

**Regular Monthly Meeting
Bluffs Conference Center
June 17, 2018**

The regular monthly meeting of the Cherokee County Master Gardeners was held on Tuesday, June 17, 2018, at the Bluffs Conference Center. Members present were CCMG, Inc. Immediate Past President Marc Teffeau, Vice President Karen Lail, Treasurer Diane Walton, Secretary Joan McFather, Lois Andresen, Pat Bowen, Pat Burgess, Becky Dixon, Mageeda Doe, Laura Dorsey, Stephanie Howard, Carol Jackson, Maurya Jones, Lynn Knotts, Shirley Lowe, Dail Luciani, Carol Mumaw, Jan Nicholson, Eva Plachy, Linda Robbins, Gail Roos, Jennifer Ruscilli, Mary Schuster, Diane Smith, Veronica Steffensmeier, Denise Stephens, Ed Stumler, Mary Ann Szostak, Marc Teffeau, Glenda Thompson, Katie Van Hiel, Joyce Wilson, and Marcia Winchester. Extension Agent Josh Fuder was also present.

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of President Mary Ellen Roos, Vice President Karen called the business meeting together at 10:03 a.m. The meeting agenda was approved with the exclusion of a report on the activities at Laurel Canyon and the addition of the Tomato Tasting under Marcia Winchester's reports. Approval of the amended agenda was moved by Carol Jackson and seconded by Lois Andresen.

SECRETARY'S REPORT - Joan McFather

Joan passed the attendance clipboard with the comment that it matched a recent email from Judy Haygood at the Extension as to the current status of all members. She thanked Carol Jackson for taking and transcribing minutes for the June meeting. Preliminary June 2018 minutes were posted to the website were approved with the correction of punctuation. Marcia Winchester moved to approve, Ed Stumler seconded, and the minutes were approved as corrected. Joan read a card from Amanda Henderson of the Chattahoochee Tech Foundation thanking us for sending representatives to the scholarship banquet and including a photo of our recipient, Veronica Padgett, as well as Russell Brannon and Susan Franklin.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Diane Walton

- Diane presented the June I&E. [Posted for June: Cash on Hand as of May 31, 2018 was a balance of \$5147.42. Deposits in June, \$2209.00, plus transfer from money Market \$50.00. Expenses in June: \$259.56. Transfer to Money Market Account \$100.00, leaving a June 30, 2018 balance in the operating account of \$7046.86. Donations/dedicated funds is \$1370.00. The money market account balance is \$3157.28. Total available: \$8834.14 {*See secretary's book for entire report*}.] Diane reminded us that donations and dedicated funds are actually kept separately, as they serve different purposes. The treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

- A question posed about a check due from the Extension for the Master Gardeners' share of proceeds from the recent fruiting plants sale was answered later when that check was delivered in the amount of \$1058.03.

EXTENSION AGENT'S REPORT – Josh Fuder

- Risk Management tests may be taken now until the end of July through MGLOG.
- A new Master Gardener training class is scheduled to begin February 1 to extend through mid-March. Since Chattahoochee Tech is now charging for space, the class will be held at Bartow County's office in Cartersville and will be shared with Bartow and Paulding Counties. Josh estimates that Cherokee will be allotted 10-15 spaces. He already has 17 on a waiting list before advertising. Although the state says it will manage an online registration process, we should continue to tell those interested to call the Extension to sign up.
- The Master Naturalist program is almost full. It will start in September. Josh will send out one more email, then publish the opportunity to the public.
- Josh also announced the impending arrival of another family member, due date January 28.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Grant Repository:** Pat Bowen announced that she has made a list of potential grants available to us through Dropbox. If you have an account, you will receive messages thereunto; you can also access the account without having your own. Pat circulated a signup sheet for those interested.
- **'Friends' and Mentoring:** Stephanie Howard announced that a committee will meet next week with Josh to go over a simplified set of guidelines re Friend status. They will also discuss mentoring for the new class. It has been decided that the two issues should be kept separate. Stephanie will chair Mentoring; there is a need for the Friends committee chairman. Please email either Stephanie [stephi55@comcast.net] or Mary Ellen [maryellenroos@rocketmail.com] if you are interested in either committee.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Strategic Planning Workshop:** Marc Tefteau stressed that any organization needs a strategic plan in order to keep to its objectives. He will direct such a meeting for the Board on July 31 at the Extension; all others are invited to attend. Please do contact Mary Ellen in advance, however, so there will be enough materials for all.
- **Tee Shirts:** Carol Jackson stated that she needs checks from all who purchased. To have an order of 24 (the offered financially good deal), we will need a few more. Carol will ask Judy to send out a reminder; contact Carol to order. [jjacksonjc@aol.com] To make up the needed number, we will order "spares" that may be purchased later.

- **Ready Set Grow Seminar:** Diane Walton has sent out announcements indicating what will be happening at this September event, and she handed out more to those not getting the email. It takes about 35 volunteers, and she is anxious to know whom she can count on to be there. Please contact her [waltond@bellsouth.net].
- **Georgia Center for Non-Profits:** Marc explained that we have a year's membership which will allow us to receive updates on non-profit laws and status and attend high level seminars on financial, marketing, social media and other activities of interest to us.

ACTIVITIES REPORTS

Seminars & Publicity: Chair Karen Lail reported that Dot Martin says we are receiving good publicity through the usual media outlets.

Care and Share: Gail Roos

- Lula Norris' husband continues to improve
- Janis Marshall-Kroen's husband passed away.
- Gail reminded us that she needs permission either from an individual or family before she can report care news.
- Please send information to Gail. [gailroos@gmail.com]
- Parenthetically, Pat Bowen announced that she has bought the property that used to belong to Betty Adams.

Newsletter: Marcia reported that they are working on the August - September issue.

Tomato Tasting: The date has been moved to July 26, a Thursday at 10:30. Participants are encouraged to enter selections for best cherry, orange and yellow, red, and best overall in pursuit of the Coveted Golden Zucchini, to be provided by Ed Stumler this year. Bring tomatoes in paper bags so as to avoid over-ripening in plastic. The seniors will be delighted to make sandwiches as usual. We hope the *Tribune* will send a reporter.

Plant Sale: Marcia reported a highly successful sale of 89 items producing an income of \$1883. The next sale will be September 18, and she needs more plants, also containers: 3 gal., 1 gal., quarts, 6" pots, hanging baskets. Please put on the shelves. She plans a work day in August to package bulbs.

Demo Garden: They have moved the potting benches and mulched. Marcia was pleased to have had teachable moments wherein to share rose-pruning techniques and rosemary tip-cutting.

Seed Separating Party: (not to be confused with the Seed Libraries). Marcia is working with Stephanie and Jennifer on identifying what seeds will be available at the Demo Garden. They will send lists to Judy at the Extension and to Seed Library chairs in hopes of diversifying what we can offer the public.

Poppa's Pantry & Seed Library: in the absence of Gerald Phillips, no report. Later Lynn Knotts

announced seed packets she brought to the meeting and access to many more for the seed libraries.

Holly Springs Project: Following several field trips by the committee, Marc Tefteau Marc is working on putting together a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate what the committee thinks Master Gardeners would be interested in achieving. This he hopes to have ready by August 1 and would make available to the Holly Springs City Council.

Scholarship Committee: In the absence of Russell Brannon and Susan Franklin, no report. Marcia and others noted that recipient Veronica Padgett and her boyfriend came to the plant sale and helped a great deal in the tear down.

Youth Gardens: Katie Van Hiel said that she will be getting a meeting together for some new ideas in dealing with school gardening programs.

Field Trips: Glenda Thompson mentioned that Scott McMahan (McHanan's Nursery, Clermont, GA) does a fantastic talk, and very likely we could set a time to hear him at the Gainesville Botanical Garden extension.

Speakers Bureau: No report.

Plant Clinics/Farmers Market: Ed Stumler said he would talk with anyone interested after this meeting. He is finding it difficult to cover all the possibilities without further help.

County Fair: Jennifer Ruscilli announced a meeting right after this one to talk with anyone interested in working on the booth this year. She is creative and has an art degree—and is competitive, so come help. [jruscilli123@hotmail.com]

PROGRAM

Marcia Winchester narrated a PowerPoint program, "Aliens in the Neighborhood: Non-native Invasive Plants in Georgia." Using slides she had taken in neighborhoods around us and a handout from the Georgia Exotic Pest Plant Council [www.gaepcc.com], she talked about how these imports—many brought in to solve ecological problems—have taken over large areas, thus displacing native flora. She explained that Category 1 plants are already an established threat. Category 1 Alert lists plants having the potential to become a serious problem. Category 2 includes plants that are a moderate problem already; 3 contains minor problem plants and 4 lists plants that are being monitored. A number of plants on these lists are still being sold commercially and used by landscapers. Public awareness and education are critical. A lively Q&A followed Marcia's talk.

ANNOUNCEMENTS None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. Door prizes were awarded thereafter.

