March! March! March! They are coming
In troops to the tune of the wind.
Redheaded woodpeckers drumming,
Gold - crested thrushes behind;
Sparrows in brown jackets, hopping
Past every gateway and door;
Finches, with crimson caps, stopping
Just where they stopped before.
March! March! March! They are slipping
Into their places at last...
Literature white lily buds, dripping
Under the showers that fall fast;
Buttercups, violets, roses;
Snowdrop and bluebell and pink,
Throng upon throng of sweet posies
Bending the dewdrops to drink.
March! March! March! They will hurry
Forth at the wild bugle sound,
Blossoms and birds in a flurry,
Fluttering all over the ground.
Shake out your flags, birch and willow!
Shake out your red tassels, larch!
Grass blades, up from your earth - pillow.
Hear who is calling you... March.

- Lucy Larcom, March
The Watering Can

Coordinator’s Corner

Spring is indeed just around the corner and with lots of planning meetings on the calendar, we really are moving along! As always I highly encourage you to consider attending one or more of the individual committee meetings just to hear what is upcoming and offer your input even if you cannot commit to the group for the year.

Plant Sale— the date has been set (see flyer on page 11) so please start thinking of what plants you can divide/conquer and donate, as well as any seedlings for vegetables or herbs you might be willing to grow for the sale.

Online Hours: With 2014 hours closed, please start entering your 2015 hours each month. I have updated site codes so please review those and use them! If you have not signed up for your online login and would like to, send me a note mgarret1@umd.edu.

Happy Spring!— Molly

A drop of water to feed the mind...

People to know  Places to see  Words to read

Welcome the new group of Interns currently taking Basic Training! You may be seeing them at committee meetings and plant clinics soon so please give them a warm welcome and help show them the ropes!

Shane Brill—Chestertown
Dawn Harris—Queenstown
Erica Huber—Annapolis
Gary Long—Chestertown
Deborah Longhurst—Grasonville
Bob Macfarlane—Grasonville
Cynthia Riegel—Grasonville
Shelia Shorter—Chestertown
Robin Van Meter—Church Hill

Image Source: SodaPutOnPasta

Links to Know

University of Maryland Extension
Home & Garden Information Center
http://www.extension.umd.edu/hgic
They answer gardening and pest questions!

University of Maryland Extension
Sea Grant Extension Watershed Educators
http://www.extension.umd.edu/watershed
**Bay-Wise Committee**

Our next meeting will be **Wednesday, March 18th** immediately following our regular monthly MG meeting. All are welcome to attend! We are hoping that the weather then will allow us to start planning visits for consultation and certification. In the meantime, stay safe and warm and enjoy perusing all the garden catalogs! **Contact:** Debbie Pusey debbiepusey@verizon.net

**Kent Island Plant Clinic**

*Sign up for March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11 from 3:30 until 6:30pm*

Thursday March 12th Debbie Pusey will be at the KI Farmer’s Mkt MG table with her Bay Wise info. Anyone who would like to join us at the table would be welcomed! Stay for 3 hrs or 1/2 hour. You may learn something and get a few volunteer hours in!

April 9th Amy from the **FOOD BANK** will be at our table
May 14 **Grow It Eat** it will be our theme

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

**Grow It Eat It + Youth Gardening**

Committee Planning Meeting **Wednesday, March 11th 10:30am** @QAC Extension Office

For those who are interested in ways you can get involved in building our GIEI program as well as work with the youths in and outside of school, please consider coming attending. Feel free to bring ideas or just come to listen! **Contact:** Molly Garrett mgarret1@umd.edu

**Spring Plant Sale, Saturday May 2nd**

Committee Planning Meeting **Wednesday, March 18th 9am** @Tilghman Terrace (before our monthly MG Meeting) **Contact:** Molly Garrett mgarret1@umd.edu

**Talisman Garden**

Planning Meeting **Wednesday, March 11th 1:00pm** @Heros Retreat Cottage

It looks like Deane and Jerry have a good starting place for the Talisman garden this year with their planting tables (pictured right). Laura and Margaret will be working to start the early spring plants this month. Nancy will be providing strawberry plants for the new raised bed. As soon as possible, we will want to get the garden prepared for early plantings. New volunteers are highly encouraged to join this hard working group! **Contact:** Jane Smith smith.janebt@gmail.com
Have the social interactions of honey bees ever piqued your interest? Have you ever wondered how a beekeeper manages their colonies?

If the idea of having your own honey bee colony in your backyard interests you, then the University of Maryland's Beekeeping course may be just right for you. On March 28-29, 2015 the University of Maryland will be hosting The Beginners Beekeeping Course with Dr. Dennis vanEngelsdorp. During this course you will be learning the basics that will be needed to start your very own honey bee colony. Topics that will be covered will include choosing and assembling your hive, honey bee biology, picking out the right equipment, obtaining and installing packages and queens, how to inspect and maintain your colony and many more.

**March 28 and 29, College Park Campus, 9am-5pm. Cost: $250**

To learn more and register follow this link: [http://www.vanengelsdorpbeelab.com/beekeeping-course.html](http://www.vanengelsdorpbeelab.com/beekeeping-course.html)

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**2015 UD COOPERATIVE EXTENSION HORTICULTURE SHORT COURSES**

The University of Delaware Extension is offering a wide array of short course:

- Pest and Beneficial Insects Walks
- Disease and Insect Identification Workshop
- Pruning
- Landscape 101 Series

For more info follow this link: [https://extension.udel.edu/lawngarden/files/2012/06/2015-University-of-Delaware-Cooperative-Extension-Horticulture-Short-Courses-Final-Final.pdf](https://extension.udel.edu/lawngarden/files/2012/06/2015-University-of-Delaware-Cooperative-Extension-Horticulture-Short-Courses-Final-Final.pdf)
Kent Horticulture Lecture Series

Kent Co. Public Library, 408 High Street, Chestertown
Friday mornings, 10—11:30am

March 6 - “Food Gardening Fun ~ For Pollinators to People”
Laura Sanford, Land Protection Specialist, Eastern Shore Land Conservancy

March 13 - “Straw Bale Gardening”
Master Gardeners of UME Q.A.’s/Kent Co., Presentation on straw bale gardening followed by a panel discussion.

March 20 - “Simply Orchids”
Roger Cole, Owner/Operator Arbee Orchids, Queen Anne’s MD

March 27 - “How To Save Seeds From Your Favorite Plants”
Sabine Harvey, University of MD Extension Kent County, Program Assistant

Seed Swap at the Library in Chestertown—March 7

Do you always end up with too many seeds? Let’s face it, who has room for 400 carrots or 50 tomato plants of one variety. Here is your change to share your left overs with others and maybe pick up a few new seeds in return!

We are holding a seed swap at the library in Chestertown. Please consider helping out with this event (either in advance or on the day itself).

Date: March 7, 11am-1pm
You do not need to bring seeds in order to receive seeds!

Contact Sabine Harvey if you would like to help, greenbien@hotmail.com

2015 State Wide GIEI Meetings

- Wednesday, September 9, Anne Arundel Co.
- Tuesday, December 8, TBA
*All meetings are from 10am-1pm
Since childhood I've enjoyed a radish as a snack. Not flashy, it doesn't get the respect or discussion it deserves. It is a favorite for a lot of folks, young and old. My grandchildren are partial to slices of the Watermelon Radish (looks like tiny watermelon, tastes like a radish) found at the Farmers Markets on Kent Island and in Chestertown. A few years ago I happened to Google the nutritional value of the poor little red radish. Wow. It is a very impressive little veggie. Not only that, it doesn't take up much space in a garden, it makes a nice companion plant, and grows rapidly. Good as a snack, in salads or sculpted into a flower for decoration.

Radishes are among the fastest growing veggies you can plant. From tiny seed to edible plant is just three or five weeks. You'll want to plant a square foot or two every other week pr so from late March until well into June or July. Harvest weekly (harvesting can be outsourced to grandchildren). For the mathematically challenged, one small cherry sized radish has about one calorie. Since I'm a little lazy, rather than write a lot let me suggest that you simple go on Google search for 10 or 15 minutes to learn about the many varieties of radishes. Several seed catalogs will show up for sure.

For History, the following paragraphs are lifted verbatim form rocketswag.com.

The history of radish dates back to the pharaohs of ancient Egypt who used them as the staple diet for the labor community that built pyramids. It is learned that the Chinese started cultivating them earlier in 700 B.C., and gave it as a mark of good-will to Japan where it has become the most favored vegetable and was included in almost all the dishes.

The introduction of the radish in England started in the 1500, and it was rumored to cure stones in the kidney, worms in the intestines and aid in getting a blemish-free complexion. The radish crossed the Atlantic when the colonists came along with the seeds, and this vegetable has been popular ever since.

The word radish stems from the Roman word “Radix” that means “Root”, and it belongs to the mustard family with the genus as Raphanus. The designation of the species of radish changes with the type of the plant. It can be cultivated either annually or biannually, depending on the variety that is being grown. These plants can be grouped by their measurement, appearance, taste and harvest periods. There are different colors other than the regular red and white radish.

The appearance is different too. They come in a variety of shapes like round, ovals or cylindrically long (Daikon radish) that looks like a big white carrot. The measurements can be from an ounce to more than 80 ounces depending on its growth. Tastes differ with the climatic conditions where they are planted. Warm temperatures give the radish a spicy taste, and cooler conditions make it mild and sweet. Every variety needs loose and soil that is devoid of stagnating water. Radish that grows in clayey soil has a distorted appearance. Whatever is the case, radishes grow quickly and do not require too much require not nurturing and caring.
CELEBRATING NATIVES: A GARDEN TOUR OF TALBOT COUNTY

On Saturday, May 9, 2015, Adkins Arboretum will sponsor “Celebrating Natives: A Garden Tour of Talbot County.” The tour will take place from 10am to 4pm. Ticket price will most likely be set at $20 in advance and $25 or $30 at the door.

There are seven gardens on the tour in the Easton, St. Michaels, and Tilghman areas. Volunteers will be in the gardens helping to direct visitors and answer questions about the plants and practices. There will be a morning and afternoon shift for volunteers – 10 to 1 and 1 to 4. Volunteers will be assigned to one shift and will be able to visit the rest of the gardens, for free, during the other shift.

Volunteers will receive information about, and have an opportunity to visit, gardens ahead of time, to learn which features to highlight and what questions can be anticipated.

If you would like to volunteer for the garden tour, please contact Talbot County Master Gardener/Adkins Arboretum docent Mary Jo Kubeluis, at kubeluis@atlanticbb.net.

SWEET POTATOES & ROSEMARY RECIPE

Submitted by Denise Malueg

2.5 lbs sweet potatoes, peeled & cut into 1/2 inch cubes (about 4.5 C)
1/4 C honey
1T olive oil, plus 2t
3T white wine vinegar
2T chopped fresh rosemary (don’t be shy, 2.5T would be good, too!)
2 cloves garlic, minced
1/2 t each of salt & black pepper

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Line a cookie sheet with aluminum foil and coat lightly with cooking spray. Toss together sweet potatoes and 2t oil on the pan (I did this in a bowl, then put onto pan). Bake for 30 - 35 minutes or until tender. (Mine were done in 15 minutes! glad I checked them early)

Meanwhile, whisk together 1T oil, honey and remaining ingredients in large serving bowl and set aside. Once
Outside the Garden Gate…

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

Ladew Topiary Gardens Lectures and Events
http://www.ladewgardens.com/EVENTCALENDAR.aspx
For more information and to register, call (410) 557-9570

Longwood Orchid Extravaganza
January 24, 2015 until March 28th
http://longwoodgardens.org/events-and-performances/exhibits
For more information, call (610) 388-1000

Mt. Cuba Center Winter Classes & Lectures

GARDEN WISE CONFERENCE 2015
York County Master Gardeners Annual Conference
The 2015 GardenWise event is scheduled for March 14th at the Central York Middle School in York. Featured speakers:
- Dr. Elaine Ingham: The Soil Food Web
- Jim McCormac, Ohio Fish and Wildlife: Milkweeds, Monarchs and more
- Scott Weidensaul, author and naturalist: The Miracle of Bird Migration
Morning and afternoon breakout sessions.

MG ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE 2015
Where: Stamp Union and Plant Sciences Building on the UMD College Park
When: Thursday, June 4th
Keynote Speaker: Dr. William Woys Weaver- The Kitchen Garden for Culinary and Cultural Research: The Roughwood Seed Collection and Baker Creek Alliance
Registration: Begins Monday, March 23rd
www.extension.umd.edu/mg
Other News

STATE-WIDE PLANT CLINIC MEETING—RESCHEDULED
Get your Ask a MG program off to a great start by joining us for this state-wide MG meeting:

Date: Tuesday, March 10
Time: 10am-1pm
Place: Howard County Extension office (free parking)
http://extension.umd.edu/howard-county
* Light refreshments will be served.

Some agenda items:
- Ornamental Insect Pest and Disease Update- Dave Clement, Ph.D. and Mary Kay Malinoski
- Vegetable and Fruit Update and IPM Resources- Jon Traunfeld
- New Home Horticulture IPM Action Team and MG training needs- Steve Allgeier
- Reports from county/city MG programs
- Recording contacts at plant clinics- What is a “teaching event?”

RSVP to jont@umd.edu.

2015 QACMG Meetings— Held the Third Wednesday of each Month
March 18th, April 15th, May 20th
@Tilghman Terrace 9:30am to 11:30am
If anyone would like to sign-up as hostess for any of these dates, please contact Molly at mgarret1@umd.edu or 410-758-0166.

FIND MG’S ON FACEBOOK!

Queen Anne’s County Master Gardeners
School and Community Gardens in Kent County
UMD:Home and Garden Information Center
UME:Grow It Eat It
# MARCH 2015

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SPRING Plant Sale

Saturday MAY 2

Queen Anne’s County Extension Office
505 Railroad Avenue Centreville, MD

9:00AM - NOON

Herbs & Vegetables
Annuals & Perennials
Potted Arrangements and More!

University of Maryland Extension programs are open to all persons and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religious ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.
April Newsletter Deadline:  
March 23, 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/about

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

The University of Maryland Extension programs are open to any person and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, national origin, marital status, genetic information, political affiliation, and gender identity and expression. Equal opportunity employers and equal access programs.

Master Gardener Coordinator,  
Queen Anne’s County

University of Maryland Extension  
Queen Anne’s County  
505 Railroad Ave.  
Suite 4  
Centreville, MD 21617

Vision Statement: A healthier world through environmental stewardship