

**2017
Calendar**

4/01 9:30 AM
Cokesbury
College Work
Day to refresh
beds

4/05 1pm
Chamber of
Commerce
planting
redesign

4/20,21,22-
LMG Farmer's
Market Plant
Sale. Setup
Thurs. PM, Sale
Fri/Sat.

4/22 9-1 SCNP
Native Plant
Sale, Conastee
Park, Grv'l.

4/29 8AM G'vl
MG'ers Plant
Sale 17 Roper
Mtn Rd @
Woodruff Rd.

5/11 6pm LMG
Annual Picnic,
Oasis at Connie
Maxwell
(offsite picnic
area, call for
directions, 543-
4888). Potluck
sides,
hamburgers
provided.



APRIL NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As I write this, the official first day of Spring is only a few days away but Mother Nature seems to be desperate to hold on to winter for a little while longer. Three nights in a row with temperatures dropping in the twenties only to bounce back into the 70's, that's Spring in the south. There is so much going on in the LMG. All the little worker bees are buzzing around, so this month, I'm going to catch everyone up and pass on a little information.

The calendar is filling up with opportunities, but the one everyone is talking about is our annual plant sale coming up April 21 - 22.

Tips to remember for a great sale:

- *Properly identified plants do better
- *Plant requirements . . . Sun/shade
- *well potted, healthy- looking plants do better
- *photos of mature plants or flowers

With spring coming, everyone's thinking about summer. In the Lakelands, that means Festivals. The SC Festival of Flowers offers us the unique opportunity to place our organization not only on a local stage but a national and international one as well. We need to seize this opportunity through Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, Twitter and local media. We have to act as our own PR firm to spread the word about what we are and do. The more visible the Lakeland Master Gardeners are the more interest we will stimulate, taking every opportunity to share our knowledge.

We have teamed up with the City of Greenwood on the America in Bloom project, and we will be adding four basket planters to the Maxwell Ave landscape. This joint venture will give us a chance to talk to the business owners that these baskets will be placed in front of, making contacts and hopefully getting their involvement. We will also be planting rooftop gardens on several birdhouses that are being custom built by local wood workers and will be added to the Uptown Greenwood landscape. Keep a watch for more information and pictures in the future.

We all love FREE stuff, and as gardeners, I know you love Pollinators and Plants. Put them together and you get an App you can download!, *BeeSmart*. App by Pollinator Partnership. After you download the app, input your zip code and it will give you a list of pollinator plants for

your area. Alternatively, you can choose just plants that attract bees, butterflies, etc.

On the subject of Pollinators and Plants, another website has very informative downloads for every area of the country and Canada.

www.pollinator.org/guides.htm

There is also The South Carolina Native Plant Society who has a local branch in Greenville.

www.scnps.org

Keep your eyes out for emails blast lots of projects in the works, Remember our Jeep needs regular trims and a set of tires.

Until Next month, Don't forget to water your plants.

Jimmy

ANNUAL PLANT SALE
APRIL 21 & 22
SETUP APRIL 20 4PM

Let's make this the best plant sale ever. This is Lakelands Master Gardeners' one big fundraiser to raise money for scholarships. We will not only be bringing plants to the sale, we will all have a good time finding new treasures for our own gardens.

There is a signup sheet for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. We will have shifts of two hours or more. You may send a note by email or message. You may also call me at (931) 310-1684, Annie Keith. I will update it weekly by email.

Please try to bring 10 plants or more to the sale. There are 3 weeks during which we can divide both house plants and garden plants. This is just enough time to have plants take hold and look healthy and settled in their pots. Please do have plants in individual pots. Seedlings will also have a great start if they are planted in the next week or two. (Looks like Jimmy McInville has a jump start on us. Are you surprised?).

Some Tips:

- Red Solo Cups make nice containers. Do drill holes in the bottom for drainage.

- Label your plants with the common and botanical name (if possible).
- Old vinyl blinds make good labels.
- Indicate whether the plant is an Annual, Perennial, Vegetable, Shrub, Succulent or Herb.
- Indicate whether the plant should be grown in sun or shade.
- Pictures of the mature plants are just wonderful for new gardeners.

One more surprise! We will raffle off lovely bird houses that have their roof planted with succulents! (see houses below before succulent stuffing)

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone,

Annie Keith, (931) 310-1684, anniedanny2@gmail.com



RUSTY WILSON'S BIRD EVENT BREAKS ATTENDANCE RECORD

Estimates of more than 66 attendees at Rusty Wilson's bird talk, make it the most popular event in years. Rusty's fabulous photography always draws a crowd.

SARAH BRADLEY FEATURED IN INDEX JOURNAL ARTICLE

In March, LMG's own Sarah Bradley was pictured and interviewed in the Index Journal for her work on the topiaries with students at Mathews Elementary School.

Sarah instructed the students on the maintenance of the colorful plants, including pest scouting, routine damage control, pruning, and irrigation control. The students gained hands-on experience stuffing the topiaries with plants.

Donna Walker, a third-grade teacher at Mathews, said the students will study plant growth in their science classes later this year.

THURSDAY GREENHOUSE DAYS GAIN IN POPULARITY



Well-paid Master Gardener volunteers propagate coleus. (well-paid in pansies).



BARBARA WELLS AND SANDY ORR ROADTRIP TO BIG BLOOMERS, SANFORD, NC.

After slowly wending their way up Route 1 almost to Raleigh, two of LMG's plant nerds examined every plant in 10 jampacked hoopouses of perennials. Some of the less exotic annuals picked were gorgeous coral-colored Profusion zinnias and various coleus. A white leaved alternanthera that Ann Barklow doesn't have yet accompanied both home. A leonotis leonurus that is super floriferous won space in the car also. A citron yellow Little Honey hydrangea quercifolia (deer resistant), white liatris, white campanula glomerata, and a eryngium yuccafolia were also snatched. The trendiest plant was a stachys 'Hummelo', to go in the Rice Elementary Garden for the Festival of Flowers Garden Tour June 3rd. 'Hummelo' is named after Piet Oudolf's garden in the Netherlands and looks nothing like the common stachys lamb's ear. Rather, it features dark wine-colored flower spikes with small toothed leaves that form a ground cover.



SPRING PASSALONG BEAUTIES- Sandy Orr

Honesty is a great quality to possess and a great plant to have in the garden. Lunaria, or money plant or honesty, comes in purple or white. It is a member of the brassicaceae family. They can be either biennial or perennial, depending on the species. The sides of the flowers fall away to leave a silvery membrane that looks like a coin, hence the name. Mine grow in the woods in part shade. I can't wait to use the coins in flower arrangements.

The other blooming beauty in my yard is *Hyacinthoides hispanica*, or Spanish bluebells. They come in blue, pink, or white. They are deer resistant and multiply nicely. They like some sun, but do well in part shade. These are bulbs and I got them from a mail order source.

Both of these plants spread well, and thus are great to share.



Don't forget!
If you haven't paid your 2017 LMG Dues yet, Dues are \$20.
For your convenience the
renewal form is also included below.



Lakelands Master Gardener Association 2017 Membership Renewal
Check one: Renewal New Member/Transfer
Master Gardener Membership Dues are \$20.00.
Make your check payable to Lakelands Master Gardener Organization (LMGO)

and mail to:
Melody McInville
345 Klugh Rd.
Abbeville, SC 29620

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone # Home: _____ Work: _____

Cell: _____

Email Address: _____

Year Graduated MG Program: _____ Transfer?

(Y/N) _____ From: _____

(Year 40 hours were completed)

Check here if you do not wish to be listed in the directory.

Special Instructions for publishing personal data in directory:

Please indicate at least one committee(s) on which you are interested in working. Please mark at least one.

(Number from most preferred to least. 1 is by top preference, 2 by 2nd choice, etc.)

_____ Community Projects _____ Membership _____ Plant Sale

_____ Education _____ Clemson Extension Office _____ Web Site

_____ Face Book Page _____ Newsletter _____ Social Activities

_____ Fund Raising _____ Programs & Speakers _____ Topiary/Greenhouse

_____ Public Relations _____ Community Voucher Distribution _____

Community Garden

Suggested topics/activities for the meetings or continuing education:

Lakelands Master Gardener Board/Committee Chairs

Executive Committee

President: Jimmy McInville

Co Vice Presidents: Donna and Wally Sears

Treasurer: Melody McInville

Secretary: Chris Moon

Past President: Barbara Wells

General Board Members

Community Projects: Sherry Edwards

Education: Linda Halsey and Wally Sears

Membership: Donna Feldmaier

Plant Sale/Fund Raising: Annie Keith and Julee Marshall

Public Relations: Jan Coffey

Website: Chuck Bender

Non-voting Board Members

Clemson Advisor: James Hodges

Email Blasts: Janet Ledebuhr

Facebook: Marla Starling and Mary Jane Vivas

Newsletter: Sandy Orr

Office: Vince Plotczyk

Social: Bonnie Rothwell and Candace White

