

University of Arkansas, United States Department of Agriculture and County Governments Cooperating.

Master Gardeners, we have so much to be thankful for. Twenty wonderful years, an ever-expanding program, new ideas and challenges and we have the best volunteers around. Your willingness to work is so evident across this state. Thanks for all you do. I also want to thank all of you for your care and concern during my recent tune-up. Recovery went extremely well and I am back to normal already. Your cards, e-mails and prayers do make a difference, and I am blessed to have you on my side! Happy Birthday, Arkansas Master Gardeners! Janet
jcarson@aesx.edu :

From Rosemary Wingfield, our President: WOW! What a wonderful two days for AR Master Gardeners. Our regular County 76 meeting was very productive. And the birthday celebration – It couldn't have been better. Holding it on our anniversary date, being a Monday, may have prevented some from attending, but still the turnout was excellent, with 22 counties represented and 233 Master Gardeners there, Melinda Myers gave an outstanding presentation on gardening in small spaces. Attendees took home new Master Gardener calendars. Each county also lugged home a huge oak tree, thanks to the Arkansas Forestry Commission, to be planted in a public space as a living reminder of the service we Master Gardeners provide to our communities. Some folks were generous enough to transport trees for neighbors who did not attend. Melinda autographed lot of books and we sold almost two dozen ProHoes. The birthday cake was beautiful and delicious. Janie Turner and her crew deserve an A+ for decorations. And a big surprise to Janet was a quilt, made by Johnson County Advanced Master Gardener Rankin Kennedy, using t-shirts and aprons with state convention logos. It was very special. Afterwards, many Master Gardeners took a closer look to see if their logo was in the quilt. And to wind down the day, most MGs drove into Little Rock to tour the gardens at the Governor's Mansion. Please welcome our newest Board Members to County 76: Mary Freeman, vice president, elected this summer by e-mail; Theresa Erwin of Polk County, treasurer succeeding the late Richard Levesque; Jean Ann Moles of Saline County, Leadership Project Leader. There will be more to share in the next couple of issues when we get back on schedule with our newsletter. Editor Sharon delayed the October issue so we could include Oct. 12-13 news.

Judy Woodard sends a reminder to all Project Leaders that October is the time to submit your Project Evaluations. Contact Judy if you need the form:

jw@shotgundans.com

Our new Vice President Mary Freeman has been busy planning something new and exciting for Advanced Master Gardeners. Shirts for those Master Gardeners who have completed 5 or more advanced sessions. T-shirts are \$12 for S-XL and \$14 for XXL. Golf shirts are \$26 for S-XL and \$29 for XXL. To get an order form with more details about the shirts, e-mail Mary Freeman at summareal@aol.com or call her at (501) 961-1517. A shirt order will be turned in on November 17th.

From Mentoring and Retention Project Leader, Mimi Cox mlcox5@yahoo.com : We are looking forward to completing our goal of presenting an updated and revised section to the Program Management Guide on Recruitment, Mentoring, and Retention of Volunteers at the County 76 meeting on October 12. The information would be placed on the website for all counties to be able to access. Thanks to our M & R members who are doing their homework this week! Special thanks to Jane Druff with assistance from Sarah Clark for giving us an excellent document to consider. Also in the works is a proposed Reinstatement Policy to add to our Leave of Absence and Sustainer Policies in the Volunteer Manual. This will address the issue of former Master Gardeners returning to their county program. We welcome input from all of you. Please give us your ideas and suggestions. .

Garland Cty's Lin Johnson & Joe McMinn



Calendar of Upcoming Events

October 21 Fall Bulb Workshop at Garvan Gardens. 9-3 Cost: \$50 non-members –P
800-366-4664

October 31 Landscape Construction Workshop, "Incorporating Sustainability into Your New Garden Project," Garvan Woodland Gardens in coop with Winthrop Rockefeller Ins. \$95 for non Members; 800-366-4664 – P

November 1 Landscape Construction Design Workshop at Garvan Gardens –P

November 3 New Zealand Trip - MG
www.arhomeandgarden.org/mastergardener/mastergardeneronly/default.htm

November 6 Creating Your Own Winter Wonderland with Chris Olson; ASU Beebe, 6:30 .m. –P
E-mail: ssanders@uaex.edu

March 23-25 International MG Conference, Las Vegas; www.unce.unr.edu/imgc

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