



Master Gardener Thymes



WWW.LAKELANDSMASTERGARDENER.ORG

February 2012



January 12, 2012 Lakeland Master Gardener Board Meeting

Minutes from Jan. 12, 2012 Board Meeting

- **Attendance-** Chuck Bender, Susanne Bender, Charlotte Cabri, Linda Halsey, James Hodges, Jason Jordan, Patti Larson, Janet Ledebuhr, Dwight Long, Julee Marshall, Vince Plotczyk, Helen Spiller, Ann Stoddard, Catherine Swindell, Cindy Wilkins
- Absent- Jimmy McInville, Sandra Johnson, Sandy Orr, Jeremiah Grooms, Nicole Ellis, Sharon Grooms
- **Introduction of Board Members-**
- 2012 NEW OFFICERS and COMMITTEE CHAIRS**
- Executive Board**
- President-** Patti Larson
- Vice President-**
- Treasurer-**Chuck Bender.
- Secretary-** Sandy Orr
- Past President-** Jimmy McInville
- Clemson Advisor-** James Hodges
- Committees**
- Community Projects-** Co-chairman- Sandra Johnson and Charlotte Cabri
- Topiary Co-chairman-** Sharon Grooms and Jeremiah Grooms
- Education-Co-chairman-** Helen Spiller, Jason Jordan and Linda Halsey
- Finance and Fund Raising-** Julee Marshall (Plant Sale)
- Programs and Speakers-** Susanne Bender
- Media/Communication** (formerly PR) - Catherine Swindell (PR), Doug Crawford (Face book)
- Vince Plotczyk (Web Site)
- Social-** Ann Stoddard
- Membership-** Cindy Wilkins and Linda Halsey (maintain hours for assoc)
- Newsletter-** Janet Ledebuhr
- Phone-** Ann Barklow
- Office-** Vince Plotczyk
- **Presentation of Proposed Landscape Diagnostic Clinic Series—Ann Barklow & Janet Ledebuhr-**
- Board unanimously accepted- Ann and Janet will put

Con't. p. 2

Notes from the LMG President

By Patti Larson

THANK YOU for making the LMG such a successful Association. We had our first Board meeting last month and it was comforting to know that all the chairman and officers are working hard for each and every one of you!

In 2011 the LMG Association logged in over 5,157 hours.....WOW what a dynamic group of individuals!

This month, on February 9th we are holding the Annual Awards / Graduation Dinner. We are honoring many of you with a pin that marks the hours you have volunteered so graciously to various projects within the Community.

I hope all of you will be attending. There are even some surprise awards this year! *All Master Gardeners that attend will be leaving with a gift.*

Thank You so very much and I hope to see you on February 9th, 6:30 PM at GMD!

Just a reminder.....if you have not responded (RSVP) to Ann Stoddard, please pick up the phone and call her at 864-388-9125 or drop an email to her.....

bstoddard@emeraldsc.com , TODAY!

See you there!!!!

Patti Larson
864-554-1600

Dates to Remember:

- FEB. 9TH, **RECOGNITION DINNER** GREENWOOD METRO DISTRICT 6:30 PM
- MARCH 8TH, **BOARD MEETING** 6:30 PM LIBRARY
- APRIL 12TH, **SPEAKER MEETING -LAKELANDS BEE KEEPER SOCIETY** 6:30 PM LIBRARY
- MAY 10TH, **LMG PICNIC** MAGNOLIA PARK 6:30 PM
- JUNE 14TH, **BOARD MEETING** LIBRARY 6:30 PM
- JULY 12TH, **SPEAKER MEETING, ANN BARKLOW** LIBRARY 6:30 PM
- AUGUST 9TH, **BOARD MEETING** LIBRARY 6:30 PM
- SEPTEMBER 13TH, **SPEAKER MEETING** LIBRARY 6:30 PM
- OCTOBER 11TH, **BOARD MEETING BUDGET MEETING** LIBRARY 6:30 PM
- NOVEMBER 8TH, **SPEAKER MEETING** LIBRARY 6:30 PM
- DECEMBER 13TH, **CHRISTMAS PARTY** GREENWOOD METRO DISTRICT 6:30 PM

Congratulations to Doug Crawford, one of our interns, for being recognized by Healthy Greenwood Neighbors, Inc. Doug is a 2011 winner for Neighbor of the Year, Ninety-Six Mill Village Neighborhood Association. If you see Doug, give him a big congrats!



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

the information in February newsletter and referrals will be accepted from LMG members.

▫ **Treasurer Report**

- o December 31, 2011 report- separate document
- o 2011 Revenue & Expenditures- separate document
- o 2012 Projected Budget-separate document. *Board unanimously accepted.*

▫ **Communication/ respect/ consider the whole association concerning comments-Patti Larson** expressed the hope that the Board will work together as a team to benefit and help our Association grow and become stronger.

▫ **Public Relations—Catherine Swindell (newspaper/ media information)** - All articles/ press releases (written by members and/ or committee chair) will be filtered through Catherine Swindell for dissemination to the newspaper, Greenwood Today, etc. Catherine will work with Joe Sitarz at The Index Journal for optimum coverage and exposure of our Association.

Old Business

▫ **Topiary Project Status— Dwight Long-** Wyatt Farms is in charge of the topiary project for the 2012 FOF. They will be overseeing all volunteering efforts. The LMG will be working through our co-chairman Sharon and Jeremiah Grooms. All information concerning our projects, the Jeep and the 45th celebration cake, are to be coordinated via them. Although we have committed to these 2 topiaries, we will assist with the overall topiary project as requested by Wyatt Farms. (Katherine Lowe is the coordinator with Wyatt Farms)

o Co-chair Sharon Grooms & Jeremiah Grooms for the LMG 2 projects

o Our commitment- Jeep & 45th Celebration Cake

▫ **2012 Membership Directory—Cindy Wilkins-** The updated list of the current LMG has been sent via email for any changes. Linda Halsey spoke about how active the LMG Association is and how many volunteer hours are reported as compared to the other MG groups State wide.

o Linda Halsey—Articles in newsletter concerning hours/ mileage- Linda will submit articles in upcoming newsletters that explain the different areas that hours can be reported and the importance of reporting your hours.

▫ **Recognition / Graduation Dinner- Feb. 9th ----Ann Stoddard-** Notice has been sent out via email and Invitations via the US mail have also been sent out. Please respond to Ann ASAP whether you are planning on attending (also what you are bringing). The Association will be providing the main course and beverages. NEW this year, we will be recognizing members that achieved various amounts of hours (100, 250, 500, 750, and 1,000) with a pin. The Board voted to not continue the hour wall plaques. The Master Gardener of the 2011 Year will be presented so any nominations for that award are to be emailed or called in to Cindy Wilkins, Membership Committee Chairman.

▫ **Update-Newsletter distribution to area nurseries—Janet Ledebuhr** - progressing.

▫ **Placement of FOF picture in Library—Patti Larson-** The library is happy to display this, and we will let them know

that this is being —loaned|| as we may or may not want to have back in the future.

▫ **RR Museum—** Community project co-chair Charlotte Cabri will contact Museum concerning LMG involvement (esp. work days) and will be making a recommendation at our next Board meeting in March. There were concerns expressed on whether the Museum would be a viable entity in the future, and if it were, whether we needed to have a better plan and more hours to make meaningful improvements. Poison ivy has been an issue that affected volunteers in the past also.

▫ **Gardens at Mall—**plaque that states we maintain- The plaques were placed there when the Clemson Extension Office was located in the mall. There are no current plans to maintain that garden so the plaque will be removed.

▫ **Hospice Project---**Charlotte Cabri - Co-chair Charlotte Cabri will get details concerning this as a project. A recommendation will be made by the Community Project Committee and will then be presented at a future Board meeting.

New Business

▫ **Mini information sessions for our members-** Only 1 scheduled at this time by Vince Plotczyk in March. The landscape project will also be considered mini workshops for our members. More to follow later. Seeking any MG that would like to offer information to our members only...can be at any location you find convenient. Contact any Board member with your information.

▫ **Fence Garden at Ware Shoals Elem.** (won the Beautification award)— tabled to a future meeting to have James Hodges' input.

▫ **Spring Container classes---** Co-chair Charlotte Cabri will have information at a future Board meeting.

▫ **Plant Sale April 6&7---Julee Marshall- NEEDS PLANTS AND VOLUNTEERS.** See article for more information p.4.

▫ **Lake Greenwood Clean-up Day March 10—Patti Larson** - Looking for volunteers that would like to help as a LMG project. Although it is not in the true sense an educational or plant related project...it is community based. *Please contact Patti Larson at 554-1600 if interested, since we will not enter a LMG group unless enough people express interest.*

▫ **LMG Handbook/ LMG Directory—2 separate documents** (working on updating Handbook- All Committee 2012 Objectives were updated and presented to the Chairman at the meeting. After their input and approval, the remaining 2012 LMG Handbook will be updated.

▫ *Please note- the Board approved that the document named “The Directory” has been separated into 2 different documents.*

o *The 2012 LMG DIRECTORY will only contain the membership list.*

o *The 2012 LMG HANDBOOK will be the information concerning the Association.*

▫ **Next meeting---March 8th 6:30PM Place---Clemson Extension Office**

Carolina Horsenettle *Solanum Carolinense* L

By Vincent Plotczyk

Carolina horsenettle is an upright perennial that is low branching and has yellow prickly spines on its stems and lower leaf veins. The plant produces 3- foot long stems. The flowers are star shaped and have five white to violet petals and five extended yellow stamens. The spherical fruit of the Carolina horsenettle changes from green to yellow as it ages and the fruit has many seeds. All parts of the plant can be poisonous to humans and animals. The immature green fruit is generally more toxic to human and animals than the ripe berries. The berries are more toxic than leaves, which are more toxic than stems and roots. The toxic principles in horsenettle are glycoalkaloids (alkaloids + sugars). The glycoalkaloid solanine is typically found in horsenettle. The seeds of the Carolina horsenettle are yellowish to orange-brown, smooth, and glossy.

Carolina horsenettle persists and colonizes by rhizomes and spreads by seeds.

Control:

Established Carolina horsenettle is extremely difficult to eradicate. It is spread by seed and root fragments. Eliminate the plant where it is found and check the site the following year to see if any new plants have germinated. The extensive root system of the Carolina horsenettle makes it extremely difficult to control by hand pulling or mechanical means.

Clipping and mowing are ineffective.

Cultivation is ineffective.

No biological control agents have been examined yet for Carolina horsenettle.



The use of herbicides on established plants is generally ineffective because the chemicals do not reach the wide-spread roots.

Some studies have shown glyphosate to provide steady control.

Regrowth will occur with any herbicide treatment.

Reapplication will be necessary.

Synonyms: Carolina Nettle, bullnettle, Carolina Nightshade

Sources:

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension

University of Tennessee Extension

Wikipedia - Carolina Horsenettle

Forest Plants of the Southeast and their Wildlife Uses

James H. Miller & Karl V. Miller

Walter Reeves: The Georgia Gardener



You Are Invited!

Lakelands Master Gardeners

Recognition and Awards Banquet

Thursday, February 9, 2012

6:30 pm

Greenwood Metropolitan District

Please join us for an exciting evening as we recognize our newest graduates and celebrate many Master Gardener successes!

Meat and beverages will be provided.

Please RSVP your attendance and your side dish selection to:

Ann Stoddard

(864) 388-9125

bstoddard@emeraldgis.com



**THINK SPRING!
ANNUAL PLANT SALE FUNDRAISER
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, APRIL 6 & 7
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**



By Julee Marshall
Fundraising Chair

Please mark your calendars! Our annual plant sale will be held on Friday and Saturday, April 6 & 7 from 8:00am until 4:00 pm at the Greenwood Farmers Market. As this is our only fundraiser for the year, we need as many members as possible to make a contribution. Please start planning what plants you can dig up, sprout, propagate, and pot for the sale. Also, please plan what day and time that you would like to work at the sale. We need 5 people for each of the 2 shifts of the 2 day sale. The shifts will be from 7:30am until 11:45 am and 11:45 am until 4:00 pm. The folks working the late shift on Saturday should be prepared to help breaking down and cleaning up after the event. We will also need 5 people to help set up the tables and arrange plants on Thursday, April 5 from 4:00-8:00pm.

It has been suggested that we group plants according to sun, shade, indoor, outdoor, annual, perennial, etc. We would like to try that this year. When preparing your plant contribution, please print out a description of the plant including botanical and common names, size at maturity, light requirements, soil and feeding requirements, and whether they are perennials or annuals. A label or handout that can be given to the customer is very helpful. You may also suggest a price for your plants, if you wish. Another member has suggested having something special for children. I would welcome any suggestions. Or if you have plants you feel are particularly interesting to children, we would welcome those, too. But, above all, please remember to label your plants to eliminate any guesswork for the volunteers.

To simplify the plant donation drop-off, we will only be collecting plants at the Farmers Market. We will have a group at the Farmers Market on Thursday, April 21 from 4:00-8:00pm to accept plant donations and set up for the sale. Although, we will still accept plants on Friday and Saturday, during the sale, we would like to have a large inventory of plants set up and ready for the early-birds.

I will send out an e-mail with a volunteer sign-up sheet in February. If there are any questions or if you would like to go ahead and get your name put on your preferred time slot, please e-mail me at juleemarshall@centurylink.net or call 998-3189.

Thank you in advance for your donations and help in this fundraising event.

Festival of the Flowers Topiaries

By Sharon Grooms

Hey Everyone - We have been busy behind the scenes getting things organized and ready to begin working on the Festival of Flowers topiaries. Lakeland Master Gardeners will officially be responsible for the jeep, as in past years, as well as a brand new topiary being created this year. It will be a two-tier cake with the number 45 on the top, in celebration of the 45th anniversary of the festival. It is so exciting to be part of the festival and to be creating such a significant topiary for this specific year. A topiary cake will become a tradition every 5 years, with this being the first.

LMG volunteers will be working on the jeep and the cake, according to an established plan. As long as these two projects remain on schedule then our volunteers may also

work on other topiaries, as directed by the Topiary Chair for all other projects. Work will be done at the Wesley Commons greenhouse.

I would love to hear from all of you who are interested in working on these projects. No prior experience is necessary. This is a great project for interns who are looking for a place to give their 40 hours.

I will create an email list of the people interested, and communicate more details soon, as to work dates, etc. Come have a "blooming" good time with us and "be a part" of these key features of the Festival of Flowers.

To make it easy to communicate your interest - just contact Sharon Grooms and Jeremiah Grooms, Festival of Flowers/LMG Topiary Chair and Co-Chair shargrooms@embarqmail.com 864-223-9147

Bulb Planting at Seaboard Jardin Maravilloso

By Ann Barklow

Two lovely Master Gardeners, Lynsey Bock and Linda Halsey headed off a great community volunteer day at the Seaboard Jardin Maravilloso Community Garden in Greenwood.



Organizers Linda Halsey and Lynsey Bock



Lynsey Bock and Helper

Refreshments of fresh orange juice and homemade cinnamon raisin bread with blackberry-vanilla jam were provided for the hardworking volunteers. Master Gardener Paddy Huff brought her roto-tiller and Vince Plotczyk and Chuck Bender provided the much needed muscle to prepare our Carolina Clay soil.

To say it was well attended would be an understatement as they were joined by four Palmetto Christian Academy students, the director of the La Puerta De Esperanza ministry, along with a half a dozen master gardeners and a dozen community volunteers who showed up on a warm, sunny winter January to design, dig and plant hundreds of bulbs.

Our young future farmers learned the use of a garden hose to mark a planting area perimeter, the basics of preparing a large garden area for planting, how to measure spacing between daylilies and peonies and the depth of bulbs with homemade rulers made from branches, and the importance and application of mulch. All taught by master gardener Linda Halsey. None of this would have been possible without the generous donation of bulbs from Park Seed.



Special thanks to the Lakelands Master Gardeners Ann Barklow, Chuck Bender, Sarah Carroll, Paddy Huff, Sandra Johnson, Janet Ledebuhr, and Vince Plotczyk. Palmetto Christian Academy students Emily Walker, Hannah Williams, Taylor Mack and Timmy Schwab and community volunteers Josh Wicker, Nancy Hart-Wicker, Karlie McCurry, Carol Gray, Justin and Kalista Schoenberger.



Janet Ledebuhr and Helpers

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

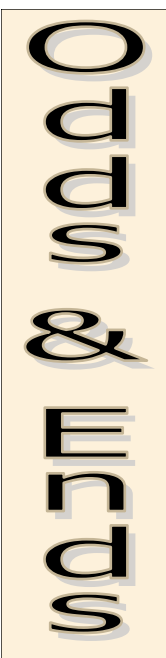
| Master Gardener Name Badge Information | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| Last Name | | First Name | |
| County | | Year Graduated From Master Gardener Training Course | |

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 or call 554-1600



- From Jimmy McInville- Looking for some great plant selections that are deer resistant? Check out this Southern Living Article— http://southernlivingplants.com/choosing_plants/guide/deer_tolerant_and_deer_resistant_plants
- From Ann Barklow- United States Department of Agriculture has a new plant hardiness zone map. Some of us are now zone 8a and some are still 7b. See where you fall—<http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr/2012/120125.htm>
- From Susanne Bender- *MaryJanesFarm* is a semi-monthly magazine that focuses on all things “Farmgirl”. With practical tips for gardening, crafting, cooking, and everyday life *MaryJanesFarm* is sure to have something for everyone. Written in Moscow, ID *MaryJanesFarm* is a family business that also does more than just produce a magazine. *MaryJanesFarm* has a line of dehydrated Organic backpacking foods, a line of Organic sheets and towels and MaryJane has written and published 3 book and is currently working on 2 more. *MaryJanesFarm* also offers a membership program called the Farmgirl Sisterhood. Members of the Farmgirl Sisterhood can earn Merit Badges for different fields of Farmgirl Life (Think Girl Scouts for grown ups) along with store discounts and a monthly newsletter. More information can be found at www.MaryJanesFarm.org
- Also from Susanne Bender- in the March/April edition of *Hobby Farm Home* magazine is a wonderful article about Master Gardeners. <http://www.hobbyfarms.com/hobby-farm-home.aspx>

Did You Know?

By Linda Halsey

- In 2011 Lakeland Master Gardeners reported 5,160 hours volunteered and over 19,000 miles driven! 2010 federal statistics set the value of each volunteer hour at \$21. We have thus contributed over \$110,000 worth of time to improving our communities and furthering our education.
- The Lakeland Master Gardeners ranks among the top four counties for total hours volunteered. In 2010 we volunteered over 6,000 hours. Numbers declined in 2011 due to family or individual illnesses, re-entry into the workforce, or other life changing circumstances. However, our hours still easily exceeded the early years of the organization. Our administration applauds all of you who have generously served, and those who have persevered through life's challenges and constraints.
- Our records show that in 2011 over 1,300 people benefitted from your horticultural knowledge and expertise! This number of contacts indicate that we have and will continue to support the Clemson Extension mission; to provide sound, scientifically based information to South Carolinians and help them use that information to improve the quality of their lives.
- Some of the prominent projects and communities benefitted were: topiaries for the Festival of Flowers, Railroad Museum, plant sale at the Farmer's Market, establishing a new Farmer's Market in Abbeville, various Junior Master Gardening classes, and many new community gardens. Master Gardeners taught a variety of classes such as, pruning, beekeeping, fence and container gardening. Thank you all for being MASTER gardeners



Your valuable miles are deductible with the proper documentation

Landscape Diagnostic Clinic

By Janet Ledebuhr & Ann Barklow

The Lakelands Master Gardeners present a new project, the Landscape Diagnostic Clinic.

What is this Landscape Diagnostic Clinic? These clinics take place in a homeowner's front yard on a Thursday evening throughout the growing season. Sometime earlier in the week, a couple Master Gardeners will come and access the yard. A few problem areas will be spotlighted. This could be scale insects on your shrubs, lace bugs on the azaleas, or crabgrass in the lawn; any number of issues. We know our yards aren't perfect. The spotlighted problems will then be addressed the evening of the clinic.



Neighbors are invited via fliers handed out by the homeowner, to come to this clinic, chances are they have some of the same problems in their yards. The Master Gardeners leading the

clinic will have Extension publications pertaining to those problems being addressed for those in attendance. The entire clinic lasts an hour to hour and a half. There will be a limit to the number of attendees, reservations will be made through the Extension office. We would need a few extra MG's to hand out the publications.

To kick off these clinics we are looking for a few yards to hold the first few. We would like to invite the LMG to these clinics, to encourage participation for later clinics.

Interested? Contact Janet Ledebuhr queenof-seaford@yahoo.com or Ann Barklow annbarklow@embarqmail.com

We will be kicking off our first clinic in April.

Web Streaming

By Sandy Orr

I want to introduce you to my best gardening buddy, my MP3 player (an iPhone or iPad works too).

Each week I download free audio podcasts by both serious gardening experts and silly blogger celebrities onto my MP3. My mellifluous friend Ken Druse walks my dog with me and explains "sustainable" gardening techniques with such guests as Rick Darke and John Greenlee. My erudite ex-Martha Stewart editor, Margaret Roach, gently explains using cloches to speed seed germination. The silly Jean Ann Van Krevelen (vegetable garden author) and Amanda Thomsen (blogger for Fine Gardening magazine) discuss things they hate about gardening in their Resent-O-Cast (J-Lo and Marc Antony and weeding), or their passions in their Grat-O-Cast (Godsmacote and P. Allen Smith, for example). BBC Radio's Gardeners' Question Time is rife with fascinating gardening panelists such as Bob Flowerdew (uses junked freezers for raised beds), and Matt Biggs (repeat Chelsea gold medalist). It takes some fiddling to download these podcasts. If you have iTunes on your computer it is easier. All my favorites are on there, but iTunes can do strange things to a computer, therefore I don't have it. I go to each website and temporarily save the MP3 files for download onto my machine each week. With iTunes, this is all done automatically,

once you subscribe to the podcast.

My 'Can't Miss Podcasts' are:

1. Good Enough Gardening - stream of consciousness silliness with some gardening
2. Ken Druse Real Dirt- 100% gardening content masterfully presented
3. Margaret Roach's "A Way to Garden"- a classy gentle wide-ranging detailed hands-on gardening education (Go to Robinhood Radio- On Demand- A Way to Garden, to download this)
4. BBC Radio 4 Gardeners' Question Time- an age-old gardening tradition in England
5. BBC Radio 4 Ulster, Gardener's Corner- an Irish gardening delight
6. Timberpress Publishing Podcasts- latest best-selling gardening authors in 3 hour conversations
7. Gardens Illustrated Podcasts- celebrities such as Beth Chatto, Alan Titchmarsh, Penelope Hobhouse in extended interviews
8. Felder Rushing- eccentric Mississippi Public Radio gardening personality/extension agent



How To Create a Quiet and Healthy Garden

by Ann Barklow

Decrease the size of your lawn. The sounds of summer consist of power mowers, leaf blowers and string trimmers. Add chain saws and electric hedgers and your relaxing spring and summer days of sipping sweet tea and watching blue birds turns into the sounds and pollution similar to sitting on a bench at the Indianapolis 500. Particle pollution from gas mowers can impact the young, the elderly, and people with existing conditions such as emphysema, bronchitis, and asthma. I often think of being outside as healthy but when I think about the 60 minutes a week we run our lawn equipment multiplied by 20 neighbors on my block, I could be exposed to 20 hours of noise and pollution every week. Adding sprays of pesticides, fungicides, herbicides, various sprinklings of weed killers, I think spending time indoors writing articles might be healthier.

Where to Start.

Start by adding mulch over the lawn area under your tree's drip line and beyond. Your tree's roots will love the cooling and moisture retention from the mulch and will breath better from less compaction from the mower. Extend your perennial beds to provide more flowers, seeds, and berries for your bees, butterflies and birds. Don't limit your thoughts to mowed lawns. There are lovely ground covers, native plants, and ornamental grasses that can beautify your landscape. Think about plants with seasonal interest, Spring/Summer/Fall/Winter. If you are lucky to limit your lawn area enough to use a hand mower you can burn off 500 calories an hour or equal to a KFC meal of two pieces of grilled chicken, mashed potatoes, and green beans. Less pollution mowing and less pollution driving to the gym for your workout.

Rethink Your Shrubs. Leave the meatball look for your spaghetti. Hedges are only noisy if you sculpt them with buzz saws every week. Try growing plants that don't grow larger than the size you need and use hand pruners to prune lightly if needed. The slight unevenness of the pruning gives a pleasing play of light and shadow along with allowing more areas of photosynthesis for your plants health. Open, airy pruning attracts birds and lizards to dine on the scale, aphids, and spider mites. When planting new shrubs be sure you know their finished size



Clethra alnifolia Ruby Spice

and leave enough room so you don't have them growing into each other or out into drive-ways, walkways and houses. This act alone could make your pruning sheers collect dust. If you already have to prune shrubs because they get overcrowded think about removing one or more to allow space for them to grow and to prevent them from

fighting over moisture and nutrients. Limit the use of fertilizer and irrigation so you don't encourage more growth. As you begin to transform your garden to a more peaceful haven, grow a large amount of patience with your new approach. The instant landscape is often planted too close together and creates future pruning nightmares. Always think 5-15 years ahead and space plants and trees accordingly. This will mean your new landscape will look sparse but you can smile at the extra time you will have in its future care.

Leave the Leaves. The best way to put your leaf blower out of business is to get acquainted with your rake and broom. Use the blower once a month and in between times use your hand tools. You will cut down on pollution while burning off 300 calories an hour raking leaves, the equivalent to a good size southern biscuit. Use leaves for mulch in your new expanded beds and under your trees and your trees will do what nature intended them to do...be self mulching. Mulch also provides a much needed habitat for fireflies and the firefly larva feed on worms, slugs and snails. Birds will also find their protein meal in your leaf mulch. What better way to spend a drowsy afternoon then listening to the sweet songs of birds while you wait for the fireflies to light up your evening.



Sisyrrinchium angustifolium, Blue eyed grass



All photos courtesy Rick Huffman, Earth Designs.

Amelanchier -serviceberry



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

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. | 2. Landscape Diagnostic Clinic |
| 1. Vice President | 3. FoF Topiaries |
| | 4. Plant Sale |

☹ **Missing a newsletter?** Looking for an earlier edi-
tion? All of our newsletters can be found at our website at— <http://www.lakelandsmastergardener.org/newslet2012.html>

THE LAKELANDS MASTER GARDENER BOARD 2012

- | | |
|---|--|
| President- Patti Larson | Membership- Cindy Wilkins |
| Vice President- OPEN | Newsletter- Janet Ledebuhr |
| Treasurer- Chuck Bender | Phone– Ann Barklow |
| Secretary- Sandy Orr | Programs and Speakers– Su- sanne Bender |
| Past President- Jimmy McInville | Media – (3 chairs)- Catherine Swindell (PR) Doug Crawford |
| Clemson Advisor- James Hodges | (Facebook) Vince Plotczyk (Web Site) |
| Community Projects– Sandra Johnson & charlotte Cabri | Social– Ann Stoddard |
| Education Co-Chair- Linda Halsey and Helen Spiller | Office- Vince Plotczyk |
| Finance and Fund Raising– Julee Marshall | |

Volunteer hours are reported quarterly to Linda Halsey at
halseyfarm@embarq.com. March, June, September and December I will attach
an Excel form for the quarter. 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 vari-
ety of horticultural projects;
4. Promoting the training of Master Gardeners and keeping Master Gardeners
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.