

The Seedling – November 2020

Volume 45, Issue 11

The Men’s Garden Club of Burlington NC

<https://burlingtonmensgarden.club>



Next Meeting: November 24, 2020 Bring a guest!

Located at your house via Zoom

Topic: *TBD*

An update will be going out when we have a program



A Message from President Dirk Sprenger

Dear Members and Friends of the Garden Club

Most of the club’s executive team and their spouses are planning to attend the Picnic. What picnic? Our first November picnic in the long history of your garden club at Springwood Park on Saturday, November 7. I will understand if you choose to avoid our gathering. The limit is 30 people and there is lots of room in the shelter for us to be 10 feet apart. Sharing food is optional. The picnic is open to non-members, men and women. Paper plates and wet-wipes will be available, as well as a hot bed of coals for cooking any food you plan to bring.

You should get an email with a chance to RSVP soon about the 1st live

meeting of the club since February.

My theme today is “FIRSTS” because a lot have happened this week and this year.

First number one is the news we heard from Liz Riley at this week’s online meeting. Did you know that in February 2020 Horticulture Tech hosted the 1st ever NC statewide High School Landscaping Competition with lots of interactions with ACC students? And they have an official master plan and name for their new acreage, the Bill and Nancy Covington Farm. The farm is named in memory of William F. "Bill" Covington, 94, of Mebane, and his wife Nancy Pickard Covington.

First number two are the new things

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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



Continued from page one

in my yard: A lasagna garden with pea sprouts for salads and a 36 inch mother of thousands plant. I will bring it to the picnic. I had never even heard of lasagna bushes and flowers until I joined this club.

First number three happened at your house. Didn't you have an unusual amount of rain and warm weather in October? Eighty degrees on the 29th thanks to storm Zeta. She blew the yellow hard hat off the peak of my gazebo and did a lot of other minor damage in Orange County. I am not complaining, and we pray for those who have had storm after storm with major damage in the gulf, including our aunt, Barb Stumpf.

And remember our Veterans! Veterans Day is November 11th. We have over 20 million vets, most of the veterans alive today are Gulf-War era vets according to Pew Research. Our NC gourd society, based in Raleigh, decorated gourds this year and attached thank-you notes to them to distribute in November. This is a tiny token of our appreciation for those who served our country. I salute the vets in our club and circle of friends.

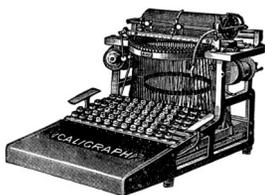
In a normal year this would be the last Newsletter of 2020, but since I am sitting around watching the leaves fall, I may write a poem for the Christmas Holiday Issue. So this is not goodbye, just until I see you again. And I hope it will be this week!!!!

Many leaders are tempted to lead like a chess master, striving to control every move, when they should be leading like gardeners, creating and maintaining a viable ecosystem. Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal. Born 1954.

Dirk Warren Sprenger

Editor's corner

Send me your news for 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, 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.

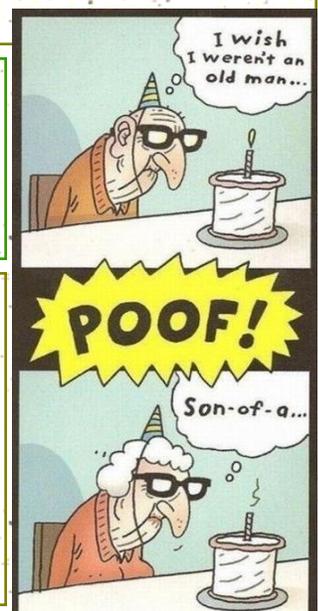
November Birthdays

Bob Held—26th

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

Upcoming Meeting

The Executive board will host the regular October meeting virtually via Zoom starting at 6:30. Harry Porthouse will send out the link for joining the meeting via phone, computer or smart phone. Login instructions are on page 4. You can learn more about Zoom at <https://zoom.us/>. Topic TBD. We will send out an update when available.



October Meeting Highlights



We held our regular October meeting by Zoom arranged by Harry Porthouse. Our speaker was Dr. Elizabeth Riley, Chair of the Department of Horticulture at Alamance Community College. Dr. Riley updated us on long-range planning for the department which includes new teaching facilities on the main campus and plans to develop their working Bill and Nancy Covington Farm. It's an ambitious multi-year plan.

Earlier in the month, the Executive Committee met at the Burlington Women's Club shelter in Springwood park where we will be having our November 7 picnic. This will take the place of our fall social, so spouses are invited. We will also be inviting our emeritus members. Other items discussed included growing our membership and the publicity required to do that in 2021.

The shelter has been reserved from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with plans to fire up the grills at 11 a.m. and eat about 11:30. Burgers, hot dogs, a casserole, condiments, and individually packaged chips, sodas and dessert will be provided, along with disposable implements of destruction (paper plates, plastic utensils, napkins and paper towels). If you prefer to not share, we understand, and you are invited to bring your own meat or items for the grill and other foods. An invitation with directions will be going out shortly.

Anathoth Gardens

Dirk Sprenger

I took the long way home from Biscuitville to see the trees at Cedar Grove, NC, this week and discovered nonprofit **Anathoth** Gardens, a community garden in Northern Orange County. This interested me because for about 10 years I have been getting their emails, willingly. However, I had forgotten when or why I signed up for them! Now I know. It was meant to be that I would rediscover and begin supporting this awesome effort for reconciliation that is happening within 4 miles of my home on Phelps Rd.

From the About-section of their website you will find this text: Anathoth's work began in 2004 when Cedar Grove community member and farmer, Scnobia Taylor, generously leased five acres of her land as a hope-filled response to the murder of a local and beloved store owner named Bill King. Envisioning that the land could become a permanent community gathering place, just as Bill King had been creating at his store, Scnobia offered to lease those five acres long-term, at no cost, to Cedar Grove UMC. In response to her gift, church members organized a listening group and decided to use the Taylor's land as a community garden. Over the years, Anathoth has become its own nonprofit and grew to include a satellite farm site, but the original gift of the garden land, and its vision, are at the heart of our work. The name Anathoth is taken from the book by the prophet Jeremiah.

Please see photos and much, much more at <https://anathothgarden.org/>

ZOOM MEETING INSTRUCTIONS

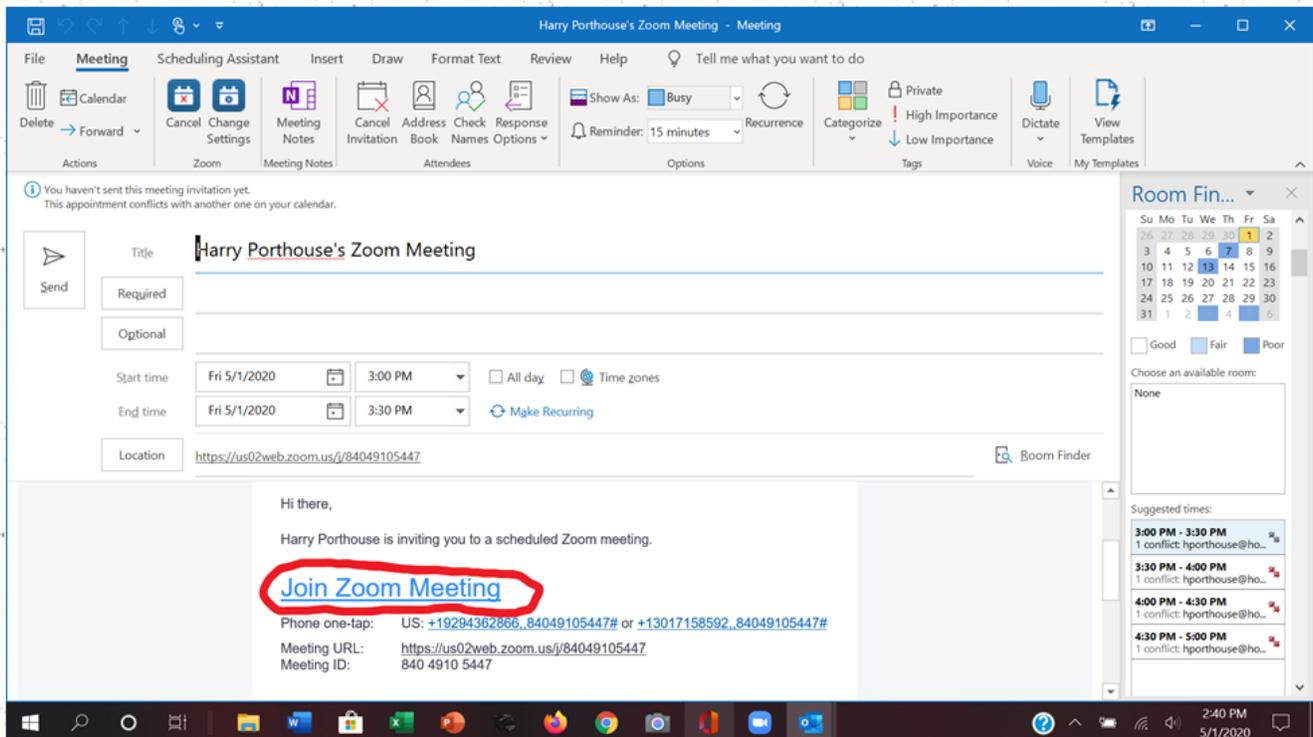
This isn't hard! **We need your attendance.** We have not had a quorum to conduct regular business.

We will send you an email containing a meeting invite via Zoom. At the scheduled date and time, join the meeting using one of the following methods. Note: You do not need a camera to participate.

1. To join from a laptop or desktop just click on the blue link (shown in a red circle here so you'll know where to find it).
2. To join from your smart phone, just click one of the "Phone one-tap" links shown below the circle.
3. To join by phone with no video (not recommended, as you will miss a lot of the meeting content), just dial one of the phone numbers at the bottom of the message.



You will be placed in a waiting room, and the moderator will admit you to the meeting.



The screenshot shows an Outlook meeting invitation for "Harry Porthouse's Zoom Meeting" scheduled for Friday, May 1, 2020, at 3:00 PM. The invitation includes a "Join Zoom Meeting" link circled in red, a phone one-tap number, and a meeting URL. The interface also shows a calendar view on the right and a taskbar at the bottom.

Hi there,

Harry Porthouse is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Phone one-tap: US: +19294362866,,84049105447# or +13017158592,,84049105447#

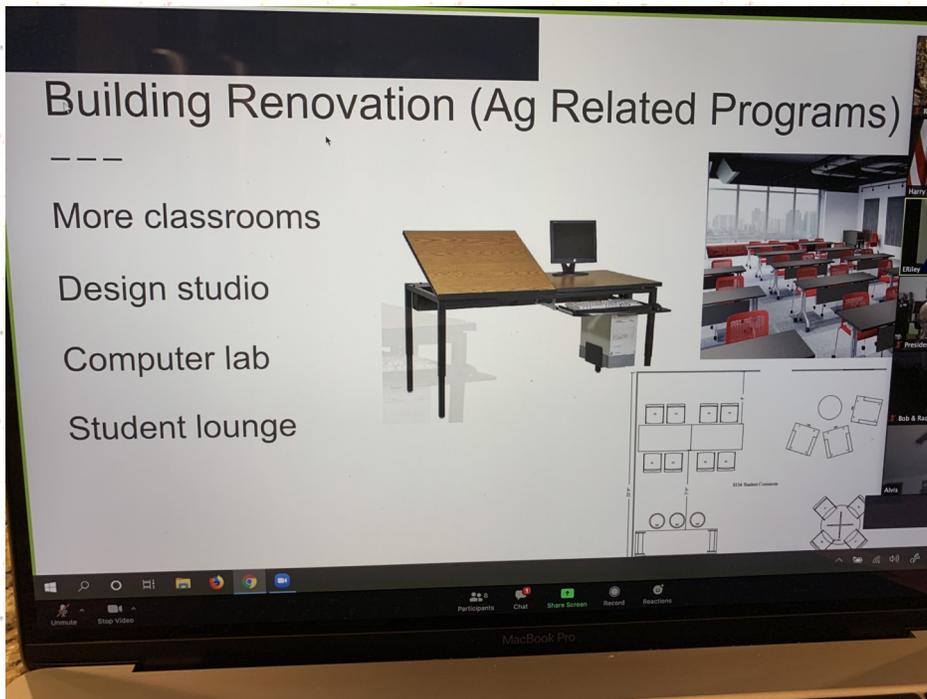
Meeting URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84049105447>

Meeting ID: 840 4910 5447

Gardening in the News

By Kurt Moore

For this issue our news is local. At our October meeting, Dr. Elizabeth Riley, Chair of the ACC Horticulture Department shared long range goals for the department. For those of you who missed the program, I wanted to share a couple of screen shots taken by Ray Schwartz about some future significant developments both on the main campus of ACC and at their new teaching and demonstration farm.



Both new and renovated teaching facilities for Agriculture related programs. Plans for the main campus include additional classrooms with a new layout, technology and desks/working spaces.

ACC has developed a long-range master plan for their Bill and Nancy Covington Education Center located on Jim Minor Road near Mebane.

The former 47 acre farm is named in memory of William F. "Bill" Covington of Mebane, and his wife Nancy Pickard Covington. ACC acquired the parcel in 2015 with an anonymous gift to help expand Horticulture Technology and related programs.



From the Members



Some photos from Dirk:

Top: "Mother of Thousands" plant. Dirk recently reported that all parts of these plants are toxic to people and pets.

Opposite Page: Orca beetle (the red dot on the left side of the flower).

