

Weeder's Digest

Craighead County Master Gardeners

May 2020 Volume 14 Issue 5

U of A
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION
University of Arkansas System



Our Meeting will be conducted via Zoom. Please read the statement below.

Thank you!

Officers

President

Anna Warren

Past President

Donna Tolewitzke

Vice President

Barb Evans

Secretary

Martha Edmundson

Treasurer

Brenda Gray

Assistant Treasurer

Angie Thompson

Important

Our "**Meeting**" on May 7 will be a Zoom meeting at 7 pm. Zoom is a great technology tool that we are fortunate to be able to use. However, there are some things you need to know:

1. You will need to register for this Zoom Meeting BEFORE the meeting begins. At the beginning of the week, you will receive an email with a link to register.

2. After you register, you will receive an email confirming your registration.

3. In that registration email, you will receive the link to join the meeting.

4. Please do not join the actual meeting until the meeting day, May 7. You will not be able to join until the meeting host begins the meeting. Branon is the meeting host, and Sherri Sanders from White County will also be online. He plans to begin the meeting at approximately 6:45 pm on Thursday, May 7.

5. We have included 2 links about Zoom meetings. If you have not used Zoom before, please take time to read this helpful information. <https://bit.ly/GettingstartedonZoom> and <https://bit.ly/howtojoinZoom>

Jane Jamison will be presenting the program she had prepared for our MG Conference, which has now been postponed until June of 2021. Jane will be traveling at that time and has graciously consented to share her seminar with us now. We know you will enjoy it - thank you, Jane!



Standing Committee

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Karen Massey

Programs

Laura Bettis

Recruitment, Retention,

Recognition

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Mimi Cox

Executive Committee

The Officers

Newsletter Editor

Donna Tolewitzke

Members-at-Large

Val Price

Jan Dupwe

Donna Bandy

Hello Everyone!

I was just reading about how there are microbes in the soil that calm you and support your mental health. That means that we, as gardeners should be best suited to make it through this stressful time, so get out there and get your hands dirty!

I know you are getting anxious about projects and sales, but all will be well eventually. We'll continue to keep you posted about what is going on (or not going on) with our projects and our meetings.

Keep on gardening and sharing those pictures of your beautiful flowers!

~Anna Warren, President

May Birthdays



2nd	Karen Lynch
8th	Becky Phillips
9th	Tricia Brashears
9th	Hayden Walton
18th	Lisa Davis
18th	Debbi Hall
20th	Tammy Hales
23rd	Pat Shirley
24th	Susan Shelton
28th	Kim Bell
29th	Debbi Lamb
29th	Jozee Mobbs
29th	Ann Ross
29th	Diane Sandberg

*Due to cancelation of our meetings. Birthday plants will be given out at our next meeting.

White Crepe Myrtles

I have received a lot of calls about crepe myrtles not leafing out or having sparsely distributed leaves. This is at a time where other crepe myrtles have completely leafed out.

Turns out that the white crepes are the last to break dormancy in the Spring. I have looked at two Natchez varieties that have almost no leaves but are still very much alive determined by scraping the stems with a knife.

These plants may have been caught off-guard, especially south of Jonesboro, by a freeze in early November and may not have been completely dormant causing delayed leaf activity. More than likely in our area, the up and down nightly temperatures are probably the culprit for the slow awakening.

Be patient and hopefully you will have a full set of leaves and blooms later this Spring after the temperatures continue to stay warm.

Miss all of you and hopefully we can get back together real soon!!



***Branon Thiesse, BS, MS
County Extension Agent- Staff
Chair***

Plant Sale Update

Jason Mullins- Chair

The plant sale is still on hold. We will have to be very creative. When handed lemons, no one makes lemonade like a Master Gardener. My advice is to keep an eye on your sale contributions, make sure they stay hydrated. Caring for your plants counts as working hours. If you have plants that are not going to make it to the sale, give them to a friend.

Our Yard Projects

I had sent out an email asking our members for photos of their gardens. Since we are not working in our sanctioned projects we needed to find a way to keep us whole as a group. In the following pages lies some beautiful gardens that portray pride, joy and history. ~**Donna Tolewitzke, Newsletter Editor**



When I moved into my home 29 years ago, I had a water/erosion problem on the west side. I began planting azaleas, a dogwood, and (gradually) have added a lilac, a white wisteria, etc. It's now a very full bed, but it doesn't wash now. ~**Jane Jamison**



Hyacinth Bean



Job's Tears



Zinnias

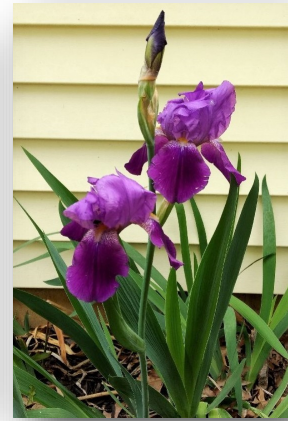
Pictures of small area where I have enough sunlight to grow annuals. ~**Neva Shewmaker**



9 acres of shade.



My garden is a mixture: a mixture of sun and shade , a mixture of native and nonnative, perennial and annual. It contains lots of pass around plants from family and friends! Though I admit I have a hard time passing up visiting a nursery and of course often find something I 'need'. Ha! Many of my plants I grow for the butterflies both for blooms and for caterpillars. ~**Kim Watkins**



One is old fashioned lilac. It was a shoot from my Mother's bush which began as a shoot from my Grandmother's bush. Neither of those bushes exists any longer, so this is precious. The other is a deep purple iris which has the same provenance. Those beds do not exist anymore either. My Grandmother used to throw them into the ditch, the next spring there would be iris blooming in the ditch! I have planted these at every house in which I have lived, so I have spread my Grandmother's love of flowers from Iowa to Missouri, to South Carolina, to Mississippi and finally to Arkansas. ~**Anne Warren**



I made this cottage bed where a pile of sand had been, using the lasagna method. Plants are hydrangea, hosta, Dogwood, columbine, Japanese maple, yellow rose of Texas, Yew, Lenten rose, fern, just to name a few. It's a very low maintenance bed that I can enjoy from my kitchen window.

~**Peggy Lane**

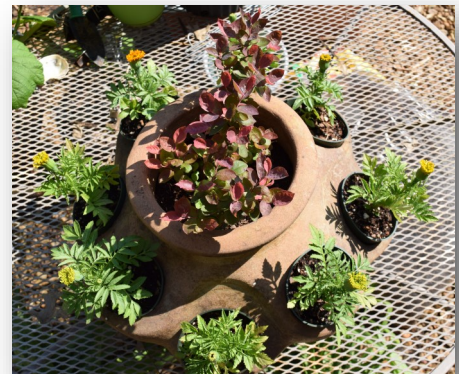


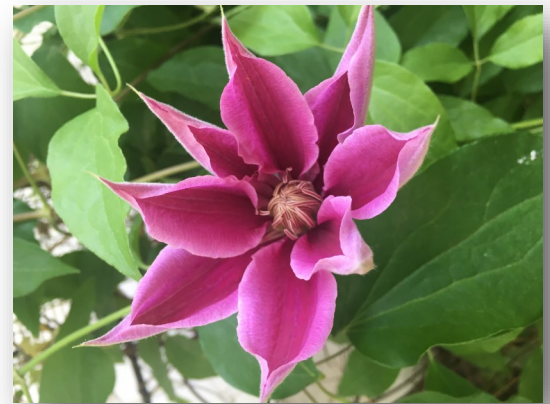
For the past several years Marilyn and I have gone down to Biloxi MS. a couple of times a year enjoying both Biloxi and Ocean Springs but on each trip we always stop at a roadside stand just south of Jackson in Florence MS. "Donna's Produce Stand # 6. Not only do they have produce but also a giftshop, ice cream and a large selection of yard art and pottery. The dog with the petunias and the strawberry planter with the blueberry bush and marigolds are just a couple of the items we picked up over the years.

Nick and Marilyn Wysocki



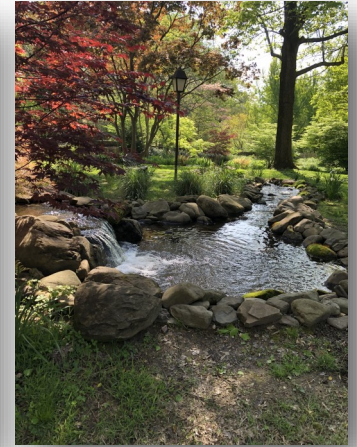
On a trip a three years ago to Marilyn's brother's home in Louisville we went to a nursery called Hidden Valley Nursery (now closed) there we picked up a single Lambs Ear plant. That plant has been since divided several times and given to the kids for their gardens plus the patch in the photo is actually in pots and was destined for the plant sale.



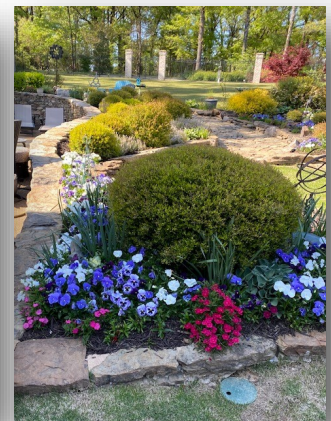


Clematis, the first bloom ~ **John Hiegel**

Left: Peonies battling it out with all the rains we've had.
Right: Clematis blooming. ~ **Pat Finch**



Our home is on $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre near downtown. We have been in our home for 24 years. We appreciate the former homeowner was a plant lover. We have mature trees which makes very few areas with full sun. The hosta planted itself by the front door. ~ **Lesia Pittman**



Welcome to the Westbrook's!
The common thread, Hot Pink Dianthus
These Little Ds have never looked better than this cold, rainy spring!
This is at least the third year Perennial Dianthus has been in my Grandmother's planters. How I have cherished her memory during this crazy season of life.
This Native Hibiscus was planted after last years MG Convention. Check it out at the ASU Horticultural Display Garden, too!
More Dianthus spill over in the backyard.
Come on over and take a Stroll while we observe some Social Distancing. ~ **Susan Westbrook**



Left Photo: I know I should keep the pink prim-rose at bay ... but I think they are beautiful. The roses are just beginning to bloom, so this picture is from last year.

Right Photo: Rose of Sharon. Right beside our deck in the back yard. It blooms all summer and into the fall. It attracts bees, butterflies and hummingbirds.

~ **Judy Cole**



Left: Sunpatients (from last year) in part shade. I bought some more this year from ASU but they have not filled out like this yet.

Right: My foxtail fern is going on 3 years. She is on my porch from early spring until late fall. She stays green in my garage in the winter. I bring her out on mild days to sun.

~ **Vickey Mullally**



My Lenten Rose grown from a starter plant that Penny Yarbrough gave to me years ago. I planted it under a large white azalea that Penny planted many years ago when she lived where we now live.

~**LaVeta Howerton**



My shade garden under a hickory tree in my backyard. Azaleas, Hellebores, Hostas, Coral Bells, Astilbes, Lami- astrum, Autumn Fern and Virginia Bluebells

~ **Brenda Gray**

Project Chairs

ASU Display Garden & Farmers' Market

Susan Westbrook- Chair
Karen Pearce- Co-Chair

On the Deck & Farmer's Market Entry **Donna Bandy**

ASU Greenhouse **LaVeta Howerton**

Butterfly Garden **Barb Evans** **Pat Finch**

Courthouse, Extension Office & City Hall **Jason Mullins- Chair** **Stephanie Neely- Co-Chair**

NEA District Fair **Diane Sandberg-Seeds** **Mike Wilbanks-MG Booth** **Mimi Cox-Floriculture**

NEA FFA-CDE **Bruce & Sharron Schelin**

Native Plant Garden **Ethel Cole-Chair** **Ann Ross- Co-Chair**

Plant Sale **Jason Mullins- Chair** **Terri Inman- Co-Chair**

Plants for Sunset Gardens **Margaret Williams**

Extension Office Work & 2020 Basic Training Class **Neva Shewmaker** **Jan Dupwe**

HWES Children's Learning Garden **Melinda Smith**

Riceland Community Garden **Pat Finch** **Richard Boss**

Garden Tools

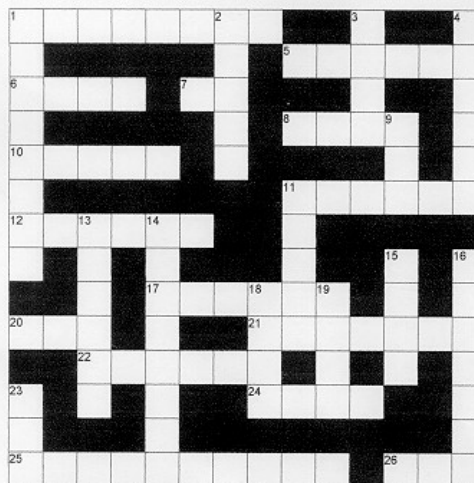
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R	S	R	K	G	V	O	U	A	L	H	R	W	E

SHEARS
HOSE REEL
BRUSH
PRUNER
CHAINSAW
LAWN MOWER
GLOVES
FORK
HOSE
LEAF BLOWER
SHOVEL
STRIMMER
TROWEL
RAKE
EDGER
SPRINKLER

Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/40/>

Perennial Plant Culture Crossword--1

Created by Dr. Leonard Perry



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ACROSS

1. Blooms after two years generally, then dies
2. Common insect pest
3. Used to lower soil pH, makes it more acid
4. Where leaf joins a stem
5. Designation for soil acidity or alkalinity, on a 1-14 scale
6. Overwintering structure for gladiolus, crocus
7. Applied to soil after planting to conserve moisture, control weeds
8. Non-hardy
9. Regions high in mountains, or plants growing there
10. Tool for planting small plants
11. A common rooting hormone active ingredient indolebutyric acid
12. Low rock or alpine genus, common name of Heron's Bill
13. Tool for planting large plants, moving soil

24. Used to raise soil pH, makes it more alkaline
25. Structure for protected cultivation
26. Container

DOWN

1. Source of organic phosphorus
2. Common insect pest
3. Prefix in descriptions meaning "flower"
4. Tool for cutting stems, making cuttings
5. When soil gets very wet this is formed
6. Overwintering structure for dahlias
7. Third main ingredient shown on fertilizer analysis
8. First main ingredient shown on fertilizer analysis
9. Remove or prune tips or ends of stems
10. Good use for non-meat kitchen wastes, leaves; conditions soil
11. Water often comes from these, drilled in the ground
12. Designation for a good soil type
13. Wet area, marsh, source of peat



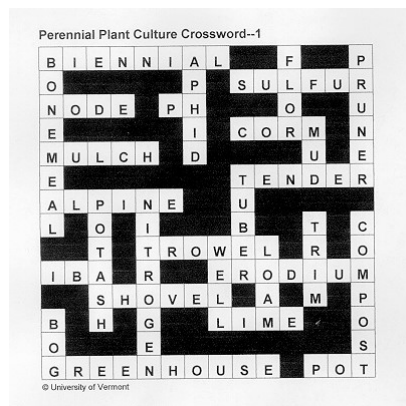
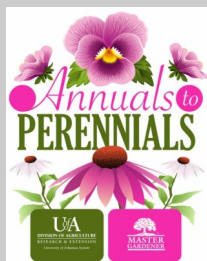
Top Left: Red Buckeye passed along from a friend. Top middle: I moved this azalea from south Mississippi in 1994. It is probably 60 years old but never fails to show off. Right top: Passed along from Penny Yarbrough. Bottom left: Were Dwarf Gumpo Azaleas we planted in 1979. The plants didn't read their tags! They are at least 7 feet tall! Bottom center: **My favorite**– Sweetheart Rose. 25 years at my house, the original was in my grandmother's garden. Bottom right: This little fellow was trying to get warm on a cool morning. ~**Mimi Cox**

Annuals to Perennials– Postponed

Under *normal* conditions our New Members would take part in the Annuals to Perennials scheduled for July 11th.

Unfortunately, it has been postponed– however, watch your newsletter and emails for new plans, especially for our Craighead County Master Gardener class of 2020!

In the meantime, if you have questions about our program, your hours or other MG events please feel free to ask your mentor.



Crossword Answers

Fun and Useful Links

Arkansas Master Gardener Program

<http://www.uaex.edu/yard-garden/master-gardeners>

CCMG Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Craighead-County-Master-Gardeners/629232630461141?ref=hl>

HWES School Gardens Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/HWESSchoolgardens>

Janet Carson's Blog - Planit Janet

<http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/planitjanet>

In the Garden with Arkansas Extension Horticulture, a blog about gardening in Arkansas

<https://uofaces.mg.wordpress.com>

Jim Long's Blog

<http://jimlongsgarden.blogspot.com/>

Public Horticulture Events

<http://www.uaex.edu/yard-garden/master-gardeners/events.aspx>

University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Research & Extension

<http://www.uaex.edu/>

Garvan Gardens with Janet Carson

<http://www.garvangardens.org/photos-videos/gardeningwithjanet.aspx>

Growing Jason with Jason Mullins

<https://www.facebook.com/growingjason/>

Fair Haven Farms

<https://www.facebook.com/fairhavenfarms/>

Our friend, Renee Shepherd, owner of Reneesgarden.com (Renee's Garden Seeds), is making a wonderful offer for Health, Wellness and Environmental Studies Elementary School. If you go to her website and order seed, and use this code when you order: FR556A, she will donate 25% of the price of the seed you order, to the Health, Wellness and Environmental Studies Elementary Kitchen/Garden Program. Isn't that great? So, go to her website and order some seed, being sure to use the FR556Acoupon code.

The Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status,

Craighead County Master Gardeners are trained volunteers working with the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service and Craighead County officials to provide beautification projects and horticultural information to the residents of the county. In 2019 Craighead County Master Gardeners reported more than 13,587 hours of service and education to benefit Craighead County.



Branon Thiesse BS, MS
County Extension Agent - Staff Chair



Weeder's Digest is the official newsletter of the Craighead County AR Master Gardener Program.

Please contact the newsletter editor at dtolowitzke@gmail.com with your articles, ideas, photos and suggestions.

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