

**Cherokee County Master Gardeners
Regular Monthly Meeting
Bluffs Conference Center
October 18, 2016**

The regular monthly meeting of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners was held on Tuesday, October 18 at the Bluffs Conference Center. At 10:05 President Susan Franklin called the meeting to order. Members also present were State President Dot Martin, Secretary Joan McFather, Treasurer Pam Raines, Lois Andresen, Mike Ashe, Evelyn Balejcsik, Pat Bowen, Mageeda Doe, Martha Etchells, Carol Jackson, Maurya Jones, Devin Layman, Carol Mumaw, Pam Raines, Linda Robbins, Gail Roos, Mary Ellen Roos, Diane Smith, Ed Stumler, Mary Ann Szostak, Glenda Thompson, Katie Van Hiel, and Marcia Wichester. Trainees Steven Barron, Paula Diartiage, Julia Fuller, Sharon Grundeis, Judy Lester, Janet Peeler, Eva Plachy, Lucille Rich, Dick Rubant and Hope Sorrells were also present, as was Extension Agent Josh Fuder.

OFFICER REPORTS:

- **Secretary:** Joan McFather asked that the September minutes be approved as published. There was no objection. Joan asked everyone to sign the attendance sheets.
- **Treasurer:**
 - Pam Raines presented the treasurer's report. In addition to the posted figures of \$1952.62 in checking and \$2105.05 in the money market account, she reported additional income of \$135 earned as first place at the County Fair, and \$639 from the plant sale. Pam read a letter from Vivian Little on behalf of Friends of the Library thanking us for \$35 to buy a book in remembrance of Billie Davis.
 - Pam asked that all budget requests for next year be in to her by mid-November. There will be a budget meeting in December, and the budget will be voted on at the January meeting. Forms can be found online at the UGA Extension page, lower right: forms.

[Posted: Cash on Hand as of August 31, 2016, was \$2268.88. Deposits in September=Transfer from Money Market \$75.00. Expenses in September: \$291.25. Transfer to Money Market Account \$100.00, leaving an October 1, 2016 balance in the operating account of \$1952.63. The money market account balance is \$2105.90. Total Cash Available \$4058.53. {See secretary's book for entire report}.] This report is emailed monthly to all members on or around the 7th or 8th of the month prior to the meeting. If you are not receiving it, please contact her [pamelaraines@ymail.com]

- **President:**
 - A nominations committee is needed to secure nominations for officers next year. Ed Stumler agreed to head that committee. Susan Franklin will become past president, Marc Tefteau will move up to president, Joan McFather has agreed to continue as secretary. The nominations committee will seek a president-elect and a treasurer.
 - Reporting for Marc Tefteau, Susan announced that progress on our 501(c)3 application is being made. He is working on Mail Chimp and Gmail. Marcia asked that forms for Mail Chimp be made available wherever we work with the public.

- Susan mentioned Marc's concern that we look for additional opportunities to educate the public, including the possibility of a new teaching garden site.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Care and Share:** Mary Ellen Roos reported that
 - Diane Walton plans to return to Master Gardeners soon.
 - Lady Slipper's Lula Norris has returned to work but still has three more weeks on her walker.
 - Suzy Thomas has a displaced hip.
 - Please continue to pray for these and others.
- **Newsletter:** Mail Chimp forms will be used to have people sign up to receive the newsletter from a link.
- **Plant Sale:** Extra workdays will be necessary for propagating, but no further potting will occur until we have rain.
- **Demo Garden:**
 - Work on projects can be done on other days besides workdays.
 - The animal shelter has encountered a problem with water drainage, having not allowed enough space for water runoff. Tim has noted their need to take down the hill, including the unifolia there. The shed, greenhouse and fence all will be taken down. The county will pay for everything, including pouring cement for a pad and installation of a new shed. The sprinkler system is shut down. Leland replacement will be our choice of plant material. The fence will not be chain link and will be installed lower down. Discussion ensued as to reducing plant sale inventory. Members were encouraged to pot and keep material at home.
- **Farmers Markets:** Ed Stumler reported that the Woodstock market was very slow. He voiced his opinion that we might consider starting later in the spring and finishing earlier and setting up at several markets simultaneously but for a limited number of weeks. He thinks we should focus differently, perhaps working out 15-20 minute talks.
- **Seminars:** Diane Smith thanked Carol Jackson for serving as secretary to the committee and providing copies of the October 10 meeting. [See attached.] Highlights of the meeting include establishing new round robin seminars on March 18 or 25, and hands on opportunities at Agent Josh Fuder's Research Farm Station on April 29 or May 6 (rain date). Traditional seminars will continue as well. Diane anticipates another meeting soon so she requested ideas be sent to her. She wants to include everyone. [dianehsmith44@gmail.com]
- **Social:** The Christmas party will be catered at Woodmont, which is offering their facility at no charge, on Saturday, December 17. We will do our own table decorating and dessert table as we did last year. As chairman, Susan will have a decorations-making session at her house.

SCHOOL GARDENS: Katie Van Hiel could use help instructing children in the planting of pots at Little River and Arnold Mill. She passed around a sign up sheet.

GMGA

- Dot Martin announced that the state convention was a thorough success, sold out and offering excellent speakers. Displays included one re Little River's garden project. Pictures can be found in the *Scoop*.
- The next state field trip will be to Gibbs Gardens on November 2. Jim Gibbs will give a talk on his process of selecting rocks and statuary. You must pre-register and then plan to meet at 10 a.m. in the Gibbs parking lot to enter as a group. The cost of a ticket is \$16.96. The last field trip of the year will be a visit to the governor's mansion with Sandra Deal, coming in December.

EXTENSION NEWS

- Josh Fuder has stickers for those MGs who have passed the mandated security exam. Please go to MG-Log to study for and then take the test. While there, enter your volunteer hours.
- Josh has supplied Dr. Shannon Carrell of the county school system with a series of lesson plans coordinated with school requirements for 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade. He and she will have a follow up meeting next week.
- Josh has done two programs on seed saving. He is in favor of modifying audience evaluation cards to include asking for one piece of information learned and one piece that could be left out. Check marks on the form largely indicate what the respondent thinks we want to hear. This new information will help us justify our program offerings and measure their successes.
- We will do another fruit sale this year, adding trees. He is working on the details. MGs want to sell hellebores as well.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Scholarship** Susan would like us to establish an annual scholarship to be offered to a graduating county high school senior who will enroll at Chattahoochee Tech in some horticultural area. This \$1000 would be awarded one time per student. Discussion revealed that we would want to solicit community horticulture-related businesses to raise these funds—another reason for the 501(c)3 designation. Marcia suggested that a committee be established.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dot Martin announced that she had tickets that she couldn't use to hear Doug Tallany at the Atlanta History Center.

Joan McFather remarked that she is selling pecans for P.E.O., a philanthropic education organization.

DOOR PRIZES

MINI-LESSON by Marcia Winchester on telling iris and look-alikes apart.

ADJOURNMENT There being nothing further, the business meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

BIRTHDAYS

October 11 Nancy Joyner
October 18 Denise Stephens

October 22 Linda Robbins
October 24 Lois Andresen
October 25 Karen Lail
October 26 Dawn Perlotto

If you haven't seen your birthday recognized, it's because we do not have it. Please contact jmcfather@hotmail.com Thanks!