

Beltsville Garden Club Newsletter

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July 2009

Peach Festival Garden

Nancy and Douglas Perkins have a one acre lot that is filled with many different flowers, shrubs and trees. Nancy particularly loves plants that attract hummingbirds and butterflies. She also prefers native plants. For the past few years Monarch butterfly caterpillars have feasted on her swamp milkweed. She hopes that will be the case again this year but it is still too early to tell.

The Perkins' have a white oak tree that came from an acorn from the Wye white oak. Many years ago the State of Maryland, Department of Natural Resources, sold little Wye white oak saplings after the tree produced a large crop of acorns. Of course their white oak tree isn't so tall or wideyet. They also have paw paw trees that produce some paw paw fruit.

Nancy says that she loves almost all plants so she has many different types throughout her acre. "I have always said that my favorite flower is the one that is in bloom, so I try to have something interesting happening throughout the year", she stated. She does enjoy showing her garden to others and looks forward to hosting the Beltsville Garden Club's Peach Festival at her home this year.

Peach Peelers Needed We need volunteers to help peel peaches for the Festival. If you are willing to do this, you must pick up your batch of peaches from Marcy Marinelli's Beltsville home on Thursday evening, 8/6. You will be responsible for peeling and cutting your batch of peaches for the festival on Saturday, 8/8. The more people who help, the lighter the load. If you are able to help out, please contact Marcy on 301-937-3683. Thank you!

See You at the Peach Festival on August 8

This year's Peach Festival will be held August 8, 4 p.m., at the home of BGC members Nancy and Douglas Perkins. The Perkins' live at 10613 Vista Road, Columbia, MD 21044.

Please bring a salad or entree to serve at least 8-10 people for the pot luck dinner. If you are inviting guests, bring additional food. The club provides dessert—fresh peaches and vanilla ice cream with toppings, as well as soft drinks, paper products and utensils. **Do NOT** bring dessert. New this year, the club is requesting a \$1 donation for beer or wine. Please bring folding chairs, and a plant or bounty from your vegetable garden for the door prizes.

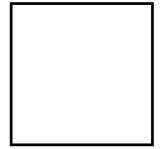
Directions: Take I-95 North to exit 38 B; merge onto MD 32 toward Columbia. Take exit 16 B; merge onto US 29 S toward Washington. Turn right at Rivers Edge Road. Turn right at Long View Road. Long View Road turns left and becomes Vista Road.

Parking: Park cars completely on the pavement of the road because, even in dry times, the grassy shoulder of the road can be very soft. There should be plenty of street parking.

May Hospitality

Thanks to those who brought refreshments to the May 27 meeting: sweets: Bob Trumbule, Kathy Fitzgerald, Sandy Lange; non-sweets: Judy Shanefelter; fruit juice: Marilyn Suzuki. Thanks to Susan Burge for bringing the centerpiece.

Beltsville Garden Club
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Garden Events

Sunday, July 19. Brookside Gardens 40th Anniversary Celebration. Dedication of 40 bald cypress trees near the Conservatory. Butterfly exhibit free all day.

Sat., August 15 & Sept. 19, 9 –10 a.m., Tour the Living Garden Catalog exhibit & display beds created to showcase the newest plants on the market. Join Brad Evans, exhibit creator, who will discuss the uses and advantages of the varieties and answer your questions about how to use them in your garden. Free. National Arboretum, New York Ave. Registration required by phone at 202-245-4521.

To August 31, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Becoming a Bonsai. Special Exhibits Wing, National Bonsai & Penjing Museum. National Arboretum, Free.

BGC Calendar of Events

Tues., 8/4/09. 7:30 p.m. BGC Executive Meeting. Home of Bill and Sue Koppes.

Sat., August 8, 4 p.m. BGC Annual Peach Festival at the home of Nancy and Douglas Perkins.

Tues., 9/1/09. 7:30 p.m. BGC Executive Meeting. Home of Marcy Marinelli.

Wed., 9/23/09. 7:30 p.m. BGC General Membership Meeting. Topic TBA.

Tues., 10/6/09. 7:30 p.m. BGC Executive Meeting. Location TBA

Wed., 10/28/09. 7:30 p.m. Membership Mtg. Speaker: Kathy Jentz, editor, Washington Gardener Magazine.