A Pollination Celebration!

National Pollinator Week

*June 15th—21st*

National Moth Week

*July 18th—26th*

National Honey Bee Day—*August 15th*

*Pollinators* are responsible for 1 out of 3 bites of food we take each day, and yet pollinators are at critical point in their own survival. Many reasons contribute to their recent decline. We know for certain, however, that more nectar and pollen sources provided by more flowering plants and trees will help improve their health and numbers. Increasing the number of pollinator-friendly gardens and landscapes will help revive the health of bees, butterflies, birds, bats and other pollinators across the country. ([millionpollinatorgardens.org](http://www.millionpollinatorgardens.org))

To find out how you can ‘bee’ a pollinator supporter visit these links:

[http://www.pollinator.org/index.html](http://www.pollinator.org/index.html)

[http://millionpollinatorgardens.org/](http://millionpollinatorgardens.org/)


Coordinator’s Corner

Summertime means County Fair time!
Once again we will be featuring a particular focus of the Master Gardener Program for each day of the week. At our next monthly meeting we will go into more thought and detail as to what we might like to display for each topic.

Volunteers Needed!
Each shift should have 2-3 people to staff the booth. We will also need 3 to 4 volunteers for the set-up Monday morning and pack up on Saturday evening. Please contact me with your choice of time and day.

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GIEI Bee Demo Bay-Wise Bee Demo Natives Pollinators

| Time   | 6:30-9pm    | 6:30-9pm    | 6:30-9pm    | 6:30-9pm    | 6:30-9pm    | 3-6pm       |

Monday Set-up: Jack Doub, Molly
Saturday Take-down: Jack Doub, Molly
Garden Spirit, Monks
by Denise Malueg and Dave Kyger

Fellow MG intern, Dave Kyger and I purchased our home in Centreville in 2009, with the approval of our pal, Monks. The house was a bonus, it was the half-acre yard that Monks wanted. A yard of suitable size for a Saint Bernard! His very own Big Boy Yard!

Our gardening focused on growing the yard into a place of ever-changing interest to our nature-loving Saint. With a delicate nose that size, and his penchant for rolling onto his back with glee in the cool grass, we knew we would garden sustainably, organically. Under Monks’ supervision, we replaced the chaos of invasives and poison ivy with flowers, some veg, and scented herbs, hung bird feeders, and filled bird baths (Monks saw these as extra water bowls). If our yard attracted birds, butterflies and insects, who else may show up to beguile our little friend?

Well, a fascinating parade of scents greeted Monks every morning! Probably because of the 40 species of birds visiting our yard, the neighbor’s cat put us on his rounds, and was always surprised to find our 200-lb sentry on duty. Monks eagerly tracked the scent of deer outside the fence – he would run off with them if he could. Other regular visitors included rabbits, herds of squirrels, a few snakes, a turtle, a woodchuck and yes, even a skunk (the neighborhood smelled of it for days; Monks smelled of it for weeks!). He welcomed them all with aplomb. Monks was as gentle and fair as you’d expect. While sitting on the porch, he watched with interest as a few brave birds dared to peck hairs out of his own tail to use in their nests!

The three of us keenly appreciated our evolving surroundings, the colors, the scents, and the twinkles. The environment has changed a lot from when we purchased the place. The diversity of wildlife is the result of our plant choices and gardening practices. Easy to do when we had divine inspiration from a real Saint!

Sadly, Monks passed away unexpectedly in September 2013. Our memories of his unabashed glee in his Big Boy Yard compels us to make this garden a little better each year for everyone, small and big, furry and feathered, who...
The garden elves have been hard at work on the garden at the Hero’s Retreat and Mother Nature has cooperated with warm temperatures and rain. The early spring plantings of strawberries and vegetables in the two raised beds are starting to produce an abundance of food, including radishes, spinach, turnips, peas, lettuce, beets, and onions. The perennial herbs planted last year are very healthy. We now need to teach the folks at TTR when and how to harvest the bounty.

Master Gardener Intern, Deb Longhurst has accepted the part time gardening position at TTR and will be working on a consistent basis with TTR personnel, the veterans, and clients. Gene, a dedicated garden veteran volunteer has been instrumental in the early success of the garden. MG Intern, Cindy Riegel worked diligently to prepare the straw bales for planting. Gene and Deb installed new fencing to keep the critters from the garden and landscape cloth to maintain the paths which keep the garden accessible for handicapped clients. Donated tomato plants promise delicious summer tomatoes. Deb and Gene are working on setting up rain water barrels to augment the watering of the garden. A four bin compost pile has been established and late spring planting will be finished soon. The thick layer of straw mulch is a big help in managing weeds and moisture. Contact Deb at debbie.longhurst@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer to help at the Talisman Farm garden. Donations of plants, used equipment and time are always appreciated.

The educational horticulture aspects of the garden will begin in June. Summer camps will include horticulture in the program for "Fresh Air" campers from the inner city and for autistic campers. Other therapeutic riding clients will benefit as well. Deb and Gene plan to use the garden table designed and built by MG Deane Horwitz to teach clients to germinate plants for planting in the garden or at home. If you have any good resources on horticulture activities to use with children, please forward them to Deb.

It is an exciting time for the TTR program with an established, productive garden which should provide them with healthy food and opportunities for therapeutic horticulture for years to come. Thank you to all of the Master Gardeners who have worked to get this garden and program off the ground. 

Jane Smith
QAC MGs Report!

Demonstration Garden

Thank you to Margaret Gardner, Judy Geggis and Denise Malueg for helping out in May at the Centreville Library Rain Garden. The mulch put down by the County helped considerably with weed control. While there is always some weeding to do, most of our efforts were directed toward deadheading spent blooms so the plants looked refreshed and removing our mystery plant (dogbane or asclepias) from areas where it was invading other plants. We kept it localized in one corner near the sidewalk and steps to the side door. We'll keep an eye on it to see how it continues to grow.

By the time we met in June, our mystery plant was taller than me in some areas, had clusters of small white flowers and had totally invaded a large part of the garden. It was obvious that it wasn't asclepias incarnate or asclepias tuberosa. By process of elimination, we determined that it was indeed dogbane and we needed to remove as much of it as possible. In addition, the elderberry was taking over the other side of the garden and hydrangea was threatening the eupatorium (joe pye weed). What a dilemma! We removed as much of these invasives as possible and filled the trailer provided by the county. We agreed that some of the huge hydrangeas that were overtaking the eupatorium needed to be dug up. I have since met with the county and flagged the plants to be removed including hydrangea that is starting to obscure the sign. Hopefully, this will be taken care of soon.

A huge thanks to Judy Conley, Margaret Gardner, Judy Geggis, Cheryl Huyck, Jackie Kelly, Carole Romano, and Louise Shearer. It took a lot of effort this month, but the garden looks so much better!

Next month we will again be meeting at the Centreville Library on Thursday, July 16th from 8:30 to 10:30am.
Bay-Wise Committee

The Bay-Wise committee met briefly after our regular monthly meeting on May 20th. Several Bay-Wise visits are set up or in the process of being set up. Most of our QAC MG’s have had their yards Bay-Wise certified. We would like to see everyone certified. In particular, we would also like to see all of our new MG’s (Class of 2014) and Interns (Class of 2015) have consultations, hopefully with certifications to follow. Please contact Molly and she will send you the introductory letter explaining the process and a copy of the “Yardstick”.

An interesting idea that was presented at our meeting concerned having a small column in the newspaper on a regular basis (like the Library Corner news) with information on various topics that Master Gardeners often teach as they work with the public. Most people do not realize how much the University Extension Office has to offer.

This project is not limited to just those on the Bay-Wise committee or Plant Clinics. We are still figuring out logistics for this and need to find out if the Record Observer, Bay Times or Star Democrat would be interested in this concept – maybe something monthly. Anyone interested in this or with thoughts or ideas can contact Molly or Debbie Pusey at debbiepusey@verizon.net. It would be a good way to get some volunteer hours.

Bay-Wise + Queen Anne’s County Parks & Rec

The tour of county parks finally took place on Wednesday, June 10th. Laura Klingler, Denise Malueg, Debbie Pusey, Nick Stoer, Cathy Tengwall, and Molly met with Park Director Chip Price, Nancy Scozzari and Mike White starting at Old Love Point Park in Stevensville. After a brief walking tour of Old Love Point Park, we continued to visit a selection of parks from Stevensville along Route 8 to the fishing pier and landing at Romancoke. Time limitations prevented us from seeing them all or even from walking around at all of the parks we did see. But the number of parks and the time and resources to maintain as well as improve these parks in just the southern end of Queen Anne’s County was an eye opener.

We discussed various plans and ideas that the county has for different parks. Some are active parks with athletic fields; others are passive parks with walking trails and huge areas of natural vegetation. Some of the topics discussed included trail development, signage, pavilions for education, areas for family recreation as well as enhancing park entrances to attract more visitors. There are many ways Bay-Wise principles and storm water management could be implemented as the park system continues to be developed and improved. This is just the beginning of a relationship that can benefit everyone who lives, works and plays in Queen Anne’s County.

Photo by: Nick Stoer
QAC MG Volunteer Opportunities

**Kent Island Plant Clinic**
*Sign up for July 9th, August 13th from 3:30 until 6:30pm*
The July themes will be combating ticks/chiggers and assessing vegetable garden pests and diseases. The August and September themes are being polished. The Farmers Market is at Christ Church, 830 Romancoke Road (aka Route 8). We set the booth tables up at 3 to 3:15 pm to be ready for bugs, citizens, and damaged plants by 3:30 pm. We start knocking down the booth around 6 pm. Bring a beverage bottle to stay hydrated.

Please consider volunteering at YOUR MG table ONE day this year!
Nick Stoer 301-219-9098 nickstoer@gmail.com
Cathy Tengwall 443-994-2523 cathy1542@gmail.com

**Tomato Tasting Event**
*(flier on next page)*

**Where:** Lockbrair Farm, Chestertown MD  
**When:** Saturday, August 15  
**Time:** 11am - 1 pm

What to bring:
- Your favorite home grown tomato to share (if you have one)
- Information about said tomato
- Recipes

Vote for the **BEST** tomato!

Volunteer opportunities:
- Cutting tomatoes
- Info booth
- Possible kids activities

For more info and/or to help, please contact Sabine Harvey, greenbien@hotmail.com

**Victory Garden Summer Maintenance**
EVERY Monday morning. Around 8:45! Help weed, water and harvest. This is a great opportunity to learn about vegetable gardening and take some produce home! The majority of the produce will be donated to food pantries.

It is amazing how much work a group of Master Gardeners can get done in just 1 hour! For more info and/or to help, please contact Sabine Harvey, greenbien@hotmail.com
Tomato Tasting

What to bring?
Yourself and/or your favorite tomato.
Information about your favorite tomato

Activities
- Vote for the best tasting tomato
- Information about canning, seed saving, growing

When: Saturday, August 15th
Where: Lockbriar Farms
10051 Worton Road
Time: 11am—1 pm

For more information contact: Sabine Harvey
410-778-1661, sharvey1@umd.edu
QACMG Youth Gardening + GIEI

Kent Island Library Youth Summer Gardening Series:
—Be a Garden Hero for grades K-5

Wednesday, July 8th 4:00pm
Bees & Butterflies: Gardening for Pollinators

Wednesday, July 15th 4:00pm
Natives in My Backyard: Gardening for the Ecosystem

Volunteers interested in helping with any of these class presentations and hands on demonstrations with the kids, please let me know! mgarret1@umd.edu

Join the Committee:
Interested in learning or becoming more involved with vegetable and herb gardening? Interested in offering your knowledge with our next generation of gardeners and ecologists? Interested in community gardening?

Come meet with us! The second Wednesday of each month at 2pm in the QAC Extension Office conference room. All are encouraged to share your time or ideas for current and future events!

Next Meeting: July 15th (note this is the third Wednesday)

Summer School in Kent County:
When July 6-17 and July 20-30 at Worton Elementary School
Time 12-1 and 1-2pm. Monday—Wednesday

Help provide a garden/environmental club for students attending Summer School. Activities can take place in the garden OR in the classroom. To help, please contact Sabine Harvey, greenbien@hotmail.com
Educational Opportunities

ADVANCED MG TRAINING—SUMMER 2015
- Entomology/Ecological IPM
- Ask a MG Practicum
- Veggies: Intensive Techniques and Small Space
- Organic Vegetable Gardening
- Native Plant Essentials
- Native Ferns
- Vegetable Plant and Pest Diagnosis
- Ornamental Plant Diseases
For more information and to register: http://extension.umd.edu/mg/advanced-training

GROW100 IS BACK!
Just for fun - Unlike last year, this year’s Grow100 is not a contest. We just want to create some conversation about gardening and inspire people!

Participating has been simplified: ONE entry at the end of your growing season. The submission form will be open from August 1st through October 15th. You can submit at any time - whenever your garden is done and you have compiled your photos and summary.

(Optional) Sign up for our Grow100 email list:
We will periodically send out Grow100 info and ideas, plus reminders to send in your entry.

PESTS AND DISEASES IN THE VEGETABLE GARDEN, JULY 24
Morning: Overview of key problems and organic solutions. Diagnose plant and pest samples brought to class by Jon, Sabine, and class participants.

Afternoon: Garden Visits
1. A beautiful home garden!
2. Boxer’s Rest Organic Farm (in between Chestertown and Centreville).
   http://www.boxersrest.com/Boxers_Rest/Our_Story.html

REGISTER FOR THIS CLASS:
http://extension.umd.edu/mg/advanced-training/vegetable-plant-and-pest-diagnosis
Pink Strawberry Dessert Squares (from Joan Stoer)

INGREDIENTS
1 Angel Food Cake  
2 small or one large pkg. strawberry Jell-O  
2 Cups boiling water  
2 small or 1 large tub of Cool Whip (or use whipping cream)  
Additional Cool Whip for topping  
2 cartons of frozen strawberries  
Additional fresh strawberries for garnish

DIRECTIONS
Tear Angel Food Cake into bite sized pieces (or a little larger) and spread evenly in a 9” X 13” pan. Bring 2 cups water to a boil. Dissolve Jell-O in the water and stir until the granules disappear. Add frozen strawberries and stir until thawed and mixture is relatively cool. Fold in the Cool Whip. Pour the mixture evenly over the cake in the pan. Spread evenly so the top is relatively smooth. You can jiggle the pan or gently stir to get the Jell-O mixture to settle in with the cake. Use the additional Cool Whip as a topping. Chill several hours or overnight. When ready to serve, cut into squares. Top each square with a fresh Strawberry half.

Makes 15-20 squares, depending on the size of the squares.

How Sweet the Onion Dip (from Judy Geggis)

INGREDIENTS
1 Cup real mayonnaise (not miracle whip)  
1 Cup grated Swiss cheese  
1 Cup chopped Vidalia onion (or other sweet onion)

DIRECTIONS
Mix together and put in a glass pie plate or casserole dish. Bake at 375 degrees for 30 minutes or until brown and bubbly. Serve with crackers or baguette or chips of your choice.

NOTE:
You may substitute freshly grated parmesan cheese for the Swiss and/or reduced calorie mayonnaise for the regular.

This may be made ahead and refrigerated until baking up to 2 days.
Outside the Garden Gate…

**Adkins Arboretum Programs & Events Calendar**
https://adkinsarboretum.org/presencehost.net/programs_events/event_calendar.html

**Ladew Topiary Gardens Butterfly House**
Open June 15th until October 2nd
http://www.ladewgardens.com/EVENT-CALENDAR/Butterfly-House
For more information, call (410) 557-9570

**Longwood Summer Spectacular—Nightscape**
http://longwoodgardens.org/gardens
For more information, call (610) 388-1000

**Mt. Cuba Center Classes & Lectures**
http://www.mtcubacenter.org/education/continuing-education/

Many many thanks…

To **Debbie Pusey** for opening her home on the water to host our annual summer picnic on June 17th and all those who attended bringing lots of yummy food!

To **Laura Klinger** for engaging and educating the families on Home School Day at Godrey’s Farm with her straw bale gardening on Thursday, May 28th!

To Intern **Lisa Spears** who has taken on the planting, maintenance, and revitalization of the Denton Community Garden, stay tuned for more developments on this project as we work with her to expand the sites opportunities!

To **Nancy O’Conner** and **Elizabeth Riffe** for their efforts with the vegetable garden and young gardeners at the Kent Island Library, its really taking off!

To **Sabine Harvey** for helping each month with this newsletter!
### JULY 2015

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#### Kent County Fair

- July 13: MG July Meeting
- July 16: Demonstration Garden

### AUGUST 2015

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August Newsletter Deadline: 
July 22, 2015

University of Maryland Extension
505 Railroad Avenue, Suite 4
Centreville MD, 21617
Phone: (410) 758-0166
Fax: (410) 758-3687
http://extension.umd.edu/queen-annes-county/home

QACMG Website:
http://extension.umd.edu/queen-annes-county/home-gardening

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Master Gardener Coordinator, 
Queen Anne’s County

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Centreville, MD 21617

Vision Statement: A healthier world through environmental stewardship