



Beltsville Garden Club Newsletter

Volume 56 Number 3 <http://www.beltsvillegardenclub.org> March 2008

March General Meeting

The Beltsville Garden Club will hold its general meeting on Wednesday, March 26th, 2008 at 7:30 PM in the cafeteria of the James E. Duckworth School, 11201 Evans Trail, Beltsville, Maryland. The speaker for this month is Susan Bentz of the US National Arboretum. Her topic will be **"The American Elm"**. Ms. Bentz will discuss the decline of the American Elm and the development of new varieties that are disease resistant.

. A Beltsville resident since 1990, Ms. Bentz is a Horticulturist with the U.S. National Arboretum. She earned a BA degree from Gettysburg College and an MS in Horticulture from The University of Maryland. She has worked at the Arboretum on camellia, elm, maple, hemlock, catalpa and now small trees to help develop trees with disease and pest resistance and landscape merit. She is the co-developer of the Arboretum's plant fact sheets.

As always, refreshments will be served after the meeting. Bring a plant or plant-related material for the club's door prize table. Feel to bring a friend and introduce them to the club. Hope to see you on March 26th!

Final Notice for 2008 Dues

Dues for 2008 are now overdue. If you see a red 2007 on your address label, this is to notify you that we have not received your dues and you will dropped from the club's membership roster. To keep your membership current, please remit your dues of \$10 to BGC at the next meeting or via mail.

Duckworth School Clean Up

Join the club in helping clean up the new Duckworth School Nature Trail. We'll meet at the school at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 29 to clean up the new nature trail and prepare it for planting. Bring gloves, comfortable shoes, and a spade for digging out greenbriers and other invasive weeds. Trash bags will be provided. If you have some perennials that you have divided that you could donate to the nature trail, bring those along. If we do a quick job at clean up, we may be able to start install plantings along the trail. Questions? Contact Bill Koppes or any member of the Executive Board. We hope to see you on the 29th!

Spring Plant Sales

Winter finally seems to be losing its grip on the area and that means that the BGC Plant Sales aren't far behind. Our first plant sale will be Saturday, April 12 from 8-12 noon in the parking lot of High Point High School. Have you considered being a vendor? As a club member you are eligible to sell plants at the sales. This is a terrific way to support the club as well as make some money by thinning out your perennials. Vendors pay a 7% commission on their total sales to the club. Money earned on plant sales ultimately goes to Duckworth School. If you have questions, contact Geoff White, Plant Sale

NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY COMING IN APRIL—MAKE SURE THAT YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS UP-TO-DATE SO THAT YOU'LL BE LISTED IN THE DIRECTORY!

BELTSVILLE GARDEN CLUB 2008

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.

Gardening Tips

By Sandy Lange

The City of College Park sells screened mulch at \$15 per cubic yard. They will deliver it to your home for a separate fee. The number to call is 301-474-4194.

The February speaker, Dr. Paula Shrewsbury, had interesting information on biological control of common garden pests. She named the praying mantis as a good insect but not necessarily the best for controlling pests because it eats both good and bad insects. Other beneficial insects are the lady beetle, green lacewing, hover flies and tiger beetles. She also noted that the more diversity of plant materials in the garden, the more natural enemies there will be to attack pests. She said that research indicates that pests occur more frequently in managed gardens in which there is frequent use of fertilizers. A list of plants that provide beneficial control is available at attar.org/attar-pub/pdf/farmscaping.

Hospitality for March

The following members have volunteered for Hospitality for the March meeting: Linda Jaehnigan, Bill Koppes, Sandy Lange and Marcy Marinelli – sweets; Kathy Fitzgerald, Glory Houck, Martin Lydon and Lori Snyder—non-sweetst.

Thank you to the following members who supplied refreshments for the February meeting: Sue Koppes, Kathy Fitzgerald, Jean Craigwell, Glory Houck, Suzette Agans, Mary Ann Canter, Helen Pechacek and Mary Washington. Questions? Contact Joan Simons or Helen Pechacek.

Garden Events

[April 10 & 11. American Horticultural Society Garden School. "Trees of the American Landscape."](http://www.ahs.org) George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens. Alexandria, Virginia.
www.ahs.org

See also at the AHS site: **April 18 & 19. Friends of River Farm Plant Sale.** River Farm. Alexandria, Virginia.

Through APR. 13. An Alphabet Garden of Orchids. Exhibit. United States Botanic Garden. Washington, DC. (202) 226-4082. <http://www.usbg.gov>.

Welcome New Members

We welcome two new members who joined BGC at our February meeting. Karen Dorsey and Glory Houck are our newest members.

Helmut's Plants Available

It's Spring! Planting season is upon us! Helmut will surprise you with his best selection of plants, trees, perennials, and annuals. Here are some new items all homegrown!

- Bloodgood Japanese Red Maple Trees, 5 gal, 4' now.
- Red Laceleaf Japanese Red Maple, deep red, 3 and 5 gal, 2-3' now;
- Golden Hinoki Cypress, 2 gal., slow growing, good color;
- Cripps Golden Cypress, 5 gal., grows to 15', keep sheared to 6';
- Virginia Fringe Trees, 3 and 5 gal., native small tree, fragrant;
- Daphne odora marginata—blooms in March, very fragrant;
- Japanese climbing Hydrangea 'Moonlight' and Roses
- French Garden Hydrangea—many colors

Plus many more perennials, annuals, herbs, vegetables, etc. Contact Helmut and Linda Jaehnigan at 410-730-0160 or see them at the BGC Plant Sales.

Nominations for officers for 2008-2009 are being sought. New officers will begin their term in September 2008. If you are interested in running for office, or you would like to nominate someone, please speak to any member of the BGC Executive Board. Election of Officers will take place at the May General Meeting on May 28th.

Spring Garden Tour To Scott Arboretum

Sign up now for the BGC-sponsored tour of the Scott Arboretum on Tuesday, May 13. The Scott Arboretum is on the campus of Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania (10 miles southwest of Philadelphia). It encompasses more than 300 acres of gardens featuring 3,000 kinds of ornamental plants. There are magnificent displays of trees, shrubs, vines and perennials. Plants are labeled and grouped in collections to make identification easier. There are 18 different gardens including outstanding tree peonies, over 300 rhododendrons, tapestries of groundcovers, 320 different hollies, a cherry collection with sweeps of bulbs, herbaceous perennials and ferns. Check out the arboretum on its website: www.scottarboretum.org.

Following the tour, we will board the bus for garden shopping at Old Country Gardens Nursery in Wilmington, DE. This is a large garden center with a greenhouse selling ornamental trees, shrubs, evergreens and perennials.

The tour includes transportation in an air conditioned 48 passenger bus with bathroom, a gourmet box lunch, and a guided tour by garden professionals. The reservation form for the tour is below. Simply complete and mail with your check payable to BGC to Sandy Lange at the address below. Reservations must be received by May 6, 2008.

Cut and return to the address below:

Reservation Form for BGC Scott Arboretum Tour

Name(s): _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-Mail Address _____

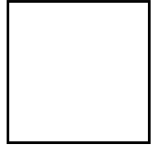
Number of people at \$50 each: _____ *BGC Membership Dues at \$10 each _____

Total Remittance: _____

One person in your group must be a paid up member of the Beltsville Garden Club. Membership is \$10 per person/family. Guests are welcome to come along on this tour.

Mail form and check, payable to Beltsville Garden Club, to Sandra Lange, 12 Pinecrest Court, Greenbelt, MD 20770. Reservation must be received by May 6, 2008.

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



Spring Plant Sale Dates

Saturday, April 12, 2008

Saturday, May 10, 2008

8:00 am—12 noon

**Sales Will Be Held at
High Point High School
Parking Lot**



BGC Calendar of Events

- Wed. 3/26/08 March General Meeting, 7:30
Duckworth School, Susan Bentz, The
American Elm
- Sat. 3/29/08 9:00 am Duckworth Nature Trail
Clean Up
- Wed. 4/2/08 Executive Meeting, 7:30 pm,
Home of Sandy Lange
- Sat. 4/12/08 April Plant Sale 8:00-noon,
High Point High School parking lot
- Wed. 4/23/08 April General Meeting, 7:30 pm
Duckworth School, Phil Normandy,
Viburnums & Their Use in the Land-
scape
- Wed. 5/7/08 Executive Meeting, 7:30 pm,
Home of Louise DeJames
- Sat. 5/10/08 May Plant Sale 8:00-noon,
High Point High School parking lot
- Wed. 5/28/08 May General Meeting, 7:30 pm
Duckworth School, Topic TBA