



TROUP COUNTY MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER



President's Message

October was a month filled with activity. We participated in the "Senior Citizen Expo"; a large turnout with buses bringing citizens from surrounding counties. Joan Benz and Helen Rice came to my rescue and helped me greet and give out information sheets that Shirley had gotten together for me from the Extension Office. Celeste made arrangements for the table to be ready for our display of various plants, examples of the proper way to prune and tomatoes.

Steve Griffin headed up the "Vernon Woods project", checking out the raised beds and deciding what needed to be done. We went there first to diagnose, (Master Gardeners: Steve, Bob Walters, Ken Carpenter (and me just listening to these seasoned gardeners.) We went back to empty, and move the beds out into the sun. Larry Flynn, Bill Lovejoy and Reggie from the Country Club joined in shoveling and moving. All six guys got a work out. My job was to make sure 6 men were there and to just watch. If the rain doesn't get in the way the final step will be replacing some of the soil with new that Vernon Woods purchased.

The Christmas party preparation is in motion. Birdseed ornaments for the tree underway on Nov. 4th.

Our "Road Trip" to Montgomery was very good. Who would have thought we could get part of a forest on the bus.....

We were asked to purchase or sell some tickets for the Cattleman's' Assoc. Pancake Bkf. We use the Ag. Center without rent, heating or air cost. Let's show support. I will have tickets at the Nov. meeting. \$5 use them or give to a friend.

"Library Project" Tentative meeting Sat. Nov.13th at the public library at 10:30 am.

November 11th meeting is very important. New slate of officers voted on, nominations can be made from the floor also. Slide show of the conference.

And I thank all of you for all you do. *Brenda*

Calendar of Events



November 11 -- Business Meeting/Elections

December 9 -- Christmas Party

January 13 -- Business Meeting

February 10--Program

March 10--Program



October Meeting

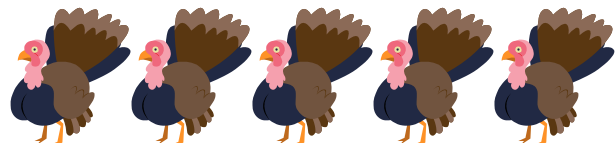
"Trash to Treasures"

Linda Shelnett from Alabama shared her love of turning trash into treasure. She showed numerous pictures of unusual items that she used to create whimsical garden art.



November Meeting

The November 11th meeting will be a business meeting with voting and election of new officers. There will also be a presentation of pictures from the GMGA Fall Conference.





Fall Road Trip

The road trip to **Jasmine Hill Gardens and Outdoor Museum** was great. Jim Enscoe the owner gave the group a private tour. After much shopping at **Southern Homes and Gardens**, the group filled the bus with their purchases and traveled safely back to LaGrange. When you see Helen Rice, ask her about how she transported 4 large trees from Montgomery to her home.



December Meeting/Party

Master Gardeners, 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 plan to bring a covered dish to share. The dress for the evening is Christmas casual. The 2011 officers will be installed at this 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

Minutes from the October Meeting

President, Brenda Livingston, opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their help with the Conference which was a huge success.

Next Brenda thanked Fern Bergeron, Marilyn Mayer, Susan Taylor and Linda Scott for the refreshments this evening.

Brenda called on Beverly Thomas to give the Nominating Committee Report. Beverly indicated that Becky McLeod and Gary Carter also served on the Nominating Committee. The following is the slate of officers for 2011 as presented by Beverly.

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

The slate of officers will be voted on at the November meeting. Officers will be installed at the December meeting.

The President will appoint committee chairs. Brenda asked persons that are interested in a certain committee to call and express their interest to the incoming President.

Fern Bergeron briefly spoke about the GMGA Conference. She indicated that in tabulating the evaluation sheets the Conference got a great rating. The highest rating was in the quality of the volunteer service. She expressed her gratitude and the gratitude of the Planning committee to everyone that answered the call for help. Marilyn Mayer also spoke about the great conference and that all areas flowed smoothly. Charlotte Lamb added how proud she is to be a part of the Troup County Master Gardeners and to have been involved in this wonderful Conference.

Brenda thanked Joan Benz and Helen Rice for their help at the Senior Expo on October 8. She indicated that the Raised Bed Project at Vernon Woods will be on Friday, October 22 at 10am. This project would be a great way for interns to get hours.

(October minutes continued)

Barbara Wesson and Mickey Norred are planning a day to get together and make decorations for this year's Christmas tree. The tree will again this year be "bird friendly". It will be donated to Hospice for the patients to watch the birds eat the decorations.

Mr. Scott will be selling Pancake Breakfast tickets tonight to help with the costs of maintaining this building. The breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, December 4 at the Ag building. Tickets are \$5.00 each. Money is to be turned in at the November meeting.

Brenda introduced Linda Shelnett who provided a humorous program on turning trash into treasures for your garden.

Brenda concluded the meeting by thanking the speaker and reminding everyone about the Pancake Breakfast.

Gardening Tips for November



This is the best time to plant spring-flowering bulbs now that the soil is cooler. Add fertilizer as you dig the bed.



Dig caladium, elephant ear and dahlia bulbs now while you can still find them. Store in boxes of peat moss.



Fertilize fescue lawns for a second time (and again in February and April). Use any turf fertilizer that's on sale.



Shear chrysanthemums and asters down to four inches once the flowers fade.



Rake out fallen leaves and replace the mulch under crabapples and dogwoods to prevent disease next year.



Spot-spray or dig out chickweed, violets and wild onions you find in your lawn.



Neaten perennial flower beds. Remove dry stems and dead leaves. Put fresh mulch under shrubs, trees and perennials.



Fertilize again the pansies, snapdragons, cabbage and dianthus you planted a few weeks ago. Use a powdered, water-soluble fertilizer now but switch to a product containing "nitrate nitrogen" December thru March.



Prepare your composting area for fall leaves. You can make a cheap bin from 4 foot wide fence wire 10 feet long. Bend it into a circle and join the ends together. Pile in leaves as you rake them. Spray each layer with water.



Water weekly the pansies and other cool-season flowers you planted earlier.



Clean all of the old vines from tomato cages before putting them in storage. Pull up okra stalks plus squash and bean vines



Bring some rosemary inside to dry for winter use. Freeze basil in water-filled plastic containers.



Divide your hanging basket of Boston fern into thirds and plant into three new baskets. Hang in a sunny window; by spring they'll be big enough to put outside.



Continue to plant shrubs and trees. Even though its chilly outdoors, the soil is still warm enough to encourage root growth. Remove all of the twine, wire or paper trunk cover on each one.



Tie up loose canes of climbing roses so they don't slap against the arbor or each other on windy days.