



Master Gardener Thymes

www.lakelandsmastergardener.org

DECEMBER/JANUARY 2007/2008

MEETING CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at NW Volunteer Fire Department @ 6:30pm, unless otherwise noted. The Fire Department is located behind Harris Baptist Church off of Center Street.

DECEMBER 13th---Annual Lakelands Master Gardeners Christmas Party and Gift Exchange.

- Make, grow or buy (\$10-\$15 limit) a gift to exchange at the party----Please wrap your gift!!!!!!
- Bring an appetizer (sweet or salty!!) to share with the group (drinks are provided)
- Call Rebecca McClain at work (229-2440) and let her know what appetizer you will be bringing
- To be held at **Tranquil United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall at 1720 McCormick Highway. (Also known as Hwy 10)**
- We will draw numbers for the order of selecting a gift
- Come share the fun and bring in the Holidays with fellow Master Gardeners
- Plan now!!!! You won't want to miss our Holiday Party on December 13th
- THIS INCLUDES NEW GRADUATES!!!!!!
- Let's make this our biggest Holiday Party yet!

JANUARY 10th---GRADUATION AND AWARDS POTLUCK DINNER. Please see article in this newsletter about our biggest gathering of the year. Usual time and place!!!

PRESIDENTS CORNER—*Julee Marshall*

Dear Members:

You are reading this after Thanksgiving, but I am writing it just before. I am quite amazed at how quickly my year as President of the LMGA has passed. And, I must admit, I enjoyed the job a lot more than I ever expected.

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, I want to express my appreciation for all of you Master Gardeners. Being new to the area, this organization has given me a sense of community and opportunities for service and friendship. I could ramble on and name lots of names, but I think I will just keep this short and sweet. Thank you fellow Master Gardeners for all of your time and efforts this past year. It has been my pleasure to know you and work with you in this organization.

Sincerely,

Julee C. Marshall



JUDY KELLEY'S CORNER—*A Gardener's Journal*

Well, here it is December, the last month of 2007. It's hard to believe that it's the time of the year again when the gardens go to rest. Right about now, as I look outside, I am overwhelmed by the amount of work I need to do. Everything will come together before long, though.

I've shared so many memories from my garden with you this year. Now, my final memories are centered on my dear Master Gardener friends. In the very beginning of my involvement in the Lakelands' Master Gardeners, I met someone with whom I became a close worker doing the Newsletter. Dana Ellis was an encourager and a wonderful person to be on a committee with. One day she offered to share with me some Ginger lilies from Graham Hawkins. These continue to bloom faithfully each year. The blooms stand tall and majestic in their places in the garden. I'll always appreciate Dana's standing in the gap for the Master Gardener program here in Greenwood.

I can't look at my daylilies without being reminded of James Hodges and our laughs, discussions, and sharing of our plants. Those daylilies just keep going on and on just as James is willing to work alongside all the greenhorns in gardening. By the way, James, my Beauty Berry bush has been gorgeous this year.

The annual plant exchanges enabled me to acquire some new plants – the Carolina Aster, a beautiful bloomer, and from Ben Hawthorn the Horsetail plant. Ben, you were right. Those plants can really spread. My only problem is that they don't want to grow where I want to move them to. They only like their original home.

Donna Boozer will always have a place in my heart because she introduced me to the importance of composting and those WORMS! Remember how I mentioned my husband being so kind and patient to make all those stops looking for those wiggly fellows?

My herbs scattered here and there take me back to the occasions I had to go with my red wagon and give talks to several groups on herbs. I wonder how many of those who listened created herb gardens for themselves.

And finally, there is my Lasagna garden that I started after I heard Lauren Boylston's excitement over creating hers. That garden sums up my memories of the Master Gardener program. There are different layers of ingredients necessary to produce the right growing conditions for my plants. If one layer is omitted, the plants would not have the complete nutrients to grow to their best. That's the way it is with the Master Gardener program. I could not come close to mentioning each person I was associated with but each one had a place that was important to me and to the total program just like the layers in the Lasagna garden. Each person in the group now is important to the total program. I hope you all will continue to educate Greenwood and help it to stay green.

I want to thank each of you for the memories I have and to also say thank you to those who I have not met but who continue to work hard to make this the most effective group. Now, I'm moving on to a new stage of life. My husband has recently been diagnosed with Pulmonary Fibrosis, and as yet we don't know how he will be affected in the days ahead. Hopefully we'll be able to 'Stop, and Smell the Roses' for a long time together.

Happy Gardening Memories to Each of You!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Christmas is coming, a time of joy and presents. Your Master Gardener hours, miles, and contacts for this quarter need to be turned into me by **December 15th**. Your time and work is a much appreciated present both to the community and staff. Contact Information: Linda Halsey PO Box 82 Hodges, SC 29653 or halseyfarm@gogenesis.com. Questions? Call 374-7253
- **DUES NEWS**—**Remember your dues need to be paid no later than March 30th. PERIOD!!!!!!**
Lakelands Master Gardeners will be maintaining dues for fiscal year 2008. The dues, starting in January 2008, will be as follows:
 - Regular dues \$15.00
 - Senior rate (>60 years) \$10.00
 - Couple (regardless of age) \$15.00
 - Lifetime membership (one time only) \$125.00These rates still keep our organization well below most membership fees around the state. We use these dues to defray the cost of the newsletter, website and social events. If you have questions, please contact any Board member.

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2008

Community Projects

Chris Snipes-**Chair**
Beth Kapperman-Co Chair
Sandra Johnson
Carolyn Bolan
Lee Natvig
Daniel Nolan
Paddy Huff
Evelyn Irwin
Bibbi Lee
Dwight Long
Catherine Swindell

Education

Helen Spiller-**Chair**
Donna Boozer
Linda Halsey
Peggy Ticehurst
SuSu Wallace
Bryan Wesson
Ginny Wilson

Finance/Fundraising

OPEN POSITION-**Chair**
Paul Drew
Ann Mendelson
Jim Ridgeway
Joe Upchurch
Gail Gregory
Kathleen Kapsalis
Willie Marine
Chris Moffitt

Mall Office

Betty Reece-**Chair**
Ken Reece-Co Chair
Jean Anderson
John Babb
Sonia Canfield-Olsen
Angie Elliott
Gail Gregory
Marlon Libunas
Willie Marine
Kathy Mimms
Elaine Palmer
Betty Sargent
Peggy Ticehurst
Don Tyler
Cindy Wilkins
Miriam Smith

Membership

OPEN POSITION -**Chair**
Lynn Bornemann
Mike Brown
Glennis Cannon
Frankie Fisher
Beth Krumwiede
Joyce Shelton
Carrie Caldwell
Dianne Shubert
April Prater NEW EMAIL MAVEN

Newsletter

Jean Anderson-**Chair**
Ben Hawthorne
Lauren Boylston
All Master Gardeners

Programs/Speakers

Nicole Ellis-**Chair**
Jeanie Curry
Webster Curry
Margaret Hines
Rebecca McClain
Pat Johnson
Sue Moore
John Babb

Public Relations

Carol Scales-**Chair**
Debbie Ashley
Sandra Johnson
Judy Sieckman

Social

Linda Kellam-**Chair**
Lisa Dunn
Kris Cheeseman
Gail Murph
Evie Galloway
Peggy Rutland

Website

Dwight Long-**Chair**
Chuck Bender
Lisa Jones

LAKELANDS MASTER GARDENERS OFFICERS 2008

Co Presidents

Julee Marshall patmarshall@bellsouth.net 998-3189
Jane Price janeprice@embarqmail.com 227-8992

Vice President

Sandy Stachurski drglenn7@embarqmail.com 227-2769 (H) or 229-7444 (W)

Secretary

Susu Wallace susuwallace@earthlink.net 229-5690

Treasurer

Louise Powell 223-9393

COMMUNITY PROJECTS UPDATE—Submitted by Sandy Stachurski

Oakland Elementary Memory Garden

Beth Kapperman was the coordinator over this project and did a fantastic job. On October 16 Chuck Bender, Nancy Collin, Evelyn Irwin, Beth Kapperman, Julee Marshall and Cindy Wilkins met at the Oakland Elementary Memory Garden to weed and mulch. The wisteria had just about taken over the garden since spring. With tons of determination and lots of elbow grease the wisteria was removed to cheering and clapping. We were able to mulch most of the garden that day also. On October 27 Nancy Collin, Sandra Johnson, Beth Kapperman, Cindy Wilkins, Ginny Wilson and Kathy Zak met to complete the project. They planted some herbs and other perennials to beautify the garden and completed the mulching. Teachers, faculty, staff and students are all very thrilled at the outcome of this project. The students will “adopt” the garden and be responsible for the ongoing care and maintenance. Thanks to everyone that was able to participate in the project.

Burton Center

What a fun project and fantastic turnout we had. Chuck Bender, Carolyn Bolan, Nancy Collin, Pat Johnston, Bill Laster, Donna Laster, Uma Sridharan, John Wham, Cindy Wilkins and Kathy Zak met on November 15 to plant annuals. It was a cool and windy morning and we had finally received some rain the night before. Everyone was excited and started adding color to the four raised beds. The staff at the Burton Center was very gracious and offered us refreshing drinks when we were finished. We were also fortunate enough to have Mr. Burton and his staff take us on a tour of the facility. What a grand facility indeed – the vision that Mr. Burton has is awesome. New members to our community were amazed at the magnitude of the Burton Center. It was a great learning experience for all. The benefit of doing community projects is seeing the joy on the faces of the gardeners who work on the project. Thanks to everyone involved.

Railroad Historical Center

The Lakelands Master Gardeners were honored at a barbeque luncheon at the Railroad Historical Center on November 3. We received a catered lunch and plaque naming us Volunteers of the Year for The Museum and Railroad Center. Matt Edwards of The Museum applauded all Master Gardeners for the work that was completed over the last two years. It was a huge project and we are all much honored to receive such an award. Thanks to all those participants in the project and the attendees at the luncheon. Very special thanks to our coordinator, Sandra Johnson.

2008 Festival of Flowers Topiary Flower Display

Surely by now everyone has heard about the 2008 Festival of Flowers Topiary Flower Display. The Lakelands Master Gardeners will be participating along with The Burton Center, Lander University, Piedmont Tech, Ware Shoals High, Merrywood Elementary, Woodfields Elementary, Pinecrest Elementary, Magnolia Garden Club, and Laurel Garden Club to mention a few. Dwight Long will be the coordinator over this project. There will be approximately 16 topiaries showcased in the Uptown area. Master Gardeners will be working to complete a 14 foot giraffe. The frames are on order, but art design is our first order of business. We will be meeting soon to discuss design and plant possibilities. We will install irrigation tubes inside the topiaries through techniques used by professionals from Florida Irrigation. We will then stuff moss around the irrigation system and finally plug the plants.

Master Gardeners will also be tending the topiaries while they are on display Uptown during three weeks in June. We will check each topiary and make sure plants are in good shape. If not, we will remove dead plants and have them replaced. This is another way to earn those valuable volunteer hours.

Another way to earn hours is by volunteering to help oversee a topiary. The organizations participating may have questions and need a liaison to go to in order to find answers. Master Gardeners serving in this area will have the information necessary to make the project run smoothly.

This is going to be an awesome project for everyone and a huge opportunity to learn something new. If you are interested in helping, please contact Sandy Stachurski at drglenn7@embarqmail.com, 229-7444 office, 227-2769 home or 554-1235 cell.

The board has also approved sponsoring the flamingo topiary at a cost of \$500.00. The flamingo may be completed by the Laurel Garden Club.

Northwest Volunteer Fire Department

Very special thanks to John Wham for sprucing up the fire department. John worked by himself on Tuesday, November 20. It looks great and we thank him for having the enthusiasm to work alone. Thanks John for a job well done.



GRADUATION CELEBRATION !!!
JANUARY MEETING

Linda Kellam

Each year on our January meeting date we celebrate not only those folks who have just sat through forty hours of rigorous brain training on gardening, but also those folks who have worked forty hours (or more) to become certified Master Gardeners.

We celebrate with grateful appreciation all those who have worked on our community projects, not just in the past year, but all through the years as Master Gardeners. Master Gardeners will be recognized for their total service hours over the years. Some lucky Master Gardener will receive the coveted Golden Gloves award. James Hodges always has a few surprise awards in store for us also.

Please join us on **Thursday, January 10, 2008 at the Northwest Volunteer Fire Dept. at 6:00 p.m.** We will enjoy an evening of awards, recognition, and fellowship as we enjoy a covered dish dinner. Spouses and significant others are invited to help us celebrate. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish. Meat and drinks will be provided by the Board.

Please R.S.V. P. to Linda Kellam via email at lmkellam@embarqmail.com or telephone at 223-4637. We will need a firm count no later than **January 4** so we will know how many to plan for.

EDITOR'S CORNER---*Lauren Boylston*

What a year it has been.

As I worked in the garden this past March and April, preparing the beds with fertilizer and shoveling the mulch, I envisioned my most beautiful garden ever. All was coming along with the perfectly laid plans. I had worked so hard for so many years and really thought this would be the year for the peak results of my hard labor. I pictured a glorious, bloom-filled paradise. As I worked away in the early spring, I dreamed of sitting out in this garden, sipping some wine, admiring my self-made wonderland. It was not to be.

Not that I haven't had a lovely garden for many years. I have. But you know how gardeners are. We are always improving, moving, adding, clipping, shaping, strategizing, trying new fertilizers, mulches, colors, varieties...on and on it goes. But this year. This was my year. I felt like I had reached the point of possible satisfaction. At least for this year. It was not to be.

As the new growth started to spring forth, I was filled with anticipation. My 40 or so hydrangeas were putting out with perfection. The hundreds of azaleas had begun their yearly performance. The dogwoods were a treat. Calla Lilies were poking their heads above ground. Virginia Sweet Spire was promising to fill the air with its perfume and dazzle the eyes with its beautiful white blooms. Here came the Hostas, the Daylilies, and the many different sages. Oh what great glory to be a gardener!!!! It was not to be.

A warning for a late frost began to creep onto the news. Please no, I thought! Not this year! A prediction for 28 degrees. IT CAN'T BE!!! Out I ran with every sheet in the house. I covered every hydrangea I could. I put out 24 sheets and considered stripping the beds in the guest rooms. What could I do? In a word, NOTHING. You can do absolutely nothing. You can plan and work and sweat, but you cannot fight Mother Nature. The frost came. The next morning I surveyed the devastation. It was mind boggling. Most things were melted. You know the look. MELTED. I sat outside and cried. It was a pretty defeating moment. But what can you do? We had frost for two more nights and it pretty much put an end to my vision of paradise for 2007.

I did what I could to get things repaired and on the road to recovery. Some things did better than others. The Azaleas were pretty much a total loss for the year, the hydrangeas that made it AT ALL did their best to flower and give me some reprieve. The Hostas made it. And, of course, the late bloomers and summer performers came through with their best effort, considering the freeze. The vegetable garden looked promising. It was not going to be a banner year but we would make it. We would plant again. Many visitors to my garden thought it was beautiful. Obviously they were not avid gardeners!

Then came the drought. Did I mention Mother Nature? What could I do? In a word, NOTHING.

What a year it has been. I welcome 2008 with open arms.

IN CLOSING—*Lauren Boylston*

This is my last newsletter as Editor. It has been a privilege to edit, write, publish and have anxiety attacks over this newsletter for the last several years. I am not a computer maven or a writer....I am a gardener, a wife, a lover of cooking and a mother to many pets. I have enjoyed the loving support of many people while editing this newsletter. Judy Kelley has been steadfast in supplying an article or puzzle every month for well over two years. Many of you newer folks don't know Judy. I followed her as President and as Editor. She doesn't get to spend as much time with Master Gardeners as she used to due to several family members struggling with illness. But she has always been an inspiration and friend. Jane Price, Linda Kellam, Pat Marshall and Glennis Cannon always seemed to sense my level of anxiety and knew when to submit a much needed recipe for the Recipe Corner or an article about ANYTHING. And then there is James. Even though he had to be harassed, threatened and provoked, he always came through with an article that I personally enjoyed and was proud to print.

It isn't hard to write an article for this newsletter, folks. You should try it. The bravest soul I know is Jean Anderson, who is taking over as Editor for the February issue. Please be supportive of Jean. Don't make her beg, cajole and roll on the ground like a dog for articles. Sit down and write about YOUR garden or YOUR visit to a beautiful public place. It will make Jean's life easier and it will enrich all of our lives as we read about your experience. Believe me, we ARE interested. It is, after all, your newsletter, too.

At this holiday season I wish you PEACE and TOLERANCE. Two things we are in short supply of nowadays.

Thanks for the memories. And to all a GOOD NIGHT!

Lauren L. Boylston--EDITOR



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