

VSLDnews



Spring 2009

President's Message



Photo Courtesy of Chris Coen

Dear VSLD Members:

At last I am starting to believe it is spring again in Virginia. I thought it would never make up it's mind. The same dull gray scene out of my office window was getting to me. Now they are calling for temps in 90s for the next few days. I looked around my own garden this morning and I know the lily-of-the-valley was not there yesterday.

Hopefully by the time you receive this newsletter we will all be overwhelmed with work and dreaming of our summer vacations. Talking to many of you over the past few months I have heard similar stories "I have one design that I'm working on" or "Work is slow in our area" Just like the weather in Virginia I have to believe this too will change.

Once again we have an outstanding VSLD board. Many were here last year for the legislative issues we faced. We just had our first board meeting for 2009 and are really excited about this years agenda. Kathy Wulf is heading up our committee for the 50th Year Anniversary in 2010. With the upcoming event as well as the slow down in the economy the board will be starting a new Marketing Committee that will help promote the 50th Anniversary as well as continued marketing to benefit our group for years to come. A new logo is also in the works.

Eve Willis has been doing a superb job of coordinating the VSLD booth for recent events. If you have photos you would like displayed send them to Eve. We like to change them around for different events. They should be laminated, flexible since the new display booth is curved, and have your business card laminated or printed inside with the photo. Don't forget we have the digital frame to show off your photos while you work the booth at indoor shows. If you want to have the booth set up for an event in your area or to man the booth at a show let Eve know. You can also request to work the booth along with another member

SAVE THE DATE!
*Summer Tour is
July 13th-15th*

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if you just want the experience.

There are so many volunteer opportunities with the VSLD. I encourage everyone to take time throughout the year to join in. Write an article for the newsletter, volunteer to be a mentor. Please contact any of the board members with ideas or suggestions you have for the VSLD. Let us know what is going on in your area of Virginia.

I enjoyed speaking with many of you at the VSLD Winter Meeting back in February at the Gari Melchers Studio Pavilion in Fredericksburg. As always Denise Hargraves did an incredible job with arranging the winter gathering. Great food, fantastic facility, and first class lecture. We had Lisa Delplace from Oehme, van Sweden give a presentation on 'The Aesthetics of Sustainability' that included a beautiful slideshow. For those of you that missed it, don't fret, Denise is cooking up something great for the next winter meeting.

But not so fast. First comes the VSLD Summer Tour. Don't even think about hesitating on this one, or you may not get a spot. Peggy Krapf along with a great deal of help from Jeff Klingel have put together something great for this years tour of the eastern shore of Virginia. At our Board meeting Peggy called in with an update that had me dreaming of seafood and sand (maybe even sailing). Oh yeah, and we will be touring gardens as well. Ed Tankard of Tankard Nurseries has offered his private garden designed by Oehme, van Sweden (great follow up from the winter lecture) for our group to tour. Stops along the quaint villages and shops of the eastern shore as well as a tour of Eyre Hall and much more. Hope to see you there!

Have a great spring, Take some time to enjoy it yourselves.

Your 2009 VSLD President,

L. Scott Creery



Welcome New Members

Certified: Steve Grigg of Grigg Design, Manassas Park, VA
Yulita Ellis of Ellis Landscape and Garden Designs, Gladstone, VA

Student: Mark Griffith of Nautilus Garden Designs, Norfolk, VA

Treasurer's Report

Nanette Parsons
As of 4/30/09

Checking Account	\$19,115.73
Savings Account	\$ 8,091.95
TOTAL FUNDS	\$27,207.68

Secretary's Report

Jane Abbott
Membership Totals as of 5/2/09

Associate Members	13
Certified Members	103
Honorary members	2
Liaison Members	4
Student Members	19
Total:	128

VSLD WINTER MEETING

GARI MELCHERS STUDIO PAVILION

FREDERICKSBURG, VA



Photo Courtesy of Kathy Duncan

Above: Gari Melcher's Home and beautiful Boxwood-lined pathway called the "Long Walk". **Below:** First signs of spring!



Photo Courtesy of Tiffany McCord

The Gari Melchers Studio Pavilion was a lovely setting for our winter meeting in Fredericksburg and the home and grounds are something worth seeing if you are local to the area! We were thankful for the surprisingly sunny winter afternoon that allowed many of us to tour the grounds after the meeting. After a plentiful feast, we enjoyed a talk and presentation given by Lisa Delplace of *Oehme, van Sweden (OvS)*. Her stunning slide-show highlighted several in-depth projects including the beautiful Chicago Botanic Garden. Among other things, she talked about the importance of designing for future aesthetics and functionality by recounting the joy of seeing her vision for the Great Basin come to fruition (remember that Willow hanging over the foot bridge?). A warm thanks goes out to Lisa for joining us and getting our creative juices flowing!

-Tiffany McCord



Photo Courtesy of Tiffany McCord

Above: Staircase with intricate iron railing looks over the hillside toward the wildlife habitat trails.



Above: The wildlife habitat as seen over an old retaining wall with stone urn. Walking paths through the native grasses are maintained for a pleasant nature walk. **Right:** A view of the Rappahanock River from the Summer House.



Photo Courtesy of Kathy Duncan

UPCOMING EVENTS

SPRING/SUMMER 2009

MAY

- May 20** RICHMOND PROFESSIONAL GROUNDS
MAINTENANCE
Topic: Mosquito Control
Contact: info@shippandwilson.com
- May 20** BASIC VIRGINIA CERTIFIED
HORTICULTURIST EXAM (VNLA)
Monroe Technology Center, Leesburg
(10 am- 2 pm)
Contact: VNLA 1-800-476-0055, VCH@vnla.org
www.vnla.org/certification.htm



Photo Courtesy of Chris Coen

JUNE

- June 15-18** ANLA RETAIL ROADSHOW - Mid-Atlantic region
Contact: www.anla.org
- June 16** PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION
sponsored by the Virginia Turfgrass Council
Williamsburg, VA www.vaturf.org
Contact: vaturf@thevtc.org 757-464-1004
- June 17** BASIC VIRGINIA CERTIFIED HORTICULTURIST EXAM (VNLA)
at: Lancaster Farms' Conference Room, Suffolk (6-9 pm)
Contact: VNLA 1-800-476-0055, VCH@vnla.org www.vnla.org/certification.htm
- June 17** RICHMOND PROFESSIONAL GROUNDS MAINTENANCE
Topic: Fire-wise Landscaping Contact: info@shippandwilson.com
- June 18-20** SOUTHEAST GREENHOUSE CONFERENCE
Greenville, SC Contact: 614-487-1117, sgcts@ofa.org www.sgcts.org
- June 23** PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION
sponsored by the Virginia Turfgrass Council
Charlottesville/Staunton, VA www.vaturf.org
Contact: vaturf@thevtc.org 757-464-1004
- June 24-28** PLANET LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
Skamania Lodge, Stevenson, WA
Contact: 800-395-2522, info@landcarenetwork.org www.LandcareNetwork.org

JULY

- July 12-14** PLANET LEGISLATIVE DAY ON THE HILL/RENEWAL & REMEMBRANCE
Washington, DC
Contact: 800-395-2522, info@landcarenetwork.org www.LandcareNetwork.org
- July 13-15** **VSLD SUMMER TOUR**
Eastern Shore of Virginia (see information in newsletter)
- July 19-24** PERENNIAL PLANT ASSOCIATION SYMPOSIUM & TRADE SHOW
St Louis, MO, St Louis Union Station Marriott
Contact: www.perennialplant.org ppa@perennialplant.org 614-771-8431
- July 21-23** PENNSYLVANIA GREEN EXPO
www.pagreenexpo.com 800-789-5068
- July 20-22** ANLA LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE
Washington, DC
Contact: www.anla.org
- July 28-30** PANTS Trade Show
Greater Philadelphia Expo Center at Oaks
Contact: 717.238.1673
www.plna.org / info@PANTSHOW.com



Photo Courtesy of Chris Coen

AUGUST

- August 19** VNLA Field Day 9 am - 4 pm
Location: Merrifield Garden Center, Gainesville, VA
www.vnla.org 800-476-0055 FieldDay@vnla.org
- August 20** VNLA Summer Educational Tour (more info to follow)



SAVE THE DATE!

Conservation Landscaping Conference: December 4, 2009

The Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council (CCLC) announces its third “Turning a New Leaf” Conference on Friday, December 4, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the George Washington University Conference Center in Washington, D.C.. Co-sponsored by GWU’s Landscape Design Program, the conference focuses on sustainable landscaping and development practices and features an “eco-marketplace” by a variety of eco-friendly vendors. Conference tracks include: Sustainable Landscape Design; Selling Green; Getting it Done with Local Governments; and The Science of Sustainability. CEU credits will be available for professional development. The registration fee, to be determined by summer, will include all lectures, exhibits, eco-marketplace, a continental breakfast, box lunch, and an evening reception.

Go to www.chesapeakelandscap.org for additional postings, or call (443) 482-2156.

GREENER GARDENS BY DESIGN

By Diane Roselius

VSLD Certified Landscape Designer, Virginia Certified Horticulturist

It seems we are hearing the word “green” every where in regards to improving our environment and planet. We are making our homes, schools and businesses “green”. Now we can “green” our gardens and landscapes. Green or sustainable gardening blends design with ecology. It uses elements and principles of design; xeriscaping principles; relates people with the natural environment and minimizes environmental impact. It creates a garden or landscape that a homeowner can enjoy as well as having monetary and environmental benefits. Elements of design are line, texture, color, form, and shape. Principles of design are accent or emphasis, scale, sequence, variety, balance (formal and informal) repetition and unity. Elements and principles of design are used to reduce negative affects on the environment. Greener gardens use xeriscaping concepts which are: group plants with like requirements together: limit turf area; install plants suited for your area in regards to weather and soil; use water wisely; and improve soil if necessary.

Maximize natural resources such as pleasant views, woodlands, and marshes. Should you have property that has existing trees and shrubs, consider saving as many as possible. Trees can provide a nice back drop for your home as well as save energy on heating and cooling. Use a “borrowed view” should you have a view of a river, lake, bay or ocean. In the case of property by water the CBA has very strict regulations on existing trees and shrubs. Check these regulations before any plant removal.

Minimize environmental impact by using recycled materials, impervious materials, less electricity, less water, and keeping existing trees and native plants as much as possible. Broken up cement can be used in place of stone when re-enforcing a slope. Use old doors as an accent as well as for use. Trees down by Mother Nature can be milled and used for decking, fences, arbors or gazebos. Recycled plastic has been made into lumber for decking material. Broken china or tiles can be used for decorating. Use of solar power for outdoor lighting or low voltage lighting saves on electricity. Appropriate plant material saves water as does the use of rain gardens.

Greener gardens by design are gardens and landscapes that meet the needs of the present without compromising the needs of future generations. We must look at the design as a way of preserving, enhancing and restoring the ecosystem. We can do this with the principles and element of design, xeriscaping concepts, use of existing plants and views, recycling and using earth friendly materials.



Photo Courtesy of Tiffany McCord

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden Celebrates 25 Years!

To celebrate its 25th anniversary and to thank the community for their support, Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden will be open free to all on July 4th of this year from 12:00 to 4:00.

Lewis Ginter will present the Gillette Forum on Oct.28th and 29th of this year. They are changing the emphasis from recent years. They want to gear it to the professional level as is used to be. The event will begin with an evening dinner with Doug Reed, L A, as the speaker. The next day he will speak again. Thomas Woltz, L A of Nelson, Byrd, and Woltz, will also be a featured speaker followed by breakout sessions. These two speakers were both featured at a big modernism conference recently in Chicago.

For questions, please contact member Kay Moore, Lewis Ginter Liaison

VSLD & Industry Related News

Congratulations to our 5th Annual VSLD Design Contest winners!

Tiffany McCord: Best Landscape Plan/Unbuilt

Jeff Klingel: Best Landscape Plan/Built

Douglas Lockwood: Best Large Scale Plan (over \$75,000)

Tim Krueger: Member's Choice

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

VSLD member, **Kathy Duncan** had an article in the July/Aug 2008 issue of *Washington Gardener Magazine*. It was the cover story on grasses and she got to interview Wolfgang Oehme and Kurt Bluemel for it. And thanks to her article there was a VSLD ad published in another issue.

Member **Patty Adkins** also wrote an article for the *Washington Gardener Magazine*. Her article also appeared in the July/August issue and VSLD received a free ad in return for her penmanship which ran next to the article.

The October 2008 issue of *Virginia Gardener Magazine* also had a member-written article in it and a ¼ page VSLD advertisement. **Michele Fletcher** wrote about the landscape design that won her a 2007 VSLD design award.

In the Nov/Dec. 2008 *Virginia Gardener Magazine* member **Eve Willis** wrote about the 2008 VSLD design award winners and yet another VSLD ad will be included in it as a result of her effort. She also had a design article in the February issue.

Brian Bulman has an article titled "Design Challenges Should not be Design Limitations" in the April 2009 issue of *Virginia Gardener Magazine* and a VSLD ad also ran in this issue.

Associate Member, **Paul Pietrowski** reports that **Outdoor Kitchen Creations** is featured in the May/June issue of the *Hearth and Patio Products Report* with a multi page article and photo spread. You may request a free subscription to this industry magazine by filling out **this form**.

VSLD Member, **Jeffrey Minnich** was recently featured on HGTV's "Curb Appeal".

VSLD Member, **Hugh Perry**, has produced an informative and well done video called "The ABC's of Pruning". It was featured on HGTV and is available through his website <http://hplandscape.com/>

A Note of Thanks From Michele Fletcher: Thanks to all the member writers who have donated ads on behalf of VSLD. This publicity is invaluable to our organization. I hope I haven't missed anyone. If I have let me know.

Remember - writing for these magazines is a wonderful opportunity, especially in this economic climate, to get your name out in front of potential clients. And just a reminder but the next design award application due date is only about 7 months away. Winning a VSLD Design award is another great way to get noticed. For information on writing an article on design or on another landscape topic contact the VSLD coordinator, Michele Fletcher at (540) 464-1599 or at plantlover@ntelos.net

SUBMISSIONS: Please send any comments, articles, upcoming events, and pictures to Tiffany McCord, newsletter editor, at tsmccord@mac.com. Text files should be in MS Word, PDF, or just typed into the body of an e-mail. Photographs should be no JPG, TIF, or PDF and no less than 200 dpi.

VSLD Summer Tour Itinerary

July 13, 14, 15 2009

Eastern Shore of Virginia

Monday, July 13th

- Check into hotels (see attached for recommended accommodations) – Cape Charles, VA.
- Dinner on own.
- 7:00 Wine and Cheese at Cape Charles House B&B
- OR
- 6:30 – 9:00 Evening (BYOB) Cruise on schooner *Serenity* (sailserenity@msn.com) for an additional \$40 per person. Note: We must have 20 people minimum to reserve the boat – 30 maximum capacity.

Tuesday, July 14th

- 8:00 Board buses to travel north to Temperanceville, VA.
- Visit home and gardens of Terry Thomas. Shop at Thomas' Gardens – a nursery specializing in rare and unusual perennials.
- Lunch stop at Onancock – recently named one of the Top 5 “coolest small towns” in the US.
- Visit “Fern Point” – private garden designed by Bill Pinkham.
- Eyre Hall Gardens – Virginia Historic Landmark – formal gardens of magnolia, yew, crepe myrtle, boxwood and hydrangeas.
- Return to lodgings to freshen up.
- 6:30 Cocktails/dinner meeting at Aqua/Bay Creek Resort Club in Cape Charles.

Wednesday, July 15th

- 9:00 Carpool to Olney, Va
- Tour Turner Sculpture Gallery and Foundry (www.turnersculpture.com) to see bronze nature statuary and sculptures being created.
- Visit Sea View – Home of Ed Tankard (Tankard Nurseries). Gardens designed by Oehme & Van Sweden.

Tour officially ends...leave for home or stay to explore more of the Eastern Shore of Virginia.
Have a safe trip!

VSLD Summer Tour Accommodations

July 13, 14, 15 2009
Eastern Shore of Virginia

Please make your own reservation – mention “VSLD Summer Tour”. Please book as soon as possible to guarantee a room.

Name & Contact Information	Description	Rates Cape Charles adds 10% tax to accommodations
Cape Charles House 645 Tazewell Ave Cape Charles, VA 23310 stay@capecharleshouse.com www.capecharleshouse.com (757) 331-4920	Charming B&B in Cape Charles’ Historic District. 5 rooms.	\$120 - 200
Sea Gate 9 Tazewell Ave Cape Charles, VA 23310 Sea_gate@verizon.net www.seagatebb.com (757) 331-2206	Quaint B&B also in the Cape Charles Historic District. 4 rooms.	\$120 - 140
Cape Charles Hotel Historic Inn 235 Mason Ave Cape Charles, VA 23310 www.capecharleshotel.com (757) 331-4000 (888) 868-4378	Quaint, historic hotel “downtown”. 15 rooms.	\$120 - 160
Rittenhouse Motor Lodge 23054 Lankford Hwy Cape Charles, VA 23310 www.rittenhousemotorlodge.com (757) 331-2768	Cute and funky 1950’s old Eastern Shore motel. 2 beds per room.	\$100 - 125
Shore Stay Suites 26046 Lankford Hwy Cape Charles, VA 23310 www.shorestaysuites.com (757) 331-4090	Not much charm but nice and clean. Good to share with a roommate. 2 queens per room.	\$150
Holiday Inn Express - Exmore 3446 Lankford Hwy Exmore, VA 23350 hiexexmore@gmail.com (757) 442-5522	25 minutes from Cape Charles.	

VSLD Summer Tour Registration Form

July 13, 14, 15 2009

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____

Best Phone During/Just Before Tour: _____

_____ VSLD Member/Spouse @ \$125.00 each _____

_____ Non-Member/Guest @ \$175 each _____

_____ (Optional) Schooner *Serenity* Cruise @ \$40 each _____

Total Enclosed (Make Check Payable to VSLD) \$ _____

Not a Member?

Join as an Associate or Student to register at the Member/Spouse rate

Visit <http://www.vsl.org/join.htm>

VSLD Associate Membership \$50 or Student \$25

_____ Boxed Lunch (es) – Check one for each person accompanying you

_____ Ham _____ Chicken _____ Veggie

Dinner will be a Beach Clam Bake Buffet

Including Local Clams, Shrimp, & Pork BBQ

Any dietary concerns....please e-mail PKrapflnscapr@cs.com

or call Peggy Krapf at 757-566-9088

I Can Help:

_____ Bring coolers for soft drinks and bottled water

_____ Set Up/Clean Up after wine and cheese

_____ Other

Registration is not refundable. Please make your check payable to VSLD

Send to: Peggy Krapf
PO Box 711
Toano, VA 23168

PKrapflnscapr@cs.com
757-566-9088

**** Allow \$24 round trip toll for Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel ****

MEMBER BULLETIN BOARD

Nature is Calling: New “Habitat at Home©” DVD

Do your clients enjoy seeing birds and other wildlife around their homes? A new “Habitat at Home©” DVD has just been produced by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. The 40 minute program contains four segments which showcase different types of beautiful habitat gardens, with tips for improving wildlife habitat around homes in rural or suburban areas. The first segment on the DVD is a butterfly garden in Virginia Beach, where you’ll learn what the butterflies look for when they seek out nectar sources and places to lay their eggs. The second segment on a rural property in Rappahannock county features water gardens that provide a natural home for salamanders, frogs and other amphibians, as well as the aquatic insects that support them. A shrub and woodland garden in Shenandoah county in the third segment illustrates hedgerows, bird houses and brush piles. The final segment is a wonderful, low maintenance native plant garden in the heart of suburban Arlington.

Throughout the DVD, homeowners are encouraged to identify, remove, and replace invasive exotic species with native ones that will be much more beneficial to wildlife.

The DVD is \$12 and comes with an informational brochure and plant list, available through the Department’s online store, at www.dgif.virginia.gov. Or, call (804) 367-2569 to place a phone order.

What’s in a Winning Landscape Design?

From our 5th Annual VSLD Design Contest Winners

Douglas Lockwood

Best Large Scale Plan (over \$75,000)

The clients desired a private resort like retreat emphasizing natural materials. The overall style gave the project an “East meets West” flavor. The plant palette along with the hardscape features needed to create year round appeal. All plants had to be a mix of low maintenance evergreens and long blooming perennials and grasses.

The topography of the project area was very flat prompting the client to request elevation changes. This was accomplished by creating and balancing the placement of 3 tall elements across the project: a natural rock slide at the center of the project, a raised area ready for a future gazebo with hot tub on the right side and an arched pergola on the left side of the patio. Thus creating overall balance and aesthetic appeal.

Jeff Klingel

Best Landscape Plan/Built

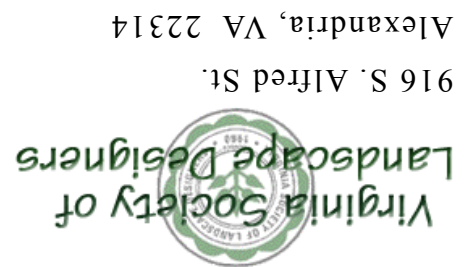
This project was at the end of years of meticulous remodeling. The landscaping at the entry was not expansive so the plants used needed to work in simple harmony to link the style of the house to the landscape.

My client has a distinct sense of style and can think outside the box. She was willing to take some risks. This offered me the opportunity to employ a plant palette that is not the typical foundation planting. Indeed it payed off. The home and landscape are very photogenic and continue to enjoy the spotlight in numerous magazines including *Virginia Living*.

Tiffany McCord

Best Landscape Plan/Unbuilt

The lot for this property was an odd shape that restricted where the new construction could take place. The siting allowed for ample lawn space without cutting back on the homeowners requested “variety of outdoor living areas for entertaining both adults and children”, but there was one snag. The homeowner specifically requested a basketball court without compromising the view of the backyard and adjacent wooded area. This left only one level space directly in front of the garage along the road. I spent a great deal of time devising a planting scheme surrounding the expanse of asphalt so that it would be virtually unseen by the homeowners as well as any passers-by.



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