

GARDEN THYME

Washington County Master Gardener Newsletter
June 2011

2011 WCMG Officers

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Gloria McIntosh

GARDEN THYME STAFF

Jan Hanks
Jan Lefler
Joyce Mendenhall
Susan Pressler
Terry Smyers

Submit articles to:

janlefler@cox.net

gigiluv6811@gmail.com

Due Date:

15th of each month

All materials are subject to review by the GT staff and edited for content, clarity and space.



Pictured: Student Volunteer, Lorraine Heartfield (07); Jean Cosgrove (11); Peggy Ford (04); Tom Marshall (10); Gayle Howard (06)
Not Pictured: Vicki Knight (97); Jan Hanks (08); M.J. Maddox (07)

NEW SANCTIONED PROJECT KICKOFF Fayetteville Public Library

by Gayle Howard

The newly sanctioned Fayetteville Public Library project is off to a great start. During two work sessions, Master Gardeners have already worked over 25 hours of their time. We will continue to meet Thursday mornings from 9:00 -11:00 a.m. until it gets too hot and then we will reevaluate our meeting time.

Thanks to all who have helped us get this project going!

Please contact one of us if you would like to be a "Library Laborer"!

**Gayle Howard and Jan Hanks
Co-Chairpersons**

**WCMG Monthly
Meeting
June 7, 2011
6:30 p.m.**



**Annual Picnic
at
Arkansas Air
Museum**

The June meeting will be our annual "potluck" picnic. Please bring your favorites; meat is not provided so any type of meat dish is welcomed. Happy Hour will start the Picnic off from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; courtesy of the Air Museum. Master Gardeners and guests will be entertained by 1960's music.

There is limited seating so bring a lawn chair if you have one. Weather permitting, we may be sitting outside. Tours will be provided of the Air Museum after the potluck.

**Bring Volunteer
Hours Logs for time
period Nov-May!**



**WCMG President
Mike Standrod**

Uncle Mike's Corner...

When you receive this issue of *Garden Thyme*, many of you will be at the state MG conference in Harrison, My, are things happening fast and furious right now! We have a newly approved sanctioned project; Fayetteville Public Library - (Thursday

Master Composter class is up and running, plant sales, garden tours, you name it! I have visited several of our sanctioned projects this month; and in spite of the rain, hail, and storms they are looking quite well.

Don't miss the June 7th picnic! The Arkansas Air Museum, (one of our sanctioned projects) will host a wine/beer happy hour at 5:30 p.m., prior to our 6:30 p.m. pot luck picnic! Feel free to bring guests, but please remember to bring enough food for all. I hear there will be musical entertainment and that we are going to be treated to free tours by Warren and his folks at the Air Museum. Don't forget to bring your MG HOURS sheet for Nov - May to the meeting!

WE NEED YOUR HELP on some committees! If you are interested in volunteering on ANY standing committee (descriptions are in your MG workbook), please let Joyce in the extension office know, or drop me an email at mstandrod@earthlink.net. We especially need additional members on the program committee...to help set up/take down before and after meetings! Remember, committee work counts as sanctioned work hours!

Finally! Jodie's goldfinches, butterflies and caterpillars have returned! All is well with the world!



Till next month, Happy Gardening!

Cooking with Herbs and Other Things

by Jan Hanks

This recipe is for those of you who enjoyed the last trip to P. Allen Smith's Gardens. Going on the upcoming trip? Like to cook? Introduce yourself to Chef Brian Kelly, who hides out in the spacious summer kitchen and welcomes compliments as well as questions. He will tell you what you need to know to make his delicious menu, or talk about his favorite items in P. Allen's new cookbook, *Seasonal Recipes from the Garden*.

Brian shared the dressing for the Nicoise Salad we were served.

Salad Dressing

¼ cup champagne vinegar(or any good wine vinegar),
1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
3 Tbsp. small capers, drained
1 tsp. kosher salt
freshly cracked black pepper
½ cup EVVO (extra virgin olive oil)
Dollop of honey(not in the cookbook recipe)

Brian mixes his dressing in a 1 gallon container, which is approximately 6 times this recipe. He feels the honey gives it the special flavor that everyone enjoyed. Combine all ingredients, except the olive oil, in a large bowl and whisk to combine. Drizzle the olive oil into the mixture, whisking to combine.

Great with chicken and or pork on top!





Who's Who in Master Gardening

by Jan Hanks

This month's Master Gardener lives in her dream garden. Her home is "Blossom Cottage," situated on 3 acres, complete with white picket fence and a cottage garden that is divided into rooms. MG Twania Pinnell came to our interview complete with typed notes and material reflecting her love for cottage style gardens. *The Secret Garden*, by Frances Hodgson Burnett, which was well used and lovingly held, is her favorite book to share. "It is a wonderful story of spirit, faith, and renewal, which is what gardening is all about to me."

She was born in Fort Smith but states her roots were in the country where her parents and grandparents worked the bottoms picking cotton and other agricultural produce.

Even though gardening was in the genes she still had to "learn" how to garden. It didn't come naturally. In 1997 the Master Gardener program was fairly unknown. She states, "We were a small group with great zeal and love for gardening." Her dedication to the program included serving as secretary and then president in 1999. "I am so proud of what our organization is doing for the community and the sanctioned projects we have. It just gets better and better."

Twania has so many favorite flowers that I could just imagine a bouquet filled to overflowing. "Every season has a plant that you always love," she said.

She laughed when she said her worst gardening mistake was to build a huge compost pile in the shade of the trees on the back of her property. "I was trying to get it out away from the house and it just got bigger and bigger." Her brother, Thel, built her first vegetable garden, and she calls him, "The master of her garden."

Twania stays busy with her dedication to Headquarters House gardens, where she has her own plot in which to work. She graciously offered to have her name added to the newly sanctioned project at the Fayetteville Public Library and stated that she would work when she can. Believe me - her name is on the list!

Say hello to Twania and thank her for being the current Master Gardener Archivist.

Washington County Master Gardeners

Treasurer's Report

January 1 - April 30, 2011

	Master Gardeners	Jr Master Gardeners	Compost Fund	Total Bank Account
12/31/2010 Balances	7,578.23	2,603.24	646.28	10,827.75
Income				
Dues	1,155.00			
Sales	218.00	145.00	60.00	
Events/Fundraisers		208.00		
Donations/Gifts	<u>5.00</u>	<u>1,025.00</u>		
Total Income	<u>1,378.00</u>	<u>1,378.00</u>	<u>60.00</u>	
Expenses				
Awards	357.89			
Conference	250.00			
Hospitality & Decorations	107.39			
Jr Master Gardeners	24.00	956.11		
Newsletter	68.82			
Programs	50.00			
Workbook	<u>34.91</u>			
Total Expenses	<u>893.01</u>	<u>956.11</u>	=	
Net Income	<u>484.99</u>	<u>421.89</u>	<u>60.00</u>	
04/30/2011 Balances	8,063.22	3,025.13	706.28	11,794.63

Submitted by Jill A. King, Co-Treasurer

May 20, 2011

A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH

by Joyce Mendenhall

A few Saturday's ago (April 23 to be exact) Gail Pianalto, Betty Swope and I made the pilgrimage to the Plant Lover's Mecca in LeRoy, Kansas – Arnold's Greenhouse. Leaving Tontitown at 7 a.m. under ominous skies should have been our first clue that maybe a three and a half hour drive one way just to shop for plants was a little on the crazy side, but optimists that we are and with one goal in mind, we continued our journey. We actually only got as far as the IHop restaurant in Rogers before having to pull off the road and ride out the blinding rain storm by eating an unplanned for early breakfast. Finally the rain seemed to ease up a little and we headed on down the road. Luckily the farther north we drove the better the weather conditions and we soon saw blue skies.

Without farther incident we arrived at our destination where we would happily submerge ourselves carefully examining hundreds of plants for the next 7 hours. Of course we had to find and greet Rita and George, owners of Arnold's Greenhouse and great friends. They seemed very excited to see us and offered us outstanding service throughout the day. Rita even took us to parts unknown to the average retail shopper. She gave us a preview of some new plants they are trying for 2012 and actually let us purchase a few. You and I know that there was method in her madness because if Gail finds a plant she loves and grows it in her garden everyone in NWA will hear about it and want it too!

All too soon it was time to check out and figure out how in the world we were going to get everything packed into Gail's vehicle. Not only did we make personal, must have purchases, but we had been shopping for the Junior Master Gardener garden. All of Arnold's employees were friendly, knowledgeable, accurate and fast. In fact, the gentleman who packed the car had plants boxed up and sealed shut faster than Betty could keep up with labeling everything. I think that is why we all ended up with one or two of another's plants when we got home. Needless to say, they got it all in the car, and there was a very small space left for Betty to squeeze tightly against the door and boxes of plants with one or two trailing into her face!

Not having had anything to eat since our early breakfast in Rogers our next stop had to be for food. On the way, we had seen signs for the world famous Chicken Annie's and Chicken Mary's restaurants, both of which are in Pittsburg, KS. I had eaten at both restaurants sometime between 1988 and 1992 when I would go to Pittsburg to pick up a fellow Woolworth store manager and go to our business meetings. Gail had recently read an article in some national magazine about the "chicken wars" between the two restaurants so we knew we just had to stop in Pittsburg. As it turns out Chicken Mary's is not on the highway, but three miles down a very narrow country road (did I mention the potholes full of water?).

Remember that by now it is dark and other than one sign on the highway we had no idea where we were. By the time we got there they might be closing and not let us in. Finally we made it, and boy was it ever worth it! The chicken was fantastic! Chicken Mary has long since passed away, but the restaurant is still run by members of her family and continues to use the recipes she used selling chicken dinners out of her home during the Depression. If you are ever in the Pittsburg area I highly recommend stopping in. Oh yeah, I forgot to tell you that Gail confirmed with our waitress at Mary's was the final winner over Annie's in the "chicken wars."

After filling ourselves up, it was time to fill the vehicle with gas and head on down the road. In Joplin, it was starting to rain again and in checking with Virgil back home we learned that it had rained around 4 inches while we were gone. A much heavier storm with possible tornado activity was on its way and would most likely arrive within the hour! Weather reports were saying people should stay off the roads! As we got closer to home the rain and lightning became much worse. Finally in Tontitown, we had to figure out what to do about the plants and I still had to drop Betty off at her house and get home. We decided to leave the plants until Sunday when we could unpack and sort in dry daylight. The streets of Fayetteville were flooded up to the running board on the car, but around midnight I walked safely into my house.

Now this is where the part of my story about "life and death" begins. I was not referring to Gail, Betty or myself, but rather to the poor plants that were held hostage inside Gail's vehicle until Tuesday morning. With continuous downpours all day Sunday and Monday, all we could do was hope that everything would be ok. Did they have enough water? Did they have enough air? Did they have enough light? Did they have enough space or were they crushed together in one large pile after I hit the brakes the first time? (I was not used to driving Gail's vehicle). Were they crushed just from boxes sitting on top of boxes? All of these worries ran through our minds as we waited for the minute we could rescue our new found treasures. We unloaded and separated everything; there appeared to be no major casualties.

Getting mine home has only been the beginning of trying to keep them alive until I can actually get them in the ground. Every time there is a break in the weather I have had some other activity to occupy my time. I am feeling guilty about taking (albeit I paid for them) all these beautiful plants from a place where they were perfectly happy to sit in their little pots and be admired and bringing them to a spot on my deck where they are getting minimal attention. Just like children (which I don't have so maybe that's the problem) I want to give these plants the best life possible and when I can't put them in the ground because it is too wet or too cold or I am just plain too busy I suffer from guilty feelings of plant abuse. Hopefully, by the time you read this, the sun will have come out and warmed and dried the soil just when I had a free evening or Saturday afternoon and all my plants are happily thriving in their new home.



**MINUTES OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY
MASTER GARDENERS MEETING
MAY 3, 2011**

PRESENT: 81 members. Vice President Judie Branson called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. The minutes of the April 5, 2011, meeting and the Treasurer's report were approved.

OFFICER REPORTS:

The June meeting will be a pot luck dinner at the Arkansas Air Museum. The museum will provide a beer and wine happy hour from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. The dinner will be at 7:00 p.m.

The Executive Committee recommended the Fayetteville Public Library be voted on as a sanctioned project with Gayle Howard and Jan Hanks as project chairs. A motion was approved to make the library a sanctioned project with work beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday.

There was no new or unfinished business.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Master Gardener hour logs are due at the picnic June 7, or turn them in at the extension office.

Arkansas State Conference is June 2-4, in Harrison. Registration is full.

BGO office work volunteers are needed. Contact Judy Smith at JSMITH@BGOZARKS.ORG.

The annual picnic will be June 7 at the Arkansas Air Museum. Main dishes will be appreciated.

A chairperson is needed for the Washington County Extension Office grounds. Contact Mike Standrod at mstandrod@earthlink.net.

IMG Conference is October 11-14 in Charleston, West Virginia.

Washington County blog is <http://matergardener.blogspot.com>.

"Through the Garden Gate Tour" sponsored by FGNS will be Saturday, June 11. Admission is \$15 with half going to BGO. Contact Lois Sluzarek at 479-442-4640 or email gloriamc@cox.net.

WCMG plant exchange is Saturday May 7 at the extension office. "Succulent and Cacti Lecture" is Thursday May 19 at BGO. The fee is \$15/\$10 for BGO members.

BGO digital photography contest entries are due June 17 (by email). For info, go to www.bgozarks.org.

VA Medical Center is having a garden/plant sale Friday, May 6, noon - 4:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 7, 8:00 a.m. - noon.

Committee members are needed for all committees. Please volunteer for a committee. Work counts as sanctioned project hours.

Mary Crumley reported that the Junior Master Gardeners earned \$580 from their plant sale and they have seed packs available tonight for \$1.00 or six for \$5.00.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. and was followed by a program on butterflies and moths presented by Lori Spencer, which concluded at 8:00 p.m.

The NEXT MEETING will be June 7, 2011 with a potluck dinner planned at the Arkansas Air Museum (Drake Field).

Robin Selman, Secretary

ASK A MASTER PHONE LIST June 2011			
<i>Wed</i>	<i>6/1</i>		<i>Suzy Brooks</i>
<i>Thu</i>	<i>6/2</i>		<i>Robin Selman</i>
<i>Fri</i>	<i>6/3</i>		
<i>Mon</i>	<i>6/6</i>	<i>Terry E.</i>	<i>Terry E.</i>
<i>Tue</i>	<i>6/7</i>	<i>Marty Gray</i>	<i>Pauline Keegan</i>
<i>Wed</i>	<i>6/8</i>	<i>Dorothy R. Bein</i>	<i>Suzy Brooks</i>
<i>Thu</i>	<i>6/9</i>	<i>Lynn Rogers</i>	<i>Robin Selman</i>
<i>Fri</i>	<i>6/10</i>		
<i>Mon</i>	<i>6/13</i>	<i>Terry E.</i>	<i>Terry E.</i>
<i>Tue</i>	<i>6/14</i>	<i>Marty Gray</i>	<i>Pauline Keegan</i>
<i>Wed</i>	<i>6/15</i>		<i>Suzy Brooks</i>
<i>Thu</i>	<i>6/16</i>	<i>Lea Anna Taylor</i>	<i>Robin Selman</i>
<i>Fri</i>	<i>6/17</i>		
<i>Mon</i>	<i>6/20</i>	<i>Terry E.</i>	<i>Terry E.</i>
<i>Tue</i>	<i>6/21</i>		<i>Pauline Keegan</i>
<i>Wed</i>	<i>6/22</i>	<i>Dorothy R. Bein</i>	<i>Suzy Brooks</i>
<i>Thu</i>	<i>6/23</i>	<i>Lynn Rogers</i>	<i>Robin Selman</i>
<i>Fri</i>	<i>6/24</i>		
<i>Mon</i>	<i>6/27</i>	<i>Terry E.</i>	<i>Terry E.</i>
<i>Tue</i>	<i>6/28</i>	<i>Ann Ingskov/Barb C.</i>	<i>Pauline Keegan</i>
<i>Wed</i>	<i>6/29</i>		<i>Suzy Brooks</i>
<i>Thu</i>	<i>6/30</i>		<i>Robin Selman</i>
Please call Jacqueline King, 751-8690, for Changes or Additions			



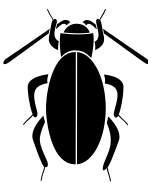
Berni's Hilltop Gardening Tips

June 2011

Japanese beetles appear in our garden during this month. Employ control measures right away, cultural, organic, and chemical. Once you allow a feeding frenzy to begin, every nearby beetle joins the party and control becomes difficult without using chemical insecticides.

I have seen very little fireblight this spring. It can still rear its damage on pears, apples, pyracantha, and other members of the rose family. At first signs, remove limbs back 6 inches into good healthy wood. Since this is a bacterial problem, disinfect pruners between each cut. For fruit trees, the best defense is planting fireblight resistant/tolerant varieties.

Bag worms have hatched and can kill a needle evergreen tree if it is heavily infested. Inspect trees/shrubs periodically, especially those that had bagworms last year. Broadleaf trees and shrubs can be infested as well but usually do not die but can be an added stress causing reduced growth. Hand-picking light infestations works well; applying the bacteria *Bacillus thuringiensis* will also take care of the problem. When newly hatched 1/8 inch worms will form a bag, yet small, around them immediately. So, you will be looking for small 1/4 to 1/2 inch long bags this month.



Vegetable gardens are beginning to take shape. All your hard work can be lost if you allow some insects to take hold. Keep an eye out for corn earworm, cucumber beetle, and squash vine borers. Plan on having these and have a prevention/control plan in place.

We've had a strange spring which usually results in below normal performance in the vegetable garden. Check your tomatoes for blossom end rot on the fruit as it begins to form. This is usually an indication of a calcium deficiency. Place a handful of gypsum (land plaster) in the soil beside the tomato at planting (or later) to prevent this. Foliar sprays such as blossom end rot spray (Stop Rot) will also help alleviate the problem. Nothing will "heal" the fruit with rot on it, so remove and discard affected fruit.

Continue spraying your fruit trees, especially stone fruit (peaches, plums, etc.) with a fungicide (Captan, etc.) every 7 to 10 days to provide the beautiful fruit you look forward to eating. Include an insecticide in the mix to prevent wormy fruit. Refer to extension fact sheet "Home Fruit Orchards Sprays" for a spray mix recipe and application instructions.

Now that lilacs have finish flowering, you can "deadhead" or prune off the old blossoms. To reduce the height of the shrub, prune the old stems to the ground and allow new suckers to grow and flower. If plants are large, taking one-third of the old stems out over a three-year period doesn't create the dramatic butchered effect of pruning all at once. Some prefer to prune in late winter when it is easier to see the branch structure. Pruning early, though, will remove this year's flower buds which begin forming right after bloom of the previous year.

Each spring as gardening season starts we have the best intentions for our transplants. If your flower/vegetable transplants aren't off to a good start, it's not too late to use a water-soluble starter fertilizer on them. A starter fertilizer is high in phosphorus, which helps to promote good root development, getting the plant off to a good start. The most common water-soluble starter fertilizers like 5-10-5, 10-52-17 or 8-32-16 should be used at the rate of one to two tablespoons per gallon of water. Use one to two cups of the fertilizer to water around the roots of the plant.

Check bearded iris leaves for yellow streaks and mushy spots in the plump surface roots called "rhizomes". These are sure signs of iris borer activity. Check the rhizomes for borer holes and remove infested parts. In the future, avoid covering rhizomes with mulch or soil (this favors borer activity), or grow resistant Siberian iris instead.

If you're using a string trimmer to trim around trees, be careful not to damage the tree bark. Repeatedly striking tree bark with weed whacker strings opens the tree to infection, and may over time kill the tree by cutting through the tender bark. Technically, this is known as "girdling." Mulch around trees so you don't have to trim close to the trunk, or place tree guards on the trunks. Just make sure you don't pile mulch up around the trunks.

Berni Kurz
County Extension Agent
Staff Chair

Organic Gardening and More

Waterlogged Soils and Soil-less Growing Mix

Calvin F. Bey CFBey1936@cox.net

Waterlogged Soils. After a very dry early spring we hit the jackpot in late April with 12-16 inches of rain in a week. That has caused many problems. The most noticeable effects were the erosion and soil compaction. On even a slight slope, that pounding rain may have taken away an inch or more of top soil. You may have also noticed some plants turning yellow and some of them even wilting. **The Reason** – those waterlogged soils contain almost no air and the plants cannot take up nutrients and grow.

If you have serious soil issues, plan now for making some changes. Wet soil problems are usually fixable. It may be that drainage ditches are needed, or maybe you even have to change the garden location.

The value of raised beds was never more self-evident than with these recent rains. Except for one bed of newly emerging carrots, all my raised beds were covered with spring vegetable crops and/or mulched with straw. They suffered very little with the rain. A couple days after the rains stopped, I “fixed” the carrot bed by adding a little compost and covering the area with finely chopped, old straw. Production of the spring crops looks great.

Soil-Less Growing Mix. One gardening book and other “experts” advocate growing gardens in a soil-less mix composed of several different kinds of organic material. I am opposed to this practice. It is not surprising that I have had several calls this year from soil-less mix users who describe past results as “poor” to “miserable.”

These soil-less mixes are generally not sustainable and far from what I call good organic gardening practices. Produce from those gardens are invariably poor in nutrient content. As a rule, if the plants can even get started in such a mix, they end up having lush vegetation, with little or no fruit production, with a preponderance of insect issues. It is no wonder. As a rule, compost does not have the correct ratios of minerals needed by plants for good fruit production. I have heard gardeners say, “you can’t use too much compost.” That is not true. I caution gardeners routinely, to use compost wisely, i.e., sparingly.

There is no simple solution for those garden beds filled with soil-less mix. Several gardeners I know are digging out their expensive soil-less mix and starting over with some topsoil at about ten percent the cost. A small amount of the mix may be useful as a soil amendment. It will depend on the nutrients in the mix, but I would start with no more than 10 parts soil to 1 part soil-less mix for any vegetable garden. *See photo below for results comparing a soil mix (left) from a soil-less mix (right).*



Field Day at Harmony Gardens—FREE

Despite the weather, the garden is looking very good. Organic/Biological gardener, Calvin Bey, invites you to see his garden and hear about techniques for growing NUTRIENT-DENSE produce. This is open to the public so come and bring others.

WHEN: Saturday, June 4, 2011, from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Be there at 9, 10, 11, 1, or 2 when new tours begin. No tours from noon to 1 p.m.

WHERE: 8779 W. Forest Hills Dr., Fayetteville, AR.

DIRECTIONS: From the intersection of Highways 540 and 16 (Exit 64), go west 4.7 miles to 85th Ave. Turn south and go $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to Forest Hills Dr. Turn west and go to 4th house on the left.

Additional information: Contact Calvin at 479-527-6951 or CFBey1936@cox.net. See <http://harmonygardens.blogspot.com>.

My Love Affair with Dirt

by Pam Johnson

I know I'm not alone when I say, "I love dirt!" For me, I think it started when I was a little tomboy growing up with older brothers. We all know boys like to get dirty and I was right there with "em." I'm sure I ate more dirt than I would like to now admit. I didn't eat dirt on purpose, but it was just part of playing outside.

In the summer, we would get so filthy—all over, but especially our hands, faces, and feet. Back then, we didn't wear shoes most of the summer and when mom called us inside at dark, she would fuss about our "black feet" and how we weren't getting into bed like that.

We made our own fun with whatever our little minds could come up with. We didn't have many real toys, so boxes, sticks, green apples, rocks, and dirt were what we used to create our pretend world.

We had two apple trees – one golden and one red. We would play and fight with the green apples and eat the ripe ones that had the fewest worms. We drank water out of the hose and were so involved playing that we didn't want to stop to eat lunch, dinner, or go to the bathroom.



As we all got a little older, my brothers didn't want to play with their little sister anymore, so I started riding my bicycle to my aunt's house a few blocks away. She had a nursery where she grew lots of flowers, but specialized in daylilies and irises. She let me hoe and plant and once again, I was back in the dirt. But, this time, I was learning things. I was learning that dirt wasn't just something to play in and to wash off at the end of the day.

I learned that dirt was gold and it was valuable. I saw how dirt could grow beautiful plants and flowers and food!! My aunt also had a vegetable garden and she knew I loved strawberries. Many of my fondest memories are eating partially-thawed strawberries in the hot summer and getting a cramp in my jaw or a brain freeze. We didn't have a phone, so I couldn't call my aunt to see if I could come over. I just showed up, so she didn't have time to let strawberries thaw very long before I was eyeing them. I loved them so much that it was worth the pain.



I was about 8 or 9 years old and I was already planning my own garden. I didn't have any tools, so my aunt gave me an old hoe and a shovel. She also gave me some seeds. Unfortunately, I didn't think about the logistics of where I hoed up my little plot. The hose wasn't long enough to reach my garden and I couldn't get enough water to the plot in

the hot summer. I got tired of carrying water, but I filed away some very important lessons from my endeavors. Dirt may be like gold, but water is like platinum—both are precious.

Here I am still getting dirty and loving every minute of it. I guess you could say that I've had an affair with dirt for close to 50 years. When someone jokes that they are "older than dirt," or someone "bit the dust," or that someone's name is "Mudd," I want to tell them to quit talkin' trash about the love of my life.

When I die, dig a little hole in my flower bed; put me in it, and backfill. Sprinkle some flower seeds and water on top to make sure I'm visited by the butterflies and hummers. You know, I think it will be okay that I have black feet this one last time.

FAYETTEVILLE IN BLOOM

June 16 and 17



Cindi Cope, Chairperson of Fayetteville in Bloom, announces that the America in Bloom Judges will be touring Fayetteville June 16 and 17. America in Bloom is a national competition where cities compete in 8 Criteria including:

Heritage

Floral Displays

Environmental Efforts

Landscaped Areas

Urban Forestry

Turf and Groundcover

Tidiness

Community Involvement

This year's judges are Katy Moss Warner, President Emeritus of the American Horticulture Society and Ed Hooker, who is the Historic Architect for Ft. Riley, Kansas.

Cindi Cope will also be a judge this year traveling to Demopolis AL, Galipolis OH, London KY and Greendale IN.

For more information, contact
Cindi Cope 521-0934 or CopeCindi@aol.com.



Thank you so much to all my Master Gardener friends who were so kind and thoughtful to send food, cards, and email condolences after my Mother's passing. Also, for those of you who attended her visitation and or funeral, I want you to know how much that meant to me. She was a very special lady and I will miss her sweet, caring smile. It is during a time like this that we learn how much our friends really mean to us. I so appreciate your sympathy and kindness.

Many thanks,

Gloria McIntosh

THE FLOWER, GARDEN AND NATURE SOCIETY OF NW ARKANSAS
presents

THE 14th ANNUAL

“THROUGH THE GARDEN GATE”

A TOUR OF NORTHWEST ARKANSAS GARDENS

*A Benefit for the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks
and The Flower, Garden and Nature Society of Northwest Arkansas*

June 11, 2011, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Dillard Garden

*Mary & Tom Dillard
Farmington, AR*

Survivor's Garden

*Martha & Mark Haguewood
Fayetteville, AR*

“Mascabado”

at Mission Esperanza
*Denise & Hershey Garner
Fayetteville, AR
Refreshments*

Mainview Garden

*Judy & Jay McDonald
Fayetteville, AR*

Dutch Hill Gardens

*Marilyn & John Holland
Rogers, AR*

A Friend to Nature

*Paula & Lewis Yarborough
Rogers, AR*

Tickets: \$15 each, Children eleven and under - free

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:

Bank of Fayetteville (two locations) 1 S. Block St. (on Fayetteville Square) and
Crossover Branch, 1311 N. Steamboat Dr. Fayetteville
Fayetteville Farmers' Market, Fayetteville Square
Botanical Garden of the Ozarks, 4703 N. Crossover Rd, Fayetteville (North of Zion Rd.)
Westwood Gardens, 3112 N. New Hope Road, Rogers

Checks payable to: FGNS of NWA or Flower, Garden and Nature Society of NW Arkansas

For more information, please call Lois at 479-442-4640 or email gloriamc@cox.net.

**WASHINGTON COUNTY
MASTER GARDENER
NEWSLETTER**



**U of A Cooperative Extension Service
2536 North McConnell
Fayetteville, AR 72704**

**Phone: 479-444-1755
FAX: 479-444-1764
State Web Site: www.uaex.edu**

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

June

**June 7 @ 6:30 p.m. –
WCMG Meeting & Annual Picnic**

**June 2-4 – Arkansas Master
Gardener Conference – Harrison**

June 7 – WCMG Volunteer Hours Due
(Nov thru May)

June 11 – FGNS “Through the
Garden Gate” Tours – Washington
County

June 16-17 AIB Judging

June 21 – Summer Begins



July

**July 5 @ 6:30 p.m. –
WCMG Meeting**

July 16 – FGNS Meeting – Speaker:
Leigh Wilkerson on “Edible
Landscaping” – Springdale

August

**Aug 2 @ 6:30 p.m. –
WCMG Meeting**

Aug 20 – FGNS Meeting – Speaker:
Tom Dillard on “More than Hostas:
Gardening in the Shade”

Washington County Fair



University of Arkansas, United States Department of Agriculture and County Governments Cooperating.

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