

**Cherokee County Master Gardeners  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
Historical Rock Barn  
August 17, 2004**

The regular meeting of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners was held on Tuesday, August 17, 2004. The meeting was called to order by President Mary Ellen Roos at 10:04 a.m. Members present were President Mary Ellen Roos, Immediate Past President Gerry Slaughter, President-elect Jean Garner, Secretary Joan McFather, Treasurer Mary Ann Szostak, Betty Adams, Lois Andresen, Judie Bicknell, Monte Bores, Pat Bowen, Susan Franklin, Lynn Knotts, Janis Marshall-Kroen, Debbie McCollum, Merrily McLaughlin, Carol Mumaw, Pamela Raines, Ellen Reagan, Linda Robbins, Roxanne Rutledge, Myrna Sandlin, Elizabeth Smith, Glenda Thompson, and Marcia Winchester. Extension Agent Todd Hurt was also present.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

President Mary Ellen welcomed everyone and offered congratulations to Joan McFather on the birth of her new grandchild. Redbud Lane Nursery is offering a container class to the Master Gardeners on Saturday, October 2, 2004. Members should sign up by the September meeting. You will need to bring only a trowel and wear old clothes. Redbud will supply the containers and plants. Marie Cutts will have a report next month concerning an Eagle Scout project involving bird houses.

President-elect Jean announced that the Cherokee MGs will provide “potluck” food for the intern class’s midterm. The nominations committee will be meeting soon: contact Jean if you are interested in serving on that committee and/or if you would like to be considered for an officer position or committee co-chair. Descriptions of committees and the responsibilities of chairs will be available at the September meeting.

Secretary Joan asked for approval of the minutes taken by Beck Griffin in her absence. With the correction of the spelling of two names, Mary Ann Szostak moved and Jean Garner seconded that the minutes be approved. Motion carried. The Extension has suffered budget cuts including monies spent on postage and paper. Therefore, after some discussion it was decided to send the minutes via email and to post them on the MG website. Members not able to access either will still be sent paper copies.

Treasurer Mary Ann reported a balance of \$6514.08 and a Pike’s receipts credit of \$104.10. Fencing at the Senior Center, budgeted at \$500, came to \$662.33. However, after the return of some materials and after Mary Ellen and Marcia got the county to contribute \$200 toward the project, it came in well under budget. With additional revenue coming in from the Farmers Market, which is now renting booth space at \$5.00, and ads in the calendar, the treasury is in excellent shape. Hickory Flat library is ordering the book we requested.

Please continue to save materials for the scrapbook. These can be placed in a folder at the Extension; Historian Mary Hughes will continue to be absent due to her husband Bobby’s health difficulties.

Extension Agent Todd awarded certificates to three more interns who have completed their 50 hours of community service: Lois Andresen, Pat Bowen and Janis Marshall-Kroen.

Congratulations!

Todd reported on the following points:

- Intern class of 2004: Todd handed out a list of the new interns with addresses and emails. MGs are welcome to come to any classes and are encouraged to support their sprouts. The class schedule is posted on the website. New books should be available by class time for the interns. Old members might want to compare old and new books before buying a new one—there is considerable similarity.
- There will be an Advanced class on Landscaping for the Wildlife Habitat on September 16 in Hall County.
- Let us begin thinking about next year's seminars now and plan to take advantage of other programs in the area which are compatible (such as the combining of our composting workshop with a program being offered by the Clean Water Campaign). A possibility: hold a tomato-growing workshop on the same day as the tomato-tasting at the Senior Center. Let us also be thinking about another landscaping class series, very popular this past year. Finally, what about offering an incentive to people who come to a set number of the seminars we offer? We might name the series as Cobb and Bibb ("Gardening on the Go") counties have done.
- The University of Florida has complete plans for a Hydroponic Gardening class for sale that we might want to invest in.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Field Trips:** Gerry passed out fliers on the Burk' Art Collection. Members were invited to meet Sue Burkhart Chisholm and tour her pottery directly after lunch. A talented potter, Ms. Burkhart likes to "impress the lace and flowers into the soft clay, shape the clay, then glaze the impressions." Her business is located off Highway 140 on Orchard Road.

**Reinhardt:** Elizabeth Smith reported that the study project, done in cooperation with R.M. Moore Elementary, is coming along well. All the volunteer positions are filled with the exception of October 12, when she would really like a "bug person." Please volunteer—the time of involvement can be tailored to your needs. [Congratulations to Elizabeth who has accepted a position in Reinhardt's math department.]

**Senior Center:** Marcia issued thanks to all who helped with the Tomato-Tasting. She also suggested checking out the fence, newly installed by agreeable MG husbands while the girls weeded and Marcia organized the potting shed. Pink jasmine and clematis will be planted to dress up the fence. We are need of more mulch. Woodtech gave us a free truckload, but Marcia opted to use decomposed mulch which could be spread in the beds. Now we need to purchase approximately 3 pickup trucks'-worth to spread in the paths and around the fence. Anyone with a truck who plans to come to the next workday might go by Woodteck first. Call Marcia to arrange.

**Newsletter:** The deadline is September 1 for the October-November issue. Articles are always welcome.

**Fall Plant Sale:** Set up for the sale at Autumn Hill Nursery will be Friday, September 24, at 2:00 p.m. Help is needed to transport plants. The sale will be on Saturday, September 25 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Workers get “first dibs” on sale items.) Take down will be Sunday, September 26, when all unsold plants must be returned to the Senior Center. Call Marcia to volunteer.

**Rain Garden:** Marcia reported that the Water Authority in downtown Canton will be establishing a rain garden. She has volunteered personally to be involved with procuring plants for it, and she invited any of us to come October 30 to see what is happening. There is no MG obligation, but Marcia says she is running out of room at her home to hold plants. If you have space and/or want to provide plants, please call and help her out.

**PAR/Harvest Tours:** The Cagles are looking for a full time person every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the months of September and October so there will be more continuity from week to week at the Farm Tours. The pay is \$10 per hour. If you know anyone interested, contact Bernese for an application ([bernese@caglesdairy.com](mailto:bernese@caglesdairy.com)). They also need volunteers to help run the tours. Check the calendar at [caglesdairy.com](http://caglesdairy.com); you may receive MG hours or be paid, your choice.

**Phone Buddies:** No problems reported.

**2004 Seminars:** Roxanne Rutledge reported that things were going smoothly. If you have ideas regarding new seminar topics, call her. If you are giving a seminar, be sure to include your intern as part of the program: that is an expected way for them to learn and become involved. If you are planning to attend a seminar, BE SURE TO REGISTER!

**Publicity:** Sharee Riggs is doing a fine job, but could use help. Feel free to volunteer.

**Membership/Mentoring:** With the inclusion of one volunteer at the meeting, Merrily McLaughlin now has all the mentors she needs. They will be matched with the interns immediately according to geography and interests. If you as a mentor have a preference, let Merrily know now.

**Care and Share:** Myrna Sandlin and Carol Mumaw reported that Margit Woods is recovering from knee surgery at her mother’s home in Augusta. They have also contacted all members who are behind in reporting their hours.

**Farmers’ Market:** Susan Franklin and Pat Bowen announced that the market is doing better all the time, in fact, they have begun charging \$5.00 per booth per Saturday. The immediate challenge will be the lull in produce for the next few weeks until fall gardens kick in. They do need volunteers to work Saturdays at the MG table, either shift: 7:30 – 10:00 or 9:30 – 12 noon. It’s a great way to meet people and share Master Gardener information.

**Calendar:** Linda Robbins and Monte Bores can well be proud of our new 2005 calendars—they're beautiful! All members are expected to sell at least two, and anyone who sells 25 or more will receive a \$25 gift certificate to their nursery of choice (or the cash). The deadline is December 1. Contact Linda for calendars. Glenda Thompson suggested we sell the calendar from a booth at the Hall County Fair on October 16. The calendar is available at Cagles Dairy, at the Extension Office and at upcoming library and Senior Center seminars.

**Fair:** Betty Adams announced the addition of Carol Mumaw to the committee. The next meeting will be August 31 at Betty's home. (Committee members bring food to share.) The Fair will be September 13 – 18, and Betty encouraged everyone to enter the horticulture judging. Too often ribbons are not awarded because no one enters a particular category. If you want an idea of what classifications are judged, have a look at previous years' catalogues at the Extension Office.

**T Shirts:** Debbie McCollum displayed three types of T shirts which can be ordered as soon as we have a list of 12 or more. Included are a shirt with a collar, a plain T, and a V-neck. Debbie has a display showing what colors are available in the various styles. Call Debbie (770-516-8680) or email her ([mccollumj@bellsouth.net](mailto:mccollumj@bellsouth.net)) to order. The T shirt display will be on hand at the Extension Office until the September meeting.

There being no other old or new business, the meeting adjourned at 11:28.

#### **DOOR PRIZES**

Sue Chisholm from Burk' Art, Debbie's Plant Swap, Jean Garner, Mary Ellen Roos, Marcia Winchester, and Todd Hurt all contributed door prizes.

#### **BIRTHDAYS**

August: Becky Griffin 27, Betty Adams 29

September: Roxanne Rutledge 20, Anne Shearouse 20

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

August 25 – Reinhardt Project Meeting

August 31 – Fair Committee Meeting

September 2 – Senior Center Workday

September 7 – First Intern Class in Cartersville

September 11 – Gifts from the Garden Seminar at the Senior Center

September 13~18 – Cherokee County Fair at the Fairgrounds

September 18 – Composting Seminar at Hickory Flat Library

September 21 – **CCMG MEETING** at R.T. Jones Library – **7 p.m.** Speaker: B.J. Weeks

September 25 – Hardscape Planning Seminar at Hickory Flat Library

September 25 – Fall Plant Sale at Autumn Hill Nursery

October 2 – Container Class at Redbud Lane Nursery

October 9 – Wreath-Making Seminar at the Senior Center

October 30 – Rain Garden Installation at the Water Authority Building – 10 a.m.