

CHEROKEE COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Bridgemill Community Center

The regular monthly meeting of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners was held on Tuesday, October 16, 2007. The meeting was called to order by President Glenda Thompson at 10:00 a.m. Members present were President Glenda Thompson, President-Elect Russell Brannon, Secretary Maurya Jones, Treasurer Pam Raines, Historian Mary Ellen Roos, Betty Adams, Judie Bicknell, Viviane Decker, Nell Gillespie, Janis Marshall-Kroen, Joan McFather, Linda Robbins, Jane Shelnett, Gerry Slaughter, Mary Ann Szostak, Suzie Thomas, Faye Webster, Marcia Winchester, Pat Whiting, Katie Van Hiel, Gerald Phillips and Interns, Dot Martin, Diane Smith, Carol McNavish.

OFFICER REPORTS

President - Glenda requested the need for President-Elect for 2008. Please, someone volunteer!

Master Gardeners will now be charged \$15 for meetings held at Sr. Center. Discussion followed for alternative meeting places. Mary Ellen Roos, Marcia Winchester and Judie Bicknell volunteered to meet with county commissioners about meeting facility. Glenda and Russell will call meeting next week regarding this.

Workshop at Redbud Nursery will be Saturday October 27 from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. Let Glenda know if you are planning to go.

Betty Adams has volunteered to have the annual Christmas party at her home on December 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Vice-President - Russell stated the recent survey is now on line. Twenty-nine members responded and he asked all members to read it.

Russell brought 2 rain barrels he made to the meeting. A discussion followed --do we want a workshop on How to Make Rain barrels, do we want to sell them? Pat Whiting, Janis Marshall-Kroen, Judie Bicknell and Karen Garland volunteered to work on Rain Barrel Committee. Janis Marshall-Kroen will be on Channel 2 at 7:45 a.m. and again on Sunday at 6 p.m. regarding rain barrels.

Russell asked everyone to sign up for committees for next year. If you missed the meeting, please let Russell know which committees on which you will serve.

Secretary - Maurya thanked Betty for taking minutes at September meeting. Marcia Winchester moved and Pam Raines seconded approval of September minutes; which were accepted by a show of hands.

Treasurer - Pam Raines announced a checking account balance of \$8,759.02 and a total of \$55.29 in our Pike's account.

News from the Extension Office - Paul Pugliese announced new Master Gardener Training Class will start in January in Cartersville. Mentors are needed to volunteer to set up and take down tables and chairs after classes. Paul suggested choosing a class you'd like to hear again and volunteer for that one. Katie Van Hiel completed her 50 volunteer hours and received her Master Gardener certificate from Paul.

Paul announced an Advanced Master Gardener Training class on Invasive Plants will be held November 29 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce Building in Jasper, GA. Registration is \$30.00 and due by

November 19. Any questions contact Al Rothe at arothejr@etcmail.com or 706-692-1589.

Paul added that the GMG Winter Conference, entitled "Gardener's Niche" will be held January 26, 2008, in Athens, GA. Registration forms are in The Scoop as well as on line.

Regarding our Level 4 Drought, Paul emphasized that our job as Master Gardeners is to focus on the SOLUTION instead of the problem. He stated, "The keyword here is "temporary". This drought is a temporary inconvenience. Our water resources need to be managed more efficiently."

Paul commended Russell for survey feedback that is now online.

Two sheets need to be filled out by members: the green one by committee chair only and the yellow one "Individual Annual Summary Master Gardener Activities 2007 Year" by all members.

Paul will miss the November meeting, but added that the theme for next year is "Soil and Water Conservation for Cherokee County--Increasing Habits and Attitudes".

COMMITTEE/OTHER INTEREST REPORTS

Senior Center/Newsletter--Marcia reported gardens at Sr. Center look good; ice from Meals on Wheels is being used to water shrubs; pruning and harvesting seeds are jobs that can be done on workday.

The newsletter will be on line by tomorrow. Marcia needs "Cool Tool" or "Favorite Plant" article. Marcia has lost the "Recycle" writer and would welcome a regular writer for that job. Marcia remarked that "One of our best assets is that the average citizen can get something out of our newsletter." She suggested sending copies to all of our garden clubs.

Garden Book - Glenda reported for Carol Mumaw that 98 books have been sold. Remember to take books with you to Seminars or any speaking engagements you are doing. Also, these books make great Christmas gifts.

Nell Gillespie and Mary Ann Szostak reported on recent project with Home Depot at the Woodstock Fair. They have a lot of pretty pictures of fountain and added that a plaque is on the site thanking Cherokee County Master Gardeners and Home Depot for work they did.

Habitat for Humanity - Pat Whiting reported that the first seminar will be March 20 at the Canton Library from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Four homes will be built next spring. Russell added that if you are planning to go help with digging or planting on October 27, or November 3, that we don't go as Master Gardeners.

Gerald Phillips, one of our newest members, was the featured speaker at today's meeting. Gerald gave a very informative presentation on "Fall Gardening". He provided us with a Fall Garden Planting Chart and shared tools he uses: Row covers, which allow rain in, plastic tops with holes on top, bent PVC and bricks. What he likes best about fall planting is the great flavor you get from your garden vegetables.

Door prizes were awarded and Glenda adjourned the meeting at 11:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Maurya Jones, Secretary

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct. 27 - Prepare Habitat Property

Nov. 1 - Senior Center Workday 9:30 - 3:00

Nov. 10 - Seminar Gifts from the Garden, Senior Center 11:00 a.m.

Nov. 13 - Monthly Meeting - Senior Center 6:00 POT LUCK

Nov. 15 - Senior Center Workday 9:30 - 3:00

Nov. 17 - Seminar Wreath Making from Nature's Materials, Senior Center 11:00

BIRTHDAYS

Gerry Skalsky Nov. 1

Merrily McLaughlin Nov. 6

Jane Shelnuttt Nov. 7

Jean Collins Nov. 13

Nan Coppenrath Nov. 16

Mignon Fleishel Nov. 18

Mary Ellen Roos Nov. 20

Mariana Jackson DiVita Nov. 30