The Spring Plant Sale is our biggest fund raiser for the year and this year didn’t disappoint! Joy Gatlin served as Project Coordinator and made sure everything was in order.

Thanks to a $300.00 donation from Chuck Palmer and First National Bank, we were able to purchase signage for the first time ever! Carolyn Palmer worked with NEA Signs to come up with an eye catching design for three banner signs advertising our plant sale; and with help from Junior Palmer and Richard Yeazel, they were placed at strategic heavy traffic locations, south, east and west.

Wanda Howerton donated lots and lots of plants for the sale and members spent hours potting those up. Thanks, Wanda!

Clean sweep Paragould was the following day and sprucing up the park for our Plant Sale was the priority! Members and GCTH students were on hand to help to clean, prune, and mulch!

Once the big day finally arrived, things started popping at the Farmers Market early in the day with Pauletta Tobey, Bonnie Hamilton, and Brenda Barr leading the charge. They sold over $200 on plants donated by GCTH and Hannah Gray.

A raffle basket was created and donated by Marilyn White and was filled with garden and spa items. Marsha Wyatt of Jonesboro was the lucky winner!

Creating a Self-watering Container Garden, Dave Freeze, Fertilize Know How, and Cora Flanery, Growing Milkweed for Monarchs. Each one was 20-30 minutes in length and very informative. Dave even did a little “one on one” with a captive audience. The day was just perfect for our Plant Sale!

The following Saturday, Libby, Donna, Dave and Connie hit the Farmers Market to sell a few more of the leftover plants.

Demonstrations were provided throughout the day, adding another element to our Plant Sale. David Jones presented

With no outstanding costs, the grand total for the Plant Sale, Raffle, and the Farmers Market final push, came to $1,158.00!
David Jones demonstrates How to Make a Self-Watering Container Garden

It’s hard to believe we’re already half way through the month of May and almost half way through the year! We’ve had quite a successful year so far with Garden Explosion and the Plant Sale, so let’s keep the momentum going!

 Beautification and education is what we’re all about, and calling workdays for projects is an important part of that. The more hours we can obtain for our county, the better! And with new members on board, we certainly want them to have an opportunity to work on all our projects and find out why each one is appreciated and different.

At least two workdays per project, per year, is requested. No matter how big or how small, there is something that can be done on every project to provide hours to members.

Connie

**Presidents Notes**

**Greene Garden News**

**Events Calendar**

May 24: GCMG Meeting 6pm,
GC Library

June 2-4: MG State Meeting,
Eureka Springs (Carroll Co)

Sept. 5-10: Greene County Fair

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

Oct. 21: Advanced Training Class

---

**Treasurers Report**

Local Account: FNB

Beginning Balance 4/01/16--4/31/16 2049.08

Debits

4/8 Joy Gatlin-Stamps 9.80
4/8 * Greene County CES 851.42

Credits

4/18 Jean Crossno Dues 15.00
4/28 Bob Branch Donation for GCCH 240.00

Balanced 5/8/16 1442.86

Pending Debits

4/28 **GC CES/GCCH Fund 240.00
5/2 ***GC CES/Scholarship 300.00
5/6 Change for Plant Sale 100.00

Total Working Funds 802.86

Respectfully submitted 5/8/16
Kenneth E. Fletcher, Treasurer

* Check written to transfer all dedicated projects funds to county account.

** Branch Donation. Check made out to GCMG. Deposited into local account and then check made out to transfer to GC CES for deposit into dedicated GCCH Fund.

*** Funds transferred to GC CES to cover check for scholarship recipient.
Minutes for Master Gardener Meeting of April 26, 2016 at Greene County Public Library

Elisha Pillow Daughtery, owner-operator of Coldstream Fisheries Worm Farm

Our 22 MG members and 3 guests enjoyed refreshments before the meeting provided by MG’s, Cora Flanery and Joy Gatlin.

Elisha (Pillow) Daughtery, owner/Operator of Coldstream Worm Farm was our guest speaker. She discussed the "Worm Castings" that her company produces to be put into the soil. She described the "castings" as a "Once a Season Fertilizer" as they build up the quality of the soil, and are totally organic. These can be purchased at her Farm located on Hwy 135 in Paragould.

President Connie called the meeting to order. The March Minutes and Treasurer’s Report were approved by members as they were written in the March Newsletter.

Our GE VI is in need of a Project Coordinator. The date for this 2017 Event will be finalized soon. There was not a volunteer for this event tonight, but we will move forward with this project.

The 2016 Plant Sale scheduled on Saturday May 7th, was discussed. A Sign-Up Sheet was passed around for each member to sign as to working hours for that day. Advertising, Demonstrations, and Plants for the Sale was discussed. It was stressed to make labels with the Plant identification, care and growing for each plant brought to the Sale.

ATC Update was talked about, and a Sign-Up Sheet to who will be attending to get certification or helping was sent around for members to sign. The ATC Class will be held on October 21, 2016 at the Paragould Community Center.

A motion was made by Ken Fletcher and seconded by Wanda Howerton to award our 2016 Greene County Master Gardener Scholarship to Melissa Foster of Paragould High School. This award will be given at our May 24th meeting.

BBL will be held on May 10th with County Agent Dave Freeze giving a presentation on Trees at the Greene County Public Library.

Dave Freeze discussed MG Projects and how to make them more effective. The Project Review Committee needs a Lead and Committee Members. Dave feels that this is a very important committee because the Master Gardeners represent the University of Arkansas and provide educational information for our County. All of our MG Projects need Project Chairs and Co-Chairs as back-up for the Projects. The Project Review Committee will make recommendations to the membership, and they will vote to continue or eliminate projects after carefully evaluating each one.

Each Project Chairman will call Workdays for their Projects--one in the Spring and one in the Fall.

Our members will continue to support the Farmers Mkt. this season. We will sell plants at the Farmers Market opening day May 7th for our Plant Sale.

(L-R) Lifetime Members Patti Roberts (2015), Donna Jones (2014) & Holly Fletcher (2015) were recognized at the April meeting with an engraved trowel

Do you know what kind of tree is growing in downtown Paragould to provide more beauty and curb appeal?

Chinese Pistache (Pistacia chinensis)

Known as the “Ugly Duckling” of the tree world, the Chinese pistache starts out as an unattractive and misshapen young tree but grows into a magnificent specimen. It is a tough tree that can withstand urban conditions and is commonly used in Xeriscape (dry landscaping).

The Chinese pistache can be expected to grow in Hardiness Zones 6–9.

This tree is considered both a shade tree and an ornamental tree. It features a spreading canopy capable of blocking sunlight and adds visual interest and beauty to landscaping.

The Chinese pistache grows to a height of 25–35’ and a spread of 25–35’ at maturity.

Full sun is the ideal condition for this tree, meaning it should get at least 6 hours of direct, unfiltered sunlight each day.

The Chinese pistache grows in acidic, alkaline, loamy, moist, sandy, silty loam, well-drained and clay soils. It also grows well in drought conditions.

For more information visit: www.arborday.org/trees

(Continued on Page 5)
Project Updates

**Centennial Park**: Bonnie Hamilton & Marilyn White Chairs: A hardworking crew joined me for the Citywide Cleanup April 16 to spruce up the park. Richard, Nancy, Pauletta, Marilyn, Connie, and Libby weeded, pruned, mulched, and enjoyed a hamburger at the Gypsy Wagon. It was a good day! On May 4, Linda, Donna, Nancy, and Sally helped me plant penta, lantana, marigolds, Mexican heather, and melampodium (butter daisy). Nancy deadheaded knockout roses, and Donna added newspaper and mulch to one of the beds near the sidewalks. Linda sprigged creeping Jenny in the other bed. The pansies were still happy, so we moved them from the urns to the herb garden. Pauletta took some great pictures of gardeners doing what they do: bending, stooping, sweating, and smiling. Thanks, everyone!

**Main Street Caboose**: Tacie Huffman & Jean Crossno, Chairs: The Caboose Gardens are looking good. There have been some new plants added. Jean and I have received many encouraging and favorable comments when we are at the Caboose working and contemplating our next move.

**South Sign**: Brenda Barr & Pauletta Tobey, Chairs: No report, but funds will soon be available.

**East Sign**: Pauletta Tobey & Dr. James Laird, Chairs: Ready to plant lemon sweet potato vines. Stella’s are blooming.

**Rainbow Garden**: Joy Gatlin & Eric Alexander Chairs: We will get our lantana soon to plant in the Rainbow Garden. Will call a work day as soon as we know a date for planting. The weather is getting warmer and warmer so the plants will be ready to grow as soon as we plant them.

**GC Courthouse**: Patti Roberts Chair: Moss Rose multi color, and red dianthus in the bed. Red Cordyline, Lemon Slice Superbells, and crotons in the urns. Annuals fertilized. Beds cleaned and watered. A Cardinal embossed stepping stone and a sculpture will be added to the bed and two Cardinal embossed benches will be added to the grounds. All will be purchased from the Cement Pond and the benches will be set in concrete to secure them. A project co-chair is still needed.

**Trellis Garden**: Dr. Laird & Pauletta Tobey Chairs: Trellis is all in blooms. Still needs thinning. Pulled allot of obedient plants but still need to clean up more excess plants.

Committee Comments

**Sunshine**: Joy Gatlin, Lead, & Cora Flanery: Cora and I continue to send Birthday, get well and sympathy cards to our members and others that we know.

**Crafts & Fundraising**: Linda Glickert, Lead: The plant sale seemed to go extremely well in my opinion. One of three papercrete stands sold, and all four of the birdhouses disappeared. I don’t know who brought them. They were essentially the only craft items there on Sat. People (Volunteer Foster gardeners) took the annuals we need to grow, harvest, and dry for our fall craft festival products. Richard had good luck starting some seeds for us and brought them to the BBL on Tues. We need some more people to foster cockscomb. He also had a mystery plant - people took them for the surprise! He also had some purple cone flowers to start. He really has a touch with seeds. When the plants grow enough to start producing, I’ll give some demonstrations on the hours. There are different ways depending on the flower. Mainly you need a dark, dry place to hang them in a well-ventilated place.

**Scholarship**: Pauletta Tobey, Lead: Award will be presented this month.

**Awards**: Pauletta Tobey, Lead: Committee needs to meet.

**Advanced Training**: Patti Roberts, Lead: Committee met Friday May 13th. All speakers are confirmed and working on the budget.

(Continued, Page 4)
Kathy Graber is shown with the Sage Meadows Garden Club. On April 26th Kathy shared Planning a Garden before Entering A Nursery & the Alvin B. Samuel Walking Trail at the Chateau.

(Continued Project Updates, Page 4)

**Historical Courthouse Herb Garden:** Donna Jones & Holly Fletcher, Chairs: Plants are doing well, as is the sedge.

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

**GC Library:** Ann Bowers & Brenda Barr Chairs: No report.

**Airport:** Kathy Graber & Tabitha McFadden Chairs: No report.

**Plant Sale:** Marilyn White, Cora Flanery, & Joy Gatlin, Chairs. Huge success! Thanks everyone!

(Continued Minutes, Page 3)

A decision was made by the Executive Board regarding required hours in 2017. All hours for Certification and Recertification will be acquired by working on sanctioned MG Projects, Committees, and events.

Cloverbuds Gardening Partnership will begin on May 14th. This is a program for 4-H participants under the age of 5 with 10 families participating using raised beds. Allen Davis, County Agent, is in charge of this program and asked the MG’s to help whenever we could.

The “Plant It Forward”, an Autumn Joy Sedum, was brought to the meeting by Nancy Rogers and given to Joy Gatlin to take home when her number was selected by Dave Freeze. Dr. James Laird also brought a Plant It Forward Plant, a Sun Impatient, and it was won by Tacie Huffman.

Without any further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by President Connie.

Members in attendance were Brenda Barr, Ann Bowers, Martha Chiles, Libby Christie, Holly and Ken Fletcher, Joy Gatlin, Linda Glickert, Cora Flanery, Bonnie Hamilton, Wanda Howerton, David and Donna Jones, Dr. James Laird, Sally Mugford, Carolyn Palmer, Patti Roberts, Nancy Rogers, Paulette Tobey, Marilyn White, Connie Whitman, Richard Yeazel, Dave Freeze, County Agent, and guests. Junior Palmer, Jessica Interiano, Elisha Pillow Daughtery, and Darlene Pillow.

Respectively Submitted by Secretary Joy Gatlin

---

**Member Profile**

**Tacie Huffman**

What year did you become a Master Gardener? 2014

When did your interest in gardening begin and what do you enjoy most about it? “When I was a child, I helped my mother in her garden. I enjoy being outside; watching plants grow is an added bonus.”

List experiences working with the community, schools, churches, youth, and senior citizens, etc. “I am a member of the Ladies Sharegroup at church, visit shut-ins, and nursing home residents.”

Group affiliations (garden clubs, plant, or flower societies, etc.): “Master Gardeners & N.E. Arkansas Daylily Society.”

Other information (family or other interests): “I enjoy quilting and woodworking.”
CEA Agent Dave Freeze pulling weeds at Trellis Garden

(L-R) Richard Yeazel, Libby Christie & Bonnie Hamilton
Clean Sweep Paragould April 16th at Centennial Park

(L-R) Bonnie Hamilton, Sally Mugford, Linda Glickert and Nancy Rogers at Centennial Park May 4th

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.