



BLACKSTONE VALLEY GARDENERS

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Add to your "FAVORITES" list

October 2006

Volume XII - No 7

OCTOBER MEETING

THURSDAY October 12
7:00 PM at Lydia Taft House

"Shrubs and Trees in Autumn"

Henry Schmidt

Mr. Schmidt, of Weston Nurseries in Hopkinton, MA, brings his expertise and enthusiasm to bear on the topic of "the big guys of the garden."

THANK YOU

For September Snacks

Linda Brown – Leni Carroll – Janice Cooper
Barbara Griffiths – Cissy Henderson – Midge Wyman

Looking Forward To October Treats From

Anita Droby – Penny Nelson – Pat Stellato



WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Cathy Berdowicz, 1355 Providence Rd, Whitinsville MA 01588
508-234-5254

Anita Droby, 7 Oak St, Uxbridge MA 01569
508-278-9936

Deb Labonte, 21 Beach St, Northbridge MA 01534
508-234-9975

Penny Nelson, 10 Lincoln Ct, Uxbridge MA 01569
508-779-0032

Linda Traintor, 110 Brookside Dr, Uxbridge MA 01569
508-278-3321

TREKS

Tuesday, October 10 (with a rain date for Friday, October 13th – oooooooh!); a visit to The Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme, Ct. (www.flogris.org) where the current exhibit is Connecticut Landscapes Through the Eyes of Venture Smith, and the historic gardens are a late-season delight. Depart Foxfire Farm, 8:30 am (admission \$8/Srs.\$7/website discount coupon); lunch Dutch treat at the Griswold Inn (aaaah). Indicate interest to Ann Hanscom ASAP.



DOOR PRIZES

If anyone has anything special they would like to donate as a door prize at one of our regular meetings, please give Leni Carroll a call at 508-529-3465.

We don't want too many things at once as it is time consuming drawing all the tickets, but members seem to enjoy plants, nice plant pots or vases, garden tools, etc.

MEMBERSHIP BOOKLETS

The membership books are ready and will be at the membership table at the next few meetings. Don't forget to pick yours up!



NEW MEMBERS TEA

The Executive Board sponsored a tea for new members of the Blackstone Valley Gardeners on Thursday, October 5th, at Linda Hamm's home in Upton. 13 invitations were sent out and the Board enjoyed greeting the newcomers and making them feel an essential and welcome part of our group.



PLAQUE AT TRI-RIVER GARDEN

As we go to press on this newsletter, the remembrance plaque should be installed at the Tri-River Health Center garden, which was planted and is cared for by Ann Hanscom and members of the club. This granite stone and bronze plaque is essentially in memory of Ruth Voss, who donated the land from the Voss Farm (Riverbend Farm) to Tri-River so they could build the Health Center. The plaque can be found near the lilac tree: lilac being Ruth's favorite plant! The Voss family contributed most of the money; the balance came from Club funds. Ann Hanscom wrote a delightful stanza about remembrance and friends for the plaque, so stop by and see this. I think you will be pleased.

SPECIAL THANKS

Michelle Phillips for the bountiful care of the BVG Garden at Tri-River



CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION

The BVG Board position of Civic Beautification chairperson is currently vacant. Duties (or should I say privileges?) of the chairperson include:

- (1) Receiving other members' suggestions for recognition of 'beautiful spots' throughout our community, and awarding Certificates of Commendation to people who have shown special effort in making our towns more beautiful.
- (2) Channeling efforts of groups who wish to undertake, or continue maintaining, civic beautification projects. Contribution to community is a foundation of our existence (and the basis for tax-exempt/non-profit status by law). It is important to our club that this position be refilled (remember, a wise chairperson knows how to delegate!). Please speak to any member of our Board of Directors if you think you can fill this spot (or nominate a friend!). C'mon membership, Cowbird up!

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SOMETHING NEW

Instead of repeating the what-to-do's (see last year's newsletters for that), We'd like to open the newsletter to members to share what they experienced in their gardens this past season.

Our own Ann Hanscom will start:

The near constant Spring rain meant cool soil until well into Summer - bad for veggies, great for weeds, but just wonderful for my Butterfly meadow! This has become the most spirit-restoring part of my farm. All I do is mow the paths and then walk, or sit in the middle of it, and watch what's going on, witnessing the life cycle of myriad creatures - butterflies, dragonflies, lightning bugs, moths, bees, spiders, birds, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals - everything! There have been close to 20 butterfly species this year (and more than I can count of birds), including a first - a hatch of Baltimore Checkerspots in July. At the moment, there has been a hatch of Monarchs who are nectaring on the asters, boltonias, and Verbena bonariensis, in preparation for their migration to Mexico. Bon voyage!

Call or email Ann Hanscom if you have something to share for November's newsletter.



NEXT MEETING

Our own Barbara Hall, now a winter resident of Florida, will share her perspective on Tropical Gardening.

