

**Cherokee County Master Gardeners
Regular Monthly Meeting
Canton First United Methodist Church
February 15, 2011**

The regular monthly meeting of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners was held on Tuesday, February 15, 2011. The meeting was called to order by President Clara Mae Van Brink at 10:04 a.m. Members present were President Clara Mae Van Brink, Immediate Past President Gerald Phillips, Vice President Ed Stumler, Secretary Joan McFather, Treasurer Diane Walton, Betty Adams, Sue Allen, Lois Andresen, Pat Ball, Judie Bicknell, Monte Bores, Russell Brannon, Marvin Colston, Tom Connolly, Mark Dady, Billy Davis, Becky Dixon, Liz Ellis-Porter, Susan Franklin, Jean Garner, Nell Gillespie, Carol Gilson, James Gilson, Carol Jackson, Maurya Jones, Lynn Knotts, Vickie Lindsey, Dot Martin, Carol Mumaw, Pam Raines, Linda Robbins, Gail Roos, Mary Ellen Roos, Steve Scott, Jane Shelnett, Gerry Slaughter, Diane Smith, Suzie Thomas, Jamie Thompson, Mary Tucker, Katie Van Hiel, Sandi White, Marcia Winchester, and Susan Wyman. County Extension Agent Paul Pugliese was unable to be present.

OFFICER REPORTS

President Clara Mae Van Brink welcomed all and said she appreciated all those who were wearing their pins.

Secretary Joan McFather asked for and received approval of the January 2011 minutes as posted on line. There was no correspondence. Mark Dady will provide an updated list of members in good standing to her for record keeping.

Treasurer Diane Walton supplied copies of her **monthly report**. Cash on hand as of January 1, 2011, was \$9,467.71. Deposits in January: \$90.00, expenses in January: \$376.31 leaving a February balance of \$9,181.40. [See *secretary's book for entire report*.] Diane asked for discussion on the **proposed 2011 budget**. [See *secretary's book for proposed budget*.] She pointed out that since we voted to become antonymous we must maintain meticulous records of all monies flowing into and out of the Master Gardeners organization—thus items appear for the first time in the budget. She explained that actual income and expenses might well differ from the budget. She also urged everyone to turn in receipts for reimbursement as soon as possible after their occurrence. A suggestion was made that we seek the price on an outside review each year. With the correction of one discrepancy (entering the cost of the Bug Charts under expenses), Tom Connolly moved and Susan Franklin seconded acceptance of the amended budget. The motion carried. In reference to **Pike's Play in the Dirt cards**, Diane explained that she had been in touch with management in order to create a MG card. The company does not wish to work with organizations, so Susan Franklin moved and Russell Brannon seconded that Marcia Winchester use her own card to make purchases. All members will be given that card number, and when we have earned the requisite \$600 in purchases, Marcia will use the resultant \$25 gift card to purchase whatever we may need from Pike's. The motion carried. [Update: *email from Marcia*, They can give my name Marcia Winchester, my phone number 770-592-4022 or my play in the dirt number 226322 and it will be applied.] The approximately \$3,000 in receipts we had collected will almost certainly not be honored by current management. Diane thanked Pam Raines for her **audit of the 2010 books**. Five minor errors have been fixed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Care and Share: Pat Ball announced that former Master Gardener Parry Pinyan has been diagnosed with an aggressive cancer, and Emory will be treating her. Joan McFather will send a card in all our names. [*Her address: 675 Pinyan Lane, Canton GA 30115*] Please tell Pat anything else we should be aware of.

Historian: Becky Dixon reminded seminar presenters and others to use the camera included with each kit.

Demonstration Garden:

- This Thursday's workday will actually be Wednesday, February 16, and used to do a hands on pruning clinic for class members of the current training session from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, followed by lunch. Please let Marcia know if you are interested in working at the garden; currently she emails only those who put the garden on their recommitment forms as an area of interest. Bring tools, ladders, etc. on Wednesday.
- Currently there is no date established for breaking ground on the enlargement of the Senior Center.
- New signs for the butterfly garden are at the printer. Marcia would like to have them laminated. Anyone who can help with this please contact Marcia.

Newsletter: Frequent contributor Pat Bowen is retiring, so Marcia is looking for more articles. Research and writing time counts as hours.

Seed Separating Party: The date is set as March 23. The Extension classroom can accommodate only 20 people, and Marcia has those, but if you are desperate to attend, contact her. Seeds must be in by March 1 to the Extension, the Senior Center or Marcia. Be sure to include popular and Latin names and flower color.

Spring Plant Sale: The only possible time is during the week of spring break, April 2-9, and is totally dependant on the Senior Center renovation construction.

Mentoring: Carol Gilson asked for help in several areas.

- Cherokee is responsible for coffee set up on Thursdays: March 10, 17, 24, and 31. A sheet was circulated for four volunteers per day, 8:15 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- April 7 is the last class and we need to provide food, as well as three people to set up the buffet.

It was suggested that perhaps Paul already has the volunteers needed; Carol will check with him. To help, please contact Carol by email: cfgilson@hotmail.com or cell phone: 585-509-3705 or landline: 770-704-5685, all new contact information.

Landscape Design Class: The spring class has 13 couples signed up. Nell Gillespie would like to have at least 15 and reiterated her invitation to Master Gardeners to sign up as "couples." The registration fee of \$50 would cover one set of materials only, but an additional set may be purchased for \$30. Be aware that the five professional landscapers who will be critiquing finished

designs might not have time to see both designs by Master Gardener couples. Dinner will again be served on the last night.

Publicity: Sue Allen urged everyone to keep an eye out for Master Gardener news items and send her anything you see. She has an email dedicated to Master Gardener business: sueallen201060@yahoo.com.

Arbor Day: Jane Shelnett has contacted the 22 who signed up to help. She has worked out a schedule so that shifts overlap during the time span of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Master Gardeners will hand out four types of seedlings at the Gazebo in downtown Canton.

Field Trips: Suzie Thomas listed a number of possible field trips for this year. Let her know your suggestions: Tthomasgroup@aol.com

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

GMGA 2012 Conference: Gerald Philips announced a steering committee of co-chairmen Russell Brannon and himself; advisors Clara Mae Van Brink and Ed Stumler; budget, Diane Walton, programming, Suzie Thomas; hospitality, Linda Robbins; facility, Pam Raines; publicity, Dot Martin; and secretary, Joan McFather. That committee will be meeting this afternoon for a walk-through of the Northside-Cherokee Conference Center, the venue for the 2012 GMGA conference. A further meeting is planned for March 8, whereat members of the steering committee will hear recommendations from the Rome GMGA conference chairman. All Master Gardeners were urged to join GMGA. Mary Ellen Roos reminded everyone to make theme suggestions based on the Cherokee Indian history in our county, and Suzie Thomas asked for speaker recommendations. One possible source: www.greatgardenspeakers.com.

Apparel: Ed Stumler modeled the official Master Gardener shirt, saying that we would acquire a set of shirts—collared, tee, sweat, etc. for members to check sizes before ordering. He asked for approval of the gold logo stitching. Marcia Winchester moved and Russell Brannon seconded approval; the motion carried. These forest green shirts will be required at the conference, and members are urged to wear them when serving in any official capacity. Variations of colors and other branded items may be worn unofficially.

Christmas Party Report: Tabled due to time constraints.

NEW BUSINESS

None

MYSTERY MASTER GARDENER

Saved for next month due to unavailability of projector.

MASTER GARDENER TIP OF THE MONTH

Susan Wyman discussed deadheading perennials, which encourages repeat flowering, longer bloom time, redirected plant energy and the control of reseeding where undesirable. Depending on the plant's structure, you can pinch florets, trim branches, remove spent stems or shear the entire plant.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Registration for Woodstock's community Garden will be opened up to Woodstock residents on March 1. Plots available are 20'x20' or 10'x10'.
- The Senior Center community Garden has four plots left. They are 4'x16'.
- Clara Mae has dried hydrangea available in a large container outside the church's west narthex door.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 16 – Demo Garden Workday, Hands on Pruning Demo for Intern Class, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

February 17 – Midterm Exam, Extension

February 18 – Arbor Day

February 19 – Seminar: A B C of Gardening, Rosecreek Library, 10 a.m.

GNPS Symposium, Mercer University, Atlanta

February 21 – Landscape Design Classes begin through March 10th, Mondays and Thursdays

February 25-26 – Southeastern Flower Show, Cobb Galleria

February 26 – Seminar: Vegetable Gardening for Beginners, Ball Ground Community Center, 10

March 3 – Demo Garden Workday, 10 a.m.

March 6 – Seminar: Seed Starting and Guerilla Gardening, Senior Center, 10 a.m.

March 15 – Regular Monthly Meeting, Senior Center, 6:30 p.m.

BIRTHDAYS

February 15 Ellen Reagan

February 15 Larry Link

February 18 Pamela Raines

February 19 Carol Jackson

February 19 Thomas Walston

March 3 Gail Roos

March 4 Marvin Colston

March 4 Lynn Sisson

March 6 Billy Davis

March 6 Gerald Phillips

March 8 Jim Dixon

March 8 Helen Ogren

March 9 Marcia Winchester

March 16 Donna Frye

March 17 Pat Ball

