

WE HELP GARDENERS GROW

The Seedling – August 2018

Volume 43, Issue 8

The Men's Garden Club of Burlington NC



Next Meeting: August 28, 2018 Bring a guest!
Occasions, 286 East Front Street, Burlington NC

Program: Buck Cochran, CEO, "Peacehaven Farm"



A Message from President Dirk Sprenger

Dear members and friends,

Peacehaven will give us an update on who they are and what they are doing now at our meeting in August. Peacehaven Community Farm has a great mission and a great website too. We must organize a visit to their farm this Fall.

I recently checked our Club website and must thank **Jeff** for maintaining the server and uploading our files every month.

We also need to thank **Alvis** for the new wood cabinet that he installed at our meeting place to hold our projector and name tags. Thanks are due also to Dudley for recent photography work for us, and for **the Garden Club Shirt Committee** who are taking the intrepid step of offering us long-sleeve and short sleeve shirts in the coming months. Hopefully, the old khaki shirt will make a comeback too.

The programs for the next 6 months are being arranged now (Jan – June 2019). Let me know what topics you are interested in, *especially* if you would like something other than "more about gourds." January will be "Making Seed Tapes" a hands-on class by Tony Abbruzzi. February will be hydroponics. March, April and May are open. My interests range from cedar trees to prize winning water melons.

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Officers & Contacts

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President: Dirk Sprenger	Treasurer: Ray Schwartz
Vice President: Wayne Smith	Chaplain: Melvin Martin
Secretary: Harry Porthouse	Seedling Editor: Kurt Moore



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But, I want to know your interests, so please contact Harry or another officer.

It's been a rainy week in North Carolina. Cherry tomatoes are popping open like popcorn. My cucumber vines are climbing the trees and I will be donating homemade pickles to my favorite Fall festival. Are you ready for Fall? Planning for Christmas? Now hold on, let's enjoy Labor Day first, you say. I agree. Have a productive and relaxing August. Pray for the firemen and first responders everywhere and bring a friend to our next meeting. It will be outstanding.

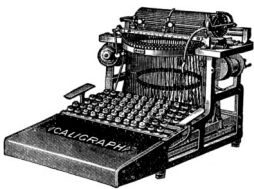
"I frequently tramped eight or ten miles through the deepest snow to keep an appointment with a beech tree, or a yellow birch, or an old acquaintance among the pines." Henry David Thoreau

See you soon,

Dirk Sprenger

Editor's corner

Send me your news for 2018!



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. **I will update the running list of Fall Plant Sales (see page 4), so if you know of any I have missed, please send me the info.**

Please send to me via email to me and let me know that it is for the newsletter. Thanks. Kurt.

Member's Birthdays

Correction: Last month, I got ahead of myself and listed August birthdays instead of July birthdays. So **please wish Wayne Smith a belated 75th birthday (July 22).**

August birthdays: Dick Annand—29th Joe Castagna –29th

Note: Newer members, please send in your birthdays. I currently do not have birthdays for Anthony Burch, and Steve Wright. Your perk is to head the chow line with our guests!

Important Agenda Items for August Meeting

Buck Cochran, CEO of Peacehaven Farm will be our speaker on August 28 and give a presentation about the farm. He will bring two residents (Core Members) with him.



July Meeting Highlights



The Club had it's annual meet and greet session with the organizations we support. Guests from the Southern High School FFA, and the ACC Horticultural program were in attendance. Staff from Western High School FFA and Peacehaven Farm were unable to attend. Buck Cochran, President of Peacehaven will be our August program speaker, resulting in changes to the year's schedule (see Page 5).



Donated \$1,100 to Alamance Community College Foundation for Horticultural Scholarship

Dirk Sprenger (Left), Men's Garden Club of Burlington president presents the check to Lindsey Heise (Right), Horticulture Technology instructor at Alamance Community College.

Donated \$175 to Southern Alamance High School FFA.

Pictured (L to R): Haley Tapp, FFA club sentinel, Dirk Sprenger, Men's Garden Club of Burlington president, and Caitlin Smith, FFA club treasurer.



From the Members

Peaches from our yard in Burlington. Due to a number of distractions we did not prune our peach tree this Spring. The result was more peaches than we ever had—at least by a factor of 25X and more than the squirrels could steal.

Kurt Moore



English cucumbers from Dirk Sprenger's garden (right). Sometimes also called burpless or seedless cucumbers. Seedless? Then, how do they reproduce? They actually do have seeds, but they are very, very small. They can also grow as long as two feet.



An interesting plant called the **Devil's Backbone** (*Bryophyllum daigremontianum*; alternatively *Kalanchoe daigremontianum*) or Mother of Thousands which reproduces by growing "tabs" or lateral roots above ground along its leaves. Also referred to as Mexican Hat Plant, it is native to Madagascar.

From *Dirk Sprenger's* yard (below right).



2018 Program Changes

Since Buck Cochran of Peacehaven Farms will be our August speaker, Kurt Moore's presentation has been moved to November in place of Tony Abbruzzi's "Making Seed Tapes" presentation. Tony's interactive event will be scheduled for early 2019 in advance of the spring planting season so you can try it in your own garden. That will be a great opportunity to bring prospective members to the club for a hands-on demo. New schedule below with changes underlined.

Aug Buck Cochran **"Peacehaven Farm." (new)**

Sep Lee Byrd, John Deere, **"Preventative Maintenance and Winterizing your Lawn and Garden mower Equipment."**

Oct Joe King **"Home Gardens" (subject to change)**

Nov Kurt Moore **"Prehistoric Horticulture and The Origins Of Agriculture." (moved from August)**

Dec **No meeting — "Happy Holidaze!"**

2019 Program Suggestions

It's time to start thinking about our 2019 speakers agenda. Let any of the club officers know about any topics you would like to learn about or please suggest any speakers that the group might like. And, the latter includes you. Do you have some gardening expertise or knowledge that you would like to share with your fellow gardeners? If so, we would like to hear it.

2018 Fall Plant Sales

Summer is here and plant sales take a lull until the fall planting season. Here is a list of upcoming "local" (within an hour drive) non-profit organization plant sales. I keep this list continually updated, so please send me any info on additional events I may have missed or that you think would be of interest to the club.



Sept 19— Alamance County Extension Master Gardener's Plant Sale, Ag Ext Bldg, Graham-Hopedale Rd., Burlington.

Sept 28—29— NC Botanical Garden Fall Native Plant Sale <http://ncbg.unc.edu/2018-events/>

Sept 28—29— Duke Gardens Fall Plant Sale <https://gardens.duke.edu/events/plant-sales>