

May 2016

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Seed Pod

The Official Newsletter of the **Men's Garden Club of Asheville**

mensgardenclubofasheville.org

President's Corner

James Wade

In April the MGCA Board of Directors gathered at a retreat to look at the present and future of the club. I appreciate the time and energy put in by the Board members who participated. The Board reviewed a summary of the member survey that was recently completed. The survey confirmed member's interest in education, fellowship and service. As we discussed these values, we concluded that members like to work together at the horticulture center for the fellowship of working together toward a goal. Member education is most obvious when we gather monthly for lunch and an educational presentation. But it is also an important part of our time working at the horticultural center. The summary of the retreat includes three important goals: 1). encouraging and developing new leaders for club activities; 2). engaging both new and longer-term members by providing more opportunities to gather including field trips, hikes, and social occasions; and 3). continue to improve communications among the membership. In the coming months, several steps will be taken implement these goals.



This issue of the Seed Pod will be the last edited by Ralph Lambert. Thank you, Ralph, for dedication and attention to details. Your commitment is commendable. Louis Gire has agreed to serve as the SeedPod editor beginning with the June edition.

James

www.mensgardenclubofasheville.org

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



The Last Board of Directors Meeting was held April 11, 2016

The April board meeting was a workshop to discuss the way our club is organized and the duties of those who serve as directors, officers and committee members. You will be receiving a summary of the findings shortly if you haven't already received it.

Anyone who would like to read the minutes of board meetings should contact Secretary Ray Carter at

MGCminutes@mail.com

All members are welcome to attend board meetings.

The next Board meeting is May 9 , 2016, at The Botanical Gardens of Asheville

Member News

Gerry Hardesty

Ross Jones and James Wade have brought in new members for May:



R Martin Gibson
wife: Sharon Wilson
Lives in Swannanoa
avrep@mac.com
Acoustical Consultant/retired
Sponsor -- Ross Jones



Phil Roudebush
wife: Joanne
Lives in Biltmore Lake
philroudebush@gmail.com
Veterinarian/retired
Sponsor -- James Wade



A Follow up on Corporate Sponsorship: MGCA should be more active in involving the corporate/commercial community in our horticulture scholarship program. I'm sure that many of us have relationships with organizations that would be interested in being involved in our scholarship program. You will be hearing more about this in the future. In the meantime, pass any information you may have about possible corporate members along to Gerry Hardesty at gerry327@charter.net.

Tips and Techniques from various gardening sources

*Extract from an article posted on April 12, 2016 by Glenn Palmer,
Buncombe County Master Gardeners*

PLANT BULLIES

So you've identified a garden bully: invasive plants. A quick review of your options for dealing with them starts with breaking the reproductive cycle so they do not spread. Don't let them go to seed, particularly if they're annuals. Or use a pre-emergent treatment so the seeds don't germinate. You can also exhaust them by continued weeding, mowing, flaming or maybe grazing goats.



And in the last resort category we have something that those folks back in '96 lacked – herbicides, chemicals developed to take advantage of the plant's weakness. Our garden centers have shelf after shelf of bagged and bottled herbicides, and it can be overwhelming when there are several brands with similar claims in big letters on the label. It's the fine print and the instructions that you need to read, before you buy and then again before you mix and apply. For example, don't buy a weed-preventer to kill existing weeds. And don't expect an herbicide to make a distinction between a desirable plant and a weed. Dicamba will kill the roots of any plant, including desirable shrubs and 2,4-D will kill broad leaf weeds but not harm grass, which is why we use it on dandelions in the lawn grass but if it drifts onto a bed of pansies – bad news!

Read the label! Will a pint of diluted, ready-to-use product be all you need or would a gallon of the active ingredient be a much better buy? Maybe you could share with a neighbor. Or the whole neighborhood could attack kudzu at the same time.

How will you apply the herbicide? Do you need to mix with water and spray the leaves? Or is it to be applied at full strength to the freshly-cut woody stump? Is this product less effective at certain temperatures or particular weather conditions?

And if you have questions as to how to attack a particular weed, call the Extension Helpline 828-255-5522.

Written by Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Glenn Palmer.

The Buncombe County Master Gardeners website:

<http://www.buncombemastergardener.org> is a frequent source for Seed Pod articles.

Name This Flower



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



Send answers to Louis at: girelouis@gmail.com

Last month's flowers were Arum Italicum on the left and Yucca Blue Sapphire on the right from Glenn Bass's garden.

Announcements, Volunteer Opportunities and Meetings:

At the Horticultural Center

Ted Faber

Greenhouse Winter/Spring Work Schedule 2016

The activities at the greenhouse are well underway. We have planted over 12,000 annuals and perennials for our spring plant sales. Work continues in watering and checking the plants and we always need help. These activities give all members an opportunity to get to know each other better as well as to share in a group effort which helps the club.



Pictures below are of flowers currently growing in the greenhouse. A list of plants available for the **member sale** on **April 28** is on the web site.



Our greenhouse efforts result in plant sales which support our scholarships and community projects.



To **volunteer** at the Horticulture Center, contact Ted Faber at 707-4887 or tedfaber@charter.net. Ted can answer any questions you may have.

Picture of greenhouse exterior courtesy of James Wade

Pictures inside the greenhouse courtesy of Ray Carter

Plant Sales

With warmer weather upon us, the Club's thoughts and activities turn towards our annual

plant sales. Members have been busy planting and caring for annuals, perennials, and shrubs that we will sell at the upcoming plant sales at the Botanical Gardens of Asheville (BGA) and at Black Mountain. Profits raised from these activities are use to provide two Horticultural Scholarships to deserving students at local colleges.

The BGA sale will be take place on Fri, Apr 29 from Noon - 6:00pm, and on Sat, Apr 30 from 8:30a to 3:00p. Ken Roth is coordinating volunteers to load and transport plants from the Horticulture Center to the BGA, and setup and sell plants at the BGA. This is a great opportunity to work with fellow club members on a fun and worthwhile project. If you have not already signed up to be part of this activity, please consider doing so by contacting Ken. The Black Mountain sale will be on May 21.

In addition to the public sale, a **Member Sale** will be held at our Horticulture Center on Thurs, Apr 28 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. At the member sale, members along with their family and friends can purchase our annuals, perennials, and shrubs at very a competitive discount price from public sale prices. There is a wide selection of great-looking annuals and perennials, and our selection of home grown shrubs will be augmented with shrubs from outside sources.

Please see the web site for a list of plants available.

Take this opportunity to take part in a fun and worthy project as well as purchasing great plants at very competitive prices.

Nelson Sobel, Plant Sale Committee

Each year the Club not only participates in the Botanical Gardens sale, "A Day in the Garden", which is the primary focus of our efforts at the greenhouse, but we also participate in the annual street sale in Black Mountain. Below is a link which will give you more information on that sale.

blackmountainbeautification.org

Elementary School garden contest



Each year the Men's Garden Club sponsors a garden contest for elementary school classes. Prizes are awarded to the best participants. Ed Heidel, who's heading the contest, has provided the following links to the contests we held in the past.

<http://www.citizen-times.com/picture-gallery/news/2015/05/11/photos-fourth-annual-container-garden-contest/27136243/>

<http://mountainx.com/living/container-gardening-contest-seeks-asheville-and-buncombe-county-teacher-participation/>

Members' Gardens



Ray Carter's garden on left

Nelson Sobel's garden on right

Please send pictures of your garden to Louis: girelouis@gmail.com

Articles and pictures for the Seed Pod

If you have a special interest in some subject in gardening, we need an article from you! Please send pictures, too!!!

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/they would like to contribute an article.

Contact Louis Gire: girelouis@gmail.com for items for the **Seed Pod**.

Door Prizes and Special Projects

Cecil Beumer

The club thanks all the door-prize donors in recent months and encourages club members to check them out. They include Sow True Seeds, The Screen Door, Reems Creek Valley Nursery, Jesse Israel and Sons Garden Center, B B Barns Garden Center, Wild Birds Unlimited, Ace Hardware South Asheville, Carolina Native Nursery in Burnsville, Thyme in the Garden, and Rose's Garden Shop.



Caps, sweatshirts and polo shirts emblazoned with the club's name and/or logo would make terrific holiday gifts. Prices range from \$12 to \$25 for polo shirts with club logos. Contact Len Pardue or Cecil Beumer for additional information.

To order Club paraphernalia or volunteer for the Special Projects Committee:

Contact **Cecil Beumer** cecilbeumer@aol.com



On The Web

Ray Carter

Up to date with lots of pictures, the Men's Garden Club of Asheville webpage is your destination to discover the many things going on at the club and who is participating. Keep abreast of volunteer opportunities, club activities, and, if you haven't already, read about our history and watch the 75th anniversary power point presentation. Here are only some of the contents:

- 2016 Calendar of Events
- Member News

- Member's gardens in photos
- Club Officers and Directors
- Plant Sale dates and plants
- Scholarship winners

Click the link below and have fun...

<http://mensgardenclubofasheville.org>

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.



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

Beautification sites



Beautification Sites and site managers:

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

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

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

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

Monthly Meetings

Dick Powell

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! Remember, **it is not permitted to bring outside food** into the dining room at the First Baptist Church.

Speaker and Topic for May:

Tom Saielli, Southeast Regional Science Coordinator,
The American Chestnut Foundation

Tom is based in TACF's national office in Asheville, NC, overseeing the organization's Southeast region which includes the TACF state chapters of KY, TN, NC/SC (Carolina's), AL and GA. He received his MS in Forest Sciences from the University of Vermont in Burlington after earning his BS in Biology and Environmental Science at the University of Colorado in 2007.



Tom comes to TACF with significant hands-on experience with the TACF breeding program, having worked with New England Regional Science Coordinator, Kendra Gurney, as a research technician investigating chestnut cold-tolerance at the University of Vermont. Tom also served as a Crew Leader with Wildlands Restoration Volunteers in

Colorado, where he managed dozens of large-scale restoration projects and spent nine years as a medic and firefighter with the Nederland Fire protection District.

Regular monthly luncheons are held at the **First Baptist Church** in Asheville.

The **cost is \$11.00** for both members and guests.

We gather for conversation and meeting other members 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 to the talk after lunch.

CORPORATE MEMBERS

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



[Biltmore Farms, Inc.](#)

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



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