

Pulaski County Master Minutes

September, 2007

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

Volume 17, Issue 9



The program for September's Master Gardener Program will be two of our committees; Baptist Rehab Institute and Old Mill. They will present Power Point presentations of their projects

Summer Dance

By Susie Gillihan

It is hot, really hot Arkansas summer hot. I looked around my garden and saw that my plants were in need of a good cooling off. I grabbed my self a cool glass of ice tea and turned on the hose end sprinkler and then sat in the shade of a tall dogwood tree and to cool off a bit. The garden is lovely now with dozens of white trumpet lilies blooming, and just in the back of the garden I can see a few more of the bright red blooms of the Japanese honeysuckle. The four o'clocks are blooming red, yellow and soft pink. In the very back of the garden are the large draping limbs of the beautiful Lady Banks rose.

Just as I set back to enjoy nature's handiwork the dance begins. Flitting out of the rose bush and through the water sprinkler are dozens of the most beautiful Hummingbirds. They dart from the bush into the sprinkler on to the lovely lilies take a sip and the back into the sprinkler and into the safety of the rosebush. What a wonder beautiful sight.

In a moment robins appear and then the sparrows and all manner of birds enjoying the cooling spray of the sprinkler.

It seems out of nowhere the garden comes alive with birds, dragonflies, and squirrels. My garden is not perfect, a long way from it. I can see weeds that need to be pulled, flowers that I really should deadhead, and if the truth be told I could fertilize more often. Some pruning that should have been done in the fall was not done and it shows. When I set in my swing on a hot afternoon and sip cold ice tea I can forget what I didn't do and enjoy the "Summer Dance" going on all around me.



That to me is what gardening is all about. Come let's join the dance!

Master Gardner Training Getting Started Soon

Mentors are needed for the 2007 Master Gardener Training! If you are willing to be a mentor to a new Master Gardener please give Rochelle Greenwood, 753-7853, or Beth a call.

We need at least 50 mentors so that every trainee has an experienced Master Gardener to welcome them to Master Gardening and help them as they begin to get involved. We are such a big group, 361, that it can be hard to new folks to feel welcome and a part of the group.

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 Affirmative Action/ Equal Opportunity Employer.

2007 Master Gardener Training Schedule is as follows. Experienced Master Gardeners are welcome to attend any of the training session for a re-fresher. If you plant to join us for lunch please call me by noon the Monday before the Wednesday you plan to eat so that I can include you in the lunch order. The cost of lunch this year will be \$7.00.

Wed., October 3 – Basic Plant Science, Soils, House plants

Wed., October 10 – Herbs and Vegetables

Wed., October 17 – Turfgrass, Weed Control, Diseases and Wildlife

Wed., October 24 – Trees, Shrubs, Annual and Perennials Wed.,

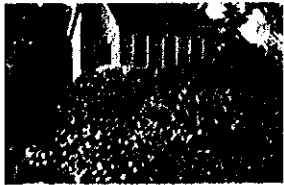
October 31 – Composting, Tree and Small Fruit, Insect Id and Control Wed.,

Nov. 7 – Pruning, Wrap Up, Final Reminder, Evaluation and Project Sign Up

Debra's Book Club

Bulletproof Flowers for the South

JIM WILSON



Bulletproof Flowers *for* the South

By Jim Wilson

This book was published in 1999 and I discovered it in 2002 and since then it has remained one of my favorite garden books. The term 'Bulletproof flowers' describes flowers that will stay in color through most of the summer despite the prolonged heat and humidity of the sunny South. As a gardener in Arkansas, I was very interested in anything and everything this Author could teach me.

The book consists of six chapters:

1. What's so special about Southern gardens and Southern gardeners?
2. Must I learn everything about gardening all over again?
3. What gardeners can do to minimize the impact of heat and humidity
4. Growing Flowers and Herbs in Containers
5. Jim Wilson's favorite flowers for Southern Summers
6. Flowers and foliage plants recommended by Southern Experts

One of the Southern experts mentioned in the sixth chapter is our very own NLR's Lakewood Gardens. A book that offers relief to gardeners contending with the extremes of the Southern climate, it features over 100 heat and humidity resistant blooms to provide color all summer long.

About the Author:

Jim Wilson appeared as co-host of PBS's The Victory Garden. He has been a horticulturist for over 50 years and a fellow Master Gardener. In 1991, He was awarded Garden Communicator of the Year by the American Nursery Association. He lives and gardens in South Carolina.

Internet Pipelines: English Gardens

By Libby Thalheimer

- <http://www.english-gardening.com/>
The English Garden is an extension of the house that should be just as attractive and comfortable as a room in the house. It is an "Outdoor room".

- <http://www.gardening-advisor.com/English-Gardens.html>

English Gardens are informal clusters of beauty. To learn more visit this site.

- http://www.signonsandiego.com/projects/2/homeimprovement/projects/gl_06.html

BOTANICAL BLISS

Wild, romantic, historic English cottage gardens by Meredith Grenier, Copley News Service

- <http://www.clarkgardens.com/clark.gardens.home.htm>

Clark Gardens Botanical Park, 567 Maddux Road, Weatherford, TX

- <http://www.mobot.org/hort/gardens/overview.shtml>

Cherbonnier English Woodland Garden, Missouri Botanical Garden

- <http://www.nbgs.org/ourcollection/expl/ore/sarah.shtml>

Sarah Lee Baker Perennial Garden, Norfolk Botanical Garden, Virginia

- [http://www.botanica.org/](http://www.botanica.org/Shakespearian Garden, Botanica, Wichita, KS)

- http://www.dixon.org/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1

The Dixon Gallery and Gardens. Memphis, Tn

- <http://www.hillwoodmuseum.org/gardens.html>

Hillwood gardens and estate, Washington, DC

Orchids

By Deborah Streiffert Moore

I had never tried to grow orchids until now.

Friends have recently given me some Phalaenopsis orchids. Since I didn't know how to care for these orchids, I checked out several books from the library. I have found that orchids are interesting plants.

Most orchids originate in tropical regions in Asia, South America and Australia. Vanilla essence is extracted from the long seed pod of the Vanilla planifolia, the Vanilla orchid. Orchids were discovered by British Horticulturists in the early 19th Century.

Orchid hunters roamed the globe in search of new orchids to gather and send home. Some orchid hunters would inflate the value of their finds by destroying plants.

The Maoris of New Zealand thought that orchids were not of earthly origin. They believed that the colors of the rainbow attracted immortal spirits, who rushed to stare at it. More and more spirits climbed onto the rainbow causing it to creak until it finally gave way. It shattered into sparkling fragments that rained down upon the earth. Until that time, the colors of the Earth had been

browns, greens and blues. The fragments caught on the branches of trees and the pieces of the rainbow transformed into orchids.



Phalaenopsis Orchids, moth orchids are some of the easiest orchids for the beginner to grow. The best pot to choose for your orchid is one that allows air to circulate around the roots of the plant, (clay pots work, and plastic pots discourage air circulation). The potting material must allow air and water to move through it, while retaining moisture. Moth orchids should not be allowed to dry out completely between waterings. Use room temperature water, cold water can shock the root system. This plant needs high humidity and high temperatures (never below 40F) with a day-night fluctuation of 10-15 degrees. It does not like direct sunlight but twelve hours of daylight is ideal. Cool nighttime temperatures allow the plants to store carbohydrates which are manufactured during the day. The plant needs these carbohydrates to produce blossoms. Feed monthly with a liquid, high nitrogen fertilizer.

To discourage the gathering of wild orchids limit your purchases to plants propagated in orchid nurseries. Orchids from nurseries grow more vigorously and usually have better flowers also.

Bibliography

- "Orchids are Easy, A Beginner's Guide to Their Care and Cultivation" by Tom Gilland.
- "All About Growing Orchids, Ortho Books" by Rick Bond.
- "The Orchid in Lore and Legend" by Luigi Berliocchi
- "Orchid Growing Basics" by Dr. Gustav Schoser



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

OLD STATE HOUSE MUSEUM PROJECT

By Carol Randall

Located at 300 W. Markham Street in Little Rock is the Old State House Museum. It was one of the first Pulaski County Master Gardener Projects. It was started in the late 1980s.

From the beginning of the project the goal has been to enhance the grounds of the Old State House with plantings that will compliment its beautiful architecture.

Patty Wingfield is the project chairman. Debby Sanderson is the cochairman. They are assisted by the other members of the committee; Nancy White; John Prather; Jody Allison; Linda Holbert; Linda Norton; Jane Blackall; Margery Long; Susan Garner; Ann Bridgers; Fran Searcy; and Mary Busby Lewis.

Project members plan and design the annuals to be planted in both spring and fall for the formal knot gardens in the front of the Old State House. They also tend the Roses in the rear of the building; maintain the planters in the Memorial Garden and maintain the gardens in front of the Old State House.

Workdays are scheduled as needed to turn beds in the spring and fall. Maintenance work is done in teams; each team takes one week out of each month to tend to the beds.

In the Summer garden visitors will find: red and white Vincas in one small bed; Boxwood topiaries in urns around the fountain; Dallas Red Lantana in the Horse Trough; New Dawn Roses on the fence along La Harpe Boulevard; Kimberly Queen Ferns, Begonias, variegated Ivy around the fountain; Angel Wing Begonia and "Patriot" Hostas in a front bed; and Sun Coleus and red Wave Petunias in two large beds.

For the Fall/Winter beds the committee plans to plant a few Pansies around the fountain; Firepower Nandinas around the fountain and lots and lots of spring blooming bulbs.

Stopping by the Old State house will give your eyes a lovely sight to remember on cold, blustery, dreary winter days.

TALKIN' YARD -- NATURALLY!

By Betty Deere

My daughter says I'll drag a stranger in off the street to "talk yard" with me, and I guess she's right. I just have a strong need to talk yard, and I also have a strong belief in using natural, organic methods to grow my flowers and tend my yard. Hence, this article has come to life and will be a regular in the monthly newsletter lineup. The format will be short useful tips and/or short articles; we'll see. I hope you find the info useful in tending your yard, and hopefully we can bit-by-bit help care for our precious earth one person at a time.

SAVING WATER: In the coming years water conservation will not be optional, says Dan Eskelson, owner of Clearwater Landscapes, in Priest River, Idaho. Lawns usually absorb only 15 percent of rain that falls on them-the rest just runs off. So you might consider making larger beds and less lawn, though this could be painful to lawn lovers. Plant drought tolerant species such as monarda and black-eyed Susans (tough guys!). My huge yard is bounded all around and in all the nooks and crannies with black-eyed Susans—places where my sprinkler system doesn't reach well. They abound in the dry heat and act like they love it! You might fill the beds with stones, gravel, and even big boulders as mulch to hold moisture in the soil. Rocks hold up much better than other organic stuff usually recommended as mulch.

Along the same water saving lines, here is a **BATHROOM TIP.** Turn off the water at every opportunity, such as while brushing your teeth or sudsing your hair. Collect the water while the shower is warming and use it to water your plants. Further bathroom info; are you aware the bathroom is considered the most dangerous room in the house? And not just because of the hard, slippery surfaces. The cleaning products are often toxic to people and the environment. You can still have a clean toilet and avoid chlorinated disinfectants and toilet-bowl cleaners, which are highly corrosive and damaging to our skin, eyes, and lungs. Instead, freshen the toilet bowl with pine oil.

As to bathroom air quality, make room for a few houseplants that freshen the air, such as aloe vera, ficus and golden pothos. The plants all do well in low light and high humidity. You can fight mold with good ventilation and beautiful plants.

TOMATO TIP: If you find the hideously ugly tomato hornworm on your precious plants, try not to be squeamish and if possible just handpick and squash the caterpillars. BUT spare those that carry the white cocoons (like little tiny white horns) of braconid wasps on their backs. The wasps are their natural predators. To attract them, plant dill, and let your cilantro flower.

Blossom-end rot is caused (as we learned in class) by poor calcium uptake due to inconsistent moisture. An excellent way to provide moisture consistently (and conserve water run-off) is to use a soaker hose and keep a layer of mulch on the soil/hose.

OLD PHAMILIAR PHLOX

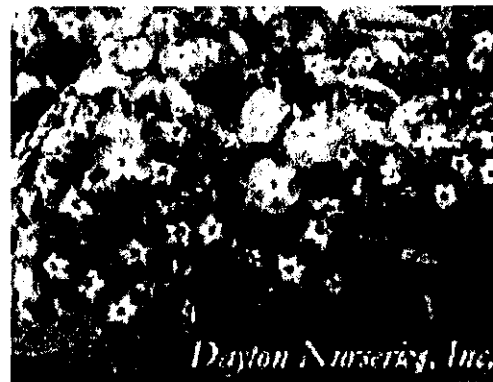
(Phlox paniculata)

By Helen Hronas

Many years ago when my children were small and I had little time for gardening, my green-thumbed and favorite aunt gave me a huge clump of summer phlox. (I remember cluelessly thinking, "flocks of what?" when she mentioned what she was bringing to me.) Pressed for time and not really sure what to do with it, I dug a hole next to the front porch steps and plopped it in. Occasionally I remembered to water it, but it never occurred to me to fertilize the little orphan. Amazingly, the clump became a huge mass of lovely lavender blooms, and our cottage's front porch was filled with its sweet fragrance all summer long. Through the years we moved several times, and the phlox always came along, a kind of sentimental keepsake.

August being what it always is in Arkansas has made me appreciate more than ever that phantastic perennial, *Phlox paniculata*. While

many annuals and other perennials have fizzled or even fallen asleep for the season, phlox soldier on in drifts all around the slopes of my garden. So easy to care for, they only require thinning in spring and watering from the bottom rather than overhead to avoid powdery mildew. Keeping phlox well-spaced helps tremendously with mildew problems. If the plants become a bit ragged, I just cut them back pretty severely, and in no time, they begin to bloom again. Phlox are tall, but their stems are strong, and usually don't require staking. Placing bushy, somewhat shorter plants in front of phlox will support them if needed, and neatly hide the stems if they get a little bare. There are many good candidates for that job: purple homestead verbena, lantana, or annuals such as melampodium or tiny zinnias come easily to mind. Just be sure they all have the same sunlight and watering requirements.



Other than lavender, summer phlox also come in pink, white, magenta, blue, and red. For me, the lavender has always been more hardy and prolific than any other color. TOUGH-AS-NAILS FLOWERS FOR THE SOUTH suggests morning sun and a little mid-afternoon sun protection, but "phorgiving" phlox thrive even in full sun. I've found them to be not at all particular about soil, but they won't like wet feet, and mulching helps, especially if they are getting full sun. Deadheading, water, and some Osmocote keep them happy and blooming from June through August. If left alone, phlox will spread and can even crowd out less hardy plants. In late fall, I cut them back almost to the ground. A ritual for me each spring is moving (or sharing) extra phlox, which are easily divided, and aren't grumpy about being transplanted.

As an extra bonus, butterflies and hummingbirds love phlox, and this summer in particular the butterfly visitors have been unique and more numerous than ever in my garden.

This spring I happened to try my hand at a bit of carpentry, namely, assembling a pair of wooden Adirondack chairs for the patio. (There were hundreds of bolts and screws in the kits! Took two days!) Uncertain what color to paint them, I finally chose what I thought was periwinkle, but, serendipitously, it turned out to be a pretty lavender, just slightly lighter than my phlox. Bingo! I was color coordinated and my patio popped!

TOUGH-AS-NAILS... recommends the following varieties for their resistance to powdery mildew: 'David' (white Perennial Plant of the Year), 'Katherine' (lavender, white eye), 'Robert Poore' (red-purple), 'Laura' (purple-violet, white-blushed eye), and 'Eva McCullum' (pink with red eye). Whatever variety is chosen, old-fashioned summer phlox is a fabulous perennial!

LIVING FOSSILS II: *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*

William R. Bowen

Dawn redwood, *Metasequoia glyptostroboides* Hu & W. C. Cheng (pronounced meta-uh-see-KWOY-uh glip-toh-stroh-BOY-deez), was first recognized as a fossil from the Mesozoic Era in China, discovered by Shigeru Miki in 1941. Today, *Metasequoia* fossils are also known from areas in the Northern Hemisphere. Although over twenty species were originally named (some even identified as belonging to the genus *Sequoia*), they are now all treated in just three fossil species of *Metasequoia*. During the Paleocene//Eocene Period over 55 million years ago, extensive forests of *Metasequoia* occurred as far north as northern Canada (around 80° N Latitude). Large petrified trunks and stumps also comprise the major portion of the Tertiary plant fossils found in the Badlands of western North Dakota.



In 1944, Zhan Wang found approximately 1000 specimens of an unidentified tree in the mountains of central China between Sichuan and Hubei. Due to World War II, his collection was not studied further until 1946. In 1948, they were finally described by Hu Hsen Hsu and Wan Cheng as a new living species belonging to the 'fossil' genus *Metasequoia*. The Arnold Arboretum at Harvard University sent an expedition to collect seeds and, soon after, seedlings of this living fossil, dawn redwood, were distributed in the 1950's to various universities and arboreta worldwide for growth trials. Dawn redwood leaped from the stage of botanical exploration to worldwide cultivation in record time. The newly discovered *Wollemi* pine (Living Fossils III: *Wollemia nobilis*) from the Carboniferous Era some 400 million years ago is repeating that performance. When you visit the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, a row of dawn redwoods planted in 50's still line each side of the east-west tidal pool in the middle of the Gardens.

Dawn redwood is not tree commonly found in nurseries but they are available. We have two growing in our yard (see photos above). Visitors at first think it is a bald cypress. However, its form more closely resembles that of a pine-like tree with large fern-like leaves whereas those of bald cypress are much smaller. The leaves are opposite, each a feathery pinnately compound leaf that is bright green. The leaves of dawn redwood are deciduous, turning a rusty yellowish brown in the fall before falling to the ground. The tree has a straight, single trunk with numerous branches and a narrow conical crown. The reddish brown bark, developing in an irregular fluted pattern, exfoliates in rope-like strips in the fall. A new variety that has yellow leaves now is available.

TYLER, TEXAS MUNICIPAL ROSE GARDEN

By Bren Coop



Fourteen acres of roses, other flowers and gardening ideas await visitors to this beautiful All-America Rose Selection (AARS) trial garden. In downtown Tyler, it is wonderful to have this oasis available at no charge to the public. Tyler has one of 24 AARS trial gardens scattered around the country. "Roses in the AARS trial garden are evaluated over a two-year period and must be varieties not previously introduced in the United States. Roses that pass the test and become patented are planted in the Tyler Rose Garden and designated as AARS award winners."

But the Tyler Municipal Garden is much more than just roses – it caters to "both the home gardener and the horticulturist; it is both a display garden and a trial garden."

When we visited in June, the lavish spring parties celebrating the Tyler Rose Festival were over – and preparations were beginning for the next four-day celebration in October. But the gardens didn't care – they were blooming and beautiful. There is something here for all visitors – a favorite of many is the one-acre Heritage Rose and Sensory Garden with some antique rose varieties that date back to 1867. The many David Austin and Dr. Griffith Buck roses were fun to see, and the serene, park setting with lots of benches and shady sections made the visit enjoyable for all in our party.



Idea Garden maintained by the Smith County Master Gardeners in a corner of the municipal Rose Garden in Tyler, Texas...

My favorite area may have been the IDEA Garden maintained by the Smith County Master Gardeners. Not only is there a large variety of flowers, shrubs, and other plants, there are posted tips for others to follow (such as mulching or watering tips).

Tyler, Texas is between Shreveport, Louisiana (where there is another AARS garden) and Dallas. It is smaller than both of those cities, but large enough to have all the amenities for visiting. Another plus for this city is that it is the location for Chamblee's Rose Nursery (a very large source of roses) as well as other nursery centers which we didn't have time to visit. If given the opportunity, I'd certainly go back for another look at this Northeast corner of Texas.



Matador –A Floribunda



DOG DAYS ARE UPON US

By Betty Deere

Sigh! These are some real dog days we're having this year! I've noticed a few temps are soaring right along with the temperature. It's Arkansas and that time of year to hunker down and survive, and do our best to help our gardens survive.

It's always tempting for me to let my gardening slide in August. But this year, with the temperature setting new records, and my poor flowers frying in 103 degree heat, it actually makes me want to get out there and HELP them! I figure the best way to cheer them up (besides watering) is to fill in the brown spots with some fresh colorful plants. I just know it helps them because I can see them nodding their heads at me, thanking me, as I go about planting, talking and watering.

So here are a few hardy, colorful plants that bloom late in summer and survive fairly well in scorching weather. Also they don't require tons of water, and we all know we've got to start conserving water in this day and time.

But first to the summer flowers that are still hanging in there in my garden, and some will go right on into cool weather (uh, remember cool weather?) if I take care of them. These include black-eyed Susans and purple coneflower (I keep cutting for bouquets); duck foot tricolor coleus (which is showing up brilliantly now); variegated green-violet-pink sweet potato vine (Ipomoea); big, luscious clusters of white Phlox (phlox paniculata "David") (butterflies love it too). It looks great with bee balm, but my bee balm died away early for some reason. My Mona Lavender (Plectranthus hybrida) has just

now gotten happy and put forth deep lavender flowers. Of course, the Samantha lantana and a couple other lantanas that I can't remember the names of (Old Gold?) are all thriving...lantanas are so out-going and long-lasting.

As for vibrant colorful plants to fill in the brown spots in late summer, you can't go wrong with the annual Profusion Orange zinnia. Its wonderful rich orange color will knock you out, and it's so easy-going and durable. For perennials, sedums are terrific in hot late summer. Angelina sedum (Sedum rupestre) loves the heat, and adds shape and texture as well. This sedum is a low-growing little toughie, about 4" high, with yellow flowers and little needley leaves.

Just to be different, it's fun to plant vegetables, or herbs, in flower beds. They add pop and variety. Parsley is a good choice, with its curly leaves; all in little bunches, and also supplies interesting texture and bright green color to the overall scene. Plus it's happy in either sunny or shady spots, AND it tastes good too; it's really not just a plate decoration.

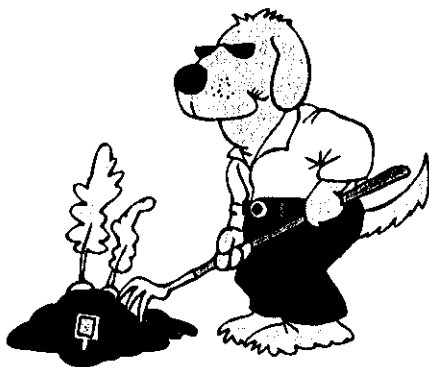
Did you know parsley is good for killing parasites? We all have them, you know, to some degree or another; it's not to be embarrassed about. So grow some parsley, boil it in water, strain it, cool it and drink it. Or add it to your iced tea and cool your thirst these hot afternoons, while doing something really healthy for yourself. Another good use: fill your dog's drinking bowl with nice cool parsley water.

But I digress: back to flowers that have color and texture and can survive dog days. A true star is the Arkansas bluestar (*Ansonia hubrichtii*), a bulletproof perennial that grows in 3-4 foot-tall clumps of green leaves that turn golden in autumn. The pale blue flowers only come in the spring. It's extremely adaptable—likes wet or dry—sun or shade—doesn't get bugs or diseases. It's a true Arkansan. Its golden feathery leaves present

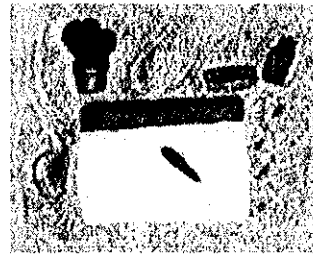
really nicely with Autumn Fire sedum, which is red, of course. Each complements the other with different leaf textures and shapes.

Now, when talking about survival, I have to mention yuccas, good ole tried and true yuccas. I inherited more than a few when I bought my house in 1985. And although I have dug up many a yucca, I STILL have more than a few yuccas. You just cannot kill them. This past spring I dug up a yucca and threw it in an old plastic container, set it over to one side and never got around to hauling it out to the trash. (I knew better than to throw it in the compost because they will resurrect themselves there in no time at all.) Now it's standing tall in the old black bucket and enjoying the hot breeze...it's quite beautiful. I can't throw it away; I'm gonna replant it. Yuccas are actually coming back into landscaping style nowadays, since conserving water is becoming more and more important. I recently saw a gorgeous new house for sale for \$839,000 in a prestigious neighborhood, landscaped beautifully, with clumps of yuccas planted in the far corners of the front yard where the sprinkler system didn't reach well. Also the landscape architect had planted tall pink crepe myrtle trees (not scrubs) in the back yard corners, for shade and water conservation.

Speaking of shade, notice that during Dog Days our dogs hang out in cool, shady places, don't over-exert, and drink lots of water. We should all be so wise. Let's just keep watering ourselves AND our gardens and remember: Dog Days will be over in a few weeks (hopefully!).



Calendar



September

The CAIS Rhizome sale is scheduled for Saturday, September 22nd beginning at 8:00 am (and lasting until sold out) at Grace Lutheran Church (between Hocott's Nursery and Mt. St. Mary's School on Kavanaugh). Irises, daylilies, as well as other potted plants will be available for sale at great prices. We encourage you to come early for the best selection.

Pulaski County Master Gardener Travel Committee

Dollie's Outhouse Garden near Sheridan
Saturday, September 22

RSVP to Bob and Wanda Bray by September 18, at 753-4867. Lunch is included so you must RSVP.

Pine Ridge Gardens Open House Days for Fall 2007. Pine Ridge Gardens is know for its native plants.

<http://www.pineridgegardens.com/>

Saturday, September 15th, 9 AM to 5 PM

Sunday, September 16th, 12 noon to 5 PM

Saturday, October 6th, 9 AM to 5 PM Sunday, October 7th, 12 noon to 5 PM Saturday, October 27th, 9 AM to 5 PM Sunday, October 28th, 12 noon to 5 PM

October

Master Gardener Open House at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute October 4, 2007, on Petit Jean Mountain, 1 Rockefeller Drive, Morrilton, AR 72110.

View the Butterfly and Shade Gardens, and Heritage 1930s Farmstead.

Schedule of Events

10am - Tour of Facilities

12 noon - Group lunch (optional)

2pm - Tour of Facilities
5pm - Special Comments From
Janet Carson, Extension Horticulture Specialist,
University of Arkansas
Cooperative Extension Service.
David G. Davies, Executive Director, Winthrop
Rockefeller Institute
6pm - Dinner now available at the new River
Rock Grill (6pm-8pm)
Registration

\$5.00 - includes tours, materials and breaks.

\$15.00 - includes tours, materials, breaks and
lunch.

Overnight accommodations available October
3rd or October 4th at a special Master Gardener
rate for this event only. Call for lodging options
including VIP view rooms, 1-2 bedroom
apartments or 2-3 bedroom houses. Be
sure to mention that you are a Master Gardener
and your county when making
reservations!

For more information contact Sandy Davies at
501-727-5435, 866-972-7778 or
sdavies@uawri.org

Home Landscape Design taught by Dr. Alfred
Erwin Einert Hosted by Benton County- Bentonville
October 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2007

6pm - 9pm

Benton County Cooperative Extension Office
Auditorium Hwy 102 West Bentonville, AR

Dr. Alfred Erwin Einert is a distinguished
Landscape Architect, Certified Arborist, and
Horticulturist. He taught at the University of
Arkansas from 1970-1999, and was the Director of
Landscape Design and Urban Horticulture. He
was the founding Director of the University of
Arkansas's Arboretum and the Landscape
Architect behind the Arkansas Agricultural
Experimental Station. He has had a private
practice since 1970 and has designed several
well know residential and institutional landscapes
including the gardens at the Cresant Hotel in
Eureka Springs and the Shiloh Museum. He
received an Associates degree from The State
University in New York, a Bachelor of Science
from Arkansas State in Jonesboro, a Masters and
PHD from Mississippi State University, and two post
Doctorate degrees from Michigan State University
in Horticulture.

Cost is \$45.00 per person and includes notebook
with lecture notes.

Registration deadline is September 28, 2007.

Please send registration
(attached) to Benton County Master Gardeners,
13491 Mockingbird Lane, Bentonville, AR 72712.
Class maximum is 35.
For more information contact Chari Cross at 479-
381-3003 or ChariCross@aol.com

Mount Magazine Tour - Bus Trip
October 25, 2007

Registration deadline - September
If you have any questions, please call Beverly
House at 225-4996.

Landscape Construction Workshop
October 26-27, 2007
Winthrop Rockefeller Institute
University of Arkansas System
Petit Jean Mountain
1 Rockefeller Drive
Morrilton, AR 72110

Dinner program begins at 6p.m. Friday.
Workshop ends 3 p.m. Saturday.

Fee is \$95.00

Registration deadline is Oct. 19, 2007.
For more information contact Sandy Davies at
501-727-5435 or sdavies@uawri.org

November

The Little Rock Garden Club is honored to present
in a premier event the newest book by

P.ALLEN SMITH

10:00 AM COFFEE, BOOKSALES AND SIGNING

10:30 - 11:30 LECTURE BY P.ALLEN SMITH

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2007

2008

Mark your calendars for the 2008 State Master
Gardener Convention hosted by the Washington
County Master Gardeners.

WHEN: May 29 - 31, 2008

WHERE: Holiday Inn Convention Center,
Springdale, AR.

The Southern Region Master Gardener
Conference June 18-21, 2008 - A Garden of
Dreams in Native America.



Checklist By Carol Randle

ANNUALS

Set out pansies and mums for fall color. Calendulas, snapdragons, and other cool weather lovers are great, too. (Remember that the greenhouse committee will be having a sale in October. It is a wonderful place to buy plants for the fall at a good price! By doing this, you will be supporting Master Gardener projects.)



GENERAL YARD

We are very dry now so be sure to keep on top of watering. It may not rain much this month.

INDOORS

Dig up your begonias now and bring them indoors as a houseplant. They will bloom all winter so you can use the cuttings outdoors next spring. Feed your houseplants less frequently as the days get shorter.

LAWNS

Start mowing your tall fescue regularly. Keep it tall (3 1/2 inches) so it can out compete the weeds.

Warm season grasses such as Bermuda do not need a feeding this month, because they are winding down for winter dormancy. Over-sow a crop of winter rye toward the end of the month for winter green. But remember that means you will be mowing during the winter.

PERENNIALS AND BULBS

It is time to buy spring bulbs for the best selection but don't plant until it gets cooler. Keep in a cool place for another few weeks before planting.

Mid-September through October is the ideal time to divide peonies. Herbaceous crowns

are set 1-2 inches below soil level; tree peonies planted at 4-7 inches deep.

TREES AND SHRUBS

The next couple of months are the best time to plant trees, shrubs, and perennials. Prepare holes now and start planting when you have an opportunity. Take advantage of any end-of-summer sales you happen upon.

If you are planning to move any woody plants this fall or winter, now is the time to root prune. Determine how big a root ball you want to move (bigger is better). Then, using a spade, cut straight down in a circle around the plant.

VEGETABLES AND HERBS

For your fall garden you can plant leaf lettuce, Swiss chard, Beets, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Asian greens such as Bok Choi and Chinese Cabbage, Cauliflower, Collards, kale, Kohlrabi, Mustard Greens, Onions Turnips, Spinach, Parsley, and Radishes.

Continue harvesting, watering, and weeding your summer garden.



MONTHLY BLOOMS

Ageratum; Alcea rosea, althea; Antigonon leptopus, coral vine; Asters; Begonia grandis, hardy begonia; Buddleja davidii, Buddleia; Beauty Berry; Campsis, trumpet creeper; Cannas; Caryopteris, bluebeard; Celosia, cockscomb; Chrysanthemum; Clerodendron; Crotalaria; Dahlias; Dianthus, pinks; Echeveria; Gladioli; Hibiscus; Ipomoea, morning glory; Lagerstroemia indica, crape (or crepe) myrtle; Lantana; Liriope, monkey grass; Lycoris radiata, spider lily; Marigolds; Miscanthus; Origanum, oregano; Oxalis, wood sorrel; Pennisetum, fountain grasses; Petunias; Phlox; Rosa, roses; Rosmarinus, rosemary; Salvias, sage; Sedum; Spirea; Torenia, wishbone flower; Verbena; Vinca, periwinkle; Viola; Vitex, chaste tree; Yucca; and Zinnias.

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



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:

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