



THE HORT REPORT

NEWSLETTER OF THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF MARYLAND, INC. | SEPTEMBER 2018

Community Gardens: A Harvest for the People

By Nancy Taylor Robson



Pickings from the Mount Washington Community Garden.

Lush rows of collards, glossy purple eggplant, red and green okra, heirloom tomatoes, pole beans, sprawling squash plants, fish peppers, cucumbers and more all tucked into pockets of earth in parks, arboretums and once-derelict lots. Community gardens: They may seem like small potatoes, but they can have a big impact.

“Community gardens are important in alleviating hunger and malnutrition, the lack of nutritious food,

and lack of money, power and resources,” says Neith Little, University of Maryland Extension educator in Baltimore.

Community gardens have been here for more than 150 years. Conceived as a way for the urban poor, many of whom migrated from farms, to feed themselves, the gardens were usually individual plots on municipal land. City residents may still apply through Baltimore City Farms for an individual allotment in any of 12 city parks. But now there are also community gardens dotted throughout Baltimore that are cultivated by groups ranging from local CSA’s (Community Supported Agriculture) to non-profits and church groups.

“There are lots more configurations of community gardens,” says Jon Traunfeld, former director of University of Maryland Extension’s Master Gardener program. “One example is not having the land divided into separate plots but people coming together to garden collectively.”

Continued on page 4

PHOTO: Paula A. Simon

Lecture Series

Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 11, 7:30 p.m.

Katherine Tracey *Succulent Love*

Practically carefree, with low water needs, available in amazing forms and nuanced colors, succulents have been the rage in horticulture in recent years. Katherine Tracey of Avant Gardens in Dartmouth, Mass., will share some of her favorite ways of using both hardy and tender succulents in gardens and mixed planters and as long-lasting cut material for floral arrangements.

Tuesday, OCTOBER 9, 7:30 p.m.

Gregg Tepper *A New Coastal Plain Garden is Coming to Delmarva*

Join Gregg Tepper, director of horticulture for Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek, for an informative lecture on the emerging public garden in southern Delaware, scheduled to open in 2019. Learn its history, preview the amazing plans and take a virtual tour of this Coastal Plain garden that will highlight the flora of southern Delaware and the Delmarva peninsula.

Tuesday, NOVEMBER 13 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Joan Maloof *Our Largest Plants: Celebrating the Living Forest*

Trees, our largest plants, form the structural habitat necessary for the many organisms that depend on a forested ecosystem. This talk by Joan Maloof, founder and director of the Old-Growth Forest Network, celebrates the recent release of *The Living Forest*, her book with photographer Robert Llewellyn. She will share images from that book while presenting forest facts that may be new to you. Book signing.

Tuesday, DECEMBER 11, 7:30 p.m.

Paula Adelsberger Simon *Beatrix Farrand: An American Landscape Pioneer*

The work of Beatrix Farrand (1872-1959) defined American taste in gardens during the early 20th century. An acclaimed figure in landscape design, she was the only female founding member of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Paula Simon, a graphic designer, garden photographer and Horticultural Society stalwart, will explore Farrand’s life and times, as well as the gardens that reflect her artistic talents.

Lectures are held in the Vollmer Center auditorium, Cylburn Arboretum, 4915 Greenspring Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21209. Members are required to have a current membership card for free admission to lectures. Guests of members also receive free admission.

For more information, visit our web site: mdhorticulture.org

COMING HSM EVENTS

ANNUAL PLANT & SEED SWAP

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

Starts 6:30 p.m. and ends at 7:15 p.m.

For members and their guests. This is the “one for one” swap before the September lecture. Take your plants and seed packets—marked with botanical name—to the front of the Vollmer Center, then look for plants to add to your garden.

SMITHSONIAN GARDEN TOUR

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2018

8:42 a.m. Amtrak train, Baltimore to Washington, D.C.

Janet Draper, horticulturist for the Smithsonian’s Ripley Garden, will lead a tour of the Ripley, Rose and Haupt gardens in Washington. Limited to 20 people. Note: This event is full and new registrations are not being accepted.

JANUARY PLANT FORUM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 2019

For HSM members only. Free but you must register in advance.

WINTER SEMINAR

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2019

8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The annual seminar sponsored by the Society and the Perennial Plant Association. Registration details to come. (Please note: The date is a week earlier than usual.)

28TH ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR

SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2019

Gardens of north Baltimore. Details to come.

ENGLAND GARDEN TOUR

JULY 1 - JULY 12, 2019

Hampton Court Flower Show and East and Thames Valley Gardens. Includes visits to Chartwell, the home of Sir Winston Churchill; Beth Chatto’s garden; Sandringham, the Queen’s country home; Great Dixter and Sissinghurst, among others. Co-sponsored by the Society and the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland. Information: Claire Jones, jonesb1@comcast.net or 443-927-6285.

For more information, visit www.mdhorticulture.org

HSM Honor Roll

We thank the following volunteers (members as well as non-members) who have supported the Society’s programs in recent months.

For the Tool Drive: Eric Jackson, founder of Cherry Hill Urban Garden; John Meyerhoff, Lenel Srochi-Meyerhoff and Paula Simon

For the Garden Tour Committee: Nancy Blois, chair; Sarah Atherton, Ann Betten, Anne Gossett, Nancy Grabowski and Nancy Raskin

For the Garden Tour Volunteers: Chris Bangs, Nancy Blois, Max Bloom, Glenn Carey, Carol Clark, Catherine Cook, Joyce Crosswell, John Fisher, Sally Foley, Jennifer Forrence, Phyllis Goldberg, Nancy Johnston, Nancy Knowlton, Jean Mitchell, Lauren Muhammad, Thomas Mullen, Kim Nelson, Nancy Raskin, Betsy Ring, Gretchen Sarkin, Mary Jo Sherrod, Megan Shook, Jean Silber, Paula Simon, Sharon Stracciani, Jacqui Weinstock and Cynthia Wilber

For the Sponsorship Program: Sally Barker

For the Program Committee: Paula Simon, chair; Nancy Blois, Helene Clapperton, Muffin Dell and Mary Jo Sherrod

For Hospitality (Lectures): Nancy Blois, Jennifer Forrence, Pat Sherman and Donna Watts

For the Plant Raffle: Nancy MicKey

For the Communications Team: Pat Cieslak, telephone messages; Helene Clapperton, webmaster; Carla Hackley, Facebook manager; Nancy Raskin, event coordinator; John Fitzpatrick, December mailing

For the January 2018 issue of THE HORT REPORT: Joel Cohen and John Fitzpatrick, proofreaders; Ray Bojarski and Delaware Botanic Gardens, Martina Carter, Ashley Kidner and Paula Simon, photographs

Thank you, Nancy Raskin and Catherine Cook

The Society thanks Nancy Raskin for her four years of leadership as president, 2014-2018. Her term ended June 30.

During her stewardship, the Society added new members and offered annual events such as the garden tour, the plant forum and the winter seminar, as well as a full slate of lectures. There were also special events such as the Silber garden plant sale, the Tashiding benefit and the Fergus Garrett talks last April.

The Society also thanks Catherine Cook for her stellar work as vice president for membership. Both former officers remain on the Society board.

Welcome New Members!

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Aimee Adashek | Phi Doung | Cindy Kubiet | Pamela Sotir |
| Elizabeth | Christine Egan | Angela Lambrow | Kerry Stagmer |
| Alvarez-Paradise | Amanda Evelius | Isabella Lambrow | Vicki Stewart |
| Lisa Ausherman | Susan Harris | Lauren Makowiecki | Shannon Stracciani |
| Kathleen Barber | Greg Hendrickson | Courtney Muller | Debbie Vesytirk |
| Shauna Barnes | Leah Huete | Cathie Papantonio | Kathleen Wales |
| Susan Bishop | Carolyn Johns | Dave Piasecki | Daniel Weil |
| Bonita Busta | Paul Kilmon | Margaret Rice | Erin Young |
| Elizabeth Chance-Bobb | Sarah Knezwick | Tara Sewell | |
| Catherine Cox | | Rosie Smith | |

Carpinus caroliniana, American hornbeam or Musclemwood

Ostrya virginiana, Hop hornbeam or Ironwood

By Harry Merritt

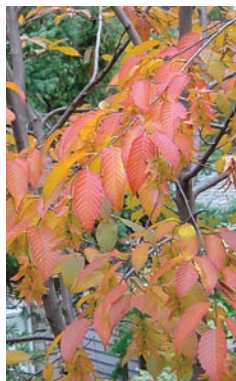
A few years ago, I began planting small trees, starting with a few *Cercis canadensis*, Eastern redbuds. Then, with my zest for tree diversity outstripping my tree knowledge, I bought and planted two *Carpinus caroliniana*, American hornbeam, and one *Ostrya virginiana*, Hop hornbeam.

The similarity of common names suggests a kinship, and there is: both are in the family *Betulaceae*, Birch. Both are native to eastern North America. Both are deciduous. Both are monoecious, with male and female flowers. Both are low maintenance and have few disease problems. They differ when it comes to autumn color, however. The American hornbeam's medium green leaves turn yellow, orange or red. Hop hornbeam leaves, alas, fade from green to a dull yellow.

I planted the American hornbeams about five feet away from either side of our 75-foot Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*). They are good understory trees: slow growing, perhaps not reaching their full 20 to 35 feet height for years to come. Planted in 2013, one is now about 6 feet tall, the other 4 feet. They look healthy but are still compact.

Both the American hornbeam and the Hop hornbeam are known for having very hard, strong wood. "The smooth gray trunk and larger branches" of the mature American hornbeam "exhibit a distinctive muscle-like fluting that has given rise to another common name of Musclemwood," according to the Missouri Botanical Garden's Plant Finder (missouribotanicalgarden.org). The Hop hornbeam, meanwhile, is also known as Ironwood.

My Hop hornbeam grows atop a small hill, just above stone steps. It gets full sun, which it likes, but it also gets wind, which it does not like. Well after I planted the tree, I read, in *Botanica's Trees & Shrubs*, that Hop hornbeams



"need a sheltered position" to flourish. Sans shelter, mine has lost a branch or two to wind. It has been bumped more than once by a lawnmower. Today, its attenuated branches stretch skyward 8 to 10 feet, looking like giant fingers, something the sculptor Giacometti could have designed. I should prune the tree in hopes of giving it a fuller shape.

Clockwise from top left: (1) Mature American Hornbeam showing off its "muscles." (2) In fall, its leaves blaze out in bright colors. (3) Graceful branching and profuse flowering makes the Ironwood tree a winner. (4) The distinctive hop-like catkins stay on and turn brown against yellowing fall leaves.

PLANT FACTS: *Carpinus caroliniana*

Common Names: American hornbeam, Musclemwood

Hardiness: USDA Zones 3 to 9

Family: *Betulaceae*

Size: 20 to 35 feet tall. Spread, about the same.

Culture: Part shade to full shade. Average, moist soil.

PLANT FACTS: *Ostrya virginiana*

Common Names: Hop hornbeam, Ironwood

Hardiness: USDA Zones 3 to 9

Family: *Betulaceae*

Size: 25 to 40 feet tall. Spread, 20 to 30 feet.

Culture: Full sun to part shade. Fertile, well-drained soil.

REFERENCES:

Botanica's Trees & Shrubs

Missouri Botanical Garden, missouribotanicalgarden.org

John T. Fitzpatrick, Ph.D., *Landscape Plant Identification Manual*

illinoiswildflowers.info

Harry Merritt is editor of THE HORT REPORT.

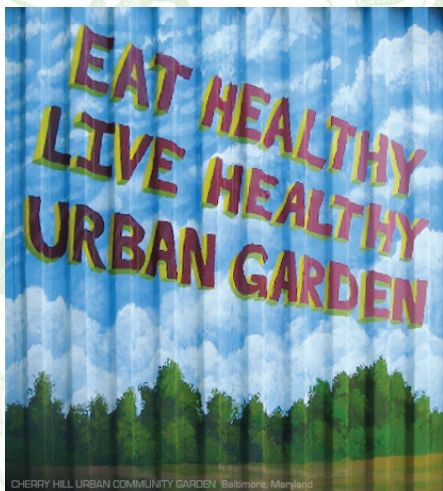
Community Gardens: A Harvest for the People

Continued from page 1

In some ways, it's gardening as grassroots activism. These gardens, located in the hearts of communities, are not simply for producing healthy food, though that is a key motivator. They are also about connection, empowerment and the healing that can take place when a community engages in a shared enterprise.

Inspiring people about their own health was at the core of Juanita Ewell's intent when she began Cherry Hill Urban Garden (CHUG) in 2010 on 1-1/2 acres of unused city land. Cherry Hill has long been one of Baltimore's many "food deserts," where convenience food is virtually the only ready source of meals. This "food apartheid," as some characterize it since it disproportionately affects inner-city African American neighborhoods, tends to promote obesity and a range of food-related diseases. Community gardens help to combat the problem. Eric Jackson, an Open Society Institute Baltimore Fellow, grew up in Cherry Hill and got involved in CHUG while in college.

"I was interested in how to personally connect my interest in organizing communities and making sure they had healthy and affordable food," explains Jackson, founder of Black Yield Institute. "It's focused in part on urban agriculture, but also on cultivating self-determination through black land and food sovereignty."



A hand-painted mural on the side of a metal storage container at the CHUG garden proclaims its positive outlook and mission.

PHOTO: Cherry Hill Urban Garden



Volunteers for the 2018 Tool Drive, seen left to right, are Eric Jackson of CHUG, present and past HSM presidents Peter Bieneman and Nancy Raskin, along with Peter Ward, member, and HSM tool drive coordinator, Lenel-Scrochi-Meyerhoff.

PHOTO: Paula A. Simon

CHUG as a means of "saving the community" because she knew that a garden produces more than meals.

"Gardens become a hub of a community," says Lenel Scrochi-Meyerhoff, head of outreach for the Horticultural Society of Maryland, which donated tools and plants, including 23 raspberry plants and four small lilacs, to CHUG in this year's annual tool drive. "A garden brings a community together."

In addition, CHUG received a small grant from the Society. Last year, the tool drive's recipient was Mondawmin Urban Green Space (MUGS).

The number of community gardens has grown considerably since 2008, and so has the percentage of land in Baltimore under cultivation, according to Abby Cocke, environmental planner at the Baltimore Office of Sustainability.

"There is a lot of vacant land, so we decided to grow food versus watching weeds grow there," says Willie Flowers, executive director of Park Heights Community Health Alliance, a CSA on two acres in three locations.

As its name suggests, the alliance is an effort to produce healthy food as a preventative to disease.

“We started because we refused to focus on the medical model,” says Flowers, i.e. relying on medicine to cure illness rather than maintaining health. While production was not successful the first year, they refused to give up. They connected with Larry Kloze, a Master Gardener in the city, and the second year went well. “We’ve been successful ever since,” says Flowers, who got his own Master Gardener certification in 2010. “We produce 10,000 pounds of food a year.”

For those without growing experience, starting a community garden can be overwhelming. University of Maryland Extension’s Grow It Eat It program is a ready (and free) source of advice and encouragement for these gardeners. The program’s mission is “to help people improve human and ecological health by growing their own food and using sustainable gardening practices.”

One of the first things the program recommends is to test the soil.

“It’s essential,” says Traunfeld. “Nobody should be growing food anywhere in Maryland without first getting that basic soil test that includes testing for lead. We list eight labs on our web site—and probably six of them test for lead, including the University of Delaware, which is relatively inexpensive and has had a pretty fast turnaround time.”

Community gardens take many forms because each is designed by the community itself. For example, in addition to growing vegetables, which are shared with a local charity, Mount Washington Arboretum Community Vegetable Garden boasts beehives and has been exploring permaculture and waste projects with an eye to sustainability. Decisions are made collaboratively. Many community gardens hold potluck suppers (a great way to try new recipes), conferences, classes and more. But it all centers on the food.

“It saves money and it gives nutrient-dense food from May until November,” says Flowers of the Park Heights garden. “People pay into our CSA or they can work and get food. It resolved this whole notion of a food desert... and some people just saw us growing the food and were interested.”

“As people get involved in something, others get more inspired,” Cocke agrees.

Especially if the project rises up out of the community. The Rev. Heber Brown, pastor of Pleasant Hope Baptist Church, was instrumental in establishing the Black Church Food Security Network to encourage black churches to plant vegetable gardens on church land.



At the Mount Washington Community Garden, an illustrated signboard at the gate and a spare garden hat inform and welcome participation in the garden.

PHOTO: Paula A. Simon

Additionally, the church partners with Maryland farmers, who bring produce to sell after services, and encourages parishioners to use their own land to grow food.

“Being closer to the land and having control over our food sources has been recognized as an avenue that supports communal agency, self-reliance and necessary distancing from systems of oppression operative in the broader society,” Brown says.

While community gardening can make an enormous positive difference in a community’s spirit and health, many of the gardens, especially those that are tended collectively, are challenged. Volunteers can be hit or miss in their attention to the garden’s needs. Money for everything from tools to planting stock is often an issue. And there are always people who want to reap what they haven’t sown. Yet Jackson, for one, is undaunted.

“We’re doing fund raising so we can have financial, material and emotional investment,” he says. “We’re working intentionally to establish a food co-op along with other community programs, including an intergenerational cooking program.”

While food is the primary focus, it’s also about hearts and minds, about re-establishing a tradition that engages generations and affects their health for generations to come.

Nancy Taylor Robson, a Master Gardener, is a longtime garden writer and the author of two novels. She lives in Galena on the Eastern Shore.

<https://extension.umd.edu/growit>

Delaware Botanic Garden Trip

Eleven volunteers from the Horticultural Society of Maryland spent a near perfect day weeding and planting at the Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek.

The adventure, on June 22, 2018, was organized by Bill Yonkers and co-sponsored by the Society and the Mason-Dixon Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society.

The work involved removing crabgrass and other weeds, then planting scores of one-quart *Bouteloua curtipendula*, or Sideoats grama, a short, blue-green prairie grass native to much of North America. Gregg Tepper, DBG's director of horticulture, gave an orientation and Carol McCloud, a board member and vice president, led a tour of the forest part of the garden.

DBG, near Dagsboro in southern Delaware, is scheduled to open in the summer of 2019. For more information, visit delawaregardens.org.



PHOTOS: Megan Shook and Carol Dunn

Top: left, volunteers busily at work; right, trip organizer, Bill Yonkers, with Nancy Raskin and Barbara Gunter. **Bottom:** left to right, Richard Balducci, Dr. Geetha Raja, Megan Shook, Carol Anderson Austra, Susan Zator, Gregg Tepper, Bill Yonkers, Barbara Gunter, Nancy Raskin, Harry Merritt, Amelia Sifleet and Carla Cascio.

SPECIAL NOTE: *Gregg Tepper will be the speaker at our lecture on October 9th. See details on page 1.*

Snapshots from the Garden Tour: a great success despite the rain!



Top: left, member Ann Madden in the Galli rain garden; middle, Bob Thompson and garden tour chairperson, Nancy Blois, greet visitors at the Galli garden; right, tour visitors with Leigh Barnes, container designer/gardener for the Gallis. **Bottom:** left, Tsognie Hamilton of Tashiding with tour volunteer coordinator Sarah Atherton; middle, volunteer Phyllis Goldberg on duty at the Offutt garden; Arlene Weiner, Marilyn Vantosh and Jean Silber finish the tour with a stroll around the Vantosh-Thompson garden.

PHOTOS: Paula A. Simon

Anthony Venable, Our Cylburn Intern for 2018



Anthony Venable of Washington, D.C., was the 2018 summer intern at Cylburn Arboretum. The internship program is co-sponsored by the Society, the Cylburn Arboretum Association and the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, each of which contributed \$2,500.

A native of Washington, Anthony said he has always had an interest in the flora and fauna of the region. Spending lots of time in the wooded areas near where he lived as a boy “really intensified” his love of nature, he said.

At age 9 he got his first plant, *Chamaedorea elegans*, Neanthe Bella Palm, and at 11 he began growing vegetables in containers on a window sill. Later, in Hyattsville, he expanded his repertoire, growing *Phalaenopsis* Orchids, *Stevia rebaudiana*, Sweetleaf, and *Phylla dulcis*, Aztec Sweet Herb, among many others. He is a member of the Maryland Native Plant Society.

Anthony has worked as a painter, a computer support technician and a piano mover. The internship, he said, was “a wonderful opportunity to fulfill my dreams of working outside with plants.”

PHOTO: Pat Sherman

Congratulations Kate!



Kate Blom, a familiar face to many members of the Horticultural Society of Maryland, has retired as director of Baltimore’s Howard Peters Rawlings Conservatory and Botanic Gardens.

During her tenure—December 1999 through June 2018—Blom oversaw the

multi-million-dollar renovation and expansion of the conservatory in Druid Hill Park and its grand reopening in 2004. She also developed programs, such as Little Leaves, to introduce Baltimore children to the world of plants.

In 2015 she received Baltimore’s highest honor for a city employee, the Richard A. Lidinsky Sr. Award for Excellence in Public Service.

“Kate has been an incredible resource and friend at the Conservatory,” said Peter Bieneman, HSM president. “I will miss seeing her artistic displays all in the name of horticulture!”

PHOTO: Tom Orth, Friends of the Rawlings Conservatory

We’re doing our part to reduce paper waste.

Our Membership Renewal Reminder will now be emailed. Please check your inbox.

In addition, there will be no more printed membership cards.



Another English Garden Trip, With One More On the Way!

Some of us just can’t get enough English gardens! This year’s group, led by Claire Jones, enjoyed the fine weather of England’s late spring. Here they are at Kew Gardens. The trip continued into Wales and culminated with a trip to the Chelsea Flower Show. See page 2 or the HSM web site for details of the planned 2019 trip. This time they will go to the Hampton Court Flower Show and visit many great gardens in the south east of England.

PHOTO: at the Victoria Gate, Kew Gardens, Claire Jones

Meet HSM's New Officers



At 15, full of enthusiasm for plants and gardening, Peter Bieneman joined the Horticultural Society of Maryland as one of its youngest members.

A few years later, while attending Loyola College, he edited the Society's newsletter (and his brother produced each issue on his Macintosh computer).

Later still, after establishing himself as one of the Baltimore area's most knowledgeable plantsmen through his work at Green Fields Nursery, Bieneman joined the Society's board.

Now, as of July 2018, Bieneman is the Society's 15th president. He succeeded Nancy Raskin. The other new officers are Christy Fairman, vice president for membership, and Diane Owen, treasurer.

Bieneman, who grew up in the Baltimore area, is the longtime general manager of Green Fields, located at Falls Road and Northern Parkway. He started working there as a helper and sales person in 1988, when he was in college. "I had no garden center experience," he said in a recent interview, "but a lot of personal garden experience."

He moved into management at Green Fields in 1990, the year he graduated from Loyola with a degree in communications. He studied ornamental horticulture with John Sanders at the Dundalk campus of the Community College of Baltimore County, then earned a Master's in Landscape Architecture from Morgan State University.

During the early years at Green Fields, Bieneman was not involved with the Horticultural Society. About a decade ago, he was invited to join the board at Cylburn Arboretum, and that brought him back into the Society's orbit.

"Eight years ago, I was asked to be on the Hort Society board," he said. "It felt very natural to me. I was very impressed by the




education I've gotten by being a member of the Hort Society, the lectures, the tours, the special events. It's really augmented my education."

When the Vollmer Center Entrance Garden was established in 2014, Bieneman was named its manager. He remains in that role. He has also had extensive involvement with the Lake Roland Nature Council and the York Road Partnership.

As president of the Society, Bieneman said he planned

to emphasize community outreach and work to "broaden the membership to groups we maybe haven't reached out to before."

Besides the lectures and special events, he said, "I would love to see the newsletter continue to evolve." 




Christy Fairman, the Society's new vice president for membership, is an Upper School mathematics teacher at St. Paul's School. She first learned about gardening from her parents, who have a large flower garden in

Richmond, Va. At St. Paul's, she tends a collection of potted plants and the planters outside. 



Diane Owen, the new treasurer, is a human resource business partner manager for Greater Baltimore Medical Center/Gilchrist Hospice. She has been semi-retired since 2015. A mother of three and grandmother

of eight, she enjoys gardening, tennis, hiking, kayaking and reading. 

PHOTOS, FROM TOP: Robin Wilner, Christy Fairman, Vince Owen

OFFICERS

Peter Bieneman, *President*
Paula A. Simon, *Vice President for Programs*
Christy Fairman, *Vice President for Membership*
Diane Owen, *Treasurer*
Bill Yonkers, *Secretary*

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Catherine Cook
Jennifer Forrence
Nancy Raskin
Pat Sherman
Mary Jo Sherrod
Lenel Srochi-Meyerhoff
Marilyn Vantosh

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Muffin Dell
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Bridget Maginn
Pauline Vollmer
Rose Wolford

NEWSLETTER

Harry Merritt, *Editor*
Paula A. Simon, *Designer*

VOLLMER CENTER GARDEN

Peter Bieneman, *Manager*
Jackson Lehman, *Gardener*

MEMBERSHIP

For information about membership or to join, visit the society's website: www.mdhorticulture.org or telephone Christy Fairman at 410-821-5561.

Benefits of Membership

Newsletters and membership directory; admission to the spring and fall lectures and the annual garden tour; and discounts on workshops, trips and special events.

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Mailing address:

P.O. Box 4213
Lutherville, MD 21093-4214

Telephone: 410-821-5561

www.mdhorticulture.org

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