I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as this year's president. I will readily admit that I'm somewhat intimidated by the magnitude of the job that's ahead of me. Realizing all that's required, I am very much in awe of those who have served before me. Fortunately for me, most of last year's Committee Chairs are continuing in their leadership roles, and a number of new folks are willing to step into new roles. I am so grateful to each and every one of you.

One of the best Wing Commanders I served under in the Air Force once said that for him the secret to success was to surround himself with the best people he could find and preferably ones smarter than himself. Then get out of the way, when possible, and let them do their jobs.

As your new president, I am certainly off on the right foot as there are at least 200 Garland County Master Gardeners who know more about horticulture and gardening in general than me. I am also fortunately to have had the opportunity in the past two years to work closely at times with past presidents Lin Johnson and Sharon Dent. Both of these ladies are unbelievably smart and dedicated to our Master Gardener's program. I know this year will be a challenge for me, but with their and your support, I'm confident that it will be a fun and fruitful year.

Ken

Well as this year comes to an end, I have to tell you that I have really enjoyed being your President. I couldn’t have asked for more cooperation from a group of wonderful folks. You have made my year the best ever! We have great plans for next year with the annual Master Gardener Appreciation Day at Garvan and the Leadership Conference both here in Hot Springs we should have another great year.

Lin Johnson
Our Master Gardener Intern training is winding down with only one bout of bad weather. Thankfully we have been able to have all of our training classes and not have to reschedule any. Now is the time to prune fruit trees and summer flowering trees and shrubs. Be sure to wait till after flowering to prune those that flower early in spring.

To start your indoor tomatoes and peppers from seed, count back 5 to 6 weeks before last frost (about April 10). I’m getting good reports from everyone working on propagating plants for our plant sale this spring. I’m also looking forward to warmer weather and all that is coming up in the Master Gardener program.

Allen Bates
CEA Agriculture
236 Woodbine
Hot Springs, AR
71901
501/623-6841 – O
501/622-7486 – C
abates@uaex.edu

STUMP THE EXPERTS

Question 1 – Submitted by Hilde Simmons

Jerry found this pod in his coat pocket the other day, and we have no clue what kind of seeds are rattling inside. We got it last fall while we were at Garvan Woodland Gardens on one of Bob Byer's fall interest walks.

He marched us out to the old boat dock where there are very few of the original trees and shrubs Miss Garvan had planted. There are old boxwoods, a Japanese laurel and a wild viburnum, right where the big red buds are. I remember Bob walking out, picking the pod, and describing the plant. He even let me have the pod, commenting there might be viable seeds left. But what kind are they?

The pod is dark brown, pretty woody, 2 inches long and 1 inch in diameter at its widest point.
Answer 1: If you Google seed pods, you will find a Poppy that has a seed pod very much like that one. My guess is a poppy flower. Chappy

Answer 2: I went through at least one hundred pictures of seed capsules on the internet and saw none exactly like this one. Two that had the open ended capsule like this were Yellow Oleander and Calisteman Bottlebrush. Those will have to be my guesses. Oleander is not very hardy here but there is one on the great lawn. Ruth Siebels

Answer 3: This the fruit of the Carolina allspice. This is per Bob Byers - Heidi

Question 2:

What is this “strange native ground cover” – Katie Gibson

Answer 1: The only information I have is for Question 2 - looks like the reverse side of the native Cranefly orchid. They do spread gradually and can cover a large area when they aren't disturbed. The front side of the leaf is dark green and when you look at the back side, it is this beautiful purple color. They do bloom (if conditions are right) in the summer, but the blooms are very small and nothing exciting. The plants die back in the summer & return in the fall. Yvonne

Answer 2: As far as the leaf is concerned, I was going to say Cornus Alba but the leaf does not have the lateral veins coming from the mid rib and this is very different. The lateral veins all come from the vase. I give up. Ruth

Answer 3: The purple looks like wander jew. Chappy

Answer 4: could it be a Plantain? Leave matches but I don't know about the color. Heidi
Question 3:
What is this? - Barbara Smith

Answer 1: As far as the Squash (cucurbit) my books say that pumpkins are also cucurbits and that they readily cross between different varieties. It appears to be a winter squash that may have had an affair with a pumpkin somehow!! This is my guess!! Ruth Siebels

Answer 2: This looks like a mutated pumpkin, but I'm sure that it has a name and I give up.. Chappy

Answer 3: I am guessing a Gourd? - Heidi

SCORE CARD TO DATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experts</th>
<th>Master Gardeners</th>
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DONT FORGET

We are always looking for photographs and/or questions to be submitted for our “Stump the Experts” column. If you submit a photo, please give any available info. Please send direct to cjd945@sbcglobal.net – subject “STE”
SCHEDULE FOR LIBRARY CLASSES 2013

Mar 12 (Tues)  11:30-1:30  Vertical planting/sq ft
April 3 (Wed)  11:30 a.m.  Exterior Gardening Decorating
April 13  10-12am  (Sat)  Pioneer days/National gardening month (children)
May 23  11:30-1:30pm  Th  Companion Planting
Aug 13  11:30-1:30pm  T  Good bugs/Bad bugs
Sept 26  11:30-1:30pm  Th  Decorative things in the Garden
Nov 12  11:30-1:30pm  T  Hanging baskets
Contact the library for reservations  623-4161. Or

WISH LIST/TRADING CORNER

This is a new column in the newsletter for what you need or do not need anymore!! It is a way to share plants, seeds, items, or get information regarding gardening needs.

FREE ITEM:
One wheel-barrow to **GIVE away**. It is a one owner model, low miles, and runs great with MAN power control. Contact Gaye Harper @ (501) 262-5243

Wish List

Would like "starts" for a fast-growing, evergreen, part shade, easy care shrub that will be used to soften (literally to hide) a neighboring shed. Contact: Linda Doherty 767-4720

Need Moneywort, lime green, to be used at Garvan Woodland Gardens. Contact Linda Doherty 767-4720

As soon as you locate the item, send an email to cjd945@sbcglobal.net identifying the location. The first correct response will be our winner!!

REMINDER

Time sheets on line only. The web site is members.arkmg.org. Complete instructions can be found on GCMG website, under the members only section. Once you get used to online reporting, it will be very easy.

If you need further assistance, please contact me at either carmonh1202@gmail.com or at 501-984-3219. Carmen Hayes, Lead Manager
Happy Birthday Wishes to our March GCMG – from “the gang”

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Margie Herron</td>
<td>March 1st</td>
<td>Jim Moore</td>
<td>March 17th</td>
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<td>Bill Staton</td>
<td>March 1st</td>
<td>Pat McCain</td>
<td>March 18th</td>
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<td>Jennifer Blomme</td>
<td>March 3rd</td>
<td>Barbara Stalion</td>
<td>March 18th</td>
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<td>Dianne Hardin</td>
<td>March 4th</td>
<td>Karen DeGeer</td>
<td>March 19th</td>
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<td>Dianne Sims</td>
<td>March 5th</td>
<td>Susie Johnson</td>
<td>March 19th</td>
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<td>Kay Ford</td>
<td>March 5th</td>
<td>Kay Shearer</td>
<td>March 25th</td>
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<td>Bob Warner</td>
<td>March 6th</td>
<td>Anne Flueckiger</td>
<td>March 27th</td>
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<td>Dayna Carter-Smith</td>
<td>March 12th</td>
<td>Karl Eschenlohr</td>
<td>March 27th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Mosley</td>
<td>March 14th</td>
<td>Sue Finley</td>
<td>March 30th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jimmy Jones</td>
<td>March 14th</td>
<td>Joyce Hatfield</td>
<td>March 30th</td>
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ENTERGY PARK

Here is the energetic group that responded to the Entergy Park call. Unfortunately one of the co-chairs was AWOL at the Library - tis the tax season.

In the front we have Don Turner and Janie Turner. The back row consists of Daryl Edwards, James Moore Jr., Ellen Majestic, Kat Shearer, and Tom Both. Not shown is Gaye Harper - our ever present photographer/worker.

The group stayed busy with typical late-winter, early-spring garden chores. The ornamental grass was given a nice grass-cut, leaves were raked from the flower bed (why don’t the deer eat them?), mums were pruned, a few weeds were removed (always the weeds) and Daryl’s truck was loaded with the residue.

We plan on meeting next month on our new regular schedule (1st Wednesday) March 6th. So go ahead and mark your calendars now.

Wayne Patterson, Chair

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

The Habitat For Humanity did not meet in January. See you at our scheduled February time.

Gene Lichliter, Chairperson
Evelyn M. Worsham
GEMS  🌟

(Garden Essential Maintenance Support)

The first GEMS workday, we cleaned up the Celebration Garden to get it ready for the upcoming wedding season at Garvan. It was a very cold day, but working allowed us to take off several layers of coats and almost wish it was a cloudy day! We got rained out on our next session, so missed the opportunity (ha, ha) to cut back the ornamental grasses. Garvan begins its busy season with daffodils and tulips galore, get out to see them soon! Extra help is always needed, especially with budget cutbacks that are restricting horticulture crew staffing. If you have an extra couple of hours, call Linda Doherty and get set up to work with a crew member - they would be so appreciative of the help. Also, lime green moneywort is needed for a few areas, if you can donate some, call Linda.

Master Gardener GEMS committee getting ready to work at Garvan Woodland Gardens for February 1st opening day.


Picture by Aaron Wright

HOT SPRINGS VILLAGE XERISCAPE  🌟

Hot Springs Village Xeriscape is meeting on the 1st Thursday and 4th Monday of each month 9 a.m. -- 8 a.m. when the weather gets warmer. We are trimming and pruning at this time. Mary Ann will be bringing the day lilies that were dug up last fall to replant where needed (maybe around the sign). Hope you can all join us on keeping up this wonderful "old" garden. She's a beaut!
COMMUNITY EDUCATION

The Education Committee/Library Brown Bag kicked off the year with our first evening class on February 26th with 90 attendees. Our own Master Gardener, Mary Ann Jarvis, spoke on growing herbs and using them in cooking. Following the presentation, everyone was able to enjoy the tasting of over 10 MG treats made with a wide variety of herbs. Recipes were provided.

The next class on March 12 at 11:30 am will be a hands on class showing how to make many vertical gardens for patios, small spaces and decks. Be sure to contact the library for your reservations.
COURT HOUSE/POLICE MEMORIAL

February 14th, Valentines Day, was a cold morning, but 9 members showed up to clean up the beds. These beds were so overgrown and soggy that it was a slow and time consuming job. The community workers had already been there and MURDERED the crape myrtles. All the pruning and care that Linda and Barbara had provided the past year was for naught. James Moore went home and brought his weed eater to trim the liriope - that sure saved the day! Meanwhile, after 4 hours, the job was done and thanks be to: Anne Fulbright, Lynn Harris, James Moore, Jr., Linda Doherty, Kay Skoog, Michael Carr, Charlotte Anthony, Barbara Donathan, and Barbara Smith. (Please note the crape myrtle in the foreground).

See you next month: Thursday, March 14th at the Court Houses and Police Memorial. Everyone is invited....Michael and Kay

TRIANGLE/FARMERS MARKET/GREENHOUSE COMMITTEE

The Triangle/Farmer's Market committee did not meet in February due to the weather. Hopefully March weather will cooperate with our work schedule..

Thanks, Lin, Michael, & Gene
YOUTH GARDENING COMMITTEES

FOUNTAIN LAKE SCHOOL

In early February, Daryl Edwards, manager of the Hot Springs City greenhouse, spoke to Fountain Lake High School’s greenhouse management class. He spoke about all that managing a greenhouse involves, as well as about different plants and their requirements. It was an interesting learning experience for the students.

On February 19, four of the school’s third grade classes, assisted by Marilyn Olson and Madalyn Harris, planted seeds of radishes, lettuce, carrots, peas, and broccoli in hopes of germination and an early spring crop. It, too, was a learning experience and lots of fun to dig in the soil.

HOT SPRINGS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

No reports received for February.
LAKE HAMILTON SCHOOL

The Lake Hamilton youth committee met at the Lake Hamilton High School greenhouse to clean, divide and re-pot various plants such as Penta, ferns, variegated Jew, etc. Hanging baskets were created by combining in-house plants. The greenhouse was cleaned and then plants were watered, fertilized and sprayed for insects as needed.

Master Gardener Members attending were: Lyn Johnson, Jerilynne Loy, Henryetta Martin, Ellen Majestic, Jane Oliver, Barbara Smith and Sue Finley.

Garden Therapy

Meeting for February was postponed due to weather.

Rita Monsen, Chair

CARDS SENT THIS MONTH

Cards were sent to the following members who underwent surgery:

Anna McCoy and Judy Field’s husband, Pat.

Please be sure to notify Lin Johnson and Julie Dickson if a member is sick, has undergone surgery or has had a death in their family so that MG’s can send them a card.
SPRING PLANT SALE – 2013

Spring Plant Sale: April 27th 2013

Spring Plant Sale Committee Workers are still going strong, at both Fountain Lake and Lake Hamilton School Greenhouses.

Cold crops for spring were sold at the February MG meeting and those left over were donated to the HS community garden.
REMINDER TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS

When submitting your articles for the newsletter, make sure they are sent as an email and not an attachment (ie word). Photos MUST BE sent as attachments in jpeg format. Please do not embed your photos within your article. In order for the newsletter committee members to work on the information submitted, this is the way the data has to be submitted. Please send ALL your information to Rita Monsen at monenr@ipa.net.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Newsletter Committee

Easter is really an entire season of the Christian church year, as opposed to a single-day observance. Lent, the 40-day period leading up to Easter Sunday, is a time of reflection and penance and represents the 40 days that Jesus spent alone in the wilderness before starting his ministry, a time in which Christians believe he survived various temptations by the devil. The day before Lent, known as Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday, is a last hurrah of food and fun before the fasting begins. The week preceding Easter is called Holy Week and includes Maundy Thursday, which commemorates Jesus' last supper with his disciples; Good Friday, which honors the day of his crucifixion; and Holy Saturday, which focuses on the transition between the crucifixion and resurrection. The 50-day period following Easter Sunday is called Eastertide and includes a celebration of Jesus' ascension into heaven.

www.history.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date/Day &amp; Time</th>
<th>Name &amp; Location of Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 2 Sat. 9:30 snacks 10am program</td>
<td>The Ouachita Hosta and Shade Plant Society will be meeting at the Garland County Library, 9:30 snacks and visiting, 10am Program: Larry Tucker from Southaven, MS Author of “Confessions of a Hostaholic” and other books. Visitors &amp; Guests welcome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 5 – Tues. 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.</td>
<td>Janet Carson/Bob Byers: &quot;Gardening With Bulbs&quot; Cost is $35 for GWG members and $45 for non-members. Advance reservations and pre-payment are required. Call the Gardens at 501.262.9300 or 800.366.4664 to register.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 10 – Sun. 1-4pm</td>
<td>The Art of Pysanky Eggs with Bob Byers $35 to GWG members &amp; $45 for non-members. Pre-registration is required. Please call 501-262-9300 to register.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 12 Tues. 11:30-1:30pm</td>
<td>Brown Bag: Gardening UP &amp; Efficiently w/Vertical Gardens at Garland County Library call the library at 623-4161 for reservations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar. 19 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.</td>
<td>101 Workshop: &quot;Organic Vegetable Gardening: Japanese Style&quot; free to GWG members &amp; regular admission for non-members. Pre-registration is required. Please call 501-262-9300 to register.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 21 Thurs. 8:30-2:00 GCMG meeting</td>
<td>8:30-9:30 Breakfast served by the Elks. Egg casserole with biscuits and gravy, bacon, coffee $4.00. 9:30 Power-point for introduction of MG program and committees to 2013 interns. 11:30 Lunch free to all interns, mentors and Master Gardeners who sign-up to attend the 1:00 meeting. 1:00 meeting and introduction of interns by their Mentors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 3 Wed. 11:30am</td>
<td>Brown Bag: Exterior Garden Decorating - Fun Things in the Garden w/ Aileen Petsoldt Garland County Library call 623-4161 for reservations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 6 Sat. Saline plant sale.</td>
<td>Saline Count Plant Sale Benton fair grounds, be there by 7:30 to get a good place in line, Doors open at 8.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 13 Sat. 10-12</td>
<td>The Hot Springs Daylily Society : Feb. 9, 10a.m. at the 1st Methodist Christian Life Center in Hot Springs, 218 Pratt Street, at Pratt and Grand Avenue.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 18 Thurs. GCMG meeting</td>
<td>GCMG meeting Elk’s club-lunch served 11:15-12:30 (no lunch served after then) Program 1:00 pm Awards and Plant Sale plans.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 26 – Fri. Set-up</td>
<td>We will be moving plants from the greenhouses and setting up for the plant sale at the Farmer’s Market.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 27 – Sat. GCMG plant sale</td>
<td>GCMG Spring Plant Sale at the Farmer’s Market. The Ouachita Hosta and Shade Plant Society and The Hot Springs Daylily Society will be joining us.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11, Sat. 10-12</td>
<td>The Hot Springs Daylily Society will meet at the 1st Methodist Christian Life Center in Hot Springs, 218 Pratt Street, at Pratt and Grand Avenue. Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 16-18, 2013 Thurs. – Sat.</td>
<td>State MG Conference, Rogers, AR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 23 Thurs. 11:30 – 1:30pm</td>
<td>Brown Bag: Companion Garden Planting –the Buddy System at Garland County Library call 623-4161 for reservations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 13 Tues. 11:30-1:30 pm</td>
<td>Brown Bag: Good bugs/Bad bugs Knowing the Difference For Healthy Gardening Garland County Library call 623-4161 for reservations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 7-14</td>
<td>International MG Conference, Alaska (Registration open).</td>
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<td>Sept. 23-24</td>
<td>Master Gardener Appreciation Day at GWG coupled with MG Leadership here in Hot Springs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 26 Thurs. 11:30-1:30 pm</td>
<td>Brown Bag (Decorative things in the garden) Garland County Library call 623-4161 for reservations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 14, 2013</td>
<td>Master Gardener 25th Anniversary Party (save the date)</td>
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If you have additions for this list please submit them to: linjd@sbcglobal.net

GOLD STAR to GEMS – 1st article submitted for NL

SILVER STAR to Entergy Park – 2nd article submitted for NL

BRONZE STAR to HSV Xeriscape – 3rd article submitted for NL