

## Pulaski County Master Minutes

February, 2004

<http://www.arhomeandgarden.org>, <http://www.uaex.edu/pulaski/>

Volume 15, Issue 1



### Garlic, *Allium sativum*, 2004 Herb of the Year By Linda Moyer

The International Herb Association and the Herb Society of America have chosen garlic as the 2004 Herb of the Year. This favorite seasoning is a member of the onion family and is available commercially in many forms - whole bulb, powder, by itself, mixed with other herbs and spices.

However, you don't have to depend on the commercial products. There are hundreds of different varieties with many now available from seed catalogs. They range from mild to hot. Soft neck, braiding types, seem to do better in Arkansas. They do not produce a flower spike and are more productive and adaptable to our warm climate than the hard neck type.

Garlic is easy to grow in Arkansas. Fall is the best time to plant. (In Arkansas, the end of February is the latest that it can be planted.) It can be harvested in July after the tops start to die. Depending on the variety, you can get 5 to 18 cloves per bulb. Select nice firm bulbs and separate the cloves just before planting. Plant the cloves about 4 inches apart and about 1 inch deep, with the clove standing straight up. Garlic can be planted in your vegetable garden or your sunny flowerbeds.

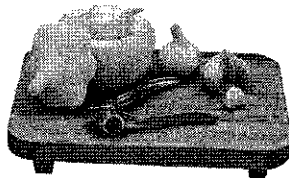
Since garlic has natural fungicidal and pesticide properties, it makes a good companion plant for many of our vegetables such as lettuce, cabbage, and beets. Roses also seem to benefit from having garlic planted near it. Also important to note, some plants do not benefit from planting garlic near them. They include peas, beans, and potatoes.

So try some garlic this year, you can't go wrong. You will never have to buy garlic again. The bulbs you don't eat can be saved and planted the next season.

For more information on garlic:

<http://www.arhomeandgarden.org/Vegetables/Varieties/Garlic.asp>

This is part of a 200 page publication, "Vegetable Gardening in Arkansas", written by Dr. Craig R. Anderson - Extension Horticulturist - Vegetables. If you are interested in ordering a copy of this book, please contact your local county Extension Office.



### Japanese Painted Fern, *Athyrium niponicum*, 2004 Perennial Plant of the Year By Libby Thalheimer

The Perennial Plant Association has chosen *Athyrium niponicum* 'Pictum' as the 2004 Perennial Plant of the Year, in a promotional program of perennials. This low-maintenance, showy fern is hardy from zone 3 to 8, making it an excellent choice to provide texture and (almost electric) color to contrast with other plants in shade gardens throughout the United States.

Although native to China, Korea, Taiwan, and Japan, the Japanese painted fern is well acclimated to shade gardens in North America. According to the Perennial Plant Association, it shows well with *Hosta* 'Patriot' and 'Ginko Craig'; *Hosta sieboldiana* 'Elegans'; *Dicentra* 'King of Hearts', bleeding heart; *Aquilegia*, columbine; *Astilbe* 'Snowdrift' or *Astilbe simplicifolia* 'Sprite', false spirea; *Heuchera*, coral bells; *Tiarelia*, foam flower; *Carex morrowii* 'Variegata' or *Carex siderosticha* 'Silver Sceptre', sedges; *Brunnera macrophylla* 'Langtrees', 'Silver Wings', or 'Jack Frost'; *Lamium maculatum* 'Orchid Frost' and 'Purple Dragon'; with any white flowers or variegated leaves.

'Pictum' unfurls 18-inch metallic grey fronds (with a dark wine colored stem) that age to a darker silver color. This silvery fern grows into a two foot wide mound with just a touch of red and blue. While the Japanese painted fern will grow in partial to full shade, it prefers lighter shade and will produce more vibrant frond color there. In Arkansas, the colors are more intense in spring; or later, with just a few hours of morning sun exposure.

*Athyrium niponicum* 'Pictum' thrives in humid, well-drained but watered areas with organic-rich soil until the first frost. It is dormant during the winter, but reemerges in early spring. Add 2-3 inches of compost or peat moss each spring or fall. Fertilize this fern at 1/2 the rate of other perennials.

Japanese painted ferns may be propagated by tissue culture, spring or fall mound divisions, or by planting spores. Tissue culture and divisions will ensure the same coloration and growth habit, while planting spores will not. A full grown fern can easily be divided into 3 or 4 divisions to be replanted.

It's easy to see why the Perennial Plant Association members selected *Athyrium niponicum* 'Pictum' outstanding perennial for 2004. It more than satisfies their criteria:  
1) suitable for a wide range of climates; 2) low-maintenance;  
3) easily propagated: true from seed or vegetatively propagated;  
and 4) exhibits multiple seasonal interest.

Pictures from Microsoft Office Clip Art

### Arkansas Is Our Campus

The Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, marital or veteran status, or any other legally protected status, and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



## Best in Show: Arkansas Flower & Garden Show Update By Mary Evans

- A new and exciting show has been planned for this year with the theme "Gardens as Art." Jeanne Spencer has done a wonderful job lining up real art to be exhibited/for sale at the show, including the winners of a high school art contest. The overall winner will be the official show poster for 2004.
- Instead of a show garden or Master Gardener booth, a joint venture to provide a new education center has been planned by Master Gardeners, Junior Master Gardeners, U of A, and the speaker platform. "The Q & A Cafe with U of A", will provide information in a creative learning environment with a relaxed atmosphere. Located in a prominent area, experienced Master Gardener volunteers will explain the master gardener program and activities; give gardening advice; and mingle with the public. There will be hands-on speakers there Friday, Saturday & Sunday, and Janet Carson will do her radio show live from there on Saturday morning. No doubt, we will be buzzing with activity.
- Also, at the education center we will be doing on-site soil testing. A quick process, patrons may drop off their samples, enjoy the show, then pick up the results. Volunteers are need for this activity, too.
- So many gardens have entered this year, the premier speakers have been scheduled upstairs. The speakers are scheduled on Friday and Saturday only.
- Free Central Arkansas Transit bus shuttles will take patrons from War Memorial to the convention center again this year.
- There will be a food court at the show.
- Anyone interested in exhibiting junior master gardener, youth gardens or beautification projects should contact Jennifer Gibson at 671-2231.

Be sure to send in your pink registration forms to volunteer. It's gonna be another great show! Don't even think about missing it! See you there!

### 2004 Flower & Garden Show: Friday, 2/27/04

10:30am	Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs	2004 Garden Tour	Q & A Cafe
11:00 am	Jeannie Wilson, Old Columbus Herb Farm, Columbus, Ar	The Inside & Out of Growing Herbs	Speakers Agenda
11:30am	Jennifer Gibson, Co-op. Extension Service, LRSO	Terrariums -- their care and feeding	Q & A Cafe
12:30 pm	Tracy DeSabato-Aust, Author & Designer, Sunbury, Ohio	"The Well-Designed Mixed Garden"	Speakers Agenda
12:30pm	Jim Allen	Attracting Birds to the Garden	Q & A Cafe
1:30pm	Mary Evans, Master Gardener, Little Rock	Planting a Strawberry Jar	Q & A Cafe
2:00 pm	Scott Kunst, Old House Gardens, Ann Arbor, MI	"Heirloom Bulbs for Every Garden, Four Seasons, Forty Centuries"	Speakers Agenda
2:30pm	Yvonne Becker	Repotting an Orchid	Q & A Cafe
3:00 pm	Kandy Jones, Master Gardener ,North Little Rock and Linda Goza	"Recycling for Yard Art"	Speakers Agenda
3:30pm	Gerald Klingaman, U of A	Grow Your Own Trees from Seed	Q & A Cafe

### 2004 Flower & Garden Show: Saturday, 2/28/04

9:00 - 11:00am	Janet Carson, U of A Co-op. Extension Service	Live Broadcast of Radio Program	Q & A Cafe
10:00 am	Jane Guley, Master Gardener, Little Rock	"Old Roses"	Speakers Agenda
11:00 am	Barry Thomas, Artist, Little Rock	"Gardening as Art"	Speakers Agenda
12:30 pm	Scott Kunst, Old House Gardens, Ann Arbor, MI	"Antique Gardens: American Home Landscapes 1800-1940"	Speakers Agenda
1:30pm	Paula Adlong, Central Arkansas Rose Society, Conway	Roses from Cuttings	Q & A Cafe
2:00 pm	Russell Studebaker, Tulsa, OK	"Beyond Hostas - Shady Ladies"	Speakers Agenda
2:30pm	Ruby Bates, White County Master Gardener	Wildflower Seed Balls Aid Establishment	Q & A Cafe
3:00 pm	Shane Reynolds, Reynolds Greenhouse, Hot Springs, Ar	"Once in the Garden"	Speakers Agenda
3:30pm	Gerald Klingaman, U of A	Grow Your Own Trees from Seed	Q & A Cafe

### 2004 Flower & Garden Show: Sunday, 2/29/04

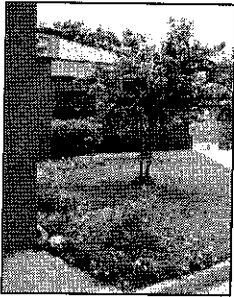
10:30am	Mary Evans, Master Gardener, Little Rock	Planting a Strawberry Jar	Q & A Cafe
11:30am	Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs	2004 Garden Tour	Q & A Cafe
12:30pm	Jennifer Gibson, Co-op. Extension Service, LRSO	Terrariums --- their care and feeding	Q & A Cafe
1:30pm	Jan King, Master Gardener ,North Little Rock	Making Herbed Vinegar	Q & A Cafe



## Best in Show



### The Birth of a New Master Gardener Project: Amy Sanders Library, Sherwood, Arkansas By Sharon Davis



A new Master Gardener Project involves much more than wishful thinking and submitting a letter to Beth Phelps and the Pulaski County Master Gardeners Board. It requires a passionate person that has a dream of what can be accomplished and is willing to work hard to put the plan into effect. Outlined below are the steps required for the realization of one such dream.

On January 1, 2003, Sara Beth Dawson became the Sherwood representative on the Central Arkansas Library System (CALs) Board of Trustees. Little did the city of Sherwood, Mayor Harmon, or CALs realize the resourcefulness of Sara Beth Dawson. The fact that Amy Sanders Library is not owned by CALs did not slow her down. First she approached Mayor Harmon with the suggestion that the City of Sherwood provide the funding and heavy manual labor; that CALs' landscape designer, Linda Chambers, design the grounds; and that she and other volunteers prepare the beds, obtain the plants, and do all the planting and maintenance. She explained that her goal was to eventually achieve Master Gardener Project status for the library.

Mayor Harmon was especially receptive to the idea, and the joint effort between the City of Sherwood, CALs, and Sherwood Master Gardener volunteers began immediately. This was no small organizational and coordination effort on the part of Sara Beth. Individuals involved in and contributing many hours of hard labor included Mayor Harmon; Sonny Janssen, Director of Parks; Master Gardeners Sara Beth Dawson, Bonnie Nicholas, Oneal Dedman, Elizabeth Edwards and Debbie Stults; as well as artist and library patron, Kathy Bay.

Work on the project involved not only setting up new beds but also removing shrubs, root systems, and landscaping cloth from the established beds; the "Square Tree Garden" on the entry side of the library and the "Entry Gardens" at the front of the library. The city of Sherwood provided compost and the labor to fill and work the compost into the beds. Linda Chambers contributed design ideas for the library gardens. Plants were selected and bought from nurseries in the area.

The "Square Tree Garden" was the first project completed and includes variegated liriop and chrysanthemums salvaged from the previous bed, white coneflowers, stokes asters, daylilies, bachelor buttons, petunias, marigolds, and Mexican heather.

Next the two gardens on each side of the library entryway were renovated and established. These "Entry Gardens" presented the challenge of having both sunny and shady areas; therefore plants had to be selected accordingly. Shady plants for each side included Lemon Lime Lace Japanese Maple, Francis Williams Hostas, Sum and Substance Hostas, and Astilbe. Sunny plants for each side included Little Gem Magnolias, Loropetulum Petite Delight (finger plant), deep pink

Moss Roses, Lysimachia Outback Sunset, Hardy Asters, Harbor Dwarf Nandina, Purslane, Portulaca, Palace Purple Coral bells, and Lantana.

The "Book Drop Butterfly" garden, a bed that had never been worked, was planted at the end of June. Flowers included Rudbeckia, Magnis, purple coneflowers, orange butterfly weed, and red pentas.

After the gardens around the library were planted, Ginann Swindle, librarian and branch manager for the Amy Sanders Library, and her staff were instrumental in helping with watering, storing supplies, and most importantly, giving the encouragement that was needed. The library staff also held an appreciation reception for all the people involved in the planning and development of the project.

All this was accomplished before the Amy Sanders Library was submitted as a Master Gardener Project. Mayor Harmon enthusiastically agreed to meet all Master Gardener Host requirements and wrote a letter to Beth Phelps requesting to become a Master Gardener Project. Letters were written by Bobby Roberts, Director of CALs; Ginann Swindle; Amy Sanders for whom the library was named; and Linda Napper, Chairperson for the Artist in the Forest, an art exhibit hosted by the library each August. Sara Beth solicited the support of Master Gardeners living in Sherwood by sending out a letter with a complete description of the project, a request card, and stamped, addressed envelop to be sent to Beth Phelps before August. The project was presented to the Pulaski County Master Gardener Board and accepted as a new Master Gardener Project in September 2003 to be effective January 1, 2004.

Although this sounds like the end of the story, the MG volunteers planned and planted a completely new bed on the north wall of the library, planting pansies around the large entry statue. Plans for additional beds and plantings are underway for the spring. Currently a total of seven beds are a part of the project. As you can see "wishing and hoping" doesn't cut it but "persistence and hard work" get the job done. Good luck to the volunteers for the new project. Sara Beth Dawson is chairman, and Debbie Stults, Edward Douglas and Julia McPhearson are on the Amy Sanders Library Committee. We are looking forward to visiting and enjoying your gardens.

Oneal Dedman, Bonnie Nicholas, and Sara Beth Dawson at the Square Tree Garden at the Amy Sanders' Library.



Photos courtesy of Sara Beth Dawson



## Calendar By Ruth Jones

## February, 2004

- 4 Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs at Hillcrest Hall (formerly Garden Center): Beth Phelps will speak on 2004 Arkansas Select. For more info: 501-663-7515
- 7 Gardening in the Delta, a Pine Bluff Lawn & Garden Seminar, Pine Bluff Convention Center, 8:30 a.m. till 3:30 p.m. For more info call: 501-534-1033
- 7 Wildwood Spring 2004 Gardening Series: Tom Flammang - "Shady Gardens". Cost is \$5.00 (\$3.00 for Wildwood members). For more info call 501-821-7275.
- 13- Hot Springs Lawn and Garden and Leisure Show, Hot Springs Convention Center.
- 15
- 17 Pulaski County Master Gardener meeting. Third Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. at St. James United Methodist Church, 321 Pleasant Valley Dr.
- 2/20- Daffodil Days at Garvan Woodland Gardens. Over 325 varieties and thousands of bulbs in bloom! For more info: 1-800-366-4664
- 3/31
- 21 Wildwood Spring 2004 Gardening Series: Robert Treadway - "Iris". Cost is \$5.00 (\$3.00 for Wildwood members). For more information call 501- 821-7275.
- 27- Arkansas Flower and Garden Show at the Statehouse Convention Center. See page 2.
- 29

## March, 2004

- 2 Beekeeping classes at Greenbrier City Hall. 6 to 9 p.m. For more info: 501-225-1598
- 6 Wildwood Spring 2004 Gardening Series: Beth Phelps - "Gardening with the Environment in Mind". Cost is \$5.00 (\$3.00 for Wildwood members). For more information call 501- 821-7275.
- 9 Beekeeping classes at Greenbrier City Hall. 6 to 9 p.m. For more info: 501-225-1598
- 13 Baxter Co 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Gardening Seminar. See page 6.
- 16 Pulaski County Master Gardener meeting. 11:30 a.m. at St. James United Methodist Church, 321 Pleasant Valley.
- 16 Beekeeping classes at Greenbrier City Hall. 6 to 9 p.m. For more info: 501-225-1598
- 18 Heirloom Gardening at the Ar 4-H Center, presented by the PCMG. See page 8. For information call 340-6650.
- 20 Wildwood Spring 2004 Gardening Series: Char Rouch - "Daffodils". Cost is \$5.00 (\$3.00 for Wildwood members). For more information call 501- 821-7275.
- 23 Beekeeping classes at Greenbrier City Hall. 6 to 9 p.m. For more info: 501-225-1598
- 20- Tulip Extravaganza at Garvan Woodland Gardens. 56,000 tulips in bloom! Info:1-800-366-4664
- 31

## April, 2004

- 3 Wildwood Spring 2004 Gardening Series: Jane Gulley -

"Roses - Wild and Tame". Cost is \$5.00 (\$3.00 for Wildwood members). For more information call 501-821-7275.

- 17 "A Spring Celebration" at Trinity United Methodist Church with an herbal lunch. Tickets available from Herb Society members at MG meetings
- 17 Wildwood Spring 2004 Gardening Series: Theo Whitsell - " Rare, Threaten and Endangered Plants". Cost is \$5.00 (\$3.00 for Wildwood members). For more information call 501- 821-7275.
- 20 Pulaski County Master Gardener meeting. 11:30 a.m. at St. James United Methodist Church, 321 Pleasant Valley.
- 24- 2004 Spring Garden Tour sponsored by Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs. Info: 663-7515
- 25



Dr. Jim Robbins, U of A Co-Operative Extension Service Specialist for the Ornamentals Industry, will be presenting "Getting your garden ready for spring" at the meeting on February 17, 2004, at 11:30 at St James United Methodist Church.

Continuing education opportunities in February

Master Gardeners are required to earn twenty points of continuing education each year. In addition to attending the Master Gardener meeting, the following activities are offered:

- Research a gardening topic to submit it to the Master Minutes. The newsletter staff will write the article. Contact Libby Thalheimer at 663-1151 or [smell34@aol.com](mailto:smell34@aol.com).
- Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs.
- Pine Bluff Lawn & Garden Seminar.
- Wildwood Spring 2004 Gardening Series
- 2004 Arkansas Flower and Garden Show Seminars.

Arkansas Unit Herb Society of America

'Spring Celebration' on Saturday, April 17, 2004

at Trinity United Methodist Church with

Susan Belsinger, noted 'herbal' author & lecturer

10:00-11:30am "Garden Magic" slide presentation

11:30 am-12:45pm Special herbal box lunch, socializing and shopping

1:00-2:30pm "Herbal Harbingers of Spring" cooking demo

Tickets: Both events including box lunch - \$40

One event only - \$15; box lunch only - \$15

For tickets or more information contact:

Mary Roark - 868-6004 or Jean Harper - 821-3860

Ride the Gardening Wave

Southern Region Master Gardener Meeting and Cruise  
June 24 - 28, 2004

More information is available @ <http://www.poetravel.com>.  
Or call Teresa at Poe Travel, 376-4171.



## February Checklist By Rose Hogan

To figure when to start seeds indoors so that you will have plants to transplant outdoors, you need to know the date of the latest expected spring frost and the number of weeks before this date to start them. Garden centers or the Cooperative Extension Office can give you the date of the latest frost. Seed packets include the numbers of weeks before the expected last frost to start the particular seeds. Start them too soon and the plants will outgrow their containers before it's time to put them outdoors.

Plant them too late and the seedlings will be small and need to be protected to survive in the garden.

Seven to ten days before transplanting the seedlings into the garden, the transplants need to be hardened off. Expose the plants to increasing periods of outdoor conditions. This is done by placing plants in a sunny, sheltered area for an hour or two the first day. Gradually increase the length of time the plants remain outside until they can be planted in the garden.

Cool weather vegetables (broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, onions) can be started indoors and transplanted outdoors before the latest frost date. Some also are raised by planting seeds directly in the garden before (beets, Brussels sprouts, carrots, peas, radishes, spinach) or after (corn) the last frost date, depending on the vegetable. Tomato transplants are not moved to the outside until two weeks after the last spring frost.

### Tips for Flowers

Now is the time for pruning. Many plants as fruit trees, grape vines, roses, dwarf crape myrtles, hybrid tea roses, altheas, and vitex benefit from some light pruning. Summer spireas and buddleia need severe pruning before new growth begins.

Ornamental grasses and grasses like monkey and mondo grass should be pruned this month. Don't wait too long because new growth will have started.

Even if the weather is quite wet, shrubs may still need watering if they are protected from the rain by overhangs. Be sure the temperature is well above freezing.

Give over-wintered plants a feeding with half strength fertilizer and place them in a sunny protected area (a sun room or porch). Fertilize the soil around the base of lilacs, strawberries and primrose in late February. February is the end of the dormant season.

If your plants need to be moved from one location to another, do it now.

### Tips for General Yard Care

Start hoeing or pulling weeds now to avoid a rush later. While the ground is soggy, pulling weeds is easier.

Make sure your trees and shrubs have no broken branches after any wind. Cut them off as close as possible to the main branch.

Open the vents on the lee side of your greenhouse as it begins to warm up outside but avoid creating drafts.

If you're cleaning out the garden shed and come across some chemicals that you no longer want, *do not pour them down a*

*drain or toss them in the garbage.* They may contaminate the ground water. The Pulaski County Regional Solid Waste Management District has opened permanent Household Chemical Collection Facilities at these locations:

Little Rock (3403 West 33<sup>rd</sup> Street),  
North Little Rock (12th and Willow Street), and  
Jacksonville (1300 Marshall Road).

For questions, such as hours open, call 501-340-8790 or visit the web at: [www.pulaskiswdistrict.org](http://www.pulaskiswdistrict.org).

### Tips for Lawns and Ground Cover

Make sure you protect the young shoots emerging from your lawn in areas where you have daffodils naturalized.

Unless you have a fescue grass lawn, if it is turning green now you've got winter weeds. Use a broadleaf weed killer now to prevent them from growing. This is also the season for preventing the summer annual weeds. Pre-emergent herbicides should be applied from now through mid-March to keep the weed seeds from germinating.

### Tips for Vegetables

Give your asparagus beds a light covering with rich compost. Prepare soil for planting potato crops. Plant them in areas that have previously been overgrown with perennial weeds. You can reduce chances of weeds recurring and help to break up the soil by planting potatoes in rows three feet apart. Remove and burn all existing perennial weeds.



### Blooms in February

Outdoors: flowering almond, anise Florida, arum, bridal veil, camellia, chionodoxa, crocus, daffodil, dogwood, forsythia, helleborus, hyacinth, iris (Stylosas and Reticulatas), Carolina jasmine, flowering kale/cabbage, kerria, loropetalum, Oriental magnolia, mahonia, muscari, pansies, phlox, pinks, primrose, pussy willow, quince, redbud, Scilla sibirica, snowdrops, Spirea thunbergii, viola, violet and witch hazel.



Indoors: cyclamen, kalanchoe, orchids and pre-chilled bulbs (paperwhites, hyacinths, and daffodils). Place cut branches of a spring flowering shrub (such as forsythia, fruit trees, Oriental magnolia, or quince)

into one gallon of warm water with two tablespoons of ammonia. Tightly enclose the container and stems in a bag. You should have spring blossoms weeks before they can flower outside.

Camellia at Curran, Kale at AAC. Photos courtesy of Cheryl Kennedy.



## What Works!

Compiled By Sharon Davis

## Trading Post



What Works and Trading Post are the Master Gardener forums to propagate the wealth of our gardens. Share your tips or list your produce on the clipboards circulated during the monthly meetings; or write to:

Sharon Davis @ [sedavis@aristotle.net](mailto:sedavis@aristotle.net), or @ #6 Alanbrook Cove, Sherwood, Ar. 72120.

Although not required, if you sign your name you will be credited.

- Put some fresh water in a white dinner plate and add a couple drops of Lemon Fresh Joy dishwashing detergent. Set the dish on your porch, patio, or other outdoor area. Not sure what attracts them, the lemon smell, the white plate color, or what, but mosquitoes flock to it, and drop dead shortly after drinking the Lemon Fresh Joy/water mixture, and usually within about 10 feet of the plate. Check this out—it works just super! ---Ann Ward
- The cheap all Styrofoam ice chests will "hold" plants in prime condition until you can plant. ---Anonymous
- Use cinder blocks to construct a raised bed instead of timbers. No rotting, very little if any displacement, can walk on them, and no worry about chemical contamination. ---Anonymous
- Plastic venetian blind slats, cut to size, can be used as plant markers in your garden. In addition to being inexpensive, they are relatively UV resistant. ---Anonymous
- Charcoal is a great "filler" for large pots—much better than Styrofoam chips or peanuts. It is a good "filter" and lightweight as well. ---Anonymous

The easiest and least expensive way to propagate plants is by dividing and replanting plants and gathering seeds. You may bring your extra plants and seeds to share with other Master Gardeners at the meetings. Deposit plants outside the auditorium with a short card listing the name (scientific and common, if known) and care of your plant. To guarantee an exchange, list your divided plants and seeds in Trading Post.

- Nann Gaylor wants *Mahonia bealei*, leatherleaf mahonia. (501-225-0840)
- Julia Loyall has *Philadelphus virginialis* 'Natchez', mock orange, cuttings to give away. (501-835-6810)
- Lou Sanders has small *Aucuba*, spotted laurel, and *Bromelia*, bromeliads, to give away. (501-221-9722)
- Betty Deere wants *Lablab*, hyacinth bean, seeds. (501-664-6816)
- Vivian Davis has *Ophiopogon*, mondo grass, to give away. It is good for borders and ground cover. (501-835-6810)
- Carl Hunter has pine needles to give away. (501-455-1538)

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### Lakewood Gardens Discount

In appreciation for all the work we do to beautify our communities, Lakewood Gardens (located at 3101 North Hills Boulevard, North Little Rock, Arkansas, 72116) is offering a 15% discount to all Master Gardeners. Please take your name tag with you for identification.

For a preview of offerings, go to:

<http://www.etera.com/aboutus/products.asp?SrcID=1112480>

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### Apiarist Training

Beekeeping classes will be presented by Ed Levi from the Apiary Division of the State Plant Board. Classes will be held at the Greenbrier City Hall from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. beginning on March 2 and continuing on March 9, 16 and 23, 2004. For more information contact the State Plant Board at 225-1598.

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### Baxter County MG 10th Annual Gardening Seminar "Developing an Ozark Green Thumb"

Saturday, March 13, 2004 from 8:00am to 3:00pm  
Family Life Center, Redeemer Lutheran Church  
312 W. North St., Mountain Home, AR.

Dr. Kim Pittcock - Ornamental grasses

Dr. Craig Andersen - Tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers & squash

Mark Keaton - Baxter County MG program & Soil testing services

Lucinda Reynolds - Annuals & perennials

Kay Kunkel - Old Roses

Horticultural display tables and exhibits, and information on BCMG projects will be presented for attendee viewing.

This event is open to the public, and offers horticultural education useful to gardeners of all skill levels. Registration is required by March 6th.

Send name, address, phone number, email address (for confirmation), and a \$10.00 check made out to BCMG, to:

BCMG Seminar

281 Lorraine Place

Mountain Home, AR 72653

For more information, call (870) 492-6767 between 9am & 6pm.



## Book Review

By Bonnie Nicholas

### Gardener's Latin: Discovering the Origins, Lore & Meanings of Botanical Names

A Lexicon by Bill Neal

Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 1992, 136 pages, \$14.95

The endearing appeal about Latin names is that they are one of the rare pieces of information on earth that is truly universal—ironically, from a dead language. They are helpful descriptive, and much more meaningful than the common names like “rose of Sharon” which is applied to two plants. *Hypericum calycinum* is a foot-high ground cover that blooms in midsummer. *Hibiscus syriacus* is a shrub up to fifteen feet tall that blooms at summer's end—neither of them roses.

One does not have to be a card-carrying member of the Linnean Society of London to admire Carolus Linnaeus who dreamed up the extremely sensible system for classifying and naming all our plants and trees. For nearly 250 years the entire world has embraced his system because it works so well.

Most well labeled plants bear a three-name description. The first capitalized word is the Genus, the main name of a given plant group relating to it's structure. The second word in lowercase letters is the species. It is the real clue as to what to expect from a given plant with a descriptive characteristic on a metaphor. Some examples are: *nipponicum* (Japan), *novae-angliae* (New England), *maritimus* (by the sea) *caeruleum* (blue), *pendula* (weeping), *muralis* (grows on walls), *foetidum* (it stinks). The third, unitalicized word in a plant's proper name, if set off by single quotation marks, is the ‘hybrid’ or ‘cultivar’ and refers to what man has added, and continues to add to the horticultural picture.

Author Bill Neal (1951-1991), avid gardener and admired chef, has weeded through the Latin words that describe plants and compiled a single volume of over 3,300 definitions and gardening lore. Equally engaging are the little known horticultural facts and fables which fill the broad margins of each page. You'll learn why *Narcissus cyclamineus* is a horticultural joke; why basil is the herb of dread and suspicion; why Cleopatra's asp arrives in a basket of figs whenever Anthony and Cleopatra is performed.

This book deserves a place on your gardener's bookshelf.

### Health Lawns and Shrubs, Inc

Pulaski County Master Gardeners gratefully acknowledge the generosity of Stan McDaniel and Health Lawns and Shrubs, Inc. who have volunteered to fertilize and control the weeds in the lawn at the County Extension Office. This service will enhance the landscaping at the Extension Office and allow the Master Gardeners to focus their energies on the beds.

## == Internet Pipelines

- Herb Society <http://www.herbsociety.org/index.html>
- International Herb Association <http://www.iherb.org/>
- Do you have some garlic and don't know what to do with it? UAEX has the publication on their website “Making Fresh-Pack Pickles and Relishes”. [http://www.uaex.edu/Other\\_Areas/publications/HTML/FSHED-48.asp](http://www.uaex.edu/Other_Areas/publications/HTML/FSHED-48.asp)  
Also available in a PDF version [http://www.uaex.edu/Other\\_Areas/publications/PDF/FSHED-48.pdf](http://www.uaex.edu/Other_Areas/publications/PDF/FSHED-48.pdf)
- To see a list of recent perennial plant winners, go to the Perennial Plant Association's website at: <http://www.perennialplant.org/ppy/ppyindex.html>
- To find out about events, publications, collections, membership, contact and travel information for the Linnean Society of London, the world's oldest extant scientific society, go to: <http://www.linnean.org/>

### Native Plants and Creole Gardens

Southern Garden History Society 22nd Annual Meeting  
May 7 - 9, 2004, New Orleans, Louisiana

For the first time, the Southern Garden History Society will hold its annual meeting in New Orleans, a city long celebrated for its multi-faceted history, its architecture, and food, and the beauty of its lush gardens. Meetings will take place in the historic French Quarter, complemented by walking tours to see the Quarter's intimate walled gardens. Lecturers will discuss native plants and the development of horticulture and landscape design in the region from the 18th through the 20th centuries.

The study of 20th century southern plants-women, begun at last year's meeting in Atlanta, will continue with discussions of Louisianan Caroline Dorman (1888-1971) and her home Briarwood, her botanical illustrations and correspondence, and her mission to establish the Kisatchie National Forest near Natchitoches.

Lunch at Longue Vue House & Gardens- tour of City Park Botanical Garden Show- dinner in a Garden District home-post-conference tour to River Road Plantation Gardens- lunch at Laura Plantation, Vacherie, Louisiana  
For further information, contact the Southern Garden History Society, Old Salem, Inc., Drawer F, Salem Station, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27108 (336-721-7328); or: [www.southerngardenhistory.org](http://www.southerngardenhistory.org)

# Heirloom Gardening Presented by Pulaski County Master Gardeners

Thursday, March 18, 2004  
C.A. Vines, Arkansas 4-H Center  
#1 4-H Way, Little Rock, Arkansas 72223  
(501) 821-4444

8:00am-8:50am Registration, coffee and refreshments  
9:00am-4:30pm Program  
Cost is \$ 30.00 and includes lunch and refreshments.



"Gardening in Arkansas: Historical Contexts"---C. Allan Brown, a landscape architect and historian raised in Arkansas, whose work includes consultations on the gardens of Historic Arkansas Museum, Old Washington, Monticello and Gunston Hall. C. Allan Brown's presentation is partially sponsored by the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Central Arkansas Library System and The Historic Arkansas Museum.



"Plants of the Past for the Present"---Dr. Denise W. Adams, a horticulturalist and plant historian from Dillwyn, Virginia, was a featured speaker at the 2003 International Master Gardeners Conference, and is a frequent contributor for Fine Gardening, Country Gardens, The Herbalist and Perennial Plants magazines. The newly published book, Restoring American Gardens: An Encyclopedia of Heirloom Ornamental Plants, 1640-1940, by Dr. Adams, which retails for \$ 39.95, will be available for \$30.00 at this event. Dr. Adams will hold a book signing during the lunch recess. Please indicate on the registration form if you would like to reserve a copy of her book.



"Heirloom Vegetables"---Jack and Shirley Pratt of Step Back Enterprises of AR. Take a step back in history to see and hear a first-person costumed presentation about the 1848 "urban farmstead" vegetable garden of Simon Sanders and his wife, Zenobia.



"Seeds and Roots: Journey to the New World" --- Dr. Gerald Klingaman, a professor of Ornamental Horticulture at the U of A, Fayetteville and a perennial favorite of Arkansas gardeners, relates how some plants found homes in Arkansas.



"The Language of Flowers," Traditional Meanings of the Flowers and Herbs used in Tussie-Mussies---Dorothy Veirs, a member of Pulaski County Master Gardeners and the Herb Society of America, and a noted speaker on topic of herbs who will present a demonstration on creating a Tussie-Mussie.

## Heirloom Gardening Registration Form

Please register me for Heirloom Gardening being presented by the Pulaski County Master Gardeners. Attached is my \$30.00 registration fee.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently a member of Master Gardener Program or any historical preservation, gardening or horticultural organization? If yes, which ones?

### Return application and \$30 registration fee to:

Pulaski Co. Master Gardeners  
Pulaski Co. Extension Office,  
2901 W. Roosevelt, Little Rock, AR 72204

For additional information call 340-6650.

YES \_\_\_ I would like to reserve a copy of Dr. Denise Adams' book and have included an additional \$30.00 to reserve my copy.

Application deadline is March 1, 2004.

No refunds will be available for this seminar.



## Pulaski County Master Gardener Meetings' Highlights By Susan Crisp

### Board Meeting: January 20, 2004

Minutes and Treasurer's reports were approved.

Reviewed and approved Leave of Absence requests.

Reviewed and approved Sustainer Status applications.

Due to some confusion over qualifications, the board decided to add the following to both the Leave of Absence Request and the Sustainer Status applications the forms: "Past and current dues must be paid."

Thank you to Nancy, Beth, Sandy and Mary for their great job on orientation for the Chairpersons.

The Board vote to recommend nominating Carolyn Newbern for State Advisory Committee. She accepted if approved by a membership vote.

State Project of the Year and Friend of the Master Gardeners will be voted on in the General Meeting.

'Two Rivers Park Project' was discussed. Nancy will ask for volunteers in the General Meeting.



Sandy Harrison, new 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

Sandy Harrison was welcomed as Second Vice President.

Thank you to the Social Committee for Holiday Dinner and snacks for orientation.

Tri-State Master Gardeners' Conference will be held in Memphis on May 14th and 15th. The Board decided not to participate with a display due to the State Conference Meeting on

May 16th through May 18th in Conway.

### General Meeting: January 20, 2004

President, Nancy Kirsch thanked the Howdy Duty gang for helping get everyone parked and into our new meeting space; and the Social Committee for a wonderful Winter Holiday Party.

Nancy Kirsch Recognized new and retiring Chairpersons.

Sandy Harrison was introduced as new Second Vice President. Sylvia Orton had to resign.

Lois Corley introduced Mr. Donald Webb (CDC) who presented us with a sign.

Time to pay dues.

Lois Corley announced that the greenhouse needs projected pansy and viola orders no later than April 1st. She orders early take advantage of early order savings.

Travel Committee will meet today. If anyone has any ideas, call the Brays, Bob or Wanda.



Beth Phelps presents 'Gardening in the Zone'

Stuff orders are due by next month's meeting.

Everyone was reminded to turn in their Gift and Talent surveys.

Carolyn Newbern was nominated for the State Advisory Board.

Curran Hall was selected as Pulaski County Master Gardener Project of the Year and Chris Olsen for Friend of Master Gardeners. Both will be nominated for state awards.

Master Gardeners will participate on the 'Two Rivers Park Project'. Those interested in being involved were asked to let Beth know.

Beth Phelps thanked the membership the holiday gift and gift basket sent to the Pulaski County staff.

Members were reminded to register now for the Heirloom Gardening Seminar and that the seminar was open to all Master Gardeners and the general public.

Cheryl's Garden Party Committee has chosen the Old Mill as Garden of the Month.

Beth Phelps gave the program on "Gardening in the Zone".



Winners at the January, 2004 meeting were:

Chris Oxner -The Southern Gardeners Book of Lists. Chris is a brand new MG.

Sally Garrison - license plate and Cheryl Kennedy - plants



Arrive early for Master Gardener Meetings for better parking and door prize tickets. No tickets are given out after the meeting begins, but you may still sign in for credit.

Photos courtesy of 3-Ps, David Werling and Lynn Winningham.

## Classifieds

### Sunshine Committee

If you have information about Master Gardener members who have concerns to be shared please contact Linda Dantzer, 771-0844.

Our condolences to Dorothy Wilks in the death of her husband, Jim, also a Master Gardener. Memorials may be sent to Highland Valley United Methodist Church. We wish a speedy recovery from surgery to Lorraine Hensley and Mary Evans.

Reminder: All magazines sold at Master Gardener meetings are 50 cents. This helps fund our projects. Consider recycling your magazines by bringing them to the next meeting for our resale.

If you see Stan McDaniel and the guys at Healthy Lawns & Shrubs, Inc., remember to thank them for the lawn fertilization and weed control at the County Extension Office.

### City Beautiful Nominations

Little Rock and North Little Rock want to promote public interest in the appearance of their cities. They plan to recognize homeowners whose landscapes are exceptional and visible to the public. Nomination forms are available in the County Extension Office. Or you may contact the City Beautification Commission of each city.

### PCMG Memorial Fund

The Board of Directors of the Pulaski County Master Gardeners has established a Memorial Fund into which donations may be made. These gifts may be made "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" any designated person and may be specified for a particular use. Those specified uses might include trees to be placed on public property; garden related books for libraries; funds to be used for a specific Master Gardener project (benches, boulders, birdbaths, statues, or other hardscaping); or for general Master Gardener program support.

Donations should be sent to:  
PCMG Program  
2901 West Roosevelt Road  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72204

## Dig In Here...

For answers to your gardening and horticultural problems, try these helpful resources:

- Master Gardener Website:  
[www.uaex.edu](http://www.uaex.edu)  
Username: mastergardener,  
password: compost
- PC Master Gardeners Website  
[Pulaski.uaex.edu](http://Pulaski.uaex.edu)
- U of A Cooperative Extension Service Website:  
<http://www.arhomeandgarden.org>
- Pulaski County Cooperative Extension Service  
2901 W. Roosevelt Road,  
Little Rock, Ark. 72204  
340-6650

## Read 'em and Reap...

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Pulaski County Master Gardeners are trained volunteers working with the University of Arkansas Cooperative Service and Pulaski County Government to provide demonstration gardens and horticultural – related information to the residents of the county. In 2003, these 317 volunteers gave more than 12,000 hours of service.

Elisabeth J. Phelps\_\_ County Extension Agent,  
Staff Chair

## News & Notes

Everyone is encouraged to submit interesting information, committee reports, newsworthy photos, etc. to the newsletter.

Bring your information to the Master Gardener meeting, or send it to: Libby Thalheimer  
5005 Crestwood  
Little Rock, Ark. 72207  
[Smell34@aol.com](mailto:Smell34@aol.com)  
663-1151

The deadline is the third Tuesday of each month, the day of our meeting. For late breaking news after the deadline, send information to:

Beth Phelps  
Pulaski County CES  
2901 W. Roosevelt Road  
Little Rock, Ark. 72204  
[bphelps@uaex.edu](mailto:bphelps@uaex.edu)  
340-6650



### Master Minutes Staff

Shannon Chamberlin  
Sharon Davis  
Betty Deere  
Carl Goodson  
Helen Hronas  
Walter Jennings  
Kandy Jones  
Ruth Jones  
Julia Loyall  
Linda Moyer  
Bonnie Nicholas  
Libby Thalheimer

Photographers  
Cheryl Kennedy  
David Werling  
Lynn Winningham