

**November 2007**

**MONTHLY MEETING**

**Date:** Tuesday, November 13, 2007  
**Time:** 7 p.m.  
**Place:** St. Margaret's Church, Parish Hall  
 1601 Pleasant Plains Road  
 Annapolis, MD 21409

**For More Information Call:**

Anne Arundel County Cooperative  
 Extension Office at 410-222-6757

**Volume 11--Issue 10**  
**November 2007**

**NOVEMBER GUEST SPEAKER**

*Dan Terlizzi*  
*Principal Agent & Regional Extension Specialist,*  
*Water Quality*

**“WATER QUALITY AND THE  
 FISTERIA HYSTERIA”**

**THE COORDINATOR’S CORNER**

**Mike Ensor, Coordinator**

Here we are in the middle of Fall and our Master Gardener activities continue to flourish. Our 34 interns will be taking their final exam on November 1, 2007 followed by a pot luck luncheon for the day class or dinner for the evening class. Please welcome our 34 new interns. Once again our mentor program will continue for the class of 2007 with a special thanks to Marietta Schreiber for chairing the mentor program and a special thanks to all those who are serving as mentors. As Marietta has said our mentors serve as friends or advisors for our interns and we want our interns to use them as a sounding board.

Again this year, our Class of 2007 Intern Master Gardeners will be rotating to the various projects to get a better feel of what the Anne Arundel Master Gardener Program has to offer. Hopefully in succeeding years, the Master

**INDEX**

Guest Speaker ..... 1  
 Entrance Exhibit.....  
 The Coordinator’s Corner .....  
 Address Changes.....  
 An Easy Way to Communicate .....  
 Holiday Party Coming Soon .....  
 Project Reports:  
   After School Program .....  
   Ask A Master Gardener .....  
   The Garden Buzz .....  
   Germantown Elementary Projece. ....  
   Quiet Waters Comp/Native Plants .....  
 Numbers, Numbers, Numbers.....  
 Holiday Party Invitation.....  
 Party Evergreens .....  
 Team 30—MG Anniversary Cmte.. ..

**In Addition to the Newsletter:**

**Calendar of Events**  
**EBA Minutes**

Gardeners will then have a better feel for selecting one, two or three projects that they would like to devote their time to. Also this program will hopefully continue to help the Interns acquire their 40 hours.

I also want to remind our Master Gardeners of a few important dates:

November 1, 2007 – Project Proposals for 2008 are due

December 1, 2007 – End of the Year 2007 Reports are due

December 11, 2007 – Annual Master Gardener Holiday Party at St. Margaret’s Church, look for details in the near future

February 19, 2008 – Annual Mandatory Monthly Meeting, please note this is not the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month but rather the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday due to the church hall being used as a polling place.

Once again, I truly appreciate how our Anne Arundel Master Gardeners take on leadership and shine across our county, state, and country. I am so thankful for all that our Master Gardeners do and with that in mind I wish that each of our Master Gardeners and their families have a BLESSED and HAPPY THANKSGIVING.

### ADDRESS CHANGES

Help us keep you informed. If you change your address, phone number and/or email address, or if you have just come on line, please notify Ralph Beedle at [rebeedle@verizon.net](mailto:rebeedle@verizon.net)

### WANT AN EASY WAY TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR FELLOW MASTER GARDENERS?

If you would like an easy way to send a message out to the whole MG group or see messages sent by others, think about joining our Yahoo MG email group. This is a way for anyone to send or respond to messages or announcements (separate from the newsletter). All you need to do is to let Robin Costas know you want to be on the list by sending her an email at [costasrt@comcast.net](mailto:costasrt@comcast.net).

## HOLIDAY PARTY COMING SOON

What is your imagination telling you to donate for the MGs' Holiday Party 'Basket' Raffle? It doesn't have to be a basket. Think outside the basket to bucket and beyond.

Already we have a handmade garden quilt and coffee and goodies baskets lined up.

Some ideas from past years are: Italian food basket, dog/cat baskets, luxurious spa baskets, wine lovers basket, exquisite handwoven basket, gardeners basket, box of books.

Just email or call your 'basket' idea in to Mary Young: [mtyoung1947@gmail.com](mailto:mtyoung1947@gmail.com) or 410-923-0242.

Thanks to all who made such marvelous offerings last year. The raffle is one of the highlights of our party.

## PROJECT REPORTS

### AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Trish Lilek, MG

School is back in session! After a long, hot, rainless summer, it is a pleasant change to be back in the county elementary schools teaching about gardening and gardening related subjects. (And I thought I'd never say that!) For school year 2007-2008, the MG After School Program has 15 schools on its schedule which extends from October 2007 to June 2008. The schools themselves are chosen from a list of participants in the Dept. of Recreation and Parks program for school age child care. This, however, does not preclude other schools from being included; it simply means access to non-participating schools requires more pro-active “evangelizing”. That said, if any Master Gardeners know of area elementary schools they think would benefit from an after school visit, please contact the program chair or active committee member and action to arrange a visit will be taken.

For now, our project has begun the school year with its first visit to Quarterfield Elementary on October 18<sup>th</sup>. It was fun to present Bugs, the Bay Pollution Puzzle and Plant Foods to the K to 5<sup>th</sup> graders and to interact with them. The children seem to be getting more informed at

ever younger ages every year, so it is good that the program materials lend themselves to inquiry and discussion. It was also challenging with 4 Master Gardeners and 40 students. It is doable with that ratio, but I think everyone would agree that a 1 to 7 or 8 would be a little easier. That said, our program continues to benefit from MG interns interested in working with school age children. And we love to see their names on our engagement roster! In fact, interns Claudia P., Christine J-S, and Michelle C. will be joining our upcoming program at Davidsonville Elementary and, with 60 kids in the afternoon program, the extra MG support will be very helpful.

Before 2007 comes to a close, our group plans to visit 4 more schools with enrollments ranging from 20 to 60. It is fulfilling to think that our program reaches these children early and not only prepares them to think of themselves as stewards of our good earth but also gives them some tools to use in the process. It is also heartening to know that the material presented sticks with young minds. One youngster at Quarterfield, now at the age for the Bay Program, told the MGs Marilyn Kinkel and Polly Katauskas that he remembered all about the Beneficial Bugs from our last visit (1 ½ - 2 years ago!). How heartwarming is that? If you have a free Thursday afternoon, join us and see for yourself how rewarding this project can be.

### **ASK A MASTER GARDENER**

Joe Marsala, MG

What a phenomenal season this has been! We performed more plant clinics than ever (61)! We had more than three volunteers on average attendance at each clinic! We regularly did clinics at:

- Glen Burnie Farmers Market (every Wednesday)
- Annapolis Farmers Market (every Saturday)
- South River Colony Farmers Market (every Thursday)
- Crofton Library (twice monthly)

In addition, we did clinics at London Towne, Severna Park Farmers Market, Deale farmers Market, Piney Orchard Farmers Market, and Poppa Johns nursery. We set a new record for client educational sessions this year – 2,872. That is 322 more than we’ve ever done before!

All of this was made possible by our volunteers! Their can-do, positive attitudes have always made the difference! A special note of appreciation for the great job our Interns have done this year – many participated in several clinics! Our volunteers are:

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Marilyn Bandy    | Polly Katauskas    |
| Sarah Birdsong   | Marilyn Kinkel     |
| Jeanne Brush     | Susan Knisely      |
| Kathleen Cornell | Linda Kolosky      |
| Robin Costas     | Sybil Lucas        |
| Barbara Crispin  | Linda Martinich    |
| Joyce Donlon     | Dottie Oliff       |
| Maureen Donovan  | Bonnie Pavlak      |
| Carol Dowling    | Candice’ Rockwood  |
| Elaine Flanagan  | Janet Ross         |
| Kay Ford         | Marietta Schreiber |
| Karen Gomes      | Carol Segree       |
| Lillie Harrison  | Lew Shell          |
| Pat Horm         | Lori Theiler       |
| Barbara Inman    | Pat Thompson       |
| Dick Inman       | Judy Wilson        |
| Carolyn Jordan   | Lisa Winters       |
| Wes Jordan       | Mary Young         |

A VERY special mention should be made of our team leaders: Robin Costas, Kay Ford, Susan Knisely, Bonnie Pavlak, Carol Segree and Lew Shell. These folks are our backbone! They are responsible for making a large project work!

So – a tremendous season! I’m already looking forward to 2008!

### **THE GARDEN BUZZ**

Trish Lilek, Committee Member

Fall has finally arrived along with the recent rains, and as efforts in backyard gardens wind down, so do our committee efforts with the bees. This first year has been a true learning experience for all involved, as anyone who has ever started anything new – a job, a family, an outside-the-box project—already knows. Here are a few obzzzzervations from a committee member on our bees project, its process, and the future.

First, this committee could not have succeeded without chair Trish Willis and co-chair Lisa Winters, who both

kept a constant eye on our hive and brood and their feeding needs. Other committee members pitched in occasionally, but constant weekly visits were a must to hive health and survival. And Trish W. kept us all informed with timely articles from Bee Culture magazine. Hancock Resolution beekeeper Jim Calvert was a needed component of this project as well, demonstrating routine hive checks with his smoke pot, facilitating observation of the queen's prodigious egg-laying, and instruction on mite detection and treatment (For all of you would-bee keepers, three applications of Api Life Var in the early fall prevent Varroa mites...a strip in time saves lives!) All of these hands-on training tips will be put to use in 2008 when the bees project matures and takes flight.

Then we have the up close and personal learning experiences: Jim Calvert, even with his protective gear ensemble, caught a bee up his pants leg—almost as bad as one in one's bonnet, I fear. Do not put on protective gear when near bee hive. Also, standing downwind of a smoke pot is not good human logistics and does not make one hungry as it does the bees. And we learned that rich, vibrant colors are great for attracting bees—best not to wear them when tending the hives. (Batting a thousand is not only baseball lingo...)

Finally, we have the stars of the show, the bees themselves. Two hives, side by side—separated by a mere ten feet—and yet a world of difference. Jim's colony with an Italian queen could not do enough, it seemed, to prepare for winter. Colony Ant, let's call it. They produced so much honey that some comb excess literally oozed down the wood frames as Jim tried to inspect the hive...a beautiful dark amber honey indicating much travel around the area for nectar sources. This was in stark contrast to Colony Cricket with its minimum winter comb provisions and its pale colored honey; we think this hive never left the sugar water supplement we provided (just in case they couldn't find enough in the area). It is possible they didn't see the need get around as much. Also an Italian queen, so that isn't the difference. It is not certain, but a recent Bee Culture article suggests that more multiple queen matings may make a difference. Hmmmm. There is a lot more on this subject, but that is for another time.

As the committee activity winds down with its sugar water feedings in November, we look forward to an active 2008 come March. Early hands-on training for new volunteers, perhaps a few public speaking engagements, and, if our hive picks up a few pointers from Colony Ant and its hard

working bees, perhaps a first harvest of honey are all in the plan. Perhaps you would like to check it out at Hancock's Resolution. If you do, remember us in February! And in consideration for the bees, do include succession flowering plants in your fall and spring yard designs. See you next year!

## **GERMANTOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIVING CLASSROOM PROJECT**

Sandy Patterson, MG

We've had a busy October!

10/4 was "Replant Day" --- we revisited the Native Garden site that we planted in the spring of this year. We moved a few plants that weren't happy where they'd been; planted additional grasses and black-eyed susans; weeded and generally tidied up; and added some sedum, lavender, and a few other colorful plants. Master Gardeners Lois Tuwiner, Susan Smith, Patti Muir, Polly Katauskas and myself were joined by MG Interns Deb Stevens, Sandi Porterfield, and Noreen Krispin, as well as our GES PTA liaison Lara Bontempo. Sandi Porterfield got the hands-down vote for the "Best Example of Down and Dirty" with an astonishingly close second place awarded to Noreen Krispin. Prizes will follow!

Just 2 days later on 10/6 was Planting Day. Over 20 families, 7 teachers, 6 Master Gardeners and Interns for a total of over 80 people turned out. An astounding amount of work was done! We weeded and tidied up not just the school front entrance garden, but also the side car rider garden and the bus entrance garden and got all of them mulched. We planted 10 container gardens for the entrances to the portable classrooms, and trimmed the many bushes around the school. We readied the side car rider garden for the Butterfly Garden scheduled to be planted in the spring, and found a monarch chrysalis! Master Gardeners Polly Katauskas, Susan Smith (and her husband, Bill), Lois Tuwiner, and myself were joined by MG Interns Sue Betz and Joyce Anderson.

Lois Tuwiner has met with the teacher who is spearheading the Butterfly Garden project to begin planning the details for planting in the Spring.

THANK YOU to all who participated -- we could never have accomplished what we did without all your help, and we'll look forward to welcoming you and others back in

the Spring!

**QUIET WATERS PARK  
COMPOSTING/NATIVE PLANT GARDENS  
PROJECT**

Susie Blackwell, MG

Quiet Waters Park has requested we cancel our work session/demonstration on Saturday, November 10 due to a parking concern with another event.

There will be a wrap up meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the QWP Visitors Center on Saturday, November 3 to discuss this past season's activities and recommended changes for next year.

We will conclude our activities for the season by hosting three groups of third graders for a special demonstration at the compost site on Thursday, November 8. They will learn about composting, get to turn compost with big plastic scoops and play our traditional Compost Game. It's always a fun time for the children as well as the MG volunteers.

Amy and I want to express our deep gratitude to all the MGs and Interns who have been part of the Composting and Native Plant Garden project either down at the Quiet Waters site or at one of our other outreach activities this past year. Your hard work, dedication, new ideas, enthusiasm and great teamwork helped to make this another successful season. You can all be proud of what we have accomplished. At our demonstrations we have trained hundreds of people to do backyard composting and thousands more have learned about composting and native plants simply by walking along the Wildwood Trail and reading the signs nearby.

The dedicated Master Gardeners who made all this possible are: Amy Svrjcek, Carol Proudfit, Kathleen Cornell, Sharon Schroer, Barbara Crispin, Donna Alexander, Bonnie Quinn, Joe Ann Kuhn, Elaine Flanagan, Karen Gomes, Susie Blackwell, Catherine Salam, George Anne Diehl, Claudia Ploor, Deb Diddlemeyer, Michelle Corkadel, Barbara Tibbs, Allie Murphy, Woody Boyd, Sue Betz, Susan Guyaux, Diane Mairs, Joyce Anderson, Ann Fischer, Deb Stevens, Noreen Krispin, Linda Smith, Bobbie Kestenbaum, Leon Kestenbaum and Pat Empey.

**NUMBERS, NUMBERS, NUMBERS.....IT'S  
ALL ABOUT THE NUMBERS....NUMBERS  
OF HOURS THAT IS**

The year is drawing to a close and I need your timesheets that report all of your good work. I accept electronic (excel), e-mail with text entries, and hard copy in the mail. I need the information required in the timesheet, don't ask me to fill-in the blanks. If you send me an electronic file I cannot open, you will have to resubmit in another form and in the meantime, no hours will be recorded. If you need help in completing your timesheet, give me a call and we'll try to solve any problem over the phone.

My mailing address is in the Directory and my e-mail address is: [rebeedle@verizon.net](mailto:rebeedle@verizon.net)

***One More Reminder***  
**CHANGE OF DUE DATE FOR THE END OF  
THE YEAR PROJECT REPORTS**

The new due date for the End of the Year Project Reports is December 1, 2007. This is a change from previous years and from an earlier announcement that went out. It is understood that a few of the projects may not have the final results at this point due to the fact that the projects may be continuing into December. However, please submit what you have by the December 1<sup>st</sup> date and the final data can be added once completed. Both the End of the Year Project Report Forms and the Project Request Forms may be obtained by going to the website [AnneArundel.umd.edu](http://AnneArundel.umd.edu). The End of the Year Project Report should be submitted by the Project Chair to the Project Advisor with a copy to Mike.

Just one other reminder and that is those Project Request Forms for 2008 are due November 1, 2007 to Mike.

## MG 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION HELP WANTED

We have so many great ideas about how to build momentum and attention for the Master Gardener Program and how to make our next Annual Training Day (May 29) really special. But, of course, we need your help to carry them out.

### Videography project.

We've been advised by the PR gurus at the U. of Maryland, that one of the best ways to get publicity for our program is to do 2 minute or less videos featuring MG's and what they do. These videos would go on the MG websites (both county and state) and would be used by the PR folks at the University as story ideas for additional publicity. We could also put them as "news" on the University website. To do this, we'd need three things.

1. **videographers**
2. **recommendations for people to feature** (and contact information).
3. **someone to coordinate** the videos being made around the state.

We'd love to have videographers from every county/city, or at least one person in each region.

The videos would purposefully be "amateur" with little or no editing. No real limit on number of videos produced, but we would like a variety of demographics represented and a variety of projects. Our featured person would just briefly say how they got interested in the MG program and how it feels to be a part of it. Then they go into what they do. They could demo compost bins; show how to divide the bulbs that they have all over their yards, show how to take a soil sample; show a wonderful assortment of vegetables and talk about them, show their huge variety of tomatoes and maybe talk about their pests, how to prune them or the difference between determinate and indeterminate etc. etc.; propagation techniques; a view of a native plant garden talking about how it all works together; demo a great therapeutic horticulture idea. The ideas are endless.

Volunteer to be a videographer or recommend a fellow MG who you think would fit the bill.

Annual Training Day- Educate and Celebrate- Will be Thursday, May 29, 2008.

(Next planning meeting, by the way, will be Tues. Nov.

27,

10-1 at HGIC although you really don't have to come to any meetings to do the jobs listed below.) There will be many jobs associated with this event, but here are two we'd like to find volunteers for right now:

1. **Coordinate trade show** (very easy). Just keep track of who wants to exhibit and figure out where to put them. You'll also correspond with them letting them know prices, procedures etc.
2. **Coordinate food for our evening event.** This year we will be extending our day so that we'll all have time to celebrate together. We'd like to feature Maryland grown or produced food or "heavy hors d'oeuvres". We have a lot of contacts, but very much need someone to coordinate. Wine? ice cream? Crabs? cheeses? This job could really be fun!

If you are able to volunteer for any of the above jobs, please contact Robin Hessey- 410-531-1754; [rmhessey@umd.edu](mailto:rmhessey@umd.edu). Thanks!

Many Master Gardeners use a SPAM/Junk Mail filter that screens email. One of the features of these systems is to send to the Junk Folder any mail from an addressee that is not in your address book. If that is the case, please add Rose Mary Swartwood at [swartwrm@pgcc.edu](mailto:swartwrm@pgcc.edu) and Ralph Beedle at [rebeedle@verizon.net](mailto:rebeedle@verizon.net) to your address book. Rose Mary sends the MG Newsletter and the MG newsflashes. Ralph will send email concerning MG volunteer hours.

It is the policy of the University of Maryland and Maryland Cooperative Extension that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the grounds of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital or parental status, or disability. Equal opportunity employers and equal access programs.

**You and Your Guest are cordially invited**

To

**The Anne Arundel County Master Gardener Holiday Party**

On

**Tuesday  
December 11, 2007**

At

**St. Margaret's Parish Hall**  
1601 Pleasant Plains Road  
Annapolis

**6:30 until 9:30 pm**

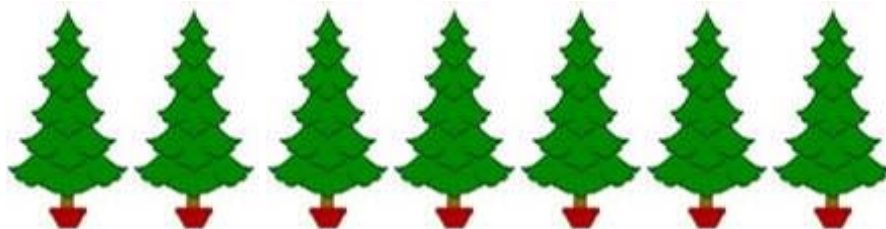
**RSVP by December 1  
With the name of your guest**

To

**Susan Smith**  
**sbswhs@aol.com**

**Last Names beginning with the following letters:  
Please bring a dish to serve 6 - 8 people.**

*A - H Appetizer*  
*I - L Salad or Side Dish*  
*M - R Dessert*  
*S - Z Hearty Main  
Dish*



We are planning to  
***DECK THE HALL WITH BOUGHS OF HOLLY***  
For our annual Holiday Party  
And we need your ***HELP!!***

Fresh Greens are needed  
For  
***A Greens Workshop***  
On  
**Saturday, December 8**  
To make  
**Wreaths that will be given as table prizes**  
And  
**Centerpieces for our buffet tables.**

**All generous donations of evergreens to include boxwood, magnolia etc.  
May be dropped off at Susan Smith's house during the week of  
December 1 - 7**

**Please email [sbswhs@aol.com](mailto:sbswhs@aol.com) for driving instructions (West Annapolis)  
Or for further information about our greens workshop**

**Thank you very much in advance!**

