

The Seedling – March 2020

Volume 45, Issue 3

The Men's Garden Club of Burlington NC

<https://burlingtonmensgarden.club>



Next Meeting: April 28, 2020 Bring a guest!

Occasions, 286 East Front Street, Burlington NC

MARCH MEETING CANCELLED!!

PRESENTATION TO BE RESCHEDULED

A Message from President Dirk Sprenger

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

We delayed this issue of the Seedling because a few things have changed, to say the least. We have halted plans to participate in the Mebane Dogwood Festival. The annual event is likely to be cancelled for April 2020. The executive board of your Garden Club met March 17th, and we began exploring some other fundraising options such as possibly getting involved with farmers markets and the Mebane Fall Festival.

Time will tell if there is a way we can use social media to sell raffle tickets, or to do some modern fundraising operations. We are looking into it. The main message to

remember is we are not giving up on our mission to support ACC Horticulture Technology, Peacehaven and the FFA clubs.

I found a few moments to reflect on leisure activities and their importance during stressful times. Gardening and feeding the birds are high on my list. As Eric Levine said during our board meeting "we all have more time to weed the garden." I watch the wildflowers and tulips popping up unaware that the world has changed. I will also keep picking up litter wherever I go hiking.

Alvis Webster and Chester
Honeycutt

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Officers & Contacts

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President: Dirk Sprenger	Treasurer: Ray Schwartz
Vice President: Eric Levine	Chaplain: Bob Held 336-227-2540
Secretary: Harry Porthouse	Seedling Editor: Kurt Moore



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can make a few extra bird feeders for us to raffle off when the time comes. We can all recruit members by telephone and stay in better touch with each other, as well as our friends far and wide around the globe.

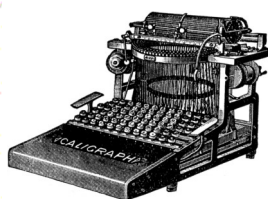
Please monitor the Agriculture Extension Websites for the latest information on the **4-H plant sale** going on now, as well as news about Thursday and Saturday classes at the Ag Extension Office, some of which have been cancelled. I bought 2 “legacy” blueberry plants from the 4-H Club in memory of my Uncle Jake, a famous Christmas Tree grower whose farm dates back to about 1950.

The next issue of the Seedling will have information about the April meeting. Be patient with us as we explore ways to reinvent the Garden Club Calendar for the new realities of 2020 and please give us your ideas. **Together we will succeed and grow stronger.** Be an innovator in your circle of friends and in your community.

“Time is the greatest of innovators” Francis Bacon, born January 1561

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.

March Birthdays

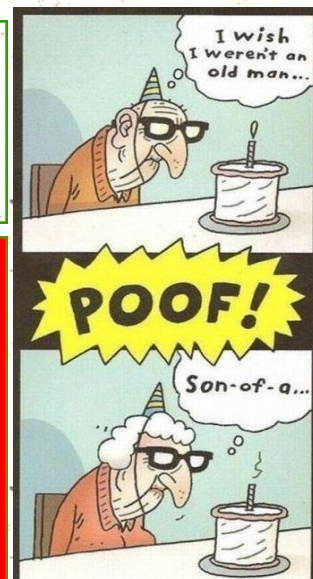
Dennis Cox—9th

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

March Meeting Cancelled

Due to concerns about the Covid-19 virus, the officers have decided to cancel the March 24th garden club meeting.

The officers will be meeting this week to develop a contingency fundraising plan in case the organizers decide to cancel the Mebane Dogwood Festival next month. However, planning for the Dogwood Festival will continue with the Executive Committee outside of the normal meeting schedule.



February Meeting Highlights

Our speaker for the meeting was Alvis Webster who gave us an introduction to the basics of orchids and brought several examples with him.

The business portion of the meeting focused on planning for the Dogwood Festival in April. The number and types of tomatoes we will have was discussed to set up our order.

On the March 17th, the Executive Committee voted to withdraw from the festival due to coronavirus concerns and uncertainty as to whether it might get cancelled at the last minute. Please read Dirk's President's Message on Page 1.



Coronavirus Information

For the latest information on coronavirus in North Carolina, please visit the NC Division of Health and Human Services website at:

www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-response-north-carolina

2020 Plant and Garden Sales

The "new year" is here, and Spring will be here before you know it. I had hoped to get this get the newsletter out before it arrived, but as you know things are changing day to day. Various organizations are planning the first round of garden sales and plant shows.

Due to coronavirus concerns and instructions from the governor's office some events have been cancelled or may be expected to be cancelled. Please visit their websites over the next couple of weeks if they are not indicated as cancelled here.

March 28—Duke Garden's Spring Plant Sale **CANCELLED**

April 17-18—Women's Resource Center 21st Annual Herb Festival, 0830-1900 (Friday) & 0830-1500 (Sat), Burlington, **CANCELLED**

April 24-25 – 32nd Annual Mebane Dogwood Festival <https://www.visitalamance.com/event/32nd-annual-mebane-dogwood-festival/15114/> **WE HAVE WITHDRAWN, BUT HAVE NOT HEARD IF THIS GOES ON**


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/>

plant
sale

NOTED GARDENING AUTHOR COMING TO TOWN!

Doug Tallamy, PhD

Presented by the Alamance Extension Master Gardeners, 7 PM, Sept 10, 2020 at the Paramount Theater. Note that tickets **will be available at a future date**, through the Paramount, but not currently. See **draft** flyer (this a draft advance copy) at right for details. 

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 still need programs for July and August.

March— CANCELLED—SEE PAGE 2

April—"Gardening and Fertilizers", **tentative**

May— "Vermiculture", Eric Levine - RESCHEDULED

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.

Save the date!

Thursday, September 10th, 7:00PM
Paramount Theater, Burlington, NC

NATURE'S BEST HOPE

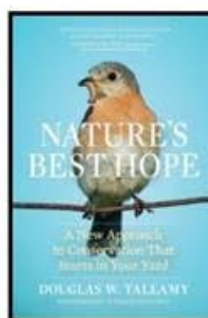
Featuring Doug Tallamy, PhD*

*Noted author of *Bringing Nature Home*, *The Living Landscape* (with Rick Darke), and *Nature's Best Hope*



A community event presented by
Alamance County Extension Master Gardeners

Recent headlines about global insect declines, the impending extinction of one million species worldwide, and three billion fewer birds in North America are a bleak reality check about how ineffective our current landscape designs have been at sustaining the plants and animals that sustain *us*. Such losses are not an option if we wish to continue our current standard of living on Planet Earth. The good news is that none of this is inevitable. Tallamy will discuss simple steps that each of us can- and must- take to reverse declining biodiversity and will explain why we, ourselves, are nature's best hope.



NC STATE
Extension
Master Gardener



Tickets are \$5.00 and available only at the Paramount Theater Box Office 12-3PM Monday-Saturday or at Etix.com or by calling 1-800-514-3849.
For more information, contact
Alamance County Extension Service: 336-570-6740

From the Members



Early Spring?

The unseasonably warm weather continues. The following early bulbs are from Dirk Sprenger's yard. *Photos by Dirk Sprenger*



