Conference Notes

Registration goes live soon.

As you know, our conference site is the Embassy Suites by Hilton, Red Wolf Center, 223 Red Wolf Blvd., Jonesboro, AR 72405. The block of rooms reserved at the hotel has been filled. Additional hotels are: (remember to mention that you are with the 2020 Master Gardener Conference):

Courtyard by Marriott Jonesboro (closest)

4811 East Johnson Avenue

Jonesboro, AR 72405

870-206-9500

Conference rate: \$119.00

Hampton Inn Jonesboro 2900 Phillips Drive Jonesboro, AR 72401

870-974-9500

Conference Rate: \$115.00

This conference is only for active Master Gardeners, Lifetime Members, County Agents, Sustainers, Master Gardeners on leave of absence, and their spouses and/or one guest per Master Gardener. We consider this conference a privilege of being a Master Gardener. It is not open to the general public.

A few of our **Special Events**

- Demonstrations on Yard Art, with DIY Instructions.
- 3 Campus Tours: Guided Tree Walk; Guided tour of the STAR Herbarium: A-State Museum. No charge, transportation provided.
- Take Home Projects: demonstrations and take home kits.
- Presentation by the HWES students on "Marshmallow Farming." (Don't miss it!)
- Gardeners Market opens at 12:00 p.m..
- Plant Holding opens at 12:00 p.m.
- Silent Auction opens at 1:00 p.m.

Our special thanks to these counties for their generous donations

Garland, Pope, Drew, Logan, Saline, Monroe, Miller, Cleburne, Van Buren, River Valley and Crittenden.



Tentative Conference Agenda

Wednesday, May 13 – Embassy Suites

Optional Pre-conference Tour "A Delta Day" Early Registration for Tour participants ONLY.

Thursday, May 14 - Embassy Suites

1:00 – 5:30 p.m. – Registration Open; Merchandise Open; Goody Bags Open

12:00 – 5:30 p.m. – Gardeners Market Open; Plant Holding Area Open

1:00 – 5:30 p.m. – Silent Auction Open

1:30 – 4:30 p.m. – Garden Art Demonstrations, Campus Activities, Walking Tours, and more.

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Dinner (ticket required)

Welcome from Dr. Kelly Damphousse, Chancellor of Arkansas State University Keynote Speaker: Gretchen Sacotnik, "Crowley's Ridge Formation & Its Unique Flora"

Friday, May 15 - Red Wolf Convention Center

7:00 a.m. – Registration open

8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. – Gardeners Market (open to public from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)

Silent Auction Open; Plant Holding Area Open

7:45 a.m. – Load buses for ½ Day Garden Tours (ticket required)

Tour 1 − Eye For Detail

Tour 2 – Hindsight: A Glimpse of the Past

Tour 3 – More Than Meets the Eye

8:15 a.m. – Load bus for All Day Garden Tour

Tour 4 – Vistas Far and Near (tour ticket required; lunch included)

Morning Seminars 8:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Tanya Beasley – What's to Love About Hummingbirds?

Blann Britton – How to Grow Roses Without Losing Your Mind!

Dr. Chris Cooper – Is Your YARD a Smart Yard?

Jane Jamison – Capture Nature's Beauty

Linda Lanier – Hydrangeas for Sun and Shade

Jim Long – Herbs 101

Dr. Travis Marsico – Working with Notes from Nature

Jason Mullins – A Garden Your Mother Would be Proud Of

Debi Orr – What You Want, Baby, I Got It! Soulful Planting with Debi

Leslie Patrick – Native Gardening for Pollinators

Sean Shrum – Designing with Nature

11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. - Lunch (ticket required) Welcome from Mayor Harold Perrin

Keynote Speaker – Nan Snider – "My Grandmother's Apron"

(continued on next page)

Tentative Conference Agenda, continued from previous page

1:00 p.m. – Load buses for ½ Day Garden Tours (Repeat of Morning Tours)

1:15 p.m. – Buses depart for ½ Day Garden Tours (ticket required for each tour)

1:15 – 4:45 p.m. Seminar Sessions (Repeat of Morning Topics)

6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Closing Dinner. Welcome from Judge Marvin Day

Keynote Speaker: Joe Lamp'l - "Growing A Greener World"

8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. Pick up Silent Auction Items

Saturday, May 16 – Red Wolf Convention Center

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Plant Holding Area Open for pickup

8:00 a.m. Announcements

Greetings and Awards Presentations by Dr. Rick Cartwright, Associate Vice President for Agriculture – Extension and Director, Cooperative Extension Service

Keynote Speaker – Janet Carson – "Color Your Garden"

Invitation to 2021 Master Gardener Conference

Break

Keynote Speaker – P. Allen Smith – "Native or not? The Need For Fantastacology!"

Conference concludes



2020 MG Promo



A few of this year's vendors



Linden and London will be selling Linden & London lotions, hand soaps, launury gent, fabric softeners and room misgent, fabric softeners are made with 100% natural Essential Oils. https:// LindenandLondon.com



Local jeweler, Linda Sharp, showcases handmade jewelry that includes gemstone earrings, bracelets, necklaces and wire wrapped stones.

Long Creek Herbs



Jim Long will be bringing his famous all-natural nail fungus soaks, sleep therapy dream pillows, natural nail files, pet

products and books. Jim will also be a speaker. https://www.longcreekherbs.com



Faith Farms specializes in the finest, handcrafted, goat milk soaps, lotions and more. The natural goodness of goat milk will leave your

skin refreshed and renewed. Suffer from skin conditions such as eczema, psoriasis, rosacea, or acne? They have several options available that can help calm and heal. FaithFarmsGMS.com Moscow, TN

The Paper Crete Potter

Based in Missouri, The Paper Crete Potter will be bringing handmade containers, miniature plants, fairy gardens and accessories as well as a large variety of Japanese Maples.



Mid-South Nursery and Greenhouse

Mid-South Nursery and Greenhouse is a local business that will have a three-booth exposure. They will be bringing a wide variety of annuals, perennials, vegetables, herbs and ev-

ergreen plants. They will also be bringing pottery and garden accessories.

www.midsouthnursery.com



U of A Plant Health Clinic

This vendor will help you with your plant health problems. Bring a sample and Sherry Smith, plant diagnostician, will examine your sample.

Rutherford's Metal Art

Rutherford's Metal Art is all completely handmade by Jimmy and his wife Sara. Their homegrown business presents a diverse variety of metal products. Some of the products are bottletrees, shepherds hooks, planters, signs and yard art.

> Jimmy and Sara Rutherford 662-401-5641 or 662-213-2253 Shannon, MS





The Funny Farm

Since 1990 Michael Seal has been in the business of growing, propagating and arranging Bromeliads in his southern Mississippi nursery. He will be bringing them to our Gardeners Market. (FB The Funny Farm)



Regan Hill Gardens

Enjoy the gourmet jams and jellies made locally from fresh produce, fruits, berries and herbs organically grown at their farm. They will also

have recipe books to help cooks learn new ways to use their products at home. (FB Reagan Hill Gardens)



Seams too Good will be presenting handmade quilts, fiber art and custom items made locally. **(FB Seams too Good)**

Cabin DreamWorks presents locally made bird houses, feeders, signs and yard art. (FB https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cabin-Dreamworks)

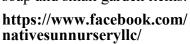


Growing Jason

One of our very own Craighead County Master Gardener members will have miniature gardens and yard art. He is known for his creativity, humor and has a great love for animals and plants. Jason will also be a speaker at the 2020 Arkansas Master Gardener State Conference.

Native Sun Nursery

Specializing in native plants that attract pollinators, this vendor from White Hall, Arkansas will also be bringing heirloom tomato, pepper and herb plants along with soap and small garden items.







Mrs. Angie's Farm Fresh Products will be bringing local 100% pure, raw unfiltered honey in a variety of sizes for the Gardeners Market.

https://mrsangiesfarmfresh.com/

Booth 13

Booth 13 will be an information center for questions about the Gardeners Market, vendors and the place to collect a prize if you are lucky enough to find "Craig the Gnome" while shopping the market.



Janet Carson- "Color Your Garden"

Janet Carson is a horticulturist living in Little Rock. She has her BS and MS degrees from the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Janet began her career as a county agent in Pulaski County covering all aspects of horticulture. She began the Arkansas Master Gardener program with three other counties in 1980. Upon completion of her Master's degree, Janet moved to the state extension office to take on the role of statewide horticulture specialist. She retired January 2, 2019 after a 38-year career with the Cooperative Extension Service. She continues to write weekly columns in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette on Saturdays and monthly column's in Arkansas Living magazines, along with a blog Planit Janet. She leads garden travel programs, and now gets to spend more time in her own garden. Her first book In the Garden was published in 2010, and her second book Field to Feast was published in 2016, both by the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette.

Joe Lamp'l - "Growing a Greener World"

Joe's infatuation with gardening and nature began as a child after a run-in with his parents' favorite shrub, he panicked and jammed the broken branch into the ground. A few weeks later, it had taken root. Joe was not only relieved; he was also hooked on horticulture. That passion is evident to a nationwide audience who has watched Joe as host of the popular series, *Fresh from the Garden* on DIY Network and *GardenSMART* on PBS. As one of the country's most recognized and trusted personalities in gardening and sustainability, today, he combines his national television experience and expertise of gardening, environmental stewardship and passion for living a eco-friendlier life, as host and producer of *Growing a Greener World* on public television. Off-camera, he is founder & CEO of The joe gardener® Company, devoted to environmentally responsible gardening and sustainable outdoor living. Joe is deeply committed to "growing a greener world" through his popular books, blog and podcast series, nationally syndicated newspaper column, and regular contributions to popular magazines and social media networks.

Gretchen Sacotnik – "Crowley's Ridge Formation and Its Unique Flora"

Gretchen Sacotnik is a retired park superintendent who worked for Arkansas State Parks for 40 years. She grew up in central Illinois and received a B.S. degree in Parks & Recreation from Western Illinois University. Gretchen began her career in 1977 with Kentucky State Parks where she worked as a recreation aide at Lake Barkley State Resort Park. In 1978, she started her career with Arkansas State Parks as a Park Naturalist at DeGray Lake Resort State Park, then promoted to Park Ranger (law enforcement) at DeGray and remained there until 1990. She became a Park Ranger at Petit Jean State Park from 1990 to 1998. Gretchen was promoted to Park Superintendent of Crowley's Ridge State Park in March of 1998 and remained in that position until her retirement in June of 2018. Gretchen is currently the Vice President of the northern section of the Arkansas Delta Byways Tourist Association.

P. Allen Smith – "Native or Not? The Need for Fantastacology!"

P. Allen Smith has parlayed a lifelong passion for the natural world into a career that allows him to share garden, home, and lifestyle knowledge and insights with a worldwide audience. As a conservationist, author, and television host he is a trusted resource for tried-and-true methods as well as cutting-edge knowledge in the small farm and garden communities. His PBS television show *Garden Home*, now in its 19th season, airs on LPB. Check your local listings for the syndicated television show, Garden Style. Whether its old-school flocks, eating local or green innovations, he combines them all at the farm he designed at Moss Mountain—a place grounded in history, inspired by his southern upbringing and guided by modern day application. He created his farm to serve as a place of inspiration, education, and conservation and provides visitors from around the country with tours of his property, which may be booked at pallensmith.com/ tours.

Keynote Speaker - Nan Snider- "My Grandmother's Apron"

Growing up in Northeast Arkansas among a community of "people- oriented, community spirited, religious, hardworking over-comers" Nan Harrell Snider chose a career as a journalist. Nan will tell you stories about the four generations of her farming family, their struggles and their joyful moments. Don't miss this charming Southern lady! Nan will inspire you to find your own "purpose-driven life" as you search your roots.