



Master Gardener Thymes



WWW.LAKELANDSMASTERGARDENER.ORG

January 2013

President's Message by Ann Barklow



It is pouring rain outside as I write this. Our lawn looks like a small lake this morning which doesn't bother my two black labs. We will be aerating our lawn this spring since we tend to get compaction from our dogs and walking on it to pick up after them. Of course the fetch we play on the lawn doesn't help much either. I hope you are getting a soil test for your lawn if you haven't done it in awhile. I like to do it every three years.

A big thank you to everyone that helped and attended the Christmas Party last month. The LMG's really know how to cook and we had some amazing dishes. Time always seems to go so fast and I wish I had been able to speak with more members and their families.

This is dreaming month for me as I peruse through the many seed catalogues that came in the mail this week. I think my letter carrier thought she was getting a break with the end of Christmas until she delivered 5 catalogues to me in one day. I would love to be able to get all the varieties of vegetables and flowers I want from one source to save on shipping but have yet to accomplish that. I often try to find the recommended varieties for South Carolina in our Master Gardener Manual Table 16-9.

One of my favorite seed catalogues is Territorial <http://www.territoriaseed.com/about-us> because it seems to carry the most varieties for our area even though they are located in Oregon. I also love Southern Exposure Seed Exchange that support organic, sustainable and GMO free seeds and specialize in those that do well in the southeast. <http://www.southernexposure.com/about-us-ezp-18.html> Of course for heirlooms, I usually turn to Baker Heirloom seeds <http://rareseeds.com> I would love to hear from our members if there is any other seed companies I should look into. annbarklow@embarqmail.com

I wonder what this year will bring to us in our outreach to the community. The officers recently drafted a mission statement for our organization that can be used easier than the list of 8 purposes that we currently have. You will find it in this newsletter, our website, brochure, and Facebook page.

Please mark your calendar for February 21 for our annual meeting. We moved it to the third Thursday of the month since **the second fell on Valentine's Day this year.** This will give us a chance to recognize our volunteers and announce the winner of the Master Gardener of the Year along with another great LMG dinner. Our 2011 class will become full-fledged Master Gardeners and we will introduce our 2012 interns. We will also be voting for the Vice President and Secretary. If I have all my ducks in a row and get our bylaws done we will also vote for our other board members as we increase the size of our board. This will be our new **social committee chairs', Donna Feldmaier and Chris Moon,** first opportunity at setting up our banquet. *Con't p. 2*

Dates to Remember:

- JAN. 10TH BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM CLEMSON OFFICE
- FEB. 2ND GREENVILLE MASTER GARDENER SYMPOSIUM 8 AM
- FEB. 21ST GRADUATION 2012, 2013 INTERNS, MEMBER RECOGNITION, MG OF THE YEAR SOCIAL 6:30 PM GMD
- MARCH 14TH BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM LIBRARY
- APRIL 11TH MEMBERSHIP MEETING 6:00 PM SPEAKER 6:30 PM LIBRARY
- MAY 9TH PICNIC LOCATION TBA 6:30 PM
- JUNE 13TH BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM LIBRARY
- JULY 18TH MEMBERSHIP MEETING 6:00 PM SPEAKER 6:30 LIBRARY
- AUG. 8TH BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM LIBRARY
- SEPT. 12TH MEMBERSHIP MEETING 6:00 PM SPEAKER 6:30 PM LIBRARY
- OCT. 10TH BOARD MEETING 6:30 PM CLEMSON OFFICE
- NOV. 14TH MEMBERSHIP MEETING 6:00 PM SPEAKER 6:30 PM LIBRARY
- DEC. 12TH MEMBER SOCIAL 6:30 PM LOCATION TBA

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.

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Let's give them lots of support for taking on this fun and important task.

I have really enjoyed my first four months as the president. It is really hard not to be impressed with this group and I look forward to future interactions with you all. 2013 will be a good year for us!

YEAR AT A GLANCE 2012

Below is a list of new projects, continued work on older projects, accomplishments, improvements, and changes

- Connie Maxwell Raised Beds ~ Education and Judging Contest
- Plant Sale and Farmers Market Booth ~ Senior Voucher program
- Erskine/Pressley Garden
- Landscape Clinics in local neighborhoods
- Rain Garden Improvements ~ Extension office
- Hospice House Garden
- Seaboard Community Garden
- Spring Container Garden
- YMCA Raised Vegetable beds for after school program ~ Design and Educate
- Topiaries
- Railroad Museum Improvements
- Ask a Master Gardener Booth ~ June at Park Seed
- Veterans Center Healing Garden ~ Design and Install
- Design Contest for Healing Garden
- Burton Center Sensory Garden ~ Design and Install
- **Mini Educational Workshops for MG's and their friends**
- Regular Quarterly Speaker Meetings
- Quarterly General Membership Meetings resurrected
- Nomination Committee formed ~ membership voting
- Bylaw Committee formed and new bylaws in the works
- Corporation papers in the works
- Class of 2012 ~ 14 students graduated
- Masters in the Garden ~ Spotlight a Master Gardener in our monthly newsletter
- Brought back the Potluck dinner for our Socials
- Increased Public Relations outreach
- Mission Statement established
- Scrapbook documenting our history
- New brochure in the works

You know you are a Master Gardener if:

- You have a half-moon tan on your lower back from bending over!
- You're pruning your shrubs & trees in 6 inches of old snow.
- Early spring you only pull babies that you know for sure are weeds and leave the ones you're unsure of. After all, they might be volunteers that will turn into amazing new flowers.
- Your husband comes in from the mailbox, saying, "Your Veggie Porn is here," when my spring seed catalogs arrive!
- You have six pairs of shoes on the front porch covered in mud.
- **You know you're a gardener when you would rather buy plants than shoes.**

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.

* Botanical terms- *

* Fragrans— fragrant *Osmanthus fragrans* *

* Chrysantha— Golden flower *Edgeworthia chrysantha* *

* Vernalis— flowering in spring *Hamamelis vernalis* *

Fragrant Plants in the Landscape

Each month we will list those plants blooming, offering their lovely fragrance on the breezes. You can have something blooming and fragrant year round in your garden.

January—

- *Osmanthus fragrans*, Tea Olive
- *Edgeworthia chrysantha*— Rice Paper plant
- *Hamamelis vernalis*— Witch hazel

Do you have something fragrantly blooming now? Share your information to add to the newsletter.



Lakelands Beekeepers Association

Beginning Certified Level Beekeeping Class

Location: Greenwood County Library Auditorium
600 South Main Street, Greenwood, SC

Dates/Times: Thursdays, February 7 through March 28, 2013
6:30 to 9:00 pm

Costs: \$60 per individual, \$80 for couples (scholarships for youth 10-18)
Includes: text, handout materials, 1 year membership in state and local bee associations

Session topics include:

- Basics (getting started, basic equipment, selecting an apiary site, supply sources)
- Getting to know the honeybee (bee biology, races of bees, bee history)
- Diseases and Pests (treatments, pesticides, IPM)
- Building equipment & lighting a smoker
- Working with Honeybees (starting a bee hive, installing a package/nuc, swarms and swarm control)
- Thinking like a honeybee (things they collect, nectar & pollen sources, products of the honeybee, honey packaging and labeling)
- Review and Certified Level written test
- Field day at a local apiary: hands on instruction

To register mail the appropriate fee with the following information to: Donna Boozer, 311 Grange Road, Greenwood, SC 29646.
Make checks payable to Lakelands Beekeepers Association.

Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell #: _____

Email: _____

For more information, call Donna Boozer, 864-229-1627, 864-992-3025, donnaboozer@embarqmail.com
Registration deadline: January 22, 2013

Asparagus

by Ann Barklow

"As quick as cooking asparagus." was an old Roman saying meaning something was accomplished quickly according to reports on asparagus history. This member of the lily family dates back to 1000 A.D. The graceful spears and feathery growth often served as a sign of elegance and were a delicacy only the wealthy could afford. The Roman emperors even had a special team of workers that harvested the crop for them.

Reputed as an aphrodisiac, this ancient vegetable is one of the most nutritionally well-balanced vegetables -- high in folic acid and a good source of potassium, fiber, thiamin, and vitamins A, B6, and C. A 5-ounce serving provides 60% of the RDA for folic acid and is low in calories.

Even though China and California are big producers of this crop it is not new to South Carolina with the first reference of it growing commercially was in the early 1890's in the Charleston area and the variety was known as **"Palmetto"**. It was a viable cash crop in our state for a half a century.

I'm coming up on my third year with the asparagus crowns, "Jersey Knight" that I planted in my raised bed garden. I'm looking forward to a good harvest this spring.

You can read up on how to grow your own asparagus from the HGIC Bulletin 1300.

<http://www.clemson.edu/extension/hgic/plants/vegetables/crops/hgic1300.html>

Caramelized Asparagus

Submitted by Gail Murph

This recipe was printed in the *Thymes* in 2006.

2 bundles of asparagus,
trimmed and washed
½ stick butter
3 tablespoons olive oil

Heat butter and oil in sauté pan on medium high. When thoroughly heated, add asparagus to pan and stir occasionally. Salt and pepper is added to taste. When asparagus is almost done (only a few minutes) add 1 tablespoon granulated sugar to caramelize. After a minute add 2 to 3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar, stirring thoroughly to fully coat the asparagus.



Sandy's Gardening Buddy 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



One of the highlights of being a Lakeland Master Gardener is the socializing with other gardeners and that we did thanks to our social committee headed by Ann Stoddard. Despite the busy schedule of most of our members we had a very good turnout and considering we had no RSVP for this one the food was perfect!

Ann Stoddard's elves did an amazing job while she attended her children's plays that evening. A special thank you goes out to Mike and Sue Monaghan, Sandy Orr, Melody McInville, Vince Plotczyk, Rick and Patti Larson, and Donna Feldmaier who all assisted in making the party a success!

Lakelands Master Gardener Class 2012



Left to right— Trisha Bridges, Glorietta Jones, Phyllis Krohn, Betsy Russ, Chris Moon, Linda Hamrick, Susan Lawson, James Hodges, Claudette Bannerman, Terry Morse, David McCall, Bonnie Baumhofer, Savannah Durham, Louanne Collins Not pictured—Donna Feldmaier & Mary-Jane Vivas

Book Donation by Susanne Bender, Program Coordinator

Following the November educational program on the "Mighty Giant" a book was donated to the Greenwood public library by the Master Gardeners.

This is our thank you letter from Prudence A. Taylor Director at Greenwood Public Library

"It was such a pleasure to meet you yesterday. Thank you for donating a copy of Mighty Giant : an American Chestnut Anthology to the Greenwood county library. It was added to **our catalog yesterday afternoon, and will be placed in the Library's non-circulating** reference collection. I plan to purchase a copy for checkout in the future. Thank you again for donating such a valuable resource. **You were kind to think of the library."**

The Best Health and Fitness App



I have to admit when I first got this app, I spent a lot more time at the grocery store. This app is so fun and it takes the guess work out of trying to buy nutritious food. It will tell me that **it doesn't have that much whole grain as the label implies**, that it is way too salty, and that even though it says no trans fats it really does have them. Sometimes I find companies try to trick you into thinking their product is healthy but with this app I am fooled no more. Check it out! Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad. Requires iOS 4.3 or later. This app is optimized for iPhone 5. <http://www.fooducate.com>

Strive to be a good steward of our land and waterways. Using the checklist on the Clemson website, see if you measure up! http://www.clemson.edu/extension/natural_resources/water/carolina_yards/certification.html The Carolina Yards & Neighborhoods Program recognizes homeowners who meet the minimum requirements for having a healthy landscape and practice environmental landscape management. Signs, plaques or magnets are available for purchase. Be the first in your neighborhood!



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



THE LAKELANDS MASTER GARDENER BOARD 2012

President- Ann Barklow Vice President- vacant Treasurer- Chuck Bender Secretary- Sandy Orr Past President- Jimmy McInville, Patti Larson Clemson Advisor- James Hodges Community Projects- Paddy Huff and Patti Larson	Education Co-Chair- Linda Halsey and Helen Spiller Finance and Fund Raising- Julee Marshall (plant sale) Sarah Carroll & Ginny Wilson Membership- vacant Co chair- Linda Halsey (hours) Newsletter- Janet Ledebuhr Phone- Priscilla Ellis	Programs and Speakers- Susanne Bender Media – (3 chairs)- Catherine Swindell (PR) Doug Crawford (Facebook) Web- vacant Social- Donna Feldmaier and Chris Moon Office- Vince Plotczyk
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☹ **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 keeping Master Gardeners active in service; | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. |
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www.lakelandsmastergardener.org

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

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

LAKELAND MASTER GARDENERS

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.

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)