The Executive Committee recommends that the By-Laws be changed as follows:

**ARTICLE III – MEMBERS, Section 10 – delete**

“The Vice-President of the Association shall be responsible for keeping the list of members and maintaining records of members’ volunteer service and continuing education activities.”

**ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS, Section B (Vice-President) sub-section 3 – delete. ADD: “May be asked by the President and/or the Executive Committee to assume areas of responsibility within the organization.”**

If approved, the duties of Vice-President (Section B) would read:

1. Will serve as president pro tem in the absence of the President.
2. Will contact inactive members to encourage their participation, work with the membership and retention committee and the “On-Line System Reporting Committee,” and share news and concerns between the Executive Committee and the members.
3. Will review members on “leave of Absence” and present to the Executive Committee, annually.
4. May be asked by the President and/or the Executive Committee to assume areas of responsibility within the organization.

**ARTICLE VII – COMMITTEES, Section**

Continued on Page 2
By-Laws Change Recommended

Continued from Page 1

4. ADD: “On Line System Reporting Committee.” The Executive Committee shall appoint an On-Line System Reporting Committee Chairman. It shall be the duty of this committee to keep a list of members and maintain records of members’ volunteer service and continuing education activities.

Change the present “Section 4” to “Section 5.”

The purpose of this change is to have “On-Line Reporting” as a committee and not as an elected office. It is for the Vice-President to take on more areas of responsibility now handled by the President. When the first set of By-Laws were written, we had only 5 members – only 5 active – and not a lot of projects. We have grown! For which we are thankful.

Gateway Farmers’ Market Survey Results

By Robert High

First, we would like to thank the Red Dirt Master Gardeners that volunteered to help with the surveys and customer counts. A few responders commented on our friendly atmosphere at the market. Most customers seem to enjoy participating and talking to the survey volunteers.

The survey covers a 3-day period (July 8th, 10th, and 12th).

<table>
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<th>Thursday</th>
<th>*Saturday</th>
<th>Totals</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cars</td>
<td>297</td>
<td>307</td>
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</tr>
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*The Texarkana Arkansas Mayor proclaimed Saturday, July 12th as National Farmers’ Market Day. Vegetables and fruits were grilled for customers to sample. We had 15 drawings where the winners received vendor supplied produce.

RESULTS:

1. Customer zip codes?: 41% from Texarkana Arkansas (71854), 27% from Texarkana TX North (75503), and 17% Texarkana TX central (75501). Various other zips were less than 1%.

2. Age of responders?: 28% indicated age between 65–74, 27% between 55–64, 15% between 45–54, & 13% were over 75 years of age. Also, 7% were between the ages of 25–34, 6% between 35–44, & 2% were 16–24.

3. Gender?: 64% were female and 23% male while 11% did not respond.

4. How often do you visit the Market?: 55% visit weekly, 33% occasionally and 7% said it was their first time at the market.

5. Purpose of visit to the market?: ** 50% came for fresh produce, 12% were just browsing, and 7% for jams & jellies, 4% for baked goods, and the rest were looking for flowers or crafts.

6. How much did you spend?: 43% spent between $10–$20, 10% between $21-$30, and 5% say they spent between $41–$50.

7. Did you use WIC Vouchers?: Of the 388 responders, 126 indicated
Gateways Farmers’ Market Survey Results Continued

they had VIC vouchers. Ten percent of the 126 responders indicated that they used the WIC vouchers. Roughly 3% of total survey responders.

8. Customer Satisfaction results: 369 customers responded to this question. Those responding were 100% Satisfied.

9. How did you hear about market?: Newspaper = 45%, Word of Mouth=22%, Signs = 12%. Have always known about the market = 11%, and 5% knew about it from driving by.

10. Market Improvements Needs results:*** 46% of the respondents say we need more parking; 39% say we need more variety of produce; 8% say we need better marketing and advertising, while 12% think everything is fine as it currently is; and another 12% of the customers gave no response.

*** Responders could select multiple answers to these questions.

By Andrea Thomas

The folks at the Southwest Research and Extension Center really did a great job this year! We had the choice to going to the field program or the cooking program. I chose the field. We saw the field trials on root knot nematodes in tomatoes & edamame. We learned about new varieties of muscadines that did not need another variety for pollination. We saw a demonstration on growing mushrooms and learned that you need to use oak logs. We took a look at blackberry varieties, with berries bigger than my thumb; oh and the vines are thorn less. I now know more about GMO corn, which I found very interesting. At the end of the day we got to try our hand at grafting tomatoes.

Even though I did not take the cooking classes, they got to sample food and receive a free cookbook. I even won one of the door prizes, a really dandy hoe.
Butterflies are a welcome visitor to the garden. To attract butterflies, gardeners are planting all types of blooming plants, in the hopes that butterflies will flock to their garden. While many flowering plants will entice butterflies to your garden, to increase diversity, consider adding plants that serve as food for the caterpillars. A butterfly garden can be as small as a few containers of plants, or as large as the yard you have. The basic requirements for a butterfly garden are sun, nectar source plants, larval host plants, and a pesticide-free environment.

While many gardeners like butterflies, most are not as enamored with the caterpillars – because they do eat holes in the leaves of the plants, and sometimes appear to be consuming the whole plant. While it may not be totally aesthetically pleasing, that is their role in the chain of life for butterflies, and it really doesn’t hurt the host plants. If you want butterflies, then you also need caterpillars, and they won’t eat every plant in your yard – they have their specific host requirements.

Some of the most popular food sources for a wide range of butterflies include members of the parsley family, including parsley, fennel, dill and Queen Anne’s lace. The milkweed family is another excellent food source, including the showy butterfly weed – with both the native orange and the tropical ones; along with the perennial passionvine & pipevine, and woody plants such as spice bush, hackberry, apples and cherry trees.

Nectar plants are often more showy & fun to have in the garden, but you need both types your butterflies. Some common nectar plants include buddleia or butterfly bush, butterfly weed, lantana, honeysuckle, coreopsis and more.

Butterflies are a wonderful study of metamorphosis. As the emerging caterpillar comes out of the egg, which has been cleverly laid on a host plant, the larvae eats a large part of its shell before starting to feed on the plant itself. Caterpillars are very limited in their diet; many species will only eat the leaves of a single type of plant. They usually eat only the plant that their mother carefully chose to lay their egg on. The larvae are eating machines, UAV.

Garvan Woodland Gardens

550 Arkridge Road, Hot Springs National Park, AR 71913 ● 800-366-4664

Seeds for Change

Gardening 101 Workshop ● AUGUST 14th ● 9:30-11:30 a.m. ● Magnolia Room

Want a bigger, better garden but have a tight budget? Let Adam Webb and colleagues from the Garland Co. Library tell you how to participate in their new seed bank program. Works just like a book: you check out seeds at planting time & return a portion of your crop for next year’s supply of fresh seeds for other gardeners. And, we’ll be talking about best practices for gathering, cleaning, and storing seeds. Pre-registration required. Members free.

Fall is for Gardening & Something Old, Something New

Gardening 101 Workshop ● SEPTEMBER 4th ● 9:30-11:30 am ● Magnolia Room

Fall really is a great time to garden, with crisp, pleasant weather and cool temperatures for establishing new plantings. Learn what you should be doing and how to do it with resident landscape architect Bob Byers.

Then, enjoy a tour of what’s new and some great old standbys you should be growing by Sabrina Childs of Ball Seed Company. Take advantage of her many years in the nursery industry and learn what plants from all those on the nursery shelf really work in the South.

The Executive Committee accepted, with regret, Sharon Ethridge’s resignation as vice-president of Master Gardeners. Sharon’s mother is ill and she will be in California for an extended time. We will miss her. The Executive Committee decided to share Sharon’s responsibilities and not elect (or appoint) a new vice-president this close to the end of the year. You may be called to help (or appoint) a new vice-president this close to the end of the year. You may be called to help (or appoint) a new vice-president this close to the end of the year. You may be called to help (or appoint) a new vice-president this close to the end of the year. You may be called to help (or appoint) a new vice-president this close to the end of the year. You may be called to help (or appoint) a new vice-president this close to the end of the year. 

A By-Laws change (details on first page in the newsletter) will be discussed at the August meeting. It will be possible to vote on this change at the September meeting – with newsletter notification, there will be more than 30 days’ notice.

Basic Training agendas (all six days) are filling in nicely; all committees are working to make this another GREAT training. A big thank you to each who has been working and ALL those who will be a part of this program. MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!

Don’t forget to add to your calendar, Friday, August 15th, Doug Petty’s retirement reception. It will be at Beech Street First Baptist Church Activity Center from 2-4 p.m. A short program will start about 2:30. If you cannot stay, please come by and let Doug know how much we all appreciate his part in the Master Gardener program.

It is not too early to start “grooming” your house plants to enter in the Four States Fair. The Master Gardeners, this year, are responsible for the Horticulture Department, and we want LOTS of entrants. Plants are to be entered on Thurs., Sept. 11th (same day as meeting).

Our next meeting is Thursday, August 14th, 6:00 p.m. at the REA building. The program committee has an excellent program on tap! See you the 14th.

Congratulations to Sandra Bell, Linda Emert, Glenda Griffin, Robert High, Janet Lemley, Mary Liverett, Anette Owen and Walter Owen, “seedlings” for completing requirements for certification.

“EXPERIENCED MG’S” Nancy Biggar, Peggy Burson, Mary Carlisle, Nine Goldman, Charlotte Neaves, Una May Presley, and Teresa Slack have completed re-certification.

There are now 22 Master Gardeners who have completed their requirements & entered their time, either online or by written time sheet. Thank you!

Remember, if you need help with online reporting, Andrea is just a phone call away – 903-832-8111 or an email. If you prefer to write your hours on a time sheet, that’s fine also. Bring to the meeting or mail to Andrea Thomas, #16 Dunham Drive, Texarkana, TX 75503, and it will be handled for you!

Have you entered your hours! We hope to see your name here next month!

Calendar of Events

**August**

14th – MG Monthly Meeting – 6:00 PM – REA

14th – Seeds for Change Gardening 101 Workshop at GWG – 9:30-11:30 AM

15th – Doug Petty’s Retirement Party – 2:00-4:00 PM – Beech St. 1st Baptist Church Family Activity Center

16th – Advanced MG Class – Drought & the Urban Landscape – Harrison, AR

28th-30th – Miller County Fair, Fouke, AR

29th – Information for Newsletter due to Janet – jsmallwood@uaex.edu

**September**

1st – Labor Day – Courthouse Closed

1st – Registration Deadline for Fall Seminar, Brockwell

4th – GWG Gardening 101 Workshops

11th – Monthly Meeting – 6:00 PM – REA – Vote on Revisions to By-Laws

12th-21st – Four States Fair, Texarkana, AR

13th – Fall Garden Seminar, Brockwell, AR – 9:00-3:00

17th-18th – Kids Day at the Fair

21st-24th – Southern Region MG State Conf – Baton Rouge, LA

23rd, 25th, 26th, & 30th – 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Day of Basic Training

29th – MG Appreciation Day at GWG – Hot Springs
actually outgrowing their bodies five times. Then the caterpillar pupates, covering itself with a protective shell, and metamorphosing into an adult butterfly or moth.

Despite the number of butterflies we see, there are dangers at all stages of the butterflies’ development. Insects & birds can eat the eggs, & parasites can also destroy them in the egg stage. The larvae have even more problems to deal with, from birds to wasps and other bugs, to spiders. They also have to fend off disease problems, and avoid pesticide sprays. And even as adult butterflies, they aren’t immune to being attacked by birds or bugs. Yet butterflies can be as crafty as their attackers. They hide their eggs on the undersides of leaves. The larvae can have the color or pattern of the plants they are feeding on, helping to camouflage them, and some even have false eyes on their backs, or look like bird droppings. The pupal stage can also be masked by looking like a leaf or even a thorn on the host plant.

Red Dirt Master Gardener Minutes
July 10, 2014
REA Building

The May meeting of the Red Dirt Master Gardeners was called to order by President Martha Bean at 6:15 p.m. A quorum was present.

The invocation was given by Tommie Ayers. A motion was made by Teresa Slack to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2014 meeting. Motion seconded and passed. The treasurer’s report is on the back of the agenda. There being no questions, it will be filed for audit.

Executive Committee Report: The Executive Committee recommends that the first five Master Gardeners who apply to attend Leadership Training on October 6th and 7th receive up to $100 toward expenses. This is a budgeted line item – $550 for member training – and the budget has been voted on and approved. Gayle Renfro, Rita Nichols and Teresa Slack have applied and registered for Leadership Training.

Unfinished Business:

Talks at the Library: Children’s classes were presented on June 19 and the classes for teens and adults were completed yesterday, July 9. All classes were well attended and very successful.

Courthouse Flower Beds: Nancy Biggar reported that a workday is scheduled for this Saturday, July 12. The beds need a lot of work so all volunteers are welcome. Come as early as possible, Nancy will be there at 7:00.

Farmers Market: Bill Bean reported that more than 300 people visited the Farmers Market this past Tuesday and Thursday. A survey is being done to see how many people come to the market. We are counting people and cars. Robert High gave some statistics that have been compiled from the surveys so far. This Saturday is National Farmers Market Day. Tommie Ayers will be grilling produce from the market and Carla Haley will do a presentation and answer questions.

Martha reminded everyone to recycle plastic sacks at the market. They can be used as long as they are clean.

Basic Master Gardener Training: Basic Training has been scheduled for September 23, 25, 26, 30 and October 2 & 3. Anyone who knows someone who would be interested in becoming a member, please contact Alice McMillan or any member of that committee.

New Business:

4-H Day at the Ag Learning Center is July 31. Master Gardeners help with this project and a lot of volunteers are needed.

Doug Petty’s retirement party is August 15, 2-4 p.m. at Beech Street Baptist Church.

The next Master Gardener Meeting is Thursday, August 14 at 6 p.m. at the REA Building.

A motion was made by Phyllis Howell to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and passed.

Arkansas Firewise, a program about wildland fires, was presented by the AR Forestry Service.

Respectfully submitted: Kathy Boyles, Secretary

Dreamin’ of Next Year’s Garden Seminar

You are invited to attend a FALL GARDEN SEMINAR – DREAMIN’ OF NEXT YEAR’S GARDEN – at the Izard County Consolidated High School, in Brockwell, AR, Sat. Sept. 13th from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Janet Carson is the featured speaker. Registration is closed when sold out or by September 1st. Cost is $15 (for the seminar only) or $20 (for the seminar and lunch). For more information, call 870-368-4323 or (870) 670-4699.