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PULASKI COUNTY MASTER GARDENER MEETING

January 14, 2003

The January 14, 2003 meeting of the Pulaski County Master Gardeners was held in the auditorium of the State Extension Service Building at 2301 South University in Little Rock, Arkansas with Carolyn Newbern presiding.

After calling the meeting to order at 12:00 noon, Carolyn welcomed the Master Gardeners in attendance and told us that as of this date, there are 321 certified Master Gardeners in Pulaski County.

The following announcements were made:

Carolyn thanked Rose Hogan for her dedication to the brochure listing the Pulaski County Master Gardener projects. The completed colored brochure was on display today.

A meeting of all new chairpersons will be held on February 6 at the Fletcher Library. Notices have been mailed along with a roster of volunteers for each project.

Members are asked to turn in e-mail addresses to Beth to facilitate communication.

Annual dues are due. Collection envelopes are being circulated today. The Board plans to discuss the issue of dues per member versus dues per couple. Those who wish to speak to the issue were asked to see one of the board members-at-large (Mary Freeman or Rochelle Greenwood) after the meeting today. After a limited discussion at the February meeting, the membership will vote.

Horticulture entry forms for the Arkansas Flower and Garden Show are available from Betty Henderson.

Heifer Project International is offering a beekeeping workshop in four sessions beginning January 23.

A fruit tree-pruning seminar will be offered by the Fruit Experiment Station on February 5.

Baxter County Master Gardeners will host a gardening seminar in Mountain Home on February 22. Applications are available on-line.

A Pulaski County Master Gardener Fund has been established, with the first contribution of \$25.00 in honor of Adrian Williamson. When this fund reaches \$175-200, the amount will be donated to the Trees for Tomorrow Program to

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place a tree in MacArthur Park with a plaque designating the gift in memory of Master Gardeners.

The Master Gardeners "Stuff" committee announced that the checkered shirt is no longer available. Those who have ordered it may wish to select another item. Orders will be submitted quarterly.

Libby Thalheimer will take over as the new editor of the Master Minutes on February 19. Until that time, Linda Moyer is the editor.

Jennifer Gibson was introduced as Janet Carson's Assistant.

Suellen Roberts thanked members who have volunteered to take pictures at MG events. The 3P's committee is now looking for a photo editor. They would also like a volunteer to come early to meetings to distribute candy.

Susan Crisp and the social committee were thanked for the holiday party held in December.

The Retention Committee, with Jane Gulley as Chair, will begin calling members who failed to recertify.

The program committee is looking for suggestions for programs for this year.

The Arkansas Flower and Garden Show applications were mailed with the last newsletter and are available on-line. Assignments will be made in early February. Beth stressed the need for awareness of the change effecting parking for the Show this year. Riverfront Park is now paid parking only. Volunteers may park at War Memorial Stadium and ride the free shuttle to and from the Convention Center.

Carleton McMullen presented the program today. He is an avid railroad buff who has had a lavish garden railroad installed in his own garden. His power point photos taken during the construction and of the completed project provided inspiration for Master Gardeners. His garden will be on the Garden Tour in April. Carleton is also a scheduled speaker for the Arkansas Flower and Garden Show.

Trudy Goolsby won the drawing for the license plate and Don Henderson won the drawing for the door prize – a book titled Practical Gardening.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 PM.

Pat Green
Secretary

Feb 03
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PULASKI COUNTY MASTER GARDENER MEETING
February 11, 2003

The Pulaski County Master Gardener Meeting was held Tuesday, February 11, 2003 in the Auditorium of the State Extension Building at 2301 South University in Little Rock, Arkansas with Carolyn Newbern presiding. The meeting was called to order at 12 Noon.

The following announcements were made:

The Board had reviewed the issue of dues and recommends that dues remain the same as in the past few years at \$15/member. Breck Campbell moved to adopt the recommendation. The motion carried without dissent.

Memorial funds have been received for Beth's Mother. The board will consider how the funds will be used and make a recommendation to the membership.

Bob Bumgardner and Mary Lee McHenry have been asked to serve as auditors and should contact John Prather.

New membership rosters have been sent out. Corrections or updates should be e-mailed to Beth.

The State Master Gardener meeting is to be held May 19-21 in Searcy. Applications are available on line and a few copies are in the back of the room today. The International Master Gardener meeting is scheduled for the Cincinnati, Ohio/Kentucky area in June.

The announcement of two of the Pulaski County projects being named as finalists for Keep Arkansas Beautiful Awards brought a round of applause. The Pulaski County Extension Office has been named in the *Government* category and Pinnacle Mountain State Park project has been named in the *Community Involvement* category.

Carolyn then took nominations from the floor for Project of the Year to be presented to the state organization for an award to be named at the state meeting. The Arkansas Flower and Garden Show, The Pulaski County Extension Office and Pinnacle Mountain State Park were nominated. A brief discussion followed. By a show of hands, Pinnacle won the vote.

Members were encouraged to enter a bid for The Funny Bone Award and to take items for the Silent Auction to the State meeting.

Carolyn called on Steve Lopato to make an announcement concerning the Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs Spring Garden Tours. Steve asked for volunteers to serve as garden experts for the tour on April 26. He said the gardens will be closer together this year and that will allow volunteers to work in the gardens part of the time and tour as

well. Volunteer hours will count toward certification. Members should contact Steve to sign up.

Carolyn announced that Earth Day at the Zoo is also on April 26. Volunteers and a chair are needed if the Master Gardeners are to host a booth at the zoo that day. Contact Carolyn or Beth.

Mary Freeman will chair a small group of Master Gardeners that is to design plantings for containers to be placed in the downtown area of Little Rock.

Beth gave a personal note of appreciation to the members for care and concern for her and her family in the recent death of her mother.

Yard signs and posters are available today to advertise the Arkansas Flower and Show. Volunteer assignments have been mailed. Beth emphasized the change in parking location for Show volunteers. Parking this year is at War Memorial Stadium. A shuttle will run a continuous loop throughout the show.

The Master Gardener "Stuff" Committee announced the arrival of items that have been ordered. The popular checked shirt, once believed to be no longer available, is back on the order form. A rain slicker will be added to the next order form and a tote bag will be added when available.

Lois Corley reported on the illness of her sister and greenhouse co-chair, Ann Morgan. She thanked members for their calls and prayers.

Orientation for Committee Chairs was postponed due to inclement weather last week but will be held immediately following today's general meeting.

Jane Gulley presented the program today on Heritage Roses.

Nell Stephens won the license plate in the drawing of the Volunteer Form today. Hilda Boger and Stephanie Dyer won door prizes.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30.

Pat Green
Secretary

March 03

PULASKI COUNTY MASTER GARDENER MEETING

March 11, 2003

The meeting of the Pulaski County Master Gardeners was held Tuesday, March 11, 2003 in the auditorium of the State Extension Service Building in Little Rock. The president, Carolyn Newbern called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon.

The following announcements were made:

At an awards banquet at DeGray State Park, the Pulaski County Master Gardeners received a "Friend of Extension Award" from Epsilon Sigma Phi, the organization of extension professionals.

The Arkansas Flower and Garden Show was a success. Congratulations to Breck Campbell who received a blue ribbon and a Horticulture Excellence Award for his horticulture entry.

There will be a press conference today at 2:30 at the County Extension Office for the "Keep Arkansas Beautiful" award nomination. The press conference for the Pinnacle Mountain State Park project will be held there on Thursday, March 13 at 1PM.

The audit committee has reported that it has found the books of the organization to be in order.

The Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs Tour will take place on April 26. Steve Lopato thanked members who have volunteered to help.

Members who would like to assist with planting some of the new metro containers for the downtown area should see Mary Freeman. A date has not yet been set but will likely be in April.

The Master Gardener Volunteer Guide is complete and will be sent out soon.

The State Master Gardener meeting will be held May 19-21 in Searcy. Carolyn took nominations from the floor for "Friend of Master Gardeners". Nominees were: Ed Garrettson with Arkansas Old State House; Pete Rausch, Urban Forester for Little Rock Parks and Recreation Department; Chris Olson, a nurseryman; and the Pulaski County Prisoners who help at the greenhouse. The prisoners won the vote by a show of hands. Lois Corley will write a report for the nomination.

James Alberson moved to form a committee to look for a new meeting location. "Parking problems continue and will get worse" he said. Carolyn said that the board is already working on finding a new location. There was no second to the motion.

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Delores LeCompte of the travel committee invited participation in a trip to Larry Lowman's Ridgecrest Nursery in Wynne on March 18. Carpools will leave from Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock at 9 AM. Riders are asked to pay drivers \$5. Lunch is on your own.

Bob Bray, also with the travel committee, announced a trip to the Dallas Arboretum for April 9-11. The cost is \$199/ person and includes two nights lodging, bus and driver, admission to the Arboretum and a box lunch there. Beth must receive reservations and money no later than March 25.

The spring picnic will be held at the Governor's mansion ballroom on May 15. Details will be available next month.

The newsletter deadline is March 18.

The "stuff" committee presented the tote bags and rain slickers to be available to order in April.

Lois Corley announced that potting soil would be available for sale at the greenhouse following today's meeting.

Dick Blankenbeker introduced Dr. Gerald Klingamon as today's speaker. Dr. Klingamon presented slides and information on the 2003 Arkansas Select plants.

Beth asked for members to volunteer to serve as speakers. See Pat Green, chair of the Speakers Bureau.

Winners of door Prizes today were: license plate – Joanna Wilson, spring wreath – Mickey Elmore, Garden art from the Decor Store – Juddie Wachtel and a New Dawn rose from the greenhouse – Betty Glasscock.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30.

Pat Green
Secretary

April 03

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, APRIL 8, 2003

Carolyn Newbern opened the meeting.

Mrs. McKinney retired March 31. The Board voted to make her an honorary MG. She will be presented with a card signed by members and a monetary gift at the picnic in May.

Steve Lopata has LR Garden Club Tour tickets for \$12. At the door cost is \$15.

Social committee Susan Crisp announced the May picnic will be at the new ballroom at the Governor's Mansion May 15 at 6 pm. There will be linen tablecloths and special dishes cooked by the chef. Dress is dressy casual. Cost is \$20 per person. After dinner is a tour of the grounds.

Greenhouse sale will be Saturday, April 12 and April 26 from 8 – 12. Projects should get plants before the sale. See Lois Corley.

National Tour Association Convention will be in Little Rock March 24-29 in 2004. If we look at our projects now, we can see what it would take to maximize the beauty at this time next year. We need to make a good impression on these tour directors who have the authority to book tours to Little Rock..

Many nurseries give MG's discounts – The Good Earth, River Valley Horticultural Supply and Lakwood. We need to present our nametags. River Valley Horticulture in North LR is now offering a discount. It is run by Scott Smith, brother to P. Allen Smith. Tell Beth or Libby if you know of other discounts. The nursery needs to contact them.

Thanks to Jane Druff and Carolyn Newbern The Volunteer Manual is out after a couple of years of work. It contains history, information about Extension, specifics about Pulaski County, etc. Keep this as a great reference. Policies and duties are also published for all officers and committee chairs.

The first Southeast District Meeting of Master Gardeners will be Sat in DeWitt in connection with the Flower and Garden Show there. The meeting is at noon with a seminar afterwards. See Jane Druff or Carolyn Newbern if you want to go and carpool.

Work days are on the board at the entrance to the auditorium. The War Memorial Committee needs help, since there are only three members on that committee now. Tell Beth if you are interested in helping.

The "Stuff Committee" reported orders are being taken through this meeting for this quarter order. There was an extra Large Hunter Green long sleeve shirt for sale.

Education committee will meet Thursday, April 17 at 2 pm at the County Extension Office.

Cammack committee worked today and has strawberries for a good home.

Anyone looking for a roommate for the state meeting, call Beth.

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The magazine, Active Years, wants to feature Master Gardener projects and the personal gardens of Master Gardeners. Tell Beth your suggestions.

On May 14 there will be Pulaski County Days at the River Market from 11 am to 1:30 pm. Extension will be there. PCMG will have a table. Theme is Volunteerism and county judges, quorum court members and other officials will attend. They have control of the extension budget.

Dick Blankenbecker introduced our speaker Carroll Guffey, Jr, a Forester with Extension at the U of A in Monticello. The topic was Firewise Landscaping. He gave many useful tips and information about landscaping around homes that border on woodlands. Handouts showed planting in zones and provided suggested trees and plant material.

After the speaker Sandy Harrison said she was filling in for absent John Prather and was collecting dues.

Door prizes went to:	Jane Druff	Greenhouse brugmansia
	Mary Roark	License Plate
	Mary Ann Francis	Heritage Gardener Magazine (first issue)
	Susie Gillihan	Plant Stand provided by the Décor Store in Maumelle, 10900 Maumelle Blvd

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**Pulaski County Master Gardener Meeting
May 13, 2003**

The meeting of the Pulaski County Master Gardeners was called to order at 12:00 PM by Nancy Kirsch, Vice-President.

Susan Crisp, Chair of the Social Committee reported on plans for Thursday evenings "Dinner at the Mansion". One hundred seventy one members have signed up to attend the event.

A Keep Arkansas Beautiful award has been bestowed on the Pulaski County Extension Office project in the ornamental category. Beth showed the trophy received and said that the award also included a \$500 cash award to be used by the project committee at the project site.

Nancy acknowledged the work of the Old State House committee for the publicity received in "Columns", a publication of the Old State House. She also praised Mary Freeman for her work with the City of Little Rock on container plantings for the metro area.

Jan King reported that Master Gardener "Stuff" is in and ready for pick-up. Jan also said that plans are still underway for the June 3rd tour of Master Gardener's gardens.

Lois Corley reported that more pansies and violas than ever before have been ordered for the greenhouse. Many hands will be needed to get them started in September.

Mary Freeman reported that memorial trees have been planted at MacArthur Park and soon plaques will be installed with the names of those memorialized.

Ann Ivey from the Little Rock City Beautiful Commission asked for the help of Master Gardeners in the Adopt-A-Street program and for nominations for gardens to be recognized by the commission for exceptionally colorful landscape.

A new board was displayed at today's meeting with the names of Master Gardeners who are in need of our care and concern. At future meetings names may be added to the board prior to the meeting. Today's list included Breck Campbell, Ann Morgan, and Ruth Gibson.

Beth made the following announcements:

An advanced Master Gardener course, Myths and Methods of Pest Management, will be offered in Ft. Smith on June 23rd.

The Adams Estate Garden in Leachville will be open to the public Memorial weekend.

Master Gardeners will be needed tomorrow at the River Market for Pulaski County Days.

Central Arkansas Water asked that we help spread the word on "Avoid The Peak". Though there is plenty of water available, water pressure is low in some areas of central Arkansas during the peak hours of 5AM to 7AM. They asked that unnecessary usage be

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curtailed during these hours. Lawn sprinklers should be set to run before or after that time.

Carl Hunter urged Master Gardeners to take advantage of the beauty at Wildwood.

Dick Blankenkemper introduced today's guest speaker. Ellen Fennell, Interim Director of Development for Audubon Arkansas reported on the efforts that organization is making to preserve wildlife areas in central Arkansas.

Pat Green shared information on Heifer Project's Community Supported Agriculture project. Organic vegetables, herbs and flowers are available each week to those who become shareholders. More information is available at heifer.org.

The following door prizes were given:

- Carolyn Morton – metal yard art
- Lois Corley – spring wreath
- Joann Janssen – Poems & Pieces by Carl Hunter
- Pat McDonald – 7 sisters rose
- Don Davis – License plate

The meeting was adjourned at 1PM.

Pat Green
Secretary