Together, we are making a difference for Greene County. Master Gardeners have been seen all over town working on many different projects and people really do notice.

Recently, Nancy Rogers was spotted at the Trellis Garden and highlighted in the Paragould Daily Press for her work as a new Master Gardener. Nice recognition, Nancy!

Nancy Rogers has lived in Paragould for 33 years and after retiring last year, she decided to cross an item off her bucket list and join the Master Gardeners. "I became a member in January. I just love flowers, gardening and being outdoors. Flowers that bloom in all different colors are my favorite part of being outside," Rogers said.

"Daylilies are my favorite kind of flower because they just keep blooming and in so many different colors." When asked one thing that she had learned since joining Master Gardeners that surprised her, Rogers replied, "That there are so many different varieties that you can plant and grow. I used to always plant the same things in my gardens, but now I have all different kinds."

Each and every member of our organization makes a difference. Please read the Starfish Story below and be inspired. One person can make a difference through character, high standards, focus, optimism, and teamwork.

One morning a man walked along a beach covered with thousands of starfish that had washed up during a storm. He saw a young girl picking up starfish one by one and tossing them into the sea. As he approached her, he couldn’t help but ask, "Why bother? There are too many of them. You won’t make much of a difference. She picked up another starfish and tossed it into the water.

Then she turned to the man and said, “I made a difference to that one.”

Our organization was pioneered in 1996 by a small group of five individuals who wanted to make a difference in Greene County. Those members were Norma Addison, Connie Field, Hannah Freeman, Greta Jernigan, and Donna Singleton. The following year Marilyn Burke and Garry Johnson joined them. It’s through their perseverance and dedication that our program was finally established in 1999. Out of the 1999 Class of nine, Donna Jones is the one remaining member still active. One member, and then another, one by one, we can make a difference. Shine on Greene County!
Presidents Notes

Thanks to all those Project Coordinators who have continued to call workdays for MG Projects and giving members so many opportunities for hours.

Thanks to all committee members who continue to show their dedication through their good works and for their presence at meetings each and every month to make us better.

Because of you, we are able to accomplish much more as a group.

Working together keeps us positive and connected, and as a Master Gardener family we enjoy the benefits of hard work, comradery, and a sense of accomplishment that only comes from doing a job well.

Continue creating new ideas for us! It’s great for our projects and committees and for our organization overall. Thinking outside the box will help us continue to grow, educate, beautify, and inspire others. Thank you.

Connie

Treasurers Report

Local Account: FNB
Beginning Balance 6/01/16–6/30/16 2060.86

Debits
6/17 Whitman/Lifetime Mbr Gifts 65.69
6/28 Whitman/Ink, New MG Shirt, Name Tag 77.24

Balance July 11, 2016 1917.93

Credits
7/16 L. Glickert/Totem Sale 6.00

Pending Debit
7/7 Greene County CES PNG 150.00

Funds Available 7/11/16 1773.93

Respectfully submitted 7/11/16
Kenneth E. Fletcher, Treasurer

Events Calendar


July 26: GCMG Meeting 6pm, GC Library

Sept. 5-10: Greene County Fair

Sept. 26-27: Master Gardener PNG Leadership Conference, Arkansas 4-H Center, Ferndale

Oct. 21: GC Advanced Training Class, Paragould Community Center

Nov. 5: Harvest Craft Fair, Paragould Community Center

Three Months until Advanced Training Class

Patti asked to remind everyone that you may only post 1 hour for a Monthly Meeting with a Speaker. Several MGs are still posting more than an hour. If we don’t have a speaker you, should not be posting 1 hour of education for attending.

Evolution

With the combined efforts of Patti Roberts, Project Coordinator, Holly Fletcher, and Carolyn Palmer, plans were put in place to add something new and exciting to the GC Courthouse Project. Thanks to the generous donations from Bob Branch, two Cardinal benches, a Cardinal stepping stone and a new art piece have been purchased from The Cement Pond.

Today, the art piece stands gracious and tall in the center of the Frances Branch Walls Memorial Bed at the Greene County Courthouse. Frances Walls favorite color was red, and her favorite bird was a Cardinal, so Nancy Rogers, the new Co-coordinator on the Courthouse Project, painted the ball on the art piece Cardinal Red in honor of Bob Branch’s sister. When Bob saw the art piece July 12th, this is what he had to say when asked to name the piece:

“I went by Tuesday morning and found several Master Gardeners laboring in spite of arthritic hands, backs and knees. The place looks lovely. The art piece is significant and appropriate. I would call it “Evolution”. It represents the earth overlooking its soil with nutrients and seed. With rainfall nature bursts forth to create and recreate plants that bloom and seed and reseed; Thus… Evolution.”

Bob
Minutes for Master Gardener Meeting of June 28, 2016

Greene County Public Library

Minutes of June 28, 2016

Our 17 MG members and one guest enjoyed delicious refreshments provided by MG's Nancy Rogers and Libby Christie.

Master Gardener, Linda Glickert gave an interesting and informative power point presentation on “Everlastings” which is the drying of flowers and plants that we can use at our Craft Sale in October.

Kathy Graber, MG, related to our group about some interesting events she was involved in at the 2016 State Convention. She also told us about having some Greene County Senior Citizens tour her yard and enjoy her beautiful flowers and plants. Other Master Gardeners came to explain to the group helpful information about growing plants. Master Gardener, Bonnie Hamilton told us about a seminar on Crepe Myrtles she attended at the State Convention. She learned some interesting facts about the Crepe Myrtle and passed them on to our group.

The May Minutes and Treasurer's Report were approved by all of our members as written in the May Newsletter.

There was Special Recognition for Master Gardener Carolyn Palmer who became a 5 Year Member this year. Carolyn received a Certificate and a 5 Year Pin by our President Connie Whitman. David Jones and Tabitha McFadden were also recognized for their Five Years of service, but were not in attendance.

GE VI will be on Friday, March 17th, 2017, at the Paragould Community Center. The topic for the event will be: Pollinators-Bees, Birds, and Butterflies. The event will be an educational seminar only. No vendors, crafts or a raffle will be included. We will have 4 speakers and door prizes will be given throughout the day. There will be a charge of $10.00 to all members and the general public, but will be exempted for members working the seminar. Registration will begin at 8:00 am-8:30 am with speakers from 8:30-1:00 pm.

The 2017 Plant Sale will be on Saturday May 6th at the Centennial Park. There will be demonstrations, additional advertising, herbs and unusual plants, and water and snacks provided for members.

We plan to add 2 more speakers to our ATC Event in October. Mimi will meet with us before we submit our Budget in August.

The Project Review and Crafts Committees will be tabled for this year. Linda Glickert will tell members of crafts needed for the Craft Sale in October. The Awards and Scholarship Committee has been combined with the Membership Committee.

Nancy Rogers, MG Rookie, agreed to be the Back-Up Coordinator for the GC Courthouse.

A Fall Tree Sale Fundraiser was approved by our members. This will be held tentatively the end of September or possibly a Saturday in October at the Centennial Park. A decision for the date was tabled until our July Meeting. Members will dig up trees, shrubs or vines from their own yard to sell. A workday at Carolyn Palmer's house will be scheduled to dig up and pot 30 Gingko Trees. This fundraiser could benefit Scholarship or State Registrations.

A letter to members low on hours will be going out in July to remind them to post their hours. Posting hours is a very important part of our program and benefits our county.

The Plant-It-Forward Plant, a coleus, was provided by MG Joy Gatlin. Nancy Rogers’ name was selected and she agreed to accept it and take it home. Cora Flanery donated a Butterfly Weed plant, an added bonus for the night, and Ken Fletcher’s name was selected and he accepted.

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by President Connie Whitman.

Those in attendance were: Ann Bowers, Martha Chiles, Libby Christie, Holly and Ken Fletcher, Joy Gatlin, Linda Glickert, Kathy Graber, Cora Flanery, Bonnie Hamilton, Wanda Howerton, Tacie Huffman, Carolyn Palmer, Nancy Rogers, Pauletta Tobey, Marilyn White, Connie Whitman, Agent Dave Freeze and guest, Jennifer Langston.

Respectfully submitted by Joy Gatlin, Secretary
Project Updates

**Centennial Park:** Bonnie Hamilton & Marilyn White Chairs: On a warm Wed. morning, Linda Glickert, Marilyn White, Sally Mugford, and I weeded, pruned, watered, and sweated at Centennial Park. It looks pretty good in spite of the heat, though a few annuals have suffered. Marilyn and I discussed replacing some of them. Dave Freeze and Jennifer Langston came by on their way to check crops and helped weed and prune. We very much appreciated their help.

**GC Fair Flower & Plant Booth:** Jean Crossno & Cora Flanery Chairs: Nothing until September.

**Airport:** Kathy Graber & Tabitha McFadden Chairs: We had a successful work day June 19 at the airport, things look good. Bonnie Hamilton and I hosted the Senior Bees in my back yard on June 21. We gave them an overview of Master Gardeners and talked about the State Convention. Twenty-four Bees attended and toured my yard and enjoyed homemade brownies and sugar cookies.

**East Sign:** Pauletta Tobey & Dr. James Laird Chairs: Continuing to water.

**Rainbow Garden:** Joy Gatlin & Eric Alexander Chairs: The Rainbow Garden and our beautiful lantana is blossoming now on the bottom tier of the Garden. We have had 2 Youth Groups on the campus lately and the weeds are not as widespread as before they came to work. The petunias at the Entrance are making great progress in blooming and everything will be in full bloom when Homecoming Time comes in October.

**GC Museum:** Wanda Howerton & Sally Mugford, Chairs: Planted daisies in the back bed and cleaned up.

**Historical Courthouse Herb Garden:** Donna Jones & Holly Fletcher, Chairs: Courthouse herb garden is doing as well as can be expected, roasting with us.

**Plant Sale 2017:** Joy Gatlin, Marilyn White & Cora Flanery, Chairs: Date is set for Saturday March 6.

**Brown Bag Lunch Program:** Holly Fletcher, Chair: No Program June or July.

**Trellis Garden:** Dr. Laird & Pauletta Tobey Chairs: Continuing to water.

**Main Street Caboose:** Tacie Huffman & Jean Crossno, Chairs: No report.

**GC Library:** Ann Bowers & Brenda Barr Chairs: Nothing new to report.

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

**GC Fairgrounds:** Connie Whitman & Joy Gatlin Chairs: Needs lot of cleanup work!

**GE VI:** Executive Board Chairs: Nothing new to report.

**GC Courthouse:** Patti Roberts & Nancy Rogers Chairs: Good workday Tues. July 12th with Bonnie, Donna, Ann, & Nancy cleaning and pruning. The new Art Piece is amazing. It’s very modern looking and an eye catcher, and will bring more attention to the beds. The benches will also be a great addition to the area, and provide a place for visitors to sit.

**Brown Bag Lunch Program:** Holly Fletcher, Chair: No Program June or July.

**Tacie Huffman, Jennifer Langston, Jean Crossno, & Agent Dave Freeze, Caboose July 6th**

**Committee Comments**

**Sunshine:** Joy Gatlin, Lead. & Cora Flanery: “The Sunshine committee continues to send birthday cards to our members and other cards for different occasions.”

**Advanced Training:** Patti Roberts, Lead: “Will submit speaker names & topics to Julie & County 76 Chair. Working on the budget.”

**Scrapbook:** Carolyn Palmer, Lead: Need newspaper clippings & photos.

**Plant Markers:** Martha Chiles, Lead: Plant Lists Needed.

**Membership:** Connie Whitman, Lead. “Recruit, Retain, Recognize”.

**Publicity:** Pauletta Tobey, Lead: “Highlighting members in DP & Premiere,”

**Hours Management:** Patti Roberts, Lead: “A reminder letter is to be sent out to nudge us all to post our hours. The Extension office and LR are often using the On Line Reporting Reports to furnish information about the MG program. It is important to keep the hours as current as possible. Yes, believe it or not the year is half over! There are 5 meetings left; I am including the best one of all, our ‘fellowship’ dinner in Nov. So, remember every hour and every current post is important as well as attending the monthly meeting.”

**Nominating:**
To be appointed soon.
Tips on Drying Everlastings

"Hello fellow Gardeners,
Hope you’re all holding up to this heat. I’d like to offer a few more suggestions for drying flowers, leaves, seeds, pods, grasses, - well, the list goes on. Be creative, experiment, and try new possibilities! Be prepared for a surprise! My foster plants are starting to come into their own. You’ll see some pics of the straw flowers in this issue. Good luck!"

Linda

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**Directions:**

Gather your flowers to use for making the potpourri. Any kind of flower will work, especially ones that already have strong scents, such as roses. Flowers with small, individual petals work great, or whole heads can be used too. Preheat your oven to 200˚F

Cover a sheet tray with parchment paper. Cut the flowers from the stems right below the heads and place them on the tray, or remove individual petals and place in a single layer on the parchment paper.

To add scent to your potpourri, cut and add thin slices of citrus fruits, or tuck in springs of rosemary, lavender, or thyme to the mix. You can also add whole spices, such as cinnamon sticks, cloves, or allspice, which are both pretty and wonderfully scented

Add 10 to 15 drops of your favorite essential oil to one tablespoon of water in a small spray bottle, and spritz the potpourri ingredients. Then pop the potpourri into your oven.

Dry in the oven for at least two hours, or until the flowers are brittle but not burnt. When the potpourri is ready, remove from oven and give another spritz of essential oil.

Once its room temperature, gently mix the potpourri and place it in a bowl or small satchel. To refresh the scent, simply spritz with the oil mixture.

Patti Roberts

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**Home Made Potpourri**

**What You'll Need:**

- Flowers
- Sheet pan
- Parchment paper
- Scissors
- Essential oil
- Spray bottle
- Citrus fruits (optional)
- Fresh herbs (optional)
- Whole spices (optional)

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**Member Profile**

Cora Hailey Flanery

What year did you become a Master Gardener? 2003

When did your interest in gardening begin and what do you enjoy most about it? My great grandmother was a gardener and people came just to see her garden. I can still remember the roses, lemon lilies, mock orange, and August lilies. I lived in the country twenty years ago and made frequent trips to the woods where I saw all kinds of wildflowers which inspired my love of growing them.

List experiences working with the community, schools, churches, youth, and senior citizens, etc.

Since joining Master Gardeners, I gave a talk about gardening to Oak Grove Middle School. A few years ago with Joy Gatlin I helped plant the Rainbow Garden at the Childrens Home.

Group affiliations (garden clubs, plant, or flower societies, etc.):

Greene County master Gardeners - I joined in 2003 thinking I don’t know enough to be one, but found out it is a continuous learning experience!

Other information (family or other interests): I have one sister and two brothers. I love to give them gardening advice! My sister always has a beautiful garden so we swap stories (but not plants) because she lives in Massachusetts.
Bonnie Hamilton speaks to a Senior Bees guest at a Garden Tour hosted by Kathy Graber June 23rd

L-R Bonnie Hamilton & Libby Christie attended the first Annuals to Perennials Seminar in Batesville June 22

L-R Sally Mugford, Bonnie Hamilton, & Kathy Graber working at the Airport Tuesday June 26

“The dandelions and buttercups gild all the lawn; the drowsy bee stumbles among the clover tops, and summer sweetens all to me.” - James Russell Lowell