



Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association Newsletter February, 2009

Upcoming Events...

- Feb. 26th Regular Meeting with
Lisa Wimpfheimer Tryon Palace
- Feb 27th Pruning Seminar Magnolia Greens
- Feb 28th Tidewater Camellia Annual Show
@ Arab Shrine Club
- March 11th Pesticide Collection
- March 24th – Plant ID Class Begins
- March 21 & 22 Brunswick Island's Home
and Garden Show
- April 16-18 Plant Sale
- May 12th & June 9th NCS Plant Clinic
- May 15th – Coastal Gardening Seminar
- May 22nd Plant ID Review with Dr. Fantz
- June 16th Recognition Luncheon
- June 25th Regular Meeting

Upcoming Speakers

- March 26th Jim LeTendre Tomato Growing
- April 23rd Kent Kolbe NC DOT Landscape
- May 28th Anne Pendred Photography
- July 23rd Keith Baldwin NC A&T Soils and
Plant Growth

We Have a New Website

Your Technology committee has been preparing to introduce our new website for the past few months and we would like our

membership to start using it now. **We will be demonstrating its use at our February meeting.** You can get an early start to the website if you would like to explore it on your own. The website address is; www.ncsugarden.com The 1st page to come up will be a login page, click near the top of the page where it says; "First Visit? **CLICK HERE**"

Follow the instructions on the screen. You should use this new site to keep you hours, to volunteer for the hotline or other MG events, to check the calendar of events, to read the newsletter and to look up or contact other master gardeners. We will still keep paper records for those who do not wish to use the website, but it will save David & Charlie a lot of time if you will use it. Fred Mina has also posted a new page as a home page for our Hotline computer. It has instructions for hotline volunteers and links to our websites and other links for doing research. Thanks Fred!

Hardscape, Fred Mina

Construction is now complete on a new bridge by the gas tanks



Webmaster, John Baronowski has taken over the Association old website as of January 1 at a cost \$88/year and he and Fred will be working to make it a valuable addition to the new website.

Will we see you at the February Meeting on the 26th at 9:00 am ?



Charlie says:

The inmate garden area has been approved and we will be starting the project in the near future. There will also be classroom

instruction for the inmates so we will need some teachers also. Since we will be in the jail area, anyone involved must be security checked by the Sheriff's office. You will need to fill in a short form to receive clearance. Please see me and I will provide the forms. We will need people to help the inmates in the garden area. Square foot gardening will be the method used. The inmates will construct the beds with our guidance. Let me know if you want to help.

From the Presidents Desk...



Hope everyone has survived the cold weather. I for one am looking forward to spring. Don't forget to sign up for the hot line. Help is always needed. Why not use the buddy system. Sign up with someone you know, maybe someone who lives in your neighborhood that way you can car pool. Now is the time to pay your dues. The dues year is from January 1 - December 31. A payment form is available on the Association website www.bcmastergardener.org. If you receive a hard copy of the newsletter it is available on the back cover of the newsletter. The spring plant sales have been scheduled. More information will be forthcoming. Each year at the state conference, there is a landscape design competition and I would like to see Brunswick County enter our botanical garden for 2009. Charlie volunteered to chair the project, please see Charlie if you would like to work on this project. The State Master Gardener Conference this year is scheduled for October 4- 7. The conference will once again be offering a discount to North Carolina Master Gardener Volunteer Association members. If you wish to pay dues at a meeting see Carol Wilson. The membership form is available on the Association web site:

www.ncmastergardeners.org Grace and David have worked hard to get speakers for this year. You will miss a great speaker if you miss one of our membership meetings. Hope to see you at the February meeting. Shirley

NEWSLETTER Feb. 2009

Master Gardeners Board Elected Officers:

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shirley312@webtv.net

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910-253-4071

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Joe's Kitchen

We had a cooking lesson at a Villa in Tuscany last fall and made Bruschetta, Pici (a fun local pasta that you twirl several times and then throw onto a floured surface), a great Lasagna, and we finished with Italy's signature desert;

Tiramisu

1 carton (18 ounces) Marscapone Cheese
 4 Eggs, 5 Tlb Sugar, 2 Tlb Brandy,
 Lady Fingers or Pavesini,
 Espresso Coffee.

2 oz of Good Dark Chocolate

Separate egg yolks from egg whites into separate bowls. Beat egg whites until stiff. Set aside. Wisk sugar and brandy into egg yolks, then add softened marscapone cheese slowly beating after each addition. Carefully fold egg whites into egg yolk mixture only until mixed and set aside. Finely chop chocolate and set aside. Make 2 cups of espresso and pour into a shallow dish. Dip half of the Pavesini in the espresso and line the bottom of a shallow baking dish. Top with half of the egg mixture and then with half of the chocolate. Dip the remaining Pavesini in the espresso and form a second layer. Top with the remaining egg mixture and top it off with the remaining chocolate. Refrigerate until ready to serve. Can be made a day ahead and kept in the refrigerator. If covered, this will last for several days. Serves 6-8.

I think you could go heavy on the Brandy, I found this recipe a little light on that taste.



Meet a Master Gardener

Everyone who becomes part of the BCGMVA meets **Charlie Spencer**. Charlie is the MG Coordinator of the Cooperative Extension. He is the key person for all the association events and activities.

Charlie hails from Belding MI. After graduating from Pike Township High School in Indianapolis, Indiana, he joined the USAF and attended the University of Nebraska at Omaha. His post graduate work was at the University of South Carolina in Educational Research.

Retiring from the US. Air Force, Charlie took on a variety of jobs. He has built log homes, swimming pools as well as being an instructor at Sumter Area Tech College. He was also a licensed charter boat captain.

Currently Charlie is a water aerobic instructor as well as the coordinator for the BCMG program. He and his wife spend time traveling as well as time with their son and wife in Lexington, SC and their daughter in Huston, TX.

Charlie's desire for the future of BCMGVA is to see it continue to grow and prosper.

I was just thinking, if it is really religion with these nudist colonies, they sure must turn atheists in the wintertime. ~Will Rogers

V.P. Lynn Schwartzkopf has talked to Al Hight about a project to provide vegetables for the food pantry. The Sheriff would like PR for the prisoners to support themselves so there is currently a proposal to build a fenced 100 ft. sq. raised bed garden across from the prison which the prisoners would work it with the help of the MG's. Watch for more details....

Upcoming Events Details

Advanced MG – Plant ID Course starts March 24, 2009 2pm – 4:30pm
Location – Brunswick County Cooperative Extension Office, Bolivia NC There is a cost for this course and interested students should preregister by calling 910-253-2610.

BC Master Gardener Plant Sale April 16 – 18, 2009 9am – 4pm Brunswick County Master Gardener Plant Sale – all proceeds go to help fund the educational programs carried on by the Master Gardener Volunteers.
Location – Brunswick County Cooperative Extension Office, Bolivia NC

Coastal Gardening Seminar: May 15, 2009
Details pending. Guest Speaker Mark Weathington, Assistant Director and Curator of Collections for JC Raulston Arboretum; call to put name on list for registration. Location – Brunswick County Cooperative Extension Office, Bolivia NC

Plant Identification Review with Dr. Paul Fantz; May 22, 2009 9am to 6pm
there is a charge for this review session;

please register by calling the Brunswick County Cooperative Extension Office at 910-253-2610. Location –

Interactive Distance Learning Plant Clinic

May 12 and June 9 10am – 12noon

Interactive Distance Learning Plant Clinic

Update for Master Gardeners Locations:

vary across the state. (UNCW in Wilmington, Brunswick Community College in Leland, NC State University in Raleigh

[The Tidewater Camellia Club](#)

[59th Annual Show](#)

Saturday, February 28, 2009

at the Arab Shrine Club - 4510 South College Road, Wilmington, NC.

The camellia exhibition will be open to the public from 12:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Also there will be floral displays that include, at least, one camellia in their arrangements. Our club members hope to display over 1,000 blooms from exhibitors from all over the Southeastern United states.

As usual, the Tidewater Camellia club will also sell quality 3 gallon camellias to the public at very competitive prices.

For information call Matt Hunter, 910-392-1803, mhunter@cape-fear.net.

I prefer winter and fall, when you feel the bone structure of the landscape - the loneliness of it, the dead feeling of winter. Something waits beneath it, the whole story doesn't show.

~Andrew Wyeth

Blair Green has requested Master Gardener assistance in support of the 4H Centennial Celebration Banquet on Feb. 16th. She has asked if the Master Gardeners could provide



3 or 4 members to would take the attendees cars from the front entrance to the back parking lot. On the way back to the front of the building, the valet would return the keys to the owner. We would not be asked to provide valet service at the end of the celebration. Master Gardeners assisting would be invited to the dinner and awards ceremony. Dress is semi-formal. A part of the entertainment will include pictures of Life on the Farm. If you can help, please give Blair or me a call at 253-2610. This is the 100th anniversary of the N.C. 4H organization.

Thanks, Charlie

David Barkley

Extension Horticulture Agent

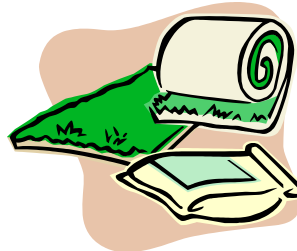
Brunswick County Cooperative Extension Service

February Gardening Tips

Spring is coming around the corner. I have made statements in the past calling for gardeners to be patient. I am about ready to cut you loose and let you go full steam ahead with your gardening activities but, let's not go overboard. There are still cold days ahead and winter may not truly be over until mid

April. The last frost free date is around April 20 for much of this area. That can vary by a couple of days either way depending on where you are in the county.

Most of the reins I have held people back on centered on pruning. I am at liberty to say you may start some of your pruning chores now. Still, you need to have a good reason before you make a pruning cut. Don't start cutting back plants because you see others doing it or because I said I was cutting you loose. Do it because you have a good valid reason and you know how the plant will respond. You can prune in such a fashion that you can predict how it will grow back and whether it is the type of new growth you will want.



DO NOT FERTILIZE TURFGRASS!!!! We still need to be patient on this and wait until later in the spring to perform this task.

Fruit Trees, Grapevines

After pruning fruit trees this month, spray with dormant oil to kill over-wintering insects.

Prune grapevines this month. Remember that fruit buds form only on one-year-old canes. (Canes that grew last spring and summer.)

"Keep your faith in beautiful things;
in the sun when it is hidden,
in the Spring when it is gone."
- Roy R. Gibson

Lawns

Control wild onion and garlic in the lawn now by using an herbicide labeled for these weeds. A repeat application must be made in November for best control. Mark your calendar as a reminder.

Crabgrass usually will start to germinate about the same time the forsythia blooms. If you have had problems with crabgrass in the past, you may want to apply crabgrass preventer when the forsythia blooms.

Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home. ~Edith Sitwell

Ornamental Grasses, Shrubs, Starting Seeds

- Cut back dormant ornamental grasses 10 to 14 inches above the soil before new growth starts. Cut or mow evergreen ornamental grasses or grass-like ornamentals such as liriopse and mondo grass to remove last year's unsightly foliage. If the clumps have become too big for the area, divide them and share with friends or plant in other areas of the yard.

- Summer-blooming shrubs bloom on new growth so they can be pruned hard in February to encourage new growth and many flowers. Examples include abelia, hibiscus, beautyberry, butterfly bush, althea, rose of Sharon and bush or tea roses.
- Starting seeds indoors is easy and economical. Sometimes it is the only way to get the color or variety of the plants you want to grow. It is not necessary to use grow lights; ordinary florescent tubes will usually be enough.

Houseplants

- Turn and prune houseplants regularly to keep them shapely. Pinch back new growth to promote fuller plants.
- Wipe dust from broad-leaf plants at regular intervals using a cloth dampened with clean water.



2009 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: **Gloria Rapp**

PO Box 10642

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)

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association

P.O. Box 109

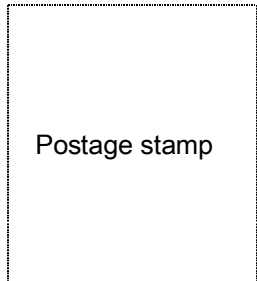
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www.bcmastergardener.org

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