



# Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association

## Upcoming Events...

**Oct 5-8** 2008 MG Conference in Brunswick County

**Dec 10<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Party

### Upcoming Speakers

**July 24<sup>th</sup>** Dr. Frank Blazich - NCSU - Summer Propagation

**Aug 28<sup>th</sup>** Charlotte Glen - Plants for difficult situations

**Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>** Ronda Sherman - Vermicomposting

**Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>** Toby Bost

**Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>** updates by horticulture staff

## 2008 Conference Report

Listed below are where **volunteers** are need for the 2008 conference. Contact me if you can volunteer for any of them. My phone number 754-4148, e-mail is shirley312@webtv.net

**CHECK IN (REGISTRATION)** place, time and hours. Three volunteers for each slot.

**Sunday**, October 5th at **Sea Trail**  
noon - 3pm, 3pm - 6pm, 6pm - 8pm

**Monday**, October 6th at **Sea Trail**  
7am - 10am, 10am - 1pm, 1pm - 4pm

**Monday**, Oct. 6th at **Silver Coast Winery**  
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

**Tuesday**, October 7th at **Sea Trail**  
7:00 am - 9:am

### SILENT AUCTION

The silent auction Chair has resigned and we are in need of a Chair. A lot of work has been done and there is a committee in place.

### HOSTESS AND HOST

Hostess and Host are needed for each of our speakers/workshop presenters. Some of you

have volunteered, however more are needed. It will be your responsibility to meet the presenter help, them register, see to their lodging needs if necessary. You will be their go to person for whatever they need, i.e time their presentation, if necessary introduce them. A short bio will be provided.

### RAFFLE TICKETS

We presently have two item donated that we will be selling raffle tickets on. We may have more before the conference.

We need a person who will take the responsibility for seeing that we have enough volunteers to cover the necessary hours. In short a chair for a raffle committee.



### SIGNAGE

We will need a few signs, such as signs by appropriate rooms for workshop, etc. Hopefully we will be allowed to place signs along the road way leading to conference site.

### DECORATION

We will need table decorations for two (2) lunches and one banquet. It is my thought to use any plants that are donated for door prize as decoration and give them away at the end of the conference. This will save money and the plants will be put to good use.

### SELLING ITEMS

The conference will be selling shirts and possible garden tools we will need volunteers to work the table during vendor hours as listed in your conference announcement.

### TOTE BAG STUFFERS

Needed are small items to be put in the tote bags, i.e. pads, pens, pencils, samples of products, etc. I have spoken with the Chamber of Commerce and they will provide information on Brunswick County.

**Will we see you at the July Meeting  
on the 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am ?**

## From the Presidents Desk ...

This will be a short report as I have been busy with the 2008 Master Gardener Conference. A list of needed volunteers can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. If you missed the Recognition Luncheon you missed a great time. Don't forget the Hot Line, Greenhouse and Garden needs you to volunteer. Our July speaker will be Dr. Frank Blazich his topic will be propagation. He is a great speaker as he teaches propagation at NCSU. If you have paid your dues your Membership Card is available at the Extension Office. See Bette the next time you are in the building. Hope to see you all at the conference, don't forget to send in your registration form. The 2008 Conference Announcement is available on the State Association web site:

[www.ncmastergardeners.org](http://www.ncmastergardeners.org)

## Charlie says:



**Rain Barrels** are available for anyone interested. We will sell them ready to go for \$50.00 each.

### **Hort Agent, David Barkley**

I would like to thank the Master Gardeners for the \$50.00 donation to help me to entertain the kids when we host the national meeting in mid July. It always helps to have a little extra emergency money. I plan to use the money either for some games as they wait for an activity or to provide a quick light refreshment on one of the hot summer days while they are here. You do a lot of good things and I am very proud of our Master Gardeners who lead and provide an example to others.

## Work Days

Please come and help us when you have time, but especially on the work days. June 15th and July 7<sup>th</sup>  
Gardens: Jim Blake will direct your work.

Greenhouse: Tyler Ash always needs help weeding and getting plants ready for sale.

**Hardscape, Fred Mina** Jim Blake mentioned that several items were completed in the gardens - the community tool closet and new ramp for handicap access.

### **Master Gardeners Board Elected Officers:**

#### President

Shirley Waggoner-Eisenman  
[shirley312@webtv.net](mailto:shirley312@webtv.net)  
910-754-4148

#### Vice president

Grace Wrigley  
[gwrigley@atmc.net](mailto:gwrigley@atmc.net)  
910-846-3341

#### Treasurer

Al Smith  
[Asmith126@ec.rr.com](mailto:Asmith126@ec.rr.com)  
910-457-6674

### **Volunteer Chairs:**

#### Recording Secretary

Patty Burns  
[burnsdp@atmc.net](mailto:burnsdp@atmc.net)  
910-846-3317

#### Corresponding Secretary

Peggy Meinzer  
[pmeinzer@lockwoodfolly.net](mailto:pmeinzer@lockwoodfolly.net)  
910-842-4928

#### Library

Grace Wrigley  
[gwrigley@atmc.net](mailto:gwrigley@atmc.net)  
910-846-3341

#### MG Coordinator – Coop Extension

[Charlie\\_spencer@ncsu.edu](mailto:Charlie_spencer@ncsu.edu)  
910-383-6432

#### NCMGVA Liaison

Shirley Waggoner-Eisenman  
[shirley312@webtv.net](mailto:shirley312@webtv.net)  
910-754-4148

#### Newsletter Editor

Joe Loughlin  
[jloughlin@ec.rr.com](mailto:jloughlin@ec.rr.com)  
910-269-4038

#### Restitution & Greenhouse

Ash Tyler  
[at Tyler@ec.rr.com](mailto:at Tyler@ec.rr.com)  
910-278-6101

#### Gardens

Fred Mina  
[fmmina@theminas.net](mailto:fmmina@theminas.net)  
910-278-6205

#### Membership

Maggie Hoon  
[fredmaggie@earthlink.net](mailto:fredmaggie@earthlink.net)  
910-253-0195

#### Banquets/Parties

Becky Dus  
[rcd@nfcexperts.com](mailto:rcd@nfcexperts.com)  
910-253-8937

#### Membership

Dominique Loewenstein  
[domilo@2khiway.net](mailto:domilo@2khiway.net)  
910-579-0161

#### History

Barbara McCoy  
[mccoy@atmc.net](mailto:mccoy@atmc.net)  
910-575-7679

#### Webmaster

Lisa Miner

[webmaster@bcmastergardener.org](mailto:webmaster@bcmastergardener.org)

## Joe's Kitchen

### Potato Salad With Blue Cheese, Bacon and Red Onions

I had a potato salad that was fabulous at a July 4th party. Here is my best stab at recreating it.

#### Dressing:

- 1 T. cider vinegar
- 2 1/4 t. lemon juice
- 1 med. clove minced garlic
- salt & fresh ground pepper
- 1 1/2 t. Dijon mustard with seeds
- 1/4 C. oil
- 1/4 C. best quality prepared mayonnaise
- 2 T. sour cream

#### Potato salad:

- 3 lb. red skin potatoes (about 2" in diameter)
- 8 oz. lean bacon, cut into 1/2 inch pieces
- 1/2 C. chopped red onion
- 4 oz. piece Blue cheese and 4 oz. of Gorgonzola cheese
- 1/4 C. chopped flat leaf parsley
- salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

For dressing, place vinegar, lemon juice, mustard, garlic, 1/4 t. salt and several grinds of black pepper in nonreactive bowl and whisk to combine. Whisk in oil. Then whisk in mayonnaise and sour cream. Taste and season with more salt if desired. Set aside. Boil unpeeled potatoes in salt water. Cook until potatoes are tender but still firm, about 25 minutes, depending on size of potatoes. Remove and cool 10 minutes. Sauté bacon until crisp and drain on paper towels and crumble. Save 1 T. of drippings in pan. Place pan over medium heat and add red onions and stir a minute or less to just season them with a little of the bacon drippings. Remove onions to large salad bowl. While potatoes are still warm, slip off skins and cut into 3/4 inch cubes. Add to bowl with onions along with cooked bacon and cheese. Toss to mix;



the warm potatoes will cause the cheese to melt slightly. Pour in the dressing and mix well. Taste and season generously with salt and pepper as needed. Let the salad stand at room temperature for 15 minutes to meld the flavors. (Salad should be served at room temperature) When ready to serve, sprinkle salad with parsley and mix well. Place in an attractive serving bowl. Serves 8.

### Meet a Master Gardener Allen Smith

I was born and raised in Lima, Ohio. I have an older sister and younger brother (my Irish twin – he is 11 months younger). My father's family came back from Kansas in the late 1800's. Family lore indicates that a distant great, great uncle was hung for selling horses to Jesse James. My family heritage is English and German.

My wife and I met at an Ohio State football game in 1966. We both graduated from OSU in 1970. We have two sons: one lives in Boston, MA and the other in Apex, NC. They each have a son and daughter – ages 4-7.

After college I was drafted into the US Army where I served two years in Washington DC for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. My job was maintaining statistics on Vietnam and Cambodia (even though we weren't there). During my career, I worked for the US Air Force, MITRE, SSDS and SAIC in developing and implementing large scale computer and communications systems for Government and Commercial clients. My position ranged from being an engineer to Chief Operating Officer.

In 2003 we moved to St. James, NC from Burke, VA where we had lived for 35 years. While now retired, I periodically do consulting in strategic business planning

and related activities.

Besides learning how not to kill my plants, I am an avid duplicate bridge player and SCUBA diver. I recently achieved the rating of Life Master and become a certified Duplicate Bridge Director and Teacher. While I now only dive stand-by at the NC Aquarium, I was on the Saturday Dive Team at the NC Aquarium at Fort Fisher for over 2 years.

I enjoy the camaraderie of the BCMGVA and hope that I can contribute not only to its continued growth and helping members of our community but in making the organization an exciting and fun organization. I currently serve as your Treasurer.

### Greenhouse/Restitution, Ash Tyler:

Ash stated that he and Billy Privette started the pre-mounts for the two large fans in the greenhouse. The new top and 12" exhaust fans are also ready to be installed. He has to do some work on the irrigation system and the electrician has to wire everything up before the top can be put on. The pre-budget for the Restitution program is \$10,500 which is \$1800 less than last year.

### Wanted – Talented Members

Are you one of the many talented people in the Master Gardener Association? We are working hard to put together a great state conference this October and you can help. We are looking for items for our Silent Auction or to be used for door prizes to be awarded to our fellow master gardeners who will be attending the conference. If you have a craft or hobby or other artistic or creative pastime, and would like to donate something to help support the conference, let us know. You will receive recognition for your donation in the program materials. If you would like to donate something for the



Silent Auction, contact Shirley Waggoner-Eisenman (754-4148), or for a door prize, talk to Peggy Halfpenny (253-9624). Thanks!

### Botanical Interests, Inc.,

a primary supplier of garden seeds to independent garden centers and health food grocery stores, is now selling direct to the public via its website,  
[www.botanicalinterests.com](http://www.botanicalinterests.com).



We would love for you to try our seeds. We are offering a discount. Simply include the following discount code in your shopping cart when checking out and you will get a 10% discount: 1000.

Our seeds are unique in their quality and the huge amounts of information the seed packets offer. Additionally, 120 of the 500 varieties we offer are certified organic. Plus, over 250 are heirlooms, 60 are herbs, and there are some wonderful flower blends in large packets. We carry NO GMO's (genetically modified organisms) and all of our seeds are untreated with pesticides.

Unlike many seed packet companies, our business is a family owned business and is not owned by a mega-agricultural company. You and your garden will appreciate the heart we put into our product!

Curtis Jones & Judy Seaborn  
Co-owners, Botanical Interests, Inc.

Be a more informed gardener! Sign up for our newsletter, timely info, special deals!  
<http://visitor.constantcontact.com/email.jsp?&m=1101782088215>

Plant the seeds; then  
pull the weeds

**David Barkley**

Extension Horticulture Agent  
Brunswick County Cooperative Extension Service

**SUMMER WATERING PRACTICES IN THE LANDSCAPE**

One of the first signs of drought stress in ornamentals and turf is wilting. This is the case for plants in non-irrigated areas. Many of our favorite plants show drought related symptoms differently. The leaves of some plants may exhibit marginal leaf burn or leaf scorching while others will simply wilt. An extended period without moisture can become a permanent, non-reversible situation.

There are several plants that are typically grown in many landscapes that we can use as indicator plants. These plants wilt readily and are usually the first ones to show drought stress. They are azaleas, dogwoods, hydrangeas, most annuals and turf.

When these plants begin to look thirsty, you should have a plan to get water to the roots. A hand-held hose is probably the fastest plan of action but, may not be the best method.

If you are growing summer color plants in containers, it will be to your advantage to keep a water saucer under the pot. Pots will not dry out so quickly. It will also help to add peat moss and soil to the pine bark media to hold moisture. Be sure to mix the amendments together thoroughly before planting. Watering frequency will be greatly reduced.

**Landscape Tips**

Now is a good time to stroll around the landscape and be observant. Look at the new growth on the trees and shrubs as an "indicator of progress". There should be foliage all the way to the tips. If the ends are bare, this may indicate some serious root problems.

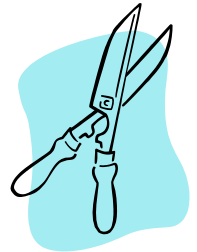
. New growth should be apparent on liriopse, English ivy, periwinkle and pachysandra. If new growth from this spring season is not visible, or is less than normal, then investigate the problem --- environmental stress, poor drainage, low nutrient availability, pH problem, construction damage to the root zone area or possible chemical injury. Be sure to check for insects. Aphids, mites and scales are serious problems.

Summer Bedding Plants: Finish planting summer color beds. Don't take shortcuts in preparing the soil. Good root establishment will maximize top growth and flowering performance.

July is a good time to trim the "bleeders" in the landscape. Maples, birches and dogwoods can be lightly pruned and reshaped. This is also a good time to prune water sprouts from crabapples, Crapemyrtles and all fruit trees.

**PRUNING:**

- The appearance of many shrubs can be improved with a general pruning at this time of year. With new growth averaging 6-8" long, many evergreens are getting slightly out-of-bounds. Now is a good time to take hand pruners and shears to shape them.
- Individual branches and stems need to be cut to back inside the plant. This will reduce the overall size of the plant and also reshape it.
- Continue to shear formal hedges.
- Rejuvenation Pruning: If the shrubs have turned into small trees over the years, now would be an appropriate time to get the big saw out and take them back to 12-15" stems.



- The other professional approach is to limb up from the ground and accentuate the 'tree look'.
- If all else fails....remove the entire plant and start over again. Before replanting, evaluate the space to determine what type of plant, if any, is needed. This is often the best solution to overgrown plants.

**Powdery Mildew on Crape myrtles:** If you have been paying close attention to your crape myrtle foliage lately, you've probably noticed that the disease may have already started. Banner or Bayleton may be used to control this disease.

Consider using resistant cultivars, such as "Byers Standard Red", "Byers Wonderful White", "Miami", "Osage", "Seminole", "Tuscarora", "Tuskegee", "Yuma" and "Zuni". *Lagerstroemia faurei* is becoming a popular choice as a mildew resistant crape myrtle. **Crape myrtles** are some of North Carolina's favorite summer landscape trees. They provide great color and interest in the landscape and they are also adaptable to numerous stressful landscape situations. Several tips to consider for enhancing their performance are:

- Take care of Japanese beetle problems immediately. Use appropriate insecticides (Sevin) to control the generous population of beetles.
- As the flowers begin to fade, keep the limbs trimmed back. You will also notice that many of the limbs will be drooping under the heavy load of blooms. They should be trimmed periodically to maintain an upright form.
- Now is a good time to prune lower growing branches back to enhance the tree form of the plant. Stored energy

reserves are low at this time and regrowth will be minimized.

- Help your crape myrtles lose weight this summer. As the flowers fade, tip prune them. This will encourage new, dense growth and more flowers for late summer.

## Lawns:

- Irrigate warm seasoned grasses at this time of year as needed. Most lawns will need 1 and 1/2" of water each week. It is best to apply all at one time or split the application to make two 3/4" applications several days apart.
- Watch for chinch bugs in St. Augustinegrass and be prepared to apply pyrethroids for chinch bug control.
- Weeds are really adaptive to the harsh conditions that prevail in the summertime. Check on your weed population, get the weeds identified, and control with the appropriate weed control product. The best weed control strategy is to have a well established turfgrass that prevents weeds from establishing.
- Fertilize the warm seasoned grasses with 1/2 to 1 pound of actual nitrogen.
- Continue to mow at the proper heights for the various grasses.
 

Centipedegrass	1.0 - 1.5"
St Augustinegrass	2.5 - 3.0"
Bermudagrass	.75 - .25"
Zoysiagrass	.75 - 1.0"
Tall Fescue	3.5 - 4.0"
- Watch for mole cricket activity - small tunnels at the soil surface. Fipronil may be used for mole cricket control.



# 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](mailto:jloughlin@ec.rr.com))

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association  
P.O. Box 109  
Bolivia, NC 28422  
Office: 910-253-2610

[www.bcmastergardener.org](http://www.bcmastergardener.org)

[www.ces.ncsu.edu/brunswick](http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/brunswick)

[www.ncmastergardeners.org](http://www.ncmastergardeners.org)



Postage stamp

First Class Mail