



The Dog Days of Summer

As I was growing up, this was always July 15th to August 15th. Why those dates? – Because Daddy said so. It took years for me to understand that those dates were not “set in stone” but varied somewhat.

Of course, we now know that this is the time when Sirius, the “dog star” rises and sets with the sun. The 20 days before and after the conjunction of the “dog star” with the sun was designated as “Dog Days” by the ancient Romans. The name originally had nothing to do with live dogs.

The actual definition is:

- 1: the period between early July and early September when the **hot sultry** weather of summer usually occurs in the northern hemisphere
- 2: a period of stagnation or inactivity <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/dog%20days>

Perhaps the second definition explains why there is so little to report in this issue – too hot; no one wants to be out in the heat – everything seems to be at a relative stand still.

The month of August will be increasingly busy for CCMGs as the County Fair will start August 23rd. Nancy Plagge is Chair for the CCMG Entrance Display. She has sent the following information:

“We will set up on Saturday, Aug. 23 following the parade. CCMG members are asked to grow herbs (any) in containers. We are going to put all the containers in the display and label the herbs. Some CCMGs are also drying herbs which will also be displayed on the arbor which I am supplying. I would like all the herb containers to be brought to our next meeting in August. That way I can get a feel for how many we have and how to display them. You could encourage members to remember to bring their herbs to the August meeting. I will call a work party for Tuesday, Aug. 19 at 5:00 p.m. Location to be determined.”

Neta Stamps, Editor





Members receiving awards at the July CCMG meeting were: (l to r with President Dan Ward second from left)

Anita Rissler 5 years, Anita Engert and Doug Miller 15 years each.

Other members receiving 5 year awards are Michael Rissler and Joy Flake.

Mariellen Griffith (15 years) and Karen Reeves (5 years) received their awards at the State Convention.

President Dan Ward reported that 17 members traveled to Nixa for the garden tour where a very good crape myrtles presentation was given.

He also stated that further work outside the exhibit hall at the Fair Grounds is on hold until the air conditioner(s) are installed in the east end – this may be until after the upcoming fair.

The object of the Country Store this year will be to promote Carroll County Master Gardener program. **There will be a sign-up sheet at the August 9th meeting.** Please sign up!



July 19, 2014

Just picked my first Golden Monarch tomato from our raised bed this morning and ate for lunch....best tasting tomato I have ever eaten. Wonderful! They are huge! Says it rivals Brandywine. Just couldn't resist sharing. I sold these starters from seed at the plant sale. Hope you got one! The seeds came from a booth at P. Allen Smith's garden tour. And better yet, get some seeds for your garden next year! By the way, it weighed in at 1 lb. 7.5 oz.

Brenda Webb

Brenda - I have the Golden Monarch, but didn't realize that that was what it was until we found that the tomato was ripe and not going to redden up! And yes, this particular tomato is one of the best tasting I've ever had.

Deborah Thompson

2014 Master Gardener, Horticultural & Other Events of Interest



August

9

CCMG meeting at St. Ann's Friendship Hall at 10 a.m. Local garden tour by Gwen Gilliam following the meeting.

23

Set up exhibit hall entry following the fair parade – time to be announced

25 Set up Education Booth at Fair

27-30 CCMG Country Store **needs volunteers!**

September

13 CCMG meeting

We all get heavier as we get older, because there's a lot more information in our heads.

That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

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

Pre-registration is required. 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.

Instructor: Calvin Bey, Ph.D. 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 Baton Rouge Louisiana

Preparations for the 2014 Southern Region Conference www.southernregionmgconf2014.com 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> .



ARKANSAS FLOWER AND GARDEN SHOW

<http://www.argardenshow.org/>

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



August Birthdays



2nd Aaron Thompson

9th Sam Davis

10th Will Schell



Green Forest Square



I love the blending of the coneflower, roses, Russian sage, juniper, and day lilies.

Submitted by Nancy Plagge

BERRYVILLE LIBRARY
July 26, 2014



FAIR GROUNDS
July 26, 2014



New timber at the west end of the Exhibition Hall





3 new air conditioner units have been placed on the east end of the building. 2 or 3 trees and or shrubs have been removed in order to install the units. It is now ready to replace the old timbers.



“ . . . swords into plowshares . . . ”

Interesting article in the July 26, 2014 Arkansas Democrat-Gazette:

“Veterans and their spouses who are considering farming as a career are invited to attend the National Center for Appropriate Technology’s Armed to Farm event September 14 – 19 in Fayetteville.”

I had never heard of NCAT – however it has been in existence for over 35 years! Their headquarters are in Montana. Check out the website and look at the history.

<https://www.ncat.org/armedtofarm/>

Neta Stamps, Editor

All meetings and activities announced in this newsletter are open to all eligible persons without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, marital or veteran status, or any other legally protected status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (large print, audiotapes, etc.) should notify the County Extension Office (or other appropriate office) as soon as possible prior to the activity.

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