

Pulaski County Master Minutes

May, 2005

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

Volume 16, Issue 4

Plant Profile: Primroses (*Primula*) By Lorraine Hensley

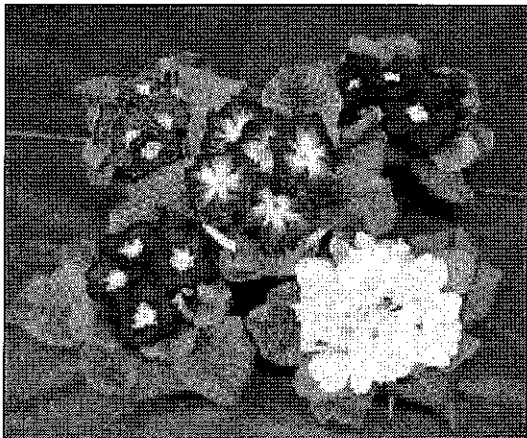


Photo courtesy of D & C Hughes. <http://www.plantfacts.com>

Mountainous regions of Europe and Asia have blessed central Arkansas once more for most primroses are from the Northern Hemisphere with the largest number coming from those areas. There are 400 to 500 species of these mostly herbaceous perennials which computes for the gardener as a wide range of choice. They grow with a basal rosette of leaves from which the flower stalk appears. Some bear only one bloom while others bloom in clusters. Color range is huge and includes white, yellow, apricot, pink, red and blue.

All varieties have the basal rosettes of leaves and tubular, bell-shaped flowers. The common primrose is an early spring favorite for it has clusters of single flat flowers in various bright colors.

The English Primrose (*Primula vulgaris*) or the common primrose is the plant many gardeners in this area seem to favor. These are heavy bloomers, producing 2-3 single flowers on each stalk and are available in a wide assortment of colors

The English Primrose really appreciates the cooler planting zones but also seems to do well in our zone 7 temperatures. We just need to remember they like the sun in cool weather but when our typical steam bath summer arrives semi-shade is a necessity for these plants. In mild winter climates the primrose can be grown as a perennial with bloom starting in late winter and lasting as long as the cold weather does. Lower winter temperatures indicate planting for spring bloom.

The primrose flourishes in cool temperatures, rich, slightly acidic soil and partial shade. This variety reaches 6 to 8 inches in height and also spreads to a width of 6 to 8 inches displaying their lovely and colorful blossoms. These plants really

show off in borders and rock gardens for that splash of color simply brightens the garden. Newly purchased plants may be set out in early spring while older plants can be divided and transplanted when they finish blooming.

These plants, with just a little attention to their needs, can provide beautiful color and texture in your garden. Although their original journey was a long one your garden can provide a welcome home to these plants for a long enjoyable time.

Lorraine Hensley is a feature writer for the Master Minutes. She also volunteers on the Old Mill Committee.

Oenothera speciosa, Evening primrose

According to Floridata.com L.C., <http://www.floridata.com>, these plants grow 8-24" tall, and up to 15" wide, sending runners out in all directions. The tough, slender, reclining stems support narrow spoon shaped leaves with deeply cut margins, especially near the base of the plant, where they are larger. The nearly 2" bowl-shaped flowers appear in mid-late spring. Nodding buds unfurl in the evening. The upturned blooms with huge yellow stamens in the center remain open through the morning, or all day when it is overcast. The seeds that follow in early summer are oval winged 0.5" capsules.

Evening primrose is native to the rocky prairies and savannas of the lower Midwest, but is commonly seen along roadsides and in disturbed areas over a much broader region. It grows nicely in poor soil with full sun. Plants are likely to die of root rot if the soil is not well drained.

These flowers are best planted where you don't mind them spreading around a bit. They may not be just where you planted them and can be invasive. The flowers attract bees, moths, and hummingbirds.



Oenothera speciosa,
pinkladies
Photo courtesy of the
USDA Plant Database,
<http://plants.usda.gov/>
©Larry Altain, USGS
NWRC

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: Master Gardener Service Awards

5 Years of Service: Class of 2000

Pat Boggess, Bonnie Bradford (Started In another county), Judy Bradsher, Davies Campbell, Sara Dawson, Oneal Dedman, George Harper, Shari Hill, Jean Kuelpman, Sharon Mayes, Nancye McCowan, Pat McDonald, Carol Mendel, Linda Moyer, Michael Moyer, Ila Newberry, Lynn Phelps, Wendel Redmond, Helen Simpson, and Howard Stephens

10 Years of Service: Class of 1995

Dick Blankenkemper, Debbie Cummings, Margaret Dorland, Trudy Goolsby, Lew Huddle, Carl Hunter, Joann Janssen, Anne Jarrard, Billie Massey, Suzanne O'Donoghue, and Ray Sarmiento

15 Years of Service: Class of 1990

Breck Campbell, Ann Cooper, Linda Dantzler, Irene Davis, Marie Flickinger, Dotty Heckenbach, Ruth Jones, Aleta Newell, and Dorothy Veirs

Cammack Committee

This committee helps University of Arkansas Fruit Crops Specialists maintain the plantings of strawberries, blackberries, grapes, and blueberries. MGs also care for a number of annual and perennial ornamentals in adjacent gardens. Jim Dyer is the chairman and Fran Ables is the co-chairman.



*Seated L to R: Fran Ables, Shari Hill, Laverne Davis, Phyllis Colclasure
Standing L to R: Jim Dyer, Gay McDaniel, Carolyn France, Mary Battreal, Jack Matthews, Mary Vancura, Walter Jennings, Jennie Cole, Glenda Arledge
Missing from meeting: Ann Green, Patti Ledbetter, and Ruth Owings*

Photo courtesy of Jim Dyer

Backyard Mystery By Carol Randle

When I knew I was going to retire, I started saving money from my pay checks to finance a new flower bed in my back yard. In mid August the day arrived when I no longer had to leave home to go to work. I was officially retired. Now I could start on my long awaited flower bed.

With my husband helping me, we started with beautiful white landscaping blocks. We bought them through our Medical Mission Garage Sale for a wonderful price. We carefully laid a string on the ground outlining the place where we wanted the flower bed to be. Then we laid the landscaping blocks, following the line of the string. They looked so pretty when we finished. This was exciting!

Next, it was time to build up the bed. We started with a layer of wet newspapers, followed by a layer of peat moss. Then we added a layer of cow manure; a layer of peat moss; a layer of humus; a layer of peat moss; a layer of top soil and a layer of peat moss. (I had been reading the book, Lasagna Gardening by Patricia Lanza.)

The trip to buy plants was next. Because it was nearly fall and I planned to divide my Hostas from another bed later in the fall (to put in this bed), I decided to buy Pansies, Snapdragons, Dusty Miller, and Flowering Kale. A friend gave me several Sedum Autumn Joy plants which I put in the middle of the bed since they were tall. When the plants were in the ground, the flower bed looked so pretty. Even my husband, who is not given to compliments, admitted it was pretty. I was looking forward to sitting in the back yard and enjoying the beautiful flowers.

One morning I went out to enjoy that soul satisfying flower bed. Oh, no! What happened? Only the Snapdragons, Dusty Miller, and Autumn Joy Sedum were left. Was this the work of our resident squirrel? He gets all the pecans off our trees and cracks them on the landscaping blocks . . . making it necessary for me to go out and sweep off the blocks. (I still do not know what critter or animal ate my plants, although there is a suspicion it may have been a deer. Our son found deer tracks in the yard early one morning, although we do not live close to woods.)

Now I am researching plants that are deer resistant. I plan to replant using deer resistant plants. The Southern Living Garden Book lists the following plants as being deer resistant: Begonias (Tuberous); Bleeding Heart (*Dicentra*); Dusty Miller; Hellebore (*Helleborus*); Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum*); Ferns (*Polystichum*); Snapdragon (*Antirrhinum*); Wake Robin (*Trillium*); and Moses in the Cradle (*Tradescantia spathacea*). There are others.

I plan to choose some of these to replant. I will have to pick those that work in partial shade since there are pecan trees and a maple tree in the yard. Wish me luck!

Carol Randle is a feature writer for the Master Minutes. She also serves on the Amy Sanders Library Committee.

- According to the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission brochure, What do Deer Eat? By Carl Hunter, deer prefer to eat: acorns, annual rye & wild grasses, asters, azaleas, beggar's lice, bellflower, black gum, blackberry, blueberry, cinquefoil, clover, composites, coralberry sumac seed heads, dandelion, deerberry, dewberry, dogwood, elm, fleabane, french mulberry, fungi, goldenrod, grape, greenbrier, hawthorn, honeysuckle, horse mint, huckleberry, hydrangea, jessamine, jewelweed, legumes, lespedeza, muscadines, new jersey tea, oaks, persimmon, petunia, poison ivy, pokeweed & pokeweed berries, privet, pussy's toes, ragweed, red cedar, red maple, rose, sassafras, sedges, skullcap, sorghum, soybeans, spiderwort, spring beauty, spurge, strawberry bush, sumac, sunflower, trefoil, trout lily, trumpet creeper, vegetable crops, violet, wheat, wild clover, wild lettuce, wild pea, wild strawberry, willow, winter wheat.
- Other plants listed by The Southern Living Garden Book as plants that deer do not like are:
Cedrus, cedar; *Magnolia grandiflora*, Southern magnolia; *Cercis*, redbud; *Ginkgo*; *Berberis*, barberry; *Buxus*, boxwood; *Daphne*; *Chaenomeles*, flowering quince; *Forsythia*; *Juniperus*, juniper; *Mahonia*; *Elaeagnus pungens*, thorny elaeagnus; *Myrica cerifera*, wax myrtle; *Ilex vomitoria*, yaupon; Asian star jasmine; *Hedera helix*, English ivy; *Chrysanthemum*; *Aquilegia*, columbine; *Narcissus*, daffodil; *Helleborus orientalis*, Lenten rose; *Petunia*; *Dianthus*, pinks; *Tulipa*, tulips; *Achillea*, yarrow; *Yucca*; and *Zinnia*.
- Arkansas Watchable Wildlife Viewing Guide, available from the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, includes the best locations, with driving directions, and viewing tips for Arkansas wildlife. It's divided into six geographical areas with great photos. To order by mail, send \$7.00 to: Publications Sales, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, 2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205. Or pick up in person at the AGFC central office or any AGFC regional office, and pay only \$5.00.
- AGFC Free Downloadable Guides and Brochures Download printable brochures about birds and waterfowl, deer and deer hunting, fish and fishing, safety tips and trapping. For a complete list go to: http://www.agfc.com/education/brochure_details.html



Calendar By Ruth Jones

May, 2005

- 3 Overview of Landscape Plants, John Benke, @ AELC, 666-0759.
- 4 Wildflower Gardening at Wildwood Park, 501-821-7275.
- 5 MG Picnic at Camp Aldersgate at 5:30pm with an informal tour of the grounds, Corky's BBQ, program by Martin L. Smith and a plant exchange.
- 5 Spring Herb Dinner, Ozark Folk Center State Park. For reservations, call 870-269-3851.
- 5 Garden Basics @ AELC with Mary Evans. 666-0759.
- 6-7 Heritage Herb Spring Extravaganza, Ozark Folk Center State Park, Mountain View, 870-269-3851.
- 7 Heritage Gardening Day, 10 am-3 pm, 4 locations downtown: Historic Arkansas Museum, Old State House, Mt. Holly Cementary & Curran Hall. Contact 501-340-6650
- 10 Overview of Landscape Plants with John Benke, @ AELC, 666-0759.
- 12-14 2005 State MG Meeting, Embassy Suites, Rogers, Arkansas.
- 14 Shade Gardens, Mary Evans, AELC, 666-0759.
- 14 Tropical Treasures, Your Personal Paradise, 10 am Botanica Gardens, Free
- 17 Pulaski County Master Gardener Meeting. 11:30 a.m. At St. James United Methodist Church, 321 Pleasant Valley
- 20-28 Garden Glory Days, Ozark Folk Center State Park. Info: 870-269-3851.
- 21 Hot Summer Survivors, Mary Evans, AELC, 666-0759.

June, 2005

- 4 Wildflower Gardening, Wild Wood Park, 501-821-7275
- 11 Spring Wildflower Walk, Bauxite Natural Areas. Cost \$5; limited to 20 people. Contact The Nature Conservancy: 501-663-6699
- 18 Lunch on the Wild Side, Wildwood Park. Identify edibles and how to use them for a delicious meal. \$5.00. Contact: 501-821-7275.
- 21 Pulaski County Master Gardener Meeting. 11:30 a.m. At St. James United Methodist Church, 321 Pleasant Valley.
- 24-26 Mt. Magazine Butterfly Festival. Tim Ernst & Janet Carson will speak.

July, 2005

- 30 Annual Central Arkansas Iris Society Rhizome Sale. 8 am Hillcrest Hall, (Kavanaugh & Lee)

Time for Arkansas Home Grown Markets

Tuesdays - YWCA 12th and Cleveland
 Thursdays - Lakewood Village
 Saturdays - Second Presbyterian Church
 Markets open at 6:30 am

Operation Wildflower scenic drives:

- U.S. Highway 62, 412 & 63: Eureka Springs east through Powhatan
- U. S. Highway 49 south: Jonesboro to Brinkley
- U.S. 167 south: Little Rock to El Dorado
- U.S. 70 in July: Hot Springs southwest to junction U.S. 71
- U.S. Highway 270: Hot Springs to Mena
- U. S. 71: I-40 north to Fayetteville
- Scenic Byway 7: Hot Springs to Harrison
- U. S. 70: Carlisle east to Hazen

Avoid the Peak!

Re-set your sprinkler system today for deep watering. Your yard needs at least one inch of water per week. But remember to 'Avoid the Peak!' between 5:30 a.m. and 7:30 a.m.

Tropical Paradise in Arkansas Gardens

Date: June 23, 2005

Time: 9 am-3:30 pm

Location: C.A. Vines Arkansas 4-H center, Little Rock, Arkansas

Address: 1 4-H Way (Ferndale Cut-Off), Little Rock, 72211

Cost: \$30.00. Open to the public.

Registration Deadline: June 13, 2005

Speakers: Norman Winter "Exotic Flowers and Tropical Foliage for the Arkansas Landscape", "Incorporating Tropical Plants in Arkansas Gardens"

Gordon Powell "Bamboos Behaved"

Dr. Gerald Klingaman "Microclimates-Creating a Tropical Paradise"

Contact Person:

Beth Phelps (CEA Pulaski Co) 501.340.6650
 bphelps@uaex.edu

Ruth Jones writes a monthly column for the Master Minutes. She has been an active Master Gardener for 15 years.



May Checklist By Linda Moyer

Annuals

Purchase some annuals without flowers so that you can enjoy the blooms longer. Choose shorter bushy plants because the larger ones are more established already and may not transplant as well. A dark green color is generally a good indicator of a strong healthy plant (Make sure that they are not light colored or yellowing. Nor should they have brown patches.) When planting your annuals if you loosen up the roots a bit before planting it will stimulate stronger growth.

General Yard

Many gardeners plant useful vegetable gardens OR beautiful fragrant flower gardens. Try combining the two by planting nasturtium and marigold in with your vegetables or herbs around your flower garden. Plant lily-of-the valley or other flowering bulbs around the trunks of your trees to enhance the yard's natural beauty. Plant corn with strawflower for a colorful border and instead of building a fence.

Lawns

If your soil is well prepared, it is still not too late to lay turf or sow lawn seed. Feed lawn with high nitrogen fertilizer from April to September for really green grass. Make sure you use a spreader to ensure the fertilizer is spread evenly.

De-thatch, edge and weed as needed.

If you have pine trees on or near your lawn, make sure that you rake the needles regularly. Pine needles will kill anything underneath them. They pack so tight that light is unable to get through. This also makes them an excellent mulch and natural weed killer under trees and shrubs.

If you wish to use weed killers you should do so now while the grass is growing rapidly. Do not use a weed killer if your soil is too wet, too dry or if you have a young lawn. Do not mow your lawn for at least a week after an application. Never add your cuttings to the compost after a treatment.

When mowing your lawn make sure you use a mower with a sharp blade. If the blade is dull it will tear the young seedlings from the soil.

Add gentle curves to your lawn for the appearance of a larger area. Gentle curves are also easier to mow than sharp curves or corners.

Long grass around fruit trees will slow the establishment of young trees. Keep it well trimmed.

Remove runners from strawberries for more fruit production or use this growth method. Plant new strawberries on top of old ones. Allow the runners to cover the beds as thick as they can get. Later in the fall cover them with about two or three inches of soil. The following spring you will be surprised at the strong production of foliage. The first year may be less productive than years to come.

Vegetables & Herbs

Remember to rotate vegetable crops to help control pests, disease and keep the soil in good shape.

Monthly Blooms

Abelia – *Allium* – *Azalea* - *Campanula medium*, Canterbury bells – *Allium schoenoprasum*, chives – *Clematis* – *Aquilegia*, columbine – *Coreopsis* – *Centaurea*, cornflowers - late daffodils - early daisies – *Hemerocallis*, daylilies – *Deutzia* – *Festuca*, blue fescue – *Myosotis*, forget-me-not – *Digitalis*, foxglove – *Gaura* – *Koeleruteria paniculata*, golden rain tree – *Calluna*, heather - French hollyhock – *Lonicera*, honeysuckle – *Hydrangea* - wild indigo – *Iris*, Bearded Hybrids – *Iris sibirica*, Siberian iris - flag iris - *Kerria*, Japanese rose - *Lamium* – *Lilium*, Asiatic Hybrids - Peruvian lilies – *Philadelphus*, mock orange - milk weed – *Philodendron scandens* subsp. *oxycardium*, money plant - *Nicotiana* – *Nierembergia* – *Oxalis* – *Viola*, pansies – *Paeonia*, Peonies - *Phlox* – *Dianthus*, pinks – *Papaver*, poppies – *Primula vulgaris*, English primrose - *Oenothera biennis*, common evening primrose - roses - *Rosmarinus*, rosemary - culinary sage – *salvias* - *Sedum acre*, gold moss - *Styrax japonicus*, Japanese snowbell – *Polygonatum*, Solomon's seal – *Tradescantia*, spiderwort – *Spiraea* – *Fragaria*, strawberries - hybrid teas – *Thymus*, thyme – *Dianthus barbatus*, sweet William - *Veronica*, speedwell – *Achillea*, yarrow.

Linda Moyer writes a monthly column and feature articles for the Master Minutes. She is also active on the Jacksonville City Hall Committee with her husband, Mike.

The herbicide Roundup® may be eradicating more than weeds. In a study published April 1, 2005, by a University of Pittsburgh researcher, Rick Relyea examined the effects on a pond (25 species, including crustaceans, insects, snails, and tadpoles) by the addition of the manufacturers' recommended doses of two insecticides—Sevin® and malathion—and two herbicides—Roundup® and 2,4-D. In an extensive study on the effects of pesticides on non-target organisms in a natural setting, Relyea found that Roundup® is "extremely lethal" to amphibians. The lethal ingredient in Roundup® was not the herbicide itself, but rather the surfactant that allows the herbicide to penetrate the waxy surfaces of plants. In Roundup®, that surfactant is polyethoxylated tallowamine. Other herbicides have less dangerous surfactants.

From the Pitt Chronicle, April 11, 2005 Issue
Herbicide Roundup® "Extremely Lethal" to Amphibians in Natural Setting,
Relyea Finds Some species totally eliminated in recent field experiment

By Karen Hoffmann

http://www.univ-relations.pitt.edu:16080/media/pcc050411/sci1_pesticide.html

Pulaski County Master Gardener Board Meetings' Highlights By Jackie Wright

Tuesday, April 19, 2005

The Pulaski County Master Gardener Board met at St. James Methodist Church on Tuesday, April 19, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. Present were Dick Blankenbecker, Marilyn Tilley, Jackie Wright, Mary Freeman, Sandy Harrison, Nancy Kirsch, Ila Newberry, Don Davis, Beth Phelps, and Carolyn Newbern. Chair, Dick Blankenbecker, presided.

- The minutes for the March were approved as circulated.
- The Treasurer's Report was accepted. Twenty members have not yet paid their dues. People are not picking up their membership cards.

Old Business

- Carolyn Newbern -- Heritage Gardening Grant update.
- Trees were ordered and planted.
- Signs are ordered, to be delivered April 30.
- David Dodson has posters for us to put up.
- Historical Arkansas Museum will have a kickoff event for the public on April 28 from 10 to 12.

New Business

- Ann Ward is retiring. A \$100 gift certificate for her was approved by the board by e-mail vote.
- The Pinnacle Committee is planning a Carl Hunter Memorial. They will build an arbor that is appropriate for the garden and have Carl's name on it. Donations will be appreciated.
- Nancy Kirsch reported that the Pinnacle Committee is converting its butterfly garden to a native plant garden and they may need an additional \$100 for a new sprinkler system, dirt, plants, etc. Marilyn Tilley explained that the State Hospital may also need an additional \$100 because of the expected move to another location. Don Davis moved that each committee may spend up to \$100 extra each.
- Ila Newberry moved we give a contribution for a State Meeting Sponsorship, the amount to be in Beth's discretion. The motion passed.
- Ila moved that we authorize a subscription to Fine Gardening for the Extension Office. The motion passed.
- Judy Gregory suggested that the board ask MGs to provide flower arrangements (from their own gardens) for Clinton Lib. Information desk. The idea was discussed but tabled for more information.
- The Governor's Mansion is hosting a \$75 a plate fundraiser on Thursday, April 21.
- Sustainer Status was approved for Cathy Sanders.
- Leave of Absences were approved for Nancy Barber and Mickey Elmore.
- Reinstatement was approved for Donna McDonald.

- Don Davis moved that we order more project signs – 10 signs for \$155.00 plus tax. The motion was approved.
- Nancy Kirsch moved that we amend our policies to allow members to make up hours the following year within a reasonable time to be determined by the board, in lieu of taking Leave of Absence. Sandy amended the motion to add that the policy amendment be retroactive through 2004. The motion failed 5 to 3.

Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs

Thank you to all the volunteers for answering garden and plant questions during the Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs Spring Garden Tour. The Master Gardeners volunteering were Jackie Wright, Edwina Mann, Irene Davis, Jet Cuffman, Glenda Brazzel, Fran Searcy, Vicky Kessel, Ila Newberry, Luhra Warren, Jim Dyer, Mary Ingle, Irene Davis, Jet Cuffman, Nann Gaylor, Sharl Hill, Don Henderson, Betty Henderson, Vivian Davis, Joan Bullard, John Matthews, Kathleen and Bruce Wesson, Bill Bowen, Fran Ables, Judy Woodard, Marie Flickinger, Lynda Harkenreader, Juddie Wachtel, Jan Bowen, Sandy Harrison, Patty Wingfield, Betsy Lutten, Dena Dixon, Liz Edwards, Judy Gregory, Pat Wallace, and Bonnie Bradford.

Judy Chapman

2007 International Master Gardener Meeting

Folks,

We are getting going on planning the 2007 International Master Gardener Meeting in Little Rock, and want your input. We first need to know who is planning on attending the 2005 meeting in Saskatoon. Please forward to me any names and e-mail addresses or phone numbers of MG's you know will be attending.

We are going to put on a concerted effort to be ambassadors for 2007!

I would also like to know if you have any MG's interested in working with the sponsorship committee, and if you have any MG's who have training in the travel industry.

We have to plan pre and post conference tours, and need to get started.

We will be sending you more information as we get it, because remember this is a STATEWIDE effort, not central Arkansas.

My goal is to sell Arkansas, and we want input from the whole state!

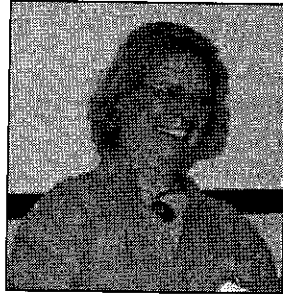
Janet Carson

Pulaski County Master Gardener General Meeting Highlights By Jackie Wright

Tuesday, April 19, 2005

The Pulaski County Master Gardeners had their regular monthly meeting at St. James Methodist Church on Tuesday, April 19, 2005 at 11:30 a.m. President, Dick Blankenkemper, presided.

- We held a moment of silence in memory of Carl Hunter.
- Arkansas Gardener has article on Curran Hall, with photos by Lynn Winningham and Cheryl Kennedy.
- Ann Ward is retiring from the Pulaski County Extension Center after 16 years of service. She was introduced and thanked for her service.



Ann Ward

Photo courtesy of Lynn Winningham

The following reports were given:

- Dues are due \$15.00 - all but 20 members have paid dues; but about 200 have failed to pick up membership cards.
- Lynn Phelps announced that reservation envelopes for the May 5 picnic are circulating.
- Bob Bray announced that reservation envelopes for the "Steak Out" are circulating. We will carpool from the parking lot at I-630 and Shackelford Road, visit several gardens then go to Lake DeGray, returning to Little Rock by 8:15 p.m.
- Lois Corley announced a Greenhouse sale Saturday, April 30, 8 till Noon. They have lots of tomatoes and 17 pink Confederate roses for sale, but potting soil must be purchased at the Farmers' Association.
- Carolyn Newbern announced that posters for the Heritage Garden celebration are available. The Quapaw Quarter Journal has a press release. Historical Arkansas Museum is making considerable changes to their grounds and we should read it to know what they are doing and why.
- The kickoff for the May 7 celebration will be on April 28 at H.A.M. They will give away Drummond red maple saplings and black eyed Susan seeds.
- They need four additional guides at Mt. Holly and docents on the trolleys for time periods from 9:30 to 12:30 and 12:30 to 3:30. Sandy has sign up sheets.
- Jane Gulley announced that the Continuing Education Program entitled "Tropical Paradise" on June 23, 2005 will be open to the public.

Announcements/Reminders:

- Work Day at St. James Methodist Church, April 21st: 9 – Noon, bring your gardening tools.
- Jenny Jackson, co-chair of the Extension Office garden, announced that Warren Boop will lead a tour of Wildwood Gardens April 20th at 1:00 p.m. for their committee. Anyone else is welcome.
- State Master Gardener Meeting is full. (May 12, 13, 14 in Rogers/ Bentonville)
- International Master Gardener Conference, July 24 -27 – please let Beth know if you plan to attend.
- The Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs will have six gardens on their annual garden tour, two in Maumelle, and four in Little Rock.
- The Pulaski County Master Gardener garden tour will be June 7 at Jacksonville and Sherwood. Details will be provided at the May meeting.
- Beth Phelps will present a program at the library in Sherwood, at 31 Shelby Drive at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 23.
- Horticare Open House is on Tuesday, April 26 at 6 p.m., 15 % discount for members.
- The Game and Fish Commission has a free book, Birds and Bird Calls. To obtain one call 800-364-4263.
- Horticulture Highlights for 2004 on CD are for sale for \$10.
- Jan King announced that she is taking orders for "stuff."
- Marilyn Tilley introduced Yvonne Becker, Garland County Master Gardener and Orchid Grower, who gave an interesting slide show on orchids.



Yvonne Becker

Photo courtesy of Lynn Winningham

- Door prizes were given.



Breck Campbell wins one door prize. Photo courtesy of Bonnie Wells

Classifieds

Sunshine Board

If you have information about Master Gardener members who have concerns to be shared, please contact the Retention Committee. Jane Gulley, 225-2072, is the chairman, Pat Green, Sally Garrison, Ann Cooper, Breck Campbell, Davies B. Campbell, Dorothy Hobbs, Hilda Boger, and Sarah Henson are on the committee.

Pulaski County Master Gardeners' Memorial Fund

Donations to the PCMG Memorial Fund may be made "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" anyone. Gifts may be specified for a particular use (i.e. trees on public property; garden books for library; Master Gardener projects: benches, birdbaths, statues, or other hardscape); or for General Master Gardener program support. Donations should be sent to:
PCMG Memorial Fund
2901 W. Roosevelt Road,
Little Rock, Arkansas 72204

Volunteer Opportunities

Submit your announcements for work days to the Master Minutes staff by the third Tuesday of each month.

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.

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

Dig In Here...

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

- Master Gardener Website:
<http://www.arhomeandgarden.org/mastergardener/mastergardeneronly>
Username: mastergardener,
password: compost
- PC Cooperative Extension Service Website:
<http://www.uaex.edu/pulaski/mastergardeners/default.asp>
- 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 volunteers gave more than 10,000 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
663-1151

The deadline is the third Tuesday of each month. 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
340-6650



Master Minutes Staff

Anita Chamberlin
Sharon Davis
Betty Deere
Susie Gillihan
Lorraine Hensley
Helen Hronas
Ruth Jones
Julia Loyall
Linda Moyer
Bonnie Nicholas
Carol Randle
Libby Thalheimer

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