

The Dirt

CCMG E-Newsletter

Volume 6

September 2014

The August 9th meeting of the CCMG was held at St. Anne's Community room with over 30 members in attendance.

Information was presented on the election of President-Elect and Secretary. Nancy Plegge has agreed to stand for President Elect. To return to having the same treasurer and the same secretary for two years, Linda Caldwell will stay as secretary the next year. Election will be in October.



Main discussion was on the proposed website for CCMG. Sam Davis presented the proposal and asked for volunteers for the committee. Sam and the committee are to meet and decide on a domain to be presented for approval. \$50.00 was designated as a starting amount to obtain the domain name. The actual cost of the website will be dependent upon the storage space needed.

Because this was Sam's birthday, he was serenaded by the members.

Karen Johnson has agreed to chair the Country Store at the Fair. Produce and other garden items are needed for sale as well as baked goods and "easily edible" items. If you have not signed up for a time slot to man the store, please contact Karen. This is a good project for those of you who need additional work hours in order to satisfy the required hours to remain a Master Gardener.

Discussion was held on how to acknowledge the death of the daughter of our retired extension agent Leon Duncan. \$100.00 will be donated to the scholarship in her name at Berryville School.

2014 Master Gardener, Horticultural & Other Events of Interest



September

- 13 CCMG meeting Outdoor Classroom. Members "Show and Tell"
- 23 Registration deadline for **THE ART OF BONSAI** Advanced Master Gardener Training class to be held **October 9**th at Lonoke 9 am 3:30 pm \$50.00 includes lunch contact Linda Majchrzak at 501-288-1258 or richlin2@Live.com for more information
- 29 Master Gardener Appreciation Day at Garvan Woodland Gardens, Hot Springs

Grow Your Own Vegetables!









Natural (Organic) Gardening Course

Dates: Sept 11, 2014, Or.... Sept 16, 2014

Time: 6:00 - 9:30 PM

Plus a two-hour field session at Harmony Gardens (TBD)

Ozark Electric Community Room 3641 Wedington Dr, Fayetteville

<u>Pre-registration is required</u>. Class size is limited. The cost is \$60.00 per person, and includes the gardening book, How to Grow More Vegetables..._by John Jeavons, and 60 pages of material prepared by the instructor. If you have the Jeavons book 8th Ed, deduct \$10.00. For couples, who want to share the book and other handouts, the cost is \$100.00. You can register by sending a check to Calvin Bey, 8779 W. Forest Hills Dr., Fayetteville, AR 72704. Please provide your name, address, telephone number, and email. Call Calvin at 479-527-6951, or email cfbey1936@cox.net for more information.

The course includes gardening concepts and practices with emphasis on growing NUTRIENT DENSE vegetables. The concepts apply to flowers and yards. Course material is documented, and includes practical tips from 50 years of gardening experience. Topics include soils, soil testing, soil biology, selecting the garden site, tools, double-digging, composting, plant spacing, fertilizing, watering, companion planting, mulching, vermiculture, compost tea, green manure crops, nitrogen fixing crops, winter cover crops, winter gardens, pest management, weeds, paramagnetic effects, and organic gardening resources. See http://harmonygardens.blogspot.com there will be a garden tour later in the spring.

Who Should Attend: The course is designed for those with little to much gardening knowledge and experience. It is not required, but if you have had a soil test, bring the soil report to class. Calvin will assist students with soil test interpretations, and provide help on fertilizer recommendations. Call if you have questions regarding these items.

<u>Instructor: Calvin Bey, Ph.D.</u> Calvin grew up on a farm in Michigan and is a retired USDA Forest Service scientist, with a deep concern about health and environmental issues. Over the past 50 years, he has gardened in ten different geographic areas, and has trained under John Jeavons using the Grow Biointensive® approach. He has studied gardening extensively and has grown more than 40 kinds of vegetables and fruits in his garden in Fayetteville, AR.



P-N-G
PLANT NURTURE GROW

"Leadership"
A Program of County 76
Holiday Inn Airport Little Rock, AR
3201 Bankhead Drive
October 6 & 7, 2014

This is still open to any member who wishes to attend and pay their own way. Nancy Plagge and Tammy McCance will represent CCMG.





Southern Region Master Gardener Conference 2014

October 21st through October 24th <u>Baton Rouge</u> Louisiana Preparations for the 2014 Southern Region Conference <u>www.southernregionmgconf2014.com</u> are progressing well and excitement is building as conference registrations are beginning to come in! To help promote the conference, we have put together a slide-video presentation and placed it on U Tube. In viewing the video I believe you will see we have put together and planning for a fun and educational event for all to enjoy. If you would, please pass the U Tube link on to your MG volunteers and gardening clientele throughout your great state. Here is the link to the SRMG Conference video. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wj5bymY-_ng .

I used to have a handle on life, but it broke.



Please join us! 2015 Arkansas Flower & Garden Show I Dig Arkansas!

February 20-20, 2015 Statehouse Convention Center, Little Rock



September 22 – 25, 2015 Mid-America Center Council Bluffs, IA

Hosted by Iowa & Nebraska Master Gardeners

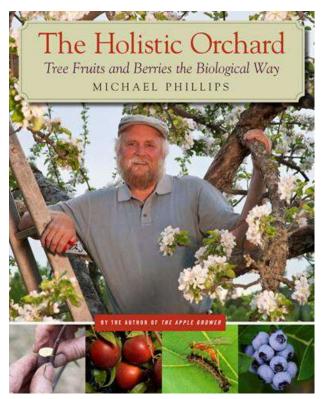


September Bírthdays:



2nd Pam DeGroot 6th Ginger Oaks 11th Tina Ross 13th Nancy Plagge 23rd Wilma Keller

You never know when it will strike, but there comes a moment at work when you know that you just aren't going to do anything productive for the rest of the day.



It is hard for any gardener to eat a piece of delicious, juicy fruit and not ponder growing their own. It was one of the first things I did when we moved here 22 years ago. It is still one of my favorite things about gardening but it is also one of the most challenging. Over the years I have attended many classes, did online research and read many books on the subject, particularly with regard to organic research. Each held bits of information that I have incorporated into managing my orchard but there was not really one comprehensive source I could turn to until I came across this gem.

With the help of this book one knows you can truly grow the highest quality fruit without the use of deadly chemicals. There is an expression that goes something like "If a grower knows why, he will teach himself how" and is the core of this text but it goes well beyond. As a grower himself

he covers every aspect involved in the growing process and explains in the kind of details you need, to not only replicate it, but to adapt it to your own environment. He includes the latest in botanical and biological research for both pest management and tree health and includes varietal suggestions as well. His coverage of what is occurring underground throughout the year, which is vital to fruit production, is something I have only found discussed in research papers and yet he explains it and the entire text in a very readable fashion. The biggest bonus of all is that using this approach is applicable to anything you grow. Having a greater knowledge and understanding of all the biological forces at play both above and below the ground goes a long way in insuring horticultural success in everything you plant.

I am now on my second reading knowing it will not be my last and that it will be a constant reference. Parts of what he discusses I have tried and know from my own experience work very well so I can't wait to incorporate as much of the rest as I can. I am so impressed with it that I wanted to share it with you. Even if you can't imagine having more than one tree or a few berry bushes, I think you will be find it invaluable and hopefully as inspiring as I did. Currently the library does not have it, so if there is interest among the group, we could donate a copy with funds already set aside for that purpose. You might also want to take a look at his website:

www.goodfruit.com

Submitted by Anita Engert

Do you follow Janet Carson's daily or weekly blog? She has been attending a meeting in Pittsburg, PA, and from one of her blogs she has stated that "The director of Longwood Gardens Paul Redman spoke on the future of horticulture and public gardens. He said we have too much "Plant Blindness"! Most Americans can recognize **1000** brand logos but can identify less than **10** local plants!"

http://uofacesmg.wordpress.com/2014/08/11/last-day-at-the-garden-writers-conference/ this is the website to subscribe to Janet's blog.

There are weekly plants to identify and much information as well as many pictures. How this lady has time to blog daily, I don't know, but it is always interesting!



Angel Oak on John's Island, South Carolina, is thought to be the oldest living thing east of the Mississippi River. It's believed to be more than 1,500 years old.

Don't worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older, it will avoid you.

JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

Seven volunteers removed twelve wheelbarrows of "misplaced plants," (aka weeds) from plant beds at the Berryville Intermediate School's Outdoor Classroom on Friday August 8th.





Heat and humidity did not discourage intrepid MGs Aaron and Scott Thompson, Dick and Mary Knight, Jan Scheel, and Sue and Sam Davis from starting to get the grounds cleaned up at this facility. Beds around the greenhouse are now ready for this fall's Junior Master Gardener program to begin. More to do... Submitted by Sam Davis

SEPTEMBER GARDEN CHORES

- Stop pruning and fertilizing
- Bring summer vacationing houseplants back indoors while the windows are still open. Check carefully for hitchhiking pests
- Start fall clean-up in the flower beds, cutting back anything that has finished blooming or is diseased
- Take cuttings to overwinter indoors

- Start winterizing your water garden
- Watch for frost warning and <u>cover tender plants</u>
- Photograph your gardens and containers for a record of the year's triumphs and frustrations
- Give the compost a last turn

DID YOU KNOW??



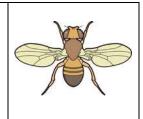
The Asian carp is an invasive species which is not considered "The Catch of the Day". Most of us think of this label as mouth-watering treat, however because carp are so bony, they are not a favorite at the American table.

Instead of a menu delicacy a rendering plant will turn them into dehydrated meal and fish oil.

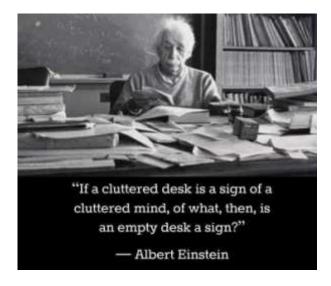
These products are turned into fool for both humans and livestock. Did you know cattle ate fish??

Arkansas Democrat/Gazette 8-17-2014

18 Arkansas counties have been infested by the spotted wing drosophilia (fruit fly) with the highest concentrations found in Benton Johnson and Washington Counties. Berries, grapes and cherries – all thin skinned fruits – are attacked by the female laying their eggs in nearly ripe fruit. When the larva develop, they begin to eat the fruit from the inside causing the fruit to "collapse". One female can lay as many as 350 eggs! This little critter came to the United States in 2008 from Japan and Southeast Asia.



Arkansas Democrat/Gazette 8-17-2014



Neta Stamps, Editor

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