

The Seedling – December 2018

Volume 43, Issue 12

The Men's Garden Club of Burlington NC

<https://burlingtonmensgarden.club>



Next Meeting: January 22, 2019 Bring a guest!
Occasions, 286 East Front Street, Burlington NC

“Making Seed Tapes” (a hands on event)
Tony Abbruzzi

A Message from President Dirk Sprenger

Dear members and friends,

I promise not to pray for snow ever again. Seriously, three inches would have been enough, but we are warm and well fed so we have much to be thankful for this December. You have each helped us through a year of ups and downs. The most critical thing I learned during the summer as your club president is the value of written paper invitations to meeting guests. For various reasons, it's difficult to tell if an emailed invitation was read; just who read it; and who forgot to respond to it. :-)

Today is Tuesday, as the deep snow continues blanket all of my woods, I am browsing the pages of the online Alamance Gardener and Blum's Farmers and Planters Almanac.

Great advice is found in both for December and January preparations for next spring. And tips to keep your birds fed and watered during a cold snap such as this one.

There is a lot of candy being made in our kitchen. Let me know if you need a box! I am grateful to Kurt, our Gardener of the Year 2018 for editing the December issue of the Seedling. (By tradition, it is the optional month for editors.) Also, I would be remiss if I did not thank our outgoing officers, Dudley Clinard, and Wayne Smith for many years of service.

Times are changing and the nimble

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Officers & Contacts

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President: Dirk Sprenger 919-699-4672	Treasurer: Ray Schwartz
Vice President: Wayne Smith	Chaplain: Melvin Martin
Secretary: Harry Porthouse	Seedling Editor: Kurt Moore



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garden club of the future is being transformed with better networking. Kurt, others and I will put our shoulder to the plough and really put together, with your support, a membership-drive second to none. At least, that is my goal. Not just another new years resolution, but a matter of survival for the digital age.

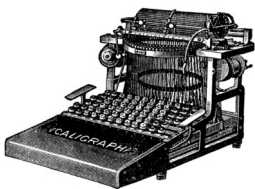
So, as we watch the games and toast the new baby year 2019, give some thought to the many ways you could help our club. New projects? Calling members who missed the last meeting? Helping an officer to lighten his load? Each bit of such teamwork is a stone in our foundation.

Onion orders are in and new catalogs from the seed-men and seed-women keep arriving in the mail. If the reindeer and grandkids show up at our doors, we will indeed be among the most blessed people on the planet. Soon, I will be able to sign off my page with an audio file embedded in the Seedling. However, tonight I will just shout as I ride into 2019: Ho ho ho, Merry Christmas to all, and to all a **good night!!**

Sleep well, *Dirk Sprenger*

Quote from Blum's Almanac: among the top ten reasons "I can't come to work today" on page 40, "*I accidentally got on a plane to Florida this morning.*"

Editor's corner



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 me and let me know that it is for the newsletter. Happy Holidays!! Kurt.

Send me your news for 2019!

December Birthdays

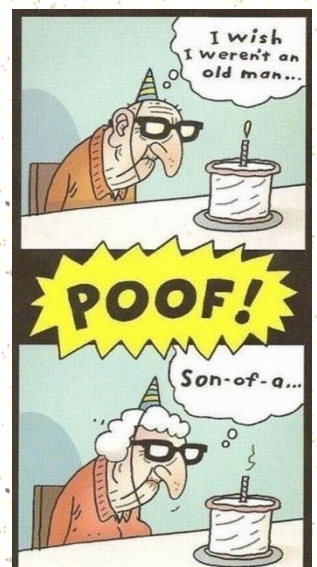
Dudley Clinard—9th

Michael Bradley—17th

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 "December" Meeting

Remember, **no meeting for December.** Have a Happy Holiday Season. See everyone in January.



November Meeting Highlights

Dirk Sprenger presented the plaques honoring past members **Chester Honeycutt, Dick Anand, and Don Mundy**. Receiving the plaque in memoriam of **Don “Doc” Mundy** were his wife **Diane**, son **Todd** (also a club member) and Todd’s wife **Laurie** (below). Chester and Dick were present to accept their awards in recognition of their many years of service to the club (pictures on page 4).



The other important topic of the evening was the election of officers for 2019—**Dirk Sprenger (President)**, **Ron Namest (Vice President)**, **Harry Porthouse (Secretary)**, **Ray Schwartz (Treasurer)**, **Melvin Martin (Chaplain)**, **Alvis Webster (Member at Large)**. **Kurt Moore** will serve again as *Seedling* editor and **Jeff Wright** will continue as webmaster.

November’s speaker was member **Kurt Moore** who gave a presentation on “*Prehistoric Horticulture*.” As we saw, some techniques have not changed in 1000s of years while many of the plants have changed, especially in size.



At the November meeting members remembered their dear friend and devoted member Dr. Donald Ashford “Doc” Mundy who passed away in May 2018. Pictured (L to R) are: club president Dirk Sprenger, Mrs. Diane Mundy, Todd Mundy and his wife, Laurie. *Photo by Dudley Clinard.*

Reminder: Onion Order—Last Chance

Tony Abbruzzi will be placing our annual onion starts order from Dixondale Farms on **Dec 14th**. If you haven’t already given Tony your order, please do so. Visit www.dixondalefarms.com to see what is offered. Intermediate day onions are best suited for our area. Tony has planted Candy, Red Candy and Borettana Cipollini for 19 years. Shallots and leeks are also available. We pool our order to get the best prices. Note that the discount is not available on leeks.

From the Members

Membership Rosters

Please remember to use the most recent rosters when contacting other members. They are usually distributed after the January meeting after dues are paid, but also updated through the year as we gain new members or their contact info has changed. We had several instances of missed meetings and messages. I know that someone in Tallahassee had been getting messages for me at my old number and another local person not happy about the repeated messages left on his machine for another member who also changed his phone number!

Kurt Moore



Retired member Chester Honeycutt receiving his plaque for his 35 years of leadership and dedicated service at the November 2018 meeting. Pictured (L to R) are: club president Dirk Sprenger, Chester Honeycutt and his wife, Ann.
Photo by Dudley Clinard.



Retired member Richard "Dick" Annand receiving his plaque for his many years of leadership and dedicated service. Pictured (L to R) are: club president Dirk Sprenger, Dick Annand and his wife, Patricia.
Photo by Dudley Clinard.

Dirk's wish for snow was fulfilled this past weekend. Using his gourd, he used one for the snowman's head! *Thanks for the pics.*

