

## BVG Presents “*Prelude to Spring*” on March 27th

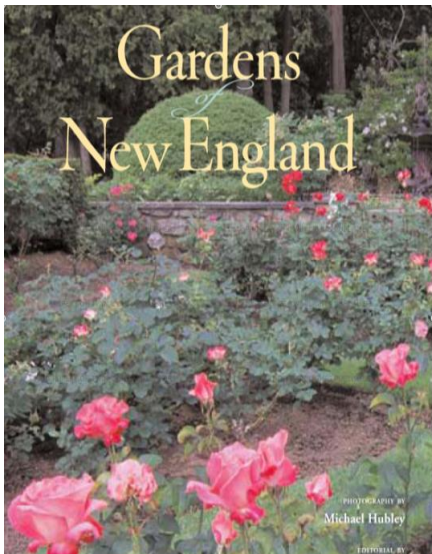


**Spring is in the Air!** On Saturday afternoon, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010, the Blackstone Valley Gardeners, a regional garden club, is sponsoring an exciting public event at the beautiful theater venue of Alternatives Unlimited, Inc. located at 50 Douglas Rd in Whitinsville, MA. If you are weary of winter and looking forward to spring, this is the event that will delight your senses and lift your spirits!

### **Dave Epstein**

The highlight of this event, “*A Prelude to Spring*” will be a presentation by Dave Epstein, a very accomplished and nationally recognized speaker with an extensive background in many aspects of gardening. A lifelong resident of New England, David has been an on-air meteorologist for 22 years; 16 of those have been at WCVB-TV in Boston. In 2006, he started Growing Wisdom.com, a site that offers weekly garden videos to help those with a love of horticulture learn new skills or improve existing ones. There are currently over 300 videos available on the site.

A gardener since the age of 10, Dave has a landscape design business called Bloomsapes, Inc. and recently authored “**Gardens of New England**”, a photography book on some of the best gardens, both public and private, in the area. Dave will be presenting a slide show and interesting insights into many of these stunning gardens and will be available to sign the book for anyone who wishes to purchase it.



In addition to the slide show, Dave will also discuss three common challenges in New England: small garden spaces, drought problems, and gardens that have little sunlight and specific plants will be suggested for these areas. One of the hottest new garden trends is “growing your

own food” and Dave will also offer expert advice on how to do it.

The afternoon will also include a flower arranging demonstration by well-known Weston Nurseries designer Henry Schmidt and a silent auction of wonderful, unique items for the home and garden donated by the talented members of the club. Numerous vendors will also have booths featuring arts and crafts related to gardening such as soap made from beeswax, stained glass flowers and insects, and all natural body lotions and cleaning supplies. Live music and delicious home made baked goods and refreshments will also be available.

The Blackstone Valley Gardeners was founded in 1995 by a group of people with a passion for gardening. A non-profit organization open to everyone in the Blackstone Valley, it has grown over the years to include over 80 members who meet monthly to enjoy an evening of educational topics that cover every aspect of gardening. An important mission of the club is community outreach, which is done in a variety of ways. In 2008 and 2009, with proceeds from public plant sales and “*The Treasures of Upton*” garden tour, Tower Hill passes were purchased for several town libraries in the Blackstone Valley so that citizens could visit the beautiful botanical gardens free of charge. In 2010, in addition to the passes, the club is proud to be sponsoring the first scholarship to be given to a student who resides in the Blackstone Valley and plans on continuing their education in the field of horticulture. To find out more information on BVG, visit the website at [www.bvgardeners.com](http://www.bvgardeners.com).

This year’s fundraiser, “*Prelude to Spring*” promises to be a delightful and educational day for all. The Silent Auction & Vendor Market will take place from noon to four P.M and is free to the public. Dave’s presentation in the theatre will start at 2:00 and continue until 3:30. Several raffle items will be drawn between 3:30 and 4. Tickets to Dave’s presentation are \$8.00 if purchased in advance and \$10.00 the day of the event. To buy tickets in advance, please send your check made payable to Blackstone Valley Gardeners to Cecelia Henderson, 7 Barbara’s Path, Upton, MA 01568 with a self-addressed stamped envelope Or...contact one of the many members of the club, chances are you know one! The club is very appreciative to our platinum sponsors, Phipps Insurance and Unibank in Upton, and also to Classic Envelope in Whitinsville. For any questions on tickets, please call 508-529-3808.