



Beaufort
Colleton
Jasper

Gardening in the Lowcountry Newsletter

Summer 2006

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BEAUFORT COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE, P.O. BOX 189, 102 INDUSTRIAL WAY, BEAUFORT, SC 29906 PH. 843-470-3655

Master Gardener Meeting

Thursday, August 31

1 - 3 p.m.

Palmetto Electric Community
Room, Hwy 278

Program Topic: Hypertufa
Guest Speaker: Alice Massey

One of our own master gardeners will share her secrets for creating plant containers with the look of weathered stone.

Looking Ahead

Next Meeting: November 2

Guest Speaker: Kim Jones

Don't miss this interesting speaker as she shares information about the Palmetto Bluff Conservancy.

The President's Corner by Ed Pappas

As most of you know, Teri King, Clemson-CES Horticulture Agent and Master Gardener Coordinator, recently resigned her position. Teri's leaving has left many of us with a sense of loss. As an instructor, advisor and humanitarian, Teri gave us her best. Our Lowcountry Master Gardener Association (LMGA) members will miss her skills, expertise and work ethics, but we wish her well!

The search for a replacement for Teri is under way. Several applications have been submitted and are being evaluated by Clemson University personnel. In the near future, candidate interviews will be completed by a team of Beaufort County personnel who sponsor this position through annual grants. It is our best expectation that a candidate will be offered the position by August 1.

I am pleased to announce that LMGA membership currently exceeds 125 master gardeners and master gardener interns. As LMGA expands its programs, we are seeking new master gardener memberships from Beaufort, Colleton and Jasper counties. I would personally like to ask each of you to contact potential members, invite them to visit our website (lowcountrymga.org) and bring them to our next membership meeting on August 31, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Palmetto Electric on Highway 278.

Our LMGA projects, activities and trips continue to expand and grow to meet the needs of our members. Check our website often for information on upcoming programs and plan on attending those of interest to you. I guarantee that you will walk away from every program having expanded your knowledge and appreciation of our native horticulture!

We soon will be sending out a survey for a "show of interest" in developing a series of "mini master gardener seminars" lasting 2-4 hours which will be open to the public. Please look for the survey and be sure to send in your ideas and response!

Check out several new features on the website including scheduling, volunteer hours, meeting minutes and Clemson University gardening program listings on television and radio.

Happy Gardening!

Officers and Committees

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Programs, Trips & Activities Committee

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Mentoring Program Looks for Support

by Marge Murray & Alice Massey

The Intern Mentoring Committee has recommended an alternative mentoring method of helping the interns complete their required hours and achieve their goal of becoming master gardeners.

Ideally, each intern would have their own personal mentor available to answer questions in person, over the phone or by e-mail, and to assist them in completing their required 40 hours.

In order to achieve this goal, we will need as many MGs as there are interns to volunteer their guidance. Not only will this method facilitate the completion of the necessary hours, but it may serve to develop a network of communications among our members, and generate new friendships.

If you know a specific intern or MG you wish to team up with or are willing to help as needed, please confirm your willingness by e-mailing Marge Murray (margehomes@aol.com) or Alice Massey (admassey@islc.com).

To pay your MG dues, print the membership form from the website at lowcountrymga.org and mail.

Xeriscape Garden Update *by Marion Gosson and Bonnie Neuman*

Armed with resource books and the "Town of Hilton Head Island Xeriscape Interpretive Garden" brochure, nine master gardener interns, Carolyn Adelman, Evelyn Baker, Toni Harrington, Mary Kay Hoffmann, Leslie Johnson, Annemarie Kinsky, Betty Manne, Diane Middleton, and Cyndi Tall, are working to identify over 80 plant species in the garden. The intent of the garden is to educate people about designing and planting gardens that are water efficient by grouping plants according to water needs and by using native plants. When all the plants are identified, the information will be used by the Town of Hilton Head to replace missing identification plaques. Master Gardener Co-chairs, Bonnie Neuman and Marion Gosson are coordinating and assisting with the project. Help was garnered from Carol Guedalia of The Greenery and Master Gardener/Island Packet gardening columnist, Betsy Jukofsky, as well as our own Teri Hale King.

To everyone's surprise, some plants on the original list were missing along with some unlisted plants that were later additions since the original 1994 garden construction. With the identification process almost completed, the next step is checking and verifying plant names. The final step will be to turn over the master list to Sally Krebs, Hilton Head's Natural Resource Administrator, which will be accompanied by a letter outlining the master gardener project. This will also include a list of master gardener/intern recommendations for the Xeriscape Garden.

For anyone wishing to visit the garden, take Wexford Drive off of Hwy 278 on Hilton Head Island. Follow the signs to the government center. The garden is located on the right side of the complex.

Library Memorial Garden Project

by Tina Szady

Our interns are busy fulfilling their commitment to the community and have embraced the memorial garden at the public library branch on the island. We were delighted to discover, that a fellow Master Gardener, Marie Ford, originally designed this jewel of a garden years ago.

A red brick wall encloses the original plant material and hardscape, with a light green iron gate placed at the entrance. The symmetry of sago palms, crepe myrtles, and azaleas give the garden a formal appearance. A beautiful sculpture created by a local artist, sits on one side of the courtyard. It is made of black wrought iron gracefully shaped with tall cattails and a long-billed water bird. Two benches are aligned along the courtyard wall along with a half-circle raised brick bed, which is also used as a seating area. The walking path is set with large square cement stepping-stones with densely planted dwarf mondo grass between the spaces. The library's reading area looks out onto this lovely, peaceful scene



Our group of volunteers have planted crown of thorns, colorful pentas, graceful purple fountain grass and stonecrop. These plants complement the existing leather leaf fern, bronze ajuga, lambs ear and azaleas in the raised bed in front of the large glass library window.

The project volunteers have identified the need for a garden plan drawing to identify the plants so it can be used as an educational tool for interested library visitors. The first chair of this project, Jane Tennant, believes the garden can be a place to hold educational instruction for patrons of all ages as part of the library's on-going programs. It is our intention to see this come to a reality. We are asking for your help to develop a drawing of the garden with the identified plantings. If you are interested in contributing to this project, please email Tina Szady at ajtinajoe@aol.com or call me at home at (843) 342-3807.

Finally, a big thanks to the enthusiasm of our group. It is wonderful that we have so many willing participants. Thanks to all, especially the planting group of June 24: Trish Hugues, Betty Manne, Ellery Inglesby, Anne Marie Kinsky, Linda Russell, Lou Drucker, Thea Luba, and Rosemary Kratz and Suzy Baldwin.

Important Notice

This is the last printed copy of the newsletter you will be receiving via the post office.

Due to the cost and time involved we are unable to send the newsletter in this manner. In the future, the newsletter will be posted on our website (lowcountrymga.org) and you will receive an e-mail notification when a new edition is available for viewing.

If you do not have internet access, hard copies will be available at the LMGA general meetings, visit a library with public computers, or stop by the Beaufort Cooperative Extension office.

If you have any thoughts on this new process, please let us know.

[See the website for a full calendar of events at lowcountrymga.org](http://lowcountrymga.org)

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