



The Paulding Vine

A Publication of the Paulding County Master Gardener Association

2010 Co-Presidents

January, 2010
Volume 5, Issue 1

Our Co-Presidents for 2010 became certified Master Gardeners in 2009 and have graciously agreed to serve as presidents for 2010. Both have been very active participants in the Paulding County Master Gardener program. We look forward to working with Jerry Colclasure and Tommy Gordon to make 2010 a rewarding year for Paulding County Master Gardeners.



Jerry Colclasure is a transplant from Ohio moving to Georgia 6 ½ years ago. He and his wife, Marjorie, have been married for 43 years and have two children. Their son, Eric, lives in Ohio and their daughter, Denise lives in Dallas. He is the proud grandfather of 3 grandsons (Tyler, Jacob, and Max) and 1 granddaughter (Kate). Jerry is active in the First United Methodist Church, United Methodist Men, River of Life, Helping Hands, Farmer's Market, and Master Gardeners.



John T (Tommy) Gordon is a retired educator. He was assistant director of Development Studies at Georgia State University and also served as Head of Development Studies and as Mathematics Department chair at Southern Polytechnic State University. Tommy enjoys growing in his yard: azalea, camellia japonica, bearded iris, and daylily (anything that the Japanese beetles do NOT like). There are almost 400 azaleas and 50 camellias growing around his home. He enjoys propagating flowering shrubs he grows to share with family and friends. Tommy and his wife Rachel of 39 years have three children - daughters aged 33 and 31 and a son 19.

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Paulding County Master Gardener Officers for 2010



- Co-Presidents** – Jerry Colclasure and Tommy Gordon
- Vice President** – Joanne Fudger
- Secretary** – Nanci Shipley
- Co-Treasurers** – Janet Lawson and Dallas Ann Dennis



Rachel Dutton



Rachel Dutton



January Musings

By Jo Irish

Attracting Birds to Your Yard

By Travis Jordan

To attract birds to your yard, you need to provide four elements: (1) food, (2) cover, (3) nesting areas and (4) water.

You can provide food through the use of different types of feeders such as platform types, hanging types and suet-holding types. From my experience black oil sunflower seeds seem to be the most popular. During the winter, you may want to provide suet. I've seen suet available at just about every garden center. However, purchasing suet can be expensive. Try making your own, it's much cheaper and easy to make. Here's the recipe:

- 1 cup lard or vegetable shortening
- 1 cup peanut butter, creamy or with nuts
- 1 cup plain all-purpose flour or whole wheat flour
- 3 cups plain corn meal
- Raisins, oats, breadcrumbs

Melt lard/shortening and peanut butter in pot. Remove from heat and add flour and cornmeal. Mix thoroughly. Add raisins and oats. Place mixture in a pan that has been lined with wax paper (trust me – it's a lot easier to remove with wax paper). Refrigerate. Cut into pieces and serve.

I usually just put suet chunks on the platform feeder. Another natural food source comes from trees and shrubs that provide berries and nuts for birds. A few examples include: fruit bearing (female) Ilex (Hollies), Quercus (Oaks), Viburnums, Magnolias, Myrica cerifera (Wax myrtles), and Callicarpa americana (Beautyberry). Focus on native plants bearing fruit and nuts. Next, provide cover and nesting areas through the use of bird houses and trees and shrubs. Make some of the trees or shrubs evergreen. Lastly, provide fresh water. The water source should be shallow, about 2" and should be kept clean by replacing it regularly. A water fountain or other source of running water will attract birds.

Check out the following publication from the University of Georgia at <http://pubs.caes.uga.edu/caespubs/pubcd/C976/C976.html>, Environmental Enhancement with Ornamental Plants: Attracting Birds. For more information on gardening in Georgia, contact the County Extension Agent or a Master Gardener at the Paulding County Extension Office at 770-443-7616 or check us out online at www.ugaextension.com/paulding.

It's January 8th, about 18 degrees and Rachel says she would like an article for the newsletter. Good grief! Doesn't she realize my mind is even cold? I can't think of a thing except trying to keep warm. Winter and I just don't jive. No matter what I do, I just can't seem to get comfortable. At the moment, I'm clad in a tangle of cuddle duds, wool socks, fuzzy slippers, an assortment of sweaters, and even a fancy scarf around my neck. It's enough to scare small children. The thermostat is up and the fireplace is roaring and I've wrapped my cold fingers around several cups of steaming coffee. Still I'm chilly. - And, certainly not thinking about anything in the garden or its development.

Then, the postman delivers my Spring issue of Country Gardens....Yay! Soon, I've snuggled down underneath my electric blanket, switched to hot chocolate, and opened my frozen thoughts to all things green and blooming. There's tulips and azaleas and daffodils; flea market garden gadgets and loads of ideas for a darling garden shed all spread out for me to dream about. Georgia, being what it is, will soon be warm and then sweltering. The bluebirds will be here in February. The shared flowers in my "friend's garden" will push up and out of the ground. There will be Judy's daisies, Rachel's forget-me-nots, Mickey's hostas and Dallas Ann's Hardee Street Rose. I know they are underneath that snow and ice somewhere just waiting to burst up and out. So, I'm gonna kick back with a snuggly afghan and read my new magazine and wait for what I know is coming....Spring!



Extension Office Updates

Opportunities to Volunteer

By Mary Carol Sheffield

Due to UGA and Paulding County budget constraints, our secretary position has been cut from a 30 hour per week schedule down to 19 hours per week.

Janet's new schedule will be:

Monday– 8 am - 12 pm and 1 pm - 4 pm

Tuesday-8 am - 12 pm and 1 pm - 3 pm

Thursday– 8 am - 12 pm and 1 pm - 3 pm

Due to this staffing cut, your assistance is needed now more than ever!

Things you can do to help until the secretary position can be funded back to the full time level:

1. Master Gardener assistance is needed with processing soil samples. This is a relatively simple task, but one that can be time consuming during periods of high soil sample volume (coming soon!). If you would like to learn how to process soil samples, for shipping to the UGA Soil Testing Lab please there will be a **Soil Sample Processing Refresher Course: Tuesday, February 2, 2010, 4 pm at the Extension Office**
2. Volunteers are needed to assist with staffing the office. Wednesdays and Fridays will be days when we may really need your help!
3. Call before you come to the office, as you may find it closed during normal business hours. The office may be operating on an altered schedule to accommodate the full load of programming that we plan to continue.

The new Master Gardener Training is underway along with other scheduled programming. The 4-H Staff has a full load of school programs.

Please be patient with us. Some things may take longer. We are working hard to continue to provide the service that Paulding County Citizens expect.

Your help as a volunteer is one of our greatest assets, right now.

We could really use your help!

McGarity Elementary Garden Club

By Laurie Bartron



McGarity Garden Club



Painting our rain barrel

The McGarity Elementary garden club has been very busy this 2009-10 school year. During our fall meeting the club cleaned school garden beds, completed work on the rain barrel, and created scarecrow people. We learned about forcing bulbs and leaf identification during our winter meeting. Students also created peanut butter bagels for our feathered friends, and cleaned our meal worm tubs.



McGarity Garden Club member checking out the meal-worms.

Pictures by Laurie Bartron

Ferns in Paulding County

By Rachel Dutton

Every year in the spring when flowers, ferns, shrubs and trees awaken from their dormancy I would notice again the variety of ferns that I could find in my yard. Being a curious gardener I wondered how many different types of ferns could be found in Paulding County. I knew from talking to fellow Master Gardener Dallas Ann Dennis that she had done extensive research on the ferns and wild flowers found in Paulding County. We talked about identifying the ferns in my yard and Dallas Ann graciously gave me a list of the ferns she had identified and from this list came the following article. Hopefully this list will stir your curiosity about the native plants, shrubs and trees that are growing in your yard and in our county.

Bracken Fern / *Pteridium aquilinum*

It is found in dry locations – open roadsides, thinly wooded flats and hillsides, in full or partial sun.

Broad Beech Fern / *Phegopteris hexagonoptera*

Broad Beech Fern is common throughout northern Georgia, and is sometimes found in southwestern Georgia.

Christmas Fern / *Polystichum acrostichoides*

It is one of the most common ferns in Georgia, except in the pine flatwoods of the southeastern part of the state. Early New England settlers used this fern for Christmas decorations. Some think the individual pinnule looks like either a Christmas stocking or a sleigh.

Cinnamon Fern / *Osmunda cinnamomea*

Ferns are found in wet, acidic soils, swamps, sphagnum bogs, and wet woods and along streams throughout Georgia. Hummingbirds collect the soft down from the hairy stipes to line their nests. *Osmunda* fiber, a fibrous mass of dried fern roots and stipe tissue, is used as a potting medium for orchids and epiphytes.

Dissected Grape fern / *Sceptridium dissectum*

Dissected Grape fern is found in moist forests, clearings and old fields. Fronds appear in summer from August to October and are evergreen turning bronze in the winter and disappearing in the spring.

Ebony Spleenwort / *Asplenium platyneuron*

Ebony Spleenwort grows equally well on red clay banks, disturbed or open woodlands, dry forests or in rock crevices. It is native to all of Georgia, except the southeastern Coastal Plain. **Evergreen**

Wood Fern / *Dryopteris intermedia*

Evergreen Wood ferns are found in some of the northern most counties in Georgia.

Hairy Lip Fern / *Cheilanthes lanosa*

Hairy Lip Fern is common in Georgia from the granite region of the Piedmont northward to the mountains. Fronds curl up when dry, but they revive with rain.

Marsh Fern / *Thelypteris palustris*

In Georgia Marsh Ferns are found primarily in the Coastal Plain, while widely distributed it is not abundant. It is found in wet, swampy woods, open grassy marshes, thickets and swamps.

Netted Chain Fern / *Woodwardia areolata*

It is one of the most widespread ferns in Georgia, with good distribution throughout the state. Can be found in acidic soils of swampy woods, along streams, or near wet, shaded rocks.

Rattlesnake Fern / *Botrypus virginianum*

In Georgia, it is found mostly in the northern half of the state and sporadically in southwestern and south central areas. Rattlesnake fern got its name for the resemblance of the sporangial clusters to that of rattlesnake rattles.

Resurrection Fern / *Pleopeltis polypodioides*

Resurrection Fern can be found on rock outcrops, tree trunks and limbs, rotten logs, moss-covered rocks and old shingled. The common name, Resurrection Fern, arises from the fact that the fronds curl up tightly from lack of moisture and appear dead until they are revived and “resurrected” by rain.

Royal Fern / *Osmunda regalis*

Royal Fern is found throughout nearly all of Georgia and is a large plant with handsome fronds. It needs several years to mature into a full-size specimen. Found in wet wood, cypress and creek swamps, springy depressions and along rocky streams.

Sensitive Fern / *Onoclea sensibilis*

In Georgia, it is found throughout the state, but less frequently in the southeastern Coastal Plain. Grows in roadside ditches, wet meadows or openings, swamp margins, wet, low woods and forests. The common name for this fern stems from the fact that it is sensitive to frost.

Southern Grapefern / *Botrychium biternatum*

In Georgia it is found in moist forests, clearings and old fields. Fronds appear from August to October. While most ferns are easily recognizable, the Grapeferns (*Sceptridium*) don't look like ferns when encountered for the first time. Grapeferns get their name from the clustered sporangia on the fertile fronds, which resemble a cluster of grapes.

Southern Lady Fern / *Athyrium felix-femina*

Southern lady fern is found throughout most of Georgia, except the pine flatwoods in the southeastern part of the state. There are several species of Lady Ferns found in North America, but only this species is native to Georgia. This fern is found in moist woods, roadside banks, along streams, and swamp margins.

References:

Field Guide to the Ferns and other Pteridophytes of Georgia, by Lloyd H. Snyder, Jr, and James G. Bruce. The University of Georgia Press.
Peterson Field Guide to Ferns of Northeastern and Central North America, by Boughton Cobb and Elizabeth Farnsworth and Cheryl Lowe for the New England Wild Flower Society.

Native Plants for Georgia Part 2: Ferns, Publication B987-2 is now available online. This is a great resource for Master Gardeners and others who are interested in native ferns. There are wonderful line drawings, photographs, and information on identification and culture. <http://pubs.caes.uga.edu/caespubs/pubcd/B987-2/B987-2.html>

Poole Elementary Junior Master Gardeners



Poole Elementary Junior Master Gardeners, with Graham Johnson, Rebecca Beverly, Dallas Ann Dennis and Mary Carol Sheffield.

Master Gardener Graham Johnson drew up landscaping plans with Poole Elementary School's Junior Master Gardeners and shared a lesson on landscape plan drawing with them. The club, sponsor and parents are using this plan to beautify the campus.



Rebecca Beverly with Poole Elementary Junior Master Gardeners.

2010 Master Gardener Interns and Mentors



Front row L to R-Tammy Pearson, Mickey Gazaway, Back row L to R- Rachel Dutton, Judy Howd, Shirley Davey, Donna Phillips, Stan Gazaway

Harvest Dinner



Harvest Dinner Speaker-Gail Woody, Carroll County Master Gardener, Butterfly Gardening



A bountiful Dinner was enjoyed by all who attended. Our Master Gardeners are not only very good gardeners, but excellent cooks! What a great way to wrap up our year and share fellowship with our families.



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Learning *for* **Life**

Calendar of Events

Quick Summary of Volunteer Reporting!

The hours are in and the numbers are tallied! You made a great deal of impact in 2009. Keep recording your great work. Here is a short summary of some of Paulding County's Master Gardener Volunteer information from 2009 (compared with 2008):

	2008	2009
Volunteers Reporting	30	31
Hours Volunteered	1183	1936
Miles Driven	4718	8201

You can view the Georgia Master Gardener Annual report online at:

<http://www.caes.uga.edu/departments/hort/extension/mastergardener/news.html>



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Learning for Life

- February 16th, 10:00 am at Paulding County Extension Office. **New Intern Orientation and mid-term exam.** Call to RSVP if you would like to volunteer to assist with this orientation.
- February 25th, 10:00 am at Paulding County Library. Program- **Composting** – Wendy Crager
- February 25th, 8:00 am until 2:30 pm at Chattahoochee Technical College, North Metro Campus, Acworth."Northwest Georgia'N the Green", Winter school on the Road, Pesticide and Arborist CEUs available, cost \$40 [Earlybird Registration before January 29th](#)
- March 25 – 10:00 am at Paulding County Library. Program - **Invasive Plants** - Rachel Dutton and Travis Jordan.