Hello GCMGs,

Well, I certainly am not sorry to see the end of February, I can only hope the weather improves and I can get my last month’s gardening chores completed soon. Maybe March will "come in like a lion and out like a lamb".

We are all looking forward to meeting and welcoming in the Master Gardener class of 2015. We will have our intern - no, excuse me, first year master gardener (FYMG) - luncheon on March 19, sign up now if you have not already done so.

I would particularly like to give a big thank you and my sincere appreciation to all of you who have stepped up to become chairpersons or assistant chairs for our many committees. The extra time and effort you all put in is the key to our success. A big "atta boy (girl)" to ALL of you! I am certainly not forgetting all those who support those committees. Please consider doing the chairperson job if you are not already doing so.

Hope all of you enjoyed the Arkansas Flower and Garden Show - too bad they had such lousy weather, and enjoyed the feature article in the Sentinel last Sunday about Master Gardeners - hats off to our Publicity Committee for all the nice press we get for MG’s.

What I miss most about being Prez, is that at our meetings, I do not get to talk and visit with many of you, so please call or send me an email and tell me what is on YOUR mind..........

Have a great month,
Linda

Start getting ready for our busy season and keep on the lookout for yards and businesses to nominate for Yard (Business) of the Month, and tell the YOM committee.

Lastly, my landscape committee - Rocket and Gracie - have determined that we will have an austere, minimalist design for the backyard this year.
ALLEN’S CORNER

This year’s Master Gardener training has gone great. Thanks again to all of you that are mentoring our new Master Gardeners. I receive lots of positive feedback from our new members each year about how helpful this is. We now have a full slate of officers and I am looking forward to working with them this year.

Watching it snow looking forward to warmer days soon. Allen

Please remember that your committee article and photo is due by the 21st of the month. Please send your photo as an attachment in jpeg format. If your committee meets after the deadline, please send a note to Carolyn Davis stating when your committee meets and that you will provided an article and photo at that time. A space can then be allotted for your article. Thank you for your cooperation.

Kudos to our “Kitchen Committee” aka the “behind-the-scene” crew!!!

Just want you to know we appreciate all the hard work you do, and the great lunches you fix for us.

Left to right:

March Birthdays

Margie Herrin Mar 1
Carol Blecha Mar 1
Bill Staton Mar 1
Dianne Hardin Mar 4
Dianne Sims Mar 5
Kay Ford Mar 5
Bob Warner Mar 6
Nancy Morris Mar 11
Dayna Carter-Smith Mar 12
Helen Mosley Mar 14
Jimmy Jones Mar 14
Jim Moore Mar 17
Pat McCain Mar 18
Barbara Stalion Mar 18
Karen DeGeer Mar 19
Lonnie Luebben Mar 20
Kay Shearer Mar 25
Anne Flueckiger Mar 27
Karl Eschenlohr Mar 27
Sue Finley Mar 30
Joyce Hatfield Mar 30
COMO Square Committee

The Garland County Master Gardener COMO committee met recently to clean the beds, dig, divide, and replant large clumps of liriope. The city of Hot Springs will pick up and use any of the liriope that we did not use. When we left, we all felt the job site looked so much better and cleaner. Those present to work were Charlotte Anthony, Sue Bristow, Susan Deimel, Judy Fields, Karin Grisham, Rosemary Hany, Sue Jacobs, Becky Pawelczak, Vicki Scheddel (new MG in training), Mary Ann Schnipper, Sunshine Spielvogel, and Laura Young.

Education Committee

The first Brown Bag Lunch program of 2015 was held in February at the Garland Co Library with 60 people attending. Carrie Avaritt, of the Hot Springs Municipal Compost Facility, explained the 6 month process used to create the compost and how its safety is maintained. Please watch the newspaper for our upcoming Brown Bag Lunches at the library.

A Seed Swap was held at the Sow n Till table at the February Garland County Master Gardener monthly meeting. Celosias to Kentucky Wonder Pole beans to Zinnias were traded to new spring-awaiting owners.
The February Meeting of the Court House/Police Memorial Committee was planned & decided on a Monday when the temperature was in the 60’s & 70’s. Of course, by Thursday morning the temperatures were in the 20’s & 30’s with the wind making it feel even colder. This did not deter the 10 hale, hearty, & faithful members that showed up for a more than brisk workout. Wayne Patterson, Barbara Smith, Linda Doherty, Carol Scrivner, Sunshine Spielvogle, Jeff Finney, Bev Merritt, Kay Skoog, Jim Moore, and James Moore, Jr. faithfully weeded and weed-wacked the liriope. Thank you James Moore, Jr. for bringing your weed eater. Thanks to Lin Johnson, who showed up on Tuesday to clean out the Lily beds (which were the weediest of all). We made it out of the weather and some went to McDonalds for hot chocolate to thaw out. Thank you all for the great work, great attitude, and the much improved Court Houses and Memorial beds because of your efforts. Thank you again, Michael Carr & Kay Skoog Co-Chairs

Entergy Park

The Master Gardeners met recently at Entergy Park where they worked hard to prepare the beds for spring planting. They trimmed and cut the dead flowers, grasses and shrubs, weeded, raked the leaves and bagged up the cuttings to be hauled to the compost pile. Walkers in the park complimented us on our hard work and stated how much they enjoy our garden. Come join our fun committee on the 1st Wednesday of each month.

Jeff Finney & Wayne Paterson, Co-Chairs

Left to right: Ellen Majestic, Shelia McLarty, Carol Scrivner, Jeff Finney, Mary Ann Schnipper, Paula Wallace, Lin Johnson, James Moore Jr., and not shown Betty Fortner and Karin Grisham.
**Lake Hamilton Greenhouse**

The Lake Hamilton Greenhouse branch of Youth Gardening met to trim, clean, re-pot and ready plants for the Garland County Master Gardener Spring Plant Sale which will be held April 25th. The busy workers spruced up the already beautiful hanging baskets. This energetic group is always great fun to work with. Come and join us on the second Wednesday of each month at 9 am at the Lake Hamilton Greenhouse!

Barb Smith and Sue Finley, Co-chairs

In the photo left to right: Kay Skoog, Henryetta Martin.

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**GEMS**

The Garland County Master Gardeners GEMS committee met recently at Garvan Gardens for a work day. The weather was perfect for work. The horticulture staff assisted them with weeding, fertilizing, and mulching. It was a busy day getting the plants ready since Garvan Gardens will be in full bloom soon. Be sure to visit the Gardens this spring, and see all the bulbs in their full colorful array.

Front row L to R: Kay Adams, Sheila McLarty, Carol Scrivner, Linda Doherty, David Hayes.


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**Hot Springs City Greenhouse Committee**

Although the weather has turned cold, we know that this is temporary and before long spring will be arriving. A hard working group of Garland County Master Gardeners have gotten an early start on the hanging baskets that will be placed downtown for all to enjoy this spring and summer. They removed all of the dead petunias as well as removing 2 to 3 inches of the old soil from each basket. Another group of Master Gardeners worked outside cutting back the Miscanthus grass. Others took cuttings from the Coleus, petunias, and Persian shield plants and repotted them in preparation for use in the flower beds around Hot Springs.

Back left to right: Darrell Edwards, Bev Merritt, Sallye Waddell, Laura Young, Carole Stone, Claudette Cooper, Barb Bradstreet, Kay Caldwell, Jane Oliver, Brian Fisher, Ruth Osborn, Les Houston

Front left to right: Janie Turner, Carol Scrivener, Don Turner, and Michael Carr
MARCH MEETING/LUNCHEON

Come and meet our new 2015 First Year Master Gardeners!!

You're Invited.....

A luncheon for all Master Gardeners will be served prior to our regular meeting on March 19th, 2015, at 11:30 a.m. There is no charge for lunch; however, you must let us know if you are attending so we can plan for enough food.

If you did not sign up at the February meeting and would like to attend, you can call or email Jane or Barb and let them know no later than Friday, March 13th. Hilde is in charge of the reservations for the FYMGs.

Contact information:
Barb: 844-4475 or harvbarbretired@aol.com
Jane: 760-3884 or chevy4035@aol.com

Plant Sale Update

The Plant sale is in high gear at both Lake Hamilton and Fountain Lake greenhouses!

We have over 200 hanging baskets, with more to be made. Barb Smith and her crew are going full speed ahead, pruning back hundreds of much desired annuals and making new containers of beautiful plants. After 2 unreal events, a heater going out on the coldest night so far this winter and the main water line bursting 3 weeks later, things at the Fountain Lake Greenhouse are finally moving forward! Mary Ann Jarvis and her crew have planted 18+ flats of herbs, and are now working on the annuals. The Ford's have a great crop of cotton growing, and the perennials are coming in to get warmed up!

Come join the fun!

Thanks,
Diane Daniel
**Calendar of Events**

GCMG = Garland County Master Gardeners  
**GCL= Garland County Library Brown Bags**  
register for classes by calling 501-623-4161 or online at gclibrary.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Day &amp; Time</th>
<th>Name &amp; Location</th>
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| Mar. 4 Wed.10:30-12:00 | Brown Bag Counts as education for GCMG |

| Mar. 5, Thursday, 9:30-11 AM: | Docent training Counts as education for GCMG |

| Mar. 17 Tuesday 9:30 – noon | Counts as education for GCMG |

| Mar. 17 Tuesday | Counts as education for GCMG |

| March 19 Thursday, Time TBA | Counts as education for GCMG |

| Mar. 20-22 Friday-Sunday | Counts as education for GCMG |

| March 26, Thursday, 9:30 - 11 AM: | Docent training Counts as education for GCMG |

| March 28 Sat. 9:30 refreshments 10 a.m. meeting | Counts as education for GCMG |

| April 2 Thursday 9:30 – noon | Counts as education for GCMG |

| April 2 Thursday 1-3 p.m. | Counts as education for GCMG |

| April 9, Thursday 9:30 - 11 AM Docent training | Counts as education for GCMG |

| April 12 Sunday 1:30 – 3:30 | Counts as education for GCMG |

| April 13 Monday | Counts as education for GCMG |

| April 16 Thursday | Counts as education for GCMG |

| April 21 9:30-noon | Counts as work for GCMG |

| April 24, all day Friday | Counts as work for GCMG |

| April 25 a.m. Saturday | Counts as work for GCMG |

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GWG = Garvan Woodland Gardens  
*(You can now sign-up for GWG classes on the website go to garvangardens.org or call 262-9300.

**GCL Brown Bag “Deer Resistant Plants in Your Garden” by Mary Ann Jarvis

Garden Orientation/History and Early Spring Interest + walk in garden

“It’s Great Being Green” Bob Byers and Fern & Moss Gardens Yvonne Becker & Sherry Faulkner

GCMG intern meeting lunch 1130 Meeting 1:00 You MUST sign-up for Lunch!!

River Valley Lawn & Garden Show, Ft. Smith “Modern Tools and Technology for Growers and Marketers”

Woodland Walk/20th Century Garden Spring Interest + walk

The Ouachita Hosta & Shade Plant Society will meeting at the GC Library auditorium

Vertical gardening, Diamonds, Trellises & Trees Espalier

*GWG “Berries” Pat Ford of Renee’s Berry Farm free members, $15 non-members

Garden of the Pine Wind Bob Byers

*GWG “Herbs for the Black Thumb” Debbie Tripp Plants for sale. Free members $15 non-members.

*Garvan Gardens Succulents Janet Carson & Bob Byers Workshop $75 members $90 non-members Order lunch $10

GCMG meeting lunch served 11:15 – 12:30 Meeting 1:00 Awards

*GWG Bobwhite, Cardinal, Blue jay, Crow! Members free, $15 non members

Set-up for GCMG plant sale Farmer’s Market 121 Orange St.

GCMG spring plant sale Farmer’s Market 121 Orange St.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>Counts as education for GCMG</td>
<td>** GCL Brown bag “Garden Art You Can Create” demonstrations/displays by Master Gardeners</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14-23</td>
<td>Counts as education for GCMG</td>
<td>France Garden Tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>** GWG Pruning Workshop with John Powell</td>
<td>$40 members $55 non-members</td>
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<td>May 18</td>
<td>May 18 Monday—Board meetings</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 28,</td>
<td>Counts as education for GCMG</td>
<td>Early Summer Interest Bob Byers + walk</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 4-6</td>
<td>Counts as education/work for GCMG</td>
<td>State Master Gardener Meeting Saline County Benton, AR</td>
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If you have any items to add please e-mail Lin Johnson at linjd@sbcglobal.net