

## NORTHERN SHENANDOAH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION NEWS

October, 2012

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

All meetings will be the third Sunday of the **month**, and we will meet at 4pm. All will be pot luck. Each county coordinator will be responsible for providing the eating utensils, plates, coffee/drinks. (Check with hosts of private homes if you have any questions.)

- **Sunday, October 21, 4pm, Shenandoah County**, Woodstock Government Center. Gary Deoms will speak Home Orchid Culture and Problems.

**Directions:** From I-81, take Woodstock exit #283 and go east on Route 42 (Reservoir Road) through 2-3 lights to Rt. 11 (Main Street). Turn left (north) on Rt. 11 (Main Street). Go through four traffic lights, pass the Woodstock Shopping Center on your right and the Shenandoah County Government Center is the next complex on your right. Go in the main entrance which faces Rt. 11 (Main Street). From Front Royal or Strasburg, take Route 11 South out of Strasburg toward Woodstock. Just after you enter the town limits and start down the hill, you will see the Government Center on the left.

- **Sunday, November 18, 4pm, Warren County Government Center, Front Royal.** Annual business meeting and elections
- **December.** No meeting

### OTHER EVENTS

- **Tuesdays 7 to 9 pm, September 11 through October 27 "All About Trees" classes, Warren County Government Center**, 220 N. Commerce Ave, Front Royal. Light refreshments will be provided. In addition, there will be four half-day Saturday sessions (TBA). These sessions will include hands-on pruning as well as visits to the State Arboretum of Virginia and an active tree nursery. \$90 per couple. Individual evening sessions can also be taken for \$7 each (this fee will cover that particular class training and hand-outs but does not include the manual). No one wishing to become a Tree Steward will be turned away for inability to pay; email [frwctreestewards@comcast.net](mailto:frwctreestewards@comcast.net) to request tuition assistance. A brochure about Tree Stewards and how to sign up is at <http://www.treesfrontroyal.org/pdfs/AATClassBrochure2012.pdf>
- **Saturday-Sunday October 13-14, 9am to 4:30pm, Arborfest at Blandy**
- **Sunday October 14, 11am Piedmont Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society Second Sunday Walk at Blandy.** VNPS President Sally Anderson will lead a leisurely, informal tour of meadow and wetland to enjoy and identify native plants and grasses. Meet at the amphitheater.

**SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES** by Suzanne Boag, Secretary

See [Board Meeting Minutes on NSVMGA Website](#)

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### **SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING** by Mary Craig

The meeting was held at the Alson H. Smith Jr. AREC. It's a wonderful place to have a meeting and the weather was perfect. Janet Heishman of Gabalot Gardens in Strasburg, was our speaker. She had all sorts of good tips and information about fall gardening and vegetables. If you missed the meeting you missed a great time and, as always, some good food and friends. Hope to see you this month.

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** by Mary Craig

We have finalized the updates to the membership list (for now) and it has been re-posted to the website. As always, if you have any corrections or additions to your information, please let me know. [mcorneliac@centurylink.net](mailto:mcorneliac@centurylink.net).

Congratulations to our newest official Master Gardener, Rich Howell. President Cy Haley presented him with his nametag at the September meeting.

### **CLARKE COUNTY** by Mary Craig

We only have 3 more weeks at the Farmers' Market, since we will be at Blandy for ArborFest on the 13th. I want to thank everyone who has taken a turn this year. I think it has been a good year. It's such a nice way to be part of the community. And those that still need Greenline hours are welcome to help out the last two Saturdays in October. Contact me at [mcorneliac@centurylink.net](mailto:mcorneliac@centurylink.net) if you would like to volunteer.

We are trying to schedule a rain barrel building session in the next few weeks, so if you are interested please let me know. It is good to see how they are put together. We will be raffling one off at Arborfest.

### **EDITORS CORNER** by Richard Stromberg

The newsletter is a little late this month because I was visiting my son in San Francisco. Incredibly it was hot—in the eighties. First time I ever wore shorts there. The climate is the envy of flower growers. It never freezes, but is cool most of the time, and lots of moisture—fog if not rain. The houses are close together, but they stick flowers in any place possible. Nasturtiums amaze me there; Fuchsias and Daturas several feet tall. And lots of flowers and flowering trees I don't know. So this month's quiz of the month is what is the blue flower in the picture in the next section?

### **QUIZ OF THE MONTH**

Last month's question was, "What is a monoecious plant?" Mary Flagg, Belinda Palmer and Sarah Kohrs submitted the answer: A monoecious plant has separate male (staminate) and female (pistillate) flowers on the same plant, *e.g.*, oak or corn.

This month's question is what is the blue flower in the picture? Send your answers and questions for future months to Richard Stromberg at [risy@embarqmail.com](mailto:risy@embarqmail.com).