



Beltsville Garden Club Newsletter

Volume 54 Number 7 <http://www.beltsvillegardenclub.org> September 2006

September General Meeting

Welcome back after our summer hiatus! Beltsville Garden Club will meet on Wednesday, September 27th, 2006, at 7:30 pm in the cafeteria of the James E. Duckworth School, 11201 Evans Trail, Beltsville, Maryland.

The speaker for this month is Kevin Conrad. His topic will be "**Ornamental Plant Conservation**". Mr. Conrad has a BS in Horticulture from the University of Maryland. Presently he is the Curator of the Woody Landscape Plants at the National Arboretum. This program is connected to the National Plant Germplasm System of the USDA. The overall objectives of the Woody Landscape Plant repository are to introduce, conserve, and distribute diverse and wild-origin genetic resources of trees and shrubs. He has experience in the Flora of East Asia as well as herbarium collection.

Please join us to hear this informative speaker. As always we have plants for the door prize table, and refreshments after the meeting. The public is welcomed and admission is free.

Fall Plant Sale

Mark your calendars now for the BGC Fall Plant Sale. We have scheduled the Fall Sale for Saturday, October 21, 2006 from 8:00 am through 12 noon in the parking lot of High Point High School. If you are interested in being a vendor for this sale, contact Geoff White for information. This is the perfect time to divide those perennials that have outgrown your garden and make a little cash in selling them at the sale!

Roadside Pick Up

The next roadside pick up is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 28 at 9:00. New regulations from the county require that everyone who volunteers watches a safety video prior to picking up trash! We hope to show the video at the next general meeting so that those who volunteer or are interested in volunteering in the future will have information on how to safely volunteer to keep our highways clean!

Newsletter Editor Needed!!

BGC is looking for someone to take over the position as Newsletter Editor. The current editor has been on the job for five years and is looking for a well-deserved break! The position requires about 6 hours each month for attending the Executive Meeting, writing the newsletter, taking it to the Printer, and mailing. You should have familiarity with Microsoft Publisher. It's a terrific way to learn more about the club and its history. For more information, contact Marcy Marinelli, 301-937-3683 or at talkdoc52@msn.com

BELTSVILLE GARDEN CLUB 2006

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.

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Submissions to the newsletter are due by the second Wednesday of the month and should be submitted to the editor at 12217 Castle Pines Drive, Beltsville, MD 20705 or by e-mail.

September Hospitality

Hospitality chair, Martina Lydon, reminds the following individuals that they signed up to bring refreshments for the general meeting on September 27th: Lori Snyder, Maggie and Cynthia Schmidt, Bob Pechacek and Marcy Marinelli. Thank you for your generosity!

Greenhouse News

By Bill Koppes

We are about to return to full operational status in the greenhouse, as of this writing in the second week of September. Over the summer we did maintain a small inventory of plants under the care of Lorene Chang, Mary Margaret Freeburne, and Kathy Fitzgerald. More plants were kept in the gardens of Dorothy Cichra and Kathy. The mixture of stock plants and sale plants that were in foster care will be reunited with the greenhouse inventory on the 23rd of September. We plan to clean the greenhouse that morning and then restock it. The sale plants will be offered at the BGC fall sale on October 21st at High Point. The courtyard will be spruced up also that morning if we have some additional help. If you can stop by for an hour, please do so.

Peach Festival Update

Close to 55 BGC members met at the home of Helmut and Linda Jaehnigan on Saturday, August 9 for the annual peach festival. We had a beautiful summer's day (after a period of high heat and humidity) and enjoyed the great food, companionship and beauty of Helmut and Linda's yard. As is tradition for BGC, good eating was a part of the Festival. Several of the attendees requested recipes and we are happy to provide "Best of the Fest" recipes on page 3 of the newsletter.

A special thanks to peach peelers Sue Koppes, Louise DeJames, Ann Hoffman and Marcy Marinelli. In addition, members of the Executive Committee including Martina Lydon, Sue Koppes, and Marcy Marinelli, volunteered to shop for Peach Festival supplies, set up for the party and clean up afterwards.

Best of the Fest

At last month's Peach Festival, several dishes brought by members got rave reviews! In response to requests, here are two of those recipes. Thanks to Mary Redmiles and Lori Snyder, respectively, for sharing these delicious recipes!

Pineapple Bake

Spray 13x9 inch baking pan with oil; drain 2-20 oz. cans of diced pineapple and put in pan

Mix together:

3/4 C sugar

6T flour

1 C. grated cheddar cheese

Sprinkle over pineapple. Crumble 1 pkg Ritz crackers and spread over top. Melt 1 stick of butter; drizzle over top. Bake 30 minutes in 350 degree oven.

Wheat Berry & Chickpea Salad with Olives & Feta Cheese

1 C wheat berries (buy at Whole Foods or Health food store)

1 C cooked or canned drained and rinsed chickpeas

2/3 C. crumbled feta cheese

1/2 C well seasoned oil cured black olives (pits removed), chopped

1/2 C marinated artichokes (drained & chopped)

1/2 C radicchio

1/2 C. chopped arugula

1/3 C. roasted red peppers, diced

10 cherry tomatoes, halved

Juice from 1/2 lemon

1-1/2 T extra virgin olive oil

Black pepper

Bring a kettle of water to boil, then reduce heat to low so it stays hot. Place the wheat berries in a small pan, adding a generous pinch of salt. Cover with hot water from kettle to depth of 1/2 inch. Bring to boil over high heat, then reduce heat to low and cook gently, checking frequently and adding a splash or two of hot water as needed, up to a cup in total.

(Cont. next column)

Best of the Fest, Cont.

Wheat Berry & Chickpea Salad, Cont.

The berries are done when all the water has been absorbed and the grains are plump and tender, 45-50 minutes. Set aside to cool.

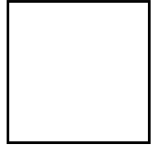
Meanwhile, in large bowl combine chickpeas, feta cheese, olives, artichokes, radicchio arugula, roasted peppers, and tomatoes. Add the cooled wheat berries and stir to combine. Add the lemon juice, olive oil, and salt and pepper to taste. Serve at room temperature.

Volunteer Opportunities with BGC

As a not-for-profit, volunteer organization, the Beltsville Garden Club operates on the generosity and commitment of its members. All our positions are held by club members who share their time and talents with the rest of the club. This has been our tradition for the 54 years that the club has been in existence. By volunteering for a leadership role in BGC you too can carry on the tradition of the club.

Currently we have several positions that are open and we are looking for members who might be interested in volunteering to help out. We will be replacing our President, Vice President and Secretary. Sue Shawhan, former BGC president, will be putting together a nominating committee which will identify potential candidates and announce them at the October meeting. If you have an interest in being an officer please let Sue or a member of the executive committee know. We also need a replacement for Hospitality Chair, Membership Chair and Newsletter Editor. If you have some extra time to spare, an interest in learning more about the club and a willingness to share your time and talents please let someone on the executive board know. The positions require that you attend monthly executive meetings as well as the monthly general meetings. The rewards of volunteering are great!

Beltsville Garden Club
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Beltsville Garden Club

Fall Plant Sale

**Saturday, October 21,
2006**

8:00-12 noon

**High Point High School
Parking Lot**

BGC Calendar of Events

- Wed. 9/27/06 General Meeting, 7:30 pm
Duckworth School, Kevin Conrad,
Ornamental Plant Conservation
- Wed. 10/4/06 Executive Meeting, 7:30 pm
Home of Joe & Susan Burge
- Sat. 10/21/06 Fall Plant Sale, 8:00 am
High Point High School Parking Lot
- Wed. 10/25/06 General Meeting, 7:30 pm
Duckworth School, Rose Ann Davis,
Seasonal Floral Design
- Wed. 11/1/06 Executive Meeting, 7:30 pm
Home of Bill & Sue Koppes
- Wed. 12/6/06 Holiday Party, 7:00 pm
Duckworth School
- Wed. 1/3/07 Executive Meeting, 7:30 pm
Location TBA
- Wed. 1/24 /07 January General Meeting, 7:30
pm, Duckworth School, Cactus, Bob
Stewart