

Cherokee County Master Gardeners
Regular Meeting
Holly Springs City Hall
November 21, 2006

The regular monthly meeting of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners was held on Tuesday, November 21, 2006. The meeting was called to order by President Betty Adams at 10:05 a.m. Members present were President Betty Adams, Immediate Past President Jean Garner, President-elect Glenda Thompson, Treasurer Pam Raines, Secretary Janet Newman, Russell Brannon, Karen Garland, Mary Hughes, Maurya Jones, Joan McFather, Carol Mumaw, Linda Robbins, Mary Ellen Roos, Roxanne Rutledge, Gerry Slaughter, Suzie Thomas, and Frank Weltz. Extension Agent Paul Pugliese was also present. Sandra Ferguson was a guest today.

Officer Reports

President Betty welcomed everyone and introduced guest Sandra Ferguson who is a Master Gardener transfer from Rockford, Illinois. She urged everyone to please be sure to get their hours turned in for 2006. Betty reported that Parrie Pinyan has plants that have volunteered in her yard and she would be glad to share them with any interested Master Gardeners. Those members should contact her by e-mail. Gerry reported that Harvey Mills at Buck Jones has retired, and she circulated a card for him that members signed. She said there is also a book at the store in which people may write messages to him. He was the individual who suggested that we Master Gardeners apply for the 30% discount, years ago. Gerry has worked to put together a trip to Burk Art on December 11th at 1 p.m. Members can meet at the Senior Center to carpool. More information will be coming via e-mail. Donna Tock is starting a new garden club, Cherokee Redbuds Garden Club, with about 8 members and needs a speaker on perennials in February. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Betty. The Savannah Winter Conference is Saturday, January 13th. Anyone who wants to carpool should contact Betty. Gerry suggested The Shrimp House on River Street for anyone needing the name of a good restaurant. Mary reported that the wreath-making seminar went well and everyone went home with a beautiful wreath. She said that those attending just needed a few pointers and then were able to get to work on their wreaths. Roxanne said that hands-on seminars and those with something to take home were very popular. Maurya brought Billie McIver's photo book of her gardens and passed it around for everyone to see.

President-elect Glenda reminded everyone to sign up for the committees for 2007. She suggested that committee chairs should train a successor for their committee when they are ready to move on to another activity. The Christmas party is 7 p.m., December 8th, at Ellen Reagan's home. Please carpool, and everyone should bring a dish. Directions will be sent out by e-mail soon.

Secretary Janet asked that the October minutes be approved with the correction "photos taken by Linda Robbins," added to the original minutes to describe the framed picture of the greenhouse presented to the Spears. The corrected minutes were approved.

Treasurer Pam reported \$6897.43 in our checking account and \$57.45 in our Pike's account. She said she had taken in \$360 in garden book sales. Anyone having receipts needing to be reimbursed should turn them in to Pam. She will also be asking for budget requests in early January. The price for 2007 newsletter subscriptions will be \$7. There are currently 11 subscriptions being sent now. Be sure to turn in any Pike's receipts you might have.

Paul reported that Marco Monseco has launched a new state Master Gardener website. The advanced Master Gardener class, on tree and shrub identification, went well, with 45 students in attendance. There should be about 40 interns from Pickens and Cherokee Counties in the new Master Gardener class. Just a few more interviews are to be conducted before finalizing the class list. Seminars and publicity have helped to create interest in the classes.

Committee Reports

County Fair—Karen was enthusiastic about the fair's winning theme for 2006, How to Create a Children's Sensory Garden. Being outdoors helps children to be healthy in mind and body. If nobody comes up with another theme for next year's fair booth, it will probably be concerned with water conservation.

Senior Center—Betty reported for Marcia Winchester, asking that members save mesh bags, like onions come in, in which to store bulbs until the spring plant sale. Gerry has been working to get the front flower beds re-planted at the Senior Center. The Victory Garden is in need of an armillary. The county donated

money to replace trees. Yellowwood, 'Emerald Green' arborvitae, weeping cherry, 'Compacta' hollies, and 'Natchez' crape myrtle were purchased. Mariana Jackson will apply for the Georgia Gems grant for the Liberty Garden.

Garden Book Marketing and Sales—Carol said that only 50 or so books remain unsold. Some were sold at the last seminar. Another opportunity to sell the books would be at the Autumn Hill Holiday Festival on December 2nd from 10a.m. to 4p.m. Russell handed out flyers in his neighborhood and was able to get some orders for the book that way.

Seminar Series—Roxanne reported that the seminars were very successful this year. The signs and the Publicity Committee were a big help. She is ready to move out of her position as Committee Chair and needs someone to help out with half the work this next year, and then take over the Chair eventually. Susan and Karen expressed interest.

Unfinished Business

Russell asked anyone who wants to be a mentor to the new Master Gardener interns to let him know.

Nineteen will be needed. Betty, Roxanne, Karen, and Glenda volunteered.

Gerry discussed changes in the proposed bylaws. The bylaws were approved.

New Business

The officers for 2007, Glenda Thompson—President, Russell Brannon—President-elect, Janet Newman—Secretary, Pam Raines—Treasurer, and Mary Ellen Roos and Mary Hughes—Co-Historians, were approved.

Susan reported that she and Viviane Decker did a talk on basic gardening at a local church. It went well, and the audience was particularly interested in growing their own food.

Karen said that she can help members get a Pollinator Habitat Certificate. Just send her an e-mail and the gardens can be certified before spring.

Betty had an e-mail from Becky Griffin saying that the Rufus hummingbird is in her area. Be sure to keep feeders out for them.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30a.m.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

12/7—Work Day at Senior Center, 10a.m.

12/8—Master Gardener Christmas Party at Ellen and Roy's, 7p.m.

12/21—Work Day at Senior Center, 10a.m.

1/4—Work Day at Senior Center, 10a.m.

1/13—Master Gardener Winter Conference in Savannah

1/16—Master Gardener Monthly Meeting, 10a.m. Place to be announced

1/18—Work Day at Senior Center, 10a.m.

Upcoming Birthdays

12/7 Debbie Meadows

12/7 Mary Ann Szostak

12/19 Thomas Dorn

12/29 Carol Mumaw

1/5 Glenda Thompson

1/15 Nell Gillespie

1/19 Viviane Decker

1/22 Russell Brannon