

Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club

Breaking News

Autumn 2015



Calendar of Upcoming Events



Nov 10
Franklin Day
Fundraiser

Nov 12
Monthly Meeting/
White Elephant Sale

Nov 13
Morning of Design

Nov 20th-22st
Flower Show School,
Course 2

Nov 21
St Thomas Church floral
designs sale

Dec 10
Monthly Meeting

Jan 14
Monthly Meeting

Editors: Lenay O'Quinn
and Deborah Determan.
Next edition will be
published January
2016. Send input to
Lenay and Deborah by
January 6th, with
captions for photos.

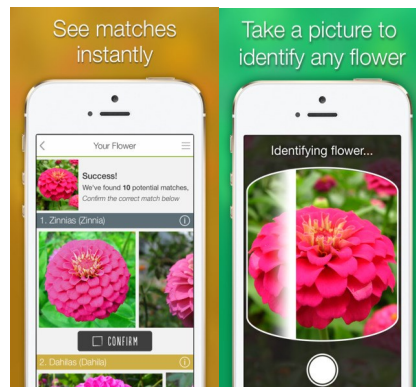
Earth's Treasures



This is the night blooming orchid cactus that has been passed around the our garden club and which we have at our plant sale every year. Marion's daughter gave Pam the one Marion had and it had 8 beautiful flowers on it this year. It is *Epiphyllum oxypetalum* but the plant's elaborate, nocturnal mating dance has earned it the nickname of "Queen of the Night" or "Lady of the Night." Pure white flowers, the size of a dinner plate, open after dark and stay open all night, closing with the morning sun's rise. The fragrant blooms appear intermittently during the summer months. A definite TROPICAL, don't allow this plant to go below 35°F. In colder zones, grow as a container specimen and bring inside during the winter months. Set outside in a shady to partly sunny spot during the summer. These do great in hanging baskets; they will get large so be sure to plan ahead! Bring inside when temperatures start to fall into the low 40's or high 30's (Fahrenheit).

Article by Lenay O'Quinn

Like that Garden (ios and android)



I tried this app when I was in Hawaii and it really helped identify different plants/flowers! You either take a picture while using the app or you can have it look at a picture in your photos and it will show you the most likely matches—really easy! I'll try to highlight a different garden app each quarter, so if you know of one...please send it to me. *Deborah*

President's Corner

Fall is in the air, leaves are dancing one last time as they show us their brightest colors and twirl as they glide through the air. As we get our gardens ready for winter, review handout from Kathy Jentz "Get your Garden Ready for Winter". She had some great ideas. I pray everyone has a safe and joyous holiday season. God Bless.
Lenay

Invasive Species of Concern in Maryland: Viruses, Fungi, & Other Organisms

Key Code	Scientific Name	Common Name	Key code
2	* Beech Bark Disease Complex		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Currently regulated by state and/or federal law 2. Widely recognized by biologists and natural resource managers to degrade natural resources and/or negatively impact native species 3. Known to have a negative economic impact on agricultural or natural resources 4. Known or potential negative impacts on human (or animal) health
2	<i>Cryphonectria parasitica</i>	Chestnut Blight	
1, 2, 3	* <i>Geosmithia morbida</i>	Thousand Cankers Disease	
1, 3	* <i>Phakopsora</i> spp.	Soybean Rust	
1	* <i>Phytophthora</i> spp.	Sudden Oak Death	
1, 3	* Plum Pox Potyvirus, D Strain	Plum Pox	
1, 3	<i>Puccinia hemerocallidis</i>	Daylily Rust	
1, 2, 3	* <i>Raffaelea lauricola</i>	Laurel Wilt	
3	* <i>Ralstonia solanacearum</i> r3b2	Southern Bacterial Wilt	

* Red Alert species: Species not yet established in Maryland but considered to be of high risk.

Information courtesy of The Maryland Invasive Species Council (MISC) http://www.mdinvasivesp.org/invasive_species_md.html



* Beech Bark Disease Complex



Chestnut Blight



Thousand Cankers Disease



Soybean Rust



Sudden Oak Death



Plum Pox



Daylily Rust



Laurel Wilt



Southern Bacterial Wilt

Photographs courtesy of extension.umd.edu, Wikipedia, walnutcouncil.org, apsnet.org, fs.fed.us, and ces.ncsu.edu

Next 3 months in the Garden

November Gardening

- ◆ Test soil for pH and apply limestone or wood ash accordingly. It takes time for these products to react with the soil and affect the pH. Fall application will ensure the pH is adjusted by spring.
- ◆ Prepare open beds in the flower and vegetable garden with organic matter and organic fertilizers.
- ◆ Clean tools for storage. Remove soil with a brush (coconut fiber, nylon or a metal brush) and then remove any rust with steel wool. Sharpen tools with appropriate files or sharpeners.
- ◆ If you don't plan on using the mower this winter bring your mower in to your local dealer for winterizing.
- ◆ Mow lawn to 1.5 to 2 inches for the winter. This keeps the lawn healthy and prevents the lawn from matting down.
- ◆ Drain and clean manmade pools and ponds. Remove tropical plants and store hardy lilies.
- ◆ Get out the hoe and remove cool weather weeds like shotweed that germinated during the October rains.
- ◆ Very last call for planting trees and shrubs including woody fruiting plants.

December Gardening

- ◆ Review last years garden. If you didn't take notes during the season set aside some time on a nice cozy evening and jot down what went well in the garden and what did not. Then put down ideas on what you would do differently last year.
- ◆ Take evergreen and hardwood cuttings. Dip them in a rooting hormone before putting the in pots filled with rooting media and place in a cold-frame for the winter. Roots should form by spring.
- ◆ Apply mulch. Clear days are good for applying mulch to beds you didn't get to earlier in the fall.
- ◆ Cut evergreen boughs for wreaths.
- ◆ Rake up leaves from under late leaf releasing trees like Pin Oaks.
- ◆ Seed catalogs start arriving in December.
- ◆ Poinsettias - These harbingers of Christmas is a Euphorbia native to Mexico. The colorful bracts come in a multitude of colors now. Don't over water them. Let the soil dry out slightly between watering.

January Gardening

- ◆ It is still a good time to take evergreen and hardwood cuttings. Dip in a rooting hormone before putting in pots filled with rooting media and place in a coldframe for the winter. Roots should form by spring.
- ◆ Monitor trees for winter damage and disease. Prune to healthy wood using proper pruning techniques.
- ◆ There is still time to apply mulch. 2-3 inches is sufficient in most cases.
- ◆ Keep an eye on cool weather weeds. Mulching as suggested above would help control winter weeds as would light cultivation of the soil surface with appropriate cultivating tools.
- ◆ Start seeds of indoor plants.
- ◆ Live Christmas trees – can be transplanted into their permanent location in the garden.
- ◆ Continue forcing bulbs like amaryllis and paperwhite narcissus

Announcements & News



- ◇ Reminder: support our NCGAC Presidents' project to help the Arboretum...get a Pinless Posy for yourself or as a gift! Contact Linda.
- ◇ Remember to bring your "White Elephant" items to our November meeting (and \$\$ to purchase "finds" others are bringing).
- ◇ Franklin Fundraiser will be Tuesday, November 10th.
- ◇ The Morning of Design, "Visions of Winter" a new season with a new design will be Friday, November 13th at Plymouth Baptist Church at 9600 Plymouth Road in Alexandria.
- ◇ St Thomas Church sale is November 21st from 3—7pm. Jackie donated vases for us to use in making our floral designs. Contact Linda for more details.
- ◇ Gilda received a grant and would like participation in creating a vegetable garden, an herb garden, and a wildflower garden at Dupont Park Adventist School in Washington DC.

In keeping with the Mt. Airy Claybreakers Garden Club's theme this year, "Interacting with Nature," members of the club have created a display on bats in the lobby of the Surratts-Clinton Branch of the Prince George's County Memorial Library. The display emphasizes the helpful qualities of bats in our environment. It contains books about bats, both fiction and factual; models of different types of bats, (fruit bats, little brown bats); a bat cave habitat; and a short informational Q&A poster on bats. *"Do bats harm people?"* (No); *What do bats eat?* (large numbers of mosquitoes and other insects), and *Why don't we see bats during the daytime?* (Bats hunt at night, using echolocation to find their prey.) The display, with seasonal decorations of leaves and pumpkins as a background, will remain through October. It should serve to dispel the myths surrounding bats during this Halloween season.

This has been a banner year for Mary Beth Cecil's Night Blooming Cereus! The plant has had over 20 blooms in about three waves. See Earth's Treasures article on front page for more info! While you see the bud during the day, you're never sure if it will blossom that night or wait another day, so it is kinda hard to pre-invite people. A group of blossoms decided to bloom on the 23rd of July and Mary Beth called me late, and I called Marsha (a past member of our club) and her daughter Sara, ("where are we going and what are we going to look at this hour?!?!"). It's a very beautiful flower! The scent is subtle, I might describe it as "peppery." Mary Beth loves to talk about her plant, so talk to her if you have any questions! There are pictures in our club's "photobucket."

Article by Lorraine Leonard

Pam purchased the coveted Marian Lee Azalea—one goes to the garden club garden on Rosaryville Road, one to Marian's daughter Winterlee, one to her niece. The only source found in the US was at White's Nursery Germantown MD, which grows from cuttings and seeds producing incredibly healthy plants. Pam suggest a day trip next Spring. The Marian Lee ill have white blossoms tipped in Red—enjoy in our club garden next May!!

