



MASTER GARDENER

University of Arkansas
Cooperative Extension Service

MASTER

MINUTES

VOLUME ONE NUMBER ONE

APRIL 1990

This is the first of what we hope will be a monthly newsletter for all of our Master Gardeners and sponsors. We need your help. As you attend various seminars, lectures and other gardening activities, please let us hear about them. Or, if you have gardening hints or anticipate having plant divisions to share, let us know. Call Cecelia Buck at 834-2825 with any information before the 15th of each month.

Meet Two Master Gardeners...

ANNE BORGS is originally from Ft. Worth, Texas but lived in many places growing up. In Hawaii, she took Horticulture in high school from an oriental teacher. She eventually earned her B.S. in Horticulture at Texas A & M in 1978. Her husband, Jim, also has a Horticulture degree from A & M, and is an industrial starch salesman. They have two children, Nicole, 7, and Jeffrey, 4. Anne is a homemaker and the Borgs live in west Little Rock. Besides gardening, Anne enjoys floral designing and playing the piano.

Anne read about the Master Gardener program in a tiny newspaper article that first year, and never thought she'd be picked because she'd been away from horticulture work for awhile. Meeting a variety of people with varied interests has helped her learn new things, and the access to current information has been a good way to keep up-to-date. Gardening under lights with Nicole and Jeffrey, is one of Anne's favorite types of gardening. She says the children love seeing the seedlings grow, and learn much about art, science and discipline from their own gardening. From experience, they've learned that you need to allow more time than on the seed packet for germination of seeds under lights. The Borgs also use 1/2 strength fertilizer for their seedlings.

JANE GULLEY is a west Little Rock homemaker, and her husband, Thomas, is an optometrist. Their son, Samuel, is 21 yrs. old. Jane majored in Secondary Education and taught American History. The Gulleys love to visit historical spots with botanical gardens and Jane's favorite type of gardening is gardening with old roses. She says that these roses are very fragrant, have recurrent blooms throughout the season, and bear hips. The hips are very attractive to wildlife, another interest of Jane's.

Did you know that Jane Gulley is the "Eagle Lady"? She is the founder and chairman of Arkansas' Eagle Awareness Program. Media exposure on Good Morning America, David Letterman and on other radio and tv shows resulted in Eagle Awareness programs in 17 other states. February in Arkansas is Eagle Awareness Month, and Jane does four programs each month throughout the year in various locations. Besides this, she is also a Volunteer Hunter Education Instructor and a Project Wild Facilitator.

THANK YOU ! THANK YOU ! THANK YOU ! THANK YOU !

to our corporate sponsors! Did you know that corporations routinely are asked for charitable donations? Don't be shy about approaching them about supporting the Master Gardener Program. Call Mrs. McKinney at the Extension office if you need a brochure.

If you're interested in growing vegetables organically, you can write to Gardener's Supply, Dept. PR9C-SL, 128 Intervale Rd., Burlington, Vermont 05401, for a free packet of information entitled "Get Growing Organically".



Master Gardener Activities...

Pinnacle Mountain lecture on hummingbirds, buds and the geology of Arkansas:

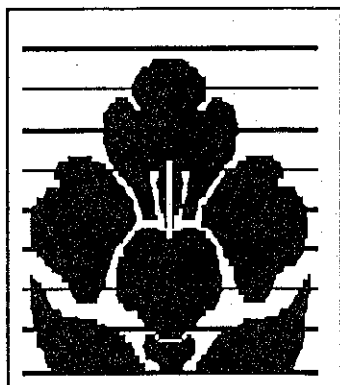
Hummingbirds- Here's a summary of the information we received:

- 1) Put feeder up in late March - mid April.
- 2) Fill feeder with 4 parts water, 1 part sugar (Boil solution until sugar dissolves, & cool before filling). Use a few drops of red dye until birds find feeder, then discontinue using dye.
- 3) Use a bottle brush and hot water to regularly clean feeder. Vegetable oil on the string or wire hanger will deter ants.
- 4) Multiple feeders may be used as long as they are not visible from the same point. Birds are very competitive, and will perch near one feeder to watch it.
- 5) Take feeder down when the last of the flowering plants have finished blooming (usually early Oct.). Hummingbirds know when to migrate. You will not keep them from migrating by leaving your feeder up.

SOME PLANTS VISITED BY HUMMINGBIRDS

Cultivated

Petunia
Iris
Canna
Daylily
Geranium
Begonia
Clematis
Hibiscus
Phlox



Wild

Jewelweed
Beebalm
Cardinal Flower
Trumpet creeper
Thistle
Lily
Red Buckeye
Coralberry
Tuliptree

Geology - We learned that the Little Rock area is the point at which several diverse geological areas converge. Look around you and you will see flat coastal plains bordered by fertile bottomlands and the Ouchita Mtns. (See map, page 1, Soils & Fertilizers section in M.G. training notes.) Because of this diversity, soil tests are of great importance.

Buds - The information presented helped us learn to identify differences in winter twig characteristics. Armed with correct terminology, we can then follow keys in field guides to identify specific trees and shrubs.

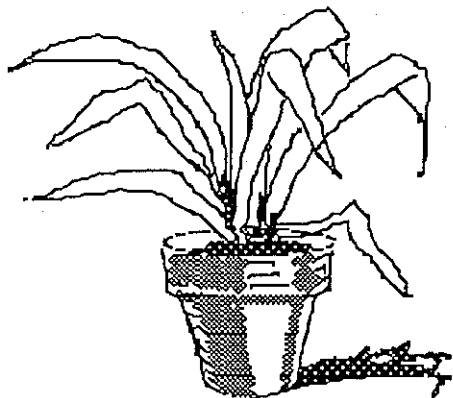
Gardening Checklist...

Vegetable Gardening - All cool season crops can be planted through the month of April and you can begin planting warm season crop.

Bulbs - Remember to let leaves remain until they decline. The bulbs may then be left in the ground or dug and stored. The bulb coat should be a light brown before being dug. After digging, dry them in an airy shaded spot. Then store in a cool, dry, dimly lit area.

Pruning - All spring flowering shrubs may be pruned once they have finished blooming.

Roses - Chemical control of black spot should begin in spring as the foliage starts to expand. Additional spray should be applied at 2 week intervals throughout the growing season. The best fungicides for black spot control are Benlate, Funginex or Daconil.





Here are two excellent books to read while waiting for planting time:

1) *Successful Southern Gardening* by Sandra F. Ladendorf

- This book is especially for gardeners in Zones 7 & 8 and includes easy to understand principles for the novice and experienced gardener alike.

2) *The Practical Gardener* by Roger B. Swain - Written by the

host of the Victory Garden tv show, this book gives a balanced and practical view of gardening.

Both of these books can be found at the Laman library in NLR.



Pinnacle Mountain Events:

April 7,8 - **Wildflower Weekend** - Sat., 10-1pm, & Sun., 1-3pm

22 - **Earth Day** - call for list of activities

May 12 - **Cooking with Wild Plants & Herbs** - 9am-4pm, \$4.00

Other Activities:

April 10 - **Plant monkey grass at Co. Courthouse** - 8:30am. We need lots of help and any extra monkey grass you can spare.

April 17 - **Plant Trapnall Hall garden** - 8:30am

April 21 - **Plant Old State House garden** - 8:30am



- April 25 - **Tour of Pulaski Co. 'you-pick' berry farms.** Leave Co. office at 9:00am. (Strawberries will be ready at these farms in mid-April)
- April 28 - **Tent Days at Lakewood Village, NLR - 12:00 - 2:00pm.** Janet needs 2 Master Gardeners to help her answer questions.
- April 30 - **Eagle Awareness Program by Jane Gulley - luncheon** at Extension Homemakers Club at 4-H Center. Call Janet for reservations ASAP.
- May 5 - **Christmas Tree Shearing Clinic -** for commercial growers but interesting to watch. More details to come.

ZOO GARDEN - Every Wednesday between 8:30am and 9:00am, Ann Ward and Bill Weidemann will begin weeding, watering, and straightening up, etc. Everyone has a standing invitation to join the fun!



Please Join Us



MASTER GARDENER

University of Arkansas
Cooperative Extension Service

Master Minutes

VOLUME ONE NUMBER TWO

MAY 1990

Meet Our Master Gardeners...

ANN WARD and her husband, Jack met in Granite City, Illinois, Ann's hometown. They have three grown kids and moved to west Little Rock in 1963. Jack is originally from Arkansas and is a psychiatric social worker, while Ann worked as an insurance claims manager for 20yrs. Ann currently works part-time at the County Extension Office.



Ann learned alot about gardening by helping her dad as she grew up. She and Jack love growing a vegetable garden every year, giving probably 3/4 of the produce away. It's no surprise then, that Ann has taken responsibility for the zoo garden. She is one of the master gardeners who will never have a problem with earning enough recertification credit!

Ann's part-time job is one that many of us would find interesting. She talks to garden clubs, does landscape seminars and makes house calls. Of course, she also puts in more phone-answering time than most of us would volunteer for! In her spare time, Ann enjoys wildlife photography.

Zoo Garden

Lettuce, radishes and beans are up! This month we'll be planting summer vegetables as soon as the weather permits. *Let Ann know if you want to work at the garden and she'll call you about work days.*





Cecelia Dopieralla has always lived in North Little Rock and can't remember life without gardening. Her uncle, the former NLR mayor Casey Laman, was responsible for the crepe myrtles along JFK and McCain and recently prevented the city from removing an historical oak on Pike Ave. At 79, Cecelia's dad still gardens, and her mom enjoys greenhouse gardening.

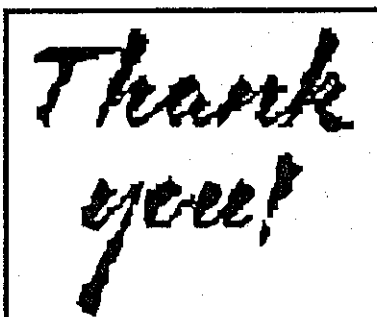
Cecelia also has her own lean-to, heated greenhouse. She is fascinated with growing plants from seed and always keeps something blooming in the greenhouse at all times. Her advice to a new greenhouse owner is to choose plants that require the same climactic conditions. Cecelia grows geraniums, christmas cactus, ferns, etc., and is learning about orchids. In fact, she would appreciate any advice anyone could give her about orchids.

Besides working for the Department of Finance and Administration as a Document Examiner, Cecelia is a member of the Audobon Society. She also likes to collect 'cat' items - sweaters, pictures, etc. (Friends aren't so sure birds and cats go together!), and loves all types of crafts. Cecelia is also learning sign language to become an interpretor in her church.

1989

Betty & Leon Starrett
Arkansas Democrat
Keathley Patterson
Electric Co.
Dr. Kerry Ozment
The Keeling Co.
Union Pacific Railroad
Farmer's Association
Island Travel
Jack Storey
Oxford Screen Printing,
Inc.
Schilling Lincoln Mercury

SPONSORS



1990

Siemens Energy &
Automation
Keathley Patterson
Electric Co.
Lakewood Gardens
Scott Products, Inc.
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas H.
Gulley
Griffin, Leggett,
Healy & Roth
KARN
Farmers' Association
ACME Agricultural Supply

Gardening Checklist...

Red Top Photinia - We have received many calls about leaf spot on these shrubs, leading to defoliation. This will be a very serious problem this year. The best remedy is Daconil, and you will most likely need to spray 2-3 times for control.

St. Augustine Lawns - Due to severe conditions during the winter, many of these lawns have died. If a St. Augustine lawn has not greened up by May 1, it has died.

Tent Caterpillars - These are present in abundance this year, as are most insects. Tent caterpillars will be gone in 1-2 weeks, and the trees defoliated by them will leaf out again.

Fruit Seasons in Arkansas - These are average dates. It's always a good idea to call u-pick farms before you go.

<i>Peak</i>	<i>Fruit</i>	<i>Season</i>
May 2	STRAWBERRIES	May 2 - 25
June 13	BLUEBERRIES	Rabbiteye - mid June - early August Highbush - early June - late June
June 20	BLACKBERRIES	Early June - mid July
	PEACHES	June 15 - early August
June 27	RASPBERRIES	Late June - mid July
July 18	GRAPES	July 15 - August 15
August 29	APPLES	Late August - October

CRABGRASS - Crabgrass germinates all during the summer. You may apply preemergent for a second time, now, for full season control. Postemergence control is attained by using arsenical herbicides (MSMA or DSMA). If weeds are sprayed while in the seedling stage, only one application will be needed to control crabgrass, but if allowed to establish, 2 or 3 applications at weekly intervals will be required. For best results, mow the lawn 2-3 days before you plan to spray and, if necessary, water to alleviate any drought stress. Don't apply arsenical herbicides to St. Augustine, centipede grass, or tall fescue.



Master Gardener Activities:

Hummingbird Garden at Pinnacle Mtn. - by Sherry Gunter

Master Gardeners Jane Gulley, Sally Garrison and Sherry Gunter planted a hummingbird and butterfly garden at Pinnacle Mtn. Visitor Center on April 13. The garden is located in front of the visitor center by the flag pole. Among other things, they planted native red buckeye and milkweed and donated plants such as lantana, coneflowers, salvia and butterfly bush. Special thanks go to Chris and Andy who are volunteers at Pinnacle and helped lend a big helping hand.

Landscape Design Course II - by Pat Green

Held March 29-30, six Master Gardeners attended. The purpose of the program is to educate garden club members and the public to know good landscape architectural practice and to motivate them to serve as guardians and critics of the natural and man-made landscape. Among others, the course included lectures and beautiful slide presentations on such topics as 'Art and Nature Appreciation' and 'Implementation of Landscape Architectural Design' by professors of landscape architecture, art and architecture. Course III is scheduled for Spring, 1991.

County Courthouse Planting - by Kim Arnold

On April 10th, more than fifteen Master Gardeners planted monkey grass in three beds under the willow oaks on Spring Street. The monkey grass was donated by individuals who responded to Janet's plea on her radio show. The work was requested by County Judge, Rita Gruber, who expressed her appreciation for the volunteers.

Trapnall Hall Planting - by Kim Arnold

Eleven beautiful beds were planted April 18, by 22 enthusiastic, hard-working Master Gardeners. Shirley Garnett and Jim Hicks designed the gardens, working with the colors of white, red and green, using primarily annuals with a few perennials. White clematis, variegated hosta, red impatiens, red and white salvia, ferns, dusty miller, red geraniums, white vinca, white caladiums and gold acubas will produce blooms from April to September.

Pulaski Co. U-Pick Berry Farms Tour - by Cecelia Buck

A van full of Master Gardeners travelled all over Pulaski Co. (117 miles) and visited 5 u-pick farms, on April 25. At each farm we met the owner and learned something about their operation. ->



All of the farms we toured were family-run, sometimes with only two people doing all the labor! We were all impressed by their dedication and their willingness to answer our many questions. At Goodson's, we saw the difference between strawberry plants grown from seed and tissue culture transplants. The transplants from seed were far superior. We also heard about the overhead sprinkling of peach trees during a recent freeze that saved most of the Goodsons' crop. And we shared their excitement over the excellent apple crop they expect this year. By far, we saw some of the most beautiful scenery, ever, at Hidden Valley Berry Farm. Our biggest disappointment was that the strawberries were not ready to pick that day. They are ready to pick now, and the directions to the farms are below:

Goodson's Orchard & Berry Farm -Go west on Hwy. 10, 11 miles from I-430. Turn left on Goodson Rd. Go 1/2 mile, turn left on Berry Patch Lane.

Hidden Valley Berry Farm -Take Kanis Rd. to Ferndale, turn left - 1 mile. Farm is 1 mile south of Ferndale, across from the AR 4-H Center.



Park's Success With Bulbs - by Alfred F. Scheider - This book describes almost 200 genera of bulbs, giving their blooming time, colors, heights and best uses. It also contains full color pictures of the flowers and the bulbs. This is only one of a series of Park's Success books on different topics.

Let's Grow! - by Linda Tilgner - 72 projects are presented to help parents, grandparents, and teachers give children a most important gift - a love and knowledge of nature. It includes projects on growing vegetables, flowers, herbs, trees, indoor gardens, balcony gardens, and window boxes, appropriate for toddlers to teens.



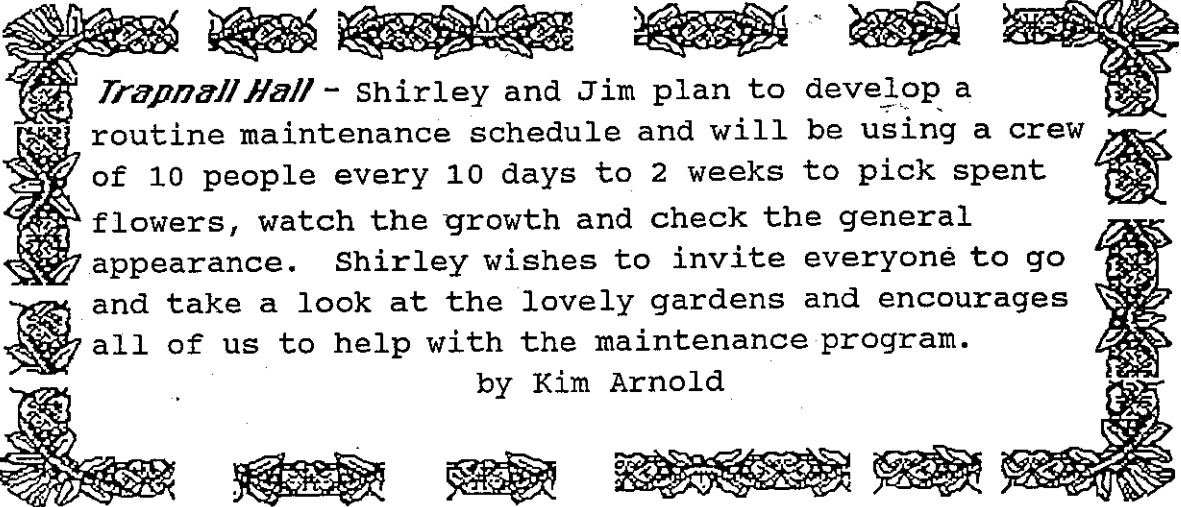
Pinnacle Mountain Events:

Natural History Mini-Series - Sundays in May, 2-3pm

- May 6 - Intro to Earth
- May 13 - Professor Plantman
- May 20 - How to Get a Job in the Out-of-Doors
- May 27 - Minerals of Arkansas
- May 12 - ***Cooking With Wild Plants and Herbs*** - 9am-4pm, \$4.00

Other Activities:

- May 5 - ***Plant Old State House Garden*** - 8:30am
 - May 8 - ***Perennial Tour*** - Leave County office at 8:00am for Bramleberry Farms, in Center Ridge, AR and return by 2:30pm.
 - May 9 - ***Plant Shade Garden at Old State House*** - 8:30am
 - May 17 - ***Landscape Short Course*** - 6:45pm - Maumelle - Janet will & 24 teach this. Call for details.
 - May 21 - ***Central Arkansas Fruit Growers Assoc. Fruit Tour*** - we will tour three producers in Lonoke Co. (different ones than those we toured April 25). Meet at the County office at 8:00am . We should be back by 2:30pm.
 - May 23 - ***Master Gardener Bi-Monthly Meeting*** - 12-1pm at the County Extension office. Feel free to bring a sack lunch.
-

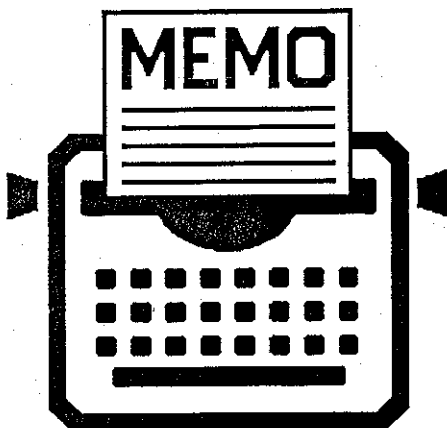


Trapnall Hall - Shirley and Jim plan to develop a routine maintenance schedule and will be using a crew of 10 people every 10 days to 2 weeks to pick spent flowers, watch the growth and check the general appearance. Shirley wishes to invite everyone to go and take a look at the lovely gardens and encourages all of us to help with the maintenance program.

by Kim Arnold

Earth Day Follow-Up - This environmental organization may be of interest:

Arkansas Native Plant Society
President, Bruce Ewing
Rt. 2, Box 256 BB
Mena, AR 71953



Please return any videotapes you may have from the Master Gardener Training!
Janet is starting a check-out procedure for us when borrowing from her library of tapes.

T-Shirts & Sweatshirts are still available.

T-Shirts - \$ 7.00

Sweat-Shirts - \$10.50

Payback Time , Special Projects and Recertification...

Payback Time: At least 20 hrs. answering the telephone is required each year.

Special Projects: 20 hrs. are required. Activities are almost limitless but should include one work day at any one of our special gardens - Zoo, Old State House or Trapnall Hall. Other possibilities might be speaking to a garden club, a school project, the Master Gardener newsletter (and you just thought I was being helpful!), submitting an article about a Master Gardener activity, etc.

Recertification: 20 hrs. of additional educational training activities are required. Janet will assign points(hours) to each opportunity listed in the newsletter. If you attend something not listed, check with Janet for the amount of credit involved. Upcoming activities will have a range of credit until after the event. The actual credit will always be listed in the following newsletter. Credit for recent activities:

Pinnacle Mtn. Leture on Hummingbirds	3 1/2
Fruit Tree Pruning Demonstration	3
Turfgrass Meeting	6
Statewide Fruit Growers Mtg.	7
Landscape Design Short Course	12
U-Pick Berry Farms Tour	5
Eagle Awareness Program - EHC Luncheon	1-2
Perennial Tour	3-4
Cooking with Wild Plants & Herbs	6
Fruit Growers Association Fruit Tour	3-4
Master Gardener Bi-Monthly Meeting	1





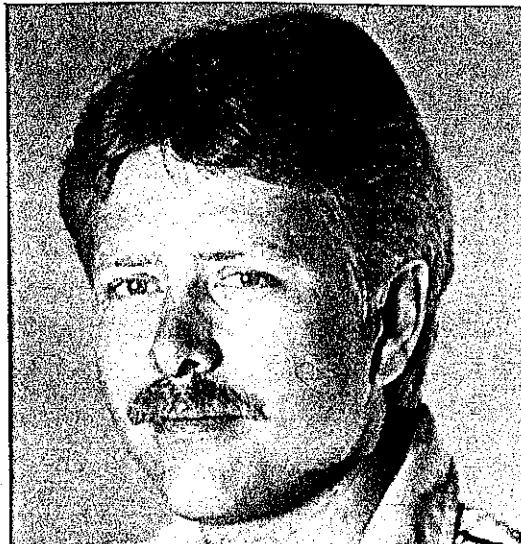
Master Minutes

VOLUME ONE NUMBER THREE

JUNE 1990

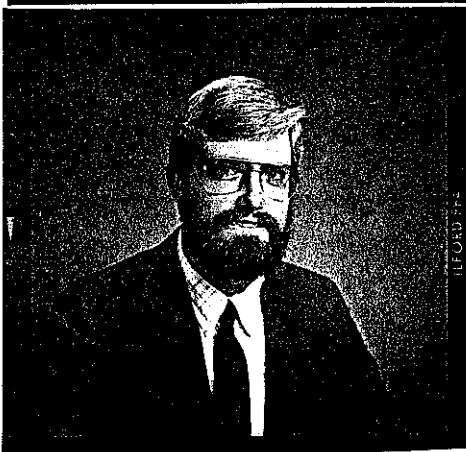
Meet Our Master Gardeners...

Bruce Clough was born in Clarksville, AR, and travelled around alot with his family until they settled in the Little Rock area in the 60's. Bruce lives in southwest Little Rock now, and has been a Little Rock fireman for seven years. He earned a degree in Biology from UALR in 1981, and will soon have additional degrees in Fire Technology and Fire Science from Memphis State University. Bruce has a special interest in wildflowers, and has collected many plants from construction sites and future highway paths, such as the Chenal Pkwy. Plants are often collected while not in flower, so identification can be hard. Bruce has a terrific wildflower slide collection and identification list available for loan from Janet. He is planning to transfer this to video in the near future. Bruce recommends Lost Valley and Hemmed-In Hollow in the Buffalo National Forest, and Seven Hollows Trail at Petit Jean as some of the best places to view wildflowers.



ZOO GARDEN

Last week, potatoes were dug and lettuce, mustard greens, etc. were harvested. Squash and beans were planted and tomato cages were put in. *Come by for a few minutes on Wednesdays at 8:30am. Ann Ward and Nancy Wade need the help!*



Michael Carter is known to many of us as the Assistant Manager at Lakewood Gardens Nursery. He is originally from Cloverdale, Indiana, and met Sara, his wife of four years, while attending Harding University. Sara is a secretary, and Michael received his B.A. in Biology in 1985, and although he leaned more toward animal biology, he decided to make a career of plants. The Master Gardener training and passing his Arkansas Nurseryman test have helped Michael as he has advised Lakewood Gardens' customers the past four years.

Michael's hobby is cave exploring. He is a member of the National Speleological Society and is Vice-Chairman of the Little Rock Grotto (chapter). Besides exploring many of the 1000+ Arkansas caves, Michael is a volunteer with the Cave Research Foundation. These volunteers survey and map caves for the National Park Service to use when rescuing lost spelunkers. When asked if he was ever in danger while exploring, Michael said he was a bit nervous as he repelled into a 160ft. pit in the dark in one cave! He still loves it, though, because he often has the opportunity to go where no man has ever been. If none of the above has frightened you out of your wits, call Michael - the Little Rock Grotto will let you try it!

Congratulations!

Since last month, Cecelia Dopieralla has become Mrs. Donald Chapman! Donald is a farmer who raises rice, wheat, soybeans and minnows. The couple's new address is 3027 Col. Maynard Rd., Scott, AR, 72142. Their new phone no. is 961-2401. The matchmaker was Ann Turner, one of our very own master gardeners. Cecelia says of course she'll still be involved as a master gardener, that is when she's not talking dirt with Donald!

Gardening Checklist...

Fireblight of Pear Trees - Bacteria are spread by bees and windblown rain and cause affected parts to blacken and die. Make pruning cuts several inches below obviously infected parts and sterilize instruments between cuts. Sprays which include streptomycin may be used during the bloom period to reduce damage.

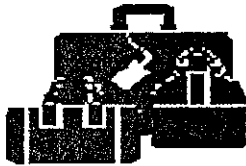
Oak Leaf Blister - Leaves affected with this disease become covered with blister-like bulges which enlarge as the leaves expand. Sometimes the puckering or curling of the leaves will cause them to fall prematurely. The disease can be controlled by killing the spores before the buds open in the spring with Benlate or Maneb, but spray usually unnecessary for this disease.

Pruning - Now is the time to prune spring flowering shrubs, before new buds are formed for next year. With any shrub that has dead stems, don't be afraid to cut back to where the stem is green all the way through. If the plant has poor shape because of the freeze, cut it back and regrow it from the ground. If the plant top froze out and the new growth is coming from the ground, don't forget to periodically pinch the tops of these fast-growing shoots to encourage good, thick regrowth. Some of the plants that froze to the ground are producing too many shoots and these need to be thinned out.

Anthracnose of Sycamores - Symptoms include the sudden browning and death of single leaves or of clusters of leaves as they are expanding. Later, brown, dead areas along and between the veins appear in other leaves. Some trees can be completely defoliated, but new leaves should form later in the summer. While a single attack seldom results in serious harm, repeated annual outbreaks will eventually so weaken the tree that it becomes susceptible to borer attack and winter injury. The prevalence and severity of attack are governed by weather conditions - frequent rains and cool temperatures. To control the problem in the future, all fallen leaves and twigs should be gathered and discarded to destroy spores which can overwinter in them.



Master Gardener Activities:



Master Gardener Trip to St. Louis - This trip is being planned for a weekend in September to visit the St. Louis Botanical Gardens. Keep your calendar open!

Project Learning Tree - by Ann Borg - Ann Borg is involved at Booker Magnet, with Miss Dooley's 2nd grade class. Twice a week, the class learns about a variety of plant related concepts. They've talked about weather and how to measure it, plant parts, worms - they made a worm ranch, plant dyes, soil and trees.

Old State House - by Kim Arnold - Twenty master gardeners participated in a planting on May 9. The planting was supervised by returning master gardener, Kathleen Ragsdale. She chose blue for the predominant color in the sunny center beds. The beds were anchored with blue salvia surrounded by lambs ear and blue lythrum. Geranium leaf ivy was put in the planters surrounding the fountain and shade loving plants including hosta, ferns and white impatiens were planted beneath two huge shade trees on the front lawn. As a finishing touch, carolina jasmine was planted along the back fence.

Trapnall Hall - May 10, several master gardeners joined Shirley Garnett and Jim Hicks to do general maintenance and plant a few more flats of dusty miller and red salvia. Astilbe and hosta need to be planted and the liriopse needs weeding as soon as weather permits. Let Shirley or Jim know if you'd like to help.

County Courthouse - Bermuda is growing well in the sunny part of our monkey grass planting. So, we'll help the bermuda along with a little fertilizer and let it take over. This sunny spot was originally supposed to be left alone but energetic workers tilled it up! We will plant additional monkey grass and impatiens soon.

Brambleberry Farms - by Kim Arnold - (4hrs. credit) Two dozen master gardeners toured this perennial farm on May 8. The farm, located in Center Ridge, AR, is owned by K. Robinson and R. Palak, a mother-daughter team. While touring the greenhouses, Mrs. Robinson shared that she became interested in gardening upon retiring and moving to Arkansas 6 years ago. She went to work for a nursery in Morrilton and learned as much as she could about ->



the plant business. She decided that there was a good market for perennials in central Arkansas, and the family built and established Brambleberry Farms. Mrs. Palak treated the master gardeners to a beautiful and informative slide show featuring perennials for the south. She encouraged us to use not only plants indigenous to our region, but to try new varieties as well.

(The vans were jungles on the way home, because of all the purchases!! Brambleberry Farms doesn't want to deal with retail sales as a rule, so please, no individual trips. We'll be returning periodically as a group - with eighteen wheelers!)

Master Gardener Meeting - 22 attended the May 23rd meeting at which Wendy Welch from the State Hwy. Dept. spoke. Wendy manages the Wildflower Beautification and Reforestation programs for the AHD. The wildflower program focuses on preservation, by chemical control of bermuda and johnsongrass, and on enhancement, by planting wildflowers. The public can get involved by nominating highways to be designated as wildflower routes, donating seed to plant at least one acre (\$60-\$1000 cost), or by participating in rescuing wildflower transplants where highways are planned (master gardeners may get involved here). Call Wendy at 569-2283 for info.

Maumelle Landscape Course - Ralph Olsen helped Janet present two evening sessions, which were attended by other master gardeners as well. Ralph talked about perennials and emphasized correct spacing. Janet used slides to show landscape plant materials and to familiarize the group with lawn weeds (Ellen Kane brought some weed samples in, too). Turf weed control was also discussed.

Fruit Growers' Fruit Tour - Unlike the earlier tour, this tour of Lonoke Co. farms concerned mainly tree fruits. Farmers who raised peaches, apples, plums, apricots, nectarines, etc., toured each farm, sharing problems and looking for possible suggestions from each other.





Pinnacle Mountain Events:

- June 16 - ***Chiggers : Mite you Itch?*** 2-3pm (1 hour credit)
Mammal Week 2-3pm each day (1 hour credit/session)
- June 17 - Gophers to Groundhogs: The Rodents
- June 18 - Raccoons
- June 19 - What Are Weasels? The Skunk Family
- June 20 - Bats
- June 21 - Bears
- June 22 - Cats
- June 23 - Field Trip to Search for Mammal Homes
- June 23 - ***Star Party*** - 8-10pm - (2hrs. credit) A program will be presented by the Planetarium Staff of UALR's Dept. of Physics & Astronomy.
- July 7 - ***Christmas in July Herb Craft Workshop*** -10am-4pm (5hrs. credit) The cost is \$45.00.

Other Activities:

- June 7 - ***Trapnall Hall Work Day*** - 9am - There will be enough work for 11 people. In case of rain, contact the Extension Office, Shirley Garnett or Jim Hicks.
- June 9 - ***Farm Field Day*** - Sunnyland Farm, Booneville (4hrs. credit for 1/2 day) The morning session will include a walking tour of this very productive farm and a wonderful country-style lunch. Register ASAP through Janet.
- June 14 - ***Caring For Your Summer Flower & Vegetable Garden*** - 2-2:45pm, Sherwood - Janet will be the speaker.
- June 30 - ***Planting Day at the LR Shelter for Battered Women*** - 8am-noon - Container planting will bring some much needed cheerfulness. Call Peggy Matson at 661-9288.
- July 12 - ***Master Gardener Mtg.*** - 6:30pm - (1hr. credit)
- July 19 - ***Master Gardener Family Picnic*** - 6:30pm - Burns Park
-



Master Minutes

VOLUME ONE NUMBER FOUR

JULY 1990

Meet Our Master Gardeners...

Shirley Garnett is a familiar face to all of us. Currently, Shirley and Jim Hicks head up the garden at Trapnall Hall. Originally from Burlington, Vermont, Shirley had a unique upbringing. Her dad was a landscape designer who also helped propagate new gladiola cultivars every year. As a young girl, Shirley often attended Horticultural Society meetings in New England with her dad to show off these new cultivars. He also taught her a lot about floral design in the florist shop in which he worked, and Shirley says fresh flowers were always around the house. As a teenager, Shirley took to the air and became a cadet in the Civil Air Patrol, an organization which operates search and rescue missions. Back on the ground again, Shirley pursued finance and insurance as a career, working in insurance for 27 years, the last ten as a Commercial Property Underwriter Manager. Shirley has two children and two grandchildren and lives in Little Rock. Her hobbies include painting, music, sewing, writing and doing anything outdoors!



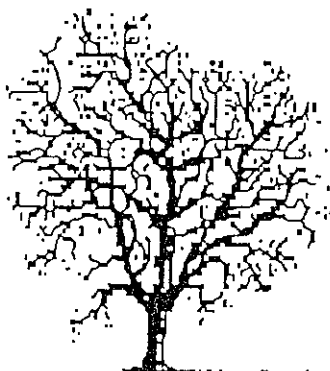
Please remember to turn in any reports of events you attend or projects you are involved in by the 15th of each month to Cecelia Buck. A big thanks to Gail Roberson for her help on this newsletter!



Gail Roberson lives in North Little Rock with her husband Fred, a financial planner, and her three children, Russell, Camille and Matthew. Having an air force dad, Gail lived in several places, including Alaska. She says she's glad she was a child and not a mom when in Alaska, because of the long days! Although her parents weren't gardening enthusiasts, Gail loved to plant seeds even as a ten year old. She's always loved flowers, as is very evident in her beautiful yard. Like many of us last year, Gail didn't hold out much hope of being chosen a Master Gardener. Needless to say, she was excited to get the call from Janet. Gail has especially enjoyed all of the information we have access to as Master Gardeners and really enjoys meeting and comparing notes with other people who don't consider gardening a chore. Gail has a degree in Secondary Education from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and is currently a homemaker whose other hobbies include sewing, cross-stich and reading.

Leon Hudson - Many of you will remember that Leon attended the 1st year Master Gardener training. He suffered a heart attack before he could start his payback duties, and died recently. Our condolences to friends and family.

Garden Tour



Lynn Parker has worked very hard to set up this tour, scheduled for July 17. We will leave the Extension Office at 8:00 a.m., and will visit three gardeners:

- 1) Ralph Olsen - 46 Masters Pl. Dr., Maumelle
- 2) Fred Balch - 21 Edgehill Rd, Little Rock
- 3) Lynn Parker - Ridgeway Dr., Little Rock

Bring a sack lunch if you'd like. Lynn will provide drinks at her home.

Gardening Checklist...

Squash Vine Borer - Usually the first indication of the borer is the sudden wilting of leaves and masses of yellowish excrement pushed out of holes in the vines. Examination of an infested vine will show it to be tunneled out by white, brown headed larvae which may measure up to 1 inch in length. Heavily infested plants are killed. In addition to squashes and pumpkins, gourds, cucumbers and melons are also attacked. Larvae mature in 4-6 weeks. They leave their tunnels in the plant, enter the ground, and spin silken cocoons which are covered with particles of soil. The larvae will change into moths, which emerge and lay eggs for a second generation. Each female deposits 150-200 eggs chiefly on the stems, but on other parts of the plant as well. Since the larvae are internal feeders, insecticidal control is difficult. Applications of Methoxychlor will destroy many of the young larvae before they enter the stems. This should be applied at weekly intervals during the growing season. Following harvest, vines should be raked and destroyed to destroy the larvae remaining in them. A physical barrier of foil wrapped around the stems at planting also helps.

Tomato Blossom-End Rot - This is caused by a combination of calcium deficiency with wide fluctuations in soil moisture. Pruning causes stress to the plants that increases the incidence of blossom-end rot. Some tomato varieties are more susceptible to this condition than others. Mulching and uniform watering will help prevent blossom-end rot.

Early Blight of Tomatoes - This first appears on the lower, older leaves as small brown or black spots. As the spots enlarge, they take on the appearance of a target (rings). The affected leaves soon become yellow, die and drop from the plant. The disease, if unchecked, progresses upward until the entire plant is defoliated. Fungicide spraying is the most effective control, using Bravo, Maneb or Zineb, for example.

Tomato Leaf Curl - This is a physiological condition that occurs most commonly when plants are trained and pruned. It does not affect fruiting or quality, and it is not a disease.





No Fruit on Cucurbits - This problem occurs because the first flowers produced on squash and cucumbers are male. Periods of rapid growth also mean more male flowers. Remove some of the leaves to open the plant up. Crush a couple of the remaining leaves. This will shock the plant and it will begin to produce female blooms.

Bitter Cucumbers - This is caused by periods of heat and low moisture. The best thing to do is to keep the cucumbers evenly moist.

Rust in Lawns - Zoysia grass seems to be particularly affected, although all commonly grown lawn grasses are attacked by one or more rust fungi. A close examination of the grass blades will show small, light yellow flecks first. These soon enlarge and turn reddish to brown. As they mature they often turn black. The powdery material rubs off easily. Good cultural practices - fertilizing, mowing at the correct height, watering when dry and thatch removal should help keep grasses safe from attacks. Occasionally, these practices may need to be supplemented by a fungicide. Daconil, Zineb or Benlate work well.

Halloween Pumpkins - If you want to grow your own Halloween pumpkins, now is the time to plant the seeds.



Congratulations to Sue Brooks who became Mrs. Michael Walker on June 10! Sue returned from Boston and Cape Cod on June 19 to a 100+ heat index. She and Michael had a garden wedding at the home of a friend. Before the wedding, they re-landscaped the garden. (Hey, Janet, does this count for payback?) You can still reach Sue at the same phone number and address.

-Gail Roberson



Zoo Garden - Ann Ward would like to thank everybody who has worked in the zoo garden this spring and especially her #1 helper, Sally Garrison, who is now vacationing in the Alps. The zoo garden is doing well. There are succession plantings of corn that are looking good. The squash is coming on. We have picked cucumbers, peppers, onions, greens, lettuce, and carrots. There is at least one green tomato. As the days get warmer, the master gardeners at the zoo begin their days earlier. The standing time is 7:30 a.m. on Wednesdays. If this interests you, please call Ann Ward at 666-1303.

Trapnall Hall - The gardens at Trapnall Hall are very lovely. If you have not been there, I think you will find that the back courtyard is a charming and lovely place to sit. You too can have an opportunity to visit these lovely surroundings each Thursday at 9:00 a.m. Shirley and Jim would like to thank everyone who participated in the big work day on June 7, with a special thank you to the volunteers who shoveled dirt. At this work day, flower beds were built, a dead dogwood and pyracantha were cut down, and 6 blue hosta, several ferns, and additional red and white astilbe were planted. At this time periwinkles that had suffered severe fungus damage were replaced with impatiens. Because the liriope was infested with grass and violets, it was dug up and replanted without the offending "weeds".

Old State House - Kathleen and Sherry would like to thank the workers who helped with these plantings. There are beds of hosta, ferns, and impatiens forming lovely shade gardens at the bases of the two large trees at the entrance. This makes a wonderful impression on the many natives and visitors who pass this Little Rock landmark. In the back are plantings of lobelia, salvia, and lambs ear. There are pots of trailing geraniums around the fountain. This beautiful garden does not have a regular gardening time, but if you are interested, please call Kathleen at 771-4365 or Sherry at 835-0437.



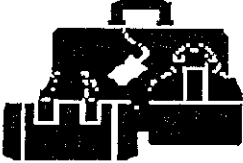
Pinnacle Mountain Events:

- July 11 - *Volunteer Trail Guide Training* - 9am-noon (3hrs.credit/day)
& 18
- July 21 - *Star Party* -8pm-10pm (2hrs. credit) - night viewing of
the stars and planets through telescopes.
- July 25 - *"Wild Wednesday Workshop"* - 9am-4pm (6hrs. credit)
Project Wild is a teaching resource tool for teachers
and youth leaders. Participants will receive a resource
activity guide for elementary or secondary lessons. Call
868-5806 for more details.

Other Activities:

- July 12 - Master Gardener Meeting - 6:30pm at the county office.
Program includes S.T.O.P. (Stop Trashing Our Planet) and
slides of M.G. projects in other states. (1hr. credit)
- July 17 - Garden Tour - Meet 8am at the county office.
- July 19 - Master Gardener Family Picnic - 6:30pm - Make
reservations by July 12.

September 28-30 St. Louis Trip



Lisa Percy has a great trip for us. Leaving 8am,
9/28, we will travel by bus and arrive 4pm. We'll
stay at the Embassy Suites-Waterfront Hotel,
which provides free cook-to-order breakfast and
free afternoon cocktails. Dinner is on-your-own at the Train
Station, a wonderful place with lots of restaurants, shops and
entertainment. Saturday we'll get in on Australia week at the
Botanical Gardens, and that evening we'll cruise on a riverboat
for dinner! We'll arrive home between 7pm and 9pm Sunday. The cost
at two per room is \$145 ea., and four per room is \$110 each.
Entrance to the gardens, and the cruise dinner are included in the
per person charge. ***Reservations with a deposit will be required for
Master Gardeners by Aug. 1. Others may register after Aug. 1.***

For Your Information..

"The Birds of Arkansas" - contains more than 100 color photos of Arkansas birds in their natural environment, with accompanying information on each. Also listed are birding hot spots and the birds visitors can expect to see at each. The cost is \$6.50 at the Game & Fish Commission's Little Rock office or \$7.50 by mail. Send check or money order to the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, 2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205. Mark the outside of the envelope "For-Sale Publications".

"Vaccine" Protects Plants From Bugs - This was a recent headline in the Arkansas Gazette. The "vaccine" involves the insertion of bacteria called endophytes into a plant's seeds. The bacteria have been genetically engineered to carry a naturally occurring protein that kills insects. As the plant grows, the bacteria spread the protein throughout the plant. Hopefully, this will reduce reliance on dangerous pesticides, the developer, Peter S. Carlson, said at a recent Rockefeller Foundation Seminar.

Colored Plastic Mulch Boosts Crop Yields - submitted by Pat Green
Recent experiments by plant physiologist Michael Kasperbauer and soil scientist Patrick Hunt, both with USDA's Agricultural Research Service, showed that the reflection from colored plastic mulch film significantly increases harvest of certain crops. For example, the two scientists reported tomatoes responded well to red mulch, while potatoes and green peppers preferred white. Because colored mulch film is not readily available, they created their own with spray paint. Very recent results indicate that mulch color can influence leaf thickness, protein content of the leaves, and flavor of both leaf and edible root plants. The USDA and Clemson University have applied jointly for a patent on their discovery. (Source: "Plastics Recycling", Edgele Plastics Publications, 466 Southern Blvd., Box 448, Chatham, N.J. 07929)



Thanks to the Family Picnic Committee !

***Pat Green, Kit Smith, Roxie Adams, Kim Arnold,
Edoline Chester, Lisa Percy, and Ruth Owings.***

MASTER GARDNERS

MONTH JULY - 1990

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5 Olivia Nisbet Susan Mehilburger	6 Bruce Clough Joy Broach	7
8	9	10	11	12 Ginger Coggins Evelyn Jackson Gail Roberson	13 Kim Arnold Peggy Matson	14
15	16	17	18	19 Joyce Schulten Pat O'Brien	20 Lynn McMahon Gail Roberson	21
22	23	24	25	26 Roxie Adams Anne Turner	27 Pat Green Wanda Jenkins	28
29	30	31				



Master Minutes

VOLUME ONE NUMBER FIVE

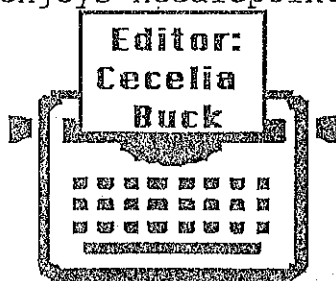
AUGUST 1990

Meet Our Master Gardeners...

Sherry Gunter and her husband, Randy, are both from the Ft. Smith area. They moved to Silver Creek in North Little Rock 5 years ago with their children, Matt and Amanda, when Randy became Vice-President of Sales and Director of Marketing and Special Projects at Keathly Patterson Electric. Sherry majored in accounting at Oklahoma State University and is presently a homemaker. In Ft. Smith, Sherry had a big vegetable garden and compost pile. In consideration of their new North Little Rock neighbors, Sherry built a compost pile in a trench 3ft. deep and 5ft. square in her back yard. (Yes, it took a pick and back-breaking effort to do this!) She keeps the pile moist and adds to it every day and turns it about once a month. The highest the pile gets is about 1ft. above ground. This summer Sherry is growing tomatoes, squash, burpless cucumbers, watermelon and has just planted pumpkin seeds for the fall. Besides gardening, Sherry enjoys needlepoint, reading, walking, and is involved in a bible



**Editor:
Cecelia
Buck**



study group called Bible Study Fellowship. She also does a wonderful job helping Kathleen Ragsdale with the Old State House gardens. Guess who Sherry lived next door to in Ft. Smith? Lawson Cloninger, a 1990 Master Gardener!



Ralph Olsen was raised on 4-5 acres in a suburb of Bridgeport, Connecticut. He didn't appreciate it as a youngster, but among his neighbors were celebrities such as Helen Keller, Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward, and Bing Crosby! Another neighbor, Ruth Stout, authored books about sheet composting, a technique she used as she grew older and couldn't physically handle a compost pile. Ralph and his wife, Joan Ann, married 28yrs ago one week before Ralph received a math degree from Fairfield University in Connecticut. Ralph became a stockbroker and a Fellow in the Society of Actuaries, and eventually worked for E.F. Hutton as the Chief Financial Officer. He is currently an actuarial consultant. Ralph and Joan Ann have four children, and Joan Ann is a retired R.N. and presently a homemaker. If you didn't attend the Garden Tour last month, you missed the Olsens' beautiful yard! Ralph has annuals, perennials, fruit trees, brambles, vegetables, strawberries etc. in his Maumelle yard. Ralph enjoys gardening but doesn't let it take too much time away from his golf game - his back yard opens onto a golf course. He also enjoys basketball, softball and jogging. And guess what - Ralph was already a Master Gardener when he moved here!

- ** Give yourself 2pts. credit if you attended the picnic!*
- ** We're losing a Master Gardener - Pat O'Brien will be leaving soon for the University of Kansas - Best Wishes!*
- ** Our next Master Gardener meeting will be in October.*
- ** If you find yourself with too much recertification credit, you may carry over for next year, anything earned one month prior to the Master Gardener Training.*

♥ *Bruce Clough is engaged!* ♥

Gardening Checklist...

Trees dropping leaves - During all the rainy weather in the spring, trees put on extra leaves. If these trees haven't been watered during our dry spell, they will shed the extra leaves because of drought stress.

Fall Webworms - If trees were infested with these earlier, and nothing was done about them, a second generation will most likely be seen now. Control them with Sevin or Orthene. Large trees may have to be commercially treated.

Lawn Problems - Remember that most problems can be prevented by good cultural practices - 1) give the lawn 1 to 1 1/2 inches of water per week when there is no rain; 2) remove no more than 1/3 of the leaf surface at any one mowing; 3) control grassy and broadleaf weeds as needed; 4) be on the alert for insects and diseases. Refer to the lawn calendar for specific grasses for more information.

River Birches - Some trees are just now showing damage from last winter. Remove dead wood if necessary.

Tomatoes, beans, squash, etc., not setting fruit - this is due to the extremely high temperatures we've been experiencing lately. These plants will begin to set fruit now that temperatures are more seasonal.

Master Gardener Projects...

Zoo - (by Gail Roberson) The zoo garden is beautiful and now that the weather is a little cooler, it is even beginning to produce. This week we have picked zucchini, okra, squash, bell peppers, eggplant, and finally some green beans. Alas, there are still no tomatoes even though daytime and nighttime temperatures have fallen. The "corn is as high as an elephant's eye" and the worms love it, so we've sprayed and sprinkled sevin, but corn should be treated every other day. We need your help beginning at 7:30am each Wednesday morning, or later if you prefer.

Trapnall Hall & The Old State House - Ruth Owings deserves a big thanks for helping out each week at Trapnall! Each garden needs weeding and maintenance, so try to help out if you can.



Master Gardener Activities:

Master Gardener Meeting - This evening meeting was attended by 18 master gardeners. S.T.O.P. (Stop trashing our planet), a 4-H group, was featured on the program. They relayed current statistics on waste management and provided information on recycling resources. Janet also presented slides on Master Gardener programs in 13 southeastern states. It was interesting to see the different projects and logos. Our master gardeners thought we had the best logo, of course! We also learned about the possibility of attending a Master Gardener Convention at some point.

Master Gardener Landscape Tour - If you weren't able to attend, you really missed a wonderful experience! **Ralph Olsen's** suburban yard held many surprises. We were greeted by a mailbox surrounded by marigolds, dahlias and snapdragons. Along one side of his yard, there were fruit trees, with a raised bed of blackberries and strawberries beyond. Growing against a wall below and out of site of the pool were many vegetables. Perennial and annual flowers were grown on the other side of the yard. It's hard to believe that Ralph has only lived here for a short time! Next, we toured **Fred Balch's** Edgehill Rd. garden. The two huge magnolias in the front yard gave way to an intimate walk through low hedges and caladiums. A pool surrounded by begonias held the tallest Siberian irises we'd ever seen. Behind dogwoods and saucer magnolias was a secret terrace. Mr. Balch pointed out that all of the impatiens were volunteers, and there were a great many of them! The private backyard also contained an arbor with wisteria and clematis and the entire yard was surrounded with azaleas. The Balches have spent 18yrs achieving all of this - maybe there's hope for the rest of us! **Julie Newsum** also let us take an impromptu peek at her yard, also on Edgehill Rd. Her front yard was beautiful with impatiens and a few lillies in front of her evergreen shrubs, but her back yard was equally as pretty. We all recognized her Brambleberry perennials and loved the Mandevillas growing in pots around her pool. **Lynn Parker** has a wonderful shade garden in her front yard, and showed us the plans P. Allen Smith at Birnum Woods Nursery did for her back yard. Thanks, Lynn, for providing us drinks and letting us socialize on your deck!



Pinnacle Mountain Events:

- Aug. 11 - ***Perseid Meteor Shower*** - Sat. night until 4am
Sun. (3pts)
- Aug. 18 - ***Bird Feeder Workshop*** - 2-4pm (2pts)
- Aug. 25 - ***Calls of the Wild*** - 1-3pm - If you want to attract
wildlife up close and within camera range, this
program is for you! (2pts)
- Aug. 25 - ***Zoo Days*** - many conservation and state agencies will be
& 26 represented at the zoo. We will also have a booth or
table. (Details will be announced later. 1hr. credit
will be given for each hour of work)
- Sept. 2 - ***Natural History Mini-Series*** - Acorns to Oaks
- Sept. 19 - ***Master Gardener Workshop*** - 9:30am- 1:30pm - Janet will
present Ornamental Trees and Their Care, and Randy
Johnson will talk about Native Trees and Shrubs Useful
in the Landscape. Also there will be a guided tour
through part of the Arkansas Arboretum, which may
involve some off-trail walking. Wear outdoor clothing
and bring a sack lunch. (3 1/2 hrs. credit)

Other Activities:



- Aug. 10 - Complete Registration and 1/2 amount due
for St. Louis Trip (Sept. 28-30)***
 - Aug. 22 - Balance due for St. Louis Trip (See letter for
details.)***
 - Aug. 20 - ***Master Gardener Applications will be mailed.*** -Let Janet
know of anyone interested in applying.
 - Aug. 22 - ***Plant Identification*** - Meet at Lakewood Gardens Nursery
at 8:30am or carpool from the extension office (leave
at 8am. We should finish by 10:30 or 11am.
 - Sept. - ***Brambleberry Farms Tour*** - more details later
 - Sept. 28 - ***St. Louis Trip***
-

MASTER GARDENERS MONTH AUGUST, 90

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Edoline Chester	2 Olivia Nisbet ----- Ginger Coggins Pat Green	3 Ellen Kane ----- Edoline Chester	4
5	6	7	8	9 Anne McCord Anne Turner Cecelia Chapman	10 Joyce Schulten Gail Roberson	11
12	13	14	15	16 Cookie Isom ----- Pat Green	17 Joyce Ford ----- Chris Benson	18
19	20	21	22	23 Ralph Olsen -----	24 ----- Sue Walker	25
26	27	28	29	30 -----	31 Cookie Isom ----- Wanda Jenkins	

MASTER GARDENERS MONTH SEPTEMBER, 90

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6 Pat Marchese ----- Olivia Nisbet Martha Staples	7 Ellen Kane -----	8
9	10	11	12	13 Ralph Olsen ----- Cookie Isom	14 Pat Marchese ----- Anne Turner	15
16	17	18	19	20 Pat Marchese ----- Anne McCord	21 -----	22
23	24	25	26	27 -----	28 ----- Sue Walker	29



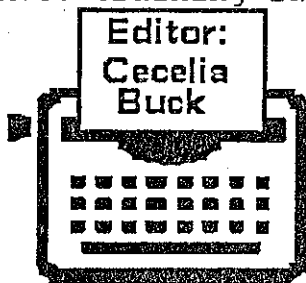
Master Minutes

VOLUME ONE NUMBER SIX

SEPTEMBER 1990

Meet Our Master Gardeners...

Kathleen Ragsdale and her husband, Patterson Clark, are a gardening couple. Patterson's dad was a biology professor at Hendrix College who taught his son a lot about plants. Kathleen's parents and grandfather are avid gardeners. Pat and Kathleen met at the Arkansas Gazette, where Pat is currently an Editorial Artist. His work there includes "The Ark" which deals with Arkansas natural history. Kathleen is in the third year of her business - Ragsdale & Clark Design. She has a B.A. in marketing and art from UCA and is a graphic designer. She is currently taking classes at UALR in cultural anthropology. Ragsdale & Clark Design's signed and numbered print, "Arkansas Summer", beautifully pictures wildlife and vegetation typical of June-August in Arkansas and is available at local nurseries and historical spots. Kathleen designed our master gardener logo, is in charge of the Old State House garden, and many of you will remember Kathleen and Patterson during the M.G. training last year. They showed us their backyard lily pond



from start to finish. The pond is 3ft at it's deepest point, measuring 8ft by 15ft. Kathleen and Pat have collected plants indigenous to Arkansas and so far, the pond has survived plunges by a black lab and a golden retriever, and the appetite of a transient water snake!

Lisa Percy is originally from Pine Bluff, and attended nursing school at the University of Arkansas at Monticello. She is currently a nurse for a group of kidney specialists in Little Rock. Lisa's husband, Calvin, is a Little Rock fireman and the couple have two children, Ryan (5yrs) and Jordan (2yrs). Lisa and Calvin own their own landscaping business, Natural Lawns, doing landscape design work as well as fertilizing and general lawn maintenance. Lisa estimates that last spring they planted 2000+ bedding plants in Maumelle alone. (No wonder it's hard to track her down!) Lisa learned about the master gardener program when she saw a newspaper article about the 1st year master gardeners. She enjoys meeting so many people with the same interests that she has, but feels that she's not as knowledgeable as everyone else (Lisa, you're not alone!). Most of her knowledge came from being a homeowner and landscaping her own yard. In fact, she helps alot with their company's design work. By now you know that Lisa has done a super job of arranging our trip to St. Louis. She says that this is just the beginning. She hopes to plan a trip to Bellingrath Gardens near Mobile, Alabama in the spring. Calvin and Lisa just moved to Conway a month ago and Lisa's goal is to retire and open a nursery there. I forgot to ask about her hobbies, but I have a feeling it has alot to do with moving boxes at the moment!

Recertification & Payback...

Many of you have been asking about recertification and payback. New master gardeners need 20hrs of recertification activities (educational meetings, tours, M.G. meetings, etc.), and 40hrs of payback activities. Payback for new master gardeners should include 20hrs telephone duty and attendance at least once at one project work day (Trapnall, Old State House, Zoo, Courthouse, etc.). Returning master gardeners need 20hrs of recertification and 20hrs payback. Payback for returning master gardeners includes limited telephone duty (pairing up with new master gardeners their first time), leaving more time for actual gardening activities.

Gardening Checklist...

Fleas - control fleas in the yard with Dursban or Diazinon. If fleas are a problem in the house, use an aerial fogger.

Trees dropping leaves - many trees are dropping leaves early. Don't worry about this early shedding at this point. If leaves are dying and don't fall, the limbs to which they are attached may be decaying also.

No fruit on okra - callers are wondering why they have lush plants but no okra yet. If you get this question, be prepared for silence and then "you couldn't be serious!" when you seriously tell them to beat their plants a little, which will shock them into setting fruit.

Powdery mildew - You can either accept it as a fact of life on crape myrtles, squash and lilacs or you can try to control it with Benlate.

Sooty mold - remember last year's crape myrtles? It's happening again. Aphids, followed by their sticky secretions on the leaves, followed by black mold which grows on the sticky, sugary secretion. Because this has happened two years in a row, you might want to spray with Malathion or Orthene. If you don't have a problem of this magnitude, just use a strong water spray to remove the aphids.

Fall vegetable planting - you can begin plantings of lettuce, radishes, and mustard greens, followed a little later by turnips and spinach, then collard transplants and finally, kale. Refer to the handout "Year-Round Home Garden Planting Guide" that we received during our training.

New research on blackspot in roses - in 1987 and 1988, Kenneth Horst, plant pathologist at Cornell University, tested baking soda sprays on roses particularly susceptible to blackspot. Researchers noted that of all the treatments, a 0.5% solution of baking soda in water was the most effective preventative. Studies are not complete, so unrestricted use is not recommended, because some roses are more susceptible to burn than others by the solution. (Source: Atlanta Journal, 7-15-90)



Master Gardener Activities:

Master Gardener Picnic - Oops!! We forgot to tell you that everyone who attended had a great time last month. Burns Park was an ideal location. Volleyball, basketball, baseball, and horse shoes were enjoyed by all, as well as some sliding in the dirt by the younger set. We were all pleased that the children got along so well, and even the teenagers weren't bored! Also, it was a good time for everyone to put names with faces and meet master gardener spouses.

Memphis Horticultural Seminar - Attended by Martha Staples and Cecelia Buck, this was an excellent educational opportunity. The seminar was held at the Memphis Botanic Garden and was presented by Ken Miller & Associates. Eight individual topics were covered through lectures accompanied by slides. We were given a detailed set of notes that contained plants for various situations, along with pertinent remarks for our area. Particularly interesting were slides of container plantings, presenting many innovative combinations. Overall, Miller emphasized good design concepts and inspired us to go back and apply some of what we learned.

Plant Identification at Lakewood Gardens - the morning was particularly hot, but Mike Carter's informative tour was very helpful to about 22 master gardeners. We learned that the smaller - leaved kurume azaleas do best here, as opposed to the larger - leaved indicas. We also saw creeping and deciduous azaleas. Hollies were more difficult to identify. Needlepoint hollies have longer, narrower leaves than burford hollies. They only have a single prickly point - on most of their leaves - as do burford hollies. The difference in dwarf yaupon and helleri hollies was more subtle. Helleri is a small shrub with yellowish stems, while dwarf yaupon has whitish stems - most of the time. Sasanqua, fall blooming camellias do best here and pruning of hydrangeas is done after flowering. These were just a few tidbits we picked up. Did you know that the perennial hibiscus suited to our zone has a green stem and dull leaves, while the tropical hibiscus is not hardy here, having glossy leaves and woody stems? I discovered why my variegated hosta are only green. Variegated plants need a little more sun than their green counterparts, and not as much fertilizer, if any at all. This holds true for many plants.



Pinnacle Mountain Events:

- Sept. 2 - ***Natural History Mini-Series*** - Sundays in Sept. at
to 30 the Visitor Information Center.
- Sept. 10 - ***Hunter Education*** - 6pm-9:30pm. This class includes
to 13 safe handling of firearms, eagle awareness, bow
hunting, survival, first aid, conservation and
more.
- Sept. 19 - ***Master Gardener Workshop*** - 9:30am-1:30pm. Janet
will present Ornamental Trees and Their Care, and
Randy Johnson will talk about Native Trees and
Shrubs Useful in the Landscape. Also there will
be a guided tour through part of the Arkansas
Arboretum, which may involve some off-trail
walking. Wear outdoor clothing and bring a sack
lunch. (4 hrs. credit)
- Sept. 22 - ***Star Party*** - 8pm-10pm. Enjoy night star viewing.
(2hrs credit)
- Sept. 22 - ***Hawk Watch*** - 9am-3pm. Join members of the
Audubon Society of Central Arkansas as we watch for
migrating birds of prey. You may arrive or leave
anytime from 9am to 3pm. (2hrs credit)
- Oct. 6 - ***Fall Color Walks*** - Saturdays in October, 10am-noon.
to 27 Enjoy fall colors and learn to identify local trees
and some of their uses. (2hrs credit)

Other Activities:

- Sept. 15 - ***Herbfest '90*** - 9am-3:30pm. See flyer for details.
(6hrs credit)
- Sept. 28 - ***St. Louis Trip*** - (12hrs credit)
-

- Oct. 2 - ***Brambleberry Farms Tour*** - Leave Extension office by 8am, bring a sack lunch, and we'll return about 2:30pm. There will be a slide presentation and tour and we'll be able to purchase perennials.
- Oct. 11 - ***Master Gardener Training*** - 8am registration, with
18 classes 8:30am-4pm or 4:30pm. The training will be
25 held again at 2nd Presbyterian Church. Applicants
Nov. 1 will be notified by Oct. 1 of their acceptance.
8 Returning master gardeners who want to attend the training (a schedule will be sent) must let Janet know the week before each training day they wish to attend. Materials for you need to be included in her count. Janet also has to turn in a meal count beforehand. Meals are \$5.00/session. If you would like to help teach any of the training sessions, please let Janet know.
- Oct. 18 - ***Master Gardener Meeting*** - noon to 1pm at 2nd Presbyterian with the new master gardeners. Let Janet know by Oct. 15 if you plan to attend. Lunch is \$5.00. There will be a short program.

Mid-October - Work day at the courthouse to plant more monkey grass. The work day will be on a Saturday. If you have any monkey grass you'd like to donate, let Janet know. More details to follow.



***Need to finish up your payback requirements?
Come by the Zoo garden or the gardens at
Trapnall Hall and the Old State House. Many
thanks to those who have worked in these
gardens. You've made a difference in our
community!***



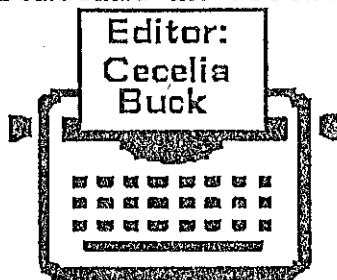
Master Minutes

VOLUME ONE NUMBER SEVEN

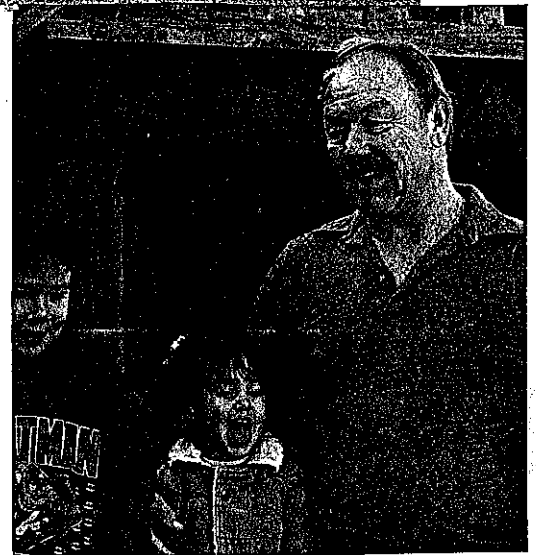
OCTOBER 1990

Meet Our Master Gardeners...

Jim Hicks retired from GMAC as Control Branch Manager on June 1, 1988 and began the Master Gardener training four months later. Like so many of us, he saw the newspaper advertisement and decided he would try it. That was the first year for the Master Gardener program, and Jim helped Ann Ward with the first zoo garden. This year, Jim worked with Shirley Garnett on planning, planting and maintenance at Trapnall Hall. Originally from Mississippi, Jim received a B.S. degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. He grew up gardening with his parents and now enjoys perennials, azaleas and his vegetable garden. Jim's other hobbies include music, reading and travel. Jim and his wife, Mary, have three grown children, Lynn, Steve and Bill. They have two grandchildren they are very proud of, Ryan (7), and Rachel (4). Did you know that the Hicks' youngest son, Bill, is a stand-up comedian? He has appeared on the David Letterman show 7 times and will make another appearance sometime in October. Jim and Mary thought Bill was rather serious



until hearing from several others about their "funny" kid. At 13yrs old, Bill started entertaining at the Houston Comedy Store, which let youngsters take the stage for 3-5 minutes. I asked Jim who Bill takes after, and was answered by a big laugh. We may never know!





Sally Garrison taught 3rd grade for 11yrs. and was Instructional Specialist for Sylvan Hills Elementary until her retirement one year ago. She is from Evanston, Illinois, and met her husband, Jerol, at the U of A, Fayetteville. They have been married 36 years. Sally's degree is in Social Welfare. Jerol was a Gazette reporter for 14yrs. and is currently in Corporate Communications for

AP&L. Sally and Jerol both love gardening and Jerol never misses Janet's Saturday morning radio shows. The Garrisons have 3 daughters, Linda, Margaret and Cathy, and 6 grandchildren. When Cathy was still a little girl, mother and daughter had a patio garden they called the "Bloomery". Sally finds gardening relaxing and especially likes perennials and wildflowers. She has been a weekly worker at the zoo garden this year, and has helped out at all of our other project gardens. Sally's other hobbies are travel, reading and tent camping. She was a Girl Scout leader for 11yrs., and twice went backpacking on the Appalachian Trail and has participated in many 3-day float trips on the Buffalo river. We have a built-in tour guide if the master gardeners make it to Europe one of these years. Sally has been to Europe three times and has also travelled to Switzerland, Bavaria, Austria and Ireland.

MEXICAN LASAGNE (Anne Turner)

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 lb lean ground beef | 1-2 c chopped onion |
| 1 clove garlic, minced | 8oz gr chilies, drained & chopped |
| 2 t chili powder | 1/2 t ground cumin |
| 1/2 t oregano, crushed | 1 1/2 c thick salsa |
| 3c small curd cottage cheese | 2T minced fresh cilantro or parsley |
| 6 (8") flour tortillas | 1c shredded Monterey Jack cheese |

Brown beef, onion and garlic; drain fat. Stir in chilies, chili powder, cumin, oregano and 1/2c salsa. Set aside. Mix cottage cheese and cilantro. Place 2 tortillas on greased jelly roll pan. Spread each with 1/4 of cheese mixture, then 1/4 of beef mixture. Top each with tortilla. Repeat layers, ending with tortillas. Bake at 350, 25min. Spoon off liquid. Top with salsa & cheese. Bake 10min or until cheese melts. (6 large servings)

Gardening Checklist...

Fleas - fleas continue to be a problem this month. Control fleas in the yard with Dursban or Diazinon. If fleas are a problem in the house, use an aerosol fogger.

Fall Webworms - Don't worry much about the damage these insects do. Look at it this way - they are reducing the amount of raking you'll have to do this fall! Seriously, the webworms, although unsightly, are not hurting the trees they inhabit. We saw the first generation of fall webworms in June and we're seeing them now too. They may be attacking other ornamentals, such as foundation shrubs. Be sure to spray, if this is the case, with Sevin or Orthene. Also, if the webworm droppings are a nuisance such as around pools, go ahead and spray. Otherwise, don't worry about spraying trees. They're most likely too large for the homeowner to spray anyway.

Winterizer Fertilizer - If you have done a good job fertilizing your lawn this year, you do not need to use winterizer fertilizer. This type of fertilizer has no nitrogen, only phosphorus and potash. However, if your lawn is severely damaged, or if you have not been fertilizing regularly, or if you have new sod, you do need winterizer fertilizer.

Bringing container plants indoors - Bring your containers indoors when the outside temperature is the same as indoors. Inspect each plant for pests and spray as needed with insecticidal soap. Wash down the pots and bring inside. Be sure you don't spray with Malathion. The odor will linger for quite some time. Janet gives the last week of September as the average time to bring your containers indoors.

New Research on Pesticides - A plant pathologist at the U of A, Fayetteville is working on the use of fungi which cause weed disease as a natural pesticide. (Sorry, no name for the scientist - I lost my info.). Also, did you see the spot on KARK TV about a family who invented a machine that vacuums bugs from plants? It sells for \$8500 and the family's real name happens to be Sukup!



Master Gardener Activities:

Master Gardener Workshop - Randy Johnson, Pinnacle Mtn.

Naturalist, presented slides of native trees and shrubs that might be useful in the home landscape. Of particular interest were the umbrella magnolia, fringe tree or 'old man's beard', and the red buckeye. We were prevented from seeing the Arkansas Arboretum because of drenching rain, but we learned that it covers 100 acres and has a variety of exposures. Plans are to simulate the various geographic regions in our state and connect them with trails, interpretive signs, etc. Janet talked to us also, about ornamental trees and their care. To keep a tree healthy, it must have 1"-1 1/2" of moisture a week. It's a good idea to fertilize just the trees in Feb-Mar. because in the home landscape, trees have a limited root system due to streets, driveways, and structures. For those building a new home, save groups of trees and have the heavy machinery use a path as far away from those trees as possible. This machinery compacts the soil, so the best thing you can do before sodding is to aerify the soil. Remove about 1/3 of the limbs on the trees that have been saved. This will lighten the load on the tree which has a reduced root system due to grading. In general, a tree can be pruned at any time. It is better to prune dead wood in the spring because you can see it then. (3 1/2 hrs recertification credit)

St. Louis Trip - by Shirley Garnett - With the aim to please, "Tour Guide Couple of the Month" Calvin and Lisa Percy along with mild mannered driver, Jack Goodson, took 25 of us to the Missouri Botanical Gardens. Flash bulbs flashed and pen with paper clicked all day, with time out only for a little shade and nourishment. Notes on texture, theme and color came back to the Embassy Suites Hotel in those tired hands. Well, gardeners don't always give up at sundown! A few 'diehards' would not let a little bit of industrial engineering go by without a tour of the Anheuser-Busch brewery. (Were these the same ones that had to be dragged from the shopping spree at Union Station the night before?)

It was back out to the fresh air Saturday evening for dinner on board the "President" sidewheeler - it's last night in St. Louis. Of course, riverboat people wouldn't send her off without a farewell party which included 600 well-wishers, and to loosen a few



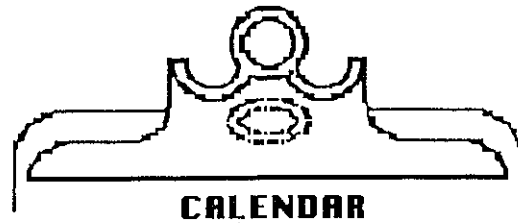
stiff necks, we had a valuable lesson in the "Duck" from two talented ladies! The return trip had to include a stop at Eckert's Country Store & Farms to gather other gardeners' harvest of pumpkins, raspberries, apples and cushion mums. Mission well done "head ducks" Lisa and Calvin. Take off a couple of days and start your planning for spring!

Coming Up:

Master Gardener Family Picnic - We will meet at Hidden Valley Berry Farm in Ferndale for a hayride to pick out our Halloween Pumpkins, and then go across the street to the 4-H Center to have a weenie roast. We'll even make s'mores! Have your little goblins wear their costumes if they want. Pat Green will give you more details at the Master Gardener meeting Oct. 18. Give her a call if you'd like to help her with this project.

Zoo Workday - Lynn McMahon has arranged a winter project for us. There is an aviary (enclosure for birds) at the zoo which we will replant. Tipton & Hurst will donate the plants. On Saturday, Oct. 27, 9am-11am, please come by the zoo. We will be removing unwanted plants on that particular day. During the winter we will meet one Saturday per month for planting and maintenance. This should help those who cannot come during the week to other project gardens.





Pinnacle Mountain Events:

- Oct. 6 - ***Fall Color Walks*** - Saturdays in October. Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27, 10am-12 noon. Learn to identify local trees and some of their uses. (2hrs credit)
- Oct 20 - ***Star Party*** - 8-10pm. Enjoy night viewing of stars and informative programs. (2hrs credit)
- Oct 27 - ***Mushroom Workshop*** - 10am-5pm. You will receive instructions and practice in using keys to identify fungi and learn ways to cook and preserve mushrooms. \$4.00/adults over 18. (6hrs credit)

Other Activities:

- Oct 11 - ***Master Gardener Training*** - 8am registration, with
18 classes 8:30-4pm or 4:30pm at 2nd Presbyterian
25 Church. Returning Master Gardeners must let Janet
Nov 1 know the week before each training session they wish
8 to attend. There is a \$5.00 charge/session.
- Oct 18 ***Master Gardener Meeting*** - noon to 1pm at 2nd
Presbyterian with the new Master Gardeners. Let
Janet know by Oct 15 if you plan to attend. Lunch
is \$5.00. There will be a short skit and slides
from our St. Louis trip will be shown.
- Oct 21 ***Master Gardener Family Picnic*** - Hay ride and weenie
roast. Meet 3pm at Hidden Valley Berry Farm.
Details at MG mtg. Oct. 18 or call Pat Green.
- Oct 27 ***Zoo Workday*** - 9-11am. We will clean old plants out
of the aviary in preparation for new plantings.
There will be a workday one Sat/mo during winter.
- Nov 14 ***AR State Horticulture Society Mtg*** - Program info will
15 be sent to you, and will include many seminars just
for Master Gardeners. A state Association of Master
Gardeners will be formed at this meeting.
-

Please turn in any hours you have worked on the telephone or on projects, and any recertification hours you may have to Anne Borg.

Jim Hicks has offered free daylilly divisions to anyone interested !

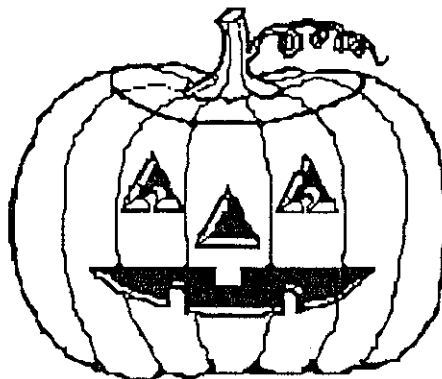
Heifer Project International - Have you ever 'herd' of giving a cow for Christmas or Hanukkah or Thanksgiving? Would you like to give a goat, rabbit, sheep, chickens, pig, or bees? In the name of those on your holiday gift list who have everything, why not help start a herd or flock in some needy community, here or abroad? Heifer Project will hold a "Living Gift Market" at 2nd Presbyterian Church, Little Rock on Dec. 2. If you are unable to attend, contact Pat Green at 835-6215 for more info.

Congratulations to our 55 new Master Gardeners:

Nell Ambrose
Breck Campbell
Ann Cooper
Carol A. Davis
David Deblock
Gayle M. Elder
Connie Fugedy
Ruth A. Gibson
Glenna Sue Hampton
Linda Hubbell
Madeline Johnson
Arden Kate
Michael E. Mangin
Aleta Newell
Darrell E. Patton
Maria S. Reynolds
Kay Shurgar
Pat Stover
Karen Vesole
Pam Webb
Willie Wiley, Jr.

John Ball
Richard A. Carter
Wanda Cottrell
Irene C. Davis
Joe A. Dickens
David W. Elms, Jr.
Barbara Freeling
James C. Haden
Dorothy Heckenbach
Glynn Jackson
Nancy O. Jones
Kay Killgore
Helen Balch Moix

Paul L. Bruhn
Stacy N. Coggins
Linda Dantzler
Monica Davis
Robert F. Dixon
Marie Flickinger
Biff Grimes
Maxine Hamilton
Marcia T. Holder
Jeffery S. Johnson
Ruth C. Jones
Janice R. Laman
Joe Moran
Ruth M. Parker
Rand Retzloff
Mary Frances Roman
Phoebe Stephens
Dorothy Veirs
Phyllis Wagner
Wendy Welch
Leroy Wood



MASTER GARDNERS

MONTH OCTOBER - 1990

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Wanda Jenkins	2	3	4 Chris Benson	5 Joyce Ford	6
	8 Pat Marchese	9	10 Lynn McMahon	11 Ralph Olsen	12 Roxie Adams	13
4	15	16	17	18 Susan Mehlburger	19 Pat Marchese	20
21	22	23	24	25 Sue Walker	26 Wanda Jenkins	27 Anyone 9:00 - 11:00 Clean up on Birdhouse
28	29	30	31			



Master Minutes

VOLUME ONE NUMBER EIGHT

NOVEMBER 1990

Meet Our Master Gardeners...

Pat Green is from Pine Bluff, and went to high school at DOLLARWAY, currently the NUMBER ONE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM IN THE STATE! Her husband, Jerry, attended high school at Whitehall, Dollarway's arch rival. After all these years of losing seasons, Pat likes to rub it in a little! Jerry and Pat have lived in North Little Rock for 13 years and have two teenagers, Chris and Andrea. Pat attended nursing school at St. Vincent's, and most recently was the Director of Children's Ministries at 1st Methodist Church, North Little Rock, for two years. Jerry is Assistant Treasurer for Alltel Corporation. Pat has worked in all of our project gardens, but especially enjoys the zoo garden. She has also done a wonderful job putting together two family socials for our group. This summer, Pat grew tomatoes, pole beans, purple hull peas, strawberries and corn. She used mineral oil to prevent worms from eating the corn and guarded it very carefully except for an unfortunate couple of days close to harvest. That's when the



Editor:
Cecelia
Buck

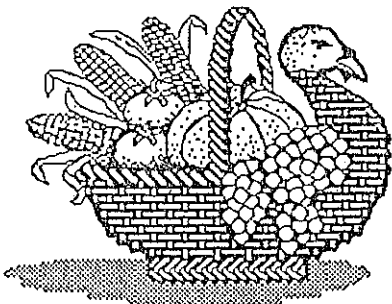


squirrels found it and left only a few ears for the gardener! Maybe next year.... Pat's other hobbies include sewing and serving on the Pulaski Co. Volunteer Committee for Heifer Project International, a non-profit ecumenical organization which works to wipe out global hunger.



Cecelia Buck grew up in North Little Rock, and received her B.S. and M.S. degrees in Horticulture Food Science at UAF and the University of Georgia, respectively. Her education involved mostly chemical research on food products, so the Master Gardener training has given her a chance to really study horticulture. This has been great fun, along with being very practical to this stay-at-home mom whose most accessible form of relaxation is, of necessity, the backyard. Cecelia's husband, Dan, is Manager of Accounting and Financial Planning for Siemens. Yes, Dan really did call the Extension office last year and pretend there were Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles in his garden, and the funny thing is, Cecelia did not recognize his voice and actually believed him for a few seconds! The Bucks have three children, David, Amanda and John, and lived in Atlanta until almost 2yrs. ago, when Dan was transferred here. Cecelia has been slowly landscaping their new yard and loves growing flowers. She also helps her dad in his vegetable garden when possible. Cecelia's main project as a Master Gardener has been the newsletter, and her other hobbies include sewing, reading and socializing!

Happy Thanksgiving



over 3 million chicks and ducks to small farmers in 109 countries and 32 states. To contribute, call Pat Green at 835-6215, or attend the Market on Dec. 2.

Heifer Project International will hold a "Living Gift Market" at 2nd Presbyterian, Little Rock, on Dec. 2. The 'Shopping List For The World' includes:

Chicks	\$1 each	\$10 flock
Rabbits	\$60 trio	\$3 share
Sheep	\$120 each	\$5 share
Pigs	\$120 each	\$5 share
Cows	\$500 each	\$20 share

Since 1944 HPI has sent more than 75,000 food-producing animals and

Gardening Checklist...

Fescue Lawns - The last application of fertilizer should be made now. Use a nitrogen fertilizer only for this application. Ammonium nitrate (34-0-0) at 3 pounds per 1,000 square feet, should be used.

Bulbs For Outdoor Planting- Most bulbs should be planted during mid-fall, if possible, so that the bulbs have sufficient time for root development before winter sets in. October is too warm for planting, but bulbs purchased then could have been stored until now in a paper bag in the refrigerator until planting. Generally, bulbs should be planted outdoors after the first killing frost.

Bulb Forcing - Tulips and daffodils take a minimum of 12 weeks to force. Pot the bulbs in sterile soil and place in the refrigerator. Water when necessary, since the pot will remain in the refrigerator for 11-12 weeks. When the bulbs have 2-3 inches of shoot growth and roots emerge from the drain holes, remove from the refrigerator. Move to an area of medium light for 1-2 weeks, or until chlorophyll develops in the shoots, then move to a sunny window for blooming (takes 2-3wks). Tulips and daffodils started now may be ready around Valentine's Day. Paperwhite Narcissi need no chilling period and no soil. Plant in a shallow dish of rocks or gravel, place in a sunny window and they will bloom in 3-6wks. Replant 3-4 new bulbs in the dish every 3wks or so for continuous bloom.

Pansies - pansies may still be planted in November, and will bloom all winter for you.

Gardening Health Notes - (from the MaGIC Lantern - issued by Master Gardeners International Corp) In rare instances infection can be introduced by *atypical Mycobacterium Type IV*, a microorganism present in some compost materials, through any break in a person's skin. It can produce severe effects if the condition is not promptly and appropriately treated. Immediate medical treatment should be sought if there is inflammation or swelling in a hand, or if pain is noticed during passive motion of a joint after a skin puncture. Gardeners should wear gloves, clean wounds with peroxide and see a doctor about deep punctures.



Master Gardener Activities:

Brambleberry Farms - We did it again! We managed to carry off an untold number of perennials from this perennial farm in Center Ridge. Along with actually purchasing plants, we learned alot about perennials from some wonderful slides put together by Rebecca Palek. Rebecca and her mother, Mrs. Robinson, emphasized that fall is prime planting time for most perennials. We certainly took her word for it!

Master Gardener Meeting - Returning Master Gardeners had a great time meeting the new Master Gardeners at our lunch meeting. Extension agent, Mrs. Betty Oliver, thanked everyone for the 800+ phone hours volunteered in the past year. Speaking of phone hours, we were entertained with a skit about what it's really like to answer the phone at the Extension office, by Jane Gulley, Sally Garrison and Cecelia Buck. And Lisa Pearcy showed slides of our St. Louis trip - including one that caught a favorite gardener napping! Lisa announced an upcoming trip to Bellingrath Gardens near Mobile, Alabama, March 21-24. 42 seats will be available on the bus and Master Gardeners will be accepted first, then it will be opened up to friends who would like to go. A beautiful hotel in Mobile's historic district has already reserved rooms for us. This particular weekend in March should be the peak time for azaleas in Mobile.

Master Gardener Family Picnic - Rain surely didn't dampen the spirits of the 20 adults and 15 children who gathered at the 4-H Center last month. Pat, Chris and Andrea Green did a wonderful job of improvising. S'mores in the fireplace were absolutely delicious! Sally Garrison asked Olivia Nisbet, who brought her 4 grandchildren, how she was coming on her payback hours. Olivia was overheard to reply that she needed one more morning of answering the phone and needed to put in four more 'work release' hours!

Zoo Workday - Lynn McMahon reports that 10 Master Gardeners did a great job cleaning out the zoo's aviary. Several plants were pulled out and others were severely pruned to make way for exotic tropical plants donated by Tipton & Hurst and by some generous Florida growers. The planting date is November 10, 9-11am.



Future Projects - by Pat Green - One of the most frequent topics of conversation among Master Gardeners is future projects. And that always leads to talk about fundraising. A few of us have talked about the possibility of a flower and garden show, patterned after others we've heard of in other states - most notably the Colorado Garden and Home Show held annually in Denver. Mrs. Beverly H. Hines, North Central District Program Leader for the Cooperative Extension Office, attended the Colorado show last February. She told others about it in the State Cooperative Extension Office. On Thursday, October 18, representatives of State Extension, County Extension (including Janet), the Farm Bureau, Nurserymen's Association and the news media were invited to attend a meeting to determine interest for such a show in Little Rock. Those in attendance were very interested in the idea. Other groups such as the Association of Landscape Architects, Garden Clubs and the Horticultural Society, etc. will be contacted for their response, and information from other states will be obtained concerning "how-to's". Another meeting will then be arranged. The first show could possibly be scheduled for February, 1992! We'd like to know what you think about our participation.

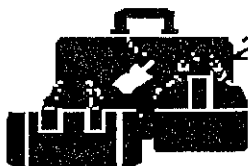
\$10.00 was donated by Anne Borg to the Master Gardener Program in special thanks for the bulbs she was given by Jim Hicks.

Mrs. Fred Rains of Sherwood, a recent widow, will share fruit from her 75+ fruit trees, in exchange for help with the trees' maintenance. If you are interested, call her at 835-3444 or 835-3041.

Master Minutes - Please submit articles (book reports, dates, new research info.) by the 15th of each month to Cecelia Buck, 27 Tennyson Ct., North Little Rock, AR 72116. Her phone no. is 834-2825. If you'd like to help with the newsletter, let her know.



- Nov. 8 - **Master Gardener Training** - Final training session for the new Master Gardeners. Any returning Master Gardeners wishing to attend, need to let Janet know by Nov.5, even if you don't plan to eat lunch.
- Nov.10 - **Zoo Workday** - New tropicals for the aviary will be planted. Lynn McMahon (663-0629) needs a co-chairperson for this project.
- Nov.14 - **Arkansas State Horticulture Society Annual Convention** -
15 The Wednesday morning session, 9-noon, is devoted to topics concerning Master Gardeners and home horticulturists. (See program for more info.)
- Nov.19 - **Wildwood Meeting** - Janet would like a few Master Gardeners to attend this information meeting with her.
From the overview presented, we should be able to determine what role, if any, we will have at Wildwood.
- Dec. 6 - **Master Gardener Christmas Party** - All Master Gardeners are invited. We'll meet at 6:30pm at the Extension Office. More details to follow.
- Dec. 9 - **Holiday Open House at The Old State House** - Actually, from 1-4pm, not only the Old State House, but the Territorial Restoration, the Arkansas Arts Center and the Museum of Science & Natural History will be open, free to the public. There will be entertainment and refreshments, with free shuttles running every 15-20 minutes.



21-24 - **Bellingrath Gardens Trip**
Mobile, Alabama
42 Seats Available

Please turn in any hours you have worked on the telephone or on projects, and any recertification hours you may have to Anne Borg.

Jim Hicks has offered free daylilly divisions to anyone interested !

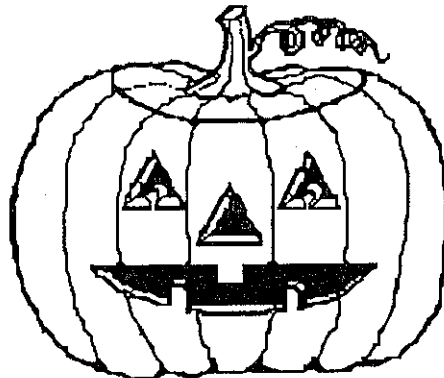
Heifer Project International - Have you ever 'herd' of giving a cow for Christmas or Hanukkah or Thanksgiving? Would you like to give a goat, rabbit, sheep, chickens, pig, or bees? In the name of those on your holiday gift list who have everything, why not help start a herd or flock in some needy community, here or abroad? Heifer Project will hold a "Living Gift Market" at 2nd Presbyterian Church, Little Rock on Dec. 2. If you are unable to attend, contact Pat Green at 835-6215 for more info.

Congratulations to our 55 new Master Gardeners:

Nell Ambrose
Breck Campbell
Ann Cooper
Carol A. Davis
David Deblock
Gayle M. Elder
Connie Fugedy
Ruth A. Gibson
Glenna Sue Hampton
Linda Hubbell
Madeline Johnson
Arden Kate
Michael E. Mangin
Aleta Newell
Darrell E. Patton
Maria S. Reynolds
Kay Shurgar
Pat Stover
Karen Vesole
Pam Webb
Willie Wiley, Jr.

John Ball
Richard A. Carter
Wanda Cottrell
Irene C. Davis
Joe A. Dickens
David W. Elms, Jr.
Barbara Freeling
James C. Haden
Dorothy Heckenbach
Glynn Jackson
Nancy O. Jones
Kay Killgore
Helen Balch Moix

Paul L. Bruhn
Stacy N. Coggins
Linda Dantzler
Monica Davis
Robert F. Dixon
Marie Flickinger
Biff Grimes
Maxine Hamilton
Marcia T. Holder
Jeffery S. Johnson
Ruth C. Jones
Janice R. Laman
Joe Moran
Ruth M. Parker
Rand Retzloff
Mary Frances Roman
Phoebe Stephens
Dorothy Veirs
Phyllis Wagner
Wendy Welch
Leroy Wood





Master Minutes

VOLUME ONE NUMBER NINE

DEC-JAN 1991

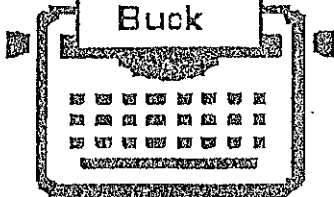
Meet Our Master Gardeners...

Nancy Wade has been a Master Gardener since 1989, and has been a faithful worker at the Zoo Garden each year. At home, Nancy grows flowers and herbs. She harvests basil for homemade pesto and uses a variety of herbs such as sage, chives, and oregano for cooking. Nancy grew up in New Jersey, and after receiving a Political Science degree from the University of California, Berkeley she lived in France for 10 years. She says France's public gardens were beautiful and it was not unusual to see entire hedges of rosemary in this temperate climate. After moving to Arkansas, Nancy was a stockbroker with Merrill, Lynch for 9 years. She has a daughter and son, Laura and James, and is married to Dr. William (Bill) Wade. Besides the Zoo Garden, Nancy does several planting beds at Presbyterian Village where her aunt and mother reside, and in her spare time, loves to travel.



Roxy Adams is a Little Rock native and lives in West Little Rock with her husband Doyle, and sons Jason (23 years) and Eric (15 years.) Roxy and Doyle have been married for almost 26 years, and met at beauty school. Many of you know that Doyle owns a beauty salon, but did you know that Roxy is a hairdresser, too? Roxy's profession however is as an artist in mixed media. How did she come to enjoy gardening? Roxy takes after her father in that way. She enjoys perennials, but her favorite flower is the pansy. Besides working at all of our

Editor:
Cecelia
Buck



project gardens, Roxy is a library volunteer at Catholic High school, a hospice volunteer and secretary of Leawood's Crime Watch Association. She enjoys needlework, computer games and loves to cook in her spare time.

Doyle doesn't quite share Roxy's enthusiasm for gardening. In fact, he thinks that "hole digging" should be a part of our Master Gardener training!

Master Gardener Activities:

1. Zoo Garden- On October 15, 5 Master Gardeners raked the garden and then sowed turnip seeds. The turnips are up! Zoo staff will pick the greens as needed through the winter. In February, we will till the garden and plant greens again. Well done, Ann Ward, for another successful year!

2. Mid-South Native Plant Conference- by Mike Carter- see article.

3. Zoo Aviary- Lynn McMahon and sixteen other Master Gardeners made the aviary a tropical paradise on November 10! Many bromeliads of different colors, a new ficus tree, ferns, chinese evergreens, schefflera, draceana marginata, etc. were planted. Many thanks to Tipton and Hurst and the Florida growers who donated plants. Maintenance workdays will be announced soon.

4. Arkansas State Horticulture Society Annual Meeting- Held November 14 & 15 in Ft. Smith. Lynn Parker reports that the Master Gardener sessions were very interesting. She especially enjoyed sessions on cut flower production, wildflowers, native plants and organic gardening. Among other things, she learned that to assure maximum fruit production, blueberries should be kept pruned. This allows plenty of sun into the middle of the bushes. In the organic gardening session, Lynn learned how cover crops return nitrogen to the soil. Next year's meeting will be held in Little Rock. By the way, Lynn says we should be proud of our Master Gardener program, as it is the most organized group in the state. The credit for this rests largely with our energetic leader, Janet Carson.

5. Wildwood- Roxy Adams, Wendy Welch, Ruth Owings and Wanda Cottrell attended this information meeting with P. Allen Smith, Birnam Woods Nursery, Hampton Roy, Chairman of the Wildwood Landscape Endowment Committee, Janet Carson and others. The group was given a tour of the facilities and an explanation of Wildwood's goals. Nothing was specifically in place for the Master Gardeners to commit to as a group. Follow-up meetings will be held which will determine our involvement.

A REPORT ON THE
MID-SOUTH NATIVE PLANT CONFERENCE
by MIKE CARTER

On October 26-28, 1990, a wonderful Master Gardener activity occurred. This conference, which takes place every year, brings together people throughout our country who are interested in using many of the beautiful plants of our forests and prairies in the landscape. All of the sessions, which I attended, were very informative. One of the talks I found most interesting was "Native Medicinal Plants" by Steven Foster. He is the author of the "Peterson Field Guide to Medicinal Plants." Mr. Foster explained that the Japanese Honeysuckle, which we see growing wild, can help cure fevers, colds, and flu, plus having a cholesterol lowering potential. He also mentioned that the lovely purple coneflower, native to our prairies is used in 280 different drugs in Germany.

There were many beautiful slides on wildflowers and shrubs that we see in our forests, but never think about using in our yards. Rare trees and unusual herbs that have been long forgotten by Americans are now being used in the landscape by some progressive gardeners. It was pointed out that many of the native plants don't get the diseases that our Oriental and European introductions suffer and die from. We learned about ways to protect existing native plants during construction and development. What I enjoyed most was getting catalogues of native plant sources and seeing many of these plants for sale in the lobby. I could not resist and brought back a car load of native plants to try in my yard. All I can tell you is, every gardener who is tired of the same old plants should attend next year's MID-SOUTH NATIVE PLANT CONFERENCE.

P.S. Did you know that the Europeans are using a new variegated form of our POISON IVY in their landscape for Fall color?

Book Reports

Landscape Rejuvenation - by Bonnie Lee Appleton, PhD.

The author of this book is an extension nursery specialist in Virginia Beach, Virginia. In a very systematic way, she tells you how to undertake a landscape renovation and even has a chapter on new landscapes. In this book, you'll learn how to look at your landscape critically, how to design and plan a new-and-improved landscape, how to solve problems and how such a renovation procedure should be undertaken. This is a Garden Way Publishing Book and sells for \$19.95, hard cover. It is also available at the Laman Library.

Seeds - by Sam Bittman

The author is the primary writer for the "Joy of Gardening"

television series and this book offers the hesitant beginner and the seasoned gardener a valuable year-round gardening companion. This is a wonderful resource volume covering planning and planting - both indoors and out. It is published by Bantam Books, cost \$35.00, hardcover, and is also available at the Laman Library.

Pinnacle Mountain Calendar

Christmas Tree Recycling:

Save your tree from the street curb! Your old Christmas tree could be a brand new home for a family of rabbits. Bring your undecorated trees, wreaths and garlands to the park. Check the bulletin boards or contact the Visitor Center for tree drop off locations. Trees will be used to provide wildlife shelters, erosion control and fishing brush piles. Over 600 trees were given to critters last year!

Christmas For Critters:

Saturday, December 15th, 2:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M. Mother Nature needs "elves" to help decorate a special tree with treats for her woodland creatures. Help the staff make tasty decorations or bring out your own suet cakes, strings of popcorn, cracked nuts and other wildlife food to place on our living Christmas tree.

Genetic Cotton Repels Bugs (Arkansas Gazette, 14 Nov. 90)

Cotton plants with new genes were about as bug free as regular cotton sprayed with insecticide in their first outdoor tests this summer by the Agriculture Department in Mississippi, Texas, Arizona and California.

USDA scientists said the genetically engineered plants, developed by Monsanto Co., cause caterpillars to come down with a fatal case of indigestion, often after eating only a bite or two from leaves of bolls.

If the new technology passes all its tests, the USDA said it could provide additional pest-control options for cotton growers.

Two See Profit In Chicken Litter (Arkansas Gazette, 14 Nov. 90)

Turn the manure through composting into an odorless high-grade fertilizer says Bill Backer who is aiming at the home and garden market. A study by a University of Arkansas soil scientists is a bit more modest. It says a sprinkling of poultry litter compost on a research plot in a Jackson county rice field, which had been yielding 1,800 pounds of rice an acre, increased the yield to a respectable 5,200 pounds an acre in 1989.

Backer has two products - plant food and potting soil. He says that most potting soil is an inert mixture of ingredients that you

need to feed with chemicals. This stuff, you plant it and you don't have to feed it. It's a balanced diet for every plant.

Backer says the state, especially in the northwest - home of the state's huge poultry industry - is "over run" with litter. The problem is that chicken litter applied to the ground in too much abundance does have a chance to adversely affect the ground water.

By using a tiller-like device and controlling water and air, he can speed up the process which removes the smell and contaminants and stabilizes the nutrients so they won't leach into the ground.

The 150 degree heat that is sometimes reached kills disease organisms and weed seeds.

He has sold some of the product to two distributors in Oklahoma and to Joe Murphy Co., a gardening product distributor in North Little Rock. Southern Farmers Association in North Little Rock has purchased a small amount for test marketing, according to Backer.

ZOLLIE'S RECIPES:

The 1990 Master Gardeners class enjoyed the food, which Zollie prepared, so much that her recipes were requested .. Zollie graciously wrote some of her recipes and they will be part of the Newsletter, as long as they last. Maybe we can talk Zollie out of a few more.

Spaghetti

2 lbs. ground beef	1 lb Italian sausage (skin removed)
1 large onion, chopped	1 large green bell pepper, chopped
1 stalk celery chopped	1 large red bell pepper, chopped
1 can Rotel tomatoes	2 jars Cost Cutter Spaghetti Sauce
1 can Italian tomatoes	(put in processor)

Brown meat with onions, peppers and celery. Drain, add tomatoes and sauce. Simmer for 45 minutes. Cook spaghetti according to package directions.

Banana Pudding

1 large package Vanilla Instant Pudding	1 can condensed milk
1 small carton Cool Whip	1 teaspoon vanilla
4 bananas	Vanilla wafers

Place pudding into medium bowl, add one can of water to condensed milk, stir into pudding, add a little cold milk to thin as you like, add Cool Whip and vanilla to mixture. Layer wafers and sliced bananas in serving bowl, add mixture. Top with Cool Whip and Wafer crumbs.

Pending for future issues are: Beef Stroganoff, Layered Salad and Apple Strudel.

Gardening Checklist -

Bulbs - If you have bulbs that have not been planted, store them in the refrigerator, away from fruit, and plant as soon as possible. Fruits such as apples give off ethylene gas which will cause the bulbs to break dormancy.

Cool Weather Vegetables - Start broccoli and cabbage seeds indoors in January for transplanting 6-8 weeks later.

Thanks to Stacy Coggins, a 1990 Master Gardener, we have a new look for our Newsletter. Stacy volunteered to takeover the computer layout and typing (I definitely will not miss doing it!) I will continue to gather information and write the articles. If you attend a gardening seminar or event, we'd love to hear about it. Articles about gardening research are also welcome, as are book reports and any reports of Master Gardener events which you attend. You can call me with your information or submit it in written form. Information is due by the 15th of each month. Please send it to:

Cecelia Buck
27 Tennyson Ct.
N. Little Rock, AR 72116
Phone: 834-2825



Best Wishes
for a
Merry Christmas