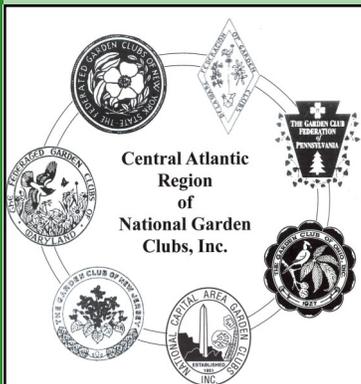


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Shirley Nicolai , NGC President
with Jeanne T. Nelson, C.A.R.
Director

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The Regional Review

Volume 1, Issue 4

April 1, 2012

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

GREETINGS

How quickly time flies when you are having fun! It has been a whirlwind of travel since the new year. The Winter Board Meeting of NGC held in Albuquerque, NM, with just the Executive Committee, gave us a real opportunity to get to know each other. It was both fun and interesting work for all. A special thanks to the President of New Mexico, her officers and all the garden clubs, for going over the top with their welcome and many gifts. My cacti are doing beautifully!

This venue gave many of us from the coastline states a stark reminder of how important water is to our very existence. Sitting with other Regional Directors and sharing what is happening in each region made us more aware of our many similarities as well as the many differences, due to distance between clubs and states and growing zones.

Kudos to The Garden Club of New Jersey for their yearly Standard Flower Show, part of The New Jersey Flower & Garden Show, and their opportunity to present the newly established "Community Gardens" Grants to twenty garden clubs. Go to the C.A.R. website to see a few of the winning garden clubs' endeavors. www.ngcCAR.org

It was a privilege to be invited to judge the Philadelphia Flower Show. Our own Joy Ericson has played an integral part in sponsoring the idea of NGC judges being including in this auspicious event.

The coming year will see C.A.R. stressing "HOME" in our theme.... "Gardening with Pride, **Honoring Home**, Community & Country". Let's encourage our members to sponsor our next store neighbors, streets and avenues to have garden contests. With categories of front yards, back yards, pocket gardens, window boxes, porches and displays of container gardening, no matter how large or small. Let's let the community know how greening a neighborhood can revitalize our gardening friends, and place winning signs to show our appreciation. Invite the local newspaper to photograph the winners.

Hope you are all making travel arrangements to shuffle off to Buffalo for the fabulous Flower Show that the members of C.A.R. Ohio are planning. "Match the Music" is a night of fun and music for the Life Member Banquet. It will be great entertainment to see and enjoy "Two Guys with a Bucket of Flowers" doing fabulous designs. Also, be there to meet and greet our very own National President, Shirley Nicolai.

Gardening with Pride, Honoring Home, Community and Country



Jeanne T. Nelson

jtnelson@optonline.net

Arboriculture - New Cultivars – Trees



Gotti Kelley
cryptomera@aol.com

Breeding plants is a complex and time consuming process. A tree can take decades from initial cross to marketing. Scientists are continuously looking to produce durable hardy specimens that will stand up to stress. Plants need to better adapt to compacted soils, pollution, drought, diseases and pests that travel the world as easily as humans do. Issues such as cold hardiness and invasiveness are to be considered as well as producing smaller cultivars to better fit our smaller spaces. Here are some cultivars that have travelled this long road:

American Yellowwood

Cladrasti kentukea (lutea)

Rosea ‘Perkin’s Pink’

A special rare pink flowered form – a new twist on a wonderful native tree. White clusters of fragrant wisteria-like flowers appear in early June. Autumn foliage is a mix of soft yellow, gold and orange. Winter interest features attractive light grey bark. A specimen tree! Full sun, well drained soil, not particular about ph. 30 – 50’ tall. Zone 4 to 8



American Hornbeam (Musclewood)

Carpinus caroliniana

‘Ball ‘O Fire” and ‘Firespire’

The subtle flowers of this North American native are often overlooked. Fruit adds to winter interest, ideal for songbirds. It is a slow growing tree, tolerant of heavy shade and can be used in both small and large landscapes. It shows outstanding fall color and growth habit. This native tree grows 30 – 45’ tall, prefers moist soil, ideally suited to bottomlands, near lakes or streams. A shade tolerant, small-scale tree. Zone 3 to 9



Dawn Redwood ‘Gold Rush’

Metasequoia glyptostoboides

Bright chartreuse-yellow fern-like foliage emerges in spring and changes to a golden yellow. in summer and orange-brown in the fall.

Its interesting bark with deep fissures gives great winter interest. Grows to 75', pyramidal shape, requires full sun.

Zone 5 – 10.

Weeping Alaskan Cedar



Chamaecyparis nootkatensis 'Pendula'

A graceful weeping top and pendulous branches cascade from an upright central trunk to create a remarkable sculptural landscape specimen. Grows to 30' with a light green foliage.

Its narrow conical shape fits well into the landscape. Hardy to zone 4



Japanese Larch

Larix Kaempferi/Leptolepis

An elegant, slender, deciduous ornamental growing to 70'.

Its soft, lacelike needles are pale bright blue-green throughout spring and summer. The foliage turns bright yellow in fall making this beautiful tree distinguishable from a distance. Full sun, prefers moist acidic, well-drained soil. Excellent as a specimen tree. Hardy to zone 4



Container Gardening: 250 Design Ideas & Step-by-Step Techniques

By Editors and Contributors of *Fine Gardening*

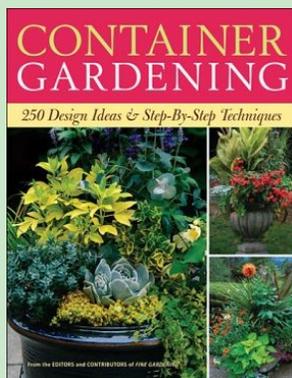
236 pages in paperback Published by The Taunton Press

Container Gardening is a very colorful and illustrated book on different areas of your property for container-grown plants. *Fine Gardening* Magazine accumulated articles to compose this book with step-by-step techniques in planting and caring for container plants in various localities and conditions. As you "leaf through" this book, you will obtain many ideas to make your own personal mini-garden containers. Helpful hints on focal points, four season planting, window boxes, water gardens, perennials, foliage plants, patio vegetables, bulbs, sun-worshiping plants versus water-loving plants, roses, bulbs, maintenance, growing plants from tip cuttings, soil, hanging baskets and many more tips and ideas.

Elise Dougan

Book Review

d.dougan@sbcglobal.net



MATCH THE MUSIC



NFA has been invited to join the Life Member Banquet at the National Convention. The banquet will held in Buffalo, NY, on Thursday, May 17, 2012 at the Adam's Mark Hotel.

Our NFA members will be showing off their floral design expertise with a fun-filled evening where individual designs will be integrated with the music of their favorite American Composers.

Tony Todesco and David Robson will engage on stage in a friendly “competition” to correlate a design with a song from the repertoire of their chosen composers. We are sure to enjoy their back and forth banter.

Individual National Flower Arrangers will describe their pedestal creations interpreting the musical scores of American Composers. These pedestal extravaganzas will be displayed around the ballroom for all to view.

Tony is a creator of new floral art designs; floral shop owner; invited world traveler who does floral design programs that are innovative, eye popping and always fun with a twist. Tony's designs play a major part in the “Designing by Types” book used by many floral judges and designers.

David Robson, a well known horticulturist and teacher at the University of Illinois Ext. has agreed to be the hidden designer in our midst. What a delight to discover David's talent and his willingness to share with all of us his design interpretations of one of his favorite musicians.



Members of the National Flower Arrangers group invite everyone to join us in celebrating the induction of “NEW” LIFE MEMBERS with a Floral/Musical tribute to some of our most noted song writers and their musical scores.

See if you can **MATCH THE MUSIC**, enjoy the floral displays and listen to the piano accompaniment of the chosen songs. This Life Member Banquet is open to all attendees at the National Convention. Life Members and members of NFA get a special Dinner price of \$55.00. A registration form for the National Convention is available at www.gardenclub.org or found in THE NATIONAL GARDENER.

Jeanne T. Nelson
Program Chairman for Life Member Banquet of the National Convention



The Gardeners Gentle Dove



Bruce Crawford
Director Rutgers
Gardens

Like people, every plant has a story to tell. Sometimes the stories are thrilling, sometimes funny and yet at other times romantic but, there is always a story. Unfortunately, plants are typically not very good at relaying their story. Many a time I have stood in front of a plant with a phenomenal tale to tell, only to walk away none the wiser. The Dove Tree is one such plant. There is a beautiful specimen at Rutgers Gardens which I have admired for years; its flowers, form and bark are both interesting and attractive. However, it never mentioned its interesting and long tale of how it was introduced into gardens and commercial horticulture!

Dove Tree is botanically named *Davidia involucrata*. The genus name honors Father Armand David (1826-1900), a French missionary who was also an avid naturalist, possessing an interest in both plants and animals. Among several hundred ‘discoveries’ he found in China, David was the first European to see and describe Panda Bears and the Dove Tree. The tree was first found near the Tibetan border of China with the first botanical description published in 1871 by Dr. Henri Ernest Baillon, who dedicated the genus name to its discoverer. However, he described the plant from dried specimens, as there was not a living plant in Europe. Many years later, the Scottish doctor and botanist Augustine Henry (1857-1930) travelled to the then remote village of Ichang in Hubei Province in search of medicinal plants. During his expeditions, he found a single specimen of *Davidia* in 1887, but the samples and seed of the plant were lost in route back to Europe. Wishing to be the first to have this elusive plant, the James Veitch and Sons Nursery hired Ernst H. Wilson (1876-1930) to find the tree that Henry had seen and to send back seed. After a long and arduous journey, Wilson arrived at the site of Henry’s tree, only to find a stump. Evidently, some members in the community found the lumber better suited for building a home and not for ornamental purposes! Undaunted, Wilson continued his trip, eventually finding more specimens near the location where David first discovered the plant. The seed finally arrived back on English soil in April, 1902. Interestingly, the story does not end here, since this turned out to not be the first seed to reach Europe. In 1897, unbeknownst to Veitch, the French missionary and botanist Père Farges (1844-1912) sent back seed from China to Maurice L. de Vilmorin, a wealthy landowner in France. Of the 37 seeds he sent back, one reluctantly germinated in June of 1899, the same time that Wilson was just arriving on Chinese soil! This seedling of Vilmorin had pubescent or lanate foliage and was distinctly different from the plants that Wilson brought back, which had smooth foliage. The plant was given the varietal status of var. *Vilmoriniana* in recognition of this fuzzy foliage. There has been much debate as to whether or not this plant is really worthy of variety status. Wilson thought the two forms were unique, but also noted that the two forms comingled in their native populations. Today, this variety is a bit more common than the forms with glabrous leaves and it also appears to be slightly hardier, tolerating zone 5 winters as opposed to zone 6 for the other form.

With the plant finally planted on European soil, was the hunt and the money spent a worthwhile investment? In my humble opinion, yes! For most, the main interest is the unique flowers that the plant displays in May. The species epithet of *involucrata* refers to *involucre*, which is a flower with one or more bracts that are located closely behind the flower. For *Davidia*, the flower is subtended by two large white bracts of unequal size.

Continued on Page 6



It is not uncommon for the larger of the two bracts to reach 7” long and 4” wide, while the smaller is 3-4” and 2” wide. From a distance, the dangling bracts literally give the appearance of white Doves perched upon the Tree. For other individuals, the bracts give the appearance of white handkerchiefs dangling from the branches, giving rise to the other common name of Handkerchief Tree. Within the two bracts is a ¾” sphere of red tipped anthers, looking all very much like a very spiky little sputnik. Often, the flowers become overlooked on the tree, since their appearance coincides with the unfurling of the leaves. However, when they fall and carpet the ground, the flowers add a dramatically new dimension to the garden – an often overlooked attribute that really

brightens the garden floor. The biggest issue with the flowers is waiting for the tree to mature to the age of flowering. Often, the gardener will wait 10 years or longer before flowering begins. Recently, a new selection came on the market named ‘Sonoma’ which blooms in youth and is well worth seeking out.

The foliage of *Davidia* is attractively coarse in texture and dark green with a purple blush when unfurling. There is no fall color of note, but the platy orange bark provides an attractive winter detail, especially if there is an evergreen background. Many gardeners consider *Davidia* to be a small tree, but it can reach 50’ and greater with time. In youth it is distinctly pyramidal in shape, but with age the crown becomes rounded. For me, its form and bark are reason enough to grow this plant! Provide the plant with a well drained, humus rich soil in full sun or light shade and the plant will reward you with upwards of 3’ of growth per year when young. Although some may think that 10 or more years to flowering is a reason to avoid this plant, its graceful habit, warm bark and interesting stories are all very compelling reasons why more gardeners should invite this beautiful dove into their garden.



Price Increase
Blue Star Markers
Effective May 1, 2012-May 2014



- ◆ Memorial & Highway Markers \$1,350 per
- ◆ Byway Plaques \$450 per
- ◆ Pricing includes a 7 Foot post and delivery
** Add \$50 for highway & memorial orders
- ◆ Refurbish price increases by \$50 to \$80 per marker
- ◆ Post costs remain at \$325 per

Mary Warshauer
oonie56@aol.com

NGC Chairman
Blue Star Memorial





The Maryland Daffodil Society cordially invites you to attend the prestigious National Convention of the American Daffodil Society this year! Hosting ADS 2012 is truly exciting and an honor to undertake, and certainly a special event for Maryland... you won't want to miss it!

April 20-22, 2012, in Towson, MD, **“Blooms, Bay and Beyond”** Daffodil Show will feature Horticulture, Design and Photography. Show Chairs Joan Bender and Nicki Schwab are delighted to showcase the newly created class named, “Classics” (standard daffodils registered between 1940-1969 inclusive). Nor can both wait for the final bloom count as we welcome exhibitors from all over the USA and abroad. The MDS show is often described as a ‘sea of daffodils’; this year we anticipate ‘an ocean of daffodils!’ “Maryland By Design,” (Chair Linda Masland), will feature individual and group floral designers interpreting photographs of famous state landmarks and activities. Photography, (Chair Joanne Diamond), will spotlight Maryland people and places such as “Star Spangled Still Life” and “Edgar Allen Poeticus” (photograph of a Division 9 daffodil). Convention highlights are a boutique, tours, lectures and an awards dinner, organized by Chair Julie Minch.

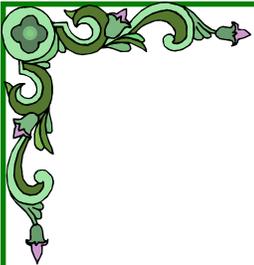
MDS leaders and garden club members are working hard to create this spectacular event which will truly announce Spring and which is appealing to all ages. Please plan to attend, and even exhibit! *This show replaces the annual Maryland Daffodil Society Show at the Shops at Kenilworth. Please visit us online for Convention registration, show specifics and volunteer opportunities.*

Meredith McDonagh

President Maryland Daffodil Society

**Friday April 20 (2:00-5:00PM) & Saturday April 21 (9:00AM-5:00PM), 2012,
at Sheraton Baltimore North, 903 Dulaney Valley Road, Towson, MD 21204**

Open to Public, Free of Charge with Free Parking!



Central Atlantic Region Life Membership

If you are looking for an excellent way to honor a member who has made a special contribution to your club, district or state, or just to treat yourself, purchase a C.A.R. Life Membership. C.A.R. Life Membership is the perfect gift for those members who already have State and National Life Memberships.

The cost is \$50 and the money goes directly to C.A.R. Scholarship Fund to be awarded annually to a deserving college student who plans to /or is presently majoring in the study of Horticulture, Botany, Plant Pathology, Conservation, Environmental Planning and Design, Landscape Design, Forestry or other related subjects. These students are nominated by the seven states within the Central Atlantic Region.

As a C.A.R. Life Member, you will receive a note of appreciation from the C.A.R. Life Member Chairman, C.A.R. Life Member Certificate, C.A.R. Life Member membership card, recognition at C.A.R. Regional Meeting, priority seating at one function during C.A.R. Regional Meeting and lifetime listing of your name on the C.A.R. Directory of Life Members.

Those members who purchase a C.A.R. Life Membership by September 30, 2013, will be granted **Charter Membership** status. Charter members will be recognized with a special Certificate of Membership and unique recognition on the C.A.R. Life Member listing.

If you wish to become a C.A.R. Life Member or give a C.A.R. Life Membership to honor someone else, please complete the C.A.R. Life Membership Application located on the C.A.R. website. Send the completed application with a check for \$50, made payable to Central Atlantic Region, to C.A.R. Life Member Chairman, Babs Mc Clendon. C.A.R. Life Membership Application can be found on C.A.R. website, www.ngcCAR.org, or in this issue of “**The Regional Review**” on page 9. For more information, please contact Babs Mc Clendon, 3700 Riverwood Court, Alexandria, VA 22309-2719, 703-360-0920 or email babsm@erols.com.

Please note: According to IRS Ruling, the \$50 cost of your C.A.R. Life Membership can be used as a charitable deduction for tax purposes.

BECOME A CHARTER MEMBER!
Honor a special garden club member!



Central Atlantic Region

C.A.R. Regional Director
Jeanne T. Nelson

C.A.R. Life Membership Chairman
Babs McClendon

Central Atlantic Region Life Membership

LM Number _____

To be added by C.A.R. Chairman

APPLICATION FORM

State Garden Club _____

Date _____

Name of Applicant _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Member of _____ Club

Given by _____

Presentation Date _____

If a gift or surprise, send to: Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

C.A.R. LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$50.00

Make check payable to **Central Atlantic Region** and mail with this form to the C.A.R. Life Membership Chairman.
Please allow 1 month for processing.

Babs McClendon
3700 Riverwood Court
Alexandria, VA 22309-2719
Email: babsm@erols.com
703-360-0920

“Water for Southern Sudan” - www.waterforsudan.org

2012-2013 C.A.R. Project

Water for Southern Sudan, Inc., increases the quality of life and health of families in Southern Sudan by drilling wells to provide fresh, safe potable water.

World Gardening continues to be an important program for all garden clubs across our region. Our members have always been strong supporters of this endeavor. We, as a group, have the ability to help make lives better for the less fortunate.

Although this chairman has begun accepting donations, the rate of donations being sent to support this endeavor has been low. It has been a trickle where we need a river. Some states have not yet been heard from. Let's give this project 100% support!

Let's put our heart's warmth into our monetary sharing. Even a modest contribution can do much where money is scarce. Our worldwide future depends on us. Think about it, we actually dispose of more in food and clothing than some third world countries have in a lifetime. Let's band together to help those who do not have the resources to help themselves. All state presidents have been given an informational brochure and a DVD to be shared with their garden clubs. "Passing the hat" at a meeting in an excellent way to generate donations.

Everyday hundreds of thousands of people in Sudan and greater East Africa are forced to drink unsanitary water for their very survival. Water that they have spent hours walking to obtain! Water that is contaminated with parasites and Cholera bacteria. Help us to help them dig new water wells in close proximity to their communities and then be able to drink fresh, safe water.

Marcia Becker-World Gardening
601 Columbia Avenue
Lancaster, New York 14086-1239
marshmelo601@yahoo.com





2012 CENTRAL ATLANTIC CONFERENCE "Cleveland Rocks"

Hosted by GARDEN CLUB OF OHIO, INC.

Sunday, October 28 - Tuesday October 30, 2012

This Registration Form available also at C.A.R. web site Print and mail with your check.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

NAME: _____
 STREET ADDRESS _____
 CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____
 E-MAIL (for confirmation) _____

PLEASE STATE DIETARY RESTRICTIONS _____

CREDENTIALS, VOTING, AND PROTOCOL (please check all that apply):

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Club Member | <input type="checkbox"/> NGC President or Representative | <input type="checkbox"/> State President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guest/Spouse | <input type="checkbox"/> C.A.R. Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Former State President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Life Member | <input type="checkbox"/> Former C.A.R. Director | <input type="checkbox"/> V.P. - Representing State President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NGC Lr | <input type="checkbox"/> C.A.R. Chairman/Co-Chairman | |

TOTAL PACKAGE Post marked by September 30, 2012 \$200 _____
 TOTAL PACKAGE Postmarked after October 1, 2012 \$210 _____

PART-TIME PACKAGE Postmarked by September 30, 2012

Monday Banquet & Program	\$ 75 _____
Tuesday Luncheon & Program	\$ 55 _____
Tuesday Banquet & Program	\$ 75 _____

PART-TIME PACKAGE Postmarked after October 1, 2012

Monday Banquet & Program	\$ 85 _____
Tuesday Luncheon & Program	\$ 65 _____
Tuesday Banquet & Program	\$ 85 _____

PARTIAL PLAN REGISTRATION FOR GCO MEMBERS ONLY:

Tuesday Luncheon & Program	\$ 45 _____
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REGISTRATION AND CONFERENCE. Registration fee of \$25 included in Full and Part-Time Packages. Spouses and guests are welcome to register with separate registration form for all conference meals, tours, and seminars, but must include all registration fees. Open seating at all meals and seminars. Please indicate if you will attend one or more seminars offered.

Embassy Suites, 5800 Rockside Woods Blvd., Independence OH offers a Complimentary Breakfast for hotel registered guests, as well as complimentary hospitality refreshments at 5:00pm. Hotel reservations by telephone: 800-362-2779 by September 30, 2012 using "C.A.R." as group name. Limited number of rooms available at \$109 + Tax. Free parking on site. *Hotel cancelations subject to hotel policy.*

TOUR \$ 45 _____
 Narrated bus trip with stops at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, Rockefeller Park Greenhouse and Cultural Gardens. Lunch in Little Italy on your own at Local Restaurant. Tour continues with visit to Cleveland Botanical Gardens. All entry fees included. Limited space available, please make reservations early.

WORKSHOPS: "Through the Eyes of an Artist - Pablo Picasso" will attend ___
 "Growing Orchids" - Edgar Stehli will attend ___

No walk in registrations will be accepted. No e-mail registrations or telephone registrations accepted. No refunds after October 1, 2012. Cancelations made by September 30, 2012 will be refunded after a deduction of \$25

Please consider being a Patron: Gold \$10-\$25 \$ _____
 Platinum \$25 - \$50 \$ _____
 Double Platinum \$50 + \$ _____ **TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____**

Make check payable to: OHIO C.A.R. 2012

Mail your check & registration form to: Kathy Habib, 3490 Mark Drive, Broadview Hts., Ohio 44147

Questions: barbokleson@att.net sjbasista2@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY GARDENING

Last October 5, the United States Department of Agriculture announced that the state of New Jersey would receive a Specialty Crop Block Grant worth almost \$800,000. Most of New Jersey's agriculture falls into the specialty crop category that account for \$832.7 million in sales annually in the Garden State.

The Grant was to be distributed among 20 initiatives and one of those initiatives was for the Garden Club of New Jersey to develop outreach and education programs. GCNJ received \$9,300 as their share of the Block Grant. A grant program application and criteria for attaining a mini-grant were established by Jeannie Geremia, GCNJ Community Garden Chair and her committee. The GCNJ Community Garden Grant Program Application provided up to \$500 for a garden club-sponsored community garden (new or existing) or for garden education days held in public venues. It was hoped that the programs developed would work with local New Jersey agriculture in promoting nutrition, taste and health benefits of growing/consuming freshly harvested foods and to emphasize the "Jersey Fresh/Jersey Grown" Project of the NJ Department of Agriculture.



Jeannie Geremia

Twenty mini-grants were given out on Sunday, February 19, at the GCNJ Flower Show. The recipients included the Keyport Garden Club for a garden education day called "Keyport Garden Walk"; the Garden Club of New Jersey for their second year of partnering with Colonial Nursery in Lincroft, NJ for "Garden Thyme", a garden education day; the Moorestown Garden Club for expansion of their community garden featuring "intergenerational gardeners"; Terra Nova Garden Club for their ongoing community garden done by high school students—G-Arden Unit and the Garden Club R.F.D. for the club's ongoing community garden with multigenerational blind citizens at Camp Happiness.

Maybe this can be duplicated in other states! Jeannie Geremia is Chairman of Community Gardening for C.A.R. as well as her position in New Jersey.



Garden Smarts

Not only are gardeners happier, but they might be smarter, suggests a new study from the Sage Colleges in Troy, New York. In 2007, United Kingdom researchers linked that happy feeling gardeners have after they've been digging in the dirt to a little soil organism called *Mycobacterium vaccae*, which decreases anxiety and increases serotonin, the "happy hormone." The same common soil bacterium has now been found to increase learning ability.

A Message from the C.A.R. Scholarship Chairman

I love garden club, as you must already know, and have been an active member of my local club for 40 years, happy to have been a part of everything that my club has accomplished during those years, no matter how large or small the accomplishment.

On the larger stage, I'm proud of the part we have played in the accomplishments of our state federation. And to go a step further, I'm proud to have had some small part of the good that the Central Atlantic Region and the National Garden Club have done. I'm proud!

We can all be proud of our SCHOLARSHIP, a major focus of our organization. It would be lovely to go back through the years and tally how much our Region has given to deserving students, not to mention what individual states and local clubs have given—plus what NGC has given! How could we ever measure the benefit that our SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM has been to our communities? How many horticulturists, scientists, landscapers, plant researchers, teachers, etc. have been helped to achieve their goals with the help of scholarship funds from garden club members?

I hope that YOU, too, are proud of our SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM and that you will continue to make donations and to support the fundraising events that perpetuate it. Remember, making an Honorary Donation is a wonderful way to thank a special person, and a Memorial Donation is a wonderful way to remember a lost friend. (Donations may be sent to me or to our C.A.R. Treasurer, Joy Ericson.)

Angie Raitano, C.A.R. Scholarship Chairperson
74 Hillcrest Drive
Charleroi, PA 15022-2516
angie.raitano@comcast.net

Joy L. Ericson, C.A.R. Treasurer
2011 Ferndale Drive
Wilmington, DE 19971-1631
jelericson@aol.com

Woe is Us!

"Erosion" is a dirty word. The world is losing soil 10 to 40 times faster than nature can replenish it, leaving us literally dirt-poor. Ethiopia loses 2 billion tons of topsoil each year, and China 4.5 billion. Iowa lost nearly half its dirt in the past century.

Over the past four decades, a third of the earth's prime agricultural land has become too eroded to farm on. And the world's growing population needs it more than ever.

"If we still had the fertile soils we had in 1900, we'd have a far easier time feeding the world 50 years from now." says David Montgomery, author of *Dirt: The Erosion of Civilizations*.

Soil has been going downhill ever since our Neolithic ancestors began tilling the land 10,000 years ago, but dirt depletion is now accelerating, thanks to chemical fertilizers, mechanized cultivators, lack of cover crops, overgrazing and population pressures that push marginal land into cultivation. The torrential downpours that come with climate disruption exacerbate the problem, washing away topsoil and releasing soil-sequestered carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

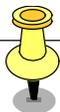
So take good care of your own little patch of earth. It took 500 years just to form the top inch of it, and it may have to produce enough food to feed you—and a few billion others.

From the November/December 2011 Issue of *Sierra Magazine*.



Do the Right Thing!





Stately News

Stately News

April 10-12 Flower Show Symposium—East Windsor, NJ

Local Registrar: Jane Bersch, 809-654-6580

Instructors: Design, Bobbi Heenan, Topic: “Creative Design”, Allied Topic “Outside the Box”; Horticulture, Sandra Joyce, Topics: “Sansevieria” and “Moon Gardening”, Allied Topic: “Judges’ Comments”

April 12-13 Landscape Design Study Program— Course 2—Cincinnati, OH Chairman: Barbara Shepard, 614-890-4627

April 13-15 Flower Show School—Course 4—Annandale, VA

Registrar: Poss Tarpley, 703-660-8661 Instructors: Horticulture, Dottie Howatt, violas and minor bulbs; FSP, Dorthy Yard; Design, Kaye Vosburgh

April 17-18 Landscape Design Study Program—Course 4—East Brunswick, NJ

State Chairman: Nancy Schmaltz, 732-741-1943

April 20-21 American Daffodil Society Convention & Show at Sheraton

Baltimore North Hotel, Towson, MD. (See page 9)

April 24-26 Flower Show School—Course 3—Bowie, MD

Registrar: Lou Whittington 410-548-2641 Instructors: Horticulture, Dottie Howatt, Ivy & minor bulbs; FSP & Design, Julia Clevett

April 24-26 Flower Show School—Course 3—Brecksvills, OH

Registrar: Patricia Monroe, 216-486-0409 Instructors: Horticulture, Dolores Stouwie, cacti, succulents & daffodils; FSP & Design, Trece Chancellor

May 1-3 Flower Show School—Course 3—Grove City, PA

Registrar: Cindy Jarzab, 814-255-2025 Instructors: Horticulture, Cathy Felton, spring bulbs & annual/biennials; FSP & Design, Julia Clevett

May 16-20 National Convention in Buffalo, NY, Adam’s Mark Hotel

May 16-17 Pre-Convention Meetings

May 18, 19 Board of Directors and General Session

May 20 Tri-Refresher/Canadian Tour

Event Chairman: Joan Peard, 716-634-1353

May 22-24 Flower Show School—Course 4—Perrysburg, OH

Registrar: Dora Herold, 419-867-9076 Instructors: Horticulture, Dolores Stouwie, hollies & vines: FSP & Design, Lynn Fronk

June 3-9 National Garden Week

June 26-28—Environmental Study School—Carlisle, PA Registrar: Sheila Croushore, 814-233-6769

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July 19-20—Flower Show Symposium—Canton, OH

Local Registrar: Deanna Stearns, 330-526-6054 **Instructors:** Design, Judy Monnot; **Topic:** “Tactile Tactics”; **Allied Topic:** “Taking a Spin of the Color Wheel”; **Horticulture,** David Robson; **Topic:** “Hydrangea and Coleus”; **Allied Topic:** “So You Think You Know the Handbook?”

August 13-15—Flower Show Symposium—Fishkill, NY

Local Registrar: Lucy Volland, 716-833-0494 **Instructors:** Design, Julia Clevett, **Topic:** “Driven to Abstraction”; **Allied Topic:** “The Broad Picture”; **Horticulture,** Dorthy Yard; **Topic:** “Fruits, Vegetables, Collections/Displays; **Allied Topic:** “So What Did the Judges Say?”

August 15-17—Environmental Study School—Carlisle, PA

Registrar: Sheila Croushore, 814-233-6769

September 26-29—National Board Meetings—Little Rock, Arkansas—The Peabody

October 2-4—Flower Show School—Course IV—Bowie, MD

Registrar: Lou Whittington 410-548-2641 **Instructors:** Horticulture, Dottie Howatt; **Design,** Julia Clevett



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