



Master Gardener Thymes



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November 2012

President's Message

By Ann Barklow
Brrrr, 40 degrees this morning with evenings dipping into the 30's this week. The fall colors have been putting on quite a show in the last few days. This could be the last harvest of my bell peppers, string beans and squash. Won't be long before



we sit down to Thanksgiving supper and we can enjoy our gardens decorated with mums, snaps and pansies. I still have red begonias around my mailbox even though I preach to others to get your winter annuals in and let them get established before it gets too cold. I'm attempting to grow herbs in my sun room this winter. I do admit it is a big thrill for me to harvest parsley and fresh chives in the house for dinner.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the Thymes and read it cover to cover like I do. Many of our members print it out and savor the contents for a few days. We have checked off a lot of things since last issue such as preparing the garden for the Veterans Center Healing Garden, installing the Sensory Garden at the Burton Center, started the long journey of tasks for our fundraiser plant sale scheduled for the first weekend in April, finishing up the bylaw committee and proceeding to become a Non-profit Corporation with the State of South Carolina. Yesterday afternoon, I headed over to the Burton Center to help them decorate for the dedication of the Sensory Garden and Trails. I handed the project chair at Burton Center a notebook that Nancy Collin, Patti Larson, and I prepared to show them the future possibilities for the rest of the garden. We will continue to help them as they are able to complete other areas.

Continued. p.2

Board Meeting Minutes

Greenwood Library 6:30 PM October 11, 2012 by Sandy Orr, Secretary

Attendance- Nancy Collin, Sandy Orr, Ann Barklow, Chuck Bender, Patti Larson, Janet Ledebuhr, Susanne Bender, Paddy Huff

Treasurer's Report- Chuck Bender presented a Sept. 30th ending balance of \$5,987.43. Membership dues in the fall will at least partially offset this decline in the balance of \$650.70 since Aug. 31, 2012. Chuck also distributed a YTD income/expense breakdown. The 2013 budget was reviewed with minor revisions agreed upon by the Board. A final copy with the revisions will be distributed by e-mail later. A motion was made by Patti Larson to approve the 2013 budget with the revisions indicated. The motion was seconded by Sandy Orr, and passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Landscape Diagnostic Clinics- Janet Ledebuhr. Over the past year, four landscape clinics have been given. One of Ann Barklow's neighbors has volunteered to host one next year in Puckett's Ferry. They have been very successful with good feedback from the neighbors attending them. It was also suggested that a separate pruning clinic should be done and Janet will submit this project to the Project Committee for approval.

Community Projects Report- Patti Larson and Paddy Huff. The Veteran's Center Work Day, at which the already prepared bed will be planted, will be Sunday November 11 at 12:30.

Work continues at Burton Center's Equestrian Trail Sensory Garden.

Dates to Remember:

- NOVEMBER 3RD, MINI SESSION, 9:00 AM- 10:00 AM EXTENSION OFFICE (SEE ARTICLE)
- NOVEMBER 8TH 6 PM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, LIBRARY
- NOVEMBER 8TH, SPEAKER MEETING DR. JOE JAMES "THE MIGHTY GIANT, THE AMERICAN CHESTNUT" LIBRARY 6:30 PM
- NOVEMBER 11TH, 12:30 PM VETERAN'S CENTER
- DECEMBER 13TH, CHRISTMAS PARTY GREENWOOD METRO DISTRICT 6:30 PM

Many members showed up for the two different work days at the Center. Nancy Collier mapped the entire site. Sandy Orr and Chuck Bender outlined the two curved beds to allow planting plans to be drawn and raised beds to be built. Honey Doers have built the two raised beds already, and added amended soil. The two beds are approximately 18 feet by 25 inches and are 2 feet tall. Dwight Long has selected the site for the water feature and is awaiting water and power installation. Ann Barklow has designed trellises. Pine straw will be placed on site and spread on another work day. Decorating for the Opening Day, October 28th at 5PM but will be done by Burton Center staff with possible help from the Master Gardeners. Patti Larson will phone Sarah Carroll to check on her progress with the planting plan and plant acquisition plan. The next Burton Center work day will be Saturday Oct. 20th at 2:00.

Education-Patti Larson. The new class has 15 students.

Continued p. 4

Pres message continued from p. 1

Be sure to read about my good friend, Master of the Garden, Sue Monaghan in this issue. She is a real spark plug for this organization and a regular face at most workdays and events.

The new master gardener class is more than half way completed and many of the students have jumped in with both feet and are helping on committees already.

Toni Able is working with me behind the scenes to produce a bright new brochure to promote our organization along with receiving a donation from Pat Rickenbaker from Office Supply to print 100 copies for us.

We had an amazing mini series talk on organics and how to get a healthy soil brimming over with microorganisms so we can fertilize and water less often. With this dry weather I'm sure we all wish we had this active soil so we didn't have to water so much. I gave them a challenge to let me use their product on my front lawn and record the entire process and results to educate the rest of the LMG's and they look like they will take me up on it, so stay tuned. You can visit them online at <http://www.organicplanthealth.com>

I can't wait to hear the talk by Dr. Joe James on the American Chestnut on Thursday, November 8. I don't know any retired orthopedic surgeons that would be willing to discuss *Phytophthora Root Rot*, do you? If you want to sound real smart at the meeting you can study up at http://www.cals.ncsu.edu/plantpath/activities/societies/ornamental/2008_talks/Jeffers-Chestnut_Screening.pdf

We will also have another general membership meeting prior so be thinking of some show and tell items to bring. With the addition of the general meeting we will need some extra help for the speaker when he arrives to help them set

up during some of the general meeting so if you would like to help send me an e-mail and let me know.

I heard from Charlotte Cabri about her long list of plants she propagated for the Plant Sale. I know many of you have been working on yours so please let me know what they are. We are starting a list and you will be receiving a phone call soon to ask what plants you are preparing for the plant sale. Don't you want to be able to rattle them off to the caller? Here is Charlotte's list just to help motivate you. Notice the names because **plants will not be accepted without this information**. Charlotte still has a couple to figure out. We have found people won't buy plants without knowing the variety, size, cultural needs such as sun or shade and if you have a picture of the them in bloom, it will really help! This is why it is important to start now so you won't be scrambling a few weeks before the sale when we will be so busy doing our own spring chores.

- 2 *Lagerstroemia* x 'Natchez' White crepe myrtle 20' Tall by 20' Wide, Full Sun
- 1 *Lagerstroemia indica* 'Whit III' 'Pink velour' Pink crepe myrtle 8' Tall by 8' Wide, Full Sun
- 5 purple oxalis (need name and variety)
- 3 *Gardenia jasminoides* 'August Beauty' 5' Tall by 3' Wide, Partial to Full sun, Blooms spring through fall
- 3 sedum (need name and variety)
- 2 *Ruscus aculeatus* Butcher's broom 2' Tall by 3' Wide, Full shade to part shade, white flowers January-April and red berries August to March.
- 2 *Polygonatum commutatum* Solomon's seal 2' Tall and Wide, shade loving groundcover, white flowers late spring, likes wet soil

Thanks again to everyone that works so hard to make this organization great!

864-344-0120
annbarklow@embarqmail.com



“The Mighty Giant, The American Chestnut”

When: Thursday November 8, 2012

Time: 6:30PM

Where: Greenwood County Library

Join Dr. Joe James, from Seneca, SC for an inspirational and uplifting overview of the mighty chestnut's: history, biology, and two main diseases it faces as it tries to re-establish itself in our ecosystem!

The progress has been encouraging....

Information please call MG Susanne Bender at: 864-379-2434

The Burton Center Sensory Garden

by Ann Barklow

I'm not sure what I liked best about the installation of the Sensory Garden for the residents of the Burton Center. The feeling one gets from giving to others and to a foundation with a mission of serving as an advocate to disabilities and special needs is certainly a highlight. Being outdoors in such a pristine wooded environment surrounded by gardening friends on a beautiful fall day was also rewarding. I couldn't help notice how much fun we all had, joking and laughing, along with some serious moments of catching up with the lives of our fellow MG's and some of the challenges we struggle with. Being a member of this organization could almost be considered therapy not just for our physical nature but our emotional nature too.

This project began with our previous project Chairs, Sandra Johnson and Charlotte Cabri, and Nancy Collin being the project leader. It then changed hands as the dynamic duo of Johnson and Cabri stepped down and passed the baton to our new dynamic duo of Patti Larson and Paddy Huff. Neither one of these two gals are new to the projects committee with Paddy Huff serving as chair many years back so the transition was effortless.

I think the challenge with any of our projects is knowing our limitations. With the amount of enthusiasm and altruism in this group it's hard not to raise our hands to do everything they need. But we are getting better. Instead of running out and trying to get garden soil, pumpkins, mums and plants donated for them we told them what to get and where to get them. I know I take for granted the knowledge I have about sources for gardening that most people have no idea about. But now they do, because we taught them.

We don't provide maintenance, but we don't want to see things die so we train the caretakers the best we can and walk away. I think we all know that is not easy. What I like about it, is it keeps us centered in our number one mission of educating others. It's also accumulative. If we teach one person, they teach someone else, and they go on to teach someone else so it spreads and pretty soon

we have an amazingly smart gardening community one person at a time and it started with us. On the other hand if we just do it all it stops there.

I want to give a special thanks to Charlotte Cabri and Sandra Johnson for beginning this project, Patti Larson and Paddy Huff for taking it over and Nancy Collin for leading the way. Also, thanks to our design and landscape installer teams: Donna Feldmeier, Phyllis Krohn, Ella and John Wham, Sarah Carroll, Glorietta Jones, Sue Monaghan, Ginny Wilson, Bonnie Baumhofer, Patti Larson, Paddy Huff, Sandy Orr, Steve Tabor, Betty Sargent, and Mary Woodiwiss. It takes a village to accomplish these worthwhile projects.

Plant List Burton Center Sensory Garden:

Agastache 'Grape Nectar' HUMMINGBIRD MINT
Stachys byzantina LAMBS EARS
Rosemarinus officinalis 'Prostratus' TRAILING ROSEMARY
Thymus pseudolanuginosus WOOLY THYME
Mentha piperita CHOCOLATE MINT
Artemesia 'Powis Castle' WORMWOOD
Sempervivum HENS AND CHICKS SUCCULENTS
Rudbeckia hirta 'Indian Summer' GLORIOSA DAISY
Rosemarinus officinalis 'Barbeque' BARBEQUE ROSEMARY
Muhlenbergia capillaris MUHLY GRASS
Assorted Pansies



L to R Betty Sargent, Sarah Carroll, Steve Tabor, Bonnie Baumhofer, Donna Feldmeier (hiding), John Wham, Sandy Orr. Front row Sue Monaghan, Mary Woodiwiss, Ella Wham, Patti Larson, and Paddy Huff



Masters of the Garden

LMG members in the Spotlight



By Sandy Orr

SUE MONAGHAN

Sue was inspired by her Michiganite Master Gardener sister to take the class in 2009, thus realizing a lifelong dream. Since

graduation, she has energetically worked on many community projects, putting in many hours on topiaries, the Railroad Museum garden, the Clemson rain garden, and Burton Center Sensory Garden. She will tell anyone that taking the course was one of the best things she's ever done.

As a small town Paw Paw, Michigan girl, Sue graduated from Western Michigan University in business, hoping to become a buyer for Marshall Fields in Chicago. Instead, she met her future

husband Mike (of 53 years), and they promptly moved to Germany with the military. Perelli Cable Corp. job transfers took them to the San Francisco Bay Area, Yuba City CA, New Jersey, and finally Greenwood, where she has lived in Lodge Grounds for 20 years

Sue and her husband Mike have three sons, one they adopted as a result of her career as a teacher's assistant in English as a Second Language. She delights in her 7 grandchildren. Sue's miniature Australian shepherd, Foxy, has many friends among the Master Gardeners who visit her lush tropical jungle garden. Her backyard features a miniature orange tree, several hibiscus, and lots of hydrangeas. She is in the process of adding two more beds to highlight new ferns, rhododendrons, and hostas.

Sue has a ready smile for everyone she meets. This is a result of her bottomless optimism. She avoids negative people and that's why she loves the action-oriented Master Gardener community projects. She is also passionate about music and travel, hoping to one day travel to Hong Kong.

A BIG THANK YOU!

by Ann Barklow

Thank you to the group of LMG's that showed up for the Decorating Party at Burton Center prior to their Dedication Ceremony and Ribbon Cutting. It is very funny to decorate together. We all had different ideas of how it should look. The trick is to have a brave one (me) to set it up and then step back and let everyone else rearrange it. Now that I look at the picture they did a good job re-doing my artistic endeavor, don't you think?

It was about 67 degrees at the Dedication but with the chilly wind many of us were scrambling for sweaters and jackets before the Ceremony was over. Many of you sent me your regrets, but I was very happy about our turnout for this special project. We can't all show up at everything. Some more LMG's showed up for the ceremony such as Sue Monaghan and Nancy Collin and her hus-

band and Everett. Most of us had our badges on so we would often have people come up and shake our hand and thank us. Someone even bowed to us in reverence, which brought us a lot of laughter. We are a very respected organization in this community and hold a strong presence. Keep up the good work, Gang!



* * * * *
 * Botanical terms- *
 * Millefolium- thousand *
 * leaves. *
 * *Achillea millefolium* *
 * Aculeatus- prickly or thorny *
 * *Ruscus aculeatus* *
 * Communtatum- changing *
 * *Polygonatum commutatum* *
 * * * * *

L- R: David McCall, John Wham, Chuck Bender, Ella Wham, Ann Barklow, Paddy Huff, Betty Sargent

Minutes continued from p. 1

Patti has been attending the Tuesday evening sessions. The meeting where each mentor met their students went well.

Ann has made up a form to collect names of members that volunteer at the work days. This will assist in keeping track of volunteers for the Master Gardener of the year and assist in giving recognition in articles for the newsletter. Ann will try to teach about hours at each Work Day.

Newsletter- Janet Ledebuhr. The nine non-email recipients of the newsletter will get black and white copies from now on, due to expense concerns. Priscilla Ellis will check with the nine to make sure they want the mailings. Sandy Orr will provide a list of Garden Club Presidents to Janet Ledebuhr so they can receive newsletters.

Fundraising- Ann Barklow. Sarah Carroll has agreed to head up the Plant Sale with Ginny Wilson as co chair

Programs and Speakers- Susanne Bender. Susanne will need more help setting up the room for the speaker, if we have a General Membership meeting before the speaker meeting. The consensus was that the General Membership meeting at 6PM and speaker meeting at 6:30 worked well.

The board has decided to eliminate refreshments, because most of the attendees don't eat them. The dates for the upcoming four speaker meetings in 2013 will be April 11, July 18, Sept. 12, and Nov. 14.

Social- The budget for food for the Social Committee was discussed. The elimination of LMG's purchase of meat for the Christmas dinner was discussed and approved. This year it will be a complete pot luck, with no provision of entrée by the LMG. We will provide drinks.

Topiaries- Patti Larson and Nancy Collin. After approval from city council*, the city will partner with Ellesor Holder to plant and maintain the topiaries. Dwight Long will be in charge. Master Gardeners may participate as volunteers at the school sessions. Nancy Collins reported that the Jeep will need major revamping this year. With the reduced role of LMG in the topiaries, it will no longer be necessary to have a Topiary Chairperson from LMG, so Nancy Collin has resigned from that position.

The **President**, Ann Barklow, closed the meeting at 8:45 pm.

* *City Council Approved the city to plant and maintain the topiaries in 2013*



Philadelphia Flower Show — opens March 3, 2013— information to follow

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

Mini Sessions

Introduction to Essential Oils

When: Saturday November 3, 2012

Where: Clemson Extension Office

Time: 9AM-10AM

Please join Paddy Huff for an informative class on the basic uses of Essential Oils.

She will cover: How to use them, Where to use them, Why to use them and Where to get them.

These are open to all Lakeland Master Gardeners, friends and family members. See you there!

Come and Help Plant the Veterans Healing Garden!

Date: Veterans Day, Sunday, November 11, 2012

Time: 12:30 PM

Where: Veterans Center (Location of Old Library)

Bring shovels. Wear closed toed shoes. The Veteran Center will have snacks and coffee for everyone. This work day will not be as much hands on, but teaching the public how to plant and why we chose the plants we did.

At 1:00 pm the Veterans Center will give a brief talk about the Dedication of this Garden to our Veterans. Please come and show your support.

THE LAKELANDS MASTER GARDENER BOARD 2012

President- Ann Barklow	(plant sale) Sarah Carroll
Vice President- vacant	& Ginny Wilson
Treasurer- Chuck Bender	Membership- vacant
Secretary- Sandy Orr	Co chair- Linda Halsey (hours)
Past President- Jimmy McInville, Patti Larson	Newsletter- Janet Ledebuhr
Clemson Advisor- James Hodges	Phone- Priscilla Ellis
Community Projects- Paddy Huff and Patti Larson	Programs and Speakers – Susanne Bender
Education Co-Chair- Linda Halsey and Helen Spiller	Media – (3 chairs)- Catherine Swindell (PR) Doug Crawford (Facebook)
Finance and Fund Raising- Julee Marshall	Web- vacant
	Social- Ann Stoddard
	Office- Vince Plotczyk

You Are My Sunshine

By Dr. Janet Haldeman



Woodland Sunflower close showing cluster of disc flowers surrounded by ray flowers

Many fall wildflowers are blooming now, and one noticeable upstate example is the sunflower. Several species can be found along roads leading to and from Due West.

There are many sunflower "look-alikes" in family Asteraceae, which is why this family is sometimes referred to as the sunflower family. True sunflowers belong to the genus *Helianthus* from Greek "helios" for sun, and

"anthos" for flower. The "common" sunflower named in the 18th century by Carlos Linnaeus is *Helianthus annuus*, "annual" sunflower. In South Carolina it can be found growing wild along with over twenty other species of this genus.

Sunflowers track the sun. In French, they are called "tournesol," and in Spanish "girasol," referring to this phenomenon known as "heliotropism." Heliotropism is caused by changes in water pressure in the plant's stem, and is reversible. It differs from "phototropism," a plant's growth in response to light.

Probably the most famous painting of a vase of sunflowers was created in the nineteenth century by Vincent Van Gogh. Another Artist, Stan Herd, created a huge "painting" of a vase of sunflowers by planting them and other species in a seventeen acre field!



Sunflowers originated in North America and for centuries have been grown for seed. Native Americans domesticated them early on, and seeds had many uses including flour, oil, and snack food. Archaeological evidence has revealed that as early as 3000 B. C. sunflowers were cultivated in southwestern North America. Likewise in South America, sunflowers were cultivated and revered by Aztecs. Sunflowers were introduced to Europe by Spanish explorers in the 16th century, and initially they were cultivated as ornamentals. By the 18th century, England was producing sunflower oil, and by 1830 Russian farmers were growing over two million acres. In the early 1900's Russian immigrants reintroduced sunflowers as an American crop, and in 1926 the Missouri sunflower, "Grower's Association," was established. Sunflowers are also grown in North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas and Colorado as well as Can-

ada. In 2011 our sunflower crop totaled nearly 2.04 billion pounds and was valued at nearly \$603.62 million, though this is a decline from 2010. (Agricultural Marketing Research Center)



The sunflower disc flowers illustrating the golden spiral and Fibonacchi number series

Another name for the sunflower family is Compositae, and members are collectively called "composites." This refers to the fact that their blossoms which appear to be single flowers are actually "composites" of many individual flowers. The outer flowers that appear to be petals are called "ray" flowers and the inner ones are called "disc" flowers. Disc flowers may be arranged in a fashion that illustrates what mathematicians call a golden spiral. Good sunflower specimens can be used to demonstrate the Fibonacci number series. Blossoms spiral this way to achieve optimal packing of their seeds!



Disc flowers of Woodland Sunflowers providing nectar for a pair of bees!

Veteran's Center Groundbreaking

By Ann Barklow

You can't beat fall! I started the morning at the Veterans Center meeting Dwight Long to dump a rich brown load of compost. I was dressed in a jacket and long pants. Our workday began later in the afternoon at 1:00 pm and I had thinned down to a tank top. We had a great crowd show up with tools, rototillers, wheelbarrows and big smiles. The workday was even more meaningful when we realized we had 4 Veterans in our Master Gardener Group.

Yes, Mike McKinney is holding his shovel like a rifle.



Veterans and LMG's L to R David McCall, John Wham, Mike McKinney, and Chuck Bender

I was glad to see that everyone was sporting close toed shoes. I didn't even know that Rusty Wilson owned a pair, but I was very appreciative that he had good work shoes on. We had a first aid kit and identified the member that was a nurse and placed her in charge of calling 911 if we were in need. We talked about hours and how to keep them, which is an area that I have decided to stress during my term as President, (besides wearing close toed shoes to workdays).

We roto-tilled the 5 foot by 42 foot area and then began the tedious job of removing weeds from the fluffy soil. The soil was not your expected red clay but a nice loam and once we added the compost we had a fertile bed ready for planting.

There is something very odd with supervising Lakelands Master Gardeners. They don't need to be

told what to do. Of course, they stood patiently listening to my instructions but you could tell they were just biding their time to get going in the soil!

We completed the job in exactly 2 hours and now it is ready for the plants. Most of them are at my house. **Be sure to mark your calendar for Sunday, November 11, 2012 at 12:30 pm for the installation of the plants.** It will be open to the public so we will play more of an educational "How to Plant" role and why these plants were chosen as healing plants. More information will follow in upcoming e-mails.



Lakelands Master Gardeners hard at work



Ann Barklow barking orders at her friend Ginny Wilson



Front row L-R: John and Ella Wham, Sue Monaghan, Patti Larson, Mike McKinney, Ann Barklow, Ginny Wilson, Beth Osteen, Rick Larson, Chuck Bender, Rusty Wilson, Mary-Jane Vivas, David McCall

Ingredients For Tall Fall Floral Design

By Sandy Orr

I accidentally volunteered to do a bridal shower arrangement in that horrible early October gap time for flowers- just past the best zinnias, and prior to the best fall colors for leaves. Thank goodness for the old standby, Solidago, which still had some prime blooms. I foraged in the veggie patch for some asparagus fronds. A friend offered me branches from a bush full of both yellow and white golf ball-sized eggplants, which they had grown from those funny Park Seed Easter Egg seeds. The large Brainiac *Celosia cristata* provided ample velvety texture. Garnet *Coleus* gave further plushness. A few surviving zinnias contributed punch, and beautyberry (*Callicarpa*) draped large intense purple accent fronds down the pot. Vanilla plant (I don't know the Latin name, but it blooms in September/October) and swamp sunflower (*Helianthus angustifolius*) gave height. Sweet cicely (*Myrrhis odorata*) comes into its own in late September and gave a welcome sweet pun-



gent scent to the arrangement. Paspalum mountain mint (*Pynacanthemum*) also served as a good filler.

Ah, the wonders and versatility of marigolds! Wired in clumps of five and refrigerated in a cup of water, they last like troopers and give great impact. Adding a dozen variegated orange/red roses as large face flowers completes the shape, and you have a five foot arrangement for the cost of a dozen roses. The mechanics include a ½ designer block of oasis and some floral tubes on bamboo skewers with green tape covering them to extend the roses. The pot is a resin planter from Lowe's painted gold.

I encourage everyone to try this themselves with their own scroungings. I also suggest that you plan in advance on how to get the arrangement to its final resting place, thus the truck.

Come to Your General Membership Meeting! 6:00 pm, Thursday, November 8, 2012

Ann Barklow

Our last General Membership Meeting in September was a big success. It was the first one in a long time but the turnout was awesome!

Date: Thursday, November 8, 2012

Time: 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm (Right Before the Chestnut Talk, see Article in this Issue)

Location: Greenwood County Library (side entrance)

This meeting will be chocked full of activities, like show and tell:

- Know of a new organic method for pest control?
- Have some flowers blooming that are rare or just plain gorgeous?
- Want to share about a gardening tidbit that you know we can't live without?
- Have any pest or disease problems that we can problem solve? Include these samples in a ziplock baggie, please.

We will have a table set up for your items, so come and help us learn or share your pride and joy with other master gardeners.

This will be a wonderful time to meet our new class. If you are mentoring one of them, you can offer to bring them and introduce them around to others and make them feel welcome.

Committee Chairs and co Chairs won't want to miss this golden opportunity to announce any projects coming up and BRING YOUR CLIPBOARDS to get sign ups, particularly our interns scrambling for hours to gain the prize of being a Certified Master Gardener. But more than hours, is the fun we have and the sharing about gardening with those that are as passionate as we are.



I brought a *Farugium japonica* from Wyatt Farms for the show and tell table. Wonder what unique plant I will bring this meeting. This one went home with one of our members.

Plants to extend the season of Color

By James Hodges

The end of summer often is considered as the end of our landscape season. We plant a few mums and pansies for the fall and a few spring bulbs and then put away our tools and our landscape thinking hats and thoughts. Even though our fall foliage does not match our friend's landscapes uphill in the southern mountains we can miss many opportunities to enjoy year long landscape experiences if we switch totally to fall football and winter hibernation.

October and November are a time for more than pumpkin and harvest displays in the garden. There are several great landscape plants for fall and early winter display. The American Red Maple is probably the most popular and heavily planted in the Lakelands area. There are many other native and imported plants to add to our landscape. Listed below are a few of my favorites for fall interest, color or wildlife food:

- Camellia Sasanqua
- Beauty berry shrub
- American dogwood
- Japanese maple



A camellia sasanqua in fall bloom in a local garden

I really don't like the Camellia Sasanqua as it is often used in the landscape. It is the camellia with a smaller leaf and flower than the more traditional Camellia Japonica. Most cultivars are large shrubs or small trees that grow faster than their cousins the Japonicas. What usually occurs is that Sasanqua are treated much like the oft butchered crape myrtle. Constant heavy shearing to control size results in large green meatballs with a few pretty flowers each fall that are stuck like Christmas ornaments within the limbs of the main shrub body. Some vigorous specimens that are severely cut back in late summer often look like a bad hair cut. Long 3-5 foot succulent suckers emerge from the round shrub body. These late flushes carry no flower buds and can be killed back by early winter freeze events.

Lightly pruned or those pruned early in the spring can de-

velop into beautiful fall flowering trees with a variety of white, pink and reddish blooms. Many can be trained as small trees by pruning from below which develops a large crown with space for many flower buds. No one likes a bad haircut, not even a camellia.

For fall color and beauty, I enjoy the native shrub Beautyberry because it provides bright purple berries each fall. It is deciduous, so the leaves turn a lemon yellow in the fall, while the purple berries remain on the bare stems until eaten by birds.



Beautyberry, Callicarpa



Dogwood berries and fall foliage



The old standard in small trees; the American dogwood, has colorful red foliage and bright red berries in the fall to enjoy. Dogwoods provide more than spring beauty. Birds and squirrels enjoy the seeds each fall. Every local landscape needs at least one dogwood.

Most of us purchase the red leaf cultivars of Japanese maples for the colorful spring and summer foliage. Japanese maples provide a fall leaf show that rivals our American red maple. Not all fall foliage is red. Many shades of



Fall foliage on a Japanese maple

yellow and orange leaves occur on the various cultivars of Japanese maples and trees grown from seed.

Celebrate Arbor Day - PLANT A TREE!

By Ann Barklow

With Arbor Day arriving on the First Friday of December many of us are thinking of a tree we would like to plant. This is from the Clemson Forestry Leaflet 23:

“An Arbor Day for the State of South Carolina was created by legislation in 1934. We celebrate on the first Friday in December because that is the time in South Carolina when plants are dormant, there is plenty of rainfall, and a tree's roots suffer less from the shock of transplanting.

The first Friday in December is a time not only to celebrate Arbor Day in South Carolina but also to think about the benefits planted trees can provide our homes, schools, and institutions; our cities and towns; and of course our forests. For every single tree we plant on Arbor Day, millions more must be planted in South Carolina's forests to keep up with the country's need for wood and wood products.

Arbor Day marks the beginning of planting season in South Carolina. It is a holiday that emphasizes the importance of all trees in our lives, whether they grow in the city or in the forest. "Arbor Day," said J. Sterling Morton, "is not like other holidays. Each of these reposes on the past, but Arbor Day reposes on the future. “



*Water Oak, Quercus nigra flanked by
two River Birches, Betula nigra
Three very important trees in my front
yard*

You can find out more about planting trees with the HGIC bulletin 1001 <http://www.clemson.edu/extension/hgic/plants/landscape/trees/hgic1001.html>

Another great website on tree planting is Trees Are Good. It is a good idea to bookmark this website because it is a great one for the general public to gather information on tree care.

http://www.treesaregood.com/treecare/tree_planting.aspx

You will want to refresh your memory about how to select a tree with HGIC bulletin 1004. With the slow economy it is getting more and more difficult to find trees without any defects because the nurseries don't sell them as fast. That is why, if you don't mind the wait, smaller trees are better because you can more easily correct the defects without harming the tree.

<http://www.clemson.edu/extension/hgic/plants/landscape/trees/hgic1004.html>

If you need help choosing a tree, most nurseries can guide you or you can check with our extension agent James Hodges or visit our library at the extension office, or hire an arborist to consult with you. Just remember to put the tree in the right place based on it's size and cultural requirements.

USC Upstate will hold its Arbor Day Celebration on Friday December 7th. Guest speaker will be Tracy DiSabato-Aust. More details to follow by email

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

110 Hutira Lane

Greenwood, SC 29649

Questions, please e-mail Patti Larson: greenwood_patti@yahoo.com or call 554-1600



It's that time of year again that we begin our annual Membership Drive!!!!!!
You will find the **Membership Renewal Form** in this copy of the Thymes.
Please take a few moments and complete it and send to Chuck Bender...his address is on the form.

Once again THANKS so much for renewing your 2013 Membership

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

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

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sharing horticultural information and guidance with South Carolina residents 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 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. 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. |
|---|---|



www.lakelandsmastergardener.org

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

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

LAKELAND MASTER GARDENERS

Lakelands Master Gardener Association

2013 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:

Chuck Bender
108 Inlet Pt.
Cross Hill, SC 29332

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 | _____ Clemson Ext office | _____ Web Site |
| _____ Face Book Page | _____ Newsletter | _____ Social Activities |
| _____ Fund Raising | _____ Programs & Speakers | _____ FOF Topiary Work |
| _____ Phone | _____ Public Relations | |

Suggested topics/activities for the meetings or continuing education:

(Rev: 6-1-2012)