

The NEW LEAF



2010

Coweta County Master Gardener Association Newsletter
University of Georgia Cooperative Extension - Coweta County Office
255 Pine Rd., Newnan, GA 30263 (770-254-2620)

President's Notes

By Mike Merget

It's amazing how fast time goes by. It seems like yesterday we had our January meeting and all of a sudden, here we are in June looking back at a great Plant Sale and a very successful Garden Tour. All this after the addition of lots of new Master Gardener interns who enjoyed their classes and found new friends, as we all have before. In fact, the interns were a great addition to our ranks and enthusiastically pitched in and earned lots of hours. Congratulations to Barbara Johnson who already has 63 hours.

Cindy Bruce did a great job in organizing the Garden Tour and all of the folks who toiled deadheading, mulching, weeding deserve lots of credit for selling all of the tickets; I don't think that's ever happened.

Beverly Maddox has produced the 2010 Master Gardener Directory and it is another job well done. You can pick one up (with your name on the front cover) at the Extension Office.

Looking ahead I want y'all to check your calendars and make sure you attend the Thursday **August 12th** meeting at the Fairgrounds, 9:30 AM. At the last meeting we barely made a quorum with just over twenty members. This invitation is to everyone, including interns, as we intend to discuss how



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we spend our money, especially since our treasury is bursting at the seam. I'd like to have many ideas as to how we use this money so we can sort out the very best way to help our community in the spirit in which we provide educational opportunities, scholarships and other worthwhile community projects. After all, we are not an investment company; we're Master Gardeners, an extension of the Coweta County Extension Office. Have a great summer.

Mike

Please remember to enter your name on the Volunteer Hours Reports. I have been receiving some without names and it is hard to find out who the person is.

Volunteer Hours Reports are due by the 3rd of each month.

Thanks –
Carol Rouse, Vice President



I still have several Hostas we need to move. \$5 each or 5 for \$ 20 for the large ones. Small ones \$4. If interested give me a call to set up a time to come over.



JC



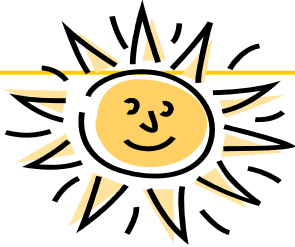
Scholarship Committee Report

By Pat Clayton, Committee Chair

The scholarship Committee has chosen winners for the 2010 scholarships. They are:

- ❖ Ethan Robertson who is majoring in forestry at ABAC. This is Ethan's third win, and we hope to see him through to graduation.
- ❖ Katy Lynn Kirbow is enrolled at the University of Georgia where she is pursuing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture. This is her second win.
- ❖ Allison Gordy is a 2010 graduate of East Coweta High School and has been accepted to ABAC to study Forestry. Allison scored a 1620 on her SAT and still had time to be extremely active in both her church and community.

These are truly three fine young people. The committee is very pleased with their selections and I know the membership will be proud to have helped them pursue their goals.



Sunshine Committee Report

By Carol Fuller

Hello Master Gardeners. I hope all your plants are growing like weeds and that the weeds are not growing.

Jeanelle Richardson's husband, Jimmy, had surgery on both knees. He made it through rehab but then had a setback. He is now taking it easy and recuperating. A card was sent to him. We hope he'll soon be able to get in the yard with Jeanelle.

Sandy Smith recently had surgery but has recovered and is back at work. She was given a gift card to Bath and Body Works so that she can pamper herself. Glad she healed well.

We extend condolence to Barbara France whose mother passed away recently. A card and a gift card to Country Gardens were sent to Barbara.

Boyd Gilliam continues to struggle with his health. Please remember him in your prayers. Include Rita in those prayers as she takes care of Boyd.

MGs received a thank you from Cindy Bruce which said: "Thank you all so very much for the donation you made to The American Heart Association in memory of my mother. I would also like to thank you for all the cards & prayers for both my mother & our family during this difficult time. We all miss her dearly but thank God for a wonderful mother, the influence she had on our family & the time we shared."

Be healthy,
Carol



ASK THE MASTER GARDENER

By Ray Prior



Don't read this until after you have had your lunch.

Irene Hamm received an interesting call recently. A lady wanted to know if it was okay to feed children lettuce that was grown in a vegetable garden fertilized by llama manure. Llama manure; that's a new one. There were extenuating circumstances involved so Irene passed the question on to Stephanie. Here's the scoop on the poop.

Manure used in veggie gardens should **always** be properly composted first. The llama poo in question was not composted so there was an element of risk involved.

While all animal waste contains bacteria, human and pet waste should not be composted or used in veggie gardens by the backyard gardener because they can transmit diseases more easily.

As an extra precaution, we should always thoroughly wash vegetables before we eat them. Visit <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/publications/landscape/compost/> for more information on composting materials. Salad anyone?

IN DEFENSE OF BUFFALO

By Ray Prior

Me: #X*-!+

Rita: What are you grumbling about now? Is it the leaves thing again? Bugs, weeds? What?

M: No, it's Buffalo.

R: What's the matter with Buffalo?

M: Nothing's the matter with Buffalo. That's just the point. Buffalo gets a bad rap.

R: I think I've heard this before. I'm going to watch Regis and Kelly. You go ahead and rant.

M: I wish I had a catfish dinner for every time someone made a wise remark after I tell them I'm from Buffalo. Just the other night, within the span of ten minutes, one guy said "Buffalo; oh yeah, cold!" Another dude said "Is the snow melted yet?" Ha Ha. Very funny. LOL. Do people say that stuff about Chicago, or Erie, or Cleveland all of which have the same or worse winters? Granted, Buffalo is not a tropical paradise but it isn't the Antarctic either. They do have four seasons up there one of which happens to be summer.

For gardeners, the growing season is short; mid-May through August, but that was plenty of time for me to grow bell peppers, tomatoes, beans and cukes. I rarely had a problem with insects or diseases. A few tomato horn worms, that's about all. My compost bin would be full by fall's end but because of all the snow and constant freezing and thawing all winter, it would be reduced to a foot of delicious black compost come spring.

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IN DEFENSE OF BUFFALO, Continued-

Elsewhere in the yard we had an apple, a honey locust and a blue spruce tree; a lilac bush and a flowering almond. We had a climbing rose that covered about twenty feet of our fence. It bloomed on the 4th of July. There was an assortment of perennials including lilies, iris, hyacinths, tulips, gladiolas and dainty lilies-of-the-valley. Over Memorial Day weekend, we planted an assortment of annuals including geraniums and pansies.

Amid all this flora, was a 27 ft. above-ground swimming pool. More about the pool, lawns, pansies, and making the best of winter next time.

Coweta County Master Gardeners' Association Business Meeting May 13, 2010

Submitted by Angela Natho, Secretary

President Mike Merget called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Approval of Minutes from March 11, 2010 - Mike requested the minutes from the last meeting be approved. Roger Echols made a motion the minutes be accepted. Cindy Bruce seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Awards Committee - Mike presented Steve Rydzewski with a 500 hour pin. Janet Robinson was recognized for achieving Lifetime status. Cindy Bruce received a gift certificate in appreciation for serving as president in 2009. Cindy thanked the association for the donation made to the Heart Association in memory of her mother and Ruth Ann Seaton thanked the MGs for all the cards, visits, and gift certificate she received.

By-Laws Committee - Steve Rydzewski made a motion to approve the changes to Constitution and By-Laws presented to the Membership at the March meeting and published in the April newsletter. Roger Echols seconded. The motion passed.

Garden Tour - Cindy Bruce noted the 2010 tour is on track for May 22. Flyers are on the entrance table and tickets are on sale at Country Gardens and the Extension Office. Tickets are \$20 to include a picnic lunch. She still needs volunteers for the tour day. Lunches are available for \$8 for those MGs volunteering in the tour gardens. The Garden Chairs will be meeting this Thursday, May 20, to finalize plans for Saturday. The gardens on tour will be open Sunday, May 23, from 2PM until 5PM for MGs. Afterwards, MGs are to gather at Janet Robinson's for the 7th Annual Fish Fry. Bring a covered dish and a lawn chair. Janet Wise requested the Calling Committee remind MGs of the Fish Fry. Mike Merget stated Sarah Russell is moving and Karen Ray has assumed the duties of the Calling Tree. Maps to the gardens are in the Extension Office.

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Greenhouse Committee - Rhett McCorkle reported the Greenhouse Committee has 10 new members. April 24th the Training committee conducted a cuttings and propagation class for a garden club. On June 12th the Greenhouse Committee will be conducting its first class for the general public. A \$15 fee will be charged. Rhett also stated the greenhouse would be open this Saturday at 10AM for any MGs wanting plants leftover from the plant sale.

Member Directory - Mike reported Beverly Maddox has all the information needed to publish the 2010 MG directory.

Membership Committee - Carol Rouse stated the 2010 interns are getting a good start on earning their 50 hours. She reminded members that the 3rd of the month is the cutoff to report the previous month's hours. She also thanked the membership for all they did during the illness and death of her mother.

Plant Sale Committee - Irene noted we make \$4806.05 on the Plant Sale April 9. There will be Hosta Sale at J. C. Carpenter's this Monday the 17th from 11:00 to 2:00. Hostas will be \$4 to \$5 each.

Travel Committee - Janet Robinson reported only one trip remains this year - an overnight trip to Athens and the State Botanical Gardens with trips to local area nurseries. The trip is June 9-10 with both the van and the bus reserved. She also mentioned a non-sponsored Hydrangea Festival in Douglasville June 4 -6.

Scholarship Committee - Pat Clayton reported the committee had made the selections for the 2010 awards --- Ethan Robertson, Katy Lynn Kirbow and Allison Gordy.

Officer Reports

Treasurer - Irene Hamm presented the Income and Legers report through April, noting our ending balance of \$32,429.17. Currently these funds are not earning interest and suggested the membership purchase short term Certificates of Deposit. Mike Merget stated we also need to find ways to wisely spend some of the funds. Both Irene and Mike stated the budget for 2010 would be developed in summer. This would be an excellent time to incorporate additional scholarship funding or other venues the MGs wish to pursue to use funds.

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New Business

Garden Tour 2011 - Cindy Bruce is looking for gardens to showcase in 2011. She will have nomination sheets at the Garden Tour luncheon at Country Gardens. She also requested the membership nominate gardens.

After Action Reports - Major Committees - Mike requested after action reports from the major committees after completion of a project/fund raiser. This will assist new chairs and committee volunteers in learning what things worked well and what didn't in previous efforts.

Committee Minutes - Mike requested minutes be sent to the president, president-elect and the Extension Office. It will assist the board in keeping abreast of committee planning and assist new committee members in understanding responsibilities involved in serving on that committee.

There being no additional business, Mike requested a motion to adjourn. Cindy Bruce made the motion. Janet Robinson seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

