

## 2016 Calendar

7/11 LMG Class  
Informational Mtng 6:00  
at Extension Office

7/21 LMG Board  
Meeting, 4:30 at  
Clemson Extension

9/8 Speaker and  
membership meeting.  
Gwd Library, Speaker  
TBD.

10/13 LMG Board  
Meeting, 4:30 at Gwd  
Library

11/10 Speaker and  
Membership Meeting.  
6:00 at Library, 6:30 for  
Speaker.

12/8 LMG Board  
Meeting



### *President's Letter-Barbara Wells*

I recently had a gardening friend ask me why I have so many places to sit in my yard. It was a good question and I had never thought about it before he asked. When I counted, I realized I do have five places to sit in our one acre lot: a table with chairs on the back patio where we eat most of our meals when weather permits, a wooden swing hanging from the arbor, a very comfortable black metal bench next to the side bed my younger son rescued from the dump (what WAS somebody thinking?), a rusty bench in the front that is currently covered in a clematis so I'm not sure it technically counts since you can't sit on it without squashing the clematis, a wood and metal bench under the large cedar tree, and a rustic bench my husband fashioned from remnants of the large oak we had to cut down. Oops, I guess that makes six instead of five. Well, you get the idea.

There are people who say a good gardener is one that never sits. If that's the case, then I am not a good gardener. I have decided if I'm going to spend so much time working outside, I'm going to take the time to sit and rest awhile and enjoy the view. I honestly think the same is true for most gardeners. We enjoy both the labor and the rewards, whether it's a nice view, or a bountiful crop of vegetables, or a bouquet of cut flowers.

Maybe, as Lakelands Master Gardeners, we should do the same. Is there room for improvement? Sure. That's how we grow. But perhaps as we grow we should always remember to take the time to sit back, enjoy the view, and take pride in what we're accomplishing.

Here's what we see when we view this past month.

We had a tremendous turnout for Jimmy's McInville's Topiary Walk. A big thanks to Jimmy, supported by Ann Barklow, and to all who attended. This has become so very popular, it looks like it may become an annual event.

The Education Committee, under the gentle guidance of Linda Halsey, continues to prepare for our new class that begins in August. The Informational Meeting will be held Monday, July 11, at 6:00 pm at the Cooperative Extension Office. Continue to spread the word to anyone you think may be interested.

Donna and Wally Sears are hard at work preparing a Lakelands Master Gardener display that will be in the entrance foyer of the Greenwood County Library in July. This is the first time in three years we've done a display at the library and we're happy to have the chance to bring a bit more visibility for our group, especially just in time for the beginning of a new class. Go by and take a look, and if you see Donna and Wally, tell them thanks.

Sit awhile and enjoy the view,  
B

***"I'm just sittin' here and enjoyin' the company. Plants got a lot to say, if you take the time to listen." Eeyore***

**Farmers' Market Voucher Program Well-Received**



*Mike Brown volunteers time to sign up people to receive up to \$50 of fresh food vouchers per couple*

**Sherry Edwards and Annie Keith continue work on topiaries/plantings.**



### Recipe Corner- Refrigerator Bread and Butter Pickles

2 1/2 cups sugar  
2 cups apple cider vinegar  
1/4 cup canning-and-pickling salt or kosher salt  
1 tsp. celery seeds  
1 tsp. mustard seeds  
1/2 tsp. ground turmeric  
12-15 pickling cucumbers, sliced into 1/4 inch thick slices  
1/2 large Vidalia onion, sliced into 1/4 thick slices and then quarter each slice

Cook first six ingredients in a large saucepan over medium-high heat, stirring occasionally about 3-5 minutes or until mixture is hot and sugar is dissolved. (Do not boil.)

Place cucumbers and onions in a gallon Ziploc freezer bag or an airtight plastic container. After the vinegar solution has cooled somewhat, pour it over the cucumbers and onions.

Cool 30 minutes.

Refrigerate 8 hours, turning and mixing the bag occasionally to ensure all the cucumbers come into contact with the vinegar solution.

Pickles can be transferred to any plastic or glass airtight container and stored in refrigerator for up to 2 weeks. They'll be eaten long before they go bad!

\* I have the best results when I make the pickles the same day I pick the cucumbers. – *The Proud Grannie's Cookbook by Barbara Wells (my attribution, not hers)*

### Visit to Prince Charles' Highgrove Garden – Sandy Orr





Prince Charles wakes to this view down his Thyme Walk each morning that he's in residence at his country place, Highgrove. His head gardener, Deb Goodenough, says he's totally involved in all design decisions. In the beginning, he actually did a lot of the gardening. Many famous garden designers have contributed to this witty combination of garden rooms. Penelope Hobhouse advised him from the start of the garden. The one unifying theme is the use of a chartreuse yellow throughout. He inherited a long line of golden yew lumps with the purchase of the house. Each gardener was assigned one to shape, thereby each is unique. Overall, the garden has a French feel rather than British. The flourishes are curvy and elaborate.

The walled vegetable garden is huge and each plot is surrounded by boxwood. His stumpery is a collection of uprooted stumps with root structures celebrated and packed with shade-loving plants. The garden has several tree house structures, since William and Harry grew up here. Many statues, fountains, and follies were designed by Isobel and Julian Bannerman. (try googling these ex-hippies gone royal). The hypertufa fountain, with England's largest- leafed perennial gunnera emerging from the top is my favorite. There is also a mini-Greek temple with the frieze made out of deer antlers.

This garden was at its peak in mid-June. The tour goes right up to the front door of the house. Charles was in residence, with his flag flying. How annoying us pesky tourists must be. All the tour proceeds go to his Prince's Trust. Prince Charles truly puts his theories into practice here, with all the waste products being recycled on site. The water is filtered biologically in a reed bed and reused. I highly recommend the wonderful YouTube video of Alan Titchmarsh touring Highgrove with Prince Charles.



### **Park Seed Sale Day**

What a surprise to get Janet Ledebuhr's email blast about the June 23<sup>rd</sup> Park Seed Sale event! It started at 7am and the crowd had already begun rifling through the bags of bulbs and carts of perennials. Some of the celebrities in the earlybird crowd included Linda Halsey, Jimmy McInville, Sharon Alvarez, Steve Jagus, Annissa Lawrence, and our own Park Seed employee Marla Starling. Most pots were \$3 or \$5. There was a larger selection than I'd anticipated and much went home with me. This sale was not in the newspaper, so our Master Gardeners got a leg up on the public thanks to Janet.

## Lakelands Master Gardener Board and Committee Chairs

President- Donna Feldmaier

Vice President- Barbara Wells

Treasurer- Melody McInville

Secretary- Chris Moon

Past President- Sandy Orr

Clemson Advisor- James Hodges

Membership-Betsy Russ

Education- Linda Halsey

Newsletter- Sandy Orr

Programs and Speakers- Bill Aaron

Media- Olivia Reynolds

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Facebook- Mary Jane Vivas and Marla Starling

Website- Chuck Bender

Community Projects- Sue Monaghan and Jimmy Mc Inville

Office- Vince Plotczyk