

**Cherokee County Master Gardeners  
Regular Monthly Meeting  
Canton First United Methodist Church  
October 18, 2011**

The regular monthly meeting of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners was held on Tuesday, October 18, 2011. At 10 a.m. the meeting was called to order by President Clara Mae Van Brink. Members also present were Vice President Ed Stumler, Immediate Past President Gerald Phillips, Secretary Joan McFather, Treasurer Diane Walton, Betty Adams, Sue Allen, Lois Andresen, Judie Bicknell, Monte Bores, Russell Brannon, Linda Connelly, Mark Dady, Billie Davis, Christy Davis, Sandra Ferguson, Carol Jackson, Maurya Jones, Donald Krueger, Dot Martin, Carol Mumaw, Pam Raines, Gail Roos, Mary Ellen Roos, Steve Scott, Jane Shelnett, Diane Smith, Suzie Thomas, Sherry Wileman, and Marcia Winchester.

## **PROGRAM**

The President asked Ed Stumler to introduce our speaker, Casey Norris of Lady Slipper Rare Plant Nursery. Casey gave a very informative talk about planting seasonal color, including violas, pansies and various types of ornamental kale. Drawing on his many years of experience in the business, Casey spoke about the advantages of various plants, both in the ground and in planters, covering planting techniques, fertilizing, mulching, insect problems and design. He said he never planted pansies before October 15 so the immediate cold weather would keep them from stretching and getting weedy or bulbs before Thanksgiving. If you receive your bulbs earlier than that, plan to keep them cold. Remember that if you plant in containers, you have dropped your climate zone from 7 to about 5. Concerning fertilizer, Casey said to mix granule types with the potting soil mix and if you are using an osmacote type, place it on top of soil and cover with mulch; placing it in the holes will burn roots and shorten the duration of effectiveness. You want a fertilizer with a low middle number: plants need magnesium but not much phosphorus to keep them green and compact.

## **OFFICER REPORTS**

### **Secretary**

- Joan McFather asked for and received approval of the August 2011 minutes as posted on line. She wrote no correspondence. The president stressed the need to keep track of hours and turn them in, beyond the required 25 hours: the public needs to understand what how much we do in the community.
- Joan then read aloud First Methodist's letter explain their new lock down policy, which will go into effect October 31, 2011. Thereafter we will need to use one of the upper level doors where we must be admitted by one of us with a code. Any violations of the rules would make us vulnerable to losing our meeting privileges. [*See secretary's book for letter, or see attached.*]

### **Treasurer**

- Diane Walton supplied copies of her monthly report. Cash on hand as of September 1, 2011, was \$7,251.28. Deposits in September: \$297.00, expenses in September: \$0.00, debit to money market account: \$100.00, leaving an October 1 balance in the operating account of \$7,448.28. The money market account balance is \$800.39. [*See secretary's book for entire report.*]

- Diane announced a Budget Committee meeting at the Extension on November 9<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. All committee heads will receive an updated accounting of what you have spent this year and should examine your needs for next year. Please turn in receipts if you haven't: that way someone else heading the committee in the future will know what to expect. Not everyone can afford to simply pay for items and not ask for reimbursement. Please turn in to Diane your requests for funding before the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Care & Share:** In Pat Ball's absence, Sue Allen reported that Glenda Thompson continues not to be very mobile and will possibly require more surgery. She does not need meals but would appreciate cards, as would Roxanne Rutledge, who will be doing some traveling with her husband as her strength permits.

**Plant Sale:** Marcia Winchester thanked all who helped with the plant sale, which brought in \$900.50. Sue Allen and Marcia have started an email list to keep potential customers informed. Mary Tucker has provided window blinds for cutting up to make plant tags.

**Demo Garden:** At the next workday participants will pot up more plants. On the first workday in November they will determine by zone which ones need to be housed in the greenhouse over the winter. Megan Hilf-Reilly has volunteered to water these. Marcia and Gerald Phillips will meet with Senior Services Director Nathan Brandon concerning progress on the remodeling of the Center.

**Newsletter:** Send your articles for the December-January and February-March issues to Marcia.

**Publicity:** Clara Mae praised Sue Allen for the excellent publicity she has been generating. Sue asked everyone to support the *Cherokee Tribune* by subscribing: they are now carrying a weekly Master Gardener article. Send Brandon Wilson a note of thanks. Sue also displayed the newest brochure being readied for the 2012 GMGA Conference.

**Social:** The Thanksgiving party is scheduled for November 12 at the Marlow House in Marietta for members and guests. Contact Maurya Jones to help. The annual party has a charity aspect, and this year planners are asking that we bring gift cards to donate to Everyday Angels, an organization that supplies short-term relief to people in the Canton/Towne Lake/Woodstock area. The event will include door prizes and entertainment.

### GMGA Conference:

- Diane is ready to move forward with preparations of our MG booth at the April 2012 conference. We need a committee with a chair to discuss what we want to sell; then we will need members to set up, man and take down the booth. Look for her email in January.
- Ed reported that getting sponsors has proved very difficult, especially at the levels required by GMGA. Russell said he would bring up the matter at the next GMGA meeting. Meanwhile we will not turn down any offers of funds, no matter what size. These "Friends of the Master Gardeners" can be recognized in the program and won't receive any of the perks listed in the brochure for the higher levels.

- Diane reminded everyone about registering now for the lowest fees. All members are expected to register, attend and work at the event as we voted to do. Dot Martin reminded us that there is a cancellation clause up to 30 days before the event, should something come up prohibiting attendance.
- There will be early registration and also at the Meet & Greet. She will need 2 people to help on Friday, 1 Friday night, and 2 Saturday.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Nominating Committee:** Co-chairs Diane Smith announced that she and co-chair Katie Van Heil are still working to find a vice-chairman for next year.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Laptop Computers Purchase:** After discussion, Marcia moved and Mark Dady seconded that we establish a committee to research prices on and purchase a new laptop and auxiliary equipment for the Master Gardeners to own outright. The motion carried, and Mark agreed to chair the committee. Clara Mae will serve on it. Diane mentioned that her homeowners association had just done extensive research on acquiring similar electronics and agreed to pass along their findings. After further discussion, a motion by Dot Martin, seconded by Carol Mumaw, that we be notified by email and recommend purchase by return email, was defeated. Gerald Phillips then moved that the committee be authorized to purchase the needed equipment at an amount not to exceed \$1,500. The motion was amended by Suzie Thomas to read \$2,000 to include purchase of software. She then seconded, and the motion carried.

**Digital Picture Frame:** Clara Mae would like us to acquire a battery-operated frame that could be loaded with a slideshow of various Master Gardener activities and used at clinics and seminars. Since its purpose would be promotion, the item was delegated to Sue Allen and publicity.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Gerald made the suggestion that we donate \$1,000 to Meals on Wheels, headquartered at the Senior Center, thinking that the publicity generated might sway the County Manager toward agreeing to finance a new County Extension Agent. Russell pointed out that while a large amount for us, it would be small to those involved with the county budget and thus carry little weight. Such a gesture might be construed as an attempt to involve ourselves in negotiations we have been asked to keep out of, so the suggestion was dropped.
- Seminar classes need to be set by November 20. The committee will meet next week: emails will be sent to members.

## **DOOR PRIZES**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

October 21-22 – GMGA State Convention in Rome, GA

November 3 – Demo Garden Workday

November 5 – Seminar: Shrubs for Your Landscape, 10 a.m., Ball Ground Public Library

November 9 – Budget Committee Meeting, 1 p.m., Extension

November 12 – Seminar: Trees are Tremendous, 10 a.m. Rose Creek Public Library

November 12 – Thanksgiving Party 7-9 p.m. at Marlow House, Marietta

**November 15 – Regular Monthly Meeting: Elections, Extension, 6:30 p.m.**

November 17 – Demo Garden Workday

## **BIRTHDAYS**

November 1 – Gerry Skalsky

November 6 – Merrily McLaughlin

November 7 – Jane Shelnett

November 11 – Shirley Lowe

November 15 – Jean Collins

November 18 – Mignon Fleishel

November 20 – Mary Ellen Roos

November 21 – Ed Stumler

November 26 – Mary Tucker

November 30 – Mariana Divita



## Canton First United Methodist Church

930 Lower Scott Mill Road

Canton, Ga. 30115

October 10, 2011

TO: All Facility users

Re: Safety and Security of Personnel and Facilities

In the interest of safety for everyone that utilizes our facility and especially one of God's greatest gifts our children, we are imposing new security measures. We realize it is unfortunate that we need to do this, but in this day and age we feel it is in the best interest of the Church to provide a safe environment for all that meet here. Our facility is secluded up here on Holy Hill and is out of sight from the general public.

Beginning Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> 2011 we will be initiating our new facility security measures. These measures and expectations are outlined herewith. The entire facility will be secured/locked at all times with the exception of Sunday mornings and during Wednesday Night Alive activities.

The only unaccompanied entry into the facility will be through two access points on the Southeast side of the building. One being the main entrance into the Narthex (under the Portico, straight out from the Chapel). And the second is outside the Fellowship Hall (covered entrance under the Cross). These access points are equipped with magnetic locking systems, keypads, intercom, and cameras. Individuals (not groups of people) can push the intercom button and be "Buzzed-in" by the office on Mon-Fri from 8:00 am -12:30 pm & 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm.

Group leaders (internal ministries & external organizations) will be able to obtain an access code by calling the church office during office hours listed in the previous paragraph. The code for external organizations will be changed on the first Monday of every month unless the code has been compromised then it will be changed immediately, and the prior code will be deactivated. The code for internal ministries and parishioners requiring access will be changed bi-annually as a minimum.

Group leaders are not permitted to give the access code out to members of their group. An individual must be posted at whatever door you desire to let your people into the facility. This is required during office hours as well as at all other times. Parking remains restricted from the lower lot while the Preschool is in session. At no time are doors permitted to be unlocked, propped open, chocked etc. It is the group leaders' responsibility to ensure all member of your group are familiar with these expectations. If it is determined that your group has compromised the safety and security of personnel within this facility your group may be asked to find another location to meet.

The facility remains available for use from 7:00 am – 9:00 pm with the exception of Saturdays when activities are to be concluded by 7:00 pm. With this new system, the security alarm is PRE-PROGRAMMED AND ACTIVATES AUTOMATICALLY!

We are excited about keeping our children safe and doing all we can to enhance the safety of all who walk through the doors of this Church. Please feel free to call the Church with any questions.

Sincerely,

The Board of Trustees  
Buddy Jordan, Vice Chairman