

**Cherokee County Master Gardeners  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
First United Methodist Church of Canton  
August 12, 2008**

The regular monthly meeting of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners was held on Tuesday, August 12, 2008. The meeting was called to order by President Russell Brannon at 10 a.m. Members present were President Russell Brannon, Immediate Past President Glenda Thompson, President-elect Suzie Thomas, Secretary Maurya Jones, Betty Adams, Lois Andresen, Monte Bores, Pat Bowen, Billie Davis, Viviane Decker, Lin Harris, Lynn Knotts, Janis Marshall-Kroen, Joan McFather, Gerald Phillips, Pam Raines, Linda Robbins, Gerry Slaughter, Diane Smith, Mary Ann Szostak, Clara Mae Van Brink, Katie Van Hiel, Sandi White and Marcia Winchester.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

**President Brannon** welcomed all and stated the business meeting would precede featured guest speaker.

Members are invited to Seminar Committee Meeting to be held August 14 at Hickory Flat Library, 6:30 p.m.

Volunteers are needed for the Advanced Master Gardener Training Class that will begin Tuesday, August 19, at North Metro Tech. Paul recommends arriving 30 minutes early; Russell will e-mail information regarding building location.

Volunteers are needed to work at the Burgess Arboretum Project on Thursday September 25.

Burgess Arboretum Plant Sale is set for October 22, 23 and 24 from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Set up for Cherokee Co. Fair will be September 21, 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. and September 22 from 9 a.m. till noon and 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

The Cherokee County Extension Office is relocating to a site near the Canton Senior Center. Members voted today to have a workday after the regular monthly meeting and lunch on Tuesday, September 9, to clean out MG items in the storage room that are no longer needed.

**President-elect Suzie Thomas** announced that the next Master Gardener meeting will be held September 9, 10 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church of Canton. Scott Lemmons from Birds Unlimited will be the featured speaker.

**Secretary Maurya Jones** thanked Joan McFather for recording July's minutes.

Marcia Winchester moved and Mary Ann Szostak seconded approval of the July minutes. Maurya read two thank you notes from members Pam Raines and Sandi White.

**Treasurer**--In the absence of Nell Gillespie, no treasurer's report was given.

**County Extension Agent**--In absence of Extension Agent Paul Pugliese, President Brannon announced 4 winners of 40-Gallon Water Challenge; They are Denise Seibert of Woodstock; Lucy Barrett of Ball Ground; and Jean Collins and Dale Winkler of Canton.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Care and Share**--Betty Adams reported that Linda Robbins and Debbie Califano are recuperating and that hydrangea plants were sent to Sandi White and Clara Mae Van Brink.

**Merchandise**--Mary Ann Szostak will not submit the merchandise order for logo shirts, aprons and totes until after the September meeting.

**Tomato Tasting**--Marcia Winchester reported that the Tomato Tasting Contest at the Senior Center was a huge success. Twenty-five varieties of MG tomatoes were entered. Mary Ellen and Walter Roos won the coveted Golden Zucchini award for their "Lemon Ice" tomatoes.

**Plant Sale**--Autumn Hill will not be having a plant sale in the fall so the Master Gardeners will hold their fall plant sale at the Senior Center on October 4. Marcia Winchester will send an e-mail requesting volunteers. October 2 will be a regular workday at the Senior Center, and Friday, October 3, will be set-up day for the sale on Saturday, October 4. Marcia needs a volunteer to organize publicity, demonstrations and other activities to be held during the plant sale.

**Senior Center**--Marcia said we continue to need help with tours of the gardens, which are in good shape. Clara Mae, Betty and Pam volunteered to assist Marcia on October 1 to give a tour to members of the Lake Arrowhead Garden Club.

**Newsletter**--Marcia reminded the group that she can always use a "Cool Tool" or "Favorite Plant" article for the newsletter. She also announced that Joan McFather has created an archive of topics of all previous newsletter articles and the particular issue where they can be found. This archive has been added to the website, making it easy to find any article you may be looking for.

**Plant Clinics**--Gerald Phillips needs 3 volunteers to work at Cagle Farmer's Market on Saturdays in August from 9 to around 11:30 a.m.

**Christmas Party**--This year's Christmas party will be held at the Rock Barn on

Saturday, December 6 at 6:30. Monte Bores is coordinating the event and requested volunteers to assist with the planning of food, decorating and after-party clean up. She will be scheduling a meeting with volunteers at the Rock Barn soon to discuss plans for the event.

### **GUEST SPEAKER**

President Brannon introduced Gerald Phillips, one of our own Master Gardeners, who gave a very impressive presentation on "The Honeybee". Gerald became a CCMG in 2007 and has been a keeper of bees for 3 years. He said beekeeping is a fantastic hobby of his, along with Master Gardening. He got involved with beekeeping because the honey bees need help. "If the honey bee disappears, we're gone, because they pollinate everything--we would not have plant life without the honey bee," he said. Gerald gave an in-depth history of the honey bee up to modern-day beekeeping and distributed flavored honey in straws. His slide presentation was followed with a question-and-answer period.

Next, President Brannon introduced Jack Driskell, NW Regional GMGA Director. Driskell said that as NW Director, his territory covers 25 counties. He also added that the duties of the board include a lot of planning for the yearly conferences and the Advanced Master Gardener Courses. He encouraged all of us to attend the Fall Conference, which will be at Southern Tech in Marietta on October 18 this year. He concluded by encouraging all of us to build up the Jr. Master Gardener program in Cherokee County.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Two GMGA grants were received from Director Driskell. Katie Van Hiel applied for a grant for the atrium at the R. T. Jones Library and Russell Brannon for a 3' x 2' sign to be placed in front of the Senior Center advertising the MG demonstration garden.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The University of Georgia has begun requiring background checks on all persons working with children in any project involving the Extension Office. Any Master Gardener who will be working with children will be required to have a background check.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at noon.

Submitted by.  
Maurya Jones Secretary

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Aug. 14--Seminar Committee Meeting--Hickory Flat Library--6:30 p.m.  
Aug. 16--Seminar--"Black Gold Composting/Verniculture  
Aug. 19--Advanced Master Gardener Training--"Advanced Concepts on  
WaterSmart Landscape Design"  
Aug. 20--Sr. Ctr. Workday  
Sept. 09--Regular Monthly Meeting  
Sept. 16--Adv. MG Training--"Advanced Concepts in WaterSmart Landscape  
Design"  
Sept. 21/22--Set-up for Fair  
Sept. 25/27--Burgess Arboretum Work Day  
Oct. 1--Tour of Sr. Ctr Garden--Lake Arrowhead Garden Club  
Oct. 4--Fall Plant Sale--Sr. Center  
Oct. 11--Speaker--River Green Subdivision  
Oct. 14--Adv. MG Training--Advanced Concepts in WaterSmart Landscape  
Design"  
Oct. 18--GMGA Fall Conference—Marietta  
Oct. 21--Regular Monthly Meeting  
Oct. 22, 23, 24--Burgess Arboretum Plant Sale--11:30 to 1:30 p.m.

#### BIRTHDAYS

Aug. 18--Billie McIver  
Aug. 18--Katie Van Hiel  
Aug. 20--Susan Wyman  
Aug. 27--Becky Griffin  
Aug. 29--Betty Adams  
Aug. 29--Patricia Bowen  
Aug. 30--Sandi White  
Sept. 03--Jo Marchildon  
Sept. 06--Marianna McNelly  
Sept. 16--Mechelle Beardson

