

VSLD *n e w s*



Winter 2010

President's Message



Photo Courtesy of Tiffany McCord

Dear VSLD Members:

Well, it's winter. The weather is as confusing as it can get here in Virginia. Record snow before the holidays and in the 60's near the end of January here in my area. All it takes is for the garden catalogs and magazines to start rolling in with visions of spring and as a designer it gets my brain stirring.

I know this past year has not been easy on our profession. The economy still seems to be making clients think twice about where they invest their money. We need to continue to get the word out to the public about the importance of hiring a VSLD Certified Designer. I am pleased to say that the board has finalized the new VSLD logo. We will have the official unveiling at the Annual Winter Meeting. Look for the new logo on our brochures, media releases, VSLD magazine articles and more. As we move forward, the push is to work on updating the website and make it more user friendly and exciting to the public.

The Annual Winter Meeting in conjunction with the 50th Year Anniversary will be held February 13th at the Gari Melchers Design Pavillion in Fredericksburg. Denise Hargraves, with the help of others, is really making this a top notch event. Denise has been instrumental in arranging the winter meeting the past three years. My hat's off to her for such an effort.

Diane Roselius will be presenting the 6th annual design contest awards at the Winter Meeting. For those of you that missed the deadline to enter, don't forget that you may bring a design to be judged for 'members choice' at the meeting. This is a great way to be recognized by your peers as well as have the VSLD promote you as a designer. Winning designs are displayed with the booth throughout the year.

CONTENTS

President's Message	1-2
Treasurer's Report	2
Secretary's Report	2
Acknowledgements & VSLD Scholarship Info	3
VSLD Winter Meeting	4
<i>VSLD Reception at the MAHSC</i> by Diane Roselius	5
<i>Viburnum Leaf Beetle: The Next Horticultural Disaster?</i> by Chris Coen	6-8
Member Photographs	8
Upcoming Events	9
VNLA's Plants of Distinction Program	10-11

Speaking of the booth, I can't tell you enough how well organized Eve Willis has been with coordinating and setting up the booth at various events this past year. With the economy down this is an excellent way to get out and meet the public. The VSLD provides the spot that many of us would not be able to afford if we had to promote ourselves individually. Volunteering for a shift is easy and rewarding. Just give Eve a call.

This years summer tour will take us to North Carolina. Heather Taylor will be organizing the tour with more information to come at the winter meeting and in the next newsletter.

With this my last letter as VSLD president I want to thank all of you that have taken the time to help the VSLD grow. This is an incredible group to be a part of and I have felt privileged to work with the board and other members of the VSLD this year.

Happy 50th Year Anniversary

L. Scott Creery
VSLD President



Treasurer's Report		Secretary's Report	
Nanette Parsons		Jane Abbott	
As of 12/31/09		Membership Totals as of 02/02/10	
Checking Account	\$20,563.74	Certified Members	95
Savings Account	\$ 8,097.41	Associate Members	11
TOTAL FUNDS	\$28,661.15	Honorary members	1
		Liaison Members	4
		Student Members	11
		Total:	122

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to the following VSLD members for their generous contributions to the VSLD Scholarship Fund:



David Adams
Janet Baruch
Michele Fletcher
Stan Francis
Peggy Krapf
Kimberly League
Lisa Lipsey
Barbara Schuler
Aileen Watson



Presented annually, this scholarship is available to any community college student with an interest in landscape design. If you know someone who fits the criteria listed below, encourage them to apply. Download the application at our website www.vsl.com.

Annual VSLD Scholarship

Criteria Required:

1. Applicant should be a college student primarily interested in a career in landscape design
2. Must be currently enrolled in a curriculum which includes landscape design courses.
3. Minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average.
4. Resident of Virginia.
5. Financial need may be a determining factor in the final decision.

ALL of the following items must be enclosed to complete your scholarship application:

- * Completed VSLD Scholarship Application with signature
- * Current college / university transcript
- * One-page cover letter describing your current studies and career objectives
- * Resume with work experience listed and names and contact information of at least 3 references

Deadline Date: March 31, 2010 (for 2010-2011 academic year)

Amount: \$500.00

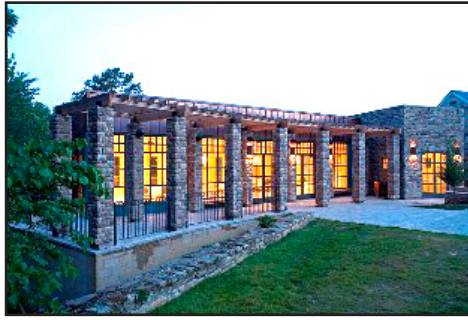
The scholarship program is intended as an educational aid for a qualified student who intends to pursue a career in Virginia as a landscape designer.

*Return completed applications to your Community College Horticulture Department Head
before March 31.*

Scholarship applications are current only for the academic year submitted.

Failure to follow application instructions may result in your application being disqualified.

VSLD WINTER MEETING



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2010
GARI MELCHERS STUDIO PAVILION
FREDERICKSBURG, VA

LET'S CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF VSLD, TOGETHER
PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US FOR LUNCH, DESIGN AWARDS,
AND OUR ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

GUEST SPEAKERS: WAYNE WINTERROWD AND JOE ECK
DESIGNING GARDENS, THE NORTH HILL WAY

JOE ECK AND WAYNE WINTERROWD WILL USE IMAGES BOTH OF THEIR OWN GARDEN IN SOUTHERN VERMONT AND OF OTHER GARDENS THEY HAVE DESIGNED THROUGHOUT NORTH AMERICA, IN ORDER TO ISOLATE AND DEFINE THE PRINCIPLES OF GARDEN DESIGN WHICH GUIDE THEM IN CREATING GARDENS. ECK AND WINTERROWD FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT THOUGH PLANT CHOICES MAY VARY FROM REGION TO REGION, THE CONSIDERATIONS THAT MAKE A SUCCESSFUL GARDEN ALWAYS REMAIN THE SAME.

DOORS WILL OPEN AT 9:30 AM
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED IN THE MORNING
AS WE VIEW OUR DESIGN CONTEST ENTRIES
AND HOLD OUR ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING,
FOLLOWED BY A DELICIOUS LUNCH
AND A LECTURE PREPARED ESPECIALLY FOR US

More information at [http://www.umw.edu/gari melchers](http://www.umw.edu/gari%20melchers) and
<http://www.northhillgarden.com/>.

Directions to Belmont: From I-95: Take Falmouth-Warrenton Exit 133A towards Falmouth. Follow US Route 17 1 ¼ mile to State Route 1001 (Washington Street, just before flashing light) and turn right. The Belmont entrance will be on the right.

VSLD RECEPTION AT THE MAHSC

Submitted by
Diane Roselius

The VSLD Reception held on January 25, 2010 at The Founders' Inn in Virginia Beach for the Mid-Atlantic Horticultural Short Course was a success. We had twenty-two attendees, ten of which were VSLD members. We had several special guests, Ed Tankard of Tankard Nurseries and this year's VNLA President, Jim Orband with Virginia Tec, and speaker, Mary Palmer Dargan, landscape architect and lecturer. Mary Dargan gave a very inspiring workshop on Timeless Designs in a Day. There were approximately 70 participants at her workshop. The reception was a good time to visit with fellow designers and to see friends that live in other parts of the state. I am hoping that the non-certified designer will consider joining our association. Peggy Krapf and Brian O'Neal helped me host the event.





Viburnum x juddii by Chris Coen

Viburnum Leaf Beetle: The Next Horticultural Disaster?

Written by Chris Coen

A burgeoning menace--a tiny brown beetle, *Pyrrhalta viburni*, also known as the viburnum leaf beetle--is moving southward, consuming and destroying both native and imported varieties of viburnums as it advances. Cornell University has been studying this invader, monitoring its behavior and serving as a clearinghouse for information on dealing with the infestation - you can find their webpage here: <http://www.hort.cornell.edu/vlb/>, including photos of the beetles, larvae and eggs.

The beetle, a European native which appears to have been accidentally introduced to North America through Canada, was first encountered in Maine in 1994 and in New York, along the shores of Lake Ontario, in 1996. Its larvae infest and skeletonize susceptible plants before pupating in the soil and then arising in midsummer to begin the cycle over

again. Subsequent infestations weaken the plants until eventually they die. Females lay eggs in tiny holes drilled along the twigs of the host plants, leaving identifiable scars which we in the Virginia nursery and landscape trades should familiarize ourselves with, as the most recent data indicates the beetle has spread as far southward as Harrisburg PA and parts of New Jersey.

Viburnum species known to be susceptible to the beetle include the following, divided into degree of susceptibility according to data collected by entomologist Dr. Paul Weston, formerly of Cornell University, and his staff:

Very susceptible:

- *V. dentatum*, Arrowwood viburnum
- *V. nudum*, Possomhaw or smooth withered viburnum
- *V. opulus*, European cranberrybush viburnum
- *V. opulus* var. *americana*, formerly *V. trilobum*, American cranberrybush viburnum
- *V. propinquum*, Chinese or Taiwanese viburnum
- *V. rafinesquianum*, Rafinesque viburnum

Susceptible:

- *V. acerifolium*, mapleleaf viburnum
- *V. lantana*, wayfaringtree viburnum
- *V. rufidulum*, rusty or southern blackhaw
- *V. sargentii*, Sargent viburnum
- *V. wrightii*, Wright viburnum

Moderately susceptible:

- *V. alnifolium* (*V. lantanoides*), hobblebush
- *V. burkwoodii*, Burkwood viburnum
- *V. x carlcephalum*, Carlcephalum viburnum

- *V. cassinoides*, withered viburnum
- *V. dilatatum*, linden viburnum
- *V. farreri*, fragrant viburnum (except 'Nanum', which is highly susceptible)
- *V. lentago*, nannyberry viburnum
- *V. macrocephalum*, Chinese snowball viburnum
- *V. x pragense*, Prague viburnum
- *V. prunifolium*, blackhaw viburnum
- *V. x rhytidophylloides*, lantanaphyllum viburnum
- *V. tinus*, laurustinus viburnum

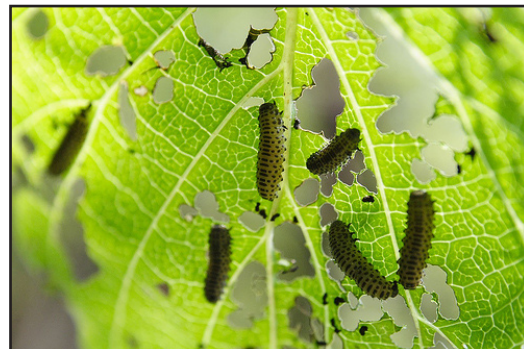
Mostly resistant:

- *V. bodnantense*, dawn viburnum
- *V. carlesii*, Koreanspice viburnum
- *V. davidii*, David viburnum
- *V. x juddii*, Judd viburnum
- *V. plicatum* and *V. plicatum* var. *tomentosum*, doublefile viburnum
- *V. rhytidophyllum*, leatherleaf viburnum
- *V. setigerum*, tea viburnum
- *V. sieboldii*, Siebold viburnum

(source: <http://www.hort.cornell.edu/vlb/suscept.html>)

What can you do to help stop the spread of this pest? First, know what an infestation looks like. The beetles and their larvae are very small--about one quarter inch long--but tend to be found in large numbers. The eggs are best spotted when the plants are leafless, in the fall and winter; look for matchhead-sized brown caps stud-
ding the undersides of young twigs. When the larvae are feeding, you will see skeletonized leaves, often with holes that cross leaf veins but leave the veins themselves intact. See photos at the Cornell site (<http://www.hort.cornell.edu/vlb/id.html>). You can report any beetles you do encounter on Cornell's blog here: <http://blogs.cornell.edu/hort/2009/05/22/viburnum-leaf-beetle-invading-nyc/#respond>. There's also a time-lapse video of the larvae foraging on that blog.

Based on feedback from professionals and homeowners, the beetle can be controlled in several ways. If you spot egg cases on viburnum twigs, you can prune out those twigs and destroy them; Dr. Weston confirms this as the most effective means of control, although it is somewhat labor intensive. Additionally, early season use of high concentrations (4%) of horticultural oil before the plants leaf out and use of insecticidal soaps on recently hatched larvae, especially during dry periods, have proven very effective. Weston reports a 75-80% reduction in egg hatch following use of horticultural oil applied to egg-infested twigs 2 weeks before expected egg hatch. Both methods avoid harm to beneficial insects which prey on the viburnum leaf beetle, specifically, larvae and adults of the multicolored Asian lady beetle, larvae of lacewings, and spined soldier bugs (all of which are commercially available for application). Because the larvae crawl down the trunk to the soil (rather than simply falling off the shrub) when they are ready to pupate, use of sticky traps to catch them may also prove effective.



Top: Skeletonized Viburnum leaves, beetle larvae present. Courtesy of Jennifer Schlick. More info at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/jenniferschlick/522306598/in/photostream/>

Bottom: Viburnum leaf beetle egg cases. Courtesy of Christopher Tracey. More info at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/ctracey/3377220485/in/photostream/>

Left: Viburnum x juddii in full autumn glory. Courtesy of Chris Coen.

Additionally, and potentially of more use to those with large viburnum collections or nurseries where logistics demand efficiency, there are many insecticides registered for use against the larvae. Weston suggests soil-applied imidacloprid as "by far the best control with fairly minimal environmental impact (since the insecticide is confined to the soil surrounding the plant)."

As landscape designers, we have another means of control at our disposal: careful selection of resistant species in our designs. The susceptible species above read like the viburnum all time favorites list. While the beetle has not yet been identified in Virginia, the infestation is rapidly working its way southward--the beetle has already been documented throughout New England and in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and has recently

been identified in Washington State. There is indication that the beetle's southward spread may be limited by warm winter weather, as the eggs require a prolonged chilling period, but most of Virginia provides the necessary chilling temperatures. You may wish to be cautious in your choice of species for the projects you design and install, and continue to monitor professional journals on the subject.

Resources:

The Impact of Viburnum Leaf Beetle on Native Arrowwood, Weston, Paul and Victoria Nuzzo, Department of Entomology, Cornell University, September 2008.

Viburnum Leaf Beetle: Biology, Invasion History in North America, and Treatment Options, Weston, Paul, Gaylord Desurmont, and E. Richard Hoebeke, American Entomologist, Summer 2007.

<http://pest.ceris.purdue.edu/searchpest.php?selectName=INAMGUA> - Webpage on the viburnum leaf beetle maintained by the National Agricultural Pest Information System, including a current map of the known distribution of the beetle.

http://www.dkbdigitaldesigns.com/galleryweeklyreport/Images/pyrrhalta_viburnicola_eggs.jpg - Close-up photo of the egg cases of viburnum beetles.

<http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/caps/pdf/VLB%20Poster%2008.pdf> - An excellent PDF-based poster with photos of the beetle and its larvae.

http://www.entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/orn/beetles/viburnum_leaf_beetle.htm - Webpage managed by University of Florida's Dept. of Entomology and Nematology, summarizing scientific data on the beetle and its spread. This particular page has a detailed bibliography for those inclined to further research.

[i] Dr. Weston's research shows that *V. dentatum* is perhaps the most susceptible of all the viburnum species

MEMBER PHOTOGRAPHS

Submitted by Virginia Rockwell, Gentle Gardener Green Design

Before and after shots of a pool terrace at a private residence in Keswick Estates. This garden was viewed by many members during the VSLD summer tour 2008 in Charlottesville. Thanks to Virginia for submitting the photos!



UPCOMING EVENTS

WINTER 2010

FEBRUARY

- February 13** **VSLD WINTER MEETING**
Gari Melchers Pavilion, Fredericksburg, VA
<http://vsld.org/Members/winterprog.htm>
- February 18-21 MAYMONT FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW
Macevents Home Show Richmond
Contact: 800-332-3976x111 jbmcl@macevents.com
- Feb. 23 - May 25 TREE STEWARD TRAINING COURSE
Charlottesville Area Tree Stewards, (14 consecutive Tuesdays)
434-872-4580, cville.area.tree.stewards@gmail.com
- February 24 NEW JERSEY LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
33rd Annual Trade Show and Conference, Secaucus, NJ
201-703-3600, www.njlca.org
- Feb. 28 - March 7 PHILADELPHIA FLOWER SHOW
“Passport to the World”
www.pennsylvaniahorticulturalsociety.org

MARCH

- March 5 GROWING IN PLACE 2010 SYMPOSIUM
URBAN DESIGN FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
Convention Center, Raleigh, North Carolina
More info: http://www.naturalearning.org/docs/GIP_announcement2010.pdf
- March 12-14 WASHINGTON HOME & GARDEN SHOW (50th)
Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC
Contact: www.washingtonhomeandgardenshow.com

APRIL

- April 8-11 PLANET STUDENT CAREER DAYS
Chattahoochee Technical College, Atlanta, GA
Contact: info@landcarenetwork.org 800-395-2522
- April 30 VIRGINIA ARBOR DAY AND NATIONAL ARBOR DAY
Contact: VNLA, 800-476-0055, info@vnla.org

VNLA's 2010 Plants of Distinction Program Beautiful Gardens®

Beautiful Gardens® is a plant introduction program designed to promote exciting new or superior but underutilized plants to the gardening public, and to expand production opportunities for Virginia nursery growers. While many plant introduction programs tempt the gardening public's appetite for the 'latest and greatest' plant rushed to market, Beautiful Gardens, or BG, focuses on 'Plants of Distinction' and new plants which have been selected and/or tested across the varied climactic zones in Virginia at our own test sites. The Garden Centers that stock BG plants and their customers can have confidence in their purchases. Each year, the BG statewide plant selection committee chooses 5-10 'Plants of Distinction' - excellent but underused plants. These plants may already be in the market place but are not receiving the attention they deserve.

Newly discovered plants are accepted from private and public sources. These plants are evaluated for three to five years at test sites which are located in 6a to 8a cold hardiness zones. Plants are evaluated for hardiness to heat and cold, disease and insect resistance and-of course- superior beauty. Data is collected by volunteer Master Gardeners and Program Coordinator, Lisa Lipsey.

One area of special emphasis in the Beautiful Gardens® program is the ability to build up stock of rare or hard-to-propagate plants by tissue culture methods. The use of micro-propagation can increase the quantity and speed to market. All new plants that show promise will also be tested for their adaptability to tissue culture propagation.

Generous VTICRC and Nursery Association grants funded the construction of 1 acre plant testing sites in Glade Spring, Bedford, Halifax County, and Blacksburg. Further resources expanded the test sites to include Norfolk Botanic Garden, and allowed us to fund positions to gather and compile data from all the sites. The propagation demonstration greenhouse is now on the JSRCC campus in Goochland. Most of the test site construction was accomplished by VA Master Gardeners Association volunteers who are also

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS

grow with confidence®

DISTINCTIVE PLANTS FOR YOUR LANDSCAPE

2010 SELECTIONS



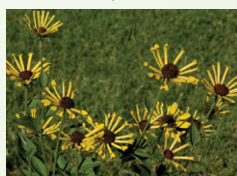
Corylopsis pauciflora,
Buttercup Winterhazel



Dryopteris erythrosora 'Brilliance'
Autumn Fern



Eucomis 'Sparkling Burgundy'
Purple Pineapple Lily



Rudbeckia subtomentosa 'Henry Eilers'
Sweet Coneflower



Schizachyrium scoparium 'The Blues'
Blue Bluestem



Yucca filamentosa 'Color Guard'



Boxus sempervirens 'Dee Runk'
American Boxwood

- 2009 Plants of Distinction -

Cercis chinensis 'Don Egolf' - Chinese Redbud
Helleborus x hybridus Pine Knot Strains - Lenten Rose
Ilex x 'Virginia' - Holly
Agapanthus x 'Monmid' 'Midnight Blue' - Lily Of The Nile
Hydrangea quercifolia 'Snowflake' - Oakleaf Hydrangea
Thuja x 'Steeplechase' (PP) - Giant Western Arborvitae
Buxus x 'Green Velvet' - Boxwood
Stokesia laevis 'Peachie's Pick' - Stokes' Aster
Musa basjoo - Hardy Banana



Cercis canadensis 'Hearts of Gold'
Eastern Redbud

VIRGINIA PLANT INTRODUCTION PROGRAM
www.beautifulgardens.org

instrumental in the planting of new plants, plant maintenance, and the collection of data on plant performance.

Spearheaded by the Virginia Nursery Association Horticulture Research Foundation, Inc., Beautiful Gardens® is a multi-institutional partnership between the Virginia Nursery and Landscape Association, the Virginia Tech Department of Horticulture, the Institute for Sustainable and Renewable Resources (ISRR) at the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research (IALR), the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Virginia Master Gardener Association, Claytor Nature Study Center at Lynchburg College, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, Norfolk Botanical Garden, and many dedicated individuals who have generously given of their time and expertise.

You can find more about the program, the garden center partners, and the 'Plants of Distinction' for 2009 and 2010 at www.beautifulgardens.org

VSLD 50 Year Anniversary

Interview with Mike Hildebrand of James River Nurseries, Inc.

As told to Kathy Wulf Corker

Questions:

Let's start with your history with VSLD.

(Why and when you first joined, positions held)

I joined sometime in the mid 70's. After I graduated from VA Tech, I went to work at Laird's Nursery in 1974 in sales/design and that is when I first got involved with the VSLD.

Tell us about VSLD when you first joined?

(How many members, how active were the members, who was the membership)

The design field was much different then than it is now. It was foremost nurseries growing plants and they offered some design and installation services as a way to sell their plants. There were not very many landscape designers. Some of the names I remember from the early days: Bert Shoesmith, Ennion Williams, Dee Laird, Jack Richardson (who worked for Ennion at the time), Larry Maxie.

Most of the meetings were held at Virginia Tech and the tours were mainly just local get-togethers, not statewide. Robert McDuffie was very instrumental with organizing the organization and Bert Shoesmith was instrumental with the legislative end.

In your view why VSLD was originally formed?

Legislative concerns and networking. Keeping together and keeping educated. We did quite a bit with Virginia Tech concerning education.

How has VSLD changed in the past 35 years?

Shear numbers. Now there is a vast membership that is greatly diversified. Now there are landscapers that install hardscapes and such, when it used to be solely plants.

If you could change anything about VSLD, what would it be?

The board and membership are doing a great job with the VSLD. I can't see anything needing change.



VSLD MINI DIRECTORY

President:

L. Scott Creery
River City Gardens, LLC
(804)837-4062
gardencreer@aol.com

Secretary:

Jane Abbott
Simply Beautiful
(804)355-5211
janeabbott@verizon.net

Kathy Wulf

Green Leaf Gardens, LLC
(804)239-4639
kathy@gardensbygreenleaf.com

Past President:

Margaret Pavela
MAP Landscapes, LLC
(540)538-1591
maplandscapes@gmail.com

Directors:

Denise Hargraves
Denise Hargraves Designs
(540)672-2462
access2denise@aol.com

Public Relations:

Denise Greene
Sassafras Farm
(804) 642-0923 (804)642-0923
sassafrasfarm@verizon.net

Vice President:

Diane Roselius
(757)357-2961
droselius@aol.com

Heather H. Taylor

Buck Creek Nursery
(434)263-4022
htaylorblue@yahoo.com

Webmaster:

Leigh Laclair
(804)784-0185
llaclair@aol.com

Treasurer:

Nanette H. Parsons
Garden Tenders
(804) 763-1908
npvsld030@verizon.net

Eve Willis

Eve's Creative Landscape Design, LLC
(804)931-5489
eve@creativelandscapedesign.com

Newsletter Editor:

Tiffany McCord
tsmccord@mac.com