



# Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association Newsletter April, 2009

## Upcoming Events...

- April 16-18 Plant Sale
- May 12<sup>th</sup> & June 9<sup>th</sup> NCS Plant Clinic
- May 13<sup>th</sup> Trip to J C Raulston & Plants Delight
- May 14<sup>th</sup> Cooking Class
- May 15<sup>th</sup> – Coastal Gardening Seminar
- May 22<sup>nd</sup> Plant ID Review with Dr. Fantz
- June 16<sup>th</sup> Recognition Luncheon
- April 4<sup>th</sup> Hobby Greenhouse Club Spring Plant Sale
- April 22<sup>nd</sup> 4-H Eco System Expo
- June 25<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting

## Upcoming Speakers

- April 23<sup>rd</sup> Kent Kolbe NC DOT Landscape
- May 28<sup>th</sup> Anne Pendred Photography
- June 25<sup>th</sup> David Barkley and/or Al Hight
- July 23<sup>rd</sup> Keith Baldwin NC A&T Soils and

## Do You Have a Book That Belongs to Our Library?

If so, please return them. An inventory shows that some have grown legs!

## Get your Soil Test via Email

There is now a place on the new forms to request your samples be mail electronically. This should speed the process some and reduce expense. If we don't help out, we may find our free service gone!

## Hilton Holcomb is Moving! ☹

Hillsboro's gain will be our loss. Thanks for all you did and good luck for the future.

## Use the Website to:

- 1 Volunteer for the Hotline
- 2 Keep track of your Volunteer Hours
- 3 See what is coming on the calendar
- 4 Checkout the volunteer opportunities
- 5 Read the Newsletter

**This website is very good new tool if our members will use. Do your part!**

## Garden Workdays

March 18th, April 6th & 15th  
Bring your enthusiasm!



## Plant Clinics will now be

at the extension office starting at 10 am. Be there by 9:45

May 12th, June 9th, & July 14th

## On the Road Again

We are going with 2 vans and as many cars that want to follow to the JC Raulston Arboretum and Tony Avant's Plants Delight. May 13th Leaving at 7 and returning at 7. This should be a great trip

I love spring anywhere, but if I could choose I would always greet it in a garden. ~Ruth Stout

**Will we see you at the April Meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 am ?**



### Charlie says:

"April 14 - wildflower expert Marge Harper and wildlife photographer Dave Harper present "Wildflowers that Thrive in Brunswick

County" in the ongoing Bruce Porter lecture series; Museum of Coastal Carolina, 21 E. Second St., Ocean Isle Beach; 7 p.m.; museum opens at 6:30 p.m.; adults, \$8; K-12 and students with college ID and those 60 and over, \$6; 3-5 years, \$4; 910-579-1016; museumofcc.org

There is a trip scheduled on May 13th to the J. C. Ralston Arboretum and the Plants Delights Nursery. We will leave at 7:00 sharp from our parking lot, have lunch around 1:00, visit Plants Delights and return around 7:00. We have two vans available so can carry about 15 between us. First come first serve. Let me know so I can schedule you. You are more than welcome to drive if you like just let me know.

### From a MG Member

Few of us can appreciate the hours a select group of members have put into building the new and improved BCMGVA web site. This concept began in 05 when Lisa Miner, (a former BCMGVA member) set up the initial web site. Shortly there after, Lisa and family moved to GA and she continued to update the site long distance.

Allen Smith and Joe Loughlin felt the site could and should be expanded, become more interactive and be more beneficial to the association members. John Baronowski and Fred Mina, an Dominique Loewenstein joined Allen and Joe and turned their concept in a reality.

These members deserve a HUGE thanks for turning their ideas into a product that benefits the entire association. NOW we all have the responsibility to use it. beds with water & electricity available. Inmates receive both hands on and classroom training in gardening.

The sun was warm but the wind was chill.  
You know how it is with an April day.  
~Robert Frost

## NEWSLETTER April 2009

### Master Gardeners Board Elected Officers:

#### President

Shirley Waggoner-Eisenman

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

910-754-4148

#### Vice president

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910-253-0722

#### Treasurer

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### Volunteer Chairs:

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NEWSLETTER April 2009

## Joe's Kitchen

I have had several successful meals this spring using what I feel is a bargain meat to serve at a dinner party.

### Roasted Pork Tenderloin

is easy to fix, is a low fat dish, and is easy on the pocketbook. There are many ways to fix it and here is one!



2 Lbs of pork tenderloin

1 1/2 tablespoon of fresh Rosemary

1/4 cup of fresh Sage leaves

8 cloves of garlic minced

1/4 cup of olive oil

1/2 teaspoon of salt

1/4 teaspoon of fresh ground pepper

Mince herbs, Mix seasoning, coat the roast, and let sit over night in a covered baking dish. Cook at 300°

for about 90 minutes. Let rest for 10 minutes, slice onto a serving platter and pour juices & herbs over meat.

## Do you get Butterflies when taking a Hotline Call?

Butterflies always occur as Betty Rose passes on a call and I'm sitting in the "Hot Line" office. I still don't have the MG confidence that I'll be able to help or find the answer to the problem causing the call. But

most recently I really felt as though I was on Candid Camera!

An older gentleman called asking, "How do cabbages set seed?" After repeating the question as I was writing it in the HL book, I asked if he was planning on growing cabbages or had he done so in the past? Yes was his immediate response and he planned to again. This was just a question he and his friends couldn't answer. I did ask if he ever used the internet as I wanted to give him the NC State web site which I felt would answer this and any other garden question he could dream up. Unfortunately the internet isn't available to this gentleman.

Thanks to the work of our association librarian, Grace Wrigley, I found the answer in "25 Vegetables Anyone Can Grow" and was able to send off additional interesting facts about cabbages along with how they set seed. Maybe the next time I serve in the HL office the butterflies won't be so bad.



**2009 Tea and Tour** at Winding River Plantation, Route 211, Bolivia. It is held jointly this year with the Winding River Garden Club. The date and time is Sat. Apr. 25, Tour 10 - 2, Tea 12:30 - 3. \$12.00 tickets can be purchased by calling Pat Sams 910-575-5322 or Carol Humphrey 910-5751029.

Spring is nature's way of saying, "Let's party!" ~Robin Williams

## Upcoming Events Details

**BC Master Gardener Plant Sale** April 16 – 18, 2009 9am – 4pm Brunswick County Master Gardener Plant Sale – all proceeds go to help fund the educational programs carried on by the Master Gardener Volunteers.

Location – Brunswick County Cooperative Extension Office, Bolivia NC

**Coastal Gardening Seminar:** May 15, 2009 Details pending. Guest Speaker Mark Weathington, Assistant Director and Curator of Collections for JC Raulston Arboretum; call to put name on list for registration.

Location – Brunswick County Cooperative Extension Office, Bolivia NC

**Plant Identification Review with Dr. Paul Fantz;** May 22, 2009 9am to 6pm there is a charge for this review session; register by calling the Brunswick County Coop. Extension Office at 910-253-2610.

**Interactive Distance Learning Plant Clinic** May 12 and June 9 10am – 12noon  
Interactive Distance Learning Plant Clinic Update for Master Gardeners Locations: Brunswick County Coop. Extension Office

## David Barkley

Extension Horticulture Agent

Brunswick County Cooperative Extension Service

## March Gardening Tips Gardening Chores for April

Spring has arrived and people are in a hurry to spruce up their yards. There are a few things which need more time to pass before doing. Hopefully the pine pollen problem will be ending as you read this. I have noticed some more issues with pine trees having pine

needle cast which turns the needles brown and they start falling off the tree through the next couple of weeks. One of our large pine trees in the Botanical Garden looks dead but it did the same thing last year and when we went out to evaluate whether to take it down we noticed the new growth of the young needles hiding just under the brown needles. We left the tree in place and it came back out and preformed well for the season.

Here are a few gardening chores for you to consider this month:

- ◆ Warm Season Lawn

Care: Still too early to fertilize. Spring root decline is almost over and

applications of

fertilizer would be better in May except for Centipedegrass which requires a one time fertilization in June only. Continue to mow and water as needed.



- ◆ Prune berry producing plants such as holly, nandina and pyracantha. Prune spring flowering plants such as azaleas after they bloom.

- ◆ Thin cool season vegetables.

- ◆ Protect sensitive warm season vegetables from frost or cold.

- ◆ Renew mulch around plantings if you haven't done so already.

- ◆ Coastal area houseplants can be brought from inside to outdoors later this month.
- ◆ Spring is the next best time to plant shrubs, trees, and other ornamental plants. Remember to select good quality plants that are recommended for your area.
- ◆ A good general fertilizer recommendation is to apply 2 to 4 pounds of ammoniated 8/8/8 or 10/10/10 per 100 square feet to landscape plants around April 15th. It is still too early to apply fertilizer to warm seasoned grasses. Be patient! Good growing conditions are just around the corner.

Prepare new flower beds now for this spring.

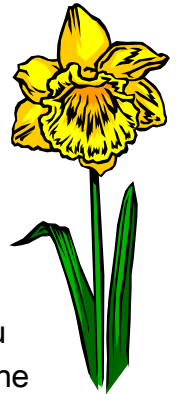
Summer annuals and bulbs perform much better and for longer periods if they are planted in well-prepared beds.

Although it is too early to plant some plants, it isn't too early to till, incorporate organic matter, lime and fertilize. If the area is worked now, a shallow "fluff-up" and hand raking is all that is necessary at planting time for tender annual plants. Plants don't perform well in compacted soils because roots have a difficult time growing and establishing. Check drainage and amend the soil to facilitate drainage.



Once a year gardeners need to redefine the edges of the plant borders. Adding mulch is also a good idea. To re-edge take a flat blade shovel and trench out about 2-3 inches deep and 5-6 inches wide all around the beds. Re-mulch, letting the trench be the border. This fresh, crisp line will accentuate the grass and the bed.

◆ After the spring-flowering bulbs show off, gardeners need to make an application of 8-8-8. After the petals fade and fall off, remove flower organs with scissors or hand pruners, and allow the foliage to die a natural death. If you plant bulbs for only one season, then you can remove the entire plant, once the petals fade.



Stonecrops or sedums are popular additions to many gardens. They are one of the first perennials to show signs of life in the spring and they give a spectacular show in the fall. It is often cited as one of the top ten carefree perennials for the garden. Be sure to locate them in full sun areas with fertile soil. It will perform without any other attention. As it spreads, it is easily propagated for additional plantings.

◆ Seed is the least expensive component of gardening, so it makes good sense to buy the best quality seed you can obtain. Extension's quick reference guide (publication AG 12) list a number of vegetable crops that may be seeded at this time of year.

# 2009 Dues Notice

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

(But we will accept them now!) (Hint! Give us a twenty and forget it for 4 years)

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mail checks to: **Gloria Rapp**

PO Box 10642

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))

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association

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[www.bcmastergardener.org](http://www.bcmastergardener.org)

<http://brunswick.ces.ncsu.edu/>

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