

March 2009

MONTHLY MEETING

Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Time: 6 p.m.

Place: Homestead Gardens
Propagation Facility
Davidsonville, Maryland

Volume 13--Issue 3
March 2009

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March 2009 Meeting

**Homestead Gardens
Propagation Tour**

By

Jim Palmer at Homestead Gardens
March 10 from 6 p.m.–8 p.m.

Look for a Newsflash in the
upcoming week for more information
and directions.

THE COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Mike Ensor, Coordinator

For More Information Call:

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

Wow! What a start for our new Master Gardener year! First, I want to thank all of our Master Gardeners for coming out to the Mandatory Monthly Meeting, the Anne Arundel County Master Gardeners First Annual Advanced Training Day, and the "Grow It Eat It" Train the Trainer Meeting. A special salute goes to Anne

Nurse for chairing the Advanced Training Day and Lisa Winters for chairing the "Grow It Eat It" meeting. All were an awesome success.

As March comes in many of us are off to the Philadelphia Flower and Garden Show. Many thanks to Marilyn Kinkel for chairing this event and for all of her enthusiasm to get a bus trip together.

Please hold May 16 as the day for our Annual Anne Arundel Master Gardener Open House. The afternoon of May 15 will also be the date to set up for this event. As of now it will be either at Arlington Echo or Quiet Waters Park; so please stay tuned.

Also please hold May 28 for the Annual Master Gardener Advanced Training Day at the University of Maryland Campus. Details and registration will follow soon.

Last but not least I want to thank our past year's (2008-2009) EAB members Trish Lilek (Chair), Joe Ann Kuhn (Vice Chair), Scott Doran, Kay Ford, Marilyn Kinkel, and Lisa Winters for a job well done.

I also want to welcome our new year (2009-2010) EAB members Scott Doran, Marilyn Kinkel, Susan Knisely, Elizabeth Matarese, and Lisa Winters to advise and assist with the administration of the Anne Arundel Master Gardener Program.

As we move forward with the 2009 project year let us continue to focus on the mission of extending services, programs, and expertise of the University of Maryland Extension to the general public: specifically, to educate citizens about safe, effective and sustainable horticultural practices and landscape problem solving. Please take time to read the newsletter and go to the website at AnneArunde.umd.edu for further opportunities in the months to come.

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 Ralph Beedle at rebeedle@verizon.net and Rose Mary Swartwood at rmswartwood@verizon.net to your address book. Rose Mary sends the MG Newsletter and the MG newflashes. Ralph will send email concerning MG volunteer hours.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Help us keep you informed. If you change your address, phone number and/or email address, please notify Ralph Beedle at 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@gmail.com (NEW e-mail address)

NAVIGATING THE MARYLAND/ANNE ARUNDEL MASTER GARDENER WEBSITES

Ralph Beedle, MG

Where do the Master Gardeners fit in the complex organizational structure of the University of Maryland? What are the MCE, AGNR, and HGIC? And -- how can I find information related to the Master Gardener programs? All good questions! The answers to these questions and more can be found on the web. Navigating the web can be a little daunting, but with a little help the task is manageable. The following outline of the various websites should provide an understanding of the organizational structure and help you 'work' your way through the web and at the same time acquaint you with many areas of interest to a master gardener.

Beginning with the University of Maryland you will find a vast array of topics, one of which is Academics and the associated list of fifteen Colleges and Schools. Among them is the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources which has the responsibility for administration of the Maryland Cooperative Extension. The Maryland Cooperative Extension (MCE) is a statewide, non-formal education system within the college of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. The MCE mission is to educate citizens to apply practical, research-based knowledge to critical issues facing

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NEW MASTER GARDENER HANDBOOKS

individuals, families, communities, the State, and our global partners. Among the several programs designed to support that mission you will find the [Lawn, Garden & Home](#) programs. Within the Lawn, Garden & Home programs you will find information on the [Home and Garden Information Center](#) (HGIC), [Integrated Pest Management](#) (IPM) and the [Maryland Master Gardener Program](#).

The Master Gardener Program describes the [Maryland](#) program and is the location for links to a variety of topics of interest to the entire state. Take a look at this site and the link to [MG Administrative](#) page. This is where you will find information on the Master Gardener Handbook, the Annual Day of Training, Maryland MG License Plate (see MG Administrative) and more.

The 12 counties with a Master Gardener web site are listed under the [Local MG Programs](#) of the Maryland Master Gardeners. We have reached the end of the organizational chain – [Anne Arundel County Master Gardeners](#).

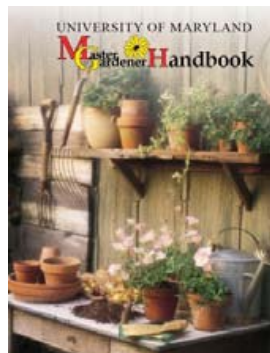
Before we look at the AA County MG site, return to the MCE site -- remember [Maryland Cooperative Extension](#)?

From MCE, take the link through 'Local Offices' to [Anne Arundel County Extension](#). Recall that the Master Gardeners is one of the MCE programs so we find a link to the [Anne Arundel County Master Gardeners](#) on this site. This is the organizational structure for the administration of the county Master Gardeners, in this case Anne Arundel County.

We have traced two paths from University of Maryland to the Anne Arundel County Master Gardeners; one through the functional relationships and the second through the organizational structure.

Now for the [Master Gardener Program in Anne Arundel County](#): This site provides links to the Calendar of Events (training opportunities), the Newsletters and a number of other related topics. The EAB minutes, timesheets, and meeting schedule are located on a site titled [Administrative](#). This site is used to post many of the documents listed in the monthly Newsletter. It would be a good idea to Bookmark these two sites.

Enjoy surfing!



The new handbook is 640 pages and includes 400 color photos. All material has been completely revised and updated. There are 28 chapters, including 9 new chapters (e.g. ecology, weeds, invasive species, alternatives to turf, landscape design, water quality and conservation). The cost is \$69 and includes shipping and handling. Mail your order form and check made payable to the University of Maryland to Robin Hessey at the Home and Garden Information Center at 12005 Homewood Road Ellicott City, MD 21042. Order forms can be found on the HGIC website at: <http://mastergardener.umd.edu/Handbook.cfm> For more information contact Robin Hessey at 410-531-1754.

FOUR RIVERS GARDEN CLUB FLOWER MART?

April 30, 2009, from 8:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the City Dock by the Market House? Freshly cut flowers suitable for May baskets, flower arrangements, perennials, annuals, garden gifts, sandwiches and baked goods will be sold with the proceeds going to community garden projects. For more information contact Janet Ross.

NATIVE ORCHIDS

Elizabeth Matarese, MG

On January 31st, the Silver Spring Garden Club, coordinating with the Washington Gardener Magazine and a number of Montgomery County Master Gardeners, hosted a seminar on Native Orchids.

It was one of the seminal moments for me! We have identified many of our native plants that can be used in

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the garden when all those fussy cultivated ones fail to survive droughts or excessively hot Mid-Atlantic summers.....but we have so many more wildflowers and woodland plants that we have yet to appreciate to the fullest...just because they are not brought to our attention.

Carol Allen will not let that happen. She brought her slides of various native orchids, described their habitats, their status (as common, endangered, rare, threatened, or "nobody's sure"), and other characteristics that make them plants to be treasured. She had both the Latin name (specific epithet) and the various names in the vernacular by which they are recognized.

She offered the names of several parks and gardens where many of these native orchids are seen in their natural state. Noting their different soil needs, their Mycorrhizae dependencies, and their tenuous existence in a region where developers are clearcutting and/or bulldozing, she raised audience awareness about the value of looking for them now....this spring!

The highlight of the evening for me was that for my neighbors, on whose property I identified a *Showy Orchis*, she validated, through pictures they had taken, my find and advised them how to care for these newly discovered native orchids. They were thrilled; of course, to know that there are probably more plants for them to find...perhaps even a *Cypripedium acaule* or two. Don't know the C. acaule? Try Pink Moccasin Flower or Lady Slipper.

Carol Allen is now on my list of "must see and listen to" people. We will try to have her present a program for the Anne Arundel MGs. Her informative lecture and wonderful photos make an excellent way to learn about additional plants that ought to be recognized and prized. And...she said she would love to visit us!

ARDEN GARDENERS

will be sponsoring a one-hour talk on vegetable gardening April 4, 2009, at 11 a.m. at the Arden on the Severn Town Hall located in Crownsville on Omar Drive. The guest speaker will be **Lisa Winters** from the **Master Gardeners Speakers Bureau**. The presentation will be about one-hour long with a question and answer period following. All are welcome; so pass the information along to anyone who might be interested in this timely talk. For more information contact Susan Guyaux.

CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL HORTICULTURIST

Jon Traunfeld, State Master Gardener Coordinator

I spoke with Vanessa Finney, Exec. Director of the MD Nursery and Landscape Assoc. this morning and learned the following:

- Active Maryland Master Gardeners can apply to become Certified Professional Horticulturists. MNLA feels that the MG training and volunteer experience makes MGs eligible to apply.
- Any interested MG should go to the MNLA website: <http://www.mnlaonline.com/> and click "CPH" to get all of the details.
- The MG will need to download and complete the application and pay the \$125 fee for materials and taking the exam.
- On the application, the MG should list Maryland Cooperative Extension as the sponsor organization. It's very important that the MG also submit a letter of sponsorship written and signed by the MG Coordinator or other Extension Educator. The application and letter should be submitted together to MNLA.

This is a great opportunity for motivated MGs to take their knowledge and experience to the next level. Please share this opportunity with your volunteers and contact me if you have any questions.

Jon Traunfeld
Director, Home and Garden Information Center
State Master Gardener Coordinator

University of Maryland
12005 Homewood Road
Ellicott City, MD 21042

410.531.5556 (tel) 410.531.5567 (fax)

www.hgic.umd.edu www.mastergardener.umd.edu

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If you are interested in taking a specific course or class for MG Advanced Training credit, please be sure that it is listed in the Calendar of Events. If it is not, send an email to cfindlay@verizon.net with a web listing so the offering can be reviewed and added to the Calendar of Events as eligible for advanced credit.

ANNE ARUNDEL MASTER GARDENER PROJECTS

HANCOCK'S RESOLUTION

Sue Benz, MG

It's almost time to get back to the farm and I hope to see all of you who were kind enough to sign on to Hancock's Resolution as your project.

The first day will be Monday, March 16, at 1 p.m. We will be planting radishes, spinach, and lettuce, spreading compost and cleaning up the winter weeds.

The next date will be Sunday, April 5, at 2 p.m. The March and April intern rotation is also at this time. So wear appropriate clothing and bring your favorite garden tools. Thanks and see you real soon.

HEALING GARDEN IN KINDER FARM PARK

Bonnie Pavlak, MG

At our first meeting, Friday morning, February 13, 2009, we collected 10 soil samples, mixed them up and sent them off to the University of Delaware. We await the results to determine the plants that will grow in the healing garden. We also had a general clean up of branches, twigs, and fallen trees.

Our next meeting is Friday, March 6, 2009, at 10:30 a.m. We will be doing a perc test. We dig a hole, fill it with water and wait until it drains. Then we fill it with water

again and measure how much the water drains in an hour. The perc test may extend into Saturday if the water doesn't drain. Then we have a swamp. We'll also do clean up and create a path while we are waiting.

If any committee members are interested in writing the grant, please let me know.

QWP COMPOSTING AND NATIVE PLANT GARDENS PROJECT

Pam Dennison, MG

The schedule is completed and we are gearing up for another busy year for the Composting and Native Plant Gardens project. We thank all the dedicated master gardeners who have signed up to help with the project this year. For any master gardener who was unable to attend the February sign-up meeting and would like to volunteer or get more information about the project, please contact Pam at pamdennison7@verizon.net or Kathleen at ktpartners@aol.com.

This season, from late April through early November, our twice monthly work sessions and compost demonstrations will take place on one Saturday and one Wednesday morning each month to allow more variety for both volunteers and demonstration attendees alike. Please see Calendar of Events for dates and times.

RAINSCAPING CAMPAIGN AT THE CHESAPEAKE ECOLOGY CENTER

Joyce Donlon, MG
Susan Steele, MG

Earth Day, April 22, 2009 marks the launch of the *RainScaping Campaign* and *RainScaping.org* website. The RainScaping Campaign is being implemented by 32 (and growing) partners in Anne Arundel County. The campaign slogan—*RainScaping...Beautiful Solutions to Water Pollution*—speaks to the partners' goal: Improve the health of Anne Arundel County tributaries and the Chesapeake Bay by promoting beautiful landscaping techniques that reduce polluted runoff from rain/storm events.

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Reduction in polluted runoff will be achieved when we all take part by: reducing fertilizer and pesticide use; practicing better management of pet waste and trash; installing rain gardens and rain barrels; planting native trees and other native plants; converting hard surfaces to permeable surfaces with, e.g., permeable pavers; and opting for green roofs when possible. These techniques are innovative approaches that conserve our natural resources while creating habitat areas full of beauty and life. Beginning on Earth Day, check ***RainScaping.org*** often for user-friendly information on RainScaping techniques, and for a schedule of tours of RainScapes and special programs. Share photos and videos of your RainScaping projects.

We invite you to become a ***RainScaping Advocate of Beautiful Solutions to Water Pollution*** and to ***be an example of the change you want to see in the world!***

Did you know?

Polluted runoff is the major source of damage to our rivers and the Chesapeake Bay.

You Can Make A Difference!

- * Install rain barrels and rain gardens in your yard
- * Plant native trees, shrubs, and other native plants
- * Replace pavement with porous surfaces
- * Learn more about polluted runoff at RainScaping.org
- * and help spread the word about RainScaping in your neighborhood

SCIENCE IN THE GARDEN 2009

Phylis Veillon, MG
Deb Stevens, MG

Science in the Garden is a program done in cooperation with Historic London Town and Gardens. This program teaches elementary school children to think critically and solve problems using evidence and observation. School children in grades 2-5 study the interdependence of plants and animals on a wood land walk and do an experiment on plant protection.

Since “Science in the Garden” wasn’t included in the intern rotation schedule because we only meet when

school groups book the program. We invite all interns and any interested Master Gardeners to come out and see first hand what “Science in the Garden” is all about.

We will be having an organization and training session on Tuesday March 24th from 10:00am -11:30 in the educational classroom at the Visitor’s Center at Historic London Town and Gardens. The training will include reviewing lesson plans and a walk through the woodland gardens.

Any interested interns or Master Gardeners should contact Phylis Veillon at phylisv@verizon.net or Deb Stevens love2bamom@verizon.net.

HERE WE GROW AGAIN!

As part of the **Grow It, Eat It Initiative**, Jon Traunfeld has been invited to appear on Martha Stewart. He will be building his famous salad table. He will be taping on March 24th to air on March 27th or 28th. I will let you know the air date when it's available

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE STATE OFFICE

News from the State MG office

GROW IT EAT IT

Most of you have heard about the MG statewide food gardening initiative called Grow It Eat It from your local MG newsletters and meetings. There will be more information coming to you shortly in your state MG newsletter.

We have 14 Train the Trainer classes scheduled between Jan 30 and Mar 31 which will teach MGs how to teach the public how to start food gardens. This is a good class to attend even if you don’t really want to teach, because you’ll get some basic food gardening information and find out about the project and other ways you can help with it.

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In addition to the classroom date, each class includes a summer field trip. For a complete schedule of class times, locations and registration form, go to the state MG website (www.mastergardener.umd.edu) and click on Advanced Training (on the left) and then on the “Grow It Eat It” link.

Many counties have established Grow It Eat It committees that are working on developing local resources and scheduling talks for the public. We hope to gather information from participants at the public events so that we can link them together into a Maryland Food Gardening Network and survey them at the end of the growing season.

We have established an “in-house” website for Grow It Eat It where MGs can go to get forms, handouts, powerpoints, meeting notes and more. We buried this site on the state website under the “Administrative” link (midway down on the left)
<http://mastergardener.umd.edu/Administrative1/GrowIt/index.cfm>

This site is being added to regularly – so check back frequently. If you need something that’s not posted there, contact Robin Hessey, rmhessey@umd.edu or 410-531-1754.

In addition to this site, there will be a public site and blogsite hosted by Jon Traunfeld.

MARYLAND MG ADVANCED TRAINING IN YOUTH EDUCATION

Date & Time: Thursday, March 5, 2009
9:30 am-3:30pm
Location: Carroll County Extension Offices,
Westminster
Presenters: **Jeanne Mueller**,
Elementary Education Director
Maryland Agricultural Education
Foundation (MAEF).
Steve Allgeier, MG Coordinator;
Carroll County
Ron Anderson, MG
Montgomery County
Reg. Fee: \$25
Reg. Deadline: Thurs., Feb. 26, 2009

(To register, just send your name, address, email,

MG county, phone with a check for \$25 made out to the University of Maryland.

Mail to: MG Classes
12005 Homewood Rd
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Radishes grow in cellophane bags. So do many potatoes. Tomatoes and pumpkins come from cans. If this is a child’s experience, it’s true...right? What’s nature got to do with it?

Getting kids in touch with nature – especially through gardening and growing plants – is more important today than ever. Garden projects promote environmental awareness, awareness of where food comes from, better eating habits, exercise, and wonder and awe of the world of nature.

Many MG’s are devoted to teaching children while many others would like to, but are reluctant. So, this is your chance! Dispel your reluctance, join us for the day, and learn how MGs can help teach and promote garden education among our young people.

Working with kids is actually very easy. (You can do this- and the classroom teacher is always there to help.) If you would you like to heighten your comfort level in working with children and add to your repertoire of “Gardening Treasures”, join us for this one-day training. We will review some characteristics of elementary- age students, how to conduct a class (plan, pick activities, keep kids engaged), and how to handle problems.

You will experience an assortment of “gardening” activities quickly adaptable to classroom presentations. A variety of formats for conducting lessons will be introduced and literature connections that correlate with gardening activities will be shared.

Ample time will be provided for perusing resources, developing your own lesson plan with age appropriate activity, and sharing “tried and true” classroom adaptable ideas.

There is a great deal that we can learn from one another!

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We'll also spend a little time brainstorming about where and how we should best be investing MG energy in teaching youth and whether we want to coordinate any of our efforts statewide.

**UPCOMING STATEWIDE BAY-WISE
MEETING**

Monday March 23-

MD Dept of Agriculture in Annapolis. This meeting was scheduled twice in February and was "snowed out" both times. We will be working on developing much needed materials for the Bay-Wise program.

MG ANNUAL TRAINING DAY

University of Maryland, College Park

Thursday, May 28, 2009

Save this date for this important annual MG statewide event.

Keynote speaker announced:

Miriam MacGillis

Founder, Genesis Farm (NJ)

**Community Supported Agriculture Project
and**

Earth Learning Center

***"Securing our Health, Our Communities and the
Common Good: One Garden at a Time"***

Cultural historian and author, Thomas Berry has said: "to garden is to activate the deepest mysteries of the Universe". In this presentation, Miriam MacGillis of Genesis Farm in Blairstown, NJ, will reflect on the profound implications which arise out of the relationship between a gardener and the natural world in the ageless activity of planting and tending seeds as they emerge in the bounty and beauty of food and flowers. In these critical times, when the health and availability of food is so threatened and the essential beauty of nature is so diminished, the role of the gardener as a keeper of these treasures has never been more important. How we see ourselves in this larger historic context will be the focus of this presentation.

Miriam MacGillis may not be a household name, but she is one of the most articulate and inspiring speakers you'll ever hear. She will not only set the perfect big-picture tone for all that MGs do, but she'll inspire us and teach us the importance of our Grow It Eat It initiative. Miriam has lectured the world over and has inspired many of the important thinkers and doers of our time.

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OUR VERY OWN FIRST MASTER GARDENER ADVANCED TRAINING DAY

Anne O. Nourse, Organizer

It all began as the brainchild of Stacy Church, chair of last year's plant sale. She suggested the proceeds from the sales could be used for an advanced training day exclusively for our members. After Executive Advisory Board approval, a committee formed comprised of Stacy, Susan Smith, Sharon Schroer, and Anne Nourse. After careful discussion and consideration, this group decided on the program, the date based on other MG training that takes place before projects began, the location and the speakers. On Saturday, February 21, 2009, at the Chesapeake Bay Foundation Canvas Back Conference Room, the event became a reality! **The First Annual Anne Arundel County Master Gardeners Advanced Training Day** was held.

The day began with over 70 Master Gardeners receiving pens with our logo when they registered and signed up for door prizes. After breakfast treats, the morning program began with a special lecture entitled "Busting Garden Myths" presented by Scott Akers, Gardens Unit Leader at the U.S. National Arboretum. For an account of his entertaining and informative talk on soil, plant and maintenance myths, read Elizabeth Matarese's account of his well-received talk. A file of Scott's PowerPoint Presentation is being requested and, if available, will be sent out to all MGers. Don't miss reading his very practical and sensible advice. As a federal employee Scott cannot accept an honorarium so a \$200 donation is being sent from our group earmarked for the collections for which he is responsible at the Arboretum. A floral centerpiece specially made for Scott by a MG was presented to him. Winners of several door prizes including MG logo pens, MG mug, MG travel cup, fresh flowers and a centerpiece were announced before a short break of apples, bananas, cracker treats and lots of socializing.

Following was a propagation presentation of different techniques by Anne Gleeson, Landscape Architect of AG Environmental Restoration, LLC also described in Elizabeth's article. In her down-to-earth style and attitude, Anne made cuttings, showed how to make divisions and spoke about grafting methods to a captured audience. As always, when you're having fun time flies by so, with time running out and with numerous kinds of plants (many of which were donated by Homestead Gardens) ready to be dissected by those who came, her talk ended. She will be receiving an honorarium. Lucky MGers whose names were drawn by Anne were given the remaining door prizes, (repeats of the earlier ones). Next, devoted and passionate MGers ran to the table full of patiently waiting plants, took cuttings and divisions that were placed in cardboard containers and small pots with potting soil to be tenderly cared for

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so a new, healthy plant would grow. Many plants hadn't been grown by MGers before so this will prove to be a new learning experience. Please tell us how your newly adopted plants are doing.

After close to an hour of cleaning the dirt-ridden floor and making the room sparkle once again, MGers were able to enjoy the rest of the afternoon and tend to their new family of plants. What better way to spend a wintry day. For those of you who noticed the abundance of left-over food, the remaining refreshments were given to Marcy Damon, the lovely Grassroots Restoration Coordinator who was able to let us use the CBF room free of charge, who stored it for the CBF staff. Drinks were given to Lisa Winters for an upcoming MG Speakers Bureau meeting.

All in all it was a busy day learning lots of gardening information, getting new plants and visiting with friends who hadn't been seen since the holiday party. Because of the enthusiasm shown by the membership for this event, Jim MacNicholl and Anne Nourse have agreed to co-chair the **Second Annual Advanced Training Day** for our membership next year! Anyone who also has an interest in helping should contact Jim (jmacnich@comcast.net) or Anne (aonourse@peoplepc.com).



photos courtesy Susan Smith
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FIRST ANNUAL ADVANCED TRAINING DAY

Elizabeth Matarese, MG

And a good time was had by all! On Saturday, February 21st, two special lectures, given by two personable, knowledgeable, and dedicated people, attracted nearly 75 attendees to the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Conference site for the first annual AT Day..

Scott Aker, from the U.S. National Arboretum and nationally recognized as a writer of gardening and horticultural advice (See his Washington Post columns in the Home Section), opened the sessions with *Busting Myths*, a collection of folklore and old wives' tales types of beliefs that gardeners usually wonder about.

"Double digging," he said, "illogical....all you are doing is bringing up subsoil to the top. The top 4-6 inches is where the nutrients are. Why would you bury that 2-3 feet below?" His conclusion: The English (who do a lot of double digging) waste a lot of time.

On the subject of trees, he shared an entertaining story of replacing a "mandated subdivision-planted tree" with a resident's desire for a basswood or a linden tree. When subdivisions decree that a certain tree is to be planted, Scott had only one word for it: Fascism!

These are two examples of how he educated these MGs, while adding a lighthearted touch to the lessons learned! Anne Nourse, who organized and supervised all the activities of the AT day, presented Scott with remembrances of the session....and the rest of us applauded his presentation.

Anne Gleeson, a landscape architect and horticulturist, presented a session on propagation. *Multiplying Your Plants* resulted in a hands-on activity, where we got to take portions of various plants by splitting them correctly and, having learned how they can be coaxed to produced more of themselves, replanting them in appropriate mediums. Anne's good-humored remarks during the cutting and dismembering of the plants amazed everyone: "This is how you tell if the plant really, really, really wants to live," she said. "And some don't." The audience promised to share results of the experiments, when results are forthcoming. Anne received something she has wanted for a long time: a lemon tree! The MGs in AA County have a new friend, tool.

To the set-up and clean-up people who helped make this AT Day a wonderful success, thank you! We left the CBF Conference room the way we found it. Clean and back in order. And with all the soil, dust, plant stems, leaves and roots that had to be cleaned up, that was an awesome job.

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photos courtesy Marilyn Kinkel



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COMMENTS FROM THE EVALUATION FORMS

In reporting these comments, what was written by the majority is excerpted. Half of the audience submitted their evaluations. If you haven't turned in your form yet, please do so. We value your opinions so next year's advanced training day will be even better!

Generally speaking, both Scott and Anne were rated a "10", the highest score for their presentations. Information from both will be used in "dealing with the public (especially *Ask a Master Gardener*), neighbors and in personal gardening." The location and refreshments were wonderful albeit "too much"; "less sugary food" was desired as well as being "willing to pay [up to] \$10 for better snacks and other quality speakers as we had." "Too little time for both speakers." "Wasn't really a workshop [plant propagation]; would've liked more time for hands-on." "Too many personal questions, let the presenter talk, hold questions until the end." "Would like a tour of CBF."

Everyone wants another advanced training day. Suggested topics included: vegetable growing, pruning trees and shrubs, tree identification and care, native plant talk from CBF staff members, landscape/container design, plant diseases, water gardens, and Bay Wise subjects (in landscaping). Many think the plant sales should continue and are willing to contribute to the sales and help out but few names were given.

Someone summed up this special day with these words: "Great day, great room and view!" See everyone next year at our very own special advanced training day.



MY VERY SPECIAL PERSONAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING SPIRITED Mgers WHO HELPED MAKE THIS ADVANCED TRAINING DAY SUCH A SUCCESS THROUGH THEIR SUPPORT, ENCOURAGEMENT AND HARD WORK. IT WAS VERY MUCH APPRECIATED! Anne

**Mike Ensor
Bob Bates
Stacy Church
Pam Dennison
Suzan Hitchner
Marilyn Kinkel
Ginny Klocko**

**Ellen Levin
Trish Lilek
Jim MacNicholl
Elizabeth Matarese
Carol Proudfit
Sharon Schroer
Susan Smith**

**Rebecca Theberge
Lisa Winters
Jose Perez, Guest &
Future MGer**

**...and to those I may
have left out.**

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