

The Seedling – February 2019

Volume 44, Issue 2

The Men's Garden Club of Burlington NC

<https://burlingtonmensgarden.club>



Next Meeting: February 26, 2019 Bring a guest!
Occasions, 286 East Front Street, Burlington NC

"ACC Aquaculture Program"

A Message from President Dirk Sprenger

Dear members and friends,

Groundhog Day and the sun are so welcome today as I write about the future prospects we have together. The polar vortex moved away last week, I have uncovered my cabbages and collards. I hope February continues to bring more warmth.

Change is in the air. Now is the time to improve our club and develop our membership as well as our community relations. Keeping an open mind is critical to our growth and development as a thriving club. I must tell you that we will have very interesting discussions at our

February meeting about our mission and role in Alamance county.

Last week as I looked forward to spring flowers I made my way over to Witherspoon Rose Culture (Witherspoonrose.com) at their new location. They have less acreage since their move 2 years ago, but a fine facility is easy to find in West Durham. There I picked up a copy of the Weekend Gardener magazine and learned so much about Japanese Maples that I felt compelled to share it (see table on Page 4 of this issue of the Seedling).

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Officers & Contacts

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|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| President: Dirk Sprenger | Treasurer: Ray Schwartz |
| Vice President: Ron Namest | Chaplain: Bob Held |
| Secretary: Harry Porthouse | Seedling Editor: Kurt Moore |



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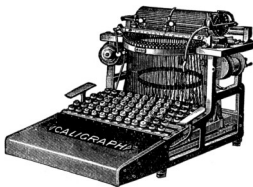
These trees from Japan and Southern Korea have been landscaping favorites since colonial times in America. To select the right one for your yard and find just the right place to situate it is no small task. Some are over 20 feet tall. I am thankful that I have all of you as my mentors for this and other matters. The careful selection of speakers is a concern too and we need your input for that. Please make an extra effort to attend the February meeting, enjoy the fellowship, and help us plan our best year yet!

Roses are Red! Violets are Blue! At the Mebane Dogwood Festival we need you!
Save the date: 4/26 and 4/27. Manpower is needed both days to make it a success.

See you soon at Occasions with our guest speaker Lindsey Heise from ACC.

Dirk Sprenger

Editor's corner



Send me your news for 2019!

New Year, new 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 me and let me know that it is for the newsletter. Kurt.

February Birthdays

I guess we do not have any members with birthdays this month. All the more reason to recruit some more members! And we could use new members with June birthdays, too, but we'll take any and all new members. Your perk is to head the chow line with our guests!

Important Agenda Items Next Meeting

While new officers assumed their duties starting with the January meeting, we will **welcome Bob Held as our new chaplain**. We will also begin to have a discussion about the future direction of the club, it's mission and growth. Our February speaker will be Lindsey Heise from ACC who talk about the college's aquaculture program.



January Meeting Highlights

January's meeting kicked off a discussion of the club's declining membership and how to respond, particularly in continuing to support the Dogwood Festival and on changing the charter to recruiting new members. Dirk Sprenger said it would be discussed at a special meeting of club leadership that was subsequently held on January 26. Those discussions will be reported at the February meeting.

Bob Held has assumed the position of club Chaplain and gave the opening prayer for 2019. Our monthly program was a hands-on session on making seed tapes by Tony Abbruzzi.



New Club Chaplain

Please welcome **Bob Held** as the new Chaplain for our club. Thank you Bob for stepping up to guide us in our work!

2019 Plant and Garden Sales

Spring is around the corner and that means Spring Plant Sales! Here is a list of upcoming "local" (within an hour drive) plant sales. As always, I will keep this list updated, so please me any info on additional event I may have missed.

March 30 —Duke Gardens, 8 am—Noon. Durham <http://gardens.duke.edu/events/plant-sales>

April 6 - JC Raulston Arboretum Plant Sale, NCSU, 9 am—4 pm, Raleigh
<https://jcra.ncsu.edu/events/details.php?ID=1703>

April 14—Farmers Curb Market Plant Sale. 9 am—6 pm. Greensboro. <https://10times.com/plant-sale>

April 26-27—Women's Resource Center 21st Annual Herb Festival, 0830-1900 (Friday) & 0830-1500 (Sat), Burlington, <http://wrcac.org/herb-festival>

April 26-27 – 31st Annual Mebane Dogwood Festival www.mbanebanc.com/event/dogwood-festival-4

NEW! April 27— Reynolda Gardens, Wake Forest University. 8 am—2 pm.
<http://reynoldagardens.org/events/big-spring-plant-sale>

May 10-11—Guilford Master Gardeners Pass-along Plant Sale, Ag Extension Service, Greensboro, NC. More info TBD

May 4 - NC Botanical Garden Spring Plant Sale and Festival. 2 pm—7 pm, Chapel Hill. <http://ncbg.unc.edu/2019-events>

Looking ahead for those of you considering fall landscape planning this year:

Sept 27-28— NC Botanical Garden Fall Native Plant Sale
<http://ncbg.unc.edu/2019-events>





From the Members



Pictures from the ACC greenhouse. Pages 4 and 5.
Courtesy Dirk Sprenger

| HARDY JAPANESE MAPLES <i>Acer japonicum</i> & related species | Height in Feet | Comments |
|---|---------------------------|--|
| Bloodgood, <i>Acer palmatum</i> | 33 | Extremely cold hardy. Most popular dark-leaf JMs. |
| Butterfly | 15 | Variegated leaf, pink edge leaves in spring, magenta in autumn. |
| Crimson Queen | 10 | This weeping tree is a garden standard. Brilliant scarlet in the fall. |
| Sango Kaku, also sold as Senkaki | 26 | Coral bark, just as remarkable in the winter as summer |
| Shishigashira, "Lions Mane" | 20 | Green leaves twist, curl and crickle into masses reminiscent of lion image in traditional Japanese theater |
| Tamuke yama | 13 | Popular since 1700s. A purple-red dissected-leafed cascading tree. |
| Waterfall | 10 | An especially hardy bright-green JM. |
| Virdin | 13 | A vigorous JM which can take a lot of heat and sun. |
| Aconitifolium | 16 | A fern-leaf <i>Acer japonicum</i> . In the fall the leaves become shades of orange to reds. |



Upcoming Programs

Hey folks, we need input to round out the 2019 program agenda. We need your input on suggested topics and speakers. Besides the annual social and annual Meet & Greet our donees, we need programs for May, and the rest of the year.

Feb— “ACC Aquaculture Program,” Lindsey Heise, ACC

Mar— “Botanist And Barrel” Lyndon Smith and Kether Smith will talk about their business.

<https://botanistandbarrel.com/home-page/>

April—“Square Foot Gardening”, Harry Porthouse