



Master Gardener Thymes

WWW.LAKELANDSMASTERGARDENER.ORG

Dates to Remember:

- JUNE- FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS
- JUNE 7 & 8 UPSTATE FARM TOUR
SEE LINK P. 3
- JUNE 12TH BOARD MEETING
- AUGUST 14TH BOARD MEETING
- SEPTEMBER 11TH SPEAKER MEETING
- OCTOBER 9TH BOARD MEETING
- OCTOBER 23RD SCMMGA SYM-
POSIUM
- NOVEMBER 13TH SPEAKER MEET-
ING
- DECEMBER 11TH HOLIDAY SOCIAL
GMD

TIMES AND LOCATIONS WILL BE POSTED WHEN EVENTS ARE CLOSER. MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

June 2014

President's Message

By Sandy Orr



The Annual Picnic and Donna Feldmaier's house was fun-filled for all. Thanks so much to Donna and Doug for opening their home, despite their recent flood. The food was great and everyone stayed late chatting.

Sue Monaghan continues to supervise the Jeep Topiary. Make sure and see it when it goes out on display for the Festival. Sue will also

be telling us when she wants a Rain Garden work day at the Extension Office.

James is managing the Farmer's Market voucher program again this year, and will need Master Gardeners at several venues on different days. Several training sessions will be provided. There will be many opportunities to get hours done this summer.

I've been checking on the LMG plot in the City Garden. It has needed a little weeding, but not enough to have a work day until June 14th, when the entire City Garden will be fluffed for the Festival of Flowers. I'll email a reminder closer to the date. If you have an interesting flowering plant that you want to contribute to our patch, feel free to bring it. The bed currently features snapdragons and a lot of daylilies. This fall, we'll dig and divide the daylilies and mulch everything with compost.

I've been checking out the blooming cardoons in the City corner flower bed across from Jon Holloway's studio. You need to see the huge, gorgeous, intense blue/purple thistle flowers on them.

My garden needs more blooms. Several *Verbascum* species, white *Achillea*, and *Lychnis coronaria alba* have been performing well for awhile now, but that's about it. A white Stokes aster is about to pop soon and *Nicotianas* are coming on. We will be planning our September speaker meeting at the June Board meeting. We will also hear about the upcoming

LMG class, which may have 20 students. After the meeting, I'm off to NYC to see Piet Oudolf's High Line garden and his Battery Park 9/11 Memorial garden.

Pictures from the May 17th Annual Spring Picnic are now out on our Shutterfly web

www.lakelandsmastergardeners.shutterfly.com

The password if needed is included in the email that sent this newsletter for members.

Thanks to the Social Committee for setting this up and to Donna Feldmaier for hosting at her beautiful home. A wonderful time was had by all, with delicious food and engaging conversation.



Vincent Plotczyk 2014

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.

Roadside "Rags" Mother's Day and a little beyond

By Dr. Jan Haldeman



Look for blue and gold these days. In full bloom now are Small's Ragwort and Raggedy Sailors. These blossoms are abundant on roadsides and in fields. If you have access to them they can make a really nice wildflower arrangement.

been named *Senecio anonymus* by A. K. Wood in 1861! The genus name *Senecio* from *senex*, "old man," refers to the hairiness of many plants in this group. Now the South Carolina Plant Atlas, and other sources give the scientific name *Senecio anonymus* Wood crediting the botanist who first named it. But most recently Small's ragwort has been classified to another genus *Packera* giving it a third name (synonym) *Packera anonyma* Wood! So, to give credit to all who worked on classification of this ragwort, it is listed: Small's Ragwort AKA Southern Ragwort (*Packera anonyma* / *Senecio anonymus* / *Senecio smallii*). What's in a name?

Now for Raggedy Sailors, AKA Bachelors Button, and Cornflower, which

come mostly in shades of blue, but can also be lavender, pink or almost white.

These are also members of the aster family. Unlike Small's ragwort, flowers composing the blossom are disc type only. Also, whereas ragwort is a native species, raggedy sailors originated in Europe. Since spreading



Ragwort grows throughout the southeast and as far north as Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Illinois. It is a member of the aster family and its blossoms illustrate the typical composite of blossoms appearing as a single flower. Typical for this group, outer petal or ray flowers surround a tight round cluster of disc flowers. Stem leaves are feathery lobed and basal ones are toothed.



Plant taxonomists are botanists responsible for scientific naming of plants.

This process is always evolving, as taxonomists work to have plants in groups that best reflect their natural relationships. Taxonomy is now assisted by DNA technology. Often evidence from various sources results in reclassification and renaming of a species. Such has been the case with



Small's Ragwort. The common name is in honor of botanist J. K. Small. The scientific name *Senecio smallii* was suggested by botanist N.L. Britton, who wished to name it for colleague J.K. Small in 1890. It had, however, already

throughout the United States, it is considered a "naturalized" species. It is also cultivated and widely available for planting in gardens. Raggedy sailors' scientific name is *Centaurea cyanus*. According to "A Modern Herbal" by Mrs. M. Grieve: "The Latin species name, *Cyanus*, was given the flower after a youthful devotee of the goddess Flora (*Cyanus*), whose favorite flower it was, and the name of the genus is derived from the Centaur, Chiron, who taught mankind the healing virtue of herbs."

Cyanus, from Greek roots, also means "deep blue."



Small's Ragwort has been used medicinally for various ailments by Native Americans, though the plants contain several toxic alkaloids. Raggedy Sailors

have a long history of medicinal uses dating back to early European herbalists. Teas and compresses are used externally for antiseptic properties.

This is from Toni Able— you may have seen these signs around Greenwood. This is an opportunity for our community to be awarded grant money for community projects....**GO GREENWOOD!**



A few more pictures from the picnic at Donna Feldmaier's house.



Five communities are competing in Taking Root™ to win up to \$12,000 in grants and Troy-Bilt® products for their community project. Vote to help your community win.

Keep Greenwood County Beautiful

The Greenwood County community garden has been serving the local community for five years, and has grown from a few raised beds to a variety of gardens, reaching up to several acres in size. This garden has strengthened our community and has donated 12,000 pounds of produce to our local food bank in the past few summers. We are also sponsoring a greenhouse at a local school. With this grant money, we will be able to expand our garden, allowing more community members to grow produce, connect with others, and continue to strengthen our community.

You can win too!

Every vote you cast puts you in the running for a \$100, \$200 or \$300 prize, plus a donation of equal value to the Keep America Beautiful affiliate of your choice.

1. Visit takingroot.troybilt.com.
2. Vote daily to increase your chances of winning.
3. Share on Facebook. Help your community win.

In partnership with Keep America Beautiful, Troy-Bilt® is sponsoring the Taking Root™ initiative to benefit five communities. Help us decide who wins, and you could win too.



Upstate Farm Tour-

Information for the farm tour is available at the following link- <http://www.carolinafarmstewards.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/UFTguide2014.pdf> There are 23 farms on the tour this year. The tours are June 7th and 8th from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Information on tickets and maps to the location of the farms are all included in the brochure at the above link.

Revisiting the Mushrooms.

By Janet Ledebuhr

Like many of you, I purchased some plugs inoculated with mushroom spores after our speaker program a couple years ago. I had a fairly long wait for my first mushrooms to begin to fruit. One log was Shiitake and two logs were plugged with Oyster mushroom spores. This waiting period is allowing the spores to spread throughout the log and then finally fruit, when the mushrooms begin to appear on the exterior of your log. One friend in North Carolina said hers took almost 18 months to begin fruiting, so I was patient.

Once the few Shiitakes began to appear, I was ready, I had a mushroom soup recipe that was highly recommended. We harvested a couple mushrooms a couple times then it slowed down to nothing. I talked to fellow Master Gardener Susi Bender, who works with Tradd (Mushroom Mountain speaker from our program) and told her of my less than stellar results. She talked to Tradd and relayed his answer to me—soak the logs again, this time for 24 hours. Ok, I could do that. Susi called me on a Wednesday evening, so Thursday morning we carried the logs up to the house and we filled the kiddie pool with water. Friday I removed the logs from the water and



placed them in the shade and waited. On Sunday there were tiny mushroom caps appearing in various spots all up and down the log. I say log, the Shiitake log is the one I was focused on. On Wednesday those little caps were large enough to harvest! I got a small bucket of mushrooms! I think mushroom soup is in our future! If you also have logs with mushroom plugs and they aren't producing—follow my lead and soak the wood for 24 hours and get your recipes handy.



Many of the Master Gardeners are participating in the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow reporting. This is a citizen volunteer program to report your precipitation amounts. The reporting area is not just the United States but Canada and just recently Puerto Rico is also joining the ranks. To participate you just order their rain gauge (they like uniform measuring instruments) and then report your precipitation between the hours of 7:00 AM and 9:00 AM. On your way out the door and can't get to your computer before 9:00? They have apps for Android and Apple smart phones.

Each month I will share some of our local stations' rain fall amounts—like they say—rain doesn't fall the same in every location!

MAY 1– 31, 2014

SC-GW-15	2.79 inches
SC-AB-4	1.40 inches
SC-GW-20	new— no report yet
SC-GW-13	2.94 inches
SC-GW-14	2.45 inches





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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.

LAKELANDS MASTER GARDENERS

Lakelands 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 Chuck. 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:
Melody McInville
345 Klugh Rd
Abbeville, SC 29620



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