

Newest Master Gardeners (article from Bluffton Today)

This February, Bill Moss and 35 others from Hilton Head and Bluffton graduated from a 15-week course to become the newest Master Gardeners to join the growing Lowcountry Master Gardener Association (LMGA).

"When we bought our house on Hilton Head," Mr. Moss said, "I wanted to do some landscaping in the yard, and I wanted to do it right. I'm from Connecticut, so I didn't have the background for the South. I needed to learn what is different here from what I'm used to up North." Mr. Moss described the 40-hour course as "challenging and yet reasonable given the scope and depth of the course. I gained a comprehensive and thorough understanding of planting issues with respect to South Carolina.

With his new knowledge, Mr. Moss is prepared not only landscape his home. He, along with the other new graduates, learned basic horticulture in order to answer gardening questions for home gardeners of Beaufort County. Contributing their knowledge and expertise to the community is important to Master Gardeners. From answering questions at the Plant Clinic to maintaining demonstration gardens, Mr. Moss is getting involved in the gardening community of Beaufort County. Wondering what's eating your roses, or whether your grass needs fertilizer? Master Gardeners are available in person or by phone in the Old Library on Hilton Head Wednesdays 9:30a.m. to noon, and at the Cooperative Extension Office in Beaufort Mondays and Thursdays 1-4p.m.

Beaufort County Clemson Extension Agent and Master Gardener teacher, Teri King, is planning the next class for this summer. Under the leadership of Mrs. King and LMGA President Ed Pappas, the organization has come back to life, offering classes, volunteer opportunities, and a growing list of projects and activities. Call 470-3655 to call the Plant Clinic, to take a class or, for current Master Gardeners, to join the LMGA.