



Master Gardener Thymes

www.lakelandsmastergardener.org

October 2009



ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH at 6:30, unless otherwise noted. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!!!!!!!

Upcoming Meetings!!

October 8: “Host Plants for South Carolina Butterflies”– Anne Marie Glawe
(To be held at the Roots and Shoots Garden @ Oakland Elementary School)

A native of Wisconsin, she moved to the South Atlanta, Georgia area in 1990 where she and her husband, Troy, raised their two daughters. She began using butterflies in her teaching while in Georgia. She has won awards in teaching, including Elementary Science Teacher of the Year, Gifted Teacher in the Classroom and Walmart Teacher of the Year. She traveled to Mexico in pursuit of Monarch Butterflies with other scientists and teachers with the “Monarchs Across Georgia Group”.

Ann Marie and her family have lived at Lake Greenwood since 2004 and cherish their home and all the native species around them. They enjoy being a part of the Greenwood community.

She has currently been teaching 2nd grade at Pinecrest Elementary and helps Mary Van Ellenberg in the Pinecrest Fence Garden where they have planted Asclepias, Fennel and many other plants for butterfly gardening and observation. However, “Hot off the

Press”, Ann Marie has just informed me that she has been transferred to Springfield Elementary School where she will be teaching the Gifted and Talented. Congratulations Anne Marie!!

Don't miss this presentation because Anne Marie has all sorts of surprises in store for us!

November 12: Live Wreath Workshop –
Judy Sieckman
(To be held at Lakelands Nursery)

For our November meeting, Judy Sieckman will lead us in a Make-and-Take workshop. We will be making Living Wreaths of pansies and violas.

These can be hung outside and can be given as gifts or used in your holiday decorating. The wreaths are constructed of good quality wire with feet to hold it out from the surface. They come already stuffed with spagnum moss and can be replanted as the season changes. For those who want to make a wreath the charge will be a \$20 to cover the cost of the wreath and the plant plugs. Participants will need to bring something such as a dibble for poking planting holes and gloves if you are sensitive to moss. Deadline for signup was the **September** general meeting. Of course, there is no charge for watching!

December 10: Annual Christmas Party

To be held at St. Mark's Methodist Church
Social Hall
(Details to be announced)

Location needed for our January 14, 2010 graduation/awards banquet. This is an eating meeting so a kitchen would be helpful. We always have a terrific crowd too, so please keep that in mind.

If you have a place available, please contact Sandy Stachurski drglenn7@embarqmail.com or call 229-7444 office, 227-2769 home or cell 554-1235. Thanks

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW

Thursday-Saturday October 1-3 Clemson Plant Sale See details below

Saturday, October 3 Bio-retention Pond Old Brewer School Complex at the corner of East Cambridge Avenue and North University Street
9:00 AM Rossi Corwon will present "What Exactly is a Bio-retention Pond?"
9:30 AM Planting Bring tools necessary

Thursday, October 15 Unpack/Clean-Up Old Brewer School Complex at the corner of East Cambridge Avenue and North University Street
10:00AM

Thursday, October 15 "Rescuing Green Space with Farmers and Food" with Joel Salatin at Furman University, Younts Conference Center
7:00 PM with a local farmer meet-and-greet at 6:00 PM
Cost \$10; Sponsored by Upstate Forever and Whole Foods Market

Wednesday, December 2 Decorate Hospice Tree
Details in "Sandy's Corner".

Sandy's Corner

NEW LOCATION

Have you been able to locate our new Clemson Extension Office yet? The official address is 105 North University Street in Greenwood. Physically we are located at the corner of East Cambridge and North University Street. This is part of the Old Brewer School facility. The Master Gardeners have a very nice space, so take a minute and stop by to scope it out. **NEW CLEMSON EXTENSION PHONE NUMBER 223-3264**

HOSPICE CHRISTMAS TREE

3-4 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

This will be a fun and different project to earn those valuable volunteer hours. Kathleen Kapsalis will serve as our coordinator for the project and we will need 3-4 others to help. We will be decorating a pre-lit tree which will be auctioned to benefit the Hospice House. **After we have our volunteers, we will be meeting in October** to make final decorating decisions. The actual

decorating will take place on **Wednesday, December 2** at the First Baptist Church. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Kathleen at 223-4995 or email her at kbkkathleen@netscape.net prior to **Thursday, October 15**.

A HUGE SUCCESS

On Saturday, September 19 the Lakelands Master Gardeners conducted their first ever Fall Vegetable Container Workshop. We had over 60 participants. The Master Gardeners donated all the supplies which consisted of containers, soil, broccoli plants, turnip, beet, carrot and radish seeds, along with a wealth of knowledge to share with our participants. It takes so many people to pull off a large project like this. We even had to ask some to go above and beyond at the last minute to make things happen. A very BIG thanks to all our volunteers: Catherine Swindell, Linda Halsey, Donna Boozer, Donna Laster, Nancy Collin, Cindy Wilkins, Bibbi Lee, Vincent Plotczyk, Helen Spiller, Mary Woodiwiss, Uma Sridharan, Jean Anderson, Julee Marshall, Susu Wallace, Louise Powell, Rebecca McClain, Carol Scales and James Hodges. We donated the remaining containers and supplies to the Palmetto Christian School Jr. Master Gardeners, and Oakland Elementary Garden Club. Thanks again to each and every person that put forth effort for this project.

Officers and Board Members for 2010

We will be nominating members to serve as Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. If you are interested in serving in one of these capacities, please give your name to a current board member. The current board consists of Sandy Stachurski, Uma Sridharan, Julee Marshall, Louise Powell and Susu Wallace.

According to our by-laws, the **Vice-President** will serve a 3-year term, with the first year as Vice-President, the second year as President, and the third year as Past President. The Vice-President will preside at meetings in the absence of the President.

The **Treasurer** will serve a 2-year term. The Treasurer will collect dues and other authorized contributions, maintain financial records, report the status of the treasury to the membership, and expend funds as authorized by the Board of Directors.

The **Secretary** will serve a 2-year term. The Secretary will record and report minutes of all meetings and handle any necessary correspondence.

Committee Chairs for 2010

It is time to fill our chair positions on committees also. Board Members are in the process of contacting chairs for 2009 to see if they would still like to chair for 2010. To date, these are the committee and chairs that have agreed. If you are interested in filling an open position, please contact a board member.

Community Projects:

Education: Helen Spiller

Finance/Fundraising: John Wham

Phone:

Membership:

Newsletter: Jean Anderson

Programs/Speakers: Catherine Swindell

Public Relations:

Social Activities:

Web Site: Chuck Bender

Master Gardener of the Year for 2009

Do you have somebody in mind that you would like to nominate for Master Gardener of the Year? In the past, the board has made the decision for this prestigious award but this year every single Master Gardener will have the opportunity to choose a person they think has gone above and beyond the Master Gardener "call of duty." A written nomination for the person must be sent to our Secretary, Susu Wallace via email susuwallace@embarqmail.com or snail mail 523 E. Creswell Avenue, Greenwood, SC 29646.

Any Master Gardener is a possibility with the exception of the current President. The current President is not eligible to be nominated or receive this award. There are some requirements that the nominee must meet. A person must participate in most of the different activities sponsored by the Master Gardeners over the past year. Some of the activities include but are not limited to: our plant sale, our social activities, the Festival of Flowers, Railroad Historical Center, planting daffodils, Old Brewer Sign Project, Fall Container Garden Project, and Hospice Tree. Don't forget about our Master Gardeners who share their knowledge with the community by presenting horticulture information to groups of adults or children. The person must attend most of our regular monthly meetings and they must continue to participate in activities year after year.

This award will be presented at the Clemson Extension Annual Meeting which is usually held in March. All nominations **MUST** be received by Susu before midnight of **December 31, 2009**. The nominations will be published for everyone to review and voting will take place and be completed by February 11, 2010.

It seems like this article is a little premature, but time flies...be thinking about who your choice would be.

DOES ARE DUE

Yes, we know it is early. But, all dues for 2010 will need to be paid in full before December 31, 2009. Dues can be paid to **Louise Powell** at general meetings or mail them to her at **107 Crestview Drive, Greenwood, SC 29649**.

If you are in the new class, your tuition covers dues for 2009, but you will be responsible to pay the 2010 dues.

Please keep in mind, if your dues are not paid by the December 31, 2009 deadline your name will not appear in the directory, nor will you receive any newsletters. We thank you in advance for your participation.

59 years old and under	\$15.00
60+ years old	\$10.00
Married couples 59 and under	\$20.00
Married couples 60+	\$15.00
Lifetime Membership	\$125.00

JR. MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS

Would you like to help develop future Master Gardeners? Are you looking for volunteer hours? The Pinecrest Elementary School needs help with the Jr. Master Gardener Program. The program teaches third, fourth, and fifth graders the basics of becoming a future Master Gardener. Qualifying students are awarded a certificate deeming them Jr. Master Gardeners at the completion of the course and volunteer hours. The program meets at Pinecrest Elementary on Mondays after school from 3:00 – 4:30 PM.

The program coordinators, **Patti Larson and Mary Van Ellenberg**, are seeking Master Gardeners to assist them with the program by **teaching** subjects of special interest or expertise that our Master Gardeners may have. They are also looking for Master Gardeners that could help the students in maintaining the Pinecrest Fence Garden.

If you are willing to volunteer your time and expertise, or have any questions about the program please contact Patti Larson at **864-554-1600** or via e-mail at **greenwood_patti@yahoo.com**

Plant Sale Information

Fall plant sale at the SC Botanical Gardens at Clemson University: You can go on Friday and get a jump on the sale by joining the Friends of the Garden for as little as \$25. Membership can be paid when you visit. The Saturday sale is open to the public. It is a great sale and experience.

Mike Brown

From: SC BOT GARDENS
[mailto:FRIENDS@exchange.clemson.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2009 10:35 AM
To: friends@clemson.edu
Cc: Todd Steadman
Subject: October Events in the Garden and Museum

It's Plant Sale Time! Join us this weekend at the Sale, then attend a gardening class later in the month to learn how to best use your new plants and prepare your garden for winter. Everyone is welcome to join us during or after the class on October 8 to plant the new Butterfly Garden. And be sure to stop by the Geology Museum later this month for our new meteorite exhibit and some Halloween fun. Fall is one of the most beautiful times to visit the Garden—we hope to see you here soon!

FALL PLANT SALE

Thursday, October 1

PLANT SALE RECEPTION

Join us at a special reception for Friends of the Garden only. Come socialize with friends and Garden staff while perusing the plants that will be available at the weekend sale.

Fee: Free

Time: 4:00pm – 6:00pm

Location: Plant Sale Nursery area

Friday, October 2

PREVIEW PLANT SALE

This day of the Sale is open for Friends of the Garden & Geology Museum only (new Friends may join at the sale). Join us for the area's best selection of hard-to-find and hardy plants selected by Garden staff to thrive in local gardens. Master Gardeners of the Foothills and SCBG staff will be on-hand to help you personally select the best plants for your landscape. All proceeds support Garden operations.

Fee: Free to Friends members. New members may join at the gate for \$35/person or \$50/family.

Time: 2:30pm – 6:00pm

Location: Plant Sale Nursery area

Saturday, October 3

PUBLIC PLANT SALE

Come early for the best selection!

Fee: Free

Time: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Location: Plant Sale Nursery area

What Is That In My Tree?

Vincent Plotczyk



Joseph O'Brien, USDA Forest Service,
Bugwood.org

Now that the fall season has arrived and leaves have

begun to fall from the trees, mistletoe has become easier to spot.

I have had several questions about mistletoe and decided to write an article on it. There are two types of mistletoe. Broadleaf mistletoe (*Phoradendron macrophyllum*) is an evergreen parasitic plant that has been reported on 110 different tree species in the eastern United States and Dwarf mistletoe (*Arceuthobium* spp.). This article will focus on the broadleaf mistletoe. Mistletoe plants are either male or female. The male plant produces only pollen and the female plant produces berries. The berries are what attract birds which feed on the berry pulp and excreting the living seeds causes broadleaf mistletoe to spread. It can also spread by berry drop. Mistletoe requires direct sunlight and is usually found high in the crown of tall trees. Mistletoe is often slow to develop but can reach a roundish form of up to 2 feet or more in diameter. Mistletoe has root like structures that penetrate young thin bark and they move into the water-conducting tissue of its host. Mistletoe does not depend completely on its host for survival as it can produce its own food but it does depend on its host for water and nutrients.

A healthy tree can tolerate a light infestation. A tree with a light infestation, the mistletoe should be pruned out as soon as the infestation is found.

A tree with heavy infestation can be reduced in vigor, or stunted and it is recommended that the tree be removed and replaced with a less susceptible species. Mistletoe has few natural enemies and effective control is hard to achieve.

Sources:

H. A. Pase III, Texas Forest Service
University of California Cooperative Extension Service
Mississippi State University Extension Service
Jerry L. Goodspeed, Utah State University Extension Horticulturist

You are my sunshine...

As we move into September many of our fall wildflowers are blooming, and one noticeable upstate example is the sunflower. Several species can be found along roads leading to and from Due West.

There are many sunflower "look-alikes" in family Asteraceae, which is why this family is sometimes referred to as the sunflower family. True sunflowers belong to the genus *Helianthus* from Greek "helios" for sun, and "anthos" for flower. The "common" sunflower named in the 18th century by Carlos Linnaeus is *Helianthus annuus*, "annual"

sunflower. In South Carolina it can be found growing wild along with over twenty other species of this genus.

Sunflowers track the sun. In French, they are called "tournesol," and in Spanish "girasol," referring to this phenomenon known as "heliotropism." Heliotropism is caused by changes in water pressure in the plant's stem, and is reversible. It differs from "phototropism," a plant's growth in response to light which is not reversible.

Probably the most famous painting of a vase of sunflowers was created in the nineteenth century by Vincent Van Gogh. Also, Artist Stan Herd created a huge "painting" of a vase of sunflowers by planting them and other species in a seventeen acre field! To see it, click on:

http://www.stanherdart.com/PF_sunflower.htm

Sunflowers originated in North America and for centuries have been grown for seed. Native Americans domesticated them early on, and seeds had many uses including flour, oil, and snack food. Archaeological evidence has revealed that as early as 3000 B. C. sunflowers were cultivated in our southwestern states. Likewise in Peru, sunflowers were cultivated and revered by Aztecs. Sunflowers were introduced to Europe by Spanish explorers in the 16th century and initially they were cultivated as ornamentals. By the 18th century, England was producing sunflower oil, and by 1830 Russian farmers were growing over 2 million acres. In the early 1900's Russian immigrants reintroduced sunflowers as an American crop, and in 1926 the Missouri sunflower, "Grower's Association," was established. Sunflowers are also grown in Kansas, Minnesota, and the Dakotas as well as Canada. Export of sunflower seed and oil totaled over 200 million dollars in 2000.

Another name for the sunflower family is Compositae, and members are collectively called "composites."

This refers to the fact that their blossoms which appear to be single flowers are actually "composites" of many individual flowers. The outer flowers that appear to be petals are called "ray" flowers and the inner ones are called "disc" flowers. Disc flowers are arranged in a fashion that illustrates what mathematicians call a golden spiral. Good sunflower specimens can be used to demonstrate the Fibonacci number series. Blossoms spiral this way to achieve optimal packing of their seeds!

CLICK BELOW TO VIEW MORE SUNFLOWER IMAGES:

1. The sunflower disc flowers illustrating the golden spiral and Fibroacci number series.

<http://www.fibonaccicharts.ca/sunflower.jpg>

2. Wild sunflowers along HWY. 185 near its intersection with HWY. 203. These are Jerusalem Artichokes, *Helianthus tuberosus*. They are native plants, not from Jerusalem! The common name is actually a corruption of an Italian name *Girasola articiocco*. And, that's another story for another day!

<http://acad.erskine.edu/facultyweb/haldeman/PauseForPlants/roadsidesunflower>

s2.JPG

3. Wild sunflower close up.

<http://acad.erskine.edu/facultyweb/haldeman/PauseForPlants/roadsidesunclose>

JPG

Janice H. Haldeman, Ph.D.
Professor of Biology Emerita
Department of Biology
Erskine College
PO Box 338
Due West, SC 29639

Pruning Trees and Shrubs: More than simply creating "Green Meatballs"

Submitted by James Hodges

Soon leaves will need raking and shrubs and trees will be pruned. There are many ways to prune shrubs and trees, unfortunately not all pruning methods enhance the value of either. The common method of shearing all evergreen shrubs into round circles can create landscapes completely filled with "green meatballs."

There are many methods of pruning various trees and shrubs other than just shearing plants with a mechanical shear. I list several generalize pruning topic areas then discuss them.

- Renewal pruning—when shrubs have gotten to tall and large (particular most broadleaf evergreen) can be severely cut back in winter or early spring. This technique only works if you follow it up with regular aggressive hand pruning to keep vigorous sprouts from quickly re-growing the plant to an excessive size. Needled evergreens such as Junipers and

pinus and several others don't have dormant buds on stem wood and will not re-sprout unless some buds are left.

- Crown raising of tall shrubs—where there is adequate space this consists of pruning the lower branches into a clean stem and shaping the plant into a small tree. This works well for plants such as ligustrum, some of the older Loropetalum cultivars, Crape murdered tree crape myrtles, Wax myrtles and a number of other shrubs that grow beyond 10 feet in height. Driveway plants that block your view and constantly must be sheared back to 3-4 feet can be excellent candidates.
- Natural pruning of many trees to selectively remove small branches and taller branches to maintain a natural crown rather than a typical rounded hedged shrub. This requires a bit more patience and time, but is great for azaleas, junipers camellias, hydrangea and large leaf shrubs such as acuba.

Classes this Fall

There is still time to join us for our up-coming class on **Pruning** next Monday night, October 5th. Now is an excellent time to learn how to prune shrubs and trees to enhance value rather than stay in the cycle of overgrown shrubs which have to be cut back constantly or green meat balls. Clemson Extension will offer fall classes in our new office location at the corner of East Cambridge and North University Street. Call 223-3264 for more details or to sign up. Space is limited and pre-registration is required. Cost is \$20 for each program.

Clemson Extension Fall Class Schedule

October 5th 6-9 PM	Pruning of Trees & Shrubs in the Landscape-not just green meatballs
October 12th 6-9 PM	Start this fall (Lawn Improvement) -- for the homeowner or professional - (2 pesticide license recertification credits)

