you at our January 24th meeting.

Shirley

Myra Reported that the Master Gardeners and the Extension Staff turned in over 260 pounds of non-perishable food items to the Brunswick Family Assistance Agency this week. They were very appreciative. What a nice way to help out those in need during the Holidays! Thanks to all who participated and to Myra for being "Mrs. Clause"!

New Classes are filling up. Tell your neighbors to call and sign up soon. David and Charlie are hoping to fill two classes again this year.

We have a New Secretary

Patty Burns
3247 Marshview Drive SW
Supply, NC 28462
(910)846-3317
burnsdp@atmc.net

Our sincere thanks to our outgoing Secretary Cathy Rod for all her service and welcome to Patty.

Master Gardeners Board Elected Officers:

President

Shirley Waggoner-Eisenman
shirley312@webtv.net

910-754-4148

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Webmaster

Lisa Miner

webmaster@bcmastergardener.org

Joe's Kitchen

I see I have Broccoli almost ready and the Mustard and Collards are looking good, but what's really on my mind is what to do with all those Lemons still on my tree. I used 25 of them for Christmas presents with last month's recipe, but I still have 16 more. One of my Christmas presents was a cookbook called "*Gone with the Grits*". I decided to adapt a recipe for Florida Key Lime Cream Pie to fit my lemon surplus and it worked! So now only 14 to go!



Southport Lemon Meringue Cream Pie:

6 Tbs of Quick Grits ground in a blender several minutes till it resembles flour
1 cup of water
1/2 tsp of salt
1/2 Tbs of butter



Juice and Zest from
Two Lemons
1 14 oz can of Sweetened Condensed Milk
5 Eggs separated
6 Tbs of Sugar

1 Pillsbury Pie Crust (I can't make it any better)

Preheat the oven to 350°. Bake Pie Crust for 8-10 minutes and cool. Make Grits and Wisk in Juice, Zest, Condensed Milk, and Egg Yolk. Beat one egg white until stiff and fold into mixture. Pour into Pie Shell, cover with foil, and bake for 15 minutes. Beat remaining egg whites until stiff and gradually add sugar. Pull Pie from oven and cover top with Meringue. Decorate by forming multiple peaks in Meringue. Bake uncovered another 15 minutes until peaks are nice and brown. Cool the pie before serving.

David Barkley

Extension Horticulture Agent
Brunswick County Cooperative Extension
Service
January 3, 2008

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope that each and every one of you had your Holiday Wishes come true. If Santa didn't quite bring you exactly what you asked for, then you may be able to pick up some bargains priced just right for you to take home. Don't forget to check on some of the gardening equipment needs for the coming spring season. You may find this to be just the right time of the year to pick up the items that will make your spring gardening chores easier to handle this year.

We have a listing of the gardening chores for January which might interest you. So button up for cold weather and look for those days that you can get outside comfortably to work on some of the plans you have for the coming spring. Even if the weather doesn't cooperate, there are still chores that can be performed inside.

Don't forget your indoor plants which have been brought in to rest. Keep them watered (moist to touch) and provide them with enough light to continue their growth. Avoid cold or hot air drafts and the temptation of over watering the plants. I like to group my plants together so that each plants respiration and transpiration will provide additional humidity for the other surrounding plants.

January Garden Chores

- Enroll in classes! Read and study up on ideas you would like to achieve for this year. Don't forget to include

your New Year's Gardening Resolutions...Thou Shalt Not...

- Continue to plant spring flowering bulbs.
- Think water garden and have it ready for spring. There are numerous sources of information and construction materials for these type projects. Garden centers and mass merchandising garden stores are handling pool liners, pumps, and aquatic plants.
- Continue planting container grown ornamentals. Be sure to loosen the roots and the media before backfilling. For slightly pot-bound roots: Cut on 3-4 sides, shake the roots and media to a loose condition and then plant.
- Plant Fruit Trees in the Landscape. The 2008 seed and nursery catalogs have already started arriving and this will trigger "spring fever" for many gardeners. Those beautiful apples and pears on the cover are very persuasive to many homeowners so, go ahead and incorporate some fruit trees in the landscape.
- Add lime according to soil test recommendations. For best results in home landscapes, till the lime into the root zone area for whatever plant you intend to grow. Surface applied lime reacts very slowly, and not as completely as lime mixed into the soil.



The sooner the lime is applied in the winter, the more ready you'll be for spring planting.

- Ornamental Grass tops should be cut back now. On old established clumps prune back to 2' or so, with the younger plantings simply tipped back to remove the brown foliage.
- If you have rose bushes, rake the fallen leaves and discard them as many disease organisms persist through the winter. Covering them up with new mulch will not solve your disease problems.
- Pansies are by far the most popular winter landscape annual. Deadhead periodically to ensure more blooms. During active growth in the spring fertilize them about once a month. A dilute liquid feed of 5:10:10 or 5:10:30 will keep them going and growing.
- Be prepared just on the chance there may actually be some more winter weather ahead of us. Don't let unseasonably mild temperatures dictate what you do in the landscape.
- Poinsettia's keeping quality depends on several factors. Many home gardeners have no problem keeping a poinsettia attractive through the winter, but bringing it into "flower" in subsequent years is a challenge for the best of gardeners. They are still considered actively growing and will need water, sunlight, and fertilizing through February.

2008 DUES NOTICE

Dues are payable by January 1 each year.

(But we will accept them now!) (Hint! Give us a twenty and forget it for 4 years)

Make checks payable to: Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association (BCMGVA)
\$5.00 per Individual

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Mail checks to: **Allen Smith**

4515 Fieldstone Cir SE
Southport, NC 28461

NAMETAG; you have earned it, now wear it.
We would all like to know your name.

If you have an item for the newsletter, submit it to Joe Loughlin (jloughlin@ec.rr.com)

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www.bcmastergardener.org

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