



Takoma Horticultural Club

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July 2013

Upcoming July Events: Open Garden Friday July 12 and Mike Welsh, Takoma Park's City Gardener on Wednesday July 17

Takoma Hort is offering two different events for July – an open garden and a meeting speaker.

Barbara Schubert's Friday Open Garden is July 12 from 5 pm to 7 pm, at 2922 Woodstock Ave , Silver Spring, near the Audubon Naturalist Society and the Mormon Temple . Barbara proudly opens her Maryland native garden for Takoma Hort's Friday Open Gardens program. Barbara has established her woodland garden to be free of undesirable non-native plants and hopes to inspire others to do the same. To help encourage our use of native plants, Barbara will also host a native plant sale during the open garden, with plants provided by [Chesapeake Natives](#)

Limiting garden plantings to only native plants is most important, Barbara says, for those who live near woodlands areas. Non-native invasives are a serious problem in the Sligo Creek, Northwest Branch, and other stream valleys of the Anacostia Watershed. Native plants provide food and shelter for our local wildlife and pollinators while the non-native plants generally do not.

Barbara has an experimental sun garden in "verdant and flowering confusion" and has access to dirt trails in the woodlands behind her home. If you are quiet on the trails you can hear the local song birds. Barbara is also restoring woodland areas with native shrubs, trees, and wildflowers.

This event is free and open to the public but you can join TakomaHort at the event. Please bring a check for \$12 made out to THC and the completed membership form found on the [THC website](#). Parking is limited so please carpool.

On Wednesday, July 17, Takoma Hort will offer a more traditional club meeting at the Historic Takoma space on Carroll Avenue. Mike, Welsh, Takoma Park's City Gardener will talk to the club on "Takoma Park's City Gardens: From Display To Utility" from 7:30 to 9:00pm. The Historic Takoma building is located at 7328 Carroll Ave, Takoma Park, MD.

Mike will talk about each of Takoma Park's gardens including their locations, unique plantings, mission, and which group maintains each of them. Mike will also allow time to answer questions about the gardens. You can find photos of the many Takoma Park gardens [here](#).

Earlier this year, Takoma Hort donated several Glenn Dale azaleas to Takoma Park, working with Mike to choose the plants that would work best for Takoma Park's gardens.

Officers

Coordinators: *Carole Galati*
Diane Svenonius
Secretary: *Becky Lavash*
Treasurer: *Taffy Turner*

Committee Chairs and Contacts

Membership: *Carole Galati*
Listserv: *Anne Hardman*
Newsletter: *Becky Lavash*
Public Relations: *Kathy Jentz*
Webmaster: *Cynthia Walczak*

June Open Garden with Jim Hughes

On July 21, Jim Hughes graciously opened his University Park garden and invited several garden clubs to visit. The garden was truly impressive and worth the visit.

Jim is retired from the National Arboretum's Bonsai Garden and his gifts are on brilliant display in his garden. Mature bonsai of all types are displayed on his backyard deck and on small stands near the garage.



Photo by Becky Lavash

The one third acre garden seems much larger, with the yard divided into many smaller garden areas: sun, shade, lawn, restful bench seats, woodland gardens, and home landscaping. Jim seems to have an encyclopedic collection of hostas located throughout the yard, and all displayed in good health and vigor.



Photo by Becky Lavash

Jim has thoughtfully labeled and indexed all the varieties and cultivars of his plants and arranged the listings by location in a binder. After touring the garden, it was great to be able to look up the plants that you really loved on your walk around his garden.



Photo by Becky Lavash

You can find more photos from Jim's Garden [here](#).

June 14 Open Garden with Sharon Cohen

It seems soooo long ago that we were welcomed into the Cohen's garden! It was June 14 when almost 30 of us gathered for this garden treat! I think the centerpieces are the ponds and waterfall – with all those happy fish and water plants to give it that natural look.



Photo by Carole Galati

June 14 Open Garden with Sharon Cohen (continued)

I saw this garden a few years ago, as it was beginning to unfold – such a transformation! I can't believe Sharon has time and energy to teach high school and garden this large parcel of land!



Photo by Carole Galati

This was a perfect start to our Open Gardens this season – and much appreciated by the THC, Sharon's neighbors and friends from other garden clubs. *Carole Galati*

Membership and Dues

Our Open Garden Series continues into July with Howard Kohn's on July 5 and Barbara Schubert's on July 12. These are both free and open to the public, but you are welcome to pay your 2013 at these events. On July 17 Mike Welsh, our Takoma Park City Gardener will speak at our monthly meeting and we will have an

herb talk on August 21. These two events are also free and open to the public. BUT, for September we are making plans for our famous & popular summer potluck. Stay tuned for more details on this fun event. If you want to eat with us, you have to be a member in good standing. Translation: paid your 2013 dues!

Please welcome three new club members: Sally Gilbert, Anne Olesen and Sally Gilver. Welcome to the best garden club around! Join in the fun! *Carole Galati*

Save the Date

Tuesday, July 16, Washington Gardener Magazine Book Club, 6:00 to 7:30 pm, Takoma Park, DC Neighborhood Library, 416 Cedar Street, NW

We will be reading "Farm City: The Education of an Urban Farmer" by Novella Carpenter.

The library room allows food and drink and you may bring your dinner and/or snacks to share. Please RSVP to "WG Book Club" at WashingtonGardener@rcn.com. I will be limiting attendance to 20. If you need to cancel, let me know ASAP so we can give your spot to someone else, should we have a wait-list. The library is just a couple blocks from the Takoma metro station and is near several bus lines. Street parking is available. Details are available at <http://washingtongardener.blogspot.com/>.