



# BLACKSTONE VALLEY GARDENERS

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February 2009

Volume XII - No 26

## February Meeting

Thursday, February 12th  
Sutton Senior Center  
19 Hough Road, Sutton, MA  
7:00PM

### "Landscape Designs"

Landscape design and maintenance with earth stewardship in mind. Maria von Bricken, author and landscape design business owner, will discuss organic garden care methods and share ideas and tips for your garden designs.

## MEETING PLACE

**Sutton Senior Center**  
19 Hough Road, Sutton MA

From Rte 146 take exit 5 (Main Street Sutton & Northbridge)

Go west, the first left is Hough Road.

There are signs on Route 146 for Sutton Senior Center

## February Munchies:

Leni Carroll, Bunny Lyman & Maria Masmanian

*Don't forget!* ☺

## SPECIAL VOTE

We sent you a post card in late January to alert you to the special vote that will be taken at the February meeting. At the last Board meeting, we reviewed the various board positions as well as the roles and responsibilities of each position. We'd like to make some updates, which includes combining some responsibilities into fewer positions and staggering the terms of the positions, in order to streamline the board and enhance its effectiveness. Please see the attached insert for the details.

In order to make changes of this nature, our by-laws require that we put our proposed changes to a vote. Linda Hamm, President, will read out these changes and seek your approval through a public vote.

We believe these revisions are very timely, as a number of board member's terms are up in April, and new BVG-ers will be joining. We hope to have your support.

## FEBRUARY TREK

There will be no formal trek this month.

If you have any suggestions for one, please contact Ann Hanscom: 508-278-3617 or [A\\_J\\_Hanscom@msn.com](mailto:A_J_Hanscom@msn.com).

## Thanks for January Munchies:

Pat apologizes sincerely for losing the names of our January bakers, but we really enjoyed your munchies!

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## February – March Activities at Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University

- **Planting Design in Multiple Dimensions** - February 28<sup>th</sup> - Explore Tao of planting design—the expression of form, texture, color, and line—that reveals the beauty of plants in garden or landscape. Experience through touch, vision, or movement; however, in the design process they are often considered as abstractions. Landscape designer and horticulturist **Warren Leach** helps participants blend ideals of design with realities of horticulture. Hunnewell Building. Fee.
- **Great New Annuals & Perennials to Feed Your Plant Habit – March 5<sup>th</sup>** - New horticultural varieties are lifeblood of healthy industry and are requisite to maintain interest by gardeners. Renowned plantsman Allan Armitage has been evaluating new plants nationwide for over two decades and will share thoughts on favorite plants. Fee. At Mass Bay Community College, 50 Oakland Street, Wellesley Hills.

Call: 617-524-1718 ext. 160, or check out [www.arboretum.harvard.edu](http://www.arboretum.harvard.edu) for more information on both events.

## A Gardener's Diary...

Even though it may still be cold, damp and miserable outdoors, an occasional dose of sunshine could certainly put the gardening bug into you. But don't be caught off guard, winter is far from over! If exceptionally cold weather is forecast this month, provide protection to early flowering or tender plants by covering them with burlap or some type of cloth material. Remove the covering as soon as the weather moderates again.

Prune away storm-damaged branches promptly from trees and shrubs in order to prevent tearing the bark and other damage.

Continue planning your gardens and ordering plants from nursery catalogues for later delivery.

## Board Positions

The two year terms of a number of the board positions will be up in April, and positions will be vacant. We are seeking members with an interest in filling these positions. Participating on the board is a good opportunity to meet and work with great people, to get some really good experience, and to have a lot of fun. Please chat with current board members at the January meeting to see which positions will be opening up.



### **WANTED: Your Input**

Share your interesting gardening experiences right here!  
Email [patricia.a.stellato@verizon.com](mailto:patricia.a.stellato@verizon.com) or snail mail to 56 West River St, Upton, MA 01568



## Winter Garden Cheryl Magic-Lady

**In winter's cold and sparkling snow  
The garden in my mind does grow.  
I look outside to blinding white  
And see my tulips blooming bright.  
And over there a sweet carnation  
Softly scents my imagination.**

**On this cold and freezing day,  
The Russian sage does gently sway,  
And miniature roses perfume the air,  
I can see them blooming there.  
Though days are short, my vision's clear.  
And through the snow, the buds appear.**

**In my mind, clematis climbs  
And morning glories do entwine.  
Woodland phlox and scarlet pinks  
Replace the frost, if I just blink.  
My inner eye sees past the snow.  
And in my mind, my garden grows.**



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