

WVNLA NEWS

West Virginia Nursery & Landscape Association, Inc. www.wvnla.org July 2010

A Super Sneak Peek

at the Winter Meeting · January 20 & 21, 2011

Bill Mills, Chairman of the Education Committee, has organized another outstanding educational series for the 2011 WVNLA Annual Winter Meeting. Speakers and subjects include;

Carol Reese, Horticulture specialist at the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service, *Sex and the Single Pistil*. Reese is a well-known gardening speaker who has appeared on the Do-It-Yourself Network. She also writes a weekly garden and nature column for the Jackson Sun in TN, is a columnist for Horticulture Magazine, and contributes to other garden magazines.

She thinks it is always good to talk to gardeners because there is never a criminal in the crowd. Well, except for those cuttings you took at the botanical gardens you visited.

Dr. Laura Deeter, ATI Ohio State University *Bringing Your Perennials up Right*

Are you the parents of unruly toddlers, aggressive or lazy teenagers, or are your babies closer to the middle age and just aren't the same anymore? Perhaps they simply aren't living up to their full potential. Learn how to make your perennial babies work for you! Laura will provide a fun and lively romp through perennial maintenance!

Rick Lewandowski, Director of the Mt. Cuba Center, Delaware
Nature's Secrets, the Beauty of Natives ↗

Tidbits, Updates, Etc.

• **WVNLA Summer Social & Golden Girl Group Home Ribbon Cutting, August 20, 2:00 pm Golden Girl Group Home, Ceredo, WV**

• **MANTS (Mid-Atlantic Nursery Trade Show)**
date: January 5-7, 2011, Baltimore Convention Center www.mants.com.

• **WVNLA 2011 Winter Meeting, Charleston, WV, Thursday & Friday, January 20 and 21.**

• **2010 America in Bloom Symposium** Sept. 30-Oct. 2, St. Louis. MO www.americainbloom.org

• **Casual Furniture Accessories Market**, Sept. 21-24, Chicago, IL, www.casualmarket.com

• **Farwest Show**, Aug. 26-28, www.farwestshow.com

The Mt. Cuba Center is a non-profit horticultural institution in northern Delaware located on nearly 600 acres. They're dedicated to the study, conservation, and appreciation of plants native to the Appalachian Piedmont Region through garden display, education, and research. Their woodland wildflower gardens are recognized as the region's finest.

Mt. Cuba Center is the former home and family estate of Mr. and Mrs. Lamot Du Pont Copeland. In 1935, the Copelands built a stately Colonial Revival manor house near the village of Mt. Cuba, near Wilmington, Delaware. The Copelands were prominent members of the community. Mr. Copeland served as President and Chairman of the Du Pont Company, while Mrs. Copeland was a leader in many community and cultural organizations.

Rick Crowder, General Manager of Hawksridge Farm, Hickory, NC, *Seeking Plants in Japan*

Hawksridge Farms is a wholesale nursery offering an extensive and fascinating inventory. This is always a place to prowl for what is new and unusual. Rick has been a nurseryman since 1972. He has traveled worldwide in search of plants for North Carolina Landscapes.

Evening Session-**Carol Reese and Rick Lewandowski**

Dr. Paula M. Shrewsbury, The University of Maryland Associate Professor & Extension (cont. on page 2, second column →)

• The Southern Region of North America-International Plant Propagators' Society will have its Annual Meeting, October 10-13, at the Raleigh Sheraton, Raleigh, NC. More information: www.ipps.org/SouthernNA/meeting.htm.

• **ANLA (American Nursery & Landscape Association) 2011 Management Clinic**, January 26 - January 29, 2011; Louisville, KY

• **PANTS10** (www.pantshow.com), August 3-5, 2010, Philadelphia PA

• **CENTS Tradeshow** (www.onla.org), January 24-26, 2011 Columbus, Ohio



Plant Leaf Surface and Pesticide Application

Those who think that pesticide applications work the same on all target surfaces should rethink this. Ohio State University researchers found that surface makeup of a plant's leaves, hairy or waxy or varying degrees of both, plays a huge role in the effectiveness of liquid applications.

The ultimate goal when using pesticides is to achieve maximum efficiency while promoting environmental sustainability. This can be done by making sure the droplets hit the target and that the target absorbs the active ingredients of the pesticide.

Erdal Ozkan, an OSU Extension agricultural engineer, and the US Department of Agriculture, studied the impact of liquid pesticide applications on waxy and hairy geranium leaves and found that hairy leaves captured and retained the droplets more effectively than waxy leaves. In addition, droplets deposited on hairy leaves covered more surface area as they evaporated and spread over the leaf more quickly, increasing plant uptake of the pesticide by 50 percent.

Their research found that by adding a surfactant (a wetting agent that lowers the surface tension of a liquid) to the pesticide application mix, droplets cling better and are taken up by the plant much more rapidly. Adding a surfactant reduces the contact angle the droplet has with the leaf, making the droplet more stable and less likely to roll off.

Ozkan said the information is useful to chemical companies who recommend specific dosage and application methods when target surfaces are known to achieve maximum product benefit.



Active in Our Community

The West Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association has donated \$1000.00 to the West Virginia 4-H Program. This will support awards and travel scholarships to award winning 4-H members.

TerraSalis Garden Center recently donated time and materials to the Sojourner's Shelter in Charleston. Thank you!



Specialist, Ornamental & Turf, IPM, Entomology
Restoration of Plant and Insect Community Dynamics.

Area of Expertise: Intergrated Pest Mgt. (IPM) with production & Maintenance of Ornamental Plants & Turf, i.e., nurseries, greenhouse, turfgrass & school grounds professional IPM practioners, extension personnel and master gardeners, & government agencies. Development of management. practices that reduce reliance on chemical pesticides & integrate biological control & other non-chemical options. Research in basic & applied ecological studies of plant - herbivore-natural enemy interactions to elucidate innovative pest mgt. options. Elucidating the role natural enemies as they relate to biological control. Cultural practices on pest insects on orn.& turf systems.

John Jett will also offer the Horticultural Exam Thursday, 5:30 pm

Venue & lodging resources on page 3, col 1.

Check Out - New Resources

Below are unique product resources that are worth reviewing! Some are even close by.
Wheeasy-a ground-flush loading wheelbarrow www.allsofgarden.com
Grass Sticher-works to repair spots in lawns www.grasssticher.com
Fire and Water Kit-offers a self-contained fire and water feature together www.easyproproducts.com
Outdoor Fireplace-offers an outdoor wood-burning fireplace that also features a hidden oven www.deecoconsumerproducts.com
Hess Garden Center, located in South Park, PA, offers a shopping destination for unique espaliered trees, art work and beautifully maintained plants.



a photo inside Hess Garden Center

Welcome New Members!

Chris Duplaga:

Top Notch Landscaping and Supply, LLC
Wheeling, WV, has been in the landscaping
business since 1993 - Associate member

Vern Slaven:

Three Oaks Landscaping, 3328 Centerpoint Rd.
Patriot, Ohio, has been in the landscape
business since 2003 - Associate member

Lodging & Venue Information

for 2011 Annual Winter Meeting

The venue for the 2011 meeting changes to the Summit Conference Center at the corner of Quarrier and Summers Streets, downtown Charleston. The Summit is a locally owned and operated conference and catering facility. We are pleased to make this change and support our local businesses. These hotels are within a short distance of the Summit.

Hampton Inn www.hamptoninn.com
1 Virginia Street West, Charleston -
304-343-9300

Holiday Inn Express - Charleston Civic Center
www.holidayinnexpress.com
100 Civic Center Drive, 304-345-060

Charleston Marriott Town Center -
www.charlestonmarriott.com
200 Lee Street East, 304-345-6500

Embassy Suites -
www.embassysuitescharlestonwv.com -
300 Court Street, Charleston - 304-347-8700



WVNLA 304.553.1234 www.wvnla.org
email: wvnlassoc@gmail.com

Board News

The WVNLA Board of Directors met June 9 at the Volunteer Project site. Below are some of the items that were discussed.

Due to the state of the economy, the Board felt that a Steering Committee needs to be in place for the continued success of the Association. The Steering Committee, comprised of Brett Merritt, Bill Mills, Tim Forren and Mark Springer, Chairman being Tim Forren, will review smaller volunteer projects in the future, endowment funds, and the possibility of moving meeting sites throughout the state.

The WVNLA will offer the Certified ↗



Board Seeks Entrants- Offers Awards!

The WVNLA Board of Directors is requesting submissions for the first Annual Landscape Awards Program. To receive the Awards Entry packet, you must call 304.553.1234 or email wvnlassoc@gmail.com - Beth Loflin, Executive Director or visit the awards page of the WVNLA website www.wvnla.org.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- Entrants must be active WVNLA members
 - Entries must be **Postmarked no later than October 1, 2010.**
 - At least eight but not more than twelve high quality photos must be submitted in jpeg or pdf format on a cd. In addition, please submit one photograph of the design for design/build projects and one before picture, if available.
 - Up to 2 entries are permitted per category, per company.
- Include cost of project.

Categories:

Residential Design/Build (May be designed by others)

- Under \$10,000
- Over \$10,000
- Special Projects
- Water Feature
- Trade Show or
- Garden Show Displays, Seasonal Display
- Hardscapes
- Container Gardening
- Garden Center Display in West Virginia

Judges: A panel of 3 to 5 professionals in the field will review and recommend awards.

Awards:

• Each winning entrant will receive a \$1000. cash award and will receive their award at the 2011 Winter Meeting. Winners will be listed on the WVNLA web site with a direct link to their companies website until the subsequent Winter meeting.



Horticulture Exam during the 2011 Annual Winter Meeting, John Jett will be in charge of the exam. See page 5, column 1 for full story.

The Board reviewed the continued support of the Blue Star Memorial Markers. The WVNLA pledged \$15,000.00 back in 2007, and the current balance is \$5470.00. State Garden Clubs request the pledge money which goes to the marker cost, ranging \$420.00-\$1200.00/marker.

Thirty-three new member invitations went out to state nursery, landscape and greenhouse businesses. The Board is interested in maintaining and growing the Association's membership.

Better Turf Nutrition

We have all heard about organic fertilizers for turf care. These fertilizers are defined in many different ways, but technically, any chemical containing carbon is organic. The Organic Materials Review Institute is a national, nonprofit organization that determines which input products are allowed for use in organic production and processing. Often, organic plant care is characterized as plant care without chemicals, which is not true. Organic products are chemicals they are just not synthetic chemicals.

Thought processing of feeding the plant/turf needs to change to feeding the soil. Once the soil has become healthy, turf will succeed at a much better rate. Use of organic products are broken down by microbes in the soil. This natural process releases the plant nutrients slowly, allowing plants to grow at a natural rate. The natural process of microbes dying helps to glue the soil particles together, which creates more macropores that allow for better water and air movement.

Natural and organic fertilizers also contain quantities of micronutrients that can improve plant health care without requiring an additional fertilizer application. Organic fertilizers are derived from two basic sources- animal material and plant material. Minerals are also included in many natural or organic lawn care programs. Some of these minerals include sulfate of potash magnesia, green sand, limestone/gypsum, granite meal and epsom salt.

A soil test is a must when determining the pH of the soil. Any pH problems should be addressed. The greatest amount of fertilizer should be applied when the plant is trying to develop roots. For cool-season grass, this is in the fall, from August through November. For warm-season grasses, monthly feeding encouraged when the grass is actively growing. As a rule, cool-season grasses will require between 2 and 4 pounds of nitrogen per thousand square feet, and warm-season grasses will require from one-half to 1 pound of nitrogen when grass is actively growing. The variance in the amount of fertilizer needed is due to different soil types, amount of rainfall and whether or not irrigation is present.

Grasses use nutrients at a ratio of 3-1-2 for N P K. When selecting the fertilizer, refer to the list of ingredients. Bone products will release very slowly while protein meals (next column, top ↗)

and manures will break down faster. Some organic products can take more than a year to completely break down and release nutrients. Remember, the warmer it is, the quicker products break down.



USDA Announces

Assistance Program for Orchardists and Nursery Tree Growers

WASHINGTON, May 10, 2010 - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today said that orchardists and nursery tree growers can begin applying for benefits under the Tree Assistance Program, which was authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill. Signup begins Monday, May 10, 2010, at local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices.

"This program helps our orchardists and nursery tree growers replant and get back on their feet after natural disasters," said Vilsack.

The Tree Assistance Program (TAP) provides help to orchardists and nursery tree growers who produce trees, bushes and vines for commercial purposes, to replant or rehabilitate trees, bushes and vines damaged or destroyed by natural disasters. The 2008 Farm Bill expanded eligibility to include Christmas tree and nursery tree growers that were ineligible under prior legislation. Trees grown for pulp or timber or not grown for commercial purposes are not eligible.

To be eligible for TAP, producers must have suffered more than a 15 percent death loss due to the natural disaster after adjustment for normal mortality. TAP is a cost-reimbursement program, with payments covering up to 70 percent of replant costs and 50 percent of pruning, removal and other salvaging costs for replacing or salvaging damaged trees.

Producers can receive assistance for up to 500 acres of trees, bushes or vines. Producers must also have purchased a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, or for 2008, obtained a waiver of the risk management purchase requirement through the buy-in provision. Eligible losses must have occurred on or after Jan. 1, 2008, and before Oct. 1, 2011.

For more information on the new TAP program, please contact your county FSA office or the website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>.



GGGH Volunteer Project On Schedule

The Golden Girl Group Home Volunteer Project is 65% completed, including the majority of the fellowship hall and partial hardscape installation. Flooring, installation of lights and visual details are remaining in the completion of the much needed building. Brett Merritt and Mark Springer have been the Project Managers for the project, directing Bob Corder the builder to organizing a church group from Georgia.

Numerous companies have donated time, money and materials for the project. Some of these committed businesses are:

Creation Gardens and Design
G and G Nursery Groundworks
Lavalette Nursery and Garden Center
Kotalic Landscaping Oasis Landscaping
Landscaping by Hillcrest

The WVNLA appreciates the efforts of these dedicated businesses.

The remaining work will include grading, pond installation, soil amending, and landscaping. Members that would like to get involved can donate any of the following items:

fire pit, wooden swing and supports, pots & benches. (Note photos to the right)

Members can also donate items or money for use by some of the young ladies living in transitional housing. These ladies have graduated and have moved out to live on their own. Sheets, towels, and necessary items can be given during the week of August 16. On Tuesday, August 17 we "finish up the work" at the GGGH in Ceredo and on Friday, the 20th at 2pm we celebrate with a ribbon cutting, followed by a celebration feast. Please join us.

Certified Professional Horticulturist Program

This is a certification program sponsored by the West Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association. The objective of the program is to raise and improve the professional standards of the nursery, landscape, and garden center industries by giving special recognition to individuals who have demonstrated a high level of competence in the principles and practices relevant to these industries. As a West Virginia Certified Professional Horticulturist, individuals may (next col. ↗)



The amazing before and after photo of the exact same area at the GGGH as the foundation goes in, top, and then new structure!

(Certified Professional cont.) use the CPH designation following their name on business cards and letterhead paper. Certification is for individuals only. The CPH designation may not be used to imply that a business or firm is accredited.

In order to apply for certification, an industry member must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Sponsorship by a West Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association member.
- Three years of full-time employment within the Ornamental Horticulture Industry (2 years part-time, minimum 500 hours per year, will constitute one year of full-time employment), or
- Three years of full-time employment within the Ornamental Horticulture Industry (2 years part-time, minimum 500 hours per year, will constitute one year of full-time employment), or (cont on page 6 →)



(Certified Professional cont.)

- Two years of full-time industry employment and two years postsecondary education in horticultural related fields, or
- One year of employment and four years of post-secondary education in horticultural related fields.

Letters of reference must be submitted from previous employers to verify years of employment.

In order to become a Certified Professional Horticulturist, you must:

- Submit a completed application together with any applicable references and the certification fee (made payable to the West Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association).
- Achieve a score on the Certification Exam of at least 70 percent. Examinations are scheduled during the winter meeting.
- At the time of testing, sign a West Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association Code of Ethics form.
- Certificates will be issued to successful candidates by the West Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association; however, certification is not limited to WVNLA members and their employees. ↗

Certification examination is based on the Certified Professional Horticulturist Training Manual of the West Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association and/or other approved study materials. The examination consist of 100 multiple choice questions and the identification of 25 plant species. The plant ID list is also included in the Training Manual. To offset part of the cost of administering the Certified Professional Horticulturist program, a fee of \$25.00 is payable with the filing of the application. A \$10.00 fee is required for re-examination. Training manuals can be purchased for \$50.00 per copy.

For an application and Training Manual order form contact:

John W Jett, 2088 Agricultural Sciences Bldg.,
P.D. Box 6108, Morgantown, WV 26506-6108
304-293-2620 or John.Jett@mail.wvu.edu

Celebrate and Work

Members, please join us Tuesday, August 17 for a “finish up the work” day at the GGGH in Ceredo and on Friday, the 20th at 2pm for the ribbon cutting ceremony, followed by a celebration feast.

