

**Cherokee County Master Gardeners
Regular Monthly Meeting
Bluffs Conference Center
September 20, 2016**

The regular monthly meeting of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners was held on Tuesday, September 20 at the Bluffs Conference Center. At 10:07 President Susan Franklin called the meeting to order. Members also present were State President Dot Martin, Secretary Joan McFather, Treasurer Pam Raines, Betty Adams, Sue Allen, Lois Andresen, Evelyn Balejcsik, Pat Bowen, Carol Jackson, Maurya Jones, Shirley Lowe, Gerald Phillips, Pam Raines, Linda Robbins, Mary Ellen Roos, Mary Schuster, Diane Smith, Ed Stumler, Suzie Thomas, and Glenda Thompson. Trainees Julia Fuller, Sharon Grundeis, Judy Lester, Eva Plachy, Lucille Rich and Dick Rubant were also present, as was Extension Agent Josh Fuder briefly.

OFFICER REPORTS:

- **President:** Susan Franklin thanked Sue Allen for making our Holiday Party arrangements and those members helping with the plant sale.
- **Secretary:** Joan McFather thanked Carol Jackson for taking the previous month's minutes, and asked that the August 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 figure of \$4324.74, the September plant sale brought us \$639.25, plus a small amount from apparel sales.

[Posted: Cash on Hand as of August 31, 2016, was \$2548.48. Deposits in July=Transfer from Money Market \$57.00. Expenses in July: \$236.60. Transfer to Money Market Account \$100.00, leaving a September 1, 2016 balance in the operating account of \$2268.88. The money market account balance is \$2055.85. Total Cash Available \$4324.73. {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]

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Care and Share:** Mary Ellen Roos reported that
 - Diane Walton plans to return to Master Gardeners hopefully by November.
 - Mageeda Doe is undergoing cardiac rehab.
 - Lady Slipper's Lula Norris still has five weeks of being off her feet after her accident.
 - Medicines seem to be working for Diane Smith's husband Mike.
 - Beverly Poag and her husband continue to have issues.
 - Please continue to pray for these and others.
- **County Fair:**
 - Suzie Thomas reported that the committee was very pleased with the Master Gardeners' booth illustrating the value of sunflowers. At the meeting she provided a taste test of two sunflower butters with crackers and told briefly of sunflower oil uses. She displayed a 6'x4' sunflower banner created by Larry Link that will now be

available to all MGs. Suzie thanked Josh for providing sunflowers when the committee's failed to be ready in time.

- Lois was disappointed there were not more MG entries in competition but encouraged all to attend before the fair closes on Saturday, September 25.
- [*Late word on judging: the Master Gardener booth took first place, Farm Bureau was second, Trayletah Garden Club was third.*]

- **Publicity:** Sue Allen is in need of regular column writers for the *Cherokee Tribune*. [*Contact her at sueallen201060@yahoo.com*]
- **Farmers Markets:**
 - Ed Stumler announced that the markets are all slow due to the weather. There is discussion that Waleska may start earlier next season. More discussion about doing a series of talks—perhaps 20 minutes in length repeated 3 or 4 times. And more about MGs returning to stores such as Lowes or Home Depot to answer questions in season.
 - Ed has one shift opening at the Woodstock Market on October 15. Contact him personally. [*ejs230fish@windstream.net*]
- **Plant-A-Row:**
 - Gerald Phillips reported that the garden at Papa's Pantry has broccoli and kale planted. He feels growing is easier with row covers. After a workday this Wednesday, he is establishing the 2nd and 4th Mondays as workdays. Contact him to volunteer: [*gphilli@hotmail.com*]
 - Other volunteer opportunities may arise when the non-profit stages kids' camps during school breaks.
- **Seed Library:**
 - Gerald reported that we have 68 people participating.
 - There was a glitch with seeds not germinating, so Gerald will initiate a marking system identifying the growth year for each packet.
 - We have some competition with Dekalb County advertising their program as the first seed library in the state. Theirs began as an online program; ours is live.
 - Pat Bowen suggested doing some video on planting tips, since many people are misinformed.
- **Demo Garden:** Gerald reported that the gardens are in good shape, but the holding areas need to be cleaned up. The next workday will include repotting.
- **Plant Sale:** Whereas the previous two sales netted \$980 and \$1024, the September sale brought in only \$639—and that mostly from MGs buying. Perhaps this sale should be re-considered as a clearance sale, thus eliminating the need for major fall clean up in the holding area and the chore of holding so many plants over the winter.
- **Mentoring:** Susan asked if the trainees were still happy, and they appear to be. Mary Ellen reported that 2 still needed office training, but that 5 have completed all their requirements for full member status.
- **Schools:**

- Susan reported that a meeting scheduled with the CCSD to discuss a program for teachers interesting in learning how to teach about gardening has been postponed.
- There has been some discussion about the possibility of establishing a teaching garden at the new education headquarters at the Bluffs.
- **Seminars:** Diane Smith said that the seminars committee was working to incorporate some old favorites with new topics. New ways of reaching people were being considered, such as doing a round robin of several 20 minute topics in one session.
- **Social:**
 - The social planned for September has been cancelled due to continued hot weather.
 - 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.

GMGA

- The State conference is sold out, according to State President Dot Martin.
- 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.

EXTENSION NEWS

- Josh Fuder supplied stickers to 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.
- We will do another fruit sale this year, adding trees. He is working on the details. MGs want to sell hellebores as well.

NEW-OLD-OTHER BUSINESS

- **501(c)3:** No new progress to report.
- **Mail Chimp:** No report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Suzie Thomas offered brochures about a festival occurring at the Booth Museum.

Joan McFather remarked that she is selling pecans for P.E.O., a philanthropic education organization. Suzie's chapter sells them as well.

ADJOURNMENT There being nothing further, the business meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

9/30-10/1 GMGA Conference - Carrollton
 10/1 Seminar - Concrete Planters - SC

10/18 MG Monthly Meeting
10/22 Seminar - Tree and Blueberry Planting - HF
Plant A Row Workdays - moved to 2nd and 4th Mondays
Demo Garden Workdays - October 6 & 20

BIRTHDAYS

September 10 Becky Dixon
September 28 Judy Lester

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