



Master Gardener Thymes



WWW.LAKELANDSMASTERGARDENER.ORG

February 2013

President's Message by Ann Barklow



I'm defrosting my fingers on the keyboard while the ice pellets are dropping outside. The family and I (black labs Velo and Lojack, and cat Emmet) just came in from covering my crops with my old flannel sheets. Emmet found the tents of flannel a lovely place to hide and jump out at me. He seems to enjoy it when I shriek. I also huddled my container gardens close to the house, added a jug of warm water nearby and covered them. My first year in the south, I didn't perform any frost protecting techniques because that is how I learned. It can be more costly this way but sitting back and watching what frost temperatures did to plants and what plants were most tender was a huge lesson for me. (I did not do this with my early planted tomatoes, though).

I'm getting my indoor lights and heat mat going today to get my cabbage, bok choy, and spinach seeds started for early spring planting. I'll also be direct sowing some sugar snap and sweet peas in the first week of February. These are all things I learned from the Clemson Extension Program and my involvement in the Lakelands Master Gardeners. A very good friend once told me: "If you are grateful, pass it on." Sharing my knowledge with others and watching the joy from their successful attempts at gardening is one of the many benefits of our organization. Of course I know most of you already know what a gift it is to help others and to extend the knowledge of research based plant information to the community. Consider volunteering more this year to the LMG's, in particular in the area of the Landscape Diagnostic Clinics. This is a great way to share your knowledge in a non threatening way because you get to

find out what the problems are first, go home and research and present it to the attendees the following week. These opportunities are important because it gives us practical training and is designed to increase our confidence and horticultural skills. Don't wait until you think you know enough because that never happens. Trust me, after 30 years of horticultural training and experience I am still learning and saying: "I don't know, let me find out for you." The community respects us not just for our knowledge but for the humility to say you don't know and will find out and get back to them. We may not have all the answers but we have the resources to find out for them.

The jeep topiary work has started at the greenhouse at Wesley Commons. The Master Gardeners that signed up for that committee have been stripping the decomposing moss off the hood and wheel wells along with refreshing the moss for the planting in mid February. Please look for the article on their progress in this newsletter with pictures of our hard working team. We are excited to turn our attention with the jeep topiary into an education component which is the cornerstone of our organization. We will be designing a template with the botanical and common names with pictures of the plants and their cultural needs. If it works, the Festival will be able to duplicate this for the upcoming years and topiaries. If you have any interest in helping with this please let me know.

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Dates to Remember:

- FEB. 21ST GRADUATION 2012, 2013 INTERNS, MEMBER RECOGNITION, MG OF THE YEAR SOCIAL 6:30 PM GMD
- MARCH 14TH BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM CLEMSON OFFICE
- APRIL 4TH -PIZZA PARTY & PLANT DROP-OFF FARMER'S MARKET 4- 8 PM
- APRIL 5 & 6- PLANT SALE FARMER'S MARKET 8 AM- 4 PM
- APRIL 11TH MEMBERSHIP MEETING 6:00 PM SPEAKER, DANIEL PARSON 6:30 PM LIBRARY
- MAY 9TH PICNIC CONNIE MAXWELL 6:30 PM
- JUNE 13TH BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM LIBRARY
- JULY 18TH MEMBERSHIP MEETING 6:00 PM SPEAKER, REECE LYERLY 6:30 LIBRARY
- AUG. 8TH BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM LIBRARY
- SEPT. 12TH MEMBERSHIP MEETING 6:00 PM SPEAKER, PANEL DISCUSSION 6:30 PM LIBRARY
- OCT. 10TH BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM CLEMSON OFFICE
- NOV. 14TH MEMBERSHIP MEETING 6:00 PM SPEAKER, PANEL DISCUSSION 6:30 PM LIBRARY
- DEC. 12TH MEMBER SOCIAL 6:30 PM GMD

The mission of the Lakelands Master Gardeners, in association with the Greenwood County Clemson Extension office, is to extend to the public research-based education, horticultural programs and activities that enhance our environment, lives and community.

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

The Topiary Work has Begun!

By Jimmy McInville

Old man winter decided to show up for the first work days in preparation for the 2013 Festival of Flowers. His icy grip couldn't cool off the spirit of the great group that braved the cold to help bring our jeep topiary back to life.

Most of us have stuffed, planted, and replanted the topiaries before, but this was the first time we took one apart. After all, isn't that why we are here; to learn, teach and grow?

Decomposed moss and soil were removed from the hood, grill, fenders and tires. The hood was removed so irrigation could be repaired and then built up about 5-inches to allow for a deeper layer of moss for the roots. Broken framework was also repaired. This is the first time the jeep has had to be restored. This, along with the new nutrient rich moss, will allow the plants to grow healthier.

More moss and the planting will be able to start very soon, with seedlings growing in the greenhouses closely supervised by Dwight Long.

If you would like to help out with the jeep, please contact Jimmy at truerainwater@yahoo.com or 993-0512.



Dwight Long and Rusty Wilson work on the hood

JAN HALDEMAN TO RECEIVE THE SOUTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE FEDERATION EDUCATION CONSERVATIONIST AWARD

The SCNPS member Janet Haldeman was recently elected to receive the 2012 South Carolina Wildlife Federation Education Conservationists Award for her work on behalf of South Carolina natural resources.

Dr Haldeman is Professor Emeritus of biology, Erskine college and former chair of the South Carolina native plant society's exotic species committee.

Her outstanding contributions to conservation of native plants has been recognized and will be awarded at the 48th Annual

Awards banquet February 1st 2013

You know you are a Master Gardener if:

- your son gives you six tons of "cured" horse poop and you are wild with excitement.

This is a fun new column we will run each month— how do YOU know you are a gardener?? Send in your contributions by the 25th of each month.

Just living is not enough. One must have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower. Hans Christian Anderson

 * Botanical terms- *
 * aureomarginata—golden margins *
 * Odora— with odor, fragrant *
 * *Daphne odora aureomarginata* *
 * *****

Fragrant Plants in the Landscape



Edgeworthia chrysantha

February—

- *Osmanthus fragrans*, Tea Olive
- *Edgeworthia chrysantha*— Rice Paper plant
- *Hamamelis vernalis*— Witch hazel
- *Daphne odora aureomarginata*— Winter Daphne
- *Narcissus 'Grand Soleil d'Or'*- yellow paperwhites

Do you have something fragrantly blooming now? Share your information to add to the newsletter. I know you have something fragrant in your garden!

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Be sure to read our minutes in this newsletter from our board meeting. There is much news about our organization. We have two important committees with new chairpersons. Our public relations will be chaired by new interns Trish Bridges and Linda Hamrick. We had a great meeting last week and they are all over it! We also have our new social committee chairs, new interns, Donna Feldmaier and Chris Moon that have already started preparing for our big annual meeting this month. PLEASE DON'T MISS IT!!! Not only will we get to socialize, we will be voting in our vice president, secretary and new board members! We will have delicious food and prizes, and awards for hours and the graduation of our 2011 class. I'm not sure if you notice the pattern of our new positions but they are held by our brand new graduates from the 2012 class! New blood always breathes new life into our organization and we hope they know how much we will support them as they adventure into these positions.

We of course are looking forward to our plant sale and this year we have added a pizza party for all of you that will be dropping your plant donations off the day before. Remember, we are asking each member to donate 12 plants this year, so be thinking of what you want to bring.

I hope you all enjoy the end of our winter and I look forward to seeing all of you on the 21st!

2013 Speaker Meetings

By: Susanne Bender, Chair

Our speaker meetings this year- April 11th, July 18th, September 12th and November 14th will focus on Vegetable Gardening—

“Growing vegetables from your home garden all year long”

April 11, 2013

“Growing a summer vegetable garden--- however small”

Presenter: Grower Daniel Parson- Parson's Produce

Clinton SC

Where: Greenwood County Library

Time: 6:30PM (Member meeting – 6PM)

July 18, 2013

“Growing Gardens in your Neighborhood and All Open Spaces”

Presenter: Reece Lyerly- “Garden for Good” Greenville, SC

Where: Greenwood County Library

Time: 6:30PM (Member meeting – 6PM)

September 12, 2013

“How can I preserve all my Beautiful Fruits and Vegetables?”

(Become familiar with many popular ideas for storing and preserving)

Presenters: Panel discussion

Where: Greenwood County Library

Time: 6:30PM (Member meeting – 6PM)

November 14, 2013

“Planning Your Winter Garden in South Carolina”

Presenters: Panel discussion of local growers

Where: Greenwood County Library

Time: 6:30PM (Member meeting – 6PM)

Mark your calendars now to attend these interesting and enlightening speaker meetings!

As always they are free and OPEN to the public



Index-Journal to host 2013 Home & Garden Show at the Greenwood Mall

Date: Saturday, March 23, 2013

10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

At the Greenwood Mall, Greenwood, SC



Lakelands Master Gardeners
Recognition and Awards Banquet

Thursday, February 21, 2013

6:30 pm

Greenwood Metropolitan District

Please join us as we vote in new members
of the board and recognize our
newest graduates and celebrate many
Master Gardener's accomplishments!

Drinks will be provided. Please bring a Main Course,
Casserole, Side Dish, Finger Food or Dessert

Please RSVP your attendance and
your dish selection by February 18 to:

Donna Feldmaier

(864)223-0375

or

donnafeldy@aol.com

LMG Minutes

January 10, 2013

Extension Office 6:30PM

Attendance- Sandy Orr, Ann Barklow, Chuck Bender, Patti Larson, Janet Ledebuhr, Paddy Huff, Jimmy McInville, Sarah Carroll, Ginny Wilson, Melody McInville, Chris Moon, Donna Feldmaier. A quorum was present

Treasurer's Report- Chuck Bender presented a Dec. 31, 2013 ending cash balance of \$6,317.35. This was a \$2,129 decline in ending balance from last year. Lower income was the culprit, due to \$900 less in Plant sales, and \$765 less in dues. 15 unpaid dues remain from the previous year's membership. Expenses were reduced, since only four scholarships were donated and social events became fully potluck. The net result was still a reduction in our year end cash balance. Sandy Orr moved for acceptance of the report, Patti Larson seconded, and it was unanimously approved.

Committee Reports

Bylaw Special Committee Report Ann Barklow reported on the history of the bylaw special committee: It was formed to draft a new set of bylaws to go with our corporation status. They have been meeting since August of 2012. The bylaws were completed and brought to the general membership meeting on November 8 and Steve Tabor, LMG member and lawyer discussed and yielded questions from the group. It was then sent to the membership by e-mail for comments. The comments received were discussed and changes were made. (voting guidelines clarified, changing expected to encouraged in meetings, discussion on where our assets go if we dissolve, and membership termination) Overkill and the length of the document was also discussed. Because of requirements of the state and the complications with our levels of membership we couldn't get it any shorter. The bylaw committee recommends that these bylaws be adopted. Chuck Bender made a motion, there was a second and all were in favor of adopting the bylaws. Janet recommended we make sure the file is small when it is sent through the e-mail to members. A vote will also be done at the annual meeting with the members to dissolve the association bylaws and adopt the new corporation bylaws.

Community Projects Report- Patti Larson and Paddy Huff. Patti presented three Topiary projects to the Board. 1) Work on the Jeep topiary to the point it is displayed. 2) Provide volunteers to help school children prepare topiaries at either the greenhouse or at schools. 3) Develop a template to list the plants used in the topiaries, either in the flyer or at the topiary site for education. Paddy moved to accept 1 and 2 with the addition to provide with #1 a list and pictures of the plants on the jeep that will include the botanical and common name and cultural requirements for educational purposes, in hopes that this can be used as a template for the remainder of the topiaries in the future. Janet seconded and the vote was unanimously in favor.

Plant Sale Committee- Ginny Wilson and Sarah Carroll. They have come up with some neat new ideas and ask each Master Gardener to contribute twelve plants. A phone tree is recommended to keep track of the members and plants. The plants should be delivered Thursday April 4th between 4 and 8PM for the sale which will be Friday and Saturday, April 5 and 6, from 8AM to 4 PM. Discussion of a pizza party that Thursday night ensued, referred to as the Pre-Plantsale Pizza Party. Patti re-

minded us that a truck might be necessary to pick up plant contributions Thursday PM. The financial goal for the Plant Sale is \$1,200, so everybody, "START YOUR PLANTS!"

Social Committee- Ann Stoddard did a great job on the Christmas social. She is stepping down and two new co-chairs, Chris Moon and Donna Feldmaier have graciously accepted the role. They will be contacting the Social Committee with February Annual Meeting duties.

Nominating Committee- Patti is phoning for VP and Secretary candidates. She will provide a ballot at the February meeting.

Newsletter- Janet Ledebuhr. The non-email recipients of the newsletter have declined from nine to seven. Janet requested articles for the February newsletter. Sandy Orr will provide a list of Garden Club Presidents to Janet Ledebuhr so they can receive newsletters.

Public Relations- Ann announced that Cathie Swindell has stepped down from the PR chair and that Linda Hamerick and Trish Bridges will be taking over. They will hold a meeting on Friday, January 18.

(Committees not reporting or present: PR, programs/speakers, education and office)

Unfinished and New Business

The Board brainstormed over Ann and Janet's suggestion of a **celebrity keynote speaker** for an LMG regional gardening fundraiser. Janet reviewed several speakers and their fees. Nan Chase is an urban edible landscaper from Asheville. Tim Spira and Lisa Wagner from Clemson are expert in wildflowers and the SC Botanical Garden at Clemson. Bob Polomski is a forestry expert and Kirk Brown provides an historical interpretation of Philadelphia's John Bartram. Ann and Janet will continue to investigate with a target of doing this in the fall of 2013. Locations were looked into by Chuck Bender with the American Legion Hall looking like a good one. John Kapsalis, husband of the late MG Kathleen may give us a discount for renting the hall.

Ann Barklow and Kim Hastings of Hobby and Garden are working with Fafard to provide a Field Trip for the LMG.

The Nominating Committee will get together with the Board to discuss which Committees are required at every Board Meeting. Several people felt the Newsletter, Community Projects, Membership, Media/PR, Education/Outreach, and Fundraising Committees all require Board Membership for the Committee Chairs.

Patti Larson investigated dues at other MG clubs. They ranged from \$10 to \$35. She will research further and make a recommendation.

The greenhouse idea and possibly partnering with Connie Maxwell with a grant will be discussed at a later date.

The **President**, Ann Barklow, closed the meeting.



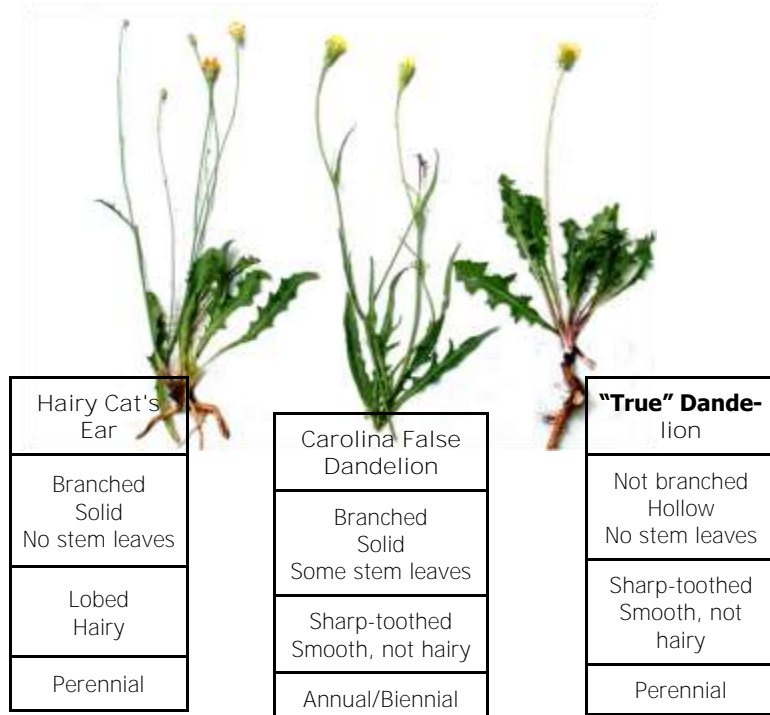
Dandelions—True or False?

By Dr. Jan Haldeman (*reprinted with permission*)

If you ever notice commercials for herbicides, it seems to be “Roundup” time for dandelions just about all year long now. Especially if you are trying to maintain an ecologically unstable monoculture called a lawn. But dandelions have at least two look-a-likes in our area, which can be considered second cousins once, maybe twice, removed from the common dandelion (or what I like to call “true” dandelion), which is naturalized from Europe.

The two “imposters” which are so often seen in South Carolina along road shoulders, and in fields and lawns during the warm season are Cat’s Ear, *Hypochaeris radicata*, also naturalized from Europe, and our native Carolina False Dandelion, *Pyrrhopappus carolinianus*

To read the rest of this article go to http://scnps.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/SCNPS_Winter_2012.pdf



Garden Myths DEBUNKED

By Sandy Orr

WSU associate professor Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott is the author of two books, two blogs, and a podcast with the moniker “The Informed Gardener”. The science of horticulture has evolved far beyond the old (and new organic) wives tales that we are all taught. She deplores the proliferation of “talking heads”, with no botanical training or scientific testing background. Instead, her information comes from academic experiments which she, and a nationwide team of horticultural Phd’s, sort through and translate into usable form. Several **MYTHS** busted by Linda surprised me:

1. **Compost tea** feeds plantings and increases their disease resistance: **Wrong**. There is no repeatable evidence of either. Compost tea is a very weak fertilizer and if applied as a foliar spray, doesn’t affect the root zone or soil fertility, which is where all plant health issues reside. Yellowing leaves are caused by nutrient deficiencies in the soil that can’t be addressed through a foliar spray.
2. **Bone meal** added to planting holes for trees/shrubs is beneficial: **Wrong**. “Bone meal is primarily calcium and phosphorus, two elements which are usually adequate in nonagricultural soils. The NPK analyses of bone meal preparations vary, but are generally in the range of 0-12-0 to 3-20-0. Both calcium and phosphorus are required for plant growth, but both (and especially phosphorus) can cause problems if they occur in high concentrations. It is important to understand that neither element, nor any other mineral, will “stimulate” plant growth beyond what is normal for a particular plant.” (from the Informed Gardener Blog)
3. **Staking a tree** is beneficial: **Wrong**. If you must stake a tree, stake it low and loose to allow movement and growth of a sturdy girth and good taper. Staking is an “enabling behavior”, like giving the tree a crutch. Such a crutch focuses tree growth on more foliage instead of trunk development and makes a lollipop tree with a lush crown and weak trunk.
4. **Fresh Wood Chips** shouldn’t be used as mulch because they cause nitrogen deficiencies in the surrounding plants: **Wrong**. The evidence indicates that nitrogen deficiencies exist to less than 1 centimeter below a deep mulch of fresh wood chips. This is insignificant to the plant roots.

It’s eye-opening to read her blog, the Garden Professors blog, and to listen to the Informed Gardener podcasts. Being a lazy gardener, I appreciate anyone who tells me I can stop brewing concoctions in my garage and stop storing bags of unnecessary soil amendments. And now, I can have the tree services dump their chippings directly into my garden beds, instead of stacking them up offsite to compost for a year.



2012 Booth at the Farmers Market Building

PIZZA PARTY AND PLANT DROP OFF FUN, FUN, FUN!!

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2013
4:00 to 6:30 pm

This is our Main Fundraiser!

We are asking every Lakelands Master Gardener to
Donate 12 plants or the equivalent of homemade/ crafted
garden related items for the
April 5 and 6 Plant Festival

Best Sellers are weed free and healthy looking in nice pots such as clean nursery containers or solo cups with drainage. Unique and hard to find plants are a plus! Labels with botanical and common names with cultural requirements are preferred. A surprise table will be set up for the nameless. Pictures of the plant in flower increase sales. Print photos from the internet unless you have your own.

**Worst Sellers are poorly presented, weedy, too high priced,
too large and no plant names**

Please contact Sarah Carroll at 803-348-0256 or sbcarroll96@yahoo.com
Tell her what you will be bringing. A pickup service will be provided, if you
are unable to drop them off

Don't miss out on this wonderful volunteer opportunity
Keep track of your hours in planting and designing all your plants and items
to sell and let Sarah know you want to help at the Festival.

2013 SC Organic Growing Conference

South Carolina Organization for Organic Living (SCOOL) is proud to announce its second SC Organic Growing Conference at Longleaf Middle School in Columbia, SC, on March 2, 2013, from 8:00AM - 4:30PM. Registration is open from 8 - 9; the first classes begin at 9AM.

Your ticket entitles you to a locally-sourced lunch and four (4) classes (or two (2) morning classes and a workshop, depending on registration and availability). These classes are taught by

professional growers, farmers and other agricultural and food system experts. Lunch includes vegetarian options. Like other state and regional conferences, we are not taking reservations for individual tracks or classes. Attendance at each session is first-come, first choice. We have a limited amount of tickets for sale to keep classes small.

We will have vendors who will offer books, seeds, agricultural products, and other items. Most have cash only sales.

http://www.scorganicliving.com/2013_Conference.html



facebook

www.lakelandsmastergardener.org

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

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



Don't forget the photos from our Christmas social and other LMG events are on our Shutterfly page. (see link above) You can leave comments or download photos from the Shutterfly page. The password has been sent in the email with this newsletter attached.

LAKELAND MASTER GARDENERS

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

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



☹ **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>

THE LAKELANDS MASTER GARDENER BOARD 2012

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| President- Ann Barklow | and Jason Jordan | Programs and Speakers- Susanne Bender |
| Vice President- vacant | Finance and Fund Raising- open | Media – PR– Trish Bridges & Linda Hamrick |
| Treasurer- Chuck Bender | (plant sale) Sarah Carroll & Ginny Wilson | FB– open, Web– open |
| Secretary- Sandy Orr | Membership- vacant | Social- Donna Feldmaier and Chris Moon |
| Past President- Patti Larson | Co chair- Linda Halsey (hours) | Office- Vince Plotczyk |
| Clemson Advisor- James Hodges | Newsletter- Janet Ledebuhr | |
| Community Projects- Paddy Huff and Patti Larson | Phone- Priscilla Ellis | |
| Education Co-Chair- Linda Halsey | | |