



Brunswick County Master Gardener  
Volunteer Association

# NEWSLETTER

August, 2007

## Upcoming Events...

**Aug 14<sup>th</sup>** Plant Clinic on Vegetables

**Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>** Regular Meeting

**Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>** Rain Gardens Seminar in  
Shalotte

**October 4, 5, 6<sup>th</sup>** Fall Plant Sale

**Oct 8,9,10<sup>th</sup>** .... State MG Conference in  
Raleigh

<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/consumer/masgar/conference.html>

**December 13<sup>th</sup>** Holiday Party

## Upcoming Speakers

**Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup>** Program will be a tape of an "In  
the Garden" segment by Brice Lane.

**Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>** Reunion Social

**Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>** Toby Bost, Hort Agent, Forsyth  
County - authors books on gardening.

**Nov 29<sup>th</sup>** Dick Bir - Retired - worked at  
Fletcher Research Station in Fletcher NC.

**Social: Becky Dus** spoke of the  
Reunion Social planned for September 27.  
She gave details of the event and asked for  
volunteers to sign up for such duties as  
setup, food, program, etc. There will be  
garden information and decorations located  
at different stations in the Botanical garden  
coming from the "Gardening by the Month"  
book along with a possible "What type of  
Gardener Are You" quiz. Some of these  
items may be used by David Barkley for the  
State and County fairs.

**Jim Blake** thanks all volunteers who  
helped move plants at the sight of the new  
pond.

**David** asked all interested members to  
attend the plant clinic update at the BCC  
Leland campus. If participation declines,  
this program may be stopped.

## Charlie added details:

held at the BCC in Leland on Aug. 14th,  
from 10:00 until 12:00. A lot of good info will  
be presented. Should help answer some  
questions on the Hot Line. I will drive a van  
and can take 6 more folks from here at the  
Extension. May even stop somewhere for  
lunch if anyone is interested. Give me a  
call. (910-253-2610)

If a member does a garden activity that  
might be considered toward volunteer  
hours, a short written report should be  
given to David. This would help with his  
yearly reports of "good success stories".

**Al Hight** is conducting a seminar on Aug.  
23<sup>rd</sup>, at 4:00 PM at the Woodson  
Subdivision in Shalotte. The topic will be  
learning to design and install "Rain  
Gardens". There is no cost and this is a  
good way to help control storm runoff.  
Please call 253-2610 to register.

**Have you paid your Dues? They're only  
\$5/yr. Why not pay for several years at once  
and forget about it for a while?**

**Will we see you at the August Meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup>?**

## Member News

David Nash is facing cancer treatments and David Barkley asked all to keep him in their thoughts.

David Barkley will be having foot surgery at some time in the future.

## State Conference Information

If you are going to Conference this fall, now is the time to make your reservations. You should have received a packet in the mail. If not, go to the internet site I gave you on page 1 and get a form. Let's all go party together and learn something to boot!

If any of you own a "Mini Cooper" please contact Charlie. The 4-H in the state is selling tickets with the first prize being a Mini. We would like to have the owner make their car available for a couple of hours to help sell tickets to support our local 4-H.

## For the Most Current Info...

Our website (<http://bcmastergardener.org/>) has a calendar that is now being updated regularly. Check it out and be a member that knows what is going on. Better yet, if you know of an event you feel our members would be interested in, email me and I will post them. [jloughlin@ec.rr.com](mailto:jloughlin@ec.rr.com)

## Got Ground Pearl?

**David Barkley, Hort Agent:** Peter Hertyl NC. Crops Department – is continuing his study and research on ground pearl and is asking for help from BCMGVA members. He will train volunteers on all aspects of gathering information.

## Gardens: Hilton Holcomb

Work continues in the garden with the work teams meeting the 1st Monday and the 3rd Tuesday of every month. When trying to water the large planters out front, use the new watering cans found in the hot line office. Get water from the kitchen or any other location in the building.

David presented **Jo (Josephine) Chebat** with a certificate for **10 years** of volunteer service.

## Master Gardeners Board Elected Officers:

President

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[shirley312@webtv.net](mailto:shirley312@webtv.net)

910-754-4148

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Lisa Miner

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**Lawn Care**

- Watch for chinch bugs in St. Augustinegrass and be prepared to apply Baygon or various types of pyrethroids such as Tempo, Talstar, etc for best control
- Fertilize the warm seasoned grasses with 1/2 to 1 pound of actual nitrogen except Centipedegrass. Late applications of nitrogen may cause winter kill or cold injury to Centipedegrass.
- Watch for mole cricket activity - small tunnels at the soil surface. Top Choice (fipronil) is usually applied for mole cricket control in late May. You may also use Talstar and other labeled pyrethroids as needed according to label directions.
- Large Patch disease control applications should be applied when soil temperatures decrease to around 70 degrees which will usually be sometime in mid to late September. Monitor now and be ready to apply before the disease becomes too damaging.

**Fertilization:**

Annuals and Biennials that have recently been cut back to force new flowers will benefit from fertilizing with a liquid 20/20/20 fertilizer now.

Apply 1/2 to 1 pound of actual nitrogen per 1000 sq.ft. for lawns

Bermudagrass	-1pound
Zoysiagrass	-1/2pound
St. Augustinegrass	-1/2pound

**Joe's Kitchen**

My tomatoes have been much better than last year. I had almost forgotten what a **good** tomato tastes like. I have been harvesting 2-3 nice fruits each day and have been able to make one of my favorite summer dishes, **Tomato & Feta Salad**. Slice enough Tomatoes onto a platter to make about a layer and half. Top the tomatoes with:

1 small can chopped black olive  
Crumbled Feta Cheese (Bulgarian if you can find it.)

1 Cup equal parts  
of fresh Basil,  
Oregano, &  
Italian Parsley  
chopped

Salt & Cracked  
Pepper to taste

Drizzle with Extra Virgin  
Olive Oil and the best  
Balsamic Vinegar you can afford.

I can't afford much, so I take the cheap stuff and reduce it slowly in a sauce pan till it's half the volume. Much Better! My daughter brings my wonderful feta from a Middle East store in DC. If you don't have fresh Basil, Oregano, and Italian Parsley, why not? It grows so good here!



This makes a beautiful presentation and I guarantee the plate will be cleaned.

**Garden Tips and Greetings to You!**

**David Barkley**  
**August 2007**

**Landscape Plants:**

- Powdery mildew on Crapemyrtles: Pay close attention to your crapemyrtle foliage. Banner or Bayleton may be used to control

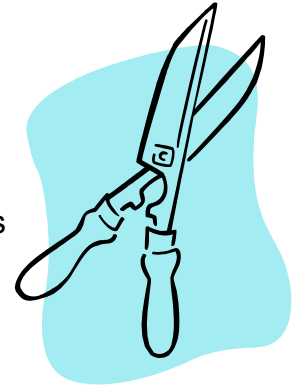
Powdery Mildew if you notice a white powdery substance on your Crape myrtles.

- Help your crape myrtles lose weight this summer. As the flowers fade, tip prune them. This will encourage new, dense growth and more flowers for late summer.
- Annual Flower Beds: a closed canopy will shade-out many weeds. Periodic cultivations will suppress many weeds. Mulches will suppress many annual weeds.
- Unpruned plants are good candidates to be blown over in a thunderstorm. Also a good summer trim will encourage new growth and possibly more flower buds for late summer or fall. Several plants to consider for midsummer clean-up are: Tansy, Hollyhocks, Mexican Bush Sage, Santolina, Comfrey, Catnip, Queen Anne's Lace, Fennel, and Thyme. Remember to keep a 3-4 inch layer of an organic mulch throughout the perennial border. Also keep any insect pests under control and fertilize if necessary.
- If you are growing summer color plants in containers, it will help to keep a water saucer under the pot. Pots will not dry out as quickly. It will also help to add peat moss and soil to the pine bark media to hold moisture. Be sure to mix the amendments together thoroughly before planting. Watering frequency will be greatly reduced.

**Pruning:** For additional flowering, deadheading some of your favorite flowers

now may force them to bloom again in the fall.

Light pruning may be performed for most landscape plants except those that you expect to have blooms from next spring such as azaleas. Storm damaged tissue may make it necessary to make heavier pruning cuts than normal to repair broken, leaning or dangerous limbs.



Cut back Red Tip Photinia now to have beautiful red foliage throughout the winter months.

#### **Pest Control:**

August is often the hottest and most humid month for growing plants. Extra care must be provided for young establishing plants due to the abundant and constant pressure of insect, disease and weed competition.

Air quality may be poor and plants may show signs of ozone injury. Treat fungal diseases with fungicides as needed and continue to monitor plant growth to prevent devastating losses.

Insect populations build up to threshold levels and wise use of pesticides may be necessary to control Aphids, Spider Mites, Scales, and Whiteflies found in the landscape. Sycamores will start an early fall color change from damage they suffer from lacebug attack. Spray controls for this pest is not practical and the leaves will be falling next month anyway.

For most trees, spray control of pests must be judged with how many more weeks of

beauty you expect out of the tree versus the eventual loss of leaves in the fall. Practice sanitation to remove infected plant material so the problem will be not as bad next year. Azalea caterpillars and fall webworms make their appearance now - treat with orthene, sevin or malathion.

**Get Ready!** Fall is the best time to plant trees and shrubs in the landscape. Look around now and analyze your site to see if you can enhance your landscape with a few more plants or you may want to consider renovating your landscape this fall. Now is the time to put your ideas on paper and start lining up the plants you will need later. Have you thought about a fall garden?



**Hints!** Regular weeding and watering of lawns, flowers, and vegetable gardens will keep them producing all summer. Mulch all beds to maintain even moisture and keep weeds down. Leaf spot on tomatoes can be treated with an insecticidal spray: follow label directions. Good clean-up of all infected leaves, branches, and plant stubble from gardens can prevent the spread of diseases in your gardens.

## Planting

Plant pansy seed this month in flats for planting in the landscape in September.

Spider lily (lycoris), colchicum (autumn crocus) and sternbergia bulbs should be planted in August.

Sow seed of the following perennials: hollyhock, delphinium and stokesia to produce healthy plants for next spring.

Continue repotting house plants.

Plant the following fall vegetable plants this month: beets, Chinese cabbage, cucumber, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, mustard, radish, rutabaga, spinach, squash and turnip.

## Tell Us About Your favorite Garden

*Let me hear from you about your favorite gardens. [jloughlin@ec.rr.com](mailto:jloughlin@ec.rr.com) I don't care if it's in Leland or Beijing if you thought it was worth a visit. I'll start with mine:*

### Stourhead Gardens:

built by Henry Hoare II & Henry Flitcroft in the mid 1700's in Southern England. I think it's the most beautiful garden in Great Britain. "The Stourhead park was created in a luxuriant valley, which Flitcroft made into a lake with a path around it that provided a sequence of Picturesque views and encounters with temples, statuary, springs and grotto, all involving layers of visual, literary, and even personal allusion."

The Mansion is worth its admittance price, but if you only have time for one or the other, it's the gardens you want to see. The small path snakes around the lake and offers a new view at every bend. It just reeks of an English novel!

Most plants are marked for identification, so it's a good learning experience.

# 2007 Dues Notice

**Dues are payable by January 1 each year.**

(But we will accept them now!)

Make checks payable to: Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association (BCMGVA)  
\$5.00 per Individual

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mail checks to: **Allen Smith**

4515 Fieldstone Cir SE  
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](mailto:jloughlin@ec.rr.com))

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