

VSLD *n e w s*



Spring 2008

President's Message

Registration Deadline
for the VSLD Summer
Tour is June 5!

*Check us out
on the web at:
www.vslid.org*

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It is an honor to write my first missive in the newsletter as your president. I joined VSLD in my last year of classes in the George Washington University landscape design program [2002]. Classes were held at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens. It was a delight to walk to class through the gardens [the education building was still under construction] trying to absorb the principles that lay behind the framework of the paths and gardens.

Our winter meeting held at the Hahn Pavilion at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg was smoothly orchestrated by Denise Hargraves [well done, Denise!]. It was a lovely setting with delicious food. Space was tight, but we were able to showcase the new booth. It is an excellent opportunity for you to display your work. Send Mac Drane or Nanette Parsons your 8" x 11" laminated photo with business card. And volunteer when it is in your region—I helped at this year's LGBG spring plant sale with Karen Welch, a new member. She received several serious leads. I bought too many plants!

Beside the fact that I am a serious plantaholic and wanted to find like-minded souls, why did I join VSLD? In essence, because I feel strongly that good landscape design—"everything you see as you walk out the front door"—should be encouraged so that the public not only wants it for their own property, they expect it from their environment



Photo Courtesy of Tiffany McCord

by encouraging local governments and businesses to make it a vital part of their planning. By promoting professional standards within our organization and educating the public about what we offer, VSLD has a wonderful opportunity to continue to do that. Of course, HGTV has had a greater impact! than our state association, but by educating each client we help validate what we are all about.

It was a personal privilege as your president to attend a by invitation only lecture to hear Lynden B. Miller's talk on "the economic impact of urban beautification" at the Commonwealth Club in Richmond. Ms. Miller is a public garden designer and Director of the Conservatory Garden in Central Park in New York City. The lecture was sponsored by Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens. On the invitation LGBG highlighted its "significant relationships with ... green industry organizations, including...the Virginia Society of Landscape Designers." A wonderful honor to be connected to an exciting and thriving botanic garden. In September 2009 LGBG will celebrate its 25th anniversary. In his opening remarks Board member William King, Jr. said that now that the 80 acre garden has been developed Lewis Ginter has started reaching out into the community offering help and advice to civic groups to enhance neighborhood parks and gardens.

Ms. Miller's lecture was inspirational and motivating as I am sure this year's summer tour will be. Held in Charlottesville, we will be looking at green design. The Omni Hotel has a block of rooms for us. It is on the mall—a fun place to stay with shops and restaurants within walking distance.

Each year when I attend the tour I meet more members, and it is always good to visit with old friends. Not many opportunities arise where I can talk plants non-stop without boring the listener! It's a chance to visit finished gardens and get inspiration. The April issue of Garden Design has an article on Appeltern in Holland. It is a 32 acre show garden "where landscape designers, suppliers and manufacturers of garden materials, as well as growers, strut their stuff." But since The Netherlands may be a distant dream for most of us, take a moment now to register for the tour where we will be able to see green principles and good design. A more feasible way to get fresh ideas, discover new plants and see another part of Virginia.

The Spring newsletter was delayed due to a change in our editor. Leslie Campbell resigned as she has decided to pursue a different career. She did a wonderful job for us. Tiffany McCord has agreed to take the position. Kindly send her materials and news you would like published for our Summer edition.

Hope to see you on the tour, or if you are in Fredericksburg stop by.

Cheers,
Margaret

Winter Meeting

February 8, 2008
The Peggy Hahn Pavilion at Virginia Tech



Secretary's Report

Jane Abbott

Membership Totals as of May 20, 2008

Certified Members	100
Honorary members	2
Liaisons	3
*Totals:	105

*Does not include Associate and Student Members

From Top Left to Bottom Right: Kathy Wulf receiving VSLD 4th annual Design award from Margaret Pavela; Vic Meadows and Margaret Pavela in front of new Booth; Helen Janele receiving VSLD 4th annual Design award; Stephanie Huckstein VT Gardens with VSLD member, Carol Heiser; VSLD members touring gardens; Kathy Duncan receiving President's Spirit Award

Treasurer's Report

Nanette Parsons

As of 4/30/08

Checking Account	\$17,167.43
Savings Account	\$ 8,073.71
TOTAL FUNDS	\$25,241.14

New Members

Certified:	Jeff Klingel
	Ginny Moore Morrow
Student:	LeeAnne R. Brooks
	Roger Clapp
	Emily Koster
	Will Johnson
	Kathleen Maxfield

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUMMER/FALL 2008



Photo Courtesy of Tiffany McCord

- June 3** Workshop: Container Gardening
Norfolk Botanical Gardening
www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.org
- August 21** Conservation Landscaping Workshop &
Charette: Techniques for Urban Design
Contact Carol.Heiser@dgif.virginia.gov or
(804) 367-6989
Register by May 28 for the June 5 workshop
or by August 14 for the Aug. 21 workshop
FREE
- June 23** Northern Virginia Nursery & Landscape Association
Membership Meeting at George Washington's Mt. Vernon
Contact: 571-722-3542
- June 28** The Richmond Area Daylily Society Show and Sale
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Richmond, VA
- JULY 14-16 VSLD Summer Tour (See Tour Information and Registration on Page 5)**
- July 18** Woody Plant Conference, Scott Arboretum, Swarthmore, PA (610) 328-8025
- July 20-26** Perennial Plant Symposium
Sheraton City Center Hotel, Philadelphia, PA
Contact: 614-771-8431, ppa@perennialplant.org
- August 2** Feast for the Senses: Smell, Holly Shimizu on Fragrant Gardens, LGBG
- August 14** VNLA Annual Field Day
Tankard Nurseries, Exmore, VA
Contact: 800-476-0055, info@vnla.org www.vnla.org
- Sept. 20** The Virginia Garden Festival 9 am - 4 pm
Virginia Science Museum, Richmond, VA
Sponsored by the Virginia Green Industry Council
Consumer educational programs, many demonstrations, garden vendors, food and fun!
Contact: 540-382-0943, info@virginiagreen.org www.virginiagreen.org
FREE
- Sept. 20-22** FASHION IN BLOOM
Conard-Pyle Co, West Grove, PA
Sponsored by the Garden Centers of America
Homestead Growers, Davidsonville, MD
American Horticultural Society, Alexandria, VA

REGISTER NOW!

The Virginia Society of Landscape Designers Annual Summer Garden Tour

Monday – Wednesday
July 14, 15, & 16, 2008



'Green' Landscape Design in Central Virginia

\$125.00 Members, Associate/Student Members & Spouses / \$175.00 Non-members
10 Continuing Education Credits (CEU's)

This year the tour focuses on gardens that set the standard for sustainable design and environmental responsibility. Join VSLD members for an exclusive look at "green" gardens and landscapes in Charlottesville, Historic Green Springs and Keswick that incorporate native plants, green roof systems, irrigation using rainwater cisterns, environmentally sensitive design, and organic maintenance methods.

The tour concludes Wednesday morning with a tour of "The Dell" at UVA.



The tour includes transportation, a picnic lunch on Tuesday, and relaxing with garden hosts and designers at a cocktail party on Tuesday evening at the Charlottesville Community Design Center on the Downtown Mall. The tour will begin Tuesday morning and will end mid-day on Wednesday. Please come early and/or stay late to explore the historic homes & gardens, shopping, and hiking the area has to offer.

Special rates available on Monday and Tuesday nights at the OMNI located on the downtown mall in Charlottesville within walking distance of the best dining in town.

VSLD special rate \$139.00 per night plus tax.

Book before June 5, 2008 by calling 1-800-THE-OMNI. Mention Virginia Society of Landscape Designers when you reserve.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Monday, 14 July: 3pm check-in Omni Hotel Charlottesville; Dinner on your own

Tuesday, 15 July: 815am Head for the hills via passenger vans
Green Landscape Design from City to Farm

🌿 **RiverBluff** - *conservation community above the Rivanna River*

🌿 **Historic Green Springs - Louisa County**

Two gardens and a Picnic - Fern Hill and Ionia Farm

Featuring native plants, organic methods, rain garden, in and around the Green Springs National Historic District

Picnic featuring locally grown foods (vegetarian included)

🌿 **Shopping Break at The Gentle Gardener, Gordonsville**

🌿 **Scenic Byway 231/22 through Keswick**

🌿 **Visit Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Roundabout Farm**
Organic/biodynamic farming vegetables/flowers for subscribers

🌿 **Sustainable Design in the Keswick Estate: Sterba Residence**
Streambank plantings featuring native plants for heavy, poor soils; roof rainwater-fed irrigation system

🌿 **6:30pm - Cocktails and Hors d'Oeuvres at CitySpace**
Charlottesville Community Design Center Downtown Mall
Share locally-grown food and drink, expertly prepared by Beggars Banquet, with our generous hosts and designers of the gardens. Walk from Hotel.

Wednesday, 16 July: 815am - Depart hotel via Carpool
Public Landscapes with a Sustainable Focus

🌿 **Daylighted Streams, Biofilters/Rain Gardens, and more at public landscapes including The Dell at University of Virginia**

🌿 **OPTION 1: 12 noon Tour Green Roof at Albemarle County Office Building**
Limited spaces available - sign up as you register

🌿 **OPTION 2: Tour UVA Lawn, Pavilion Gardens and Grounds on your own**
Use FREE Public Transit via Trolley from UVA Chapel back to Downtown Mall

Pictures from Top to Bottom:

Ionia Farm, RiverBluff, Charlottesville Community Design Center, The Dell

VSLD Summer Tour Registration Form

July 14, 15, 16 2008

Name (s) _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Best Phone during/just before tour: _____

_____ VSLD Member/Spouse @ \$125.00 each _____

_____ Non-Member/Guest @ \$175.00 each _____

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

Not a member?

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

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

VSLD Associate Membership \$50 OR STUDENT \$25

Picnic Lunch and Cocktail Party fare include vegetarian and vegan options; no need to reserve in advance. Any dietary concerns please email virginia@gentlegardener.com or call Virginia Rockwell 540-832-3249.

***If you would like to attend the optional Green Roof tour at the Albemarle County Office Building on Wednesday at noon, please indicate below so that we can make reservations.

Yes No Number of people in your party _____

Volunteer Opportunities:

_____ I can navigate/read maps/ be an alternate van driver

_____ I can help keep my party on schedule throughout the day

_____ I can help clean up after the cocktail party

_____ I can put digital photos on a jump drive/CD for a cocktail party slide show/digital photo frame

Registration is not refundable. Make your check payable to VSLD.

Send to: Denise Hargraves
12252 Llama Lane
Somerset, VA 22972
access2denise@aol.com

Virginia Rockwell
540-832-3249
virginia@gentlegardener.com



PLA Seminar: Fellowship, CEUs, and Goodies!

Every year, the Piedmont Landscape Association (PLA) holds a seminar in Charlottesville with speakers and industry exhibits. I took advantage of the opportunity this past Valentine's Day, as did a number of fellow VSLD members (some of whom, including Heather Taylor and Denise Hargraves, are members and officers of PLA), and we were all glad we did--and not just for the tasty and filling array of donuts and muffins and beverages laid out for us in the morning, or the opportunity to take lunch on the Charlottesville pedestrian mall with good friends, or a day's worth of CEUs.

Rick Darke talked about landscape designing in context--that is, land use that is appropriate not only for people but also for the environment and the living things on that land, both in terms of built structures and the plantings around them. Not exactly what many of us had expected to hear from this noted expert on ornamental grasses, but it was an eye-opening talk nevertheless, and I came away with a list of native grasses to try in my own microcosmic attempts at contextual land planning.



Photo courtesy of Heather Taylor

Dr. Jay Stipes, a retired Virginia Tech professor of plant pathology, entertained the audience with anecdotes of a lifetime of being called in to diagnose and treat ailments of the state's most noteworthy leafy citizens.

Nancy Ross Hugo recounted her participation in the Remarkable Trees of Virginia project and showed us photos of some pretty amazing trees. Her talk made me want to go out and see some of these trees in person to better appreciate them.

Ridge Schuyler, Director of the Nature Conservancy's Piedmont Program, challenged us all to make better choices in our management of rainwater and explained methods we each could use that would protect our rivers and streams. I was particularly interested in this talk, as I'm currently working on a stream reclamation project for an area homeowner. Did you know that a one-inch rain event produces 600 gallons of rainwater for each 1,000 square foot of space, much of which enters our stormwater management systems having washed off the impervious surfaces of roofs and roads? That it costs an average of \$350 per linear foot to restore a stream bed, and \$7 per linear foot to plant a riparian buffer? (Once again, planning ahead proves less costly in the long run!)

After the talks were done, the PLA held an event that everyone I talked to recognized as much as the speakers: the annual door prize raffle. In addition to some very generous gift certificates to area businesses, a number of truly standout plants went home with new owners. I had my eye on one of two gorgeous hardy banana trees but was not disappointed to win a Sparkleberry holly covered in berries instead. Other prizes included a pair of Edgeworthias, pansies, hellebores, t-shirts and gardening equipment and gloves, and bags and bags of compost.

If you missed this year's seminar, fear not. They've been doing this for 25 years. Bookmark the PLA's website - <http://www.piedmont-landscape.org/index.html> - and make plans to catch the event next year!



Photo courtesy of Chris Coen

VSLD BOOTHWATCH

Summer 2008 edition

by Chris Coen, VSLD Booth Coordinator

clarentine@gmail.com

804-475-6767

The booth has had an up and down year thus far. It appeared at MAHSC and the Mid-Atlantic Home and Garden Show in Virginia Beach and the Maymont Home and Garden Show in Richmond. Copies of the winning entries in the 2007 Design Contest are now being displayed on both small and large booths to bring VSLD additional attention (who doesn't like to look at actual designs?) and to boost awareness of the design contest. The combined Maymont Garden Show and Richmond Home Show brought lots of new faces to see our booth, and we had a great location. However, location for the garden show in Virginia Beach was rather less than great and volunteerism for manning the both at that show was at the lowest I've seen in four or five years.

Because you gain nothing by running in place, your Board discussed and agreed to see about having our booth at the Spring Garden Sale at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. It was a well-attended event, as these sales usually are, and we had superb weather and a terrific location. Thank you again to everyone who volunteered to work the booth, including all the less-experienced designers who stepped forward to see what it was all about and the more-experienced designers who showed them the ropes. I hope to see even more new people standing up for the VSLD the next time!

We also discussed other venues, including some of the smaller one-day garden shows and plant sales, in keeping with our educational mandate. If you know of such a show in your area and think you could drum up enough volunteerism to support it, we can send you the smaller booth via UPS.

And speaking of volunteerism...as a result of long-term difficulty in filling volunteer slots for the big Virginia Beach home and garden show, amongst other issues, we have regretfully decided not to place the booth at that show next year. We do want to support our members in the Tidewater region, but we need your help to do so. If you'll identify venues you can support with your time and presence, we'll work with you to get the booth there.

Below are the current future appearances for the booth. We will need volunteers, as always, and I encourage you to come support VSLD. If you don't have email, you can certainly call me at the number above to let me know you're interested in volunteering. Come meet your fellow designers and learn from them, help build our organizational strength and educate the public on the value of design, and boost your own business while accruing CEUs (if you're a certified member).



Photo courtesy of Chris Coen

Sept. 20, 2008	Virginia Garden Festival at the Science Museum ****VOLUNTEERS NEEDED****	Richmond
Fall 2008	Fall Plant Sale at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden ****VOLUNTEERS NEEDED****	Richmond

MEMBER BULLETIN BOARD

ATTENTION ALL VSLD MEMBERS

You have the opportunity to market yourself and VSLD and be a “published” writer. VSLD gets a free ad and you get the publicity!

Please think about what you have to offer and contact me. Virginia Gardener and Washington Gardener are looking for short articles on “Before and After” Designed gardens and other types of articles as needed.

The Virginia Gardener Magazine is state-wide and according to the new guidelines it is also offering some money to writers to sweeten the deal where VSLD get advertising space for your efforts.

KEEP IN MIND: Copies of your published article can be helpful to you in many ways and you could send a press release to your own newspaper about this accomplishment as well so do yourself a favor and consider some writing as part of your marketing and for VSLD. (You also get VSLD and VNLA CEUs for these!) One of our VSLD members had the Cover Article a couple years ago!

I have the guidelines for the “Before and After” design articles. Contact me and I’ll hook you up with the editors so you can discuss article content further.

Michele Fletcher, VSLD
plantlover@ntelos.net / 540 464-1599

NOTABLE NEWS

A terrace and outdoor kitchen designed by VSLD member **Katherine Brooks** is showcased in Hanover Pavers new 2008 idea book entitled “At Home with Hanover”. See her work on pages 28, 29 and 79.

Graham Howe will be featured in the Before & After article in Virginia Gardener and Washington Gardener (May/June ‘08).

Michele Fletcher volunteered her time to a Habitat for Humanity landscaping project last August in Glasgow, VA. Dan Walz, executive director of Rockbridge Area Habitat for Humanity in Virginia comments that Michele’s upfront design work, plant sourcing, as well as the visits to the site during and after the work, was greatly appreciated by all parties involved. The Washington & Lee students who were able to implement her plan also really enjoyed the opportunity to work hand-in-hand with a landscape designer.

Doug Lockwood’s design for the James Residence in Williamsburg, VA placed in the top three in the annual national awards competition sponsored by the I.C.P.I. (the Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute).

Barbara Schuler, owner of Creative Garden Design in New Kent, received the Gold Award for Best Landscaping and the Gold Award for Best Patio for her landscape design in the 2008 parade of Homes in Yorktown, Virginia. The house, the Villa del Cattivo Uva, “House of the Naughty Grape” won a total of five Gold Awards and Two Silver, and received the coveted Best in Show Award. Barbara’s landscape design included extensive hardscaping; a front entrance courtyard, a wood burning fire pit with seating, a reflecting pool with an arbor and a sunken, swim up bar / conversation area for the swimming pool.

Please send any comments, articles, upcoming events, and pictures to
Tiffany McCord, newsletter editor at tsmccord@mac.com.



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