

Cherokee County Master Gardeners
Regular Meeting
Cherokee County Senior Center
October 17, 2006

The regular monthly meeting of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners was held on Tuesday, October 17, 2006. Members and guests enjoyed the Garden Party held in honor of Helen and Skip Spears, who donated the greenhouse to our group. Marcia Winchester presented a framed picture of the greenhouse, **photos taken by Linda Robbins**, and one of our new Garden Books, Gardening with the Masters, A Planner with Proven Garden Techniques for Zone Seven, to the couple to thank them for their donation. The business meeting was called to order by President Betty Adams at 6:50 p.m. Members present were President Betty Adams, Immediate Past President Jean Garner, President-elect Glenda Thompson, Treasurer Pam Raines, Secretary Janet Newman, Judie Bicknell, Monte Bores, Pat Bowen, Russell Brannon, Anna Marie Cutts, Viviane Decker, Susan Franklin, Donna Howard, Mariana Jackson, Maurya Jones, Lynn Knotts, Janis Marshall-Kroen, Debbe McCollum, Joan McFather, Billie McIver, Carol Mumaw, Helen Ogren, Mary Ellen Roos, Jane Shelnett, Gerry Slaughter, Mary Ann Szostak, Suzie Thomas, Maura Watson, Marcia Winchester, and Susan Wyman. Extension Agent Paul Pugliese was also present. Tony Szostak and Ken Slaughter were guests today.

Officer Reports:

President Betty welcomed everyone and thanked Pat Bowen and Susan Wyman for organizing the Garden Party. She introduced guests, Tony Szostak and Ken Slaughter, who helped set up the greenhouse. Betty said she had received a request for a speaker to come to a local church and talk about fall and winter garden preparations. Susan Wyman and Viviane Decker volunteered to help. The fall landscaping clinic has been canceled and will be rescheduled for February 2007. The Yard of the Month Project is on hold for the time being. Roxanne Rutledge and Jane Shelnett had volunteered to help out with the program but hadn't been able to make contact with the person in charge. Marcia Winchester said that Progress Growers are considering selling some organic products.

President-elect Glenda Thompson reported that the November meeting will be the Tuesday of Thanksgiving week at the Holly Springs Depot. There will be an election of officers for 2007 and a regular business meeting. The Christmas party will be at Ellen Reagan's home on December 8th and will probably start at 7 p.m. Committee sign-up sheets for 2007 were set out for members.

Secretary Janet Newman said that some members were still having problems opening the e-mail attachment with the minutes each month, so she plans to copy and paste the minutes to the e-mail as well as send the attachment. Marcia Winchester moved to approve the September minutes, Mary Ellen Roos seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer Pam Raines reported a checking balance of \$8007.17 and a Pike's account balance of \$169.70. Garden Book sales so far amounted to \$783.50.

Extension Agent Paul Pugliese reported that there will be an Advanced Master Gardener course on Woody Plant Identification on November 17th from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at North Metro Tech. He will be helping Rex Bishop teach the class. Speakers have been lined up for the 2007 Master Gardener course at Ball Ground. The first class will be January 22, 2007. The classes will meet on Mondays and Thursdays through April 12th from 9:30 a.m. to noon. There will be about 30 students from Cherokee County, 15 to 20 from Pickens County, and a few from Gilmer County. The application deadline is November 1st. Betty Adams reported that the Ball Ground City Hall has given the okay for the class to work on a landscape project in appreciation for use of the facilities. Mary Ellen Roos said that the Garden Club of Cherokee County wants to help with that project, also. Betty Adams said that she, Glenda Thompson, and Russell Brannon were working with Pickens County to coordinate the Master Gardener classes. Glenda Thompson announced that those who want to help out with a Junior Master Gardener program should sign up on the Youth Programs Committee sheet.

Committee Reports:

Care and Share—Mary Ann Szostak reported that things have been quiet for the Care and Share committee. She asked everyone to let her know of any members who might have need of the committee's attention.

Plant Sale/Newsletter/Senior Center—Marcia Winchester reported that the plant sale had brought in \$477. Fifteen or so of the Garden Books also were sold and more could probably be sold at Autumn Hill's Christmas Tree Festival. The deadline for articles for the December/January newsletter is November 1st. Articles such as "Cool Tool" and "My Favorite Plant" or other topics are needed. The February/March newsletter starts the new subscription year. At the

Senior Center gardens this week winter annuals will be planted, and we will be working on plant propagation. Mariana Jackson has been working on establishing a new Liberty Garden. Gerry Slaughter has been working to come up with replacement trees for the Bradford pears that were removed. Russell Brannon and Marcia Winchester have been working to help complete the Funk Center garden. They have donated plants obtained from rescue work with GNPS and asked other Master Gardeners to do the same. If you are a GNPS member, you can look for needed plants and donate part of what you rescue to the Funk Center garden. Non-GNPS members can go on one rescue. October 28th is the next scheduled rescue.

Garden Book Marketing and Sales—Carol Mumaw reported that over \$900 had been taken in sales of the book with what had been sold at the CCMG meeting. The Extension Office is keeping the books, and all arrangements are made through them. If you want to check out some books to take to garden clubs to sell, that is done through the office. The committee is arranging to put out small posters around the county with ordering information, and they would like to have volunteers to deliver them to the locations. Viviane Decker volunteered to take those in her area. The books are being featured in articles in area newspapers and magazines. The committee will arrange to have the books for sale at seminars. Mary Ann Szostak said that books could be sold at the Fall Festival in Woodstock on October 28th. A booth would cost \$25 to rent from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. They would need volunteers to man the booth in shifts that day. It was also suggested that the books might be sold in the new Master Gardener class.

CCMG hours—Glenda Thompson reminded us that we must get our hours in to make sure we are kept on the active list. January through December hours will be included in 2006 totals.

Unfinished Business

Gerry Slaughter has been working on bylaws for our group for at least 2 years now. Gwinnett County and GMGA bylaws have been used as models for ours. We want to use them as a start and amend them through time so that they become our own. Copies of the proposed bylaws [Documents 1 and 2] were handed out at the meeting and discussed. Gerry asked that members contact her with any comments or questions before the next meeting. We will vote on the proposed bylaws at the November meeting.

Susan Franklin thanked everyone again for a successful Farmer's Market this year. She said that the Woodstock market was also available as a choice for marketing items, but there is a fee of \$25 whereas our market has no charge.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

10/19—Work Day at Senior Center, 10 a.m.
11/2—Work Day at Senior Center, 10 a.m.
11/16—Work Day at Senior Center, 10 a.m.
11/17—Advanced MG Course on Woody Plant ID, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
11/18—Gift and Wreath Making from Nature's Bounty Seminar at Senior Center, 11 a.m.
11/21—Monthly meeting at Holly Springs Depot, 10 a.m.

Upcoming Birthdays

11/1 Gerry Skalsky
11/6 Merrily McLaughlin
11/7 Jane Shelnut
11/15 Jean Collins
11/16 Nan Coppenrath
11/18 Mignon Fleishel
11/20 Mary Ellen Roos
11/26 Mary Tucker
11/30 Mariana Jackson