



Beltsville Garden Club Newsletter

Volume 57 Number 7

<http://www.beltsvillegardenclub.org>

September 2009

Fall Begins The New BGC Year; Time to Pay Annual Club Dues

The 2009/2010 **Membership Form is on page 3**. Please fill it out and return it by mail or at the September 23 general meeting with your \$10 dues.

Please also consider a donation to the Scholarship Fund when you renew your membership. Your support contributes to the education of a University of Maryland student studying horticulture. Thanks to BGC club members, we were able to help a student again this year although we haven't yet learned his or her name. In these tough economic times, our scholarship makes an important difference in the life of a University of Maryland student.

Peach Festival Thanks

Thanks to Nancy and Douglas Perkins for opening their home and garden to host this year's Peach Festival. All who attended enjoyed the bountiful food and seeing the Perkins' lovely garden. Thanks also to all the peach peelers: Marcy Marinelli, Joan Simons, Joe and Susan Burge, Doug Bolt, Sue Koppes, and Bob and Helen Pechacek.

Holiday Party Dates

Mark your calendars now for the date of the annual Holiday Party—**Wednesday, December 9**. In case of inclement weather and school closings, the party will be held on Thursday, December 10.

September 23 General Meeting

The **BGC will meet on the fourth Wednesday, September 23, 7:30 p.m.**, in the cafeteria of the James E. Duckworth School, Beltsville. Steve Shinholser, owner of Premier Ponds, will speak on "Low Maintenance Water Features".

Shinholser is a UMD graduate. He began Premier Ponds in 2001, and he is now one of the largest independent pond builders in the Washington Metropolitan area. He will discuss the steps in designing and building water features in the average yard. He will also discuss pondless streams and relate how these differ from the usual streams and ponds. He will focus on how to make the pond eco friendly while minimizing maintenance.

Refreshments will be served following the meeting. Guests are welcome.

BGC To Elect Officers in September

At the September meeting, BGC will elect officers for the 2009-2010 club year. The nominating committee is presenting the following slate of officers: Marcy Marinelli – President; Joan Simons – Vice President; Bob Pechacek – Treasurer; Judy Shanefelter – Secretary. Additional nominations from the floor will be taken if there are members who wish to volunteer for a leadership position in the club. Our 57-year history is a testament to the involvement of our members. If you have an interest in serving, contact Marcy Marinelli or any member of the executive board.

BELTSVILLE GARDEN CLUB 2009-2010

The Beltsville Garden Club is a not-for-profit organization designed to promote gardening interests of its members, increase their knowledge of horticulture, add to their enjoyment of gardening, and to encourage ornamental planting by individuals, community and business groups.

Officers

President

Marcy Marinelli 301-937-3683
Talkdoc52@msn.com

Vice President

Joan Simons 202-271-5001
Solarnrgman@gmail.com
joanesimons@gmail.com

Past Presidents

Sandy Lange, 301-474-1402
salange1940@yahoo.com
Dan Marinelli, 301-937-3683
Gopackers1113@msn.com

Treasurer

Bob Pechacek 301-384-2415
rpechacek@comcast.net

Secretary

Judy Shanefelter 301-384-7636
jshanefelt@aol.com

Committee Chairpersons

Greenhouse

Bill Koppes 301-434-6380
bilsukopp@aol.com

Hospitality

Sue Koppes, 301-434-6380
bilsukopp@aol.com

Membership

Sue & Joe Burge 301-937-6085
Joerburge@hotmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Sandy Lange, 301-474-1402
salange1940@yahoo.com

Publicity

Louise DeJames, 301-890-4733
lrdejames@msn.com

Plant Sales

Geoff White, 301-937-1539
king-ghidorah@earthlink.net

Electronic Newsletter

Webmaster

Doug Bolt 301-93703112
dbolt@dboltassociates.com

Submit newsletter articles by the second Wednesday of the month. Mail to Editor, 12 Pinecrest Court, Greenbelt, MD 20770 or e-mail to salange1940@yahoo.com

Greenhouse Report By Bill Koppes

Our concluding sales of the year were at an arts festival held in downtown Silver Spring and at a community yard sale hosted by the Behnke's Nursery. Committee members conducted a total of five sales this year, and provided plants for door prizes at the Peach Festival. We also grew plants for the display beds at the front of the school, for the butterfly garden at the entrance of the woodland Nature Walk, and as gifts for each of the students at the year-end ceremony. Kathy, Dorothy, Becky and Bob did an outstanding job again this year.

2009 marks the 15th year since we began operations in the greenhouse. During the summer of 1994 an accident at the corner of Evans Trail RD and Powder Mill RD drew the attention of the Duckworth principal Lydia Flynn and Francis Rupp, a past president of the BGC who lived nearby. They conversed about the necessity of a traffic signal at that intersection, and eventually about a greenhouse that was unused at the school. Both worked toward solving the traffic problem. The greenhouse and the landscaping of its surrounding courtyard became a club project, and the club acquired a meeting place and storage space.

This partnership has benefitted both organizations. Greenhouse funds generated through plant sales are entirely directed to the school after expenses are deducted. This aspect of the partnership is made possible by the work of only a few BGC members.

Peach Enchiladas from Hattie Wilkerson*

- 2 8-ounce tubes of crescent rolls
- 2 sticks butter
- 1 ½ cups sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- firm peaches, peeled and quartered
- 1 12-ounce Mountain Dew

PREPARATION:

Melt butter; add sugar and cinnamon. Unroll crescent dough and place one peach quarter on each crescent. Roll dough around peach from large end to small. Place in 12x10x2-inch pan. Pour butter mixture over the rolls and then pour Mountain Dew on top. Bake at 350° oven for 45 minutes. Yield: 16 servings

**1st Place Contest Winner in 2004 South Carolina cook-off.*

Gardening Tips & News by Sandy Lange

Behnke's Nursery hosts an internet blog at blog.behnkes.com. Each week, a different gardening topic is discussed. Topics include tips on planting fall vegetables, basic perennials, and variety and versatility of crape myrtles. A recent article on Gardening Basics had the following advice:

"Real soil from the ground is not good for use in pots, because a) it is heavy and hard to handle, and b) when you water, it doesn't drain very well (so the soil stays too wet, there isn't enough air in the soil, the plant's roots rot, and your favorite philodendron goes belly up)...." So, be sure to use potting soil which includes a mixture of peat moss, coconut shell and other fibers when re-potting house plants.

National Arboretum scientists are doing research on environmentally friendly alternative pest control methods. Research focuses on physical, biological, and cultural control measures to eradicate plant pathogens. Physical control includes soil steaming or flooding and solar radiation to kill harmful soil-borne pathogens. Biological control incorporates beneficial or antagonistic microbes into the soil or amending the soil with compost and green manures. Cultural control involves rotation of crops, use of cover crops, and adoption of irrigation practices unfavorable to pathogens.

Condolences to Family of Sarah Forbes

BGC members were saddened to hear of the passing of long-time member Sarah Forbes who died at her College Park home on August 25. She was 85 years old. Sarah was well-known for raising funds to find a cure for Alzheimer's, the disease that afflicted her late husband Rodney. She raised close to \$10,000 for the Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk. Memorial contributions in Sarah's name may be made for the 2009 Memory Walk to the Alzheimer's Assn. of Greater MD, 1850 York RD, Suite D, Timonium, MD 21093.

BGC Membership Renewal

Annual dues is \$10 per household per year. The membership year runs from September 1, 2009 to August 31, 2010.

**Please make your check payable to:
Beltsville Garden Club.**

**Mail to:
Beltsville Garden Club
P. O. Box 1953
Beltsville, MD 20704-1953.**

Name _____

Partner's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I am interested in serving on a committee:

____ Publicity ____ Plant Sales
____ Newsletter ____ Membership
____ Hospitality ____ Greenhouse

Check only one:

____ I want to receive the newsletter *by e-mail.*

____ I want to receive the newsletter *in the mail.*

BGC Scholarship Fund

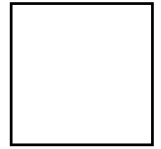
Consider donating to the BGC Scholarship Fund 2010 for the benefit of a University of Maryland student in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Scholarship Donation Enclosed: _____

Dues Amount Enclosed: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Beltsville Garden Club
P. O. Box 1953
Beltsville, MD 20704-1953



Gardening Events

At Brookside Gardens Visitors Center:

Sat., Sept. 26, 2-5 p.m. & Sun., Sept. 27, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., **Dahlia Show**. Sun., Oct. 4, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., **Mushroom Fair**.

Sat., Oct. 3, Extreme Chili Cook-off, Behnke's Nursery, Beltsville. Fun, Food, Raffles.

Sat., Oct. 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Green Springs Garden, Alexandria, VA. **Garden Festival**. Includes events for kids and plant sale.

At the U.S. National Arboretum:

To Oct. 4, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., **Living Garden Catalog & Tour**. Explores latest trends in ornamental gardening.

To Oct. 15, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., **Power Plants Exhibit**, next to the National Herb Garden. Showcases how living plants serve as sustainable energy sources.

BGC Calendar of Events

Wed., Sept. 23, 7:30 p.m., James Duckworth School, **Low Maintenance Water Features**, Steve Shinholser, owner, Premier Ponds.

Tues., Oct. 6, 7:30 p.m., Executive Committee Meeting, Home of Joe & Susan Burge.

Wed., Oct. 28, 7:30 p.m., **Small Trees and Large Shrubs for Urban Yards**, Kathy Jentz, editor, *Washington Gardener* magazine.

Tues., Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m., Executive Committee Meeting, Home of Sandra & David Lange.

Wed., Dec. 9, 6:30 p.m. Holiday Party, Duckworth School.