

The Seedling – February 2020

Volume 45, Issue 2

The Men's Garden Club of Burlington NC

<https://burlingtonmensgarden.club>



Next Meeting: February 25, 2020 Bring a guest!
Occasions, 286 East Front Street, Burlington NC

"Wild Flowers"
Alvis Webster

A Message from President Dirk Sprenger

Dear Members and Friends of the Men's Garden Club,

February is the month for planning! Planning excursions, planning where to plant your veggies and flowers. Perhaps a Japanese tulip tree would look good over there I'm thinking. Thoughts such as these fill my mind as you and I wait for March to come in like a lamb. Keep hoping and planning.

We welcomed new member John Floto to our club in January. We also learned a tremendous amount about Orchids from Ray Schwartz. Our officers will meet in February to update the Program schedule for 2020. Bob Held, Kurt Moore and Harry

Porthouse will be nominating the Gardener of the Year in a few months and you have a role in all of this. I welcome your program ideas and nominations.

Do you keep a garden journal? This would be a good year to start, seeing that forsythia has bloomed a month early and flowers were peeking out before the groundhog saw his shadow last week. Did you know the whole Groundhog Day tradition came to us from Germany where the hedgehog was the soothsayer?

My reading lately has uncovered a Pest Watch bulletin from Steve

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Officers & Contacts

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President: Dirk Sprenger	Treasurer: Ray Schwartz
Vice President: Eric Levine	Chaplain: Bob Held
Secretary: Harry Porthouse	Seedling Editor: Kurt Moore



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Troxler, Commissioner of Agriculture about the Spotted Lantern fly. Pennsylvania has seen a lot of it since 2014, but this bug (*Lycorma delicatula*) has not reached our state yet. The bulletin names plant pest specialists for every county in our state. These state employees are good resources for you and our club! Check out this site: www.ncagr.gov/plantindustry. They also have a page of links for seed and fertilizer news. (and pictures of the pretty lantern fly)

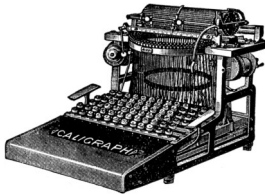
In closing, I share a bit of new fiction about the Mardi Gras Garden cake. Please offer some news and such to Kurt Moore for the next newsletter.

"A cook went to a Pantry called February to find the right ingredients for a Mardi Gras Garden cake. She found topsy-turvy weather, fresh Jonquils, and dash of snow and a heaping bucket of chocolate colored mulch. She combined all ingredients and mixed it with a spade, placed it on a warm sill in a muffin pan. When things began to sprout she placed it lovingly in her porch pots." Whether or not you celebrate Mardi Gras, please come to our next meeting for some special treats, food, knowledge and fun. Need I say bring a friend!

Yes, February 25 is Mardi Gras!

Dirk Warren Sprenger

Editor's corner



Send me your news for 2020!

The New Year is here! 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, pictures, 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.

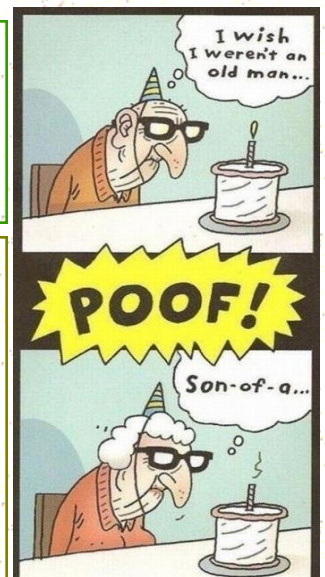
February Birthdays

None. Good reason to recruit a member with a February birthday!

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

Important Agenda Items Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be February 25. If you have not paid your dues for 2020 and/or not picked up your new shirt, bring your hard earned money to the next meeting, or mail it to Ray Schwartz. Our program will be "Wild Flowers" presented by our own wild child member, Alvis Webster. Planning for the Dogwood Festival will continue.





January Meeting Highlights

We finally had a quorum to elect our new slate of officers for 2020. All of the officers remain the same, except that Eric Levine will take over as Vice-President. Our speaker for the meeting was Ray Schwartz who gave us an introduction to the basics of orchids and brought several examples with him.

We welcomed new member John Floto, who is also new to Burlington.

There was some discussion on using social media, currently testing Meetup.com, as a new member recruiting tool.

After the regular meeting, there was a brief executive committee meeting, open to all, to discuss planning for the Dogwood Festival in April. This year we will only have two booths and concentrate more on selling tomatoes.



2020 Plant and Garden Sales

The “new year” is here, and Spring will be here before you know it. Various organizations are planning the first round of garden sales and plant shows.

March 28—Duke Garden’s Spring Plant Sale <https://gardens.duke.edu/events/plant-sales>

April 17-18—Women’s Resource Center 21st Annual Herb Festival, 0830-1900 (Friday) & 0830-1500 (Sat), Burlington, <https://festivalnet.com/2399/Burlington-North-Carolina/Home-and-Garden-Shows/Herb-Festival>

April 24-25 – 32nd Annual Mebane Dogwood Festival <https://www.visitalamance.com/event/32nd-annual-mebane-dogwood-festival/15114/>

April 26—Go Green Garden Show, , Sunday 9am—2 pm. Greensboro Farmers Curb Market, 501 Yanceyville St. <https://www.gsfarmersmarket.org/vendorinfo-faq/craft-and-pottery-show-vendors-info/>

May 8-9 —Guilford Master Gardeners Pass-along Plant Sale, Ag Extension Service, Greensboro, NC. Friday 9 am—3 pm, Saturday 9 am—1 pm.

plant
sale



Think Green Thursdays For 2020

Think Green Thursdays, plus a few Saturdays and a Tuesday bonus are back at the Alamance County Agricultural Building at 209 N. Graham-Hopedale Road in Burlington.

Classes begin at 10 a.m., except evening classes which begin at 6 p.m. Some pruning classes will be held at the Buster Sykes Demonstration Farm (BSF).

For more info and to register, go to:

<https://alamance.ces.ncsu.edu/2020/01/2020-think-green-thursdays-are-live/?src=rss>

<u>Sat</u>	<u>Feb 1</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Fruit Tree Pruning at BSF</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Feb 6</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Fruit Tree Pruning at BSF</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Feb 20</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Grapevine Pruning</u>
<u>Sat</u>	<u>Feb 22</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Grapevine Pruning at BSF</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Mar 5</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Pruning Shrubs and Trees</u>
<u>Sat</u>	<u>Mar 7</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Pruning Shrubs and Trees</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Mar 19</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Healing Gardens</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Apr 2</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Vegetable Gardening</u>
☾ <u>Thu</u>	<u>Apr 2</u>	<u>6PM</u>	<u>Vegetable Gardening</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Apr 16</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Fermentation-Pickle It!</u>
★ <u>Tues</u>	<u>Apr 21</u>	<u>6PM</u>	<u>Fermentation-Pickle It!</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Apr 30</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Plants for Pollinators</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>May 14</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Patio Gardening</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>May 28</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Parking Lot Garden</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Jun 11</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Propagation</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Jun 25</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Pressure Canning</u>
<u>Sat</u>	<u>Jun 27</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Pressure Canning</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Jul 16</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Water Bath Canning</u>
<u>Sat</u>	<u>Jul 18</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Water Bath Canning</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Jul 30</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Fall Vegetable Gardening</u>
☾ <u>Thu</u>	<u>Jul 30</u>	<u>6PM</u>	<u>Fall Vegetable Gardening</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Aug 13</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Lasagna Garden</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Aug 27</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Fall Lawn Care</u>
☾ <u>Thu</u>	<u>Aug 27</u>	<u>6PM</u>	<u>Fall Lawn Care</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Dehydrating</u>
☾ <u>Thu</u>	<u>Sep 24</u>	<u>6PM</u>	<u>Dehydrating</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Oct 8</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Houseplants</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Oct 22</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Winter resident Birds</u>
<u>Thu</u>	<u>Nov 5</u>	<u>10AM</u>	<u>Planting Trees and Shrubs</u>

2020 Programs—updated

Hey folks, we need input to round out the 2020 program agenda. Give us your input on suggested topics and speakers. We need programs for May, July and August.

January — “Orchids”, Ray Schwartz

February— “Wild Flowers”, Alvis Webster

March— “Vermiculture”, Eric Levine

April—“Gardening and Fertilizers”, **tentative**

May— OPEN. Please suggest speakers and topics

June— “Beekeeping in 2020: the Basics and Challenges”, Tony Abbruzzi

July— OPEN. Please suggest speakers and topics

August—OPEN. Please suggest speakers and topics

September—Annual Picnic/Social. Place TBD. Spouses invited.

October—Presentations from our donee organizations—PeaceHaven, ACC and Western & Southern FFA programs.

November—“Lasagna Gardens”, Gail and Kurt Moore

December—No Meeting.

Early Spring?

The unseasonably warm weather has flowers in bloom all over town. The following are from Kurt Moore's yard. *Top: Purple Hellebores. Bottom Left: White Hellebore. Bottom Right: Daffodils.*

Photos by Gail Moore

From the Members

