

WILLIAMSBURG BOTANICAL GARDEN

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Our Mission

To enhance the life of residents and visitors by promoting beautiful gardens for the enjoyment of plants and the environment through year-round educational and recreational programs.



Breaking News

- ✿ Plant Sale, Sept. 30, 8:00 - 4:00, pg 4
- ✿ A new shelter at the Therapy Garden, pg 5

WHAT'S BLOOMING

Inside the Garden

- ✿ Chairman's Message
- ✿ Volunteer Profile
- ✿ Therapy Garden Shelter



WBG Happenings

- ✿ Sept. 14
- ✿ Sept. 30
- ✿ Oct. 17
- ✿ Oct. 20
- ✿ Nov. 17

Join the WBG

become involved by volunteering at the garden, by supporting the organization in the community and also by making a financial contribution in support of our mission.

www.williamsburgbotanicalgarden.org



A Wedding at the Garden



Charlotte and Neil Konitzer

Under an archway owned by the bride's family, Charlotte and Neil Konitzer exchanged wedding vows with their children as attendants. Friends and relatives of the bride and groom were seated in the patio. It was a beautiful day for all in June!

Tagging Monarch Butterflies

October 20, 10:00 - 11:30

Monarch caterpillars were collected and hand-raised by Angela Cingale. Come and help her and Barb Dunbar tag and release the adult monarch butterflies into the Garden to begin their epic journey 3,000 miles to Mexico for the winter. The program is free and open to the public. For information, contact Angela Cingale 565-4712 or arcingale@cox.net.



Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition

Wednesday, October 17 from 5:00-6:30 in the Garden

Chairman's Message

Greetings,

Mother Nature has blessed us with an abundance of sunshine and rain this summer and the garden now in the seventh year of growth in Freedom Park has never looked more lush and lovely.

Williamsburg Botanical Garden is growing in other ways as well. Outreach to the community has brought many new faces to the garden which has enhanced the opportunity for growth in membership, volunteers, programs, special events and projects.

Autumn is quickly approaching and we are busy making plans for several events. The first is United Way Day of Caring September 14th. One of our projects will be building a new pavilion in the Therapy Garden. We always enjoy the opportunity to work with William and Mary students as they begin a new school term. Recently a group of MBA students visited the garden to help with chores.

On October 17th we will host our Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition in the Park. We hope you will plan to join us for an evening celebration. Our signature Monarch Butterfly Tagging Program is set for Saturday, October 20th and we will hold a plant sale the same day.

As we work to grow the organization~WE NEED YOUR HELP! We are in the process of actively recruiting volunteers to serve on committees~Membership, Fundraising, Programs and Special Events. If you have an interest in helping please call: 757-880-1893 or send an e-mail to our webmaster:dfbanks@earthlink.net.

We look forward to autumn's cooler temperatures, beautiful colors, the glorious bounty of nature and seeing you in the garden.

Warm wishes,

Karen A. Jamison
Karen



The Monarchs are coming!
October 20 at the Garden—be there!

Volunteer Profile

Al Davidoff

Since moving here from New Jersey several years ago, Al has adopted the Garden. With extensive landscaping experience, his presence is seen throughout. He joined the Friday morning work crew, and quickly became an independent worker. Seeing the need for someone to oversee the Daffodil Ring, Al weeded, mulched, planted and replanted daffodil bulbs to fill empty spots.

He developed a relationship with Brent and Becky Heath and started a bulb garden in the area vacated by the tree destroyed by Hurricane Irene. Bags and baskets of bulbs were donated by the Heaths, and Al landscaped the areas, designed paths, and planted. Early spring showed the results of his work with blooming leucojums, hyacinths, crocuses, oriental lilies, alliums and amaryllis bulbs. Brent Heath visited the Garden and was very impressed.

and Norge, and brought many loads of potted plants to the Garden for the Plant Sale. And throughout the seasons, Al creates pots of blooming flowers and places them in the patio region. Thanks, Al, for all your hard work and loving care of the Garden—you are truly irreplaceable!



But that's not all! Al filled many more pots with flowering bulbs and helped sell them at the spring plant sale. Al personally contacted vendors in Gloucester, New Kent,



Mike by his Iris growing area in the Powhatan section of Richmond



Mike's Iris Garden

Mike Lockatell of Roots and Blooms grows gorgeous reblooming bearded irises, herbaceous peonies and companion perennials. He has established a reblooming Iris trial garden near the Therapy Garden and at another site in Virginia, to provide data on how the plants adapt to the micro-climates in the Williamsburg area. The peonies in the Therapy Garden and in the Heirloom Garden were also donated by Mike, who also maintains them several times a month.



Where is Donna?



Can you find Donna Ware in the overgrown Wetlands Garden? She really needs some help coping with all the vegetation that has been encouraged to grow—come join her and the Friday Morning Work Crew 8-11 as they weed, prune, water and groom sections of the Garden. All are welcome! Every week, summer or winter!

Call 564-4494
for more information.

Garden Workers



Curtis Blunt (on left) often with his son Damien Bailey (on right) have been working every Sunday morning since April in the Garden. Curtis has over twenty years in the landscape and grounds maintenance business and brings his own tools with him. We are very grateful to Curtis and Damien for all their work in keeping the Garden looking good for visitors!

Photo: Joanne Chapman

Thank You

Thank you to Vince Rasper for donating 4 chairs, a bench and a small table to the garden. Vince also leads tours in the Garden with the Master Gardener team.



Shed Decorations

Have you noticed the seasonal flags hanging on the shed? They were purchased from a gift certificate from the Williamsburg Outlet Mall, earned by Angela Cingale, Charlie Martino and Joanne Chapman for a Christmas tree they decorated that received the most votes. Joanne recently donated the grapevine butterfly just below the flag.

A New Park Coordinator!

Marlie Smith has been on the job for the past several months as Coordinator at Freedom Park. A graduate of Old Dominion University, she has 7 years' experience as an outdoor educator, working with at-risk children and camps, and is an avid mountain biker. Marlie is responsible for the Freedom Park NOW newsletter—email her to receive a copy: Marlie.Smith@Jamescitycountyva.gov.



Wildflower of the Month September 2012

Beechdrops *Epifagus virginiana*

By Helen Hamilton, past-president of the John Clayton Chapter, VNPS

This interesting little plant is parasitic on the roots of beech trees where it grows and receives nourishment. Growing 6-18" tall, the many-branched stems are pale brown, usually with fine brown-purple lines. Lacking chlorophyll, the leaves are represented by dry, brownish scales. Near the top of the stem are ½" long, tubular white flowers, delicately marked with brown-purple stripes. The flowers lower on the stem are tiny and bud-like –never opening, but self-fertilizing and producing abundant seeds. Fruit is a small ¼" brown capsule. Dried stalks often persist under the trees throughout the winter and into spring.

Beechdrops grows in dry woods, under beech trees in every county of Virginia,

flowering from September through November. The range extends from Quebec and Nova Scotia to Wisconsin, and south to Florida and Louisiana.

The plant is well-named, *Epifagus* derived from the Greek *epi*, meaning "upon," and *phagos*, "the beech." A tea made from the fresh plant was once used for diarrhea, dysentery, mouth sores and cold sores. Also known as "cancer root," the plant was used in folk medicine as a cancer remedy, but recent tests for antitumor activity proved negative. For more information about native plants visit www.claytonvnps.org.



Photo: Beechdrops (*Epifagus virginiana*) taken by Phillip Merritt



Got a camera? Like to write?

The Publicity Committee (me!) needs some assistance—someone to photograph WBG plants and events, write copy for publicity notices, create flyers, post on Facebook, etc. Contact Helen Hamilton at helen48@cox.net or 564 4494.



Where are you? Can you identify this location in the Garden?

At the August 23rd, the last session of Therapeutic Thursdays at the garden and the Interpretive Center, the participants from a local NPO group, presented Angela Cingale with signed Thank You card for WBG and 2 beautifully painted stepping stones with butterflies. They were very heavy and Marlee brought the stones over to the Therapy Garden so everyone can enjoy their designs. They met the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month and had discussions on soil, herbs, vegetables, garden tools, houseplants and other garden essentials. A snack was made with the "Herb of the Day" and a few crafts were made during the sessions with this program conducted by the James City County Williamsburg Master Gardeners and 2 WBG volunteers. They also enjoyed picking vegetables and brought some to Grove Christian Outreach Center while the remainder was cooked on Friday at their facilities. Angela also brought some adult butterflies and chrysalis for them to enjoy.

Help!

Membership dues cover only part of the cost of running the Garden. We need someone to organize Fundraising events. A lot of ideas are out there, but the WBG Board needs a chairman.

Call Karen Jamison 880-1893

Fall Plant Sale!

September 30, 8:00 - 4:00

Come to the Garden for mums, shrubs, perennials, and potted bulbs. Al Davidoff has prepared pots of Elephant Ears, Caladiums, Eucomis, Agapanthus, and many others. The spring and fall plant sale are a fundraiser for the Garden.



New gardens for re-blooming irises and bulbs

On August 6 WBG board members met at the Garden to select the location and layout of the shelter for the Therapy Garden. The shelter was designed by Carlton Abbott and Partners, P.C., with advice from Angela. First year MBA students from the College of William and Mary joined Al Brenick to begin construction of the shelter.



▲ Al Brenick, Peggy Krapf, Angela Cingale, Charlie Martino, and Board Chairman Karen Jamison, and Joanne Chapman (not shown)



▲ Anshul Agarwal and Sinkhujah Kalimuthu really enjoyed learning to use electrical hand tools repairing the picnic tables.



▲ Carlton Abbott and Partners, P.C.



The Bulb Garden thrives!



Amaryllis ▶



▲ Hyacinths



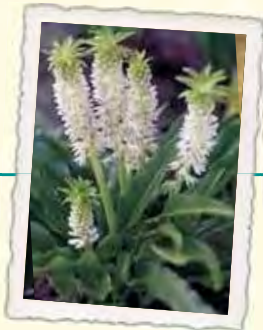
▲ Spring



▲ Late Summer

The Savvy Gardener

The May program featured Dennis Wool and other Master Gardeners, explaining to interested visitors how to build rain barrels, a composter, and a self-watering container. Barrels and bins were available for sale.



▲ Eucomis





Williamsburg Botanical Garden

P.O. Box 1577
Williamsburg, VA 23187

FIRST CLASS MAIL
US POSTAGE
PAID
WILLIAMSBURG, VA
PERMIT NO. 249

Board of Directors

Karen Jamison, *Chair*
Charlie Martino, *Vice Chair*
Kathy Coomer, *Secretary*
Dave Banks, *Treasurer*
Al Brenick
Joanne Chapman
Angela Cingale
Helen Hamilton
Bob Harris
Peggy Krapf
Jeff Schell
Ike Sisane
Geoff Suter

Advisory Board

Don Buma
Dustin DeVore
John Green
Brent and Becky Heath
Andrew Koenig
Martin Mathes
Frank Robinson
Andre Viette
Donna Ware
Marshall Warner
Scott Whyte

www.williamsburgbotanicalgarden.org

Keep up with the
garden Online!

Enlightening Articles
Instructive Tips
Captivating Photos



Find us on
Facebook

WBG Happenings



3rd Saturday of every month
from February thru November.
All programs start at
10:00 – 11:30 a.m. (except for June)
Children 5-15 yrs old
The WBG does not charge for Walk
and Talk events.
All persons will be admitted **FREE**

WBG Memberships Due January 1, 2013

A new board policy is in place, setting the membership renewal date at the start of each new calendar year. Included in this newsletter is a membership/donation form. If you have questions, please contact: Dave Banks, Treasurer at dibanks@earthlink.net or Karen Jamison, Chairwoman at karenajamison@cox.net.

PLANTS FOR SALE!

"To have butterflies, we must

make butterflies"

Host plants for the Monarchs will be

available at the Plant Sale, and at the

Monarch Program October 20, 10:00 - 11:30

Save The Date!

Swamp Milkweed
with butterfly



Fungus Among Us Program

10:00 AM



Monarch Program at the
Garden 10:00 AM



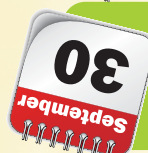
ANNUAL MEETING

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM



WBG Plant Sale

8:00 AM



United Way of Caring
Community volunteers helped with
garden projects.



Join the WBG

Send us a check, or join online at our website.
Annual Memberships
Student \$10, Individual \$25, Family \$45,
Civic \$150, Corporate \$250, Lifetime \$2,000