

2017 Calendar

6/02 5/30-8:00
Topiary and
Tastings Wine
Walk for an up
close look at
the topiaries.

6/03-04
Festival of
Flowers Garden
Tours 10-5,
Sat., and 1-4
on Sunday.

6/2,9,13,16,20,
23,30: 1:30-5
Clemson Ext.:
Get your hrs. in
an air-
conditioned
office, with
Vince to train
you! Call
Debbie at 223-
3264 to sign
up.

6/03,7: Senior
Voucher
Distribution at
County
Farmers'
Market 7AM-12



PRESIDENT'S LETTER- LMG, A MENTAL WORKOUT- Jimmy McInville

To become a Master Gardener you must complete the class but that is just the beginning. Hopefully the MG class fertilized the seed of gardening and the learning never stops. Every time we come together as a group there's an opportunity to learn from each other. Our work days are filled with brainstorming and problem solving. A MG's new plant can kick off a discussion on propagation techniques, leading to several new plants. A plants sudden decline can send us into research mode.

The internet has put the world at our fingertips and with the stroke of a few keys we can research garden problems that used to take hours digging through stacks of books. Just be sure to use reputable sources like Clemson.edu/extension/hgic. I also like the Missouribotanicalgarden.org

We do so much to keep our body in shape. Let's not forget our mind. It needs a work out too. Gardening does that and more for me. It stimulates the creative juices, helps me get the stress out, grounds me. Not to mention the time with great likeminded friends enjoying what we love and growing our knowledge together.

You took the Master Gardener course to gain knowledge now get involved with the Lakelands Master Gardeners to further that expertise.

(Addendum from Sandy Orr: Stop by the Chamber of Commerce and see Jimmy and the gang's creativity at work. The planting is fabulous. Clearly, he's a container guru.)

SENIOR VEGETABLE VOUCHER DAYS- James Hodges

I need Master Gardeners who have helped in the past or new master gardeners who would like to help at the Greenwood County Farmers Market to distribute senior vegetable vouchers. Saturday June 3, Wed June 7th and/or Saturday June 10th 7AM to noon. I need help vetting applicants at the **county** market which is next to the Animal Shelter.

This is a great opportunity to help low income seniors obtain vouchers to purchase fresh vegetables at the Greenwood County market.

SC FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS GARDEN TOURS, JUNE 3, 4.



Greenwood's SC Festival of Flowers, will host four private home gardens and a community garden in Greenwood on Saturday, June 3 and Sunday, June 4, 2017. Three of these gardens have repeatedly been on tour through the years because they are that good. Please consider revisiting them. The owners have worked all year to add new features and plants to delight us. Each is chock full of wonderful ideas. The City Garden is also on tour. Stop in and walk the borders, steal seeds, and help us deadhead. (Don't do this in the private gardens).

Private gardens included on this year's tour are: Phil & Dale McClary at 109 Friendfield Lane, John & Billy Elsley at 520 Bryte Street, Nelson Smith at 407 Powers Avenue, Berely Dye at 1109 Brannon Street. The Greenwood City Garden is at 510 West Cambridge Avenue. Make plans to join us for a blooming good time at this year's Garden Tours on Saturday, June 3 from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, June 4 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. No tickets required. For more information, visit the Events page of the website, www.SCFestivalofFlowers or call (864) 223-8431, ext. 221. (Attendance will count towards education hours!)

GREENWOOD IS THE "BEE'S KNEES"

The City of Greenwood has more than 6 pollinator friendly gardens now. One at the corner of City Hall is nicknamed the "California Garden" because it's Ann's drought tolerant design.



Okay, I dare anyone to find a bee in these pictures. Where are they Ann?

NOTES FROM ANN AND CONGRATULATIONS ON RADIO AND NEWSPAPER SPOTS

"I'm enjoying my Spicebush and the spicebush butterfly caterpillars. They disguise themselves by looking like bird poop and when they get bigger they wrap themselves in the leaves . "

(Ann's cogent observations such as these earned her a feature in the Index Journal and on Ann Eller's WCRS radio show. Congratulations to Ann for exposing the LMG'ers more broadly).



Deceptively "poopey" spicebush caterpillar on left.



LMG'ers work to finish new garden for spicebush larvae.



Two Ann's of Many Words (Ann Eller, WCRS radio talk show host, interviews our Topiarist Ann Barklow)

PHYLLIS KROHN ARRANGES TOUR OF MEDICINAL HERB FARM- Sandy Orr

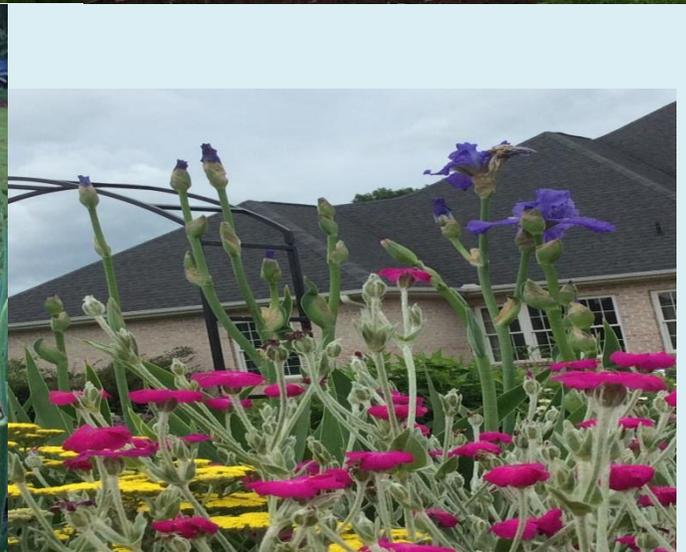
LMG'er Phyllis is also the President of the local Herb Club and set up a fascinating trip to a permaculture- influenced medicinal herb farm near Spartanburg. The young lady farmer employed hugelkultur techniques to raise some unusual healing herbs such as agrimony and thalictrum ulmaria. Her raised beds were logs placed rectangularly in an upright rebar frame. The logs compost down and she adds more on top. Additionally, if you don't have decaying logs to bury in your hugelkultur planting beds, try a new "CORE" gardening method from Africa. This method features a deep trench down the center of your raised or unraised bed. Put a thick band of straw or chopped leaves in the trench, wet it well, and cover with the displaced dirt. Like using a rotting log, this acts as an embedded sponge to reduce watering during a drought.

MELINDA FINCHAM AND HER OUT-OF-ZONE EXPERIENCE

Melinda deserves a round of applause for growing astrantia, hearkening back to her life in Kansas and channeling May's Chelsea Flower Show. She frequently exceeds zonal limits.



BARBARA WELLS' HOT BORDER EXPLODES AFTER RAIN



Clockwise fr. up left: Oxeye daisies w/amaryllis, Canna 'Orange Crush' w/kniphofia and Nandina 'Obsession', Egyptian walking onion (snag this all-purpose beauty next year at the plant sale), and Lychnis coronaria, Achillea 'Moonshine' with purple iris.

WALK LIKE AN EGYPTIAN- Sandy Orr (see above left picture)

What can you say about a vegetable that grows almost year round, all parts are delicious, and it cries out to be used in a flower arrangement? The Egyptian walking onion, or topsetting onion, or tree onion, is all that and more. *Allium x proliferum*, arises early in the season, grows a tall stalk, and forms bulbils with wild-hair stalklets. These bulbils are heavy and cause the stalk to fall to the ground. The bulbils grow into the ground and thus the plant walks out of its assigned place and across your yard. An inter-species cross between a bulbing onion and a bunching or spring onion, all parts can be used in a variety of flavorful ways. It is milder than most onions.

ARE YOU SPINACH-CHALLENGED?- Sandy Orr

I've whined to many LMG'ers about my failure to grow normal spinach (*spinacia oleracea*). Last year, I planted New Zealand spinach (*Tetragonia tetragonioides*) instead. Despite its frost-intolerance, it came back this year. Barbara Wells also gave me a Malabar spinach plant (*Basella rubra*), which is a vine. Both of these spinach substitutes love the heat. New Zealand spinach wants full sun, but mine is in shade. Malabar will grow in part shade. They both want good moisture. New Zealand spinach is mucilaginous and benefits from blanching before cooking. Malabar supposedly can be enjoyed raw or cooked. Both get five star ratings for ease of growth in our area. Both should be treated as annuals.



Triangular-leaf of New Zealand sun/wet- loving spinach.



Round red-stemmed leaf of vining Malabar is shade tolerant.

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

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Public Relations: Jan Coffey

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