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Fall/Winter 2007 Newsletter

Welcome to the WILLIAMSBURG BOTANICAL CADDEN

COMMUNITY DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

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Above, **Jan Ivy & John Shulson** planting Astilbe. **Mike Dan & John Shulson** planting rain lilies on the right. With plants from **Libbey Oliver's** garden, Jan persuaded two men in her neighborhood to join her on a sunny morning in October. Three hours later, they were all in the ground, and watered with buckets of water.

Thanks, Jan, John & Mike --

hope to see you again!

Thank you for your support!



Williamsburg Botanical Garden

Board of Directors Karen Jamison, Chairman Charlie Martino, Vice Chairman Kathy Coomer, Secretary Linda Martin, Treasurer

Al Brenick Joanne Chapman Angela Cingale Terri Christin Helen Hamilton Jack Johnston Terry Johnston Helen Kidder Peggy Krapf Jeff Schell Ike Sisane Geoff Suter Marshall Warner Scott Whyte **Honorary** Dr. Marc Cathey, Andre Viette and Dr. Donna Ware

Here's what's happening in our neck of the woods.....



Jim Orband's talk at the Williamsburg Public Library on Nov 13 on deer in the home landscape was eagerly received by an audience desperate for solutions. The good news is there are deer repellants on the market which Jim has found effective, as well as fencing. The bad news is, Jim told us, there really is no permanent deterrent. Deer are hungry, being forced from their feeding grounds by development, and are moving into housing areas. With no natural predators, and strict hunting laws, they will eat anything available. Check with your extension office (Jim is with York County) for specific advice about deer browse in your housing area.

Donations and Memberships

John and Joanne Chapman William Cole Carol Fryer Governor's Land Garden Club Lloyd and Judy Hanson Holly Hills Garden Club Ed and Linda Lucas Rebecca S. Peebles Charles and Ruth Rathke Edward and Elizabeth Stevan Geoff Suter Paige Laubach Warden Gerry West Scott Whyte Pete and Margaret Williamson Alan Wubbels

NEW PROJECT!

The JCC/W Master Gardeners approved a project proposal with Williamsburg Botanical Garden to lead tours through the garden. WBG will coordinate with Master Gardener volunteers the design of garden tours, appropriate to the season. School and community groups will be contacted; the logistics of the tours will be coordinated with a committee of WBG members and Master Gardener volunteers.

All we need now are a few willing volunteers, both WBG and MG, to raise their hands to help with this project!

Call Helen Hamilton, 564-9949

Making a donation to WBG can now be done on line in a few easy steps:

- 1. Go to our website www.williamsburgbotanicalgarden.org
- 2. Click on the link Help Support our Community Garden
- 3. Click on Donate Now thru Network for Good

4. Empowered by Guide Star....a nationwide listing of non-profit organizations Donation information is then sent to WBG through our connection with a local bank. You will receive a tax letter thanking you for your donation from WBG. We sincerely appreciate your continued

support for the Williamsburg Botanical Garden. For further information or questions, contact Karen Jamison 220-3575.

Monthly Walk & Talk Education Series

Saturday, January 5, 2008 10:00am—11:00am 5535 Centerville Road Ellipse Garden at Freedom Park

"Feeding & Sheltering the Birds in Winter" With George Copping Owner, Wild Birds Unlimited

Learn how to bring new life into your winter landscape by attracting colorful songbirds to you garden. Holiday Garden Gifts are a great idea for your favorite gardener.

Visit Wild Birds Unlimited in the Monticello Shopping Center & also at Cooke's Garden Center, Jamestown Rd. Cooke's also has an entire shop with everything you need for Christmas, from A to Z...... Happy Shopping!

Williamsburg Botanical Garden Annual Meeting

The Williamsburg Botanical Garden annual meeting was held at Cooke's Garden Center on Thursday, October 18, 2007 with more than 50 members in attendance. A short business meeting included highlights of the year followed by a look to the future for new additions to the garden presented by Peggy Krapf, landscape designer and member of the board. Following the meeting everyone enjoyed wonderful food, fellowship and fun.

The evening event took place under the Outdoor Lifestyle Pavilion at Cooke's with the accompaniment of a welcomed rain shower. The generous array of complimentary heavy finger foods supplied by Florimontes Deli and Bakery and Viking Outdoor Grills and appliances was enjoyed by all. Some great door prizes were donated and raffled to participants which included a two night stay at Williamsburg Sampler Bed and Breakfast, a beautiful garden book and several gift items.

We thank Jeff Schell, Charlie Martino and the staff at Cookes for their warm and gracious hospitality. It was a delightful and memorable evening.

Visit our website at

www.williamsburgbotanicalgarden.org to learn more abut our organization, renew or begin a membership and get involved with one of our committees. Your participation will help make a difference in the quality of the organization and will help to establish a garden of wonder and discovery, beauty and inspiration.

Chairman's Message

Happy Autumn!

What a glorious & colorful time of the year as Mother Nature prepares for her winter respite in the garden. The Annual Meeting on October 18th was a smashing success! Thanks to all who attended and helped WBG celebrate a successful year. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish to extend a **very special thank you** to Jeff Schell and Charlie Martino of Cooke's Gardens for hosting a wonderful

event in the Pavilion. The venue was comfortable and beautifully decorated in autumn decor, the food and beverages were fantastic and the hospitality most generous and gracious. It was a terrific annual meeting with more than 50 members in attendance. Your support and enthusiasm for our efforts this past year is sincerely appreciated.

The garden in Freedom Park continues to grow and thrive. We have come a long way in the past two years and a half years since we signed the Memorandum of Understanding with James City County. We have one more year in the present contract which will be up for review at the end of 2008. We have plans on the drawing board for 2008 which includes both hardscape and horticultural enhancements. We look forward to sharing those plans with you in the coming weeks and months ahead. A new Horticulture Committee has been organized and will be chaired by Helen Hamilton and a committee comprised of professionals and volunteers from our Board of Directors. Please read the article about this new committee included in this newsletter.

Early in 2008 we will be meeting for a Strategic Planning session, "Growing Our Future". The purpose will be to set direction for 2008 and beyond by developing goals and strategies for the next 12-18 months and envisioning where we would like to be in 2010. This process will include our Board of Directors, Advisory Committee members and key community stake-holders. We look forward to sharing further information about this direction in the next newsletter.

Your continued support, encouragement and advice will be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact us with any suggestions and ideas you may have for moving this organization forward. We have grown our Board of Directors over the past year from 7 to 18 members. Every member is contributing his or her time, talent and treasure.

Happy Holidays to All,

Karen Jamison, Chairman

Meet the new WBG Board Members

At the Annual Meeting in October the following new members were elected to serve on the Board of Directors. We welcome them and look forward to working with them.

Kathy Coomer....Kathy is a member of the Governors Land Garden Club and a past president of the club. She served on the Historic Triangle Jamestown 2007 Beautification Task Force for three years. She is a realtor with William E. Wood and Associates. Kathy is serving as Recording Secretary and will serve on the Communications Committee.

Linda Martin....Linda is recently retired as the office manager at Hospice House of Williamsburg after 10 years in that position. Linda is the new treasurer and will serve on the Finance Committee.

Al Brenick.....Al is recently retired from the City of Williamsburg after 26 years as head of the Landscape Department.

HORTICULTURAL COMMITTEE

Currently, the Williamsburg Botanical Garden is a two-acre area in Freedom Park with no onsite water supply. However, when the Free Black settlement interpretative centers near completion, we should be receiving water and electricity in the next year or two. In the mean-time, watering is done from a water tank, by buckets and hoses and a sprinkler which requires the use of a pump, the property of John and Joanne Chapman.

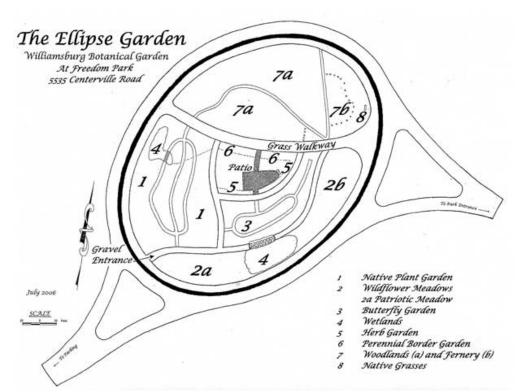
Deer are regularly breaching the wire fence by breaking, or crawling over and under the wider openings. We are losing and have lost a significant number of tree seedlings, shrubs and herbaceous plants due to deer browse. The need for a permanent deer fence is imperative, as is the need for a chairman of the fund-raising committee and a spring event to generate the necessary funds. The Garden has been receiving donations of plants from interested citizens; without an overall landscaping plans, new plantings are going in wherever.

Recognizing the need for some coordination of additions and removals to the WBG, a group of garden workers met and drafted guidelines for a Horticultural Committee. The draft suggests that the Committee would oversee plantings to retain the integrity of the distinctive areas of the Garden, to avoid planting invasive, tropical and desert species, and to attempt to retain the gene-systems of mountain disjuncts in the surrounding areas of Freedom Park.

Members of the Horticultural Committee are the landscape professionals and area managers of WBG: Joanne Chapman, Angela Cingale, Helen Hamilton, Terry and Jack Johnston, Peggy Krapf, Charlie Martino, Donna Ware, Scott Whyte, Carolyn and Ralph Will. Karen Jamison, ex officio



Wishing you and your family the very best for the holiday season and a wonderful New Year in 2008!



Enjoy two acres of paths & plants in our garden. Open daily 7am until dusk. FREE to the public Call 757-229-1995 for information. Williamsburg Botanical Garden is dedicated to increase knowledge, awareness & appreciation of nature.



To Our Gardening Friend

Visit us on the web for more information ~ www.WilliamsburgBotanicalGarden.org