

Pulaski County Master Minutes

February, 2007

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

Volume 19, Issue 2

Congrats!

Congratulations to the Jacksonville City Hall Project committee for selection of their project as Pulaski County's nomination for 2007 Arkansas Master Gardener Project of the year.

Congratulations also go to Bert Turner, Friends of the Old Mill, for the selection as Pulaski County Friend of Master Gardeners Award

Simply Succulents....10 Facts

By Debra Redding



1. Looking for a plant that likes it hot and dry and it's easy to maintain?...Go Succulent!

2. Succulents are water-retaining plants. Water is stored in their leaves, stems and/or roots. The storage of water gives the plant a more swollen or fleshy appearance. They have a waxy, hairy or spiny outer surface to reduce water loss.

3. Water infrequently, once a week or less, depending on plant type and container size. Too much water is their worst enemy.

4. A desert-type plant which thrives on near neglect because they are water thrifty. They make excellent houseplants for the busy gardener, the apartment gardener or the novice.

5. They need plenty of sun, and well-drained sandy soil. Fertilize twice a year when actively growing.

6. Can be easily grown in decorative trays or dishes, unusual containers or rock gardens.

7. Hardiness Zone for Zone 7 is -12°C to -18°C

8. An estimated 10,000 succulent species exist and offer a wide variety of texture, color, shape and bloom for any garden.

9. The most well known succulents are cacti. All cacti are succulents but not all succulents are cacti.

10. The most popular species are barrel cactus, jade plant, hen and chicks, sedum, ice plant, aloe and agave.



Sempervivum tectorum (Common Houseleek)

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.

Internet Pipelines

By Libby Thalheimer



Arboretum: a space for the growth, display and study of trees and shrubs. Some of the more popular sites in the United States are:

<http://www.usna.usda.gov/>

United States National Arboretum, 3501 New York Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20002-1958
Tel: 202-245-2726 Fax: 202-245-4575. Open every day except December 25 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

<http://www.dallasarboretum.org/Visit.htm>

Dallas Arboretum, 8525 Garland Road, Dallas, Texas 75218

Hours of Operation: Open daily: 9am - 5pm.
Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Years Day

<http://www.sfbotanicalgarden.org/>

San Francisco Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum, 9th Avenue at Lincoln Way, San Francisco, CA 94122. Open 365 days a year. Weekdays: 8am - 4:30pm. Weekends/Holidays: 10am - 5pm

<http://www.arboretum.umn.edu/>

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska, MN 55318
Phone: 952-443-1400. Open 363 days a year (closed Thanksgiving and Christmas Day), 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. or sunset (whichever occurs first).

<http://www.ncarboretum.org/>

The North Carolina Arboretum, 100 Frederick Law Olmsted Way, Asheville, North Carolina 28806
Phone: 828-665-2492

<http://www.mortonarb.org/index.html>

4100 Illinois Route 53 · Lisle, IL 60532-1293.
Phone:(630)-968-0074·

The Arboretum is open 365 days a year! 7 a.m. year-round until 7 p.m. or sunset, whichever is earlier.

<http://www.arboretum.harvard.edu/>

The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130-3500
Phone: 617-524-1718.

<http://www.thearb.org/>

The Arboretum at Flagstaff, 4001 S Woody Mountain Road, Flagstaff AZ 86001-8775
(928) 774-1442. 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, April through October. Closed November through March.

<http://www.dawesarb.org>

The Dawes Arboretum, 7770 Jacksontown Rd. SE, Newark, Ohio 43056
740.323.2355 or 800.44.DAWES. The Arboretum is open—free of charge—from dawn until sunset every day except New Year's, Thanksgiving and Christmas days.



Lois Corley needs all FALL seed orders by March 15th. You can mail or hand-deliver them to her.





Project Spotlight

Horticultural Therapy Program

By Carol Randle

The Horticultural Therapy program meets at the Baptist Rehabilitation Institute in Little Rock on the first and second Saturdays of each month.

This project began in 1991 when a Master Gardener, Jaine Waldron, realized the therapeutic benefits when interacting with plants and gardening. She contacted Janet Carson and Baptist Hospital personnel. The Horticultural Therapy Program was then developed by the Pulaski County Master Gardeners. Several of the original Master Gardeners are still volunteering on this project. Teams of four to five Master Gardeners meet from 10:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. on the first and second Saturdays of each month.

Each team considers the physical disabilities of the participants (the majority of them are elderly, have had a stroke, orthopedic surgery or general weakness). Then the team chooses a hands on activity which is horticultural in nature and fits within a 45 to 60 minute time frame.

The goal of the project is to provide a functional leisure opportunity utilizing movements and patterns and socialization skills using horticultural therapy.

The project co-chairmen are Nancy Wolford and Susan Rose. Other members are: Mildred Walton; Mary Beth Kirkland; Susan Crisp; Betsy Luten; Aleta Newell; Gail Roberson; Nita Sheth; Margaret Dorland; Vivian Davis; Adriene Coleman; Lavon Spears; Don Thompson; Catherine Johnson; Jerry Quick; Nora Ann Lawrence; Donna Hartsfield; Ann Bridgers; Sandra Miller; Ann Beck; Karen Baris; Sharon Mayes; and Wayne Kirk.

2007 Dues are due and are \$15 per person. You can pay at the monthly Master Gardener meeting, at Beth's office or mail to Mary Freeman, 16301 Faulkner Lake Road, North Little Rock, AR 72117

In Memory of Ken Scott

By Mary Evans

Our friend Ken Scott passed away December 26, 2006. He was 74. He was a veteran of the Navy. He received his BA in agriculture & MS in horticulture from U of A. He studied floriculture at Ohio State. Ken worked in landscaping & landscape design.

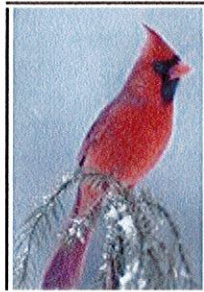
He went to work for the extension service where he took horticulture trouble-shooting calls in as many as 6 counties. He later became the statewide horticulture specialist. He wrote a newspaper column called, "The Plant Doctor," made many TV appearances & taped radio programs. He & Gerald Klingaman helped form The Arkansas Nurseryman's Association, The Arkansas Horticulture Society & the Arkansas Greenhouse Grower's Association. In 2006 Ken received the "Distinguished Alumni" award from University of Arkansas Department of Horticulture.

In 1989 Ken found himself planning the first Arkansas Flower & Garden Show. He nervously (his wife didn't know) put up his own money to cover the expenses to rent Robinson Center in 1992. They had 12 gardens, 40 booths. After 28 years he retired from extension, 2 weeks after the first garden show. But he continued to be involved until just a few years ago. Ken started each show by marking the layout on the floor of the convention center. Nothing could happen till after this annual ritual. He was once awarded "The volunteer of The decade."

Ken had a woodcarving booth at the show every year. He continued till 2 years ago. He loved showing off his wooden chain that (I believe) was 320' long. Ken had taught woodcarving at 4H camps for years. He also taught woodcarving at War Eagle & Silver Dollar City. I enjoyed hanging out in his workshop with him. Ken Scott was one of the nicest people I ever met. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.



February the Fickle Month



I love February, after all it is my birth month and therefore special to me. But woe to the one that makes garden plans in the month of February with out remembering that sun shine today can be a foot of snow tomorrow!

I usually try to do my pruning of roses in February, but have learned from past experience that pruning too soon can cause disastrous results. Once the rose is pruned it is primed to start new growth. I have watched in silence with tears in my eyes as new growth is killed back to the ground by the unpredictable snow storm. I have found that it is best not to be in such a hurry with the pruning shears when it comes to roses. There will be time, let the weather settle a bit.

Now is a good time to plan on those beautiful new trees or shrubs to plant. If planted now they will have time to get established a bit before our hot dry summers get here. If planting is in your plans be sure not to disturb the soil when it is too wet. Some times the structure of the soil can be altered by digging in soil that is too wet.

As I look out my window today I can see shrubs geared up to start blooming and bulbs popping out of the ground. This all makes me a little nervous; things are just a little off. It is still winter, and I am still looking forward to at least one snow storm before the spring flowering begins.

This may be a season that I will be running around trying to get all those azaleas that are in full bud protected from one more freeze. Let's hope not. To every thing there is a season. Time for winter, a time for spring, so let's hope we can have a normal winter before spring comes.

Happy Gardening
Susie Gillihan

Congratulations!

Master Gardeners

In 2006, volunteer time on projects was 10,422 hours. Telephone hours were 1,169. Continuing education points (hours) were 10,356 and community outreach was 1,471 for a total of **23,418 HOURS!**

Volunteer time is valued by the Arkansas Department of Volunteerism at \$18.04 per hours. **Our total hours were valued at \$422,460.72**



Calendar by Laurie Pierce



February

Lake Dardanelle State Park, Russellville, will conduct free American bald eagle cruises through February. Reservations are required. (479) 967-5516 or lakedardanelle@arkansas.com.

March

The 16th annual Arkansas Flower & Garden Show will be March 2-4 at the Statehouse Convention Center. Call Ray Sarmiento at (501) 803-9839 or e-mail Beth at bphelps@uaex.edu to volunteer.

The Shaw Nature Reserve of the Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, will present Native Plant School: Native Plant Propagation from Seed 1-4 p.m. March 8. The cost is \$12, \$8 for garden members. Register at (636) 451-3512.

April

The Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, will present Hillside and Slope Gardens 10 a.m.-noon April 7. Register at (314) 577-9400 or (800) 642-8842.

The Memphis Botanic Garden will conduct its spring plant sale April 13-15 featuring perennials, annuals, tropicals, herbs, shrubs and trees. Free admission. (901) 576-4100 or memphisbotanicgarden.com.

May

The International Master Gardener Conference will be hosted at Peabody Hotel/Statehouse Convention Center in downtown Little Rock, May 2-5.

The Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, will present Complete Shade Gardening 9 a.m.-3 p.m. May 16. Register at (314) 577-9400 or (800) 642-8842.

June

Janet Carson will conduct a workshop titled, "Low Maintenance Gardening" June 8 and 9 at the Winthrop Rockefeller Center, University of Arkansas System, atop Petit Jean Mountain. Pre-registration is required. Details at wrcenter.net or (501) 727-5435.

The Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, will present Pruning in the Japanese Fashion 9 a.m.-noon June 9. Register at (314) 577-9400 or (800) 642-8842.

AELC Classes Offered by Mary Evans

Green Thumb Gardener (Basics) April 3, 10, 17,24,May 1st
repeat for summer May 31, June 7,14,21,28

Spring Planting Frenzy March 20

Sunny Workshop (Advanced) 3 hours- April 21

Shady Workshop (Advanced) 3 hours April 28

Herbs As Ornamentals April 12

Patios-Containers April 26

Summer Survivors May 22

Water in The Garden (Advanced) May 17

Finishing Details (Advanced) May 24



Checklist By Linda Moyer

Annuals

During any warm weather, you can fertilizer and water your pansies and other winter annual plants. They will last until summer. If you grow your own transplants – vegetables and/or flowers, you need to decide when to plant them. Check your seed packets for how many weeks before the last frost date to plant. The Year-Round Home Garden Planting Chart (MP422) has the upper half of Pulaski County as being April 1 and the lower half as March 20. So take your pick of dates.

General Yard

February is the end of the dormant season and signals the end of transplanting. If you have any plants to move, now is the time. If pruning is needed, do it before moving. This makes the plant easier to handle. If the temperatures are cold the day you move them, be sure to wrap the root ball, and get them in the ground as quickly as possible.

Lawns

If you see green in your lawn, it isn't grass but winter weeds. Use a broadleaf weed killer to prevent these from spreading and blooming. This is also the time for preventing the summer annual weeds. Pre-emergent herbicides should be applied from now through mid March to keep the weed seeds from germinating.

Perennials & Bulbs

Since our winter has been so warm so far, your spring bulbs may be pecking their heads out of the ground. Don't worry Give your spring bulbs a light application of fertilizer when they start blooming and again immediately after they finish.

Roses

Antique roses are pruned only if needed to control their shape and size; and to remove any dead and broken limbs. But hybrid tea roses should always be pruned in the spring. And the end of February is the perfect time. Cut to a height of 8-18 inches with the top bud facing outward. This will open up the center and help

with air circulation. Paint the cut end with plain white glue or a commercial sealant to prevent insects from boring into the branch. To improve blooming, climbers may need old or weak canes removed. Antique roses don't need

Trees & Shrubs

Prune your fruit trees; ornamental shrubs, such as altheas, buddleia (butterfly bush), crape myrtles, summer spireas, vitex; and grape vines at the end of this month. Spray with dormant oil for scale. The University of Arkansas Fruit Experiment Station will be holding their fruit pruning workshop February 14, 2006.. Ornamental grasses and grasses like monkey and mondo grass should be pruned this month. Don't wait too long because new growth will start soon.

Vegetables & Herbs

Now is the time to plant your early spring garden. Cabbage and broccoli transplants can be planted anytime. Cool weather vegetables, such as English peas, beets, greens, can be sowed directly in the soil. Think out side of the box, plant snap peas on a trellis that you use in the summer for annual vines. Since it is the pods that are eaten, you can get several pickings before it gets hot.

Monthly Blooms

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, winter honeysuckle, and witch hazel.

Indoors: cyclamen, kalanchoe, orchids and pre-chilled bulbs (hyacinths, paper-whites, and daffodils).

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.

Pulaski County Master Gardener Meetings' Highlights By Jackie Wright

Board Meeting

The Pulaski County Master Gardener Board met on Tuesday, January 16, 2007, at 10 a.m. at St. James Methodist Church. Present were Jet Cuffman, Mary Freeman, Sandy Harrison, Beth Phelps, Jim Dyer, Don Davis, Jim Sivi, Jackie Wright, Judy Woodard, and Marilyn Tilley. Chair, Marilyn Tilley presided.

The minutes of the November meeting were accepted as circulated.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer, Mary Freeman. The treasury has \$1346 less than in January.

Old Business

- Don Davis announced that all of the Standing Committee Chairs are filled
- Jim Dyer has slides for the New Committee Chair Orientation Program. Handouts will be copies of the power points. It will be January 15th, 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Hays Center. The Social Committee will provide refreshments.
- The Budget Committee Report was unanimously accepted as our budget for year 2007. It will be put on the sticky board and also published in the newsletter. The treasurer's monthly report will be in the budget format and will include monthly transactions.
- Don Ford's proposal on project hours was discussed.
- Marilyn announced that the Directory will be ready next month. Members can pick it up when they pay their dues.

New Business

- Leave of Absence Requests for 2006 were approved for Connie Staley, Cindy Summerville, Joan Bullard and Jenny Jackson.
- Beth announced that award Nominations for 1) Friend of PCMG and 2) Project of the Year will be voted on at the membership meeting.

- Don Davis reported that he had some interesting programs planned for the coming year.

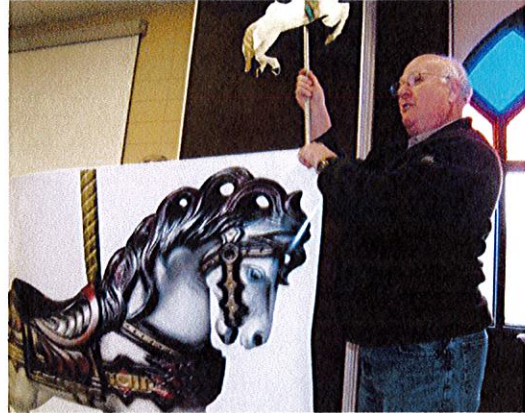
Membership Meeting

The Pulaski County Master Gardeners met on Tuesday, January 16, 2007, at 11:30 a.m. at St. James Methodist Church. Chair, Marilyn Tilley presided.

- Chair, Marilyn Tilley, welcomed new members and introduced two Master Gardeners who transferred to Pulaski County – Terri Bannister, from Ft. Smith, and Jannis Ghaddar, from Ft. Worth, TX.
 - Marilyn expressed our appreciation to the Social Committee members for the Holiday Party.
 - Reminder of inclement Weather Policy (Meetings cancelled if Little Rock schools are closed.)
 - Project Assignments are being finalized.
 - Collection of 2007 dues begins today. Dues are \$15.00 a year. We must pay dues to get our directories, which will be available by the next meeting
 - Project Chairs may bring interested members to the New Committee Chair Orientation Program on Thursday, January 25th from 1:30 to 3 p.m.
 - Committee reports:
 - Jennie Spencer announced that Members are encouraged to enter a "mini" garden in the Arkansas Flower and Garden Show. They may be 3 ft. by 5 ft. They will not be judged.
 - Trudy Kumpe announced that the directory will soon be ready and thanked her committee for their hard work.
 - Mary Evans announced that the Flower & Garden show needs volunteers. They will have the wine garden and the afternoon tea again this year.
 - David Dodson demonstrated the carousel horse posters that he is making for the Flower & Garden show and asked for volunteers to help. Call him at 228-1370.

- Karen Briscoe encouraged members to submit entries in the flower show part of the Flower and Garden show. Last year there were 345 entries.
- Carolyn Newbern announced that she needs volunteers to man the busses for the International Garden Show tours. Each bus needs two bus docents, one to talk and another. They also need docents in the gardens.
- Lois Corley announced that the Greenhouse sold more than \$3000 in plants at the fall sale. Linda Moyer will chair the Jacksonville Greenhouse committee.
- Beth made the following announcements:
 - Stuff orders are not quite ready for distribution because some things have not arrived yet.
 - Don Davis would like to have program ideas.
 - More than 700 are already registered for the International meeting. Registration is still open for volunteers. If a member volunteers 16 hours the registration fee is reduced to \$125. More information is on the web page at uaex.edu.
 - The books are closed on hours. We earned 10,422 hours on the projects, 1,169 on the phone, 10,350 education hours and 1,471 community outreach hours. There are 361 active Master Gardeners in Pulaski County, 25 Lifetime members and 34 completed the 2006 class.
- Don Davis presented a program on the Jacksonville City Hall Project. Jim Dyer presented a program on the Cammack Village Project.
- The members voted to name the Jacksonville City Hall Project the Project of the year, making it eligible for the state award. The award will be given even though there will not be a state meeting this year.
- Bert Turner was voted the Friend of PCMG for 2007, for the work he has done forming

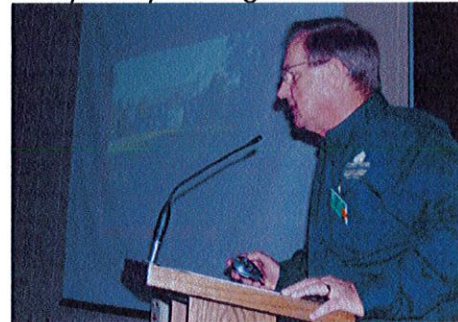
the Friends of the Old Mill and in support of our Old Mill project.



David Dodson with Carousel theme for the Flower & Garden Show



Marilyn Tilley making announcements



Jim Dyer

Photos Courtesy of David Werling

Need education hours?
Research a new plant for your garden, and then submit your research to the Master Minutes. We will write the article; or if you write it up, you earn education hours as well as volunteer hours.
Master Minutes Staff



Happy Valentines Day!

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 Website:
<http://www.uaex.edu/pulaski/mastergardeners/default.asp>
- U of A Cooperative Extension Website:
<http://www.arhomeandgarden.org>
- Pulaski County Cooperative Extension Service
2901 W. Roosevelt Road,
Little Rock, Ark. 72204
340-6650



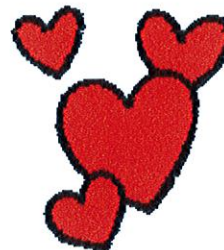
Pulaski County Master Gardeners are trained volunteers working with the University of Arkansas Cooperative Service and Pulaski County Government to provide demonstration gardens and horticultural – related information to the residents of the county. In 2006, these volunteers gave **23,418** hours of service.
Elisabeth J. Phelps, County Extension Agent, Staff Chair

Don't forget to report your hours to the extension office every month!

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:
Jennice Ratley
22 Cobble Hill Road
Little Rock, Ark. 72211
jenniceratley@sbcglobal.net
661-1677

The deadline is the second Friday 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
bpelps@uaex.edu
340-6650



Master Minutes Staff

- Bren Coop
- Bill Bowen
- Betty Deere
- Susie Gillihan
- Lorraine Hensley
- Dave Hermanson
- Helen Hronas
- Julia Loyall
- Linda Moyer
- Jennice Ratley
- Carol Randle
- Debra Redding
- Libby Thalheimer

Photographers



- Jim Dyer
- Cheryl Kennedy
- David Werling
- Lynn Winningham