



Happy Spring! No more freezing temps, only gentle rains and breezes, no pests all year, lots of sunshine –I wish!

Another successful Advanced MG Training Class was completed on March 19th. This one was hosted by Pulaski County MGs on Edible Landscaping. Fifty-four attended the class, and four gained Advanced Level One Master Gardener status as a result: Elaine Ekert (Jefferson), Joyce Mendenhall (Washington), Betty Smith (Polk, and Joanna Willson, (Pulaski). This brings the total of Level One Advanced MG to 54, since the inception of this program in 2002. The next scheduled Advanced Training is April 18, "Vines of All Kinds," hosted by Craighead County.

Advanced training is open statewide to MGs in good standing who have fulfilled all requirements of membership for three years. Information about Advanced Training is available on the Master Gardener only website (username is `mastergardener` (lower case/no space) and the password is `compost` (lower case).

www.arhomeandgarden.org/mastergardener/mastergardeneronly/Education/default.htm

From the Little Rock office, Janet writes:

Over 28 Arkansas Master Gardeners from around the state participated in the 2009 International Master Gardener Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. It was an interesting experience and a great time to revisit with old friends from around the country and Canada. (We tried to send the picture of the attendees, but the file was too large to send.)

Every time an Arkansas name tag was spotted, we heard praises of experiences in Arkansas in 2007. I think we all came back with great pride in our state. Mark your calendars for **October 11-14, 2011** -- the next IMGC in Charleston, West Virginia. It should be a great time.

A few other notes: The Arkansas State MG meeting is coming up, June 7-9, 2009. The deadline to register is May 20. The Crittenden County Master Gardeners have done an outstanding job, and you don't want to miss this event. County 76 is also responsible for the silent auction this year at the meeting, so we will be scheduling volunteers at our May 5 County 76 meeting. As always, we encourage new members of County 76 at each of our meetings.

Our state trip this year is to Charleston, SC, October 1-6. Space is still available. Information should be coming out in June for our Italy trip, May 25-June 8, 2010. Call me if you need additional information.

From ice to tornadoes and cold weather, it has been an interesting year thus far. I hope this finds you all safe and sound and ready to get gardening!

The following is the agenda for the May 5th County 76 Meeting:

Welcome

Call to order

Word from Janet

Officers Reports/Projects

President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Project Manager
Newsletter/Communications

Old Business

Project grants
2009 State Master Gardener Meeting (June 7-9, 2009)
Silent auction and hoe sales

New Business

Garden Voice event schedule
Leadership Training (October 21, 2009)

Installation of new members

Project Time

Project/discussion/project summary

Closing remarks

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- April 14 The Economics of Trees Workshop; 12:30 – 5:00; Lake Point Conference Center, Arkansas Tech University, Training Room A; Russellville, AR; Contact: 1-800-958-5865 or 501-625-3710 or www.arkansastrees.org - P
- April 18 Advanced Master Gardener Training: Vines of All Kinds, 8am-4pm offered by Craighead MG, Jonesborough. Register before March 31; Info: mlcox@yahoo.com - MG
- April 18 "Spring in Saline" Plant Sale, Flower Show & Educational Seminar. Benton, AR Fairgrounds, 8-12 noon. Free parking and admittance. Info: 501 303-5672 – P
- April 18 Free lectue at 10 a.m.by P. Allen Smith at Alltel Arena meeting room. Book signing at 11-12. Tour of his home garden 11-1 for those attending lecture. www.friendsofthemansion.org
- April 25 Craighead County Plant and Vendor Sale ; Crowley's Ridge Nature Ctr.
- April 25 Independence County MG Plant Sale; Fairgrounds in Batesville 8:30-1:00
- April 25 Garland County plant sale at downtown Farmers' Mkt
- April 25 Polk County MG Plant Sale at McMillan Park Pavillion in Mena; 8:00 a.m. P
- May 1 Deadline for MG Deaths list for 2009 State MG Convention
- May 2 Baxter County Plant Sale in Mt. Home at Hickory Park 9-1; dian@hughes.net

- May 2 "Diamond Jubilee" Iris Show Exhibition & Iris Art Sale. Grace Lutheran Church at corner of Hillcrest & Kavanaugh Blve in LR; 1-4 p.m. Free to public. Info: Barbara 501-455-1478
- May 2 Cleburne County Spring Plant Sale 8-2 at the new Greenhouse in Heber Springs – 725 So. 4th St.; 8-2
- May 2 Union County plant sale at historic John Newton House in Eldorado, 407 No. Jackson; contacteldoabbott@yahoo.com P
- May 2 Nevada County MG "Spring – A Time to Till" at Central Baptist Church in Prescott, AR; Several speakers, including Bob Byers. \$15 for the day includes lunch. Contact for more info: Extension Office 870 887-2818 - P
- May 5 County 76 General Membership Meeting. Details forthcoming. MG**
- May 9 Van Buren County Plant and Vendor Sale at Ed Leamon Park in Fairfield Bay with Janet Carson broadcasting her weekly radio show; 8-noon. Contact Fern Todd 501 825-7063
- May 9 Johnson County Plant Sale 8-12:30 at Chamber of Commerce/Old Train Station in downtown Clarksville. Info: 479 497-2828
- May 12-14 Annual Conference of AR Forestry Council; "Weathering the Storm/Challenges of Forests Inside and Out," Info/Registration/Hotel: 800 958-5865 or 501 625-3710
- May 16 "Trails & Trellises" Garden Tour & Seminar; Minden, LA garden tour (4 gardens) 9am-4pm rain or shine; \$10 in advance or \$12 on tour. Info: (318) 371-1371 -P
- June 7-9 State Master Gardener Meeting, West Memphis – MG
- July 11 Bountiful Arkansas Festival at Winthrop Rockefeller Inst., Morrilton. Details to come.
- September 12 IZARD County Blooms, Bulbs, and Bargains: 8-noon at Fairgrounds on Lacrosse Road.
- October 1-6 Arkansas Master Gardener Trip to South Carolina. Details to come.
- October 20-21 Master Gardener Leadership Training. Details to come. MG
- December 1 Annual Master Gardener Reports due (Annual report, financial report, county contact Forms, MOA, annual inventory report) – MG

Oct. 3 & 4 Audubon Society Adult Workshops; Ferncliff Camp; Info: Eric Sundell
870723-1089
Esundell42@gmail.com

E-mail your hours to Judy Woodard: jw@shotgundans.com