



Pulaski County Master Minutes

May 2012

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

Volume 21 Issue 4



Lori Spencer will be the speaker at the May meeting. She will be speaking on butterflies and butterfly related plants.

Lori holds a B.A. in Biology from Central College in Pella, Iowa, and an M.S. in Entomology from the University of Arkansas, with an emphasis in taxonomy in both insects and plants. She has been living in Arkansas for 20 years and throughout that time, she has received multiple awards and has been dubbed "the butterfly lady" and travels throughout the state presenting programs focused on her award-winning field guide, "Arkansas Butterflies and Moths," and new book, "The Diana Fritillary, Arkansas's State Butterfly."

She wears many hats, most notably as the director of the Mount Magazine Butterfly Festival at Mount Magazine State Park. She holds office in three different organizations, most recently as president of the Logan County Master Gardeners. She is the Arkansas coordinator for the Butterflies and Moths of North America web site. She has also started her own web site, www.arkansasbutterflylady.com. Her audio-visual programs feature both butterflies and moths.

You will have the opportunity to purchase Lori's books on May 15, cash or check only. Make checks payable to the Ozark Society Foundation. Lori will sign the books!



The greatest gift of the garden is the restoration of the five senses.

~Hanna Rion



Thank you for taking the time to complete our survey last month!

The newsletter committee is in the process of reviewing your comments to help make your newsletter better. Any additional feedback? Email Jennice at gardenrat@comcast.net.



MG Partners in Gardening

All partners listed offer a 10% discount to Master Gardeners

Arline's Individuality in Skin Care
Arkansas Garden Center
Botanica Gardens
Cantrell Gardens
Green Tree Nursery
(Trees & Shrubs Only)
Hocott's Garden Center
River Valley Horticulture
The Good Earth
White Wagon Farms

Do you know of someone we didn't mention? Please email them to Jennice at gardenrat@comcast.net and we will put them in the next newsletter!

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Seductresses in the Summer Garden

By Lorraine Hensley



As the seductresses of spring inevitably lose their freshness and can no longer entice the gardener a whole new season begins—summer arrives. Giving no quarter, the seductresses of summer follow closely upon the heels of the departing aromas of spring.

Those plants, now center stage, are the alluring seductresses of summer. These “not so shy” plants are intent upon sharing their fragrances with those who take the time to appreciate and care for them. As with the fragrant spring garden those plants first in line are the summer bulbs

Don't even begin to think that if you know one lily that you know them all. Scent of the fragrant lily is impossible to ignore. One Oriental lily perfumes the total garden with a strong enough aroma left over to give all and sundry some wonderfully perfumed moments. As with any seductress, however, there are differences in aromas which generally depend on the specific cultivar. Some exude a scent much like that of honey suckles while the Easter lily smells much like jasmine. As with any temptress the differences may not be apparent but certainly spark the desire to experience these differences in our gardens.

Scent of the bearded iris can also release a sweet aroma and remember that summer favorite the tender summer hyacinth. Beautiful and aromatic in the garden they also do well as cut flowers. When their stems are placed in water their perfume becomes more robust.

Roses are the grand dame of summer fragrance for many gardeners. One whiff of rose scent is identifiable simply because it is so unique. There is sweetness in their scent that most of us recognize as “rose” upon our first inhalation. We then stick around for seconds and, if possible, find a place to sit and simply breathe in the unique essence of the rose. Different cultivars bring something of a bit different scent but nothing harsh is noted: only the clear aroma of the rose. However, sorry to say, some of the newer

hybrids have little or no scent. Please read the plant tag and check with a gardener familiar with roses prior to purchase.

Most gardeners use either scented perennials or annuals as basic to their summer garden relying on summer annuals as their indispensable plants for scent, color and general adaptability. Lives a nursery, greenhouse, or big box store that doesn't sell just about anything that a gardener can plant for each season of the year. Of course not—they are absolutely full to the rafters of perennials during their planting months. And, if a gardener can't find a pleasing scented summer annual just right for a specific spot in a bed that gardener has to be camping out back of the moon. Seems pointless to even begin to name the scented annuals—just walk around the aisles and check the flats at your local nurseries. The biggest problem for me is deciding just which plant to leave with; the familiar or try something new. And that is a dilemma familiar to most gardeners. Summer and spring gardens offer a variety of choice and we just know a suitable seductress is simply waiting for an invitation.

Specific information for this article came from “A Garden Of Fragrance” by Suzy Bales; Check with your local bookseller for a copy. It's full of good information.

Kansas' Master Gardeners Visit

By Jet Cuffman



Yesterday, Marcella and I had the distinct pleasure of taking a delightful group of women on a tour of a few of our projects. The response was wonderful!! The MGs from Kansas were amazed and impressed with the beauty of our projects and our county!

Beth met us at the hotel to warmly welcome the group--then we loaded up and left for NLR.

The Old Mill was absolutely perfect---the dappled shade and blooming peonies----it was heaven!! Several asked if this was the best project and we told them that each project was different and the 'best' in its own way!! Judy Woodard did a wonderful job introducing them to the Old Mill and as always, made each one feel welcome.

Then we loaded up and headed for the Governor's Mansion by way of Mt Holly. Marcella was able to explain the Mt Holly project and I learned what 'cradles' are! When we unloaded at the Governor's Mansion, Marylea Gazette and LaDonna were there to greet us and give an informative overview of the Governor's Mansion project. The vegetable garden was pristine! The roses were all blooming---so the whole area was magnificent. Then on to the Herb Society garden---land of the giant Rosemarys!! There Glenda Arledge and Cissy Skarda had a beautiful array of tasty treats and lemonade. Once again, as they loaded on the bus, they all were so complimentary of the people and project.

Back on the bus and off to Witt Stephens. One of the ladies had been to the International Master Gardener Meeting in LR and asked me if we could go to this wonderful garden she had found the night before wandering the River Market. I told her we still had one more garden and lunch with a tight time frame--so she might have to take a group on her own that night. When we got to Witt Stephens garden, she ran over to me and said, "Jet, this is the garden I saw last night!!"

Jane Gulley, Don Ford and Neil, Director of Witt Stephens, were there to greet and dazzle with their knowledge of the native plants of Arkansas. The garden is absolutely wonderful, amazing how much it's grown in just 3 years!!

Then running a bit behind, we arrived for lunch at 42 at the Clinton Library and were greeted by Janet Carson. Janet gave an overview of the upcoming International Master Gardener Conference--Alaskan Cruise.

The group then had about 45 minutes to stroll around the Scholar's Garden area before their tour of the Heifer International Building. The Scholar's Garden was incredible--don't think I've ever seen Gaura so beautiful! The roses are all in bloom!!

I must say it was a perfect tour and if you ever get asked to do one---take the hysterical Marcella Grimmett with you. She may have missed her calling---think she would make a great stand -up comedian!!!

Please forward to all your hardworking committee members that made their projects absolutely shine----I think we made new friends with a lasting impression of the Natural State!



Checklist by Carol Randle

MAY CHECKLIST

May is a great gardening month. We have all heard, "April showers bring May flowers". May is a great color month in the garden. Spring bulbs have finished up, but we now have all the summer annuals blooming, along with the remains of our winter color. Tropical flowering plants are a must have for Arkansas gardens. They bloom from now until a killing frost, so they are a great investment. They will grow in containers or you can plant them in the ground. With a little water and fertilizer they give constant color. Hibiscus, Mandevilla, Allemanda, Bananas, Ixora, and Plumerias are available at most nurseries and garden centers. If you overwintered last year's plants, make sure you have cut them back by at least 1/3 and repotted them. Keep them fertilized every two or three weeks so they bloom. Remember, they bloom on the new growth, so we want to make sure there is plenty of new growth to have plenty of flowers. Janet Carson says that another heat lover that did well in her garden last year was Bromeliad. She used them in a shady spot by the front door, with a little water every week and they stayed pretty until the late cold snap in February.

By now, all plants should be up and growing in your landscape. Anything that hasn't shown any signs of life needs to be replaced. We have quite a few dead or severely damaged plants in our landscapes due to the toll that took place during the past growing season. Take out the old plants and then assess the landscape. Consider maximum size you want the plant to be, how much sunlight or shade and what is growing around it. What type of maintenance are you willing to provide? What season in your garden needs some extra color? You don't have to replant the exact same thing that was there -branch out and try something new. Consider plants that have more than one season of interest, or that bloom for an extended period of time. Itea (Virginia Sweetpire) is blooming now with fragrant white flowers, and in the fall it will have stunning red foliage. It grows in full sun to partial shade. The new Lo and Behold Butterfly Bush is a long season bloomer. It is blooming now and will continue to have color until a really hard freeze. Consider doing some edible landscaping. Plant two varieties of Blueberries in the landscape. They have pretty white flowers in the spring, great edible Blueberries in the summer and outstanding red fall foliage. If you don't like to water much, consider the drought tolerant ornamental grasses. Other than needing to be sheared back before new growth begins in late February, they should take care of themselves once established. The options for landscaping are endless and there are always new plants to try.

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 any winter damage. Pruning after flowering allows the plants plenty of time to recover and start growing before the weather gets too hot. Do the one annual application of fertilizer now as well. Water as needed throughout the summer. 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.



INSECTS

In addition to plants growing, insects and diseases are also showing their ugly heads-in fact; insects have been pretty active for a while. Aphids multiply faster during drier days, but Lacebugs are hitting the Azaleas, and it is time to begin spraying for bagworms. Last year was one of the worst years we have had for the bagworm . . . that insect that constructs a sack from the plant it is feeding upon. The sack protects the crawling larvae from predators and insecticides, so the key is to catch them as they begin. If you had a bad case of them last season, you might consider a preventive spray starting mid-May and once a week until mid-June. An organic approach is to spray with BT (*Bacillus thuringiensis*). Don't forget about weeds, either. The Chambers Bitters is up and running. This weed looks like a little Mimosa Tree and sets its seeds almost immediately on the underside of the plant. Mulberry Weed, Pigweed, and Nutsedge are also getting going. Don't ignore them or they will take the garden. A sharp hoe is a gardener's best friend.

VEGETABLES

If you still haven't planted your vegetable garden, don't give up. You still have plenty of time. It is harvest season for the cool season veggies, and most farmers markets are up and running with a huge range of fresh veggies. We had such a mild winter that cool season vegetables have been available practically all winter long. From Lettuces and Broccoli, to Cabbage, Carrots, Greens, and Onions, we have a bountiful season. Now is the time to plant the heat-lovers. From Tomatoes, Peppers, Squash, and Cucumbers, we can plant Okra, southern Peas, Sweet Potatoes, and Winter Squash. Know the difference between short season plants . . . those

that have a quick turn-around from seeding to harvest . . . like Summer Squash, to long season plants . . . those that take a bit more time before you can pick, like Butternut Squash, Pumpkins, and Sweet Potatoes. Make sure you give these vining plants ample room to grow because they do take up room in the garden. If you need more land, consider vertical gardening . . . giving these plants a trellis or fence to grow on. 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 helps to keep weeds away, but it also keeps soil from splashing on the stems which can impact diseases.

ANNUALS

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 to make the "wow" factor. For full sun, try 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, 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. Whether or not you have sun or shade, there are so many options to choose from. Impatiens reign supreme in the shade garden, but Torenia, Caladiums, and Elephant Ears are good options. Don't forget about our old tried and true Penta, Malampodium, Calibrachoa, and Periwinkle. Plant annual color in a strong block to make a statement at the front door or focal point of your landscape.

HOUSEPLANTS

Houseplants and heat loving tropical flowering plants can all go outdoors safely now. Most tropical flowering plants need bright light to bloom well. As temperatures heat up watering needs increase. The more you water, the more fertilizer you need. If you are growing plants that you have kept for several years, repot them now and fertilize them regularly or you won't see much new growth, and you won't see as many flowers.

LAWNS

Lawns are fully green and growing now. Winter weeds are on their out, so don't worry about them. Summer weeds are beginning to show. Fertilize your lawn now with a high Nitrogen slow release fertilizer. Monitor for weeds and mow often, trying not to remove more than one third of the leaf blade at a time.



The Pest Patrol

By: Sherree DeWitt

Among the worst nightmares a gardener can face, short of the treasured perennial dying for no apparent reason, are those blasted pests. You know the ones: aphids, beetles, mealworms, slugs, beetles and the like.

What we need is effective organic pest control, but not the concoctions you have to mix or dust. Instead the ever enjoyable, singing kind: Birds! During the late spring and summer insects make up the diet for a great majority of birds. The trick to attracting birds to the garden is to know which of them live in your area and then to the plant appropriate types of natural coverage that provide them with insects, leaves, fruit, pollen and nectar (the bare necessities birds desire). To create a thriving environment for these amazing creatures, here's all you need:

- Water: Birds are attracted to water for drinking and bathing — especially if the water is moving. If you already have a birdbath, consider adding a bubbler to it. Installing a small pond with a solar-powered fountain or a circulating waterfall will draw birds from blocks away.
- Food: Most people who feed birds put their feeders away once warm weather arrives, but even birds that spend most of their time eating insects enjoy the occasional snack. Keep at least one feeder filled with a quality seed blend that will appeal to chickadees, grosbeaks, cardinals and sparrows. Birds in the area will munch on a feast of insect larvae and other delicacies.

Bird beaks or "bills" provide us with information on the types of foods they eat. Their beak is used to find food, pick it up and prepare it for swallowing. The seeds birds eat pass through their digestive system whole, then get scratched and nicked as they pass through the gizzard. This process, called scarification, makes seeds more likely to propagate. Birds can actually plant their own food if you give them the chance. Following are some interesting facts about bird beaks, what they eat and fun things these bird families do:



Nutcracker: Cardinal/Allies Family

Cardinals, Rose-Breasted Grosbeaks & Indigo Buntings are birds with "cracker" bills, which are large, heavy bills quite handy for catching large bugs such as beetles, spiders, wasps, cicadas, crickets and sow bugs.

The female North American Cardinal is one of the few female birds that sing (often while sitting on the nest). This trait may provide information to her male companion such as when to bring food to the nest. The male Rose-breasted Grosbeak participates in incubation of the eggs, accounting for about 1/3 of the time during the day (the female incubates overnight). Indigo Buntings are actually black. The diffraction of light through their feathers makes them look blue. This explains why males can appear many shades from turquoise to black.



Thin Short Bills: The Chickadee, Titmouse Family

The Carolina Chickadee and Tufted Titmouse have thin short bills perfect for eating small insects on vegetation. These birds often hang on the undersides of branches looking for insect eggs, cocoons, aphids, whitefly and earwigs.

Chickadees are very friendly and rarely bothered by humans. Many bird watchers have been able to hand feed these little birds. Titmice don't eat all the food they find at once. Instead they hide it in tree bark or bury it in the ground. This type of behavior is called caching.

Short Conical Bills: The Finch Family

House Finch and Goldfinch are among the strictest vegetarians in the bird world, only inadvertently swallowing the occasional insect.

American Goldfinches are the only finch that molts its body feathers twice a year, in late winter & late summer. The male's bright yellow color is a beautiful addition to any spring garden - vegetarian or not! Males will defend their female mate, rather than a nesting territory as other birds do.



Flat, Wide Beak: The Flycatcher Family

The Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird and Eastern Phoebe are examples of birds with beaks that are flat and wide at the base which are excellent for catching and holding insects while in flight. Their pests of choice are gnats, flies, bees, wasps, grasshoppers, millipedes, cicadas, dragonflies and ticks.

Scissor-tailed Flycatchers use many domestic products such as string, carpet fuzz and paper to build their nest. Flycatchers also often have "whiskers," which are actually modified feathers at the corners of the mouth. This effectively widens the mouth opening allowing more effective capture of prey. Eastern Kingbirds are highly aggressive toward nest predators. Larger birds including hawks and crows are attacked regularly! Unlike most birds, Eastern Phoebes often reuse nests in subsequent years.

Sharp, Nail-Like Beak: The Nuthatch Family

The White Breasted Nuthatch uses its pointy bill to tear into stems for larvae and cocoons. They forage up, down and sideways over tree trunks, sometimes moving down a tree head first, pausing to crane their necks up and back. These are some very cute little guys to watch!



Chisel Beaks: The Woodpecker Family

Northern Flicker, Downy Woodpecker, Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker and Pileated Woodpeckers have very strong beaks that taper at the tip used to pry insects and grubs out of wood. The Woodpecker diet consists of larvae, beetles, weevils, borers and large grubs of wood-boring beetles. Woodpeckers can hear bugs chewing within the wood and dig them out.

Flickers are the only woodpeckers that frequently feed on the ground, hammering at the soil similar to woodpeckers drilling into wood. Ants alone can make up 45% of their diet. Their tongue can dart out 2 inches beyond the bill. The Pileated Woodpecker is one of the biggest, more striking forest birds in the country. Their primary food is carpenter ants, supplemented by flies, cockroaches, termites and other insects.



Pick Axe: The Thrush Family

American Robins, Eastern Bluebirds, Sparrows and Wood Thrushes have thin bills which are just right for caterpillars and soft-bodied insects such as mealworms, slugs, snails and cutworms.

Robins are often the first bird feeding in the morning and the last to feed in the evening. They are permanent residents and do not migrate. The arrival of the Eastern Bluebird in the spring is a sure sign that winter is on the way out.



Drinking Straw: The Hummingbird

Ruby Throated Hummingbirds have long, needle-like bills used for probing flowers for nectar. They eat small soft bugs for protein and have been known to steal little bugs out of a spider's web, eat the spider, and then steal the web to build their own nest! The hummer's brain is 4.2% of its body weight, the largest proportion in the bird kingdom. They are also the tiniest bird in the world. They are very smart and can remember every flower they have been to and how long it will take a flower to refill.

Short, Wide Beaks: The Swallow Family

Purple Martins, Tree Swallows and Barn Swallows have beaks that are wide at the base. These are aerial feeders and blessedly devour mosquitoes, moths, beetles, bees and wasps.

Purple Martins not only get all their food in flight, but also scoop up water with their lower bill. Barn Swallows dive at intruders in their barn yards, snap their beaks and pull away just before making contact. Swallows have nested almost exclusively in nest boxes for more than 100 years.

Slender, Pointed Beak – The Warbler Family

The Yellow-Throated Warbler, Yellow-Rumped Warbler and Hooded Warbler use their pointy bills to pick insects off leaves, twig and bark. They also eat mosquitoes! There are many species of warblers in North America with elaborate names describing their appearance. Warblers are often referred to as the butterflies of the bird world. They are small, colorful and extremely active insectivores. Water is the best attractor for all warblers.



Pointy Bills – The Wren Family

Carolina Wrens and House Wrens have a diet consisting almost exclusively of insects such as spiders, along with the occasional lizard, frog or snake. Wrens hunker down with their tails upright when alerted. These inquisitive little birds investigate every nook and cranny in foliage searching for insects. They will nest almost anywhere, even in pockets of laundry.

So....What to Grow?



Ground Covers: Examples include Ajuga, periwinkle, and pachysandra. Short evergreen ground covers offer protection from predators and the elements. Brown thrashers, eastern towhees, winter wrens, hermit thrushes and white-throated sparrows search for food hidden in vegetation.

Perennials: Examples include columbine, Solomon's seal, black-eyed Susan, cosmos, zinnia, Coreopsis, and thistles. Any flowers that produce seeds will provide food for northern cardinals, house finches, indigo buntings, sparrows, eastern towhees and American goldfinches.

Small Shrubs: Examples include pyracantha, wax myrtle, elderberry, viburnum and sumac. Mix your small shrubs so they will provide fruits at various times of the year. Scarlet tanagers, rose-breasted grosbeaks and various types of thrushes eat these fruits to build up fat reserves prior to migration. Winter residents like yellow-rumped warblers and cedar waxwings rely on these plants to make it through a harsh winter.

Small Trees: Examples include birches, dogwoods, redbud, hawthorn, magnolia and mulberries. The understory level of your yard is important for fruit and seeds and for many birds that nest 10 - 15 feet from the ground. The fruit from these trees will be fed to their nestlings in the summer. The leftover fruit will be attractive during the winter months to Carolina chickadees, tufted titmice, northern mockingbirds, brown thrashers, blue jays, wood thrushes, Swainson's thrushes, scarlet tanager, American robins, cedar waxwings and northern cardinals.

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Birds love gardens as much as we do, if not more. They are natural-born gardeners and no one could do a better job than birds. Gardening for birds is really simple. They don't require perfection; they like it a little messy and are extremely adaptable. What better enjoyment after a long day of gardening than relaxing and watching their antics and the natural beauty of our organic pest control at work?

**Pulaski County Master Gardener Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, March 20, 2012  
St. James United Methodist Church**

Members Present: Don Ford, Beth Phelps, Marcella Grimmett, Walter Jennings, Bren Coop, Glenda Arledge, Dewayne Hancock, Earline Zahn and Jet Cuffman.

President Don Ford called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

Dewayne moved and Bren seconded that the minutes of the February 2012 meeting be approved. The motion passed.

Bren gave the Treasurers' report including a corrected January 2012 report. Dewayne moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Marcella seconded. The motion passed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Greenhouse Update:** Don reported that last weekend's cleanup was a success. Walter arranged for a trash dumpster. Don reported that the Greenhouse has received 2--4' x 8' outdoor benches, 12 more outdoor benches have been ordered. Don reported an electrician has been hired and tentatively will start next week. The cost is expected to be around \$ 2000.

**Greenhouse Dedication:** The Dedication Ceremony is set for April 24th at 2:00 pm. Beth reported on the donor recognition signs. They are to be Plexiglas and placed on the brick wall area. "Signs and Lines" is the company we are purchasing from.

**PCMG policy on selling items at meetings:** Bren prepared a draft of a policy for selling items at PCMG meetings. Marcella made a motion to accept. Dewayne seconded. The motion passed.

**PCMG Volunteer Manual Review:** Don asked that we send any editing comments to Beth. He also asked that each Board member review their duties in Section 2 and send any comments to Beth. Treasurer's commitment to be reviewed for possible changes to the bylaws. Section 3 does not contain official list of PCMG projects. It has other committees that PCMG can record project hours. Don suggested we retitle the page to more accurately reflect the section. Don asked that Board members continue to review the manual and report any questions or changes to Beth. The manuals were handed out to Board members and the 2011 Master Gardener Class.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Memorial for Dorothy Hobbs:** Marcella contacted Becky Hight, Chair of the Old Mill Committee, to determine what the Old Mill project might need. A bench would be the ideal, but it costs approximately \$600. The memorial fund for Dorothy is currently at \$390. A birdbath was also suggested. Becky is to check with the Old Mill maintenance group to see what they might suggest. In the past, the MG Board has voted to contribute \$50 to each memorial fund.

Dewayne made a motion to contribute \$50 to the Dorothy Hobbs Memorial Fund. Glenda seconded. The motion passed.

Leave of Absence requests:

Karen Baker--husband is ill

Dana Minton for 2011--she is ill.

Jet made a motion to accept the Leave of Absence requests. Dewayne seconded. The motion passed.

Plant Sale dates:

Saturday, April 14th at Pathfinder Greenhouse in Jacksonville.

Saturday, April 21, 28th at State Hospital in Little Rock

PCMG charm sale update: Beth reported that she had given the request to the Director of Communications with the University of Arkansas. Beth reported that it was not approved because would not contain the logo for the U of A.

Bren suggested that we consider small spade charms like the Garland County Master Gardeners have. They are attached to the name tag and denote MG's that have completed 200+ project hours in a year. Bren will check into and report back.

Silent Auction Items for State Convention: Don will make an announcement at today's PCMG meeting for donations for the silent auction.

License plates for PCMG meeting drawing: Beth reported that we are almost out of the MG license plates that we give away as an incentive for turning in your project hours. There was a discussion concerning the possibility of selling the license plates, as well as, giving them away. Marcella made a motion that we replenish the supply to give away. Dewayne seconded. The motion passed.

Dewayne made a motion to adjourn. Marcella seconded. The motion passed.



"The world's favorite season is the spring.  
All things seem possible in May."  
- Edwin Way Teale

## Ribbon Cutting at Greenhouse

Photos by Bren Coop







## 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 Extensions Website:

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

- U of A Cooperative Extension Website:

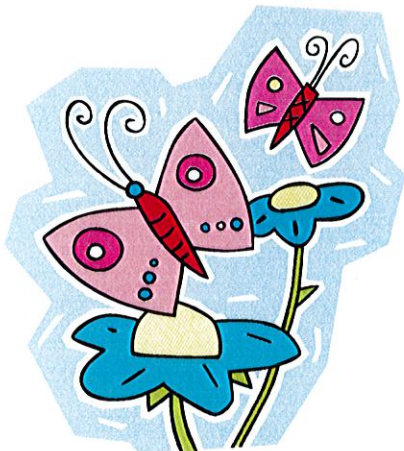
<http://www.arhomeandgarden.org>

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 2011, these volunteers gave **23,145** 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  
Pulaski County CES  
2901 W. Roosevelt Road  
Little Rock, Ark. 72204  
[bp Phelps@uaex.edu](mailto:bp Phelps@uaex.edu)  
340-6650

## Master Minutes Staff



Bren Coop  
Betty Deere  
Lorraine Hensley  
Jeffrey McKinley

Jennice Ratley  
Carol Randle  
Phyllis Barrier  
Sherree DeWitt

## Photographers



Cheryl Kennedy  
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