

**Cherokee County Master Gardeners  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
Home of Merrily McLaughlin  
June 21, 2011**

The regular monthly meeting of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners was held on Tuesday, June 21, 2011. The group first organized at 10:25 to visit Merrily's lily beds to admire her daylilies and hear about their propagation. At 11:12 the meeting was called to order by President Clara Mae Van Brink. Members present were President Clara Mae Van Brink, Immediate Past President Gerald Phillips, Secretary Joan McFather, Treasurer Diane Walton, Betty Adams, Becky Dixon, Sandra Ferguson, Mignon Fleishel, Carol Gilson, James Gilson, Megan Hilf-Reilly, Elizabeth Kelly, Merrily McLaughlin, Gail Roos, Mary Ellen Roos, Jane Shelnut, Veronica Steffensmeier, Ed Stumler, Suzie Thomas, Glenda Thompson, Sherry Wileman and Marcia Winchester. Also present were intern Deborah Wyatt and guests Penny Stumler and Jay Wright.

### **OFFICER REPORTS**

**Secretary** Joan McFather asked for and received approval of the May, 2011 minutes, with the correction of a date, as posted on line. She wrote two letters of correspondence.

**Treasurer:** Diane Walton supplied copies of her **monthly report**. Cash on hand as of May 1, 2011, was \$9,837.29. Deposits in April: \$78.00, expenses in April: \$1,549.52, debit to money market account: \$100.00, leaving a June 1 balance in the operating account of \$8,265.77. The money market account balance is \$300.05. [*See secretary's book for entire report.*] Diane announced that she will mail shirts to members if they include the \$5.00 postage necessary. Apparel order forms are on the website.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Care & Share:** Cards to all would be appreciated.

- Roxanne Rutledge had hoped to attend this meeting but was unable to. She will be spending five weeks at M.D. Anderson and would appreciate members' helping to care for her gardens, since Keith will go with her. Contact Pat Ball for opportunities [770-591-7468 or [ballfredpat@aol.com](mailto:ballfredpat@aol.com)] Send cards to Roxanne at her home address [730 Melanie Court, Canton GA 30115] until we have a hospital address.
- Donna Brown's daughter has been diagnosed with a brain tumor and cancer.
- Vickie Lindsey's grandson Joseph, having been in critical condition, has rallied, and his parents hope to be able to take him home from the hospital soon.
- Dot Martin's husband will have triple bypass surgery Wednesday, June 22.

**Demo Garden:** Marcia Winchester reported that Gerald Phillips had recently demonstrated the "garden in a bucket" technique, and she is considering other teaching opportunities, such as a lesson on shading summer transplants. She welcomed all to come to the garden and praised Megan Hilf-Reilly for her efforts to remove an over-abundance of creeping raspberry in the garden.

- Now is the time to save seeds from your annuals for the seed separating party later.

- The annual Tomato Tasting event will be held July 14 at 11 a.m. inside at the Senior Center. All members are invited to submit entries in the categories cherry, yellow/orange and red, the winner as usual to be awarded the giant gold zucchini.
- If your garden produces extra vegetables, feel free to bring them to the Senior Center; the senior participants would be happy to take them home. The blueberry bushes at the Center are fruiting now—come and help pick for the seniors. You can eat some, too!
- The next workday will feature hybridizing roses. To participate, cut your roses the day before, angled for the bottom cut, straight across for the top. Seal in a ziplock bag.

**Newsletter:** Marcia wants to include pictures with the articles she produces. She especially would like a volunteer to write an article on nutrition deficiency—with pictures.

**Field Trips:** Suzie Thomas announced a trip to Catalina Gardens in Powder Springs to see hostas. Those carpooling will meet at the Woodstock Goodwill parking lot on Hwy. 92 at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 29. Contact Suzie if you'd like to go. [770-517-4504 or [suzieque44@gmail.com](mailto:suzieque44@gmail.com)] [[www.catalinagardens.com](http://www.catalinagardens.com)]

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**Fundraiser:** Tabled in Monte Bores' absence.

**Gardening with the Masters:** Diane reported that Sherry Wileman has agreed to co-chair. The committee has met and decided not to revise the book but order more copies, since it is still a viable resource for newcomers to the area. We would also like to have it available for sale at the 2012 GMGA Conference. Marcia urged having it proofread before we order more copies. The committee had thought to produce a series of booklets, each spiral- and weatherproof-bound, on individual topics. However, Diane has found that the cost of producing them would run about \$8 per copy, and she does not think we could sell them for enough to make any profit. Instead, she asked us to consider creating a series of laminated cards similar to the bug charts we are now selling. Clara Mae suggested going to CD format instead. After brief discussion, the matter was sent back to committee.

**GMGA Conference:** Diane expressed a need for all Master Gardeners to get involved—NOW. Everyone will get an email from her following the GMGA Committee meeting on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, explaining the procedure for engaging vendors and donors. She asked that we all give thought to potential vendors and donors and that we give contact information to her for follow up. It is important that we be able to advertise participants in our convention at the Macon one coming up in October. At our booth, we plan to have pre-registration available. Diane would like to have co-chairs for both sponsors and donors—please let her know if interested. [[waltond@bellsouth.net](mailto:waltond@bellsouth.net) or 770-517-5695] Co-chairman Gerald echoed her sentiments.

**GMGA Scholarship:** In Russell Brannon's absence, this item was tabled.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Fair Chairperson:** Donna Brown will be unable to fulfill this obligation due to illness in her family. Please contact Clara Mae if you would like to chair. [[claramaevanbrink@aol.com](mailto:claramaevanbrink@aol.com)]

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Georgia Native Plant Society** will host a talk by Patrick McMillan, professional naturalist, lecturer and director of the Campbell Museum of Natural History at Clemson University: “*Nature on the move – Reclaiming our role in the natural world.*” July 12, Day Hall, Atlanta Botanical Garden, 7:30 p.m.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

June 25 – Seminar: Pollinators Are Our Friends, Senior Center, 10 a.m.

June 29 – Field Trip to Catalina Gardens, Powder Springs, Ga.

July 7 – Demo Garden Workday, 9 a.m.

July 14 – Tomato Tasting Competition: Senior Center, 11 a.m.

July 16 – Seminar: Gardening from the Ground Up: Hillside Erosion Solutions, Mulches and Ornamental Grasses, Hickory Flat Library, 10 a.m.

**July 19 – Regular Monthly Meeting: First United Methodist Church, 10 a.m.**

July 21 – Demo Garden Workday, 9 a.m.

## BIRTHDAYS

June 24 – Margit Woods

June 30 – Bonnie Westbrook

July 6 – Mary Campbell

July 8 – Judie Bicknell

July 8 – Rajayne Cordery

July 10 – Mary Selden

July 12 – Diane Smith

July 15 – Susan Franklin

July 16 – Joan McFather

July 26 – Jean Garner