



# Master Gardener Thymes



WWW.LAKELANDSMASTERGARDENER.ORG

December 2011

## Class of 2011 Completes Course and Celebrates

By James Hodges

A small and determined 2011 Master Gardener class finished in style with their final exams on November 15<sup>th</sup> at the Extension office. A grand celebration then occurred with Turkey and all the trimming with a cake to celebrate the occasion. Needless to say no one left hungry that night.

I congratulate all on their enthusiasm and hard work to complete the course. We missed Glorietta Jones who was injured during the course in a traffic accident, but plans to pick up again in next years' course. David Thompson will be working on completing his course work.



From left: Mary Jo White, Priscilla Ellis, Beth Osteen, Toni Able, Doug Crawford, Sharon Grooms, Lynsey Bock, Ann Stoddard and Jeremiah Grooms

## Lakelands Master Gardeners Christmas Party 2011

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

**WHERE:** Greenwood Metropolitan District "Emmett F. Brooks" Facility, 110 Metro Drive, Greenwood, SC 29646 943-8000

Meat and Drinks will be provided by our organization. Members are asked to bring the sides and desserts. Be thinking about what you would like to bring then let me know.

**Don't wait until our Phone Tree calls with a reminder, please contact Catherine at any time by email or by telephone before Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.**

Please call or email Catherine Swindell @ 223-8552 – [gardenat46@gmail.com](mailto:gardenat46@gmail.com) with your information and with any questions you might have.



## Dates to Remember:

- DEC. 8<sup>TH</sup>, 6:30 PM **CHRISTMAS PARTY GREENWOOD METRO BUILDING—RSVP BY DEC. 4<sup>TH</sup>**

## 2012

- JAN. 12<sup>TH</sup> 6 PM **BOARD MEETING— DISCUSS UPCOMING YEAR**
- FEB. 9<sup>TH</sup>, **RECOGNITION DINNER**
- MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>, **BOARD MEETING 6 PM**
- APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup>, **SPEAKER MEETING AT LIBRARY (TENTATIVE) LAKELANDS BEE KEEPER SOCIETY**
- MAY 10<sup>TH</sup>, **LMG PICNIC**
- JUNE 14<sup>TH</sup>, **BOARD MEETING**
- JULY 12<sup>TH</sup>, **SPEAKER MEETING, ANN BARKLOW**
- AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup>, **BOARD MEETING**
- SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, **SPEAKER MEETING**
- OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup>, **BOARD MEETING BUDGET MEETING**
- NOVEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, **SPEAKER MEETING**
- DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**\*\*The Awards Dinner is now in Feb....for 2010 Graduates, 2011 MG Interns, and recognition for all LMG and hours volunteered.\*\***

*The Lakelands Master Gardeners Association is a volunteer organization made up of Master Gardeners from Abbeville and Greenwood Counties in SC.*

## LMG Board Minutes November 10, 2012

By Sandy Orr

Board and Committee Chairs in attendance: April Prater, Catherine Swindell, Sandra Johnson, Jimmy McInville, Linda Halsey, Janet Ledebuhr, Sandra Orr, Vince Plotczyk, Patti Larson, Chuck Bender, Helen Spiller

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Two thank you notes from MG student scholarship recipients and one from GMD for the completion of the water feature landscaping were received.

**TREASURER REPORT:** The current cash balance is \$7,894.55.

### **OLD BUSINESS-**

**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:** Approximately 50 current members have not paid the 2012 dues. A reminder invoice will be sent out by next week. **New names badges-**The order form for our new LMG name badge (from Laminex) was in the last newsletter and will be in the next few newsletters. The order form will also be on our web page and Facebook. They are \$10 each and can be ordered by sending the completed form with money to Patti Larson at any time.

**TOPIARIES:** Sharon Grooms and Jeremiah Grooms will chair the LMG involvement with the topiaries which is a **sub-committee under Community Projects.** LMG will prepare the Jeep for display at the Festival.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY--- THURSDAY DECEMBER 8TH 6:30PM at GMD:** Turkey and beverages will be provided by LMG. All side dishes will be provided by fellow LMG.

**GMD WATER FEATURE-** Planting completed on October 29th. GMD agreed to pay for plants and soil to complete the project. The following members volunteered: Dwight Long Catherine Swindell, Sue Monaghan, Julee Marshall, Mike McKinney, Eugene Dickert, Doug Crawford, Chuck Bender, Sarah Carroll, Rick and Patti Larson.

**RECONITION OF MEMBERS HOURS- CONTINUE PLAQUES IN CLEMSON OFFICE OR HOUR PINS:** The Board voted to provide hour pins to members that have achieved various levels of volunteering. The pins will be awarded at the Recognition Dinner in February at GMD.

**PROJECT-HOSPICE GARDEN:** Sandra Johnson and Charlotte Cabri visited the site and spoke to the director. Sandra will contact Charlotte Cabri to find out where the project stands. She will cc Patti Larson on the correspondence.

**MONTHLY NEWSLETTER ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION:** The Board agreed that Janet will distribute it to local nurseries via email as a PDF.

**ADVERTISING IN NEWSLETTER:** April Prater reported that the circulation numbers of the newsletter do not yet

support paid advertising solicitation.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **2012 NEW OFFICERS and COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**

President- Patti Larson  
Vice President- OPEN  
Treasurer-Chuck Bender.  
Secretary- Sandy Orr  
Past President- Jimmy McInville  
Clemson Advisor- James Hodges  
Community Project- OPEN  
Education- co-chair- Helen Spiller and Linda Halsey  
Finance and Fund Raising- OPEN  
Programs and Speakers- OPEN  
Media/Communication (formerly PR) – Catherine Swindell (PR), Doug Crawford (Facebook) and Vince Plotczyk (Web Site)  
Social- OPEN  
Membership- Cindy Wilkins  
Newsletter- Janet Ledebuhr  
Phone- Nicole Ellis  
Office- Vince Plotczyk

**FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS FRAMED PRINT-** Possibly to be placed in Library with a plaque stating that it was contributed by Lakeland Master Gardeners Association. Patti Larson is going to meet with the library,

**2012 PROJECTED BUDGET-** A proposed 2012 budget was discussed that increased expenditures over 2011 levels, which results in a larger deficit than experienced in 2011. The Board voted to revert back to 2011 budget levels for 2012, thus reducing the projected deficit. The 2012 Budget will be in the January Newsletter.

**SERVICE HOURS:** A motion was made that the Membership Chairman and the Chairman of LMG Hours should notify the Board of those members or students who have a shortage of hours. The motion was defeated and then tabled.

#### **PROJECTS/PROGRAMS/SUGGESTIONS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR-**

**MINI-INFORMATION SESSIONS:** The Board is looking for members who can speak at meetings for members only. These meetings would be in addition to the public meetings with outside speakers. The Board was asked to find one fellow LMG to offer a mini session for our members. If you are interested, please contact Patti Larson at 554-1600 or [greenwood\\_patti@yahoo.com](mailto:greenwood_patti@yahoo.com) until a Project Chairman is named.

*Continued on next page*

**RAIN GARDEN and CLEMSON EXTENSION SIGN:** The Rain Garden was proposed as a Project for demonstration of pruning technique. The Extension Sign planting will be used for Education project purposes.

**CONTAINER CLASSES- FALL/SPRING**

**CITY OF 96 PROJECTS THAT DOUG CRAWFORD WILL OFFER TO MEMBERS FOR VOLUNTEER TIME.**

**FENCE GARDEN AT WARE SHOALS:** -James Hodges is in contact with the school (they won the Beautification Award).

**2012 MEETING SCHEDULE**– see event list on front page

**Lakeland Master Gardener  
Name Badge Order Form**

Master Gardener Information			
Last Name		First Name	
Mailing Address			
City		Zip Code	
Home ( )	Cell ( )	Other ( )	
e-mail address			
For Office Use Only	Received	Confirmation	Delivered

**Orders are filled upon receipt of order form. There is no deadline to send money and form to Patti.**

Please **Print** Information the way you would like it to appear on your name badge

Master Gardener Name Badge Information			
Last Name		First Name	
County		Year Graduated From Master Gardener Training Course	

Sample Lakelands Master Gardener Name Badge



Cost: \$10/badge      Cash or Check accepted

Make Checks payable to: Lakelands Master Gardeners *Remit Payment and Order Form together to:*

**Patti Larson**  
325 Nautical Way  
Greenwood, SC 29649

Questions, please e-mail Patti Larson: [greenwood\\_patti@yahoo.com](mailto:greenwood_patti@yahoo.com) or call 554-1600

# Membership form

## Lakelands Master Gardener Association

## Membership Renewal

Check one:  Renewal       Lifetime Member Update       New Member/Transfer

Please renew your MG membership by completing this form and paying your dues for the coming year. Members who pay dues by October 15th will be included in the Lakelands Master Gardener Association Membership Directory and will receive uninterrupted membership benefits. Lifetime Members please update your contact info and indicate your interests for the coming year.

### Master Gardener Membership Dues: (Select your Membership Category by checking)

- Individual, 59 years old and under      \$ 15
- Individual, 60+ years old      \$ 10
- Married couple, 59 and under      \$ 20
- Married couple, 60+      \$ 15
- Individual, Lifetime Membership      \$ 125

Make your check payable to Lakelands Master Gardener Association and Mail to:

Patti Larson  
325 Nautical Way  
Greenwood, SC 29649

Membership dues are due by October 15th of each year.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/St/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone# - Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Year Graduated MG Program: \_\_\_\_\_ Transfer? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_ From: \_\_\_\_\_

- Check here if you do **not** wish to be listed in the directory.
- Special Instructions for publishing personal data in directory:

Please indicate the committee(s) you are interested in working with: (Number from most important to least important)

_____ Community Projects	_____ Membership	_____ Public Relations
_____ Education	_____ MG Office	_____ Social Activities
_____ Finance & Fund Raising	_____ Newsletter	_____ Web Site
_____ Phone	_____ Programs and Speakers	

Suggested topics/activities for the meetings or continuing education:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Rev. 7-12-2011)

***Dues payment due December 10th to make it in the 2012 Directory.***

# 'Twas the Night Before Christmas - A Gardener's Version

by Patti and Rick Larson

'Twas the night before Christmas when all through the yard,  
Not a veggie was growing, not even the chard.  
The trellis was strung by the green beans with care,  
In hopes that an edible plant soon would grow there.

The birds were nestled all snug in their nests,  
While visions of worms danced in their heads.  
Rick with his Bud Light and I with my wine,  
Had just settled down at the table to dine.

When out in the garden I heard a loud clatter,  
I leapt from the couch to see what was the matter.  
Away to the screen door in four seconds flat,  
Flipped open the gate latch and tripped on the cat.

When what to my wondering eyes did appear,  
But a master gardener with a new pair of shears.  
He was pushing a wheelbarrow so heavy with plants,  
That I started to do my Indian rain dance.

He was dressed all in green from his hat to his boots,  
And his pants were all muddy with dirt from plant shoots.  
A bundle of seedlings he had flung on his back,  
And he looked for a place to begin the attack.

His trowel how it twinkled - his hoe was so battered!

His spade was brand new - his gloves were so tattered!  
His droll little mouth was drawn up in a smile,  
As he worked with his tools in a whimsical style.

He spoke not a word as he started to plant,  
And took out some seedlings that he could transplant.  
He filled all the raised beds with veggies galore,  
As I stood there watching from my screened back door.

And laying his shovel right next to his hoe,  
I knew it was time for the gardener to go.  
But I heard him exclaim as rolled out of sight,  
**Happy Gardening to all and to all a good night!**



## Three Reasons to Grow Your Own Vegetables— article by Southern Living

Toni Able shared an article by the folks from Southern Living about growing your own vegetables and the benefits you reap. The three reasons stated in the article are price, control choices, and freshness. To see more details from this article, including ideas of what to grow, go to Southern Living-<http://www.southernliving.com/home-garden/reasons-to-grow-your-own-vegetables-00417000071798/>

# Boxelder Bugs

By Vincent Plotczyk

Adult Boxelder bugs, *Boisea trivittata* (Say), Rhopalidae, HEMIPTERA, are about ½ inch long and 1/3 inch wide. They are dark brown to black in color with red markings on their backs. The abdomen is bright red under the wings. Boxelder bugs feed primarily on the seed-bearing boxelder trees by sucking sap from the leaves, tender twigs and developing seeds. Occasionally the boxelder bug has been seen feeding on silver maple, other maples, ash, plum, cherry, apple, peach, grape, and strawberries, causing some scarring and dimpling of fruit.



William M. Ciesla, Forest Health Management International, Bugwood.org

Nymphs are similar to adults in shape except they are smaller, wingless and bright red.



Boxelder bugs cannot bite or sting but their piercing-sucking mouthparts *can* sometimes puncture skin, causing slight irritation. The boxelder bug may enter buildings by crawling or flying during the warm days of autumn for hibernation. The bugs enter through cracks in the foundation, windows, doors, under siding and shingles. During late winter and early spring, they become active on warm sunny days and search for egg laying sites. The bugs may become trapped inside the home. The bugs are not harmful to household furnishings, clothing or food products, but can be annoying when crawling or flying around as they attempt to escape to the outside and their droppings stain curtains and other resting sites. The boxelder bug emits a foul odor when crushed.

## Control Measures Outdoors

Boxelder bugs breed on female (pistillate) boxelder trees. The removal of these trees and replacing with male (staminate) trees may reduce the population. Correct identification of the bug is important. The wholesale cutting of boxelder trees is not recommended because these insects can fly in from anywhere in the neighborhood. If one or two trees of no particular value are infested their removal may be best for long-term control.

Young exposed nymphs and adults on the host trees may be treated with insecticides. Insecticides should be applied to the trunk, limbs and foliage of infested trees in the spring and early summer.

**Spraying of trees is best done by a professional.**

Perimeter foundation treatments with chemicals also may provide good control. The spray is applied to all surfaces that the bugs crawl, foundation walls, sidewalks, and fences. Choose an insecticide labeled for homeowner use as a foundation or outside perimeter treatment for household pests. **Read and follow all label directions. The label is the law.**

Infestations can be prevented or reduced by eliminating potential hiding places around the house such as piles of boards, rocks and leaves.

Be sure to caulk and close any openings that the boxelder bug can enter the home such as around light fixtures, doors and windows, unscreened vents, holes in walls around utility pipes and conduits, air conditioners and heat pumps. The boxelder bug is attracted to lights and can fly in open doors and windows. Be sure to screen all windows, doors, crawl spaces, exhaust and roof vents and louvers.

## Control Measures Indoors

Indoor control is difficult. Household foggers or “bug bombs” will not provide effective control. The pests are hidden in areas that are mostly inaccessible to insecticides. Use a vacuum cleaner to remove bugs indoors. It is best to use a vacuum with a HEPA filter to prevent insect parts from being circulated in the air. The vacuum cleaner bag should be placed inside a plastic bag and sealed then placed inside a tightly sealed outdoor garbage can.

Household insecticidal aerosols and many household spray cleaners also are effective when applied directly to individual insects. These measures provide temporary relief only.

When infestations affect large areas or occur in areas requiring specialized spray equipment, a professional pest control operator may be needed.

*Continued on next page*

## Sources:

Purdue University  
Purdue Extension  
Department of Entomology  
Boxelder Bugs  
Timothy J. Gibb,  
Extension Entomologist

Ohio State University Extension  
Entomology  
Boxelder Bug  
William F. Lyon

The University of Tennessee  
Agricultural Extension Service  
Boxelder Bugs and Red-Shouldered Bugs  
Karen Vail, Associate Professor, Frank Hale, Associate Professor, Entomology and Plant Pathology, and  
William Klingeman, Assistant Professor, Plant Sciences & Landscape

Systems.  
Originally developed by Harry Williams, Professor Emeritus, Entomology and Plant Pathology.

Colorado State University Extension  
Boxelder Bugs  
F.B. Peairs

North Dakota State University  
Department of Entomology  
Janet Knodel, Extension Entomologist

Photos By:  
William M. Ciesla, Forest Health Management International, Bugwood.org  
Under license  
Used with permission

Vincent Plotczyk

## SEWING SEEDS OUTSIDE IN THE WINTER

By Sandy Orr

I'm a seed addict and collect more than I can grow in my portable four tier mini-greenhouse. I also trade seeds on Dave's Garden website. After watching my precious seedlings damp off after sowing them in the spring, I searched the internet for solutions. Wintersown.org is a website that explains all the details about growing seeds in the winter outdoors, in micro-self-constructed terrariums. Following their instructions last year, I used 2 liter pop bottles, translucent milk jugs, takeout food containers, and anything plastic that allowed light. The steps are briefly as follows:

- 1) Slice the bottles in half horizontally to create a top and bottom
- 2) Stab/slice a few slits in the bottom and top for drainage/transpiration
- 3) Label the bottom with the plant name using a water-resistant tape and sharpie marker
- 4) Fill the bottom part of the container to within ½" of the edge, with any cheap potting soil
- 5) Soak the potting soil
- 6) Plant the seeds at depth recommended on package
- 7) Recreate the container by taping the top back on to create a fairly good seal
- 8) Leave the caps on the bottles until you need to add water later on in the spring (I didn't need to)  
You might also need to remove the bottle caps to increase transpiration
- 9) Leave the containers outside in semi-shade, against the house, in a window well, or on a porch

Beyond this, all I did was check the containers periodically, and amazingly, all the seeds germinated with no damping off. Moreover, there is no need for complicating lighting/heating systems, hardening the seedlings off, or even transplanting them into larger pots. Simply put only a few seeds in each container. I had to be careful not to bake the seedlings on warm sunny days. That's why a shady location works best. The container tops can be untaped and totally removed in late March/early April. You will then need to water frequently.

The website has a list of seeds for Zone 8 and the month they should be started. Last year my seeds were all half hardy perennials planted in January, but this year I plan on expanding my experiment to heat-loving annuals such as zinnias, marigolds, and celosia, which can be started in March.

Try it; I think you'll be a convert too.



Photo by Kylee Baumlee



[www.lakelandsmastergardener.org](http://www.lakelandsmastergardener.org) Find us on Facebook



Shutterfly - <http://lakelandsmastergardeners.shutterfly.com>

Clemson Cooperative Extension Office– Greenwood– 864-223-3264

LAKELAND MASTER GARDENERS

Newsletter Editor-Janet Ledebuhr  
articles due by the 25th of the month—  
[queenofseaford@yahoo.com](mailto:queenofseaford@yahoo.com)

LMG General Meetings will be held at: The  
Greenwood Metro District Meeting Room  
110 Metro Dr., Greenwood, SC 29646

**Directions**  
From Self Regional Hospital: Take West  
Alexander to Premier Dr. – stay on Premier  
Dr. by turning right – turn left on Metro Dr.  
From 225 Ext: Going South on 225 Ext.,  
turn left on W. Alexander, turn right on Joe  
Bernat Dr., turn left on Premier Dr., turn  
right on Metro Dr.

Board Meetings are held in February, April,  
June, August, and October on the second  
Thursday of the month @ 6:00 pm @ The  
Clemson Extension Office @ The Brewer  
Center

**Miles and Hours** - please submit to  
Linda Halsey  
halseyfarm@embarqmail.com, 864-374-  
7253, or P.O. Box 82, Hodges, SC 29653

Don't forget to check the Shut-  
terfly website for photos. See  
address at the top of the page.  
Chuck keeps updating the  
page with more photos of our  
activities. The password is avail-  
able.

**Master Gardener Office**

Need hours? Volunteer to work in  
the Master Gardener office any  
time Monday thru Friday. The of-  
fice hours are from 8:30a.m - 5  
p.m. Schedules are posted at the  
office for sign-ups. We encourage  
everyone to work in the office for  
Office Volunteer Hours.

You can sign up two ways: Go to  
the Extension  
office and  
add your  
name to the  
schedule; or  
call the Ex-  
tension office  
at 223-3264.



**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Have a committee where you could  
use an extra hand? Send it to the  
newsletter and it will be listed.

1. Vice President
2. Community Projects
3. Finance and Fund Raising

4. Programs and Speakers
5. Social Committee



**Missing a newsletter?** Looking for an earlier edition? All of our  
newsletters can be found at our website at— [http://  
www.lakelandsmastergardener.org/newslet2011.html](http://www.lakelandsmastergardener.org/newslet2011.html)

**THE LAKELANDS MASTER GARDENER BOARD 2012**

- |                                       |                                    |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| President- Patti Larson               | Newsletter- Janet Ledebuhr         |
| Vice President- <b>OPEN</b>           | Phone- Nicole Ellis                |
| Treasurer- Chuck Bender               | Programs and Speakers- <b>OPEN</b> |
| Secretary- Sandy Orr                  | Media – (3 chairs)- Catherine      |
| Past President- Jimmy McInville       | Swindell (PR) Doug Crawford        |
| Clemson Advisor- James Hodges         | (Facebook) Vince Plotczyk (Web     |
| Community Projects- <b>OPEN</b>       | Site)                              |
| Education Co-Chair- Linda Halsey      | Social- <b>OPEN</b>                |
| and Helen Spiller                     | Office- Vince Plotczyk             |
| Finance and Fund Raising- <b>OPEN</b> |                                    |
| Membership- Cindy Wilkins             |                                    |

Volunteer hours are reported quarterly to Linda Halsey at  
halseyfarm@embarq.com. (March, June, September and December) Attached  
you will find an Excel form for the fourth quarter reporting of 2011 and first quarter  
of 2012. If you do not have Excel and need a word document, please let me  
know—queenofseaford@yahoo.com

**This Association shall be operated for the growth and development of its  
members and for the following purposes:**

1. Sharing horticultural information and guidance with South Carolina resi-  
dents based on research specific to the local climate, soils, and plants;
2. Volunteering time to assist the Extension Service in meeting the demand  
for reliable gardening information;
3. Providing volunteer service to improve our communities through a wide  
variety of horticultural projects;
4. Promoting the training of Master Gardeners and keeping Master Garden-  
ers active in service;
5. Encouraging interest in gardening by all citizens;
6. Encouraging the utilization of all resources for better gardening, including  
the Department of Agriculture and Clemson University Extension Service;
7. Encouraging local environmental beautification and preservation; and
8. Helping those less fortunate prosper from the benefits of horticulture.