

Pulaski County Master Minutes

June 2010

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

Volume 19 Issue 6

June Meeting



Scott Smith, Owner of River Valley Horticultural Products will be the speaker at the June meeting



In The Garden With Tom Bruce

By Debra Redding

The Year You became a Master Gardener: Originally, 1988 in Michigan and 1995 in Arkansas

MG Projects/Activities: War Memorial and currently Wildwood Park served as a Co-Chair with both projects

I knew I was a Gardener when: I became involved in updating the Lila Arboretum in Battle Creek, Michigan. I have good

organizational skills and less of a green thumb.

One thing that Gardening has taught me: how much I enjoy sharing the garden with people.

I love the people and enjoy the socialization.

Every Garden should have: Rocks. Rocks are bones of the garden and add great detail and texture.

My Favorite Plants are Trees. I love the American Linden {Basswood} Tree.

If I'm not in my garden: I am volunteering with various foundations and charities.

My Gardening Specialty is: organizing new projects.

I would like to learn more about: Oriental Gardens.

The last new plant that I tried: Quanson Cherry Tree

All my friends know: that I will get involved in a project.

One word to sum me up: Changing

"On this June day the buds in my garden are almost as enchanting as the open flowers.

**Things in bud
bring, in the heat of a June noontide, the
recollection of the loveliest days of the year -
those days of
May when all is suggested, nothing yet
fulfilled."**

- Francis King

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.

Upcoming Events

By Libby Thalheimer



Saturday, June 5

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

NW Arkansas Through the Garden Gate
Tour a variety of lovely private gardens in NW Arkansas. For more information, call Lois (479)442-4640, or email gloriamc@cox.net

Sunday, June 6

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Early summer garden tour at Cedar Glen, home of John & Robyn Horn. This year there will be a fee, \$5.00 per person. All proceeds go to the Arts Center

Thursday, June 10

9:30 a.m. - 12 Noon

Gardening 101 Hydrangeas Workshop in the Magnolia Room at Garvan Gardens featuring Bob Byers, resident landscape architect. Free to GWG members and previously registered volunteers. Regular admission for non-members.

Friday, June 11

Greer's Daylily Farm with PCMG Travel Committee. If you have questions contact Marcella Grimmiff 821-3148, route003@hotmail.com or Faye Bard 821-5394, gynonc@comcast.net

Friday, June 11 & Saturday, June 12

"Daylilies In The Springs" at the Austin Hotel and Convention Center, 305 Malvern Avenue, Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas 71901; 1-877-623-6697. For more information contact Rita Monsen, conference chairperson, at [monsens@ipa.net](mailto:monsen@ipa.net) or Yvonne

Becker at 501-922-3296 or ylbecker@sbcglobal.net

Saturday, June 19

9:00 a.m.

2010 Mount Holly Garden Series, suggested donation of \$5.00 to benefit Mount Holly Cemetery, 12th and Broadway, Little Rock, Ark., Daylilies with Susan Rose. Bring a lawn chair, wear your gardening hat and bring items from your garden to share. In the Victorian tradition we share plants, bulbs, seeds, seedlings, cuttings, fruits, vegetables, etc. For more information contact Kay Tatum kay.tatum@yahoo.com

Thursday, June 24

The Southwest Research and Extension Center in Hope is holding a Horticulture Field Day at the Experiment Station. The cost is \$10.00.

For more information or to register call the Southwest Research and Extension Center 870-777-9702.

Tuesday, June 29

9:30-10:30 a.m.

10:45 a.m. to Noon

Gardening 101 Workshop in the Magnolia Room at Garvan Gardens

Topic: "Art of Recycling" – Kandy Jones alias The Garage Sale Queen

Topic: Native Arkansas Plants and Habitats: What Gardeners Should Know – Theo Witsell, Botanist, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission.

The workshop is free of charge to GWG members or volunteers at the Gardens. Regular admission for non-members.

Tuesday, June 29

1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Gardening 201 Workshop in the Bride's Hall at Garvan Gardens

Topic: "Got Herbs? Now What" - Master Gardener Carol Scholp

There is a \$15.00 supply fee for the workshop. Space is limited. Register today by calling the Gardens' administration office at (501) 262-9300 or (800) 366-4664.



Checklist by Carol Randle

VEGETABLES

Vegetable gardens are showing the fruit of our labor with plenty of fresh produce to choose from. We can choose from Broccoli, Spinach, Lettuce, and Onions. As you harvest, replant with heat loving vegetables and herbs. Southern Peas, Okra, Melons and Eggplant are among them. If you did not plant Corn, Peppers, or tomatoes, there is still time. Late season planted corn will need to be monitored more closely for Corn earworms. Use a few drops of mineral oil directly on the silks when it begins to form is one way of keeping the insects at bay. Mulch your vegetables with shredded leaves, newspaper or a similar product. Not only does mulch maintain soil moisture and help to keep weeds away, but it also keeps soil from splashing on the stems which can impact diseases.

HERBS

Fresh herbs are a wonderful addition to your cooking talents, but they also make great ornamental plants. Herbs are easy to grow whether you are spacing them with flowers or in the vegetable garden or in a stand-alone herb planting. Perennial Rosemary, Sage and Oregano do well year-round, while the annual Basil and Dill thrive in our summers. Fennel, both green and bronze is showy and adds great interest to cut flower displays.

PRUNING

Pay attention now to any pruning needs. Some Azaleas, Camellias, and Loropetalum may have had a little winter damage. After flowering, prune to correct this winter damage. Pruning after flowering allows the plants plenty of time to recover and start growing before the weather gets too hot. Do the once annual application of fertilizer now as well. Water as needed throughout the summer.

Gardenias and Hydrangeas also took a hit in some gardens this winter.

Since Gardenias and Hydrangeas bloom in the summer, you don't want to prune unless absolutely necessary. Remove any branches that have not shown any signs of new life.

BERRIES

Berry season in Arkansas is great. Strawberries start in May and the berry season ends in October with Muscadines. These small fruits are

easy to grow in a home garden, provided you have at least six hours of sunlight a day. Strawberries work well at the edge of the vegetable garden as a ground cover. They are perennials, but do need thinning annually after harvest. If you let them get too crowded, you will end up with a mass of foliage leading to smaller fruits and more fruit rots. Fertilize after thinning, water and mulch and they can give you great fruit for weeks each May.

HOUSEPLANTS

Houseplants and heat-loving tropical flowering plants can all go outdoors safely now. Most tropical flowering plants need bright light to bloom well. If you are growing plants that you have kept for several years, repot them now and fertilize regularly or you won't see as many flowers this growing season. Tropicals such as Mandevilla, Hibiscus, and others bloom on new growth and if they are old and root-bound, you won't see much new growth, and you won't see as many flowers. As temperatures heat up, watering needs increase.

The more you water, the more fertilizer you need. Color in a garden is important and can be achieved easily with annuals and perennials. Every year there are new plants to try and the options appear almost endless. Visiting a garden center is a stimulating experience . . . with new plants and old vying for your attention. When choosing annuals, mix in one to three colors and group plants in blocks to make the "wow" factor. For full sun, try the new Zahara Zinnias, Angelonia, or summer Snapdragon, Lantanas, or one of the many new sun Coleus plants. Shade loving Coleus, Impatiens, and Begonias brighten up even the darkest shade. Choose perennials that bloom in a variety of seasons, or stay pretty all season long like Heuchera or Hostas. If your winter annuals are still going strong, enjoy them and plant your summer color a bit later. As temperatures heat up though, these plants will start to play out. Annuals need regular fertilization to get the most out of them. Start with a complete slow release fertilizer at planting, and then use a water soluble form every two to three weeks throughout the season.



Earth Friendly ---Salt



By Lorraine Hensley

Lemons, vinegar, and baking soda is the title of my new best book. Written by Shea Zukowski this book is proof positive that all my trolling the isles and shelves of various booksellers have not been just for the thrill of that new book smell. This little gem has wonderful information on non-chemical ways to help your garden get healthy and stay that way. This is all accomplished with the help of salt, lemons, vinegar, and baking soda. And I'm more than willing to share.

Most of us understand that salt has been in around forever with various uses depending on need at the time. However, a lot fewer of us know that the word "salary" is derived from a Roman word which means the pay given a soldier in ancient Rome: "salarium."

The origin of salarium is the word "sal" or "salt." Every soldier was also given salt as part of his pay but he better be "worth his salt."

Gardeners fight a different kind of war and salt is an important part of it. Take a salt shaker with you the next time you are out in your garden checking for slugs. Those things are really helpful outside the garden for they work to recycle organic matter and thus replenish the soil. Since they chew on anything green gardeners do not need slugs in their garden or OOOOPS –there go your plants. Check your garden in the early morning because slugs use your plants as a personal McDonalds all night. Sprinkle a little salt on them and stop them in their tracks. Salt works because it dehydrates them.

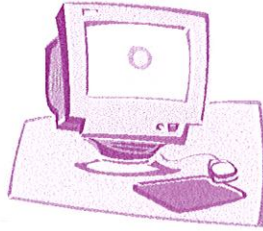
The cabbage worm just dotes on cruciferous vegetables. So when you see

some on these vegetables just mix together 1 cup of flour and a ½ cup of salt in a salt shaker and go to the garden either early morning /evening when the plants are still wet with dew. Then sprinkle this mixture on your plant leaves. This, as with any preventative, is more than a onetime thing. Be vigilant and shake it up in the cabbage, broccoli, and cauliflower rows in your garden.

Poison ivy is killed by using a mix of ½ cup of salt with 2 quarts of warm, soapy water. Stir the mixture well for the salt must be dissolved. Pour this concoction in a large spray bottle and walk on out to the poison ivy patch. Spray the leaves and stems and when they are dead remove them very carefully and place in plastic bags for disposal. Leaves of your dead poison ivy may still be covered with active poisons so use extreme care when disposing of the plants and never—never—ever—burn them. All you do is release plant toxins in the air. Use all that wonderful common sense and understand that if this particular mixture of salt and warm soapy water kills poison ivy it will kill any garden plant or turf grass it touches. Simply put—respect what it can do to both your plants and to the gardener.

There is just so much to share I can't begin to cover any eco friendly ways to use the remaining three ingredients of lemons, vinegar, and baking soda in this article. There is just so much really good stuff in this book all I can effectively really do is hit the highlights for gardeners. We will cover one more (think lemons) in the next issue of Master Minutes.





**Having Issues Opening the Master Minutes?
Here is a little help from David Werling!**

Every time I try to download the Master Minutes I get an error. Help!

At this point all Master Gardeners get the .pdf file of the latest Master Minutes as soon as I do, so I assume it is an old newsletter or last month's for which you are missing Beth's email that attached the newsletter.

I was able to open April news from online at the <http://public.me.com/pulaskimg> site so April's file is not a corrupt file problem.

What do you open the pdf file with? Try using the excellent and free internet browser, **Firefox**, <http://www.mozilla.com/en-US/firefox/features/>, a better choice for older computers that do not support the newer versions of MS Internet Explorer (versions 7 or 8). Finally, **Firefox** prompts one to get alternate choices of which software in which to view the document.

Your browser may be trying to open the .pdf newsletter file in a program that has a problem. Many people use the free **Adobe Reader**, <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>, but as a Mac person I use **Preview** since I get automatic updates of the software. You may have some similar MS pdf reader on your PC. But is updated to the latest version?

Apart from that there is little I can help you with, especially if you are having other issues with your computer.

Pulaski County Master Gardener Meetings' Highlights By Arline Jackson

Pulaski County Master Gardener Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 20, 2010
St. James Methodist Church

Members Present: Martha Basinger, Jett Cuffman, Arline Jackson, Judy Woodard, Don Davis, Don Ford, Debra Redding, Beth Phelps, Mac Huffman, Bren Coop
Minutes were approved as amended.
Treasurer's Report was approved.

Old Business:

Judy Woodard report that there were 85 registered to attend the Landscape Design Continuing Education Class on April 23rd:
Jet Cuffman reported on the plans for the group of Tennessee Master Gardeners coming to Little Rock. They will be touring some of our Pulaski County Master Gardener projects on June 8th.
Debra Redding report that she had no dates set for Channel 4 segments at this time
Debra Redding reported that he has not visited with Claudia Barone and the stuff committee about checking with Scott Smith, Blue Dog Designs about ordering out Master Gardener stuff from them instead of Oxford Graphics.
Debra Redding reported that Scott Smith our program for today's meeting has had been cancelled due to a back injury. Beth Phelps volunteered to do a Question/Answer program instead. Debra Redding reported that she is working on the July Garden Tour. She has 3 possible sites to tour - Access School, River Valley Horticultural and Good Earth. Board consensus of the board was to tour Access School and see if there are also a couple of Master Gardeners in that area that would have their gardens on tour. There was no update on the Christmas Party.
Martha Basinger reported that she contacted Mary Bonnie Daugherty concerning her interest in returning to active status. Beth Phelps reported the Mary Bonnie had not contacted her about wishing to return. Bren Coop volunteered to visit with Mary Bonnie about applying for a leave of absence for 2009.

Martha Basinger reported that she had contact Glenda Brazzell and that she has completed the leave of absence request for 2009 and paid her 2010 dues.

New Business:

Beth Phelps reported that Shirley Vanerslice had contacted her about transferring to Pulaski County after her move to Little Rock. Martha

Basinger stated she would ask Shirley to stand in General Assembly to see if she may be present. Beth Phelps presented Leave of Absence requests from Glenda Brazzell and Jannis Ghaddar. Both requested leave of health reasons. Don Ford made motion to accept the requests and Don Davis seconded and the motion passed

Beth Phelps reported the resignation of Debra Fuqua and Kathy Yarbrough.

Beth Phelps reported that the State Hospital project was getting back up and running. Project chairs Merilyn Tilley and Carol Mendel have met with the State Hospital folks and they have some funds to get the project started. Beth reported that she is working with the State Hospital to see if the funds can be handled as we handle the Old State House funds.

Beth Phelps reported that the State Master Gardener Leadership Training will be MG leadership will be August 24th and 25th at the Rockefeller Institute in Morrilton. Pulaski County will be able to send 3 representatives. The board will need to decide who should attend. There was discussion and it was decided that Bren Coop as the incoming Treasurer should be one of our representatives.

Don Ford made the recommendation at the meeting minutes be approved before being published in the Master Minutes. This would avoid have to publish corrections. Jett Cuffman made a motion to delay publishing the meeting minutes until approved and Debra Redding seconded. The motion passed.

Announcements:

Bren Coop reported that Carol Woodridge was in charge of Butterfly Garden at the Amy Sanders Library project in Sherwood. Everyone is invited to go and view garden.

Beth Phelps reported that Water Conservation Agent had been hired. Beth will bring to next meeting.

GENERAL MEETING:

Regular Business

President Martha Basinger called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

President Martha Basing made the following announcements:

* Deana Dickson had over paid dues by \$5. Please contact Judy Woodard after the meeting.

* A Time sheet with no name was turned in if you suspect it might be you see Beth Phelps.

* Pathfinder Green house had the best plant sale they have ever had.

*Asked Shirley Vanderslice to stand if present. Shirley is a transfer from another county and was not present.

President Martha Basinger recognized the following committees and asked members to stand - Maumelle, Park Hill Water Works, Old Mill, Old State House, and Mt. Holly.

General Announcements

Marcella Grimmer, Travel Committee Chairman, reported that 41 attended the Marlsgate event. She announced that on May 7th Master Gardeners will tour the garden of Christina Phelps. Details will be sent out via e-mail.

Brenda Mize asked for volunteers for work day at the Art Center, Saturday 24th. She also asked if there was anyone interested in working on the Art Center Committee give her a call. The committee has lost several members due to illness and could really use more help.

Betty Henderson thanked all MGs who are helping with the Little Rock Garden Tours. David Werling asked everyone to send him picture of projects and workdays - dewerling@comcast.net.

Carol Chappell, Continuing Education Chairman, reported that 85 had register for the April 23rd Landscape Design program.

Jeanne Spencer reminded everyone about the Little Rock Council of Garden Clubs Garden Tour May 1st and 2nd and announced that several Garden Club members will have ticket for sale after the meeting.

Sandy Harrison, Social committee, announced that the Picnic will be Tuesday, May 11th at Wildwood and tickets are \$12. Deadline for buying tickets will May 5th. Members were asked to fill out a form and mail to Ann Cooper.

Debra Redding announced that the July Garden Tour and Ice Cream Social will be at the Access School. She asked Master Gardeners in that area who would be willing to have their garden on tour give her a call.

Debra Redding announced that Scott Smith from River Valley Horticultural Services was scheduled to give the program today but had to cancel due to an injury. As a will in program we will have a Question and Answer program with Beth Phelps.

Martha Basinger reminded everyone that after the meeting we will have a work day at St. James as a Thank You for providing our meeting space.

Martha Basinger reminded everyone that dues are due. They are \$15 before May 1st and \$20 after.

The meeting was adjourned.



DIG IN HERE...

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

➤ Master Gardener Website:

<http://www.arhomeandgarden.org/mastergardener/mastergardenersonly>

Username: mastergardener
Password: compost

➤ PC Cooperative Extensions Website:

<http://www.uaex.edu/pulaski/mastergardeners/default.asp>

➤ U of A Cooperative Extension Website:

<http://www.arhomeandgarden.org>

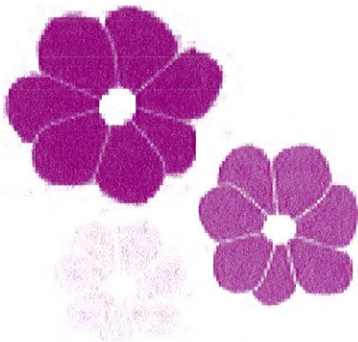
Pulaski County Cooperative Extension Service

2901 W. Roosevelt Road
Little Rock, AR 72204
501-340-6650



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 2009, these volunteers gave **22,707** hours of service.

Elisabeth J. Phelps, County Extension Agent,
Staff Chair



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
gardenrat@comcast.net
412-8299

The deadline is the **second Friday** of each month.

For late breaking news after the deadline, send information to:

Beth Phelps
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2901 W. Roosevelt Road
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340-6650

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