

Cherokee County Master Gardeners
Regular Meeting
Holly Springs Depot
September 19, 2006

The regular monthly meeting of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners was held on Tuesday, September 19, 2006. The meeting was called to order by President Betty Adams at 10:03am. Members present were President Betty Adams, Immediate Past President Jean Garner, President-elect Glenda Thompson, Treasurer Pam Raines, Secretary Janet Newman, Lois Andresen, Pat Bowen, Anna Marie Cutts, Nell Gillespie, Maurya Jones, Lynn Knotts, Debbe McCollum, Billie McIver, Carol Mumaw, Mary Ellen Roos, Suzie Thomas, and Marcia Winchester. Extension Agent Paul Pugliese was also present. Katie Van Hiel was a guest today.

President-elect Glenda welcomed and introduced David Cochran of Whitepath Water Gardens in Ellijay. He presented the program "Keeping Your Pond Balanced and Beautiful." Most pond owners are concerned with keeping their water from turning green. Limiting sunlight, having four times as many plants as fish, using a good water filter, and keeping the pH in the 7.0 to 7.5 range will help prevent the green water.

Officer Reports

President Betty announced that Redbud Nursery has extended an invitation to us to shop for fall plants on Saturday, October 7th from 9am to 11:30am. Heritage Baptist Church has invited us to attend their Heritage Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 18th from 9am to 2pm. Autumn Brook Sub-division will be having their annual Corn Roast and Art Fair on Sunday, October 1st. All members are welcome. Betty reminded us we all need to be sure to turn in our hours and keep up-to-date. Lois announced that she brought handouts from the Recycling Center and encouraged everyone to take the packet before leaving the meeting. She also wanted to be notified if anyone was planning to go to the September 30th MG conference.

President-elect Glenda reminded us that the next meeting is on October 17th at the Senior Center. Everyone should bring finger foods to the Garden Party, starting at 6pm, to thank the Spears for donating the greenhouse to us. The business meeting will begin at 6:45pm.

Secretary Janet read a thank you note to the group from Joy Grimm, who recently retired from working at the Senior Center. Janet thanked Mary Ellen and Gerry Slaughter for taking the minutes for her at the August meeting. Marcia moved to approve the August minutes, Glenda seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Treasurer Pam announced that the checking balance was \$7173.46 and the Pike's Greenback balance was \$169.70.

Extension Agent Paul reported that plans are on schedule for a new MG class which will begin next year. Applications for the class will be available next week and are due back in the office on November 1st. The applications will be numbered as they come in so that the class will fill from the earliest dates on, until all the spots are taken. The classes will begin January 22nd at the Ball Ground Community Center and will be on Mondays and Thursdays from 9:30am to noon. Russell Brannon is in charge of mentors for Cherokee County, so contact him if you wish to be a mentor to an upcoming Master Gardener. There should be close to 30 interns from our county.

Committee Reports

Farmers Market—Pat reported that the market will be open into October, but the Master Gardener booth will not be open. The market has been very successful this year. Betty reported that okra sales, from Liz Porter's okra patch, had brought in \$26 for CCMG. She thanked everyone who helped pick and sell. Senior Center/Newsletter/Plant Sale—Marcia said that Suzie will be digging up hostas and irises, dividing them, and getting them ready for the spring sale at the workday this Thursday. There will be a demonstration on how to smother weeds in the garden. Seeds will be harvested for the seed sale and also for workers to take home for their home gardens. She reported that the butterfly garden is installed. Billie said that she has red hot poker, cannas, and others ready to be divided if anyone is interested in contacting her to come over and dig some to take home with them. Marcia said articles such as "Cool Tool" and "My Favorite Plant" are needed for the December/January newsletter. She thanked Pat for her articles in the current issue. Subscriptions to the newsletter start each year with the February/March issue. The Plant

Sale is coming up in two weeks on September 30th. Marcia needs more help on that Saturday for the sale. She also needed tables, and Pat, Glenda, Mary Ellen, and Carol offered the use of their tables.

Field Trip—Jean reported that sometime after October 9th there will be a trip to the Sue-Burk Art Studio. Lynn said that the trip to Chattanooga was great. They enjoyed the native plant sale, a nice lunch, etc.

County Fair—Karen e-mailed Betty and reported that their booth won first place. Karen already has an idea for next year's booth.

Garden Book—Carol said the book will be going to press today or tomorrow. A marketing committee is needed for the book sale, to get out press releases, etc. Pat, Debbe, and Carol volunteered to help. The cost to mail the book, without tracking, would be \$1.59.

Care and Share—Lois's husband, Rolf, recently lost his sister. Susan Wyman recently had shoulder surgery. Billie has been doing better and was able to attend the meeting today. All would appreciate being remembered with cards and notes.

Landscape Classes—Nell reported that the landscape class is ready to go. The cost will be \$35 per couple, and each couple will receive one set of landscape design tools and pamphlets for the class. If two people are working together and need another set of tools, because they are working on two different projects, they should let Nell know as soon as possible so she can arrange for another set for an additional charge. The classes will be October 3rd, 5th, 10th, and 12th at the Senior Center in the evenings.

Unfinished Business

Pat reminded us to be sure to bring finger foods to the Senior Center for the October 17th meeting. We will be having a Garden Party to thank the Spears for their donation of the greenhouse.

New Business

Marcia reported that work continues on our proposed by-laws. There will be a copy for everyone to look over at the October meeting. We will vote on their approval at the November meeting. Marcia moved to create an Executive Board with current officers. Debbe seconded. Mary Ellen suggested that they could be assembled to take care of emergency business that needed to be dealt with immediately. The motion was approved.

Betty reported we had been invited to participate in the R. T. Jones Library Festival of Trees. The group declined to participate this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56am.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- 9/21 Workday @ Senior Center....9am
- 9/28 Load plants (for Plant Sale)....9am at Senior Center to pull plants and get ready to load
- 9/29 Set Up For Plant Sale @ Autumn Hill
- 9/30 MG Fall Plant Sale @ Autumn Hill....8am to 4pm
- 9/30 MG Fall Conference @ Augusta
- 10/5 Work Day @ Senior Center....9am
- 10/7 Shopping @ Redbud Nursery....9-11:30am
- 10/17 Garden Party (6pm) and Monthly Meeting (6:45pm) @ Senior Center

Upcoming Birthdays

- 10/14 Donna Howard
- 10/17 William Slatton
- 10/22 Linda Robbins
- 10/24 Lois Andresen
- 10/25 Karen Rockwell
- 10/26 Dawn Perlotto
- 10/27 Jennifer Resuta
- 10/28 Anna Marie Cutts and Martha Ann Slatton