Next Meeting will be September 1
Program will be Worm Farming by Laci Burton
Social - 6:00 pm - Meeting 6:30

From the President
Ann Fergusen

“Being Garden Lazy Becomes Almost
Respectable in September”

Our attitudes and priorities certainly seem to change in late summer. Our mindsets become one of “got to get it done” to one of “it soon will be time to put my garden to bed and I am going to enjoy it as long as possible”. While it is too hot and wet to work our own gardens, try to visit our project gardens to take a last look and appreciate all of the hard work that has been put into them.

The end of summer event at our August meeting turned out to be a lot of fun. Those attending had the opportunity to see the gardens and visit with Master Gardeners in a small group setting. Many Thanks to Melinda Smith and her committee. We hope to do this again next year.

October is MASTER GARDENER MONTH. We have some fun and different things planned so be sure to attend the September meeting.

Have a Happy and Safe Labor Day.
Fall Lawn Fertilization

By
Branon Thiesse BS, MS
County Extension Agent - Staff Chair

The most common lawn question we receive this time of year is what type and quantity of fertilizer do I need to apply to my yard. The following are recommendations taken from the Bermuda grass lawn calendar.

Apply no more than 0.5 pound of nitrogen per thousand square feet in September, four to six weeks before the first expected frost. Potassium can be applied if soil tests indicate a need. If potassium is needed, use a low-nitrogen, high-potassium fertilizer such as a 10-0-40 or supplement a nitrogen fertilizer source with 1 pound of potash using 1.6 pounds of muriate of potash (0-0-60) per 1,000 square feet. Several manufacturers offer winterizing fertilizers with various combinations of nutrients. When using these products, try to find one that approximates at 4-1-6 ratio of nitrogen-phosphorous-potassium and contains iron, which will extend color into fall. Apply lime during these months if recommended by your soil test.

Apply preemergence or postemergence herbicides as needed to control winter annual and perennial broadleaf weeds such as chickweed and henbit. Preemergence herbicides do not control existing perennial weeds. Apply postemergence herbicides only when weeds are present. Do not apply herbicides designed to control annual bluegrass if the lawn is to be overseeded with ryegrass.

Remember, fall is the perfect time to soil test your yard. As always, if you need assistance please call the Extension Office.
The August 4, 2016 meeting of the Craighead County Master Gardeners met at the ASU Farmers Market, and was called to order at 7:20 pm by president, Ann Ferguson. A large number of members, including many new members were in attendance for the “Show of Hands” mixer preceding the meeting, which gave everyone a chance to socialize as they toured each of the primary gardens: the ASU Display garden, the Nature Center Native Plant garden, the Nature Center Butterfly garden, and the HWES Children’s garden. The scorching August heat relented long enough to make the tours enjoyable, and the delicious meal of brats and desserts topped a very entertaining evening.

**Minutes** – no July minutes were available since CCMG do not meet in July.

**Treasurer’s Report** – The treasurer’s report was approved as read.

**Projects Report** – The tours served as the best report on the status of the gardens. Many hours of dedicated work were evident in the well-cared-for condition of each garden. The addition of new signage also complimented the appreciation of the plants.

**Old Business** – The NEA District Fair will be held September 19-24 as usual. Those who volunteered to work packaging seeds were reminded that they will meet each Tuesday in August at 1:00 at Ginger Adams’ home. Erlene Wise will be contacting those who signed up to work the floriculture event.

**New Business** – The “P-N-G” leadership training will be September 26-27.

**Announcements** – Members were reminded to pick up their copy of the photo directory.

**Master Gardener of the Month** was Braun Campbell. She was nominated by Elizabeth Spencer for generously helping her with her plants for the plant sale in April.

Members with an August birthday were given a plant. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

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**Burton to Present September Program**

by Braun Campbell

You may have seen Laci Burton stocking the aisles of The Truck Patch, but outside her passion for organic produce, Laci is a seasoned farmer of worms for composting. For the September program Laci will demonstrate worm farming. A worm composter for the past three-and-one-half years, Laci first became interested when a friend introduced her to the practice, and life in the city made composting with worms a more sensible practice. Laci came here from New Orleans a little more than two years ago. “I moved here to raise food and be near my great grandparents,” Laci explains. Currently, Laci is taking her passion for food and farming a step further: Laci recently became an intern with Dettlebachs Farms in Wynne, AR, a 100-percent no spray, naturally certified growing operation.
A big thanks to Melinda Smith for all her hard work planning and organizing our August activity. Last spring when Melinda mentioned doing this mixer I thought to myself don’t you have enough to do. Melinda was knee deep in her plant sales along with the end of school. I guess she was bored since she didn’t have two weddings this year.Seriously she and Sherry Broadway do an excellent job with their gardens and classes at HWES school.

I’m so glad she took time to also prepare Show of Hands for Master Gardeners. Everyone who was able to participate had a good visit and got to enjoy touring some of our garden projects. Many of those gardens I had not seen all year and that may have been true for others. All of us have Melinda Smith and those who helped her with this project to thank for that. Great job - Melinda Smith!
Reminder

Our friend, Renee Shepherd, owner of Reneesgarden.com (Renee’s Garden Seeds), is making a wonderful offer for Health, Wellness and Environmental Studies Elementary School. If you go to her website and order seed, and use this code when you order: FR556A, she will donate 25% of the price of the seed you order, to the Health, Wellness and Environmental Studies Elementary Kitchen/Garden Program. Isn’t that great? So, go to her website and order some seed, being sure to use the FR556A coupon code.

Packaging Seeds for the Fair

Photos by Diane Sandberg

Ginger Adams giving instructions on how to label and package the seeds.

Pat Finch and Barb Evans in foreground working on the seed packets.

Angie Schmidt, Ginger Adams. Lana Keyes and Mike Wilbanks packaging seeds.

Angela Gary, Pat Finch, Barb Evans, Mike Wilbanks, Angie Schmidt and Lana Keyes.

Do You Tweet/Twitter?

Twitter is a social media vehicle that has been around for a while now. Most businesses as well as common folks use Twitter and tweet tidbits of information to those who follow them.

Janet Carson has picked up tweeting this week. If you’d like to follow her on Twitter you can find her @JanetJcarson

We are looking for someone to set up a Master Gardener Tweeter Account to feature pictures of local gardens and news about our events. It could be on the order of Janet Carson’s account. We would like to use it to publicize Master Gardeners and solicit new members. We will talk more about this at our September meeting or you can contact Braun Campbell for more info.
We are forming a new interest group for all of you crafty types. Luci Murray will be leading this group and is inviting anyone who is interested to get in touch with her. The main objective of the group will be to make “Yard Art Items” for our group to sell as fundraisers. We will sell them at the Plant Sale and other functions.

Luci is very excited and is gathering ideas for items to make. While working with this group you will be learning to make art for your own yard, as well as gifts. Contact Luci at 870.931.6537 or lucim_98@yahoo.com.

More details will be furnished at our next meeting.
Important Reminders

Re-certified Members

According to the log sheets, as of August 21 the following members are re-certified:


It is **VERY** important that members log in their hours regularly! If anyone still needs help, please contact Donna Tolewitzke or fill out the time sheets in the Red Notebook and bring to the next meeting.

**Remember:** It is also very important that you show up to work in the projects you signed up for.

Important Reminders

**Being Respectful:** Just a reminder to be respectful of not only the speakers at meetings but to your fellow MGs. You may think you are talking quietly but voices carry making it difficult for others to hear what is going on during the meetings.

**Sign In!** As you arrive at the MG meeting each month, be sure to SIGN IN! The sign-in sheet will be on the table to the right as you come in the door. At the end of each meeting, we will draw from the attendance sheet for a door prize!

**Name Tags:** Be sure to wear your MG name tag to each meeting and receive a KISS! Otherwise put a quarter in the jar.
From Peggy Lane R-R-R Chair:

In October, Craighead County Master Gardeners will be celebrating our **Twentieth Year!** We have several special events planned such as: at the October Meeting we will have several members of the very first CCMG class speak about some of their fond memories of being a Master Gardener; a plant swap; a delicious MG birthday cake; and a couple of other **special surprises** to honor our **Motivated, Marvelous, Magnificent Master Gardener volunteers!**

During the week, we also plan to have tables set up at local garden centers, Walmart and Farmer’s Market to promote our organization, answer questions, give away freebies, etc.

You will hear more on these plans at our September meeting.

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**ASU Display Garden**

*Photos by Peggy Lane and Donna Tolewitzke*

Workers at the Health and Wellness Magnet School

Weeding the hill.

Rain Lilies in Bloom.
2016 Master Gardener Appreciation Day

Botanical Garden of the Ozarks
4703 N Crossover Rd
Springdale, AR 72764

October 10, 2016
Garden Open: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Events on MG Day: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

2016 MG Appreciation Day will be held October 10 at the Botanical Garden of the Ozarks in Fayetteville. Gardens open at 9 a.m. and close at 5 p.m.

Master Gardeners and County Agents get in free that day with their name tags. Guests are welcome, but will pay $7.00 per person.

We will have events going on throughout the garden that day to help educate you about the gardens. These will take place from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., but you will also have time to wander and explore on your own. Presentations will be informal and flexible as people show up and will be scattered throughout the garden. Presentation topics include rain barrels, chickens, monarchs and bluebird houses just to name a few.

There is no need to register UNLESS you wish to purchase lunch or a t-shirt.

We will have on-line registration available soon, but we have had a glitch with the credit card part. We wanted to give you plenty of time to plan so we are emailing the pertinent information and the mailable forms now. Again, these are ONLY NEEDED if you plan to order lunch or a t-shirt. You may mail in the form with a check or wait until next week when we send out the link with the on-line credit card payment option.

Lunch on MG Day will only be available by pre-order, but there are numerous places you can drive to eat elsewhere if you choose. T-shirts will only be available by pre-order, not for purchase that day. The deadline to order lunch and/or t-shirts is September 23.

Lunch and t-shirt information can be found at: https://www.uaex.edu/yard-garden/master-gardeners/mgonly/MG%20Day%20Lunch%20Tee%20Shirt%20Form%202016%202.pdf (found on the MG only web area)
The Fair Booth

At long last, a decision has been made about the fair and our participation in it. We are going to have a booth and we are giving away seeds. The scheduled dates are September 19 – 24. If you have questions about helping to set up and work at the booth contact Mike Wilbanks at 870-530-0669.

The following previously signed up to help setup & work in the booth:

Donna Bachman
Donna Bandy
Debra Boyles
Lise Cater
Pam Chafin
Terri Inman
Linda Light
Karen Massey
Sarita McCarty
Ditty Mitts
Mary Montgomery
Stephanie Neely
Sasha O’Rourke
Becky Phillips
Carrie Ray
Connie Seay
Susan Shelton
Anna Warren
Bobbie Wilson
Katie Wysocki

Squash Relish Recipe

From Jenia Williams (Peggy Lane's Sister-in-Law)

10 cups shredded yellow or zuchinni or both
2 large onions cut in rings
1 large green pepper
6 tbsp canning salt

Combine above in large container, cover & refrigerate overnight. Drain, rinse & drain again.

4 cups sugar
3 cups cider vinegar
1 tbsp. each – celery seed, ground mustard and ground turmeric
2 tbsp. mustard seed
¼ to ½ tsp pepper flakes, if desired
½ tsp ground nutmeg
½ tsp black pepper

In a dutch oven, combine above ingredients, bring to a boil. Add squash mixture & return to a boil. Reduce heat & simmer for about 30 minutes. Remove from heat. Carefully ladle into prepared jars, leaving ½ inch headspace. Remove air bubbles and adjust headspace if necessary adding hot liquid from mixture. Wipe rims, put on lids and rings. Place jars in water bath canner and process for 15 minutes. Remove jars and cool. Refrigerate any remaining relish. Yield 6 pints.

¼ cup: 36 calories, trace saturated fat, 0 cholesterol, 197 mg sodium, 8 g carbohydrates, 1 gm protein
Do you have a long “to-do” list? If so, do NOT check out *Private Edens: Beautiful Country Gardens* by Jack Staub. Some of the photos are so serene it’s like 30 minutes of yoga without the stretching. Exquisite photography and some unusual one-of-a-kind treats that I’d love to see in *my* garden, make this a fun read.

I don’t typically see before and after photos in gardening books, but *Yard and Garden Makeovers—Your Guide to Creating a Beautiful Logical Landscape* by George Kay has some helpful ideas. While it didn’t have a zillion photos, it did have lots of logical planning including chapters on landscape assessment and garden structures.

Polly Mcleod Mattox’s *Private Gardens of Georgia* is an absolute treasure trove of beautiful photographs. It’s like a private tour of 39 of the most beautiful gardens in Georgia minus the Georgia heat and stair–climbing. Why Georgia? Because “it has a rich and varied geography,” and “supports a diverse mix of botanical species.” That means SOMETHING in that book just might work in my garden!

There it was on page 159. The bottle tree. I’ve seen them sprouting up all over the region and I never realized there was a reason other than aesthetic. But in Julie Messervy’s *Home Outside* it states it’s a “southern tradition to trap evil spirits in bottles suspended in trees.” This book is replete with visual delights, and if you want to see how a teepee can be incorporated into the landscaping, you’ll have to check out the book.

For these and other resources, please visit your Public Library.
Road Trip to Celebrate Master Gardener Day in Fayetteville!

CCMGs wanting to attend MG Day at the Botanic Gardens of the Ozarks created interest in our providing a means of getting there without either a long day of driving or spending the night. We can charter a 40 passenger bus, leaving from the Extension office at 6 am on Monday, October 10, and returning at 8 pm. The cost will be $54 per person. This is from Cline Tours.

We will have a sign up sheet at the September meeting to see if there is enough interest in the trip. It would be fun! Guests would be welcome.

Upcoming Events

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<tr>
<td>17 - Marion - Crittenden County Arkansas Master Gardeners Symposium &quot;SULTRY SOUTHERN NIGHTS&quot; - Angel's Way Baptist Church 801 Angel's Way - Speakers: Debbie Bruce, Janet Carson, Cathy Justice, Brian Keithley, Dr. Michael Kennedy, and Dr. Stan Trauth - for more info contact Russ Parker 1-870-739-3239 <a href="http://www.memphisareamastergardeners.org/events1/sultry_southern_nights_(2).pdf">http://www.memphisareamastergardeners.org/events1/sultry_southern_nights_(2).pdf</a></td>
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<td>19 - 24 - Craighead County Fair</td>
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<td>25 - Little Rock - County 76 Quarterly Meeting, Little Rock State Extension Office, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>26 - 27 - Ferndale - Master Gardener PNG Leadership Conference, Arkansas 4-H Center - Registration deadline is August 26. We will pay $45 of your registration fee. Please call Ann or Mimi for more information and forms.</td>
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<th>October</th>
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<td>6 - Forrest City - St. Francis County Seminar &quot;Fall into Gardening&quot; - Mid-south Health System Building - for more information contact Delma “Butch” Murray 870 339-2929 <a href="mailto:bmurray48@me.com">bmurray48@me.com</a></td>
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<td>9 - 15 - Master Gardener Week (to celebrate Arkansas MG Birthday which is October 13)</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 - El Dorado - Union County Master Gardeners Annual Bulb Sale - South Arkansas Arboretum - 9:00 am to noon.</td>
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For list of Arkansas shows, meetings, etc. see statebystategardening.com/ar/calendar/

For Master Gardener events see http://www.uaex.edu/yard-garden/master-gardeners/events.aspx

For information on Memphis events see www.memphisareamastergardeners.org/events.htm
Garden Quotes

“I would rather sit on a pumpkin, and have it all to myself, than be crowded on a velvet cushion.”
Henry David Thoreau

Try to remember the kind of September
When grass was green and grain so yellow
Try to Remember, Lyrics by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt

Fun and Useful Links

Arkansas Master Gardener Program
http://www.uaex.edu/yard-garden/master-gardeners

CCMG Facebook Page
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Craighead-County-Master-Gardeners/629232630461141?ref=hl

HWES School Gardens Facebook Page
https://www.facebook.com/HWESschoolgardens

Janet Carson’s Blog - In the Garden
http://uofacesmg.wordpress.com/

Jim Long’s Blog
http://jimlongsgarden.blogspot.com/

Public Horticulture Events
http://www.uaex.edu/yard-garden/master-gardeners/events.aspx

University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Research & Extension
http://www.uaex.edu/

Garvan Gardens with Janet Carson

Craighead County Master Gardeners are trained volunteers working with the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service and Craighead County officials to provide beautification projects and horticultural information to the residents of the county. In 2015 Craighead County Master Gardeners reported more than 6914.25 hours of service and education to benefit Craighead County.

Weeder’s Digest is the official newsletter of the Craighead County AR Master Gardener Program.

Please contact the newsletter editor at dsandberg@suddenlink.net with your articles, ideas, photos and suggestions.

Newsletters are Adobe files and require the latest Adobe Reader to view. You may download the latest Adobe Reader at "http://get.adobe.com/reader/".