

NORTHERN SHENANDOAH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION NEWS

January, 2013

UPCOMING MEETINGS

All meetings will be the third Sunday of the **month**, and we will meet at 4pm, except January, 2013 will be at 2. 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, January 15, 2pm (not 4pm), Fort Valley Nursery**, in Woodstock. Terry Vogel will be the speaker. Rather than having a pot luck, we will have finger food and light refreshment, while enjoying the wonderful ambience of the Ft. Valley Nursery cafe area.

Directions: From I-81, take exit #283 Woodstock. Go west on Rt. 42 and take left on Hisey Ave. (just past Tractor Supply Company). Fort Valley Nursery will be located on your left 1/4 mile.

OTHER EVENTS

- **Monday, January 14, 7-8pm, Fort Valley Nursery, 2013 Seminar Series, De-mystifying those Confusing Horticulture Terms, presented by Terry Fogle.** pH, cultivar, winter annual, system...what does it all mean?
- **Sunday, January 20, 2 pm, Virginia Native Plant Society Winter Speaker Series at Tri-County Feeds in Marshall.** Janet Davis of Hill House Nursery will speak on "Covering Your Tracks & Climbing the Walls: Using native groundcovers and vines". Contact piedmontvnps@gmail.com.
- **Monday, January 28, 7-8pm, Fort Valley Nursery, 2013 Seminar Series, Perennials for Every Season, presented by Paul Westervelt, Sanders Brothers Nursery.** Perennials that add interest for every season.
- **Monday, February 11, 7-8pm, Fort Valley Nursery, 2013 Seminar Series, For the Love of Orchids made simple, presented by Gary deOms, Valley Orchid Grower.**
- **Sunday, February 17, 2 pm, Virginia Native Plant Society Winter Speaker Series at Tri-County Feeds in Marshall.** . **Alonso Abugattas, Arlington County Natural Resources Manager will speak on Floral Folklore and Ethnobotany.** Alonso has more than 20 years experience as a naturalist. His talk will focus on how people use plants. He co-founded the Washington Area Butterfly Society and is co-chair of the National Association for Interpretation. Contact piedmontvnps@gmail.com.
- **Monday, February 25 7-8pm, Fort Valley Nursery, 2013 Seminar Series, Latest Recommendations on Proper Planting Techniques, presented by the Fort Valley Nursery staff.**
- **Monday, March 11, 7-8pm, Fort Valley Nursery, 2013 Seminar Series, Introduction to Bonsai, presented by Tommy Tomforde, local Bonsai enthusiast.** Bonsai history and growing tips for the beginner.
- **Saturday, March 16, 8am-4pm, NSVMGA Garden in the Valley Symposium, Shenandoah University – Hester Auditorium.** See details below.
- **Sunday, March 17, 2 pm, "Now that you have the Flora..."**, Marion Blois Lobstein, retired professor from Northern Virginia Community College. She worked tirelessly in promoting a modern Flora for Virginia. Now that the Flora of Virginia has been published, Marion will present tips for using the book and explain some of the changes in plant relationships and names.
- **4 consecutive Thursdays, March 21 to April 11, 9:00 to 12:30, Workshop on Using the Flora, new research lab at Blandy**, limited to 15 participants. If you are interested in joining the class please contact Carolyn Martin, Administrative Assistant, @ 540-837-1758 Ext 223. \$40 for VNPS and FOSA members, \$50 for non-members, Requirements: some background in basic botany and plant taxonomy. Required text: *Flora of Virginia*. Marion also suggests *Plant Identification Terminology: an Illustrated Glossary* by Harris and Harris

Garden in the Valley Symposium

March 16, 2013

Shenandoah University – Hester Auditorium
1460 University Drive, Winchester, Virginia

Registration:

7:45 to 8:30 "Sweet Morning Fare"

8:30 Welcoming Remarks

8:45 - 10:15: Vegetables

Techniques on growing, harvesting and choosing the variety for our area.

Dr. Allen Straw, Virginia Cooperative Extension



15 min Break

10:30: First Door prize awarded. Must be present and on time to receive award.

10:30 – 12:00:

No Mow Lawns – Alternatives to Grass in your yard

Evelyn Hadden

12:00 - 1:00:

Lunch will be served in the cafeteria.

1:05 Second Door prize awarded. Must be present and on time to receive award.

1:10 - 2:30: Edible plants in your landscape, how to mix



your greens

Mike Weber owner of Weber's Nursery in Winchester, Va

Learn how to create a garden area mixed with edible plants along with your shrubs and flowers.

Break

2:30 - 3:45: New Plants for your Garden

Heather Callahan

New plant introductions to your garden.

Highlights from Proven Winners plant producers

3:45 Closing Remarks

Final door prizes

REGISTRATION FORM



Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Registration is \$45. Lunch is included in the registration. Make checks payable to NSVMG and mail to::

Lynn Hoffmann PO Box 411, Capon Springs, West Virginia 26823

You will be notified via email of receipt of your check. If you have further questions you can email Lynn Hoffmann at

gwendydog@gmail.com

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES by Suzanne Boag, Secretary

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

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BELLE GROVE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS by Lynn Hoffma

2013 ALL AMERICAN SELECT FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SELECTIONS by Lynn Hoffman

The 2013 All Americans have been selected. The new varieties can be found at <http://www.ngb.org/varieties/index.cf>

EDITORS CORNER—FLORA OF VIRGINIA by Richard Stromberg

In December the new Flora of Virginia arrived at my house. It presents detailed information on 3,164 species that persist and reproduce in Virginia without cultivation. Each of the surrounding states has a Flora written in the last sixty years. The first and only previous Flora for Virginia was written by John Clayton 250 years ago. This one took ten years to produce. The Flora of West Virginia has served pretty well for the NSVMGA area, but now we have one of our own.

At 7.5x10 inches, 1554 pages, and weighing about five pounds, it is not a field guide. Illustrations are not provided for all species. The size would probably double to do that. The illustrations are line drawings. I know many of you prefer photographs, but to really see the pertinent identifying features of a plant, drawings are better. The drawings are beautiful and do the job. The descriptions are very detailed, and, unfortunately for many of us, use scientific terms, so frequent reference to the glossary is necessary.

Since one of the questions that often comes to us at our help desks is, “What is this plant?” (or we need to identify the plant to be able to determine what the plant’s problem is), at last August’s meeting we approved getting a Flora for each extension office—another tool to help us do our job. A couple of years ago NSVMGA made a donation to the Flora Project.

If you need something to hold a coffee table down and have eighty dollars lying around, you can get information to order one at <http://www.brit.org/brit-press/books/virginia>. I cannot guarantee how much you will like it—I haven’t finished reading it yet.