



GREEN TIMES

June 2011

Volume 11 Issue 6

Master Gardener Meeting
Tuesday, June 28, 2011 at 7 pm
Totowa Business Center
930 Riverview Drive, Suite 250
Totowa, NJ

Meet us for dinner at 5pm
Miranda's
Route 23 North, Wayne NJ
Allow 15 minutes to get to the meeting

FERNS with NANCY BRISTOW

Nancy Bristow's formal training is as a high school mathematics teacher. Gardening is an avocation. She started volunteering in the Skylands (New Jersey Botanical Garden) wildflower garden in 1978 and has been doing so ever since. Charles Anderson was in charge and was a wonderful teacher. This garden is a shade garden, as is Nancy's own garden, so it was a perfect match. When Charles died in 1993 Nancy inherited the responsibility of the garden, working with Landscape Director Rich Flynn and some great volunteers.

She joined the Board of Directors of the Skylands Association in the mid 1980's, became a Master Gardener of Bergen County in 1988, and has been a member of the NY Chapter of the American Fern Society since the 1980's.

In 2003 Nancy bought a digital camera and started taking pictures. From these she developed a slide program on wildflowers. Her most recent program is the one she will present to us, which is a fern program. It continues to be a work in progress as she steadily makes improvements to it.



CANNED FRUIT

We are collecting canned fruit at the June meeting to be donated to a local food pantry. Please be generous.

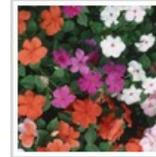
2011 MEETING DATES

Board Meeting Dates
(3rd Wednesday - 6:30 pm)
June 15, Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16

General Meeting Dates
(4th Tuesday - 7 pm)
June 28, Sept. 27, Oct. 25, Nov. 22



ELAINE'S CORNER



To do in June

- ◆ Continue planting warm-weather crops
- ◆ Fertilize Rhodos and azaleas after flowering; prune if needed
- ◆ Divide spring-flowering perennials
- ◆ Move houseplants outside
- ◆ Water new plantings so that they get one inch of water per week if it hasn't rained
- ◆ Remove and destroy bagworm sacks from evergreens
- ◆ Buy cool-season vegetables seeds (lettuce, radish, spinach, kale, broccoli, etc) before the seeds are returned to the manufacturer
- ◆ Get a tetanus shot every 8-10 years for the rest of your life - check with your doctor
- ◆ Continue tick control with regular mowing, carbaryl (if needed) and repellents on people and pets

To do in Summer

- ◆ Continue to irrigate new plantings
- ◆ Consider washing machine rinse water for irrigation (bleach is OK, no Borax)
- ◆ Let the lawn get a little higher (2-1/2 to 3 inches) to shade out weed seeds
- ◆ No lawn fertilization in July or early August
- ◆ Pinch back leggy plants and deadhead annuals for a longer bloom season
- ◆ Net fruit to prevent the birds and rodents from eating it
- ◆ Watch roses for leaf diseases and fertilize one last time in late July
- ◆ Plant cool season vegetables
- ◆ Destroy gypsy moth egg masses
- ◆ For grub control in the lawn (especially if you irrigated the turf)
 - Imidacloprid (Merit, Grub-Ex) 3 weeks after peak adult Japanese beetle population (preventative) about late June/early July
 - Trichlophone (Dylox) if there are more than 8-10 grubs per square foot (curative) about August. Irrigate turf before and after application
- ◆ Consider insecticidal soap as a treatment for several insect pests: mealybugs, thrips, spider mites, other sucking insects

Plant Sale Thanks

Teamwork and fabulous plants made for a successful plant sale. Thanks to the plant sale committee for their time and fine work and to all of the Rutgers Master Gardeners who donated plants and "green elephant" items, and volunteered to set up or work the day of the sale.

What are Those Purple Boxes?

The NJ Department of Agriculture has placed purple monitoring boxes in various parts of the state to follow the possible appearance of EMERALD ASH BORER. The insect is in the mid-west and moving east. The borer is attracted to purple and the trap has a lure that has an ash tree scent. So far, the borer is not in NJ.

Undiscovered Gem

The Astronomical Observatory in Rifle Camp Park, Woodland Park is open for public viewing on selected dates, free of charge. If you have never looked through a telescope, this is your chance to do so. This site is also the future home of the MGAPC butterfly garden. Below is a schedule of what is visible and when.

- June 24 8:30pm Saturn, Globular M-13
- July 8 8:30pm Moon, Saturn, Mercury, Globular M-13
- July 29 8:30pm Saturn, Globular M-13
- August 19 8:30pm Saturn, Alberio

Call 973-523-0024 for more information or directions.

"Gardening is a habit of which I hope never to be cured, one shared with an array of fascinating people who helped me grow and bloom among my flowers"

- Martha Smith

Elaine Fogerty Barbour
County Agricultural Assistant

PLANT OF THE MONTH: *Plectranthus* spp.

Plectranthus is a genus of plants in the mint family as shown by its square stems and 2-lipped tubular flowers. The opposite leaves are scalloped or have wavy margins. They are usually soft, often slightly furry, and aromatic.

Of the over 300 species of *Plectranthus* ten are cultivated in this country, primarily for their foliage. *P. argentatus* is grown in summer gardens for its silver-hairy stems and densely hairy light gray-green leaves. It may bloom with tubular pale bluish flowers in spikes. Origin: Australia

Swedish ivy (*P. australis*) is native to Australia despite its common name. It is most often seen as a houseplant in hanging baskets as it trails attractively. The rounded glossy leaves are dark green. Other species of *Plectranthus* are also called Swedish ivy.

P. coleoides 'Marginata' is known as candle plant. It too is often seen as a houseplant in pots or hanging baskets. This cultivar with white-bordered green leaves that are soft and hairy is easy to purchase. Origin: SW India

All of these varieties grow well with only 3-4 hours of direct sunlight and are hardy houseplants.

— Edith Wallace



HORTICULTURAL THERAPY

A sincere thank you for all who joined us at Van Dyks Assisted Living with our faux floral arrangements in a basket, and those who joined us in planting flower boxes with the residents at Lakeland Healthcare. The residents at both facilities are very appreciative that we come and visit with them. Both of these projects are a joint effort with the members of the Ringwood Garden Club. Helping hands make for easier work.

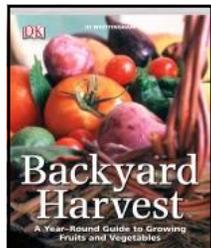
The MGs who participated were Birgit Hellen, Debi Ricciardi, Marge Schломann, Nancy Rosania. Thank you—we could not have done it without your wonderful assistance.

Happy Spring!!

— Barbara Sanford

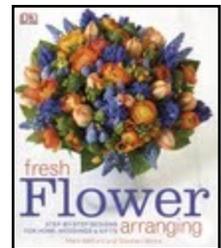
WEEDING VOLUMES

Fresh Flower Arranging by Mark Welford and Stephen Wicks (DK Publishing, February 2011) — Learn techniques, tips and tricks on how to keep flowers fresh and beautiful for as long as possible. The book is arranged seasonally, so that you can see what's available at what time of the year. \$25.



Backyard Harvest: A Year-round Guide to Growing Fruits and Vegetables by Jo Whittingham (DK Publishing, February 2011) — Each chapter contains four sections, which instruct gardeners on what to best eat, plant, do and harvest for that month. \$19.95.

— Ray Edel



DIG IN!**Strawberry Bliss Omelet****Ingredients**

- 6 eggs
- 2 tablespoons water
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Dash pepper
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 ounces cream cheese, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
- 3 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1-1/2 cups sliced fresh strawberries, divided
- Confectioners' sugar

**Directions**

- In a large bowl, whisk the eggs, water, salt and pepper. Heat butter in a 10-inch nonstick skillet over medium heat; add egg mixture. As the eggs set, lift edges, letting uncooked portion flow underneath.
- When the eggs are almost set, sprinkle cream cheese, brown sugar and 1 cup strawberries over one side. Fold omelet in half. Cover and cook for 1-2 minutes or until brown sugar begins to melt. Slide omelet onto a plate; top with remaining strawberries and dust with confectioners' sugar.

Yield: 3 servings.

— Nancy Shimmel

SUMMER PICNIC JULY 2011**Please join us:**

Date: Wednesday, July 20th
Time: 6 to 8 pm
Place: Jim and Sarah McHugh's Home
 1908 Hamburg Turnpike
 Wayne, NJ
 Phone # 973-839-0004



MGAPC will provide paper goods, beverages and super sandwiches. If your last name begins with A-H please bring a dessert, I-R an appetizer, and S-Z a salad. Please bring enough to serve 8 people.

Bring your own chair!! Come rain or shine.

Directions— The McHugh home is located on Hamburg Turnpike between Colfax Ave. and Black Oak Ridge Rd. Look for a sign that says "1908 Donohugh" and turn in there.

RSVP to Jo-Ann Pituch at 973-305-5740

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Wednesday, August 31: Great Tomato Tasting, Snyder Farm, Pittstown

Saturday, October 1: State Awards - more information to come

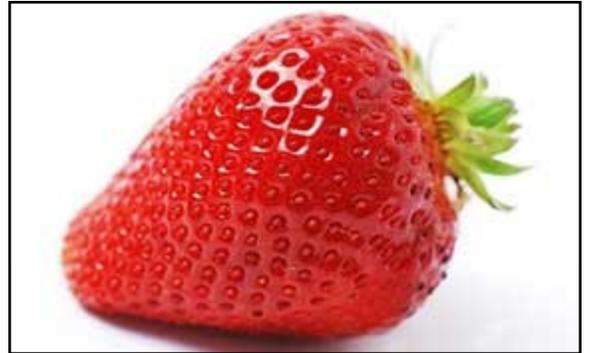
— Jo-Ann Pituch

ANNE'S STRAWBERRY

In the England of 1486 the learned and spiritually enlightened were well-versed in a manual entitled *How to know the Devil's own*. According to the manual, witches made a deal with the devil. To seal the deal, the evil one would touch a certain part of the witch's body to mark her as his own.

In the case of Anne Boleyn, the second and most famous of Henry VIII's six wives, the mark of the devil was a strawberry birth mark on the back of her neck. The legend of Anne Boleyn also includes a sixth finger on her right hand.

Anne Boleyn was born in Norfolk, England in 1500. She had dark olive skin, thick brown hair and deep brown eyes. At the age of 12 she was sent to France to be a lady in waiting to Mary, Louis XII's wife. Mary was also Henry VIII's sister. Anne spent six or seven years in France and learned to speak fluent French. She also developed a taste for French clothes, poetry, and music.



Upon first meeting Anne on her return to England, King Henry was smitten, or as he recalls "bewitched". At the time of his bewitchment, Henry was wed to Catherine, who was unsuccessful in producing a son for the King. Henry and Catherine were both Roman Catholic and the Pope himself had given his blessing to their marriage. In the hope of fulfilling his desire for Anne, Henry proposed that she become his mistress. Anne's answer was simple and direct. She would be Queen of England or nothing.

In such a predicament, Henry hoped to obtain an annulment of his marriage to Catherine from the Pope. The Pope quickly denied Henry's request. Defying the Catholic Church and leaving Catherine, Henry and Anne were secretly married in January 1533. Shortly after their marriage Anne gave birth to a daughter and named her Elizabeth. Like Catherine before her, Anne also failed to produce a male heir. Henry's desires then focused on Jane Seymour, Anne's lady in waiting and soon to be Henry's third wife. Anne Boleyn was doomed.

Henry accused Anne of bewitching him and then plotting his murder. A tribunal was assembled to investigate Henry's allegations. In the case against her, it was found that Anne not only bore the strawberry mark of the devil but also had a close association with the number seven. In Anne Boleyn's time the number seven, not 13, was associated with the devil. It was shown by testimony, and physical examination, that Anne also had seven moles on her body. Henry himself testified that Anne had courted him seven years before their marriage. It was further revealed that Anne had miscarried at least one male child at seven months.

Considering all the evidence, the strawberry mark on Anne's neck sealed her fate. To all concerned she was the devil's own and promptly executed by beheading at the Tower of London.

— Patricia Adelle

WANTED: PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS

I am looking for some suggestions on topics for the MGAPC meetings for the educational section. If you know of a good speaker please forward the name and contact information to me.

It is your meeting and I would like to make it worth your time. Please send suggested topics to beacookin@yahoo.com or call me at 973-835-9355. Thanks.

—Barb Cook

LAURELWOOD VOLUNTEER TIMES AND EVENTS

June 22 Wed. 4 pm - 6 pm Summer Solstice Weed Walk Join renowned herbalist Robin Rose Bennett for a Solstice Celebration and walk through Laurelwood identifying common plants that are excellent medicines and delicious and nutritious food. \$15/person Donation Free for FOLA members and children

Meet in Laurelwood Arboretum pavilion, 725 Pines Lake Drive West, Wayne, NJ 07470

June 25 Sat. 11am Container Gardening Workshop given by Strawberry Blossom and Jim and Sara McHugh at the McHugh home. Ask for directions when registering. \$15/person Donation Free for FOLA members and children

Registration required. Call 973-202-9579 Leave message with your name and program name.

MGAPC Continuing Education Credits approved

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesdays 9 am - 12 pm

4th Sat. June 25 9 am - 12 pm

— Bonnie Joachim

FRIENDSHIP GARDEN



Kathie Heatherington and Linda Franco installing plants in the Herb Garden.



All the ladies who donated and installed many plants for the Herb Garden.
From left to right: Marge Schlomann, Linda Franco, Elsie Villavecchia, Kathie Heatherington, Denise Battaglia.

— Howard Aschoff



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Contributors: Patricia Adelle, Howard Aschoff, Elaine Fogerty Barbour, Barbara Cook, Ray Edel, Bonnie Joachim, Jo-Ann Pituch, Barbara Sanford, Nancy Shimmel, and Edith Wallace

Editor: Regina Imperato

Send articles for next month's Green Times to regimper@optonline.net.



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