

November 2015

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Seed Pod

The Official Newsletter of the
Men's Garden Club of Asheville
mensgardenclubasheville.org

President's Corner

Ken Roth

I am writing this after returning from a 5 day trip to New Jersey and have seen the first frosts of the season as well as over 700 miles of fall foliage during the trip back along I78, I81 and I26. The display of color this time of year never ceases to amaze me.

Our gardens are winding down now. Annual plants that have died, along with some perennials, are being cleaned up. It's a busy time of year, getting prepared for a winter sleep.

Following a report on the fall sale, both to members and at the Botanical Gardens, I am very pleased to report that 2015 was a record. And while sales to members have dropped off (perhaps the drought influenced some) we still offer many plants for late planting. Members may as you know drop by the horticulture center whenever they have time, select plants, and report the sales to our Ed Smith, deducting 15% from the posted prices.

Ask Cecil Beumer for the prices if you do not see a plant marked.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the November luncheon and, of course, our holiday banquet.

"If you build up the soil with organic material, the plants will do just fine."

John Harrison

Ken

www.mensgardenclubofasheville.org

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mens-Garden-Club-of-Asheville/147346425328933>

The Last Board of Directors Meeting was held on October 12, 2015

Anyone who would like to read the minutes of board meetings should contact the Secretary, Ray Carter, at MGCminutes@mail.com

Any member who wishes to attend the board meetings is welcome.

The next Board meeting is November 9, 2015, at The Botanical Gardens of Asheville

Member News

Gerry Hardesty

Two new members joined in October:

Peter Fitzpatrick

53 Banner Farm Rd., Mills River, NC 28759; Phone: 891-1169

email: vreelandgardner@yahoo.com

Sponsor: Ralph Lambert -- joined October 15

Mathew York

416 Web Cove Rd., Asheville, NC 28804; Phone: 778-2874; email:

mathewjork@gmail.com

Sponsor: Tom Mills -- joined October 15

Ready To Put Your Garden to Bed?

by Debbie Green

By autumn, even the most enthusiastic and attentive gardeners find their landscapes in

decline in the autumn. Looking out on weeds, tired annuals, insect- or disease-damaged plants, and piles of falling leaves, you may want only to put off the work and get the garden to bed for the winter.

Instead, use cooling temperatures to get energized and improve your landscape!

Some Things Need to decisively either Go—Or Not!

1. Clean out damaged or diseased plants, removing them completely if they are beyond help, along with any weeds that are going to seed. Bag these as trash to help reduce diseases, pests and weeds the following year.
2. Decide what plants need cutting back or tidying. Many perennials have new growth at the base that will carry them through winter and look fresh if you cut older foliage back. Some age gracefully, though, with attractive seed heads that feed the birds; such reseeding plants will fill out informal flowerbeds or meadow plantings. If you don't want plants to reseed, gather interesting pods or ornamental grasses for indoor fall arrangements. Note some perennials, such as Chrysanthemums, survive best with their stems intact; leave marginally hardy plants alone until late winter.
3. In woodland gardens, leave those fallen leaves rather than raking them out; just pull away any large leaves smothering young plants. If you must rake, rather than bagging leaves, shred, and either compost them or reapply the shredded leaves to your garden beds.

(This is an edited article derived from the "Buncombe County Master Gardeners" website) <http://www.buncombemastergardener.org>

Name This Flower:

Be the first one to name both these flowers and get a free flower from the greenhouse.

Announcements, Volunteer Opportunities and Meetings:

At the Horticultural Center

Ted Faber

Activities at the greenhouse are ongoing and require members' help. It takes a village to raise a plant. We have fun from 9am to 11am and get some work done as well. **Please join us!!!**

All the efforts and sales at the greenhouse go to support our scholarships and community projects. The days provide an opportunity to get to know members better and to discuss gardening concerns and experiences.

You'll be glad that you came!

Contact Ted Faber at 707-4887 or tedfaber@charter.net with any questions.

Articles and pictures for the Seed Pod

If you have a special interest in some subject in gardening, please send the info to Ralph Lambert.

We also would welcome articles written by spouses/partners/significant others/organizations with which you are affiliated. So please ask the most important people in your life if she/he would like to contribute an article.

Contact **Ralph Lambert** r.c.lambert1955@gmail.com for items for the **Seed Pod**.

Door Prizes and Special Projects

Len Pardue

Here's another good reason to attend the November Men's Garden Club meeting: Your door-prize ticket might be a winner. Everyone who comes to the lunch gets a ticket for a

drawing, as most of you know. This will be the last door-prize drawing of 2015, so come to the meeting and give yourself a chance to be a chosen one.

Holiday gift-giving time is almost here. Our inventory of MGC-A caps, polo-shirts and sweatshirts will be on display and available for sale at the November and December club meetings. If you don't see your size, let me (Len Pardue) know, and I'll see if we can special order the item you want. Prices range from \$12 for caps to \$25 for polo shirts with club logos.

Bigger sizes needed?

A request for a size XXL Men's Garden Club polo shirt prompts this question: Anybody else out there who wants an XXL shirt? Please email me (eljeep129@gmail.com) and let me know. I'll follow up with our supplier and see what our options are. The shirts are short-sleeved and color is forest green. We have offered a choice between shirts with the club name printed on the shirt (\$20) or with the club logo instead (\$25).

Contact **Len Pardue** eljeep129@gmail.com (285-2521) to order **Club paraphernalia** or to volunteer for the **Special Projects Committee** .

Facebook and Pinterest:

Louis Gire

The Club's Facebook Page is continually being updated. Please notify Louis Gire (636-0982 or girelouis@gmail.com) if you have something of interest you think should be on our

Facebook page or **Pinterest:**

<https://www.pinterest.com/ashevillegarden/facebook>

The site contains gardening-related pictures with a small amount of information. If members have "before and after" pictures of their gardens, Louis would like to see them to potentially use on the site. No identification will be made. Please send copies to Ralph for the Seed Pod.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mens-Garden-Club-of-Asheville/147346425328933>

Beautification sites

Dick Rothenberg

Among the other things we're doing for our 75th anniversary, there is a need for continued maintenance of the work so many of you have done or contributed to at the Smith Mc Dowell House among other sites. To participate in this work on the SM House, please contact Bob Thatcher:

btman15@att.net (828-667-9563)

For work at our other beautification sites, please contact our Director for Beautification Sites,

Dick Rothenberg: 680-9820 or RSR4702Fountains@Yahoo.com

List of Sites and those responsible for each:

Asheville Community Theater (Walt Leginski, 828-505-1097, wleginski@yahoo.com)

Azalea Park/Soccer Fields (Denny Frache, 828-645-2714, lfrache@aol.com)

Beaver Lake (Nelson Sobel, 828-255-0473 gnsobes@charter.net)

Reuter Center (Joe Barrett, 828-242-2099 joe-barrett@hotmail.com)

American Chestnut Foundation fall planting:

The American Chestnut Foundation contributed two chestnut trees for the plantings at the Sith-McDowell House for our 75th anniversary project. In cooperation with the American Chestnut Foundation, the Men's Garden Club has been taking care of hundreds of Chestnut seedlings at our greenhouse location for almost 2 years now. The 400 Chestnut seedlings we currently have in the shade house will be heading to an orchard in Asheboro NC this November. These are fourth generation Graves seedlings (Carolinas American chestnut pollen x potentially resistant, Meadowview hybrids). Fred Clodfelter maintains a beautiful, fenced, mowed orchard that is worth checking out. **If you would like to take part in the planting**, please contact Tom Saielli with the ACF. Let him know you are with the Club.

Clodfelter Backcross Orchard Planting

When: Friday, November 13th, 10:00 AM

Where: 5621 Lassiter Mill Rd, Asheboro NC 27205

RSVP or address questions to Tom Saielli at tom@acf.org

Andy Keith

417-576-5773

Following are the nominees for officers and directors (so far) for 2016:

OFFICERS:

President	James Wade
Past President	Ken Roth
President Elect	Dick Powell
Secretary	Ray Carter
Treasurer	Ed Smith

DIRECTORS:

Membership	Gerry Hardesty
Horticulture Center	Ted Faber
Beautification Sites	Dick Rothenberg
Education Support	Ross Jones
Special Projects	Cecil Beumer
SeedPod	Ralph Lambert
Historian	Milford Shaver

Vacancies remain for **Plant Sales** and **Publicity**. The nominating committee would appreciate volunteers or suggestions.

The Club meets on the first Tuesday of each month except for the August picnic and the December awards/ installation banquet and special events. Please mark your calendars in advance and be sure to respond with your reservation!

Speaker: Curt Horn, CGM, NCCTP, NC-LLC
Grounds Manager, Biltmore Company

Topic: 1. Recycling of garden and yard material for composting
2. Sustainable Agriculture Practices
3. Growing diesel fuel in the field
4. Providing habitat for wildlife

RSVP: Only for lunch at \$11 per person to Dick Powell at wdpowelldds@yahoo.com or 828-252-2121

The regular, monthly luncheon is held at *First Baptist Church* in Asheville.

The cost is \$11.00 for members and guests.

We gather for conversation and meeting those members whom you've not met before at 11:30.

Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon.

Announcements will be made during lunch so that the speaker can begin promptly.

A word about reservations: If you make a reservation for lunch, the Club pays for it. Thus, it costs the Club \$11 for every "no show". Please tell Ed Smith if you have made a reservation but cannot be at the lunch.

In addition to members and their guests, the general public is invited both to lunch and to the talk afterward.

Looking ahead: the **December luncheon** will be a plated lunch to be held on **Saturday**, December 5, 12 noon to 2:00 pm .at the Renaissance Hotel, Land of Sky Room (great view from top) The cost will be between \$15 and \$20 (The final amount will be announced later.) There will be some options for entrée as in the past. Those will be announced when the menu is finalized.

CORPORATE MEMBERS

B.B. Barns Landscape Co.

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Arden, NC 28704
Landscape - Hunter Stubbs
828-384-9190
stubbsbb886@bellsouth.net
www.bbbarns.com

Biltmore Farms, Inc.

Development – George Cecil
1 Town Square, Asheville, NC 28803
828-274-2000

1889 White Gate Inn

173 East Chestnut Street
Asheville, NC 28801
Dr. Ralph Coffey
828-253-2553
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