

WE HELP GARDENERS GROW

The Seedling — February 2017

Volume 52, Issue 2

The Men's Garden Club of Burlington NC

Next Meeting: Feb 28, 2017 — Bring a friend!

Occasions, 286 East Front Street, Burlington NC

Tony Abbruzzi — Africanized Honey Bees: Where Are They Now, and Have They Arrived in North Carolina?



A message from President Tony Abbruzzi

Greetings Gentlemen,

February is here and we will soon start to plant some of our cool weather crops. With the exception of our snow storm in January we really haven't had much of a "winter" which is OK by me. I probably shouldn't speak too soon. A friend told me that whenever we have thunder and lightning in the winter it will snow within the following week. It stormed the evening of the 8th so I'll have to see how accurate she is.

We have 10 slots reserved for a tour of Peacehaven Farm on March 1st at 12:00 PM. The farm is located at 1458 NC Highway 61 in Whitsett. Please plan to attend, you won't be disappointed.

www.peacehavenfarm.org

Coming from Burlington:

- Take I-40/85 west toward Greensboro
- Take exit 138 (Whitsett/Hwy 61)
- Take a left onto Hwy 61 going south for approximately 1.5 miles

Peacehaven is on the right (just before crossing Lake McIntosh for the second time); you will see a barn and office that sit about 100 yards off the highway

The Dogwood Festival is scheduled for April 22, 2017, so please save the date. We need everyone's assistance for our once a year fund raiser. Our treasury is pretty flush and we may want to think of a special project, a second scholarship, or additional organizations that would benefit from a donation. Think about it and be prepared to discuss it at our next meeting.

Continued on page 2



Inside this issue:

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Editor's Corner</i> | 2 |
| <i>Club News</i> | 3 |
| <i>Thank You Note from Joe King</i> | 3 |
| <i>Member's Birthdays</i> | 4 |
| <i>Think Green Thursdays</i> | 4 |
| <i>Get Your Veggie Garden Started!!</i> | 5 |

Officers & Contacts

59MOGGUY@GMAIL.COM

President: Tony Abbruzzi

Treasurer: Alvis Webster

Vice President: Joe King

Chaplain: Melvin Martin

Secretary: Dirk Sprenger

Editor: Kurt Moore



Save the date
April 22 for the
Mebane Dogwood
Festival

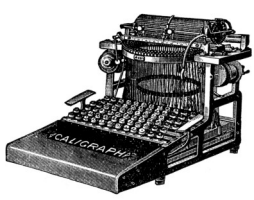
Continued from page one

"He knows no winter, he who loves the soil,
For, stormy days, when he is free from toil,
He plans his summer crops, selects his seeds
From bright-paged catalogues for garden needs.
When looking out upon frost-silvered fields,
He visualizes autumn's golden yields;
He sees in snow and sleet and icy rain
Precious moisture for his early grain;
He hears spring-heralds in the storm's ' turmoil-
He knows no winter, he who loves the soil."

- Sudie Stuart Hager, *He Knows No Winter*

Happy gardening, Tony

Editor's corner



Monthly Meeting Minutes

Dirk is going to start sending out the BMGC minutes via email in advance of the next meeting each month. This will allow us a little more time in the meeting by not having to read them—just ask for corrections (if any) and they will also be posted on the Members' Only section of the website. Also, everyone will have a copy and for anyone who may have missed two or more meetings, a way to keep up with the club.

Send me your news!

This is your newsletter! Please feel free to send me content that you would like to share with your fellow members—upcoming events, gardening tips, resources, websites and online tools, things learned, recipes using things from your garden, deals and other great bargains, etc. Please send to me via email to bikehasher@gmail.com. Thanks. Kurt.

Member's Birthdays

Phil DeChene—February 1 Eb Rossi—February 19

Note: anyone who has not sent in your birthday, please do so. Your perk is to head the chow line with our guests!

Thank You Note from Joe King

I would like to thank our Garden Club members for your prayers, e-mails, cards and money gift that we have received from you in the recent loss of our beloved son Stephen. The money gift will be applied to the college fund of Sierra and Hayden, Steve's children. Thanks and may God Bless all of You.

Club News



2017 Club Officers

The Men's Garden Club of Burlington recently installed officers for 2017.

Pictured Left to Right:
Dirk Sprenger, Secretary
Melvin Martin, Chaplain
Tony Abbruzzi, President
Alvis Webster, Treasurer
Kurt Moore, Newsletter Editor

Absent: Joe King, Vice-President.

January Meeting Highlight

January's program highlighted Peacehaven farm, one of the organizations that our club supports. The Rev. Buck Cochran (speaker) and Jake Taylor (Core Member of Peacehaven) provided an overview and updates about the farm which will celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2018. Buck outlined the vision for Peacehaven for the next several years which focuses on an expansion of the facilities to accommodate more residents. One group house has been completed and four more plus a community center are on the drawing boards. The capital and programmatic improvements will require a fundraising drive to be planned and executed over the next few years.

Peacehaven was recently gifted a 20-acre commercial nursery (currently closed) and wishes to turn it into an income stream for Peacehaven. Its prime features include a large pond, an irrigation system and long tunnel greenhouses that can be quickly renovated. He solicited input from the members present as to the types of plants that could be grown that would be commercially viable as well as meet community needs.

Club follow-up activities will include a tour of Peacehaven Farm on March 1st at noon (see President's Message for directions) and a meeting between Kurt Moore and Buck (TBD) to discuss fundraising.



Think Green Thursdays

2017 Schedule of Classes

Alamance County Cooperative Extension Service

209 N. Graham-Hopedale Rd. Burlington, NC

<https://alamance.ces.ncsu.edu>

| | | |
|------------|--|---|
| Feb | 2 - Honey Bees—From Hive to Harvest | 16 - Grapevine Pruning w/Andy Zeman |
| Mar | 2 - Pruning Trees and Shrubs | 16 - Fruit Tree Pruning |
| Apr | 6 - Perennial Math-Multiplying by Division | 20 - Home Vegetable Gardening |
| May | 4 - The Bulbs of Summer | 18 - Gardening with Natives |
| Jun | 1 - Propagating Woody Plants | 15 - One Day Wonders—Daylilies |
| Jul | 6 - Preserving your Bounty | 20 - Fall Vegetable Gardening |
| Aug | 3 - Rain Gardens—Managing the Flood | 17 - Fall Lawn Care |
| Sep | 7 - Drought Tolerant Plants | 28 - Putting the Garden to Bed for the Winter |
| Oct | 5 - Planting Trees and Shrubs | 19 - Snow Birds—The Flocks of Winter |

All Classes will begin at 10:00AM and are FREE.

Registration Required. Register online at:

<https://alamance.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Website-Flyer-with-links.pdf?fwd=no> by clicking the name of the class you wish to attend, or for more information, call 336-570-6740 or e-mail: christine.stecker@alamance-nc.com

Get Your Veggie Garden Started!

Central NC / Piedmont Planting Guide Jan-March

Key:

H = herb

V = vegetable

B = bulb

C = Crown

S = seed

T = transplant

Tu = tuber



| Vegetables / Herbs | Days to Harvest / Harvest Season | Distance Between Plants | V / H | January 1 15 | February 1 15 | March 1 15 |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--------------|---------------|------------|
| Artichokes, globe | T = 1 year | 30 inches | V | | | T |
| Artichokes, Jerusalem* | Tu = 6–8 months | 9–12 | V | | | Tu |
| Arugula | 40–50 | 6–9 | V | | S S | S S |
| Asparagus | C = 2 years | 18 | V | | C C | C C |
| Beans, snap-bush | 50–55 | 2 | V | | | S |
| Beets | 55–60 | 2 | V | | S S | S S |
| Bok choy | T = 30–75; S = 45–90** | 7–12 | V | | | T |
| Broccoli | T = 70–80 | 18 | V | | T T | T T |
| Cabbage | T = 63–75, S = 90–120** | 12 | V | | T T | T T |
| Cabbage, Chinese | T = 45–55; S = 75–85 | 12 | V | | | S,T |
| Carrots | 75–80 | 2 | V | | S S | S S |
| Cauliflower | T = 55–65; S = 85–95 | 18 | V | | S,T S,T | S,T S,T |
| Celery | T = 40–70; S = 120–150** | 6–8 | V | | T T | T T |
| Chard, Swiss | T = 32–42; S = 60–70 | 6 | V | | | S,T S,T |
| Cilantro | 50–55 | 2–4 | H | | S S | S S |
| Collard greens | T = 32–72; S = 60–100 | 18 | V | | T T | T T |
| Dill | 40–55 | 2–4 | H | | | S |
| Endive | 80–90 | | V | | S S | S S |
| Fennel, Florence | 60–90 | 6–12 | H | | | S S |
| Green garlic | 30–35 | | V | | | B |
| Kale | T = 14–22; S = 40–50 | 6 | V | | S,T S,T | S,T S,T |
| Kohlrabi | T = 22–32; S = 50–60 | 4 | V | | S,T S,T | S,T S,T |
| Lavender | Summer | | H | | | T T |
| Leek | T = 50–80; S = 120–150 | 4 | V | | S,T S,T | S,T S,T |
| Lettuce, head | T = 45–60; S = 70–85 | 10 | V | | S S | S T |
| Lettuce, leaf | T = 15–25; S = 40–50 | 6 | V | | S,T S,T | S,T S,T |
| Mint | Spring to fall | | H | | | T T |
| Mustard greens | 30–45 | 2 | V | | S,T S,T | S,T S,T |
| Onions, bulb | B = 75–105; S = 90–120 | 4 | V | S S | S S | S,B S,B |
| Onions, green | T = 42–56; S = 60–70 | 1–2 | V | | S S | S,T S,T |
| Oregano | Summer to fall | | H | | | T T |
| Parsley | T = 33; S = 75 | 9–12 | H | | S,T S,T | S,T S,T |
| Parsnips | 100–130 | 3–4 | H | | S S | S S |
| Peas, bush | 54–60 | 4 | V | S S | S S | S S |
| Peas, field/ southern | 55–65 | 4 | V | | | S |
| Peas, garden | 65–70 | 4 | V | | S S | |
| Peas, snap | 65–70 | 4 | V | | S S | |
| Peas, snow | 65–70 | 4 | V | | S S | |
| Peas, vining | 54–72 | 2–3 | V | S S | S S | S S |
| Potatoes | Tu = 95–120 | 10 | V | | Tu Tu | Tu Tu |
| Radishes | 20–25 | 1 | V | | S S | S S |
| Rutabaga | 70–80 | 4 | V | | S S | S S |
| Salad Burnet | Spring to early summer | | H | | | S,T |
| Scallions | 60–80 | 3 | V | | B B | B B |
| Spinach | 45–50 | 6 | V | | S S | S S |
| Sunflower | 55–110 | 9–24 | N | | | S |
| Swiss Chard | 60–70 | 12 | V | | | S,T |
| Thyme | Summer | | H | | | S,T |
| Turnips | 55–60 | 2 | V | | S S | S S |

The use of hops in beer dates back to the 700's and cultivation in central Europe was documented in 768 by the father of Charlemagne.

While on vacation in Germany, I became interested in hops seen in many fields, and learned that the British really needed them to increase the stability of their beer which they exported to the troops all around the world. They were tired of importing hops and began to grow their own in 1524.

There are several dozen cultivars (Wikipedia) and the top 3 producers today are Germany, United States and Ethiopia. They are toxic to dogs and about 3% of the men and women who harvest them develop dermatitis.

Hops increased in popularity during a period when the dieval church did not tax them, as they did other herbs which brewers used.

The botanical name for hops is *Humulus lupulus*. What tongue twister!



me-
a

What is your vision for **your** garden this year? What is your vision for your club?

The knowledge you have should be passed on to younger people. I saved an article from the November 9th News of Orange County. The new Greenhouse at New Hope Elementary School caught my attention. What are those kids doing with a greenhouse? The purpose of the program and the supporting grant is to teach where our food comes from and to encourage better nutrition. They have a 20-foot long hoop greenhouse. How can our club help young people to learn more about agriculture and horticulture? Is rooftop gardening an idea we need to reconsider?

I have started to plan some raised beds for cucumbers and for the saplings I received from Arbor Day. There are 2 Sargent Crabapples, 3 American Red Bud, 2 Washington Hawthorn and 3 White flowering Dogwood waiting in my yard to be replanted. **If you would like to have any of these, I will help you plant them, just text me at the number on page 1. Dirk Sprenger.**

