

WE HELP GARDENERS GROW

The Seedling – September 2019

Volume 44, Issue 9

The Men's Garden Club of Burlington NC

<https://burlingtonmensgarden.club>



Next Meeting: September 24, 2019 Bring a guest!

**Annual Picnic Social
@ Sam Moser's House**

A Message from President Dirk Sprenger

Greetings members and friends,

An old Chinese proverb says, "If you would be happy for a lifetime, grow chrysanthemums." Did you know people have been cultivating mums for 3000 years? They are used in Chinese medicine. During the Ming Dynasty, people planted chrysanthemums and gathered in elaborate festivals to celebrate them. While doing that, they also wrote poems, drew pictures and drank liquor. Sounds like quite a picnic!

The focus of our September meeting with many spouses attending is not mums, but it is fun and fellowship. The 2019 Gardener of the Year will be recognized. As with many picnics there will be many desserts,

but not too many. Our planning team has designated 3 members to handle all the desserts and sides. (You know who you are.) There will be live music and door prizes, including handmade items by Alvis and myself. Please arrive at 6:00 pm. It will definitely be on the fourth Tuesday, rain or shine. There will be ample places to park; and a few familiar faces such as Dudley Clinard will join us to celebrate a year of many successes.

As I write this article, I'm thankful that Hurricane Dorian missed Alamance County Thursday by more than 150 miles and she is now near Greenland. Although I needed 3 inches of rain, but am

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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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certainly not complaining about the half which fell in Hillsborough. The persimmons have started falling. Fall festivals are numerous on our calendars, including the grilling of burgers by our host Sam. This picnic will be the first one OUT OF DOORS in many years for our club, so please don't miss it.

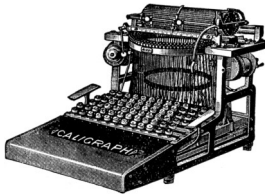
Looking ahead to October and frost, won't it feel good to cool off and stop all the mowing and weeding. Our October meeting will bring Future Farmers of America, plus guests from ACC Horticulture Technology and Peacehaven to our meeting. And by then we will be ready for an election of club officers. If you wish to run, don't be shy. Throw your hat in and lend a hand to make your club even more grand.

In closing, another bit about mums from a book by James Morton (2017) *Chrysanthemum Culture for America*. These flowers in many varieties from China and Japan were described by authors as they were being grown in Holland before 1700. They also grow in Siberia, which, I've been told, is colder than my home in Michigan.

Dirk Warren Sprenger

Send me your news for 2019! And 2020!

Editor's corner

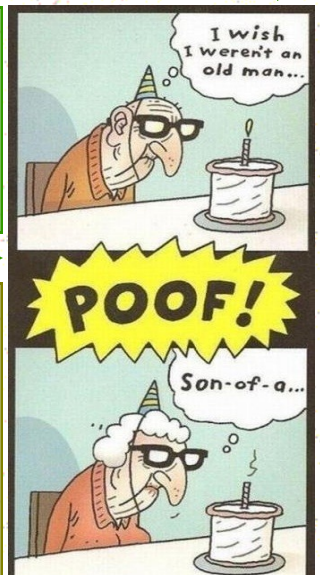


We're in the home stretch. The social and two more meetings, then the Holidays and next thing you know it is 2020! This is your newsletter! Please feel free to send me content that you would like to share with your fellow members—upcoming events, gardening tips, resources, websites and online tools, 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.

September Birthdays

Tony Caminiti— 1st

Your perk is to head the chow line with our guests!

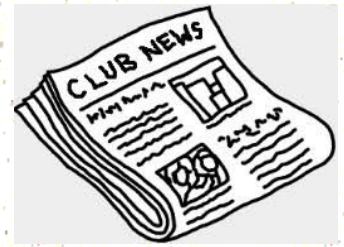


Important Agenda Items Next Meeting

Remember that we do not have a formal meeting at Occasions this month. Instead, it will be our annual social and yes, it will be a picnic, at Sam Moser's house. We will also be presenting the Gardener of the Year Award that evening. Plus fun and games.

August Meeting Highlights

We had a small group for our meeting and did not have a quorum. There were no pressing business items that needed to be approved. Dr. Eliabeth Riley, Chair of the Horticulture Department at ACC was our speaker. She discussed the national annual Collegiate Landscaping contest and ACC's history of competition in the event through the years.



A red, wild morning glory from Dirk's yard. Interestingly, morning glories are one of the two birth flowers for the month of September in the U.S., the other being the aster.

They symbolize daintiness, love and magic. I can understand the magic part as some varieties contain lysergic acid amines, a compound related to LSD!

2019 Plant and Garden Sales

Fall planting is just around the corner and plant sales are coming. Here's what is already scheduled within an hour's drive of Burlington.

Sept 18—9th Annual Master Gardener Fall Plant Sale, 9 am—6 pm. At the Alamance Co. Coop Extension Service, 209 N Graham-Hopedale Rd. alamance.ces.ncsu.edu/event/210627984/master-gardener-plant-sale

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

Sept 28—Duke Gardens Plant Sale—8 am—noon.
<https://gardens.duke.edu/events/plant-sales>

Oct 5 —ACC Annual Fall Plant Sale—more details to come late via email.

Oct 5—Fall Plant Sale and Curated Tour, Ciener Botanical Garden, 8 am—5 pm
www.cienerbotanicalgarden.org/events-1/fall-plant-sale-followed-by-a-curated-tour



From Bob Held—a short video on repelling ants using coffee grounds.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=okhvJjH4dxk>

Interesting topic, so I looked a little bit more and coffee appears to repel other bugs as well. Just Google the topic. I'll have to try this one

<https://www.deathwishcoffee.com/blogs/news/burn-coffee-to-fight-pests>

And a word of caution about putting coffee in your garden, it's good for some things, but bad for others. <https://curiosity.com/topics/whatever-you-do-dont-put-coffee-grounds-in-your-garden-curiosity/>

[Editor]

From the Members

