



TROUP COUNTY MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER



President's Message

Jingle🔔Bells ! Can you believe it's December? This is the last Newsletter message for me to write to my Gardeners.....Cannot express how much I have appreciated all during the year your participation and support. The 2011 Officers will need the same. The phone calls, emails, helpful information go a long way. I thank the ones that let me know the good and the bad.

If we continue to work together as a team following M.G. guidelines, we can accomplish so much and have a great time doing it. We don't all like the same plants, trees, food or music but most gardeners can find something in common. Since my class in 2003 I have gained many friends and a whole lot of gardening information. Would be wonderful if I remembered everything from all the speakers I have heard.

If I started listing names that have contributed in making 2010 an eventful year I would give out of room. One person I do want to mention is" Miss Billie", one strong willed lady. We see in her a love of plants, people, and a determination beyond belief. Thank you Miss Billie for being a role model.

See all of you Dec. 9 at the Master Gardener Christmas Party "A Country Christmas"

Thanks for all the memories,

Brenda

Calendar of Events



December 9 – "A Country Christmas" Party

January 13 -- Business Meeting

February 10--Program

March 10--Program



**December Meeting/Party
"A Country Christmas"**

Master Gardeners (who have paid their 2010 dues), interns and their spouse or guest are invited to attend the annual Christmas Party on Thursday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ag Building. Meat will be provided by the association. Please contact Carol Crews to confirm your attendance and to sign up to bring a covered dish to share. The dress for the evening is Christmas casual. Plan to sit back, relax and enjoy the evening.



Filing of Volunteer Hours

It's that time of year again to compile our volunteer hours of service. These hours need to be tabulated, put on an Individual Summary Form and submitted to Jane Kirby. If you have your form completed, it would be great to give it to Jane at the party on December 9. For those who don't have a Summary Form, one is attached to this newsletter. Please mail or email your completed summary to Jane by January 6

Jane' address is 606 Winzor Ave., LaGrange, GA 30240. and email is jakirby@charter.net.

Minutes from the November Meeting

President, Brenda Livingston, opened the business meeting by thanking Susan Galban, Sandra Williams, Mark Brown, Pat Wingo, Jacque Hornsby, and Linda Scott for the refreshments this evening.

After a show of hands of those members who read the minutes in their newsletter, the October minutes were accepted as printed in the Newsletter.

Gerald Becham, Treasurer, provided the financial report covering January through November. \$14,276.31 was the balance on January 1, 2010. Total revenue for this time period was \$554.88 and total expenses of \$2,492.88. Gerald noted that a \$10,000 CD was purchased in August. The current checking account balance is \$4,338.31. Total assets are \$14,338.31. Gerald provided a list of dues paid members to use for sending invitations for the Christmas dinner. He gave an opportunity to any member that had not paid to pay him that evening.

Brenda indicated she would be available to assist anyone that needed volunteer hours by working on the Library Project on Saturday. No one needed hours.

Jane Kirby spoke to the group about completing their Summary of Volunteer Hours Form and returning it to her by mail or email or taking it to the Extension Office by January 6. Sheets were provided on the back table and will be sent as an attachment to the December newsletter. Joan Benz stressed the importance of completing and filing this form to certified as a Master Gardener. There were a few questions and discussion regarding how to know if hours qualify. Matt Comerford, County Agent, said a rule of thumb is "that if it is education or for education" the hours count.

Carol Crews and Molly Link are the chairs for the Christmas Dinner. Carol requested that persons interesting in helping plan the Christmas dinner meet briefly with her after the meeting.

(November minutes continued)

Brenda presented the slate of Officers given by the Nominating Committee for the 2011 term.

President	Fern Bergeron
President Elect	Carol Crews
Vice President	Becky McLeod
Secretary	Tabitha Prestridge
Treasurer	Molly Link
Past President	Brenda Livingston

After requesting nominations from the floor and having none, Larry Flynn moved that the slate of officers remain and be elected as presented. Kenny Manis seconded Larry's motion. The Officers will be installed at the December meeting.

Matt Comerford spoke about a recent document that was received from UGA regarding two distinct Master Gardener groups and the advertising and funding aspects of the two groups. He indicated that at this point he is not planning to change anything. After a moderate amount of discussion, Matt reiterated that everything "remains as status quo."

A slide show of the 2010 GMGA Fall Conference concluded the meeting.

Board of Directors

President: Brenda Livingston (256-395-0135)

President-Elect: Gary Carter (706-884-3687)

Vice-President: Carol Crews (706-845-0854)

Secretary: Fern Bergeron (706-885-9388)

Treasurer: Gerald Becham (706-884-6284)

Past President: Larry Flynn (706-837-0861)

Committees

Bylaws - *Charlotte Lamb

Corresponding Secretary – Ann Fischer

Door Prizes – Peggy Genova

Education – *Joan Benz, JMG, Annice Whatley

Finance – *Gerald Becham

Meeting Set-up – *Steve Griffin

Membership – *Larry Flynn

Newsletter – *Fern Bergeron

Program – *Carol Crews, Gary Carter


Projects – *Patrick Bexton


Publicity – *Marilyn Mayer


Recorder of Volunteer Hours – Jane Kirby


Refreshments – *Linda Scott


Gardening Tips for December


 Rake the last of the fall leaves from your lawn. If you leave a pile of wet, matted leaves now you'll have big dead spots next spring.


 Sprinkle pine straw over bulb foliage that has emerged too soon. The green leaves won't be hurt by the cold but the straw will help hide them.


 Prune your evergreen shrubbery and bring the cuttings indoors. Juniper, holly and magnolia foliage is quite decorative. Use holly and nandina berries for a red accent in table centerpieces.


 Prune short stubs and dead limbs from trees now that all the leaves are gone.


 Poke holes in the foil wrapping on pots of holiday plants and set them in individual saucers. Otherwise accumulated water will cause root rot.

 Bird feeders bring lots of colorful activity to a yard in cold weather. Most bird experts recommend black oil sunflower seed for general feeding. Thistle seed and suet cakes attract birds you might not have seen before.

 Water trees and shrubs you planted this fall. Evergreen plants in particular need regular watering, even in cold weather. Apply 1 gallon per foot of height.

 Don't leave your lawn mower out in the rain. Water can get in the gas tank and prevent starting next spring. It is best to drain the tank completely or run the mower until it is out of gas.

 Plant woody vines like Carolina jessamine, wisteria and cross vine now. Make sure to place them next to a sturdy arbor and loosely tie the young vine to it with twine.

 Fireplace ashes can be scattered over your lawn. They will provide a bit of phosphorus and potassium plus counteract acidity. Spread no more than ten lb. per 1000 square feet per month.



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Individual Annual Summary Master Gardener Activities 2010

Name _____ County _____

I am a _____ New Master Gardener (completed training this year) or _____ Veteran Master Gardener

1. Total # of volunteer hours this year _____.
 2. Total # of in person contacts _____.
 3. Total # of telephone contacts _____.
 4. Total # of miles traveled _____.
 5. Please indicate beside each how many times you participated in each activity:
 - _____ Children's Programs (project # 1)
 - _____ Civic or Garden Club Presentations (project #2)
 - _____ Community or Demonstration Gardens (project # 3)
 - _____ Conducted or Judged Flower Shows (project # 4)
 - _____ Exhibits (project # 5)
 - _____ Extension Office (project #6)
 - _____ Habitat for Humanity (project # 7)
 - _____ Home Garden Visits (project #8)
 - _____ Newsletters (project # 9)
 - _____ Newspaper or Magazine Articles (project #10)
 - _____ Plant Clinics or Fairs (project #11)
 - _____ Research or Writing (project #12)
 - _____ Teaching Adult Classes (project # 13)
 - _____ TV & Radio Programs (project #14)
 - _____ Advisory Committees (project #15)
 - _____ GMGA Committees (project #16)
 - _____ Local MG Program Administration (project #17)
 - _____ Other (describe in Special Project Report) (project #18)
 6. Special Project Report. See attached separate form.
- Please return this report to me on or before January 10 following completion of the above listed year.

County Extension Agent

Describe special projects #18 or details about projects #1-17

_____ **Yes, I participated in a Plant a Row for the Hungry project!**