



BLACKSTONE VALLEY GARDENERS

www.bvgardeners.com

Add to your "FAVORITES" list

April 2005

Volume XI - No 4

APRIL MEETING

TUESDAY April 12

7:30 PM at Lydia Taft House

Hot Thymes in the Kitchen

Spice up your life with Herbs

Features Chef Phaneuf of the Oyster Cabin.

You know how to grow herbs. Let this highly acclaimed local chef show you how to use them to make your meals something special, and sample some of Chris's creations. Yum!

Please note: this meeting is on a Tuesday

MINUTES OF BVG BOARD MEETING

The BVG Board met on Thursday 3/3/05. Board meeting minutes are on the Website (www.bvgardeners.com) for all the members to review.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Val Kara, 10 Riverbend Rd, Upton 01568 508-529-4126

Troy Smith, 170 Westboro Rd, Upton 01568 508-529-6281

NEW NEWS

NOTICE: EXTRA TREK. Saturday May 21, Ann is going to a garden visit in New Hampshire called Blueberry Bramble (See Tower Hill Botanic Garden newsletter for details.). The day will also include a visit to The Stoneyard, a source for hardscape materials...and maybe that great nursery in Salem.

Ann is also thinking of going to the Hawley Bog with the Garden in the Woods on July 16. Anyone else interested in bogs?

STUFF TO DO IN APRIL

Cut down perennials before new growth has reached beheading height! Rake winter stickfall from lawns (feed and seed, too) to be ready for mowing in April.

Try this: rake leaves from beds into piles, run over the piles several times with the lawn mower, then return the chopped leaves to the beds as compost/mulch.

To reinvigorate, divide grasses and perennials which are dead in the center, or flowered poorly the previous season. Don't tread on soil until it has drained and dried enough to crumble in your hands like chocolate cake.



DUES ARE DUE

Return this form along with your check to:

Carol Bowen

PO Box 752

Upton, MA 01568

Please make your \$20 check payable to the:
Blackstone Valley Gardeners

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

SLATE OF NOMINATIONS

President – Carolyn Voss
Vice President – Linda Hamm
Treasurer – Cissy Henderson
Membership – Carol Bowen
Recording Secretary – Linda Brown
At Large – Leni Carroll
Civic Beautification – Diane Smoot
Corresponding Secretary – Sue Smith
Hospitality – Sandy Rosborough and Brenda Rosborough
Program – Ann Hanscom
Publicity/Newsletter – Joan O'Brien

The executive Board meets at 7:30 on the first Thursday of every month, September through June. Board meeting minutes will be posted on the web site.

www.bvgardeners.com



ATTENTION:

Members requesting Saturday activities!
Ann Hanscom has arranged with Shelly Merriam to do a photography workshop for interested BVG members at her farm, Foxfire Farm, this summer.

Saturday – July 23 – 8:30 am till Noon

Morning coffee/tea will be provided; bring a bagged lunch if you wish.

FEE:

Optional token contribution to the Blackstone Valley Gardeners.

RAIN DATE:

July 30, the following Saturday

Space is limited to 20 so sign up early.

Call Ann at 508-278-3617 or sign up on the web site

www.bvgardeners.com

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PO BOX 394
N. UXBRIDGE, MA 01538

www.bvgardeners.com

APRIL TREK

Wednesday, April 27th Wellesley College Greenhouses
Please call Ann Hanscom at 508-278-3617

This trek will be followed by a bagged lunch visit to Mt. Auburn Cemetery, if weather is inviting us outdoors; carpool from Foxfire Farm at 9:30 am.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

May 12, 2005 New Perennials for 2005 - Karen Olson
What's new in the garden this year? Be the first on your block to get the scoop on the newest and most exciting perennials for your garden. You might just find the perfect solution to the "problem spot" every garden has.

DIG & DIVIDE

It's time for the BVG annual happening called Dig & Divide. Volunteers meet at Foxfire Farm, bringing with them pruners, turning forks, garden knives, gloves, and snacks, along with clumps of perennials if they have any to contribute from their own gardens. Other potting supplies are provided, as well as a gazillion plants from Foxfire Farm. We build up a supply of plants for our June Plant Sale during April and May. D&D will begin at 10:00 a.m. (and continue until 2ish, as volunteers tend to come and go at will), on Thursdays, starting April 14, or as soon as the soil is workable, and if it's not raining. Dog-proof children are welcome to come along and play while we work. The reward for your hard work (and conversation) is, for every 10 plants you pot up, you get to take one home with you (sometimes more!). This year we will be able to gather plants from our garden at Tri-River, so one of the Thursdays will begin there and include a little Spring clean-up - if you've been coveting those dark purple Iris, or gorgeous Sedums, here's your chance. Don't be intimidated if you've never done this before; this is a fun way to learn how.