Master Gardener Training
Classes start Saturday, Jan. 21st and run each consecutive Saturday through Feb. 18th. Classes will be held at the Craighead County Ext. Office in Jonesboro from 8:30-4:30. By attending some of the classes, you can acquire up to 10 education hours-half your required education hours to certify. No registrations from Greene County yet.

Class 1: January 21
Master Gardener Overview:
Mimi Cox: 8:30-9:15
Butterfly Gardening:
Cheryl Laver: 9:15-10:15
BREAK: 10:15-10:30
Water Gardens-Rain Gardens-Hydroponics:
George Selden: 10:30-12:00
LUNCH: 12:00 – 1:00
Pesticides Safety and Formulations:
Branon Thiesse: 1:00-2:00
Roses:
Branon Thiesse 2:00-2:30
BREAK: 2:30-2:45
Soil Sampling & Planting Shrubs: Branon Thiesse: 2:45-3:45

Class 2 January 28
Herbs:
Pam Towery: 8:30–9:30
Diseases:
Sherry Smith: 9:30-10:30
BREAK: 10:30-10:45
Insects:
Glen Studebaker: 10:45-12:00

LUNCH: 12:00-1:00
Botany:
Kassi Riley: 1:00 - 2:30
BREAK: 2:30-2:45
Botany Continued:
Kassi Riley: 2:45- 4:00

Class 3 February 4
Composting, Organic Gardening:
Dave Freeze: 8:30-10:30
BREAK: 10:30-10:45
Soils:
Dave Freeze: 10:45-12:00
LUNCH: 12:00 - 1:00
Lawns:
Branon Thiesse: 1:00-2:00
BREAK: 2:00-2:15
Irrigation:
Branon Thiesse: 2:15-3:30
TEST: 1:00 pm

Class 4 February 11
Plant Propagation:
Shade Plants:
Kim Pittcock: 8:30-10:00
BREAK: 10:00-10:15
Plant Propagation:
Shade Plants:
Kim Pittcock: 10:15-12:00
LUNCH: 12:00-1:00
Pruning Trees & Shrubs:
Janet Carson: 1:00-2:15
BREAK: 2:15-2:30
Pruning Trees & Shrubs:
Janet Carson: 2:30-4:00

Class 5 February 18
Fruits: Sherri Sanders:
8:30-10:00
BREAK: 10:00-10:15
Vegetables: Sherri Sanders:
10:15-12:00
LUNCH: 12:00 – 1:00pm

201 W. Court Street
Room 205
Federal Building
Paragould, AR 72450
Phone (870) 236-6921
Fax (870) 239-6328

2017 Officers:
President: Connie Whitman
Vice President: Bonnie Hamilton
Secretary: Libby Christie
Treasurer: Holly Fletcher
**Greene Garden News**

**Presidents Notes**

2017 is here and we’re busy making plans for a great year! We’ll have some changes in leadership on projects, committees, and Members at Large, but most will remain the same.

Thank you Members, who served in those roles, or just stepping into those roles!

Kathy Graber will continue as Program Chair.

Committees:
- Publicity: Sue Gilmartin
- Peer Review: Carolyn Palmer & Bonnie Hamilton
- Projects:
  - Plant Sale: Joy Gatlin
  - GC Courthouse: Nancy Rogers-Coordinator & Patti Roberts-Co-Chair
  - GC Museum: Libby Christie-Coordinator & Nancy Rogers-Co-Chair

**Committees**
- GC Historic Museum: Wanda Howerton- Co-Chair
- Pineapple Farm: Libby Christie
- Historical Herb Garden: Libby Christie
- GC Courthouse Garden: Libby Christie
- GC Museum: Libby Christie
- GC Fairgrounds: Connie Whitman Coordinator & Nancy Rogers-Co-Chair
- GC Fairgrounds: Connie Whitman Coordinator & Nancy Rogers-Co-Chair
- Craighead County Extension Office: Sally Mugford-Coordinator & Wanda Howerton-Co-Chair
- Pineapple Farm: Libby Christie

**Events Calendar**

- **Jan. 21-Feb. 18:** MG Training: Craighead County Extension Office. 8:30-4:30
- **Jan. 23:** MG Vietnam Study Cruise
- **Jan. 24:** MG Meeting. GC Library Legacy Room, 6pm; **Group Photo**
- **Feb. 1:** MG State Meeting Registration Begins-LR
- **Feb. 9:** BBL: GC Library, 12 noon; Patti Sue Ervin: Native Trees in the Urban Landscape
- **Feb. 12:** ASU Museum Garden Club Seminar:
- **Feb. 21:** Craighead County Seminar: Heirloom Plants
- **Feb. 24-26:** AR Flower & Garden Show, LR Statehouse Convention Center
- **Mar. 17:** Spring Garden Seminar, Paragould Community Center, 8-2
- **May 6:** Spring Plant Sale: 9-2 Centennial Park
- **May 21-23:** MG State Meeting, LR
- **Sept. 26-27:** PNG Leadership, Ferndale

**Treasurers Report**

**FNB Beginning Balance**

12/01/16--12/31/16  
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**Ending Balance**  
1586.20

*********************************************************************

Kememore Donation/Dedicated for a New Project 239.99

Respectfully submitted 1/11/17  
Ken Fletcher, Treasurer

**Reminders:**

- $15.00 Dues, excluding Lifetime Members, are now due. Payment by check is requested. No cash please.
- All service hours for Certification and Recertification must be acquired by working on Master Gardener Sanctioned Projects.
- Unsanctioned project hours will still be counted as Other Project Hours.

**GC Library:** Sue Gilmartin-Coordinator & Linda Glickert-Co-Chair

Members at Large Nancy Rogers and Carolyn Palmer will be presented at the January meeting. Although Members at Large have no voting rights, they do hold an important job as representatives for the general membership at each Executive Committee Board Meeting.

Seven Awards Nominations have been forwarded to state and preparations for our spring seminar are being finalized.

See you soon! Connie

**Patty Camp's Pineapple Cheese Spread**

16 ounces cream cheese  
1/2 cup chopped onion  
1 cup chopped bell pepper  
16 oz. crushed pineapple drained  
3/4 cup chopped pecans

Mix softened cheese with drained pineapple.

Add bell pepper, onion, and pecans. Mix well.

This recipe makes two cheese balls. Be sure to refrigerate for about an hour before forming the balls.

Roll in chopped pecans.

Note from Patti: This is the real recipe for the cheese spread. As you know, I don't bother to form the cheese balls. I usually add a little milk to the cream cheese so that it is just a spread.

Enjoy,

Holly
Minutes of October 25, 2016

Greene County Master Gardener Minutes
Monthly meeting
October 25, 2016 at Greene County Library Legacy Room

Wanda Howerton and Patti Roberts provided refreshments, and Donna Jones provided a MG 28th anniversary cake. Connie Whitman, president called the meeting to order and noted that this is the last official meeting of the year. With no additions or corrections to the September minutes and treasurer report printed in the newsletter, they will stand as “read” and approved by the membership.

A follow up on the Advanced Training Class was provided by members that attended. Compliments were made on the food, facility, project boards and the layout for the breaks and lunch. The enthusiasm that the speakers projected was also noted by another attendee.

Patti Roberts reported a recap on the ATC offerings and the benefits of using the thumb drives that Dusty Kennemore provided for use on taking training on the Monarch and other pollinators back to their county. Color handouts were provided, as well as a color cover for the book.

The butterfly tag and release was very popular and exciting. Jack Singleton issued a “Masters for Monarchs” challenge to the counties. Helpers to the ATC were acknowledged and thanked.

An Arkansas Master Gardener’s Week Proclamation was signed by Mayor Mike Gaskill and Judge Rusty McMillon. A celebration was included at Centennial Park during the Tree Sale. Cup cakes were given away and a group picture was made. $147.50 was made from the sale. This amount was considered a good amount since there was little business downtown that day. Cora Flanery encouraged that going forward, members be responsible for the plants they donate. If they leave before the sale is over, and their plants don’t sell, they need to return to pick them up afterwards or make arrangements to disperse of them. Holly Fletcher will over-winter the gingko trees that did not sell. Crepe myrtles should over-winter well per Cora. Carolyn Palmer stated she also has wandering Jew left from the Spring Plant Sale that needs to find a winter home too.

Linda Glickert booked the Harvest Fall Craft booth. She is requesting help in assembling more wreaths for the craft fair. Pauletteta Tobey helped with assembling 6 – 8 wreaths and 4 containers last week. Linda is requesting additional yellow flowers, preferably goldenrod. She still has lots of dry materials and containers. Cora Flannery and Pauletteta Tobey are working on pine cone wreaths. Sue Gilmartin has bird houses that she will bring to the craft fair. Marilyn White will try to bring gourds (if she can find them). Pauletteta Tobey has made some bonsai trees out of some of the left over gingko trees. Holly Fletcher reminded everyone that all items purchased must be paid for by the end of the day. There can be no IOU’s. The Community Center will pass out tax packets during the fair and all sales tax will have to be paid by the end of the day. A member asked about Richard Yeazel and if he might donate any items. Carolyn Palmer updated the membership that Richard was busy helping kids get animals ready for showing at State. He may not have time to work on any items for the craft show.

Linda Glickert updated the membership on the November BBL speaker, Jason Wolfenberger. He is the manager of the Greene County landfill and will be discussing the process of dealing with yard waste. Linda emailed Sherrie Smith about a Pest Control BBL and has a locked in date of April 11th. Sherrie works at the Disease Diagnostic Lab. Linda has also talked about a BBL on water conservation by Katie Teague, Washington County Extension Specialist. There is an additional opportunity for a workshop creating and using rain barrels. Libby Christie is gathering barrels to use for the workshop planned for the spring.

Patti Roberts announced a workday for the Greene County Courthouse on Thursday, November 3rd at 10:00 am. Be sure to post hours for education and service by next month. Patti also announced that the link to post hours on the web page has moved to the center of the page from the side bar.

Office nominations by the Nominating Committee were presented and accepted by the membership. The officers for 2017 are: President: Connie Whitman, Vice President: Bonnie Hamilton; Secretary: Libby Christie; Treasurer: Holly Fletcher. The bank account listed as Master Gardener of the Delta Program-Greene County will have the following listed as signatories for 2017: Connie Whitman, President will remain on the account; Holly Fletcher will be added to the account as Treasurer with Ken Fletcher removed, and Libby Christie will replace Joy Gatlin as Secretary.

Award Nomination recommendations were presented by the Executive Board. The general membership voted by secret ballot on the categories of: “Master Gardener of the Year”, “Project of the Year”, “Rookie of the Year”, “Friend of Master Gardener – Individual”, “Friend of Master Gardener – Business”, “Newsletter of the Year”, “County Agent of the Year”. Winners will be announced at the Holiday Pot Luck Dinner in November.

A cookout is planned at Dave and Tammy Freeze’s house on Saturday, October 29th starting at 4:00 pm. They will be providing food, drinks, chips, but if MGs wanted to provide sweets, those are welcome. Bring chairs to sit and visit. The cookout is a “thank-you” from Dave for what the MGs have done this past year.

Garven Gardens will provide a Workshop on Fall Plants in Hot Springs on November 3rd.

November 29th will be our Holiday Dinner Potluck instead of the regular business meeting. Marilyn White will provide a turkey.

Holly Fletcher asked the membership to approve the purchase of host and nectar plant signs for the Butterfly Garden that Connie Whitman had made by Sign-Mart. The total was $65.40. Cora Flannery made the motion to reimburse Connie for the signs and Linda Glickert seconded the motion. The motion carried.

(Continued Page 5)
Project Updates

**Rainbow Garden:** Joy Gatlin & Richard Yeazel Chairs: Not much to report on the Rainbow Garden. We have everything ready to plant the bottom tier in yellow lantana in the spring. Looking forward to a shiny New Year with our projects.

**GC Museum:** Sally Mugford & Wanda Howerton Chairs: Nothing new to report.

**Historical Courthouse Herb Garden:** Libby Christie & Nancy Rogers Chairs: Our plans so far are, with Ken’s guidance, to review the current plant layout and determine a new layout. Nancy and I are reviewing turn-of-century herbs utilizing information she has from Margaret (Maude) Grieve, Modern Herbal, Volume 1 & 2 and from a small booklet I found from the Arkansas Herb Society called Frontier Pharmacy. Between the two of these, we believe that we can find some interesting herbs and uses.

**South Sign:** Brenda Barr & Pauletta Tobey Chairs: No report.

**GC Fairgrounds:** Connie Whitman & Nancy Rogers Chairs: Ready to get started!

**Centennial Park:** Bonnie Hamilton & Marilyn White Chairs: Nothing new to report.

**Main Street Caboose:** Tacie Huffman & Jean Crossno: The Caboose gardens are like Jean and I----Just trying to get thru the winter. We are planning to continue removing, planting and maintaining the gardens in the upcoming year.

**East Sign:** Pauletta Tobey & Dr. James Laird Chairs: Preparing layout for new design.

**GE VI:** Connie Whitman & Executive Board Co-Chairs: Finalizing plans for new spring seminar.

**Airport:** Kathy Graber & Tabitha McFadden Chairs: Everything looks good. Crepe myrtles and knock out roses will be trimmed in a few weeks.

**GC Library:** Sue Gilmartin & Linda Glickert Chairs: No report.

**Trellis Garden:** Dr. Laird & Pauletta Tobey Chairs: Unchanged since last month.

**GC Courthouse:** Nancy Rogers & Patti Roberts Chairs: No Report.

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*Neva Shewmaker*

Our first BBL program of 2017 saw a nice turnout of attendees to see and hear Neva Shewmaker share her travel experiences in the Gardens of Cornwall and Wales. Fourteen Greene County Members, guests including eleven Craighead Master Gardeners, and agent Dave Freeze came to support her.

Programs are planned through May including a workshop following the May program. All this depends on weather and travel/road conditions. I have a backup plan in that event.

Feb. - Patti Sue Ervin- Arkansas Forestry Commission: Native Trees for Urban Landscapes
Mar.-Cora Flanery- Native Plants and Wildflowers
Apr.-Sherrie Smith- U of A: Tree Diseases
May-Brittany Singleton- U of A: Rain Barrels - workshop to follow and limited to 20. Help us spread the word to draw in more people. Word of mouth is the best!

*Crafts/Fundraising- I’d still like to stay with garden theme, but the everlasting didn’t go over that well. So a product focus is under review. Any suggestions/ideas considered.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda

---

**New and Unfinished GC Fairgrounds Bed South End of Commercial Building**
I had hopes of having Jack Singleton back for our Garden Explosion VI seminar this year to speak about Monarchs, but he will be unavailable for a very wonderful reason. And if you didn’t get to hear him at our Advanced Training Class in October, you truly missed something very special.

Jack presented a powerful and inspirational message about Monarchs, and when he spoke everyone was completely enthralled, hanging on every word. He was so moving that many of us were brought to tears that day and it was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. That’s just how good he really is.

And, although I’m disappointed that he won’t be with us for Garden Explosion, I wanted to share Jack’s reply to my invitation so you know what awesome things he’s up to these days.

Connie

“Connie,

Thanks for this invitation to attend the Seminar in March. Thanks also for sharing some of the photos!

I’m sorry that I won’t be able to join you in March, but I have some exciting news to share!

I’m working on setting up a base for Monarch Overwintering tours in Mexico. I have a team that will be traveling to Mexico to check out possible sites for our base. I’m taking Spanish lessons daily, and have a couple of fluent Mexican Spanish speakers on board, and we will be in Mexico during March/April to search for a suitable site to lease property accessible to the Winter Monarch sites. The bus driver/guide for my original visit to the Monarchs is on board with our effort!

This effort grew directly from the Greene County Monarch event, as I thought about sharing this up-close and personal visit to the Monarch Winter sites with others from Arkansas. If no one else is making these visits possible, my family and I will give it a try!

I will keep you informed about our progress.

Keep in touch!”

Jack

(Continued Minutes, Page 3)

For the Plant it Forward Plants, Martha Chiles won the pot of pansies brought by Linda Glickert and Tacie Huffman won the pot of yellow mums brought by Sue Gilmartin.

Members in attendance were: Ann Bowers, Martha Chiles, Libby Christie, Jean Crossno, Holly & Ken Fletcher, Sue Gilmartin, Linda Glickert, Cora Flanery, Wanda Howerton, Tacie Huffman, Dr. James Laird, Carolyn Palmer, Patti Roberts, Nancy Rogers, Pauletta Tobey, Marilyn White, Connie Whitman, agent Dave Freeze, and guest, Karen Warren.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Libby Christie, Secretary-Elect for Joy Gatlin, Secretary

(Continued Minutes, Page 3)

Changes in 2017 Online Reporting

Per Julie Treat, the http://members.ark.mg.org is no longer being used and the extension office has requested the www.uaex.edu site be used.

The other change will be closing date for yearend reporting: December 15, 2017.

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Greene Garden News

Greene County Master Gardeners Newsletter

Contributors

Libby Christie
Holly Fletcher
Ken Fletcher
Pauletta Tobey
Patti Roberts
Jack Singleton

Greene Garden News Editor
Connie Whitman

Submit articles by the 15th of each month to:
cwhitman@grnco.net

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County plans to add green space for community

Monday, January 2nd 2017, 10:39 pm CST
Tuesday, January 3rd 2017, 1:10 pm CST
Posted by Japhanie Gray, Video Journalist

GREENE COUNTY, AR
(KAIT) - The Greene County Courthouse is looking to add a new look to the area behind the building after demolishing the final old house that was beyond repair.

According to Greene County Judge Rusty McMillon, county officials have been looking at the lot located off South Fourth Street for a while now and in December; they tore down the house on the lot in hopes of creating a parking lot or a green space. This is all a part of a statewide initiative aimed at a healthier Arkansas.

“We don’t have a finalized plan just yet and we are still brainstorming, but by 2030, I hope to be one of the healthiest counties in Arkansas,” said McMillon.

McMillon said having a green space would give them an opportunity to add more trees, grass, picnic tables and an exercising station that would benefit both courthouse employees and citizens.

“It would be a very workable space for our employees and different ones that live in the area can utilize this space easily as a public area,” said McMillon. “Anytime we can add that into our community I think it is a big plus for everybody.”

McMillon said they are currently working with a grant writer that will help bring in funds to improve the area but more than anything they are excited about beautifying the community.

The Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status, and is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.