

**Cherokee County Master Gardeners
Regular Meeting – November 15, 2005
Bridge Mill Community Center**

The regular monthly meeting of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners was held on Tuesday, November 15, 2005. The meeting was called to order by President Jean Garner at 10:01 a.m. Members present were President Jean Garner, Immediate Past President Mary Ellen Roos, President-elect Betty Adams, Secretary Joan McFather, Treasurer Pam Raines, Judie Bicknell, Monte Bores, Pat Bowen, Russell Brannon, Marie Cutts, Viviane Decker, Mageeda Doe, Mignon Fleishel, Nell Gillespie, Becky Griffin, Donna Howard, Mary Hughes, Maurya Jones, Lynn Knotts, Vickie Lindsey, Debbie McCollum, Billie McIver, Merrily McLaughlin, Carol Mumaw, Janet Newman, Helen Ogren, Ellen Reagan, Linda Robbins, Roxanne Rutledge, Karen Schutt, Gerry Slaughter, Suzie Thomas, Glenda Thompson, Mary Tucker, Tom Walston, Faye Webster, Frank Wertz, Marcia Winchester, and Margit Woods. Extension Agent Todd Hurt was also present, as were Extension employees Trudy Christopher, Judy Haygood, and Lisa Higgins

OFFICER REPORTS

President Jean welcomed guest Ron Rice, husband of Ellen Reagan. She commended Mary Hughes for her completion of 30 years as a volunteer at North side Hospital-Cherokee. Jean also urged everyone to get their final hours in to the office by November 30 so that the year end totals can be computed.

President-elect Betty announced free seed packets courtesy of Lynn Knotts. She reviewed the sign-up sheets for next year's committees and passed them around. There will be an important committees meeting at 6:30 p.m. on November 30 at Hickory Flat Library. All committee chairs are expected to be there with an After Action Report ready to turn over to new chairs. Even those continuing to head the same committees are urged to summarize/document the year's activities for those committees.

Secretary Joan asked for approval of the October minutes. Debbie McCollum moved acceptance, Mary Ellen Roos seconded, and the motion carried. The secretary wrote one letter thanking Autumn Hill for their continued support of our plant sales. Joan also mentioned two errors in her reporting of Gerry Skalsky's July program. Here are the corrections: viable seeds **SINK**; they do not float, and the product that Gerry mentioned is Bugband at www.Bugband.net. Joan asked for a motion to allow a bolded correction to appear in the electronic version of the July minutes. Mary Ellen moved, Marcia Winchester seconded and the motion passed. Lesli Peterson will be asked to make those corrections.

Treasurer Pam reported a checking account balance of \$6543.33 and a Pikes' credit of \$377.58. Continue to turn in your sales slips to her. Pam announced a 2005-2006 budget committee meeting set for 9:30 on November 29 at Cracker Barrel in Canton.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Newsletter: Marcia asked for articles and reminded us that to receive a hard copy in the mail, members must pay \$5 to Treasurer Pam.

Senior Center: Pansies have been planted. Marcia plans to do more dividing. If you'd like to take some home, come and help.

Care and Share: Glenda Thompson has several plants she will be taking to the recipients soon.

Publicity: Carol Mumaw reported that the results of a survey seem to indicate that newspaper advertising is our most successful medium. Members were vocal in their desire to have the bookmarks printed again next year anyway—people like them and they keep our name in the public eye.

Garden Book: Monte is still working on materials taken from the web. She could use more helpers.

T-shirts/Aprons: Debbie McCollum mentioned the names of several who have not yet picked up their orders. Although this is not intended to be a money-making project, it did, in fact, create a small profit which Debbie will turn over to the treasurer.

2005 Seminars/Speakers Bureau: Roxanne Rutledge thanked the publicity committee for making this a banner year for seminar attendance. The talk on roses was the most popular, with 48 attending. Thanks to Donna Howard for stepping in to do the ponds lecture. Three seminars were cancelled due to low advanced enrollment, but over all the seminars were attended by 309 people. Roxanne said the speaker's bureau has been well received by the community. It has had a number of requests, especially by garden clubs. The suggestion was made that several popular topics be prepared in advance and filed. And seminar material already on file can be used by bureau speakers.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Fall Dig and Plant Swap:** Jean thanked Maurya Jones, Mary Ellen, Pam and Mageeda Doe for helping. There were not a lot of participants, but those who attended had a great time and there is always next year.
- **Greenhouse:** Saturday, November 19, Marcia will oversee the removal of the greenhouse from Skip Spears' property and could use help. Paulette has agreed to us placing it at the Senior Center, it will not have electricity. We will use it to protect tender plants and for starting early plants. Ellen Reagan moved that the project move forward; Mary Ellen seconded and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Election:** Jean announced the nominations committee's slate of officers for 2006. They are President: Betty Adams, President-elect: Glenda Thompson; Secretary: Janet Newman; Treasurer: Pam Raines; Historians: Martha Ann Slatton and Susan Cox. There being no nominations from the floor, Ellen moved to accept the slate by acclamation; Tom Walston seconded, and the new officers were duly elected.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Jean reminded everyone to turn in their Georgia Master Gardeners 2006 Memoranda of Agreement.
- Glenda asked for program suggestions.
- Mary Ellen announced an Adopt a Senior program via the Senior Center. Anyone interested can contact Sharon Smith at 770-704-2320.

EXTENSION AGENT TODD

- Todd presented a lifetime certificate to Judie Bicknell for ten years of service to Master Gardeners. He presented membership certificates to Viviane Decker, Lesli Peterson and Karen Schutt for completing their 50 volunteer hours.
- President Jean asked Trudy to introduce two special guests, Jackie McMorris and David Martin who came to honor Todd at his going away party, at the conclusion of this meeting.
- Members then expressed their appreciation for all the wonderful work Todd has done with us. He has encouraged us both individually with his never-failing patience and good humor and as a group. Gerry Slaughter read part of her recommendation letter as Todd now moves on to a higher level job with the state. We are very proud of him, but we will miss him terribly. Amid songs of goodbye, Todd opened individual gifts brought by members and was also give a \$400 gift certificate to Home Depot. Thereafter everyone adjourned for a wonderful potluck lunch.

BIRTHDAYS (December)

Debbie Meadows and Mary Ann Szostak 7, Thomas Dorn 19, Lisa Higgins 26, Carol Mumaw 29.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 30 – Committee chairs meeting at Hickory Flat Library 6:30 p.m.

December 10 – Christmas gathering at Thompson home 7 p.m.