

GARDEN VOICE

County 76 Newsletter Volume 22 Number 2

April 2019

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring is Here!

It has been slow getting here, but Spring is finally here and for Master Gardeners it is a busy time of year. State conference, plant sales galore, Advanced Training classes, gardening seminars and more. Let's not forget those sore backs and muscles that you haven't used in several months. Don't overdo it!

By the time you read this, the State Conference in Hope has just completed. And I know many of you were in attendance. March saw two highly attended Advanced Trainings in Crittenden County and Faulkner County.

May brings the third Advanced Training for 2019. Pulaski County will host "H2O: How to Protect, Preserve and Conserve Our Water" on Friday, May 31. Watch for Constant Contact emails for all the details and registration information. These classes fill up quickly.

In June and July, our new trainees and their mentors will have an opportunity to attend one of four Annual to Perennial events.

June 24 in Hope
June 28 in Fayetteville
July 13 in Batesville
July 14 in Little Rock

This is the fourth year for this event and it is a wonderful way for the trainees and mentors to share some time together, get to know other Master Gardeners and hear some great speakers. Watch for Constant Contact emails for details and registration information.

Continue to take photos for the 2020 Master Gardener calendar. The deadline for submission is June 1.

Email photos to Mike Wilbanks at mwilbanks3@gmail.com.

Join us for the next County 76 meeting on **Tuesday, July 23, from 10 a.m.—3:00 p.m. at the Little Rock State Extension Office.**



Happy Gardening!
Patsy Louk



Two Advanced Training classes have been conducted so far in 2019 with two more on the schedule.

Crittenden County (West Memphis) conducted Master Gardeners: Faithful Stewards of the Environment on March 8 and 9. Sixty people completed the training with 72 people registered. Seventeen were first-time attendees.

Faulkner County (Conway) conducted Healthy Trees, Healthy Lives on March 26 and 27. Sixty-nine people attended with registration goal of 65. Fifteen were first-time attendees.

There are two remaining classes for 2019. The first is Pulaski County (Little Rock) topic of H20: How to Protect, Preserve, and Conserve Our Water on May 31. Registration is now on the website and us set for 75 people. The second is Lonoke County (Lonoke) on October 25 and 26 on Making Herb Boxes. This is not a split day class, but registrants will choose one of the two days.

On the schedule for 2020 is White County (Searcy), March 10 on the topic of vegetable garden-

ing. Pope County (Russellville) is tentatively planning a class for October on the topic of Propagation of Native Plants.

For 2021, Garland County (Hot Springs) is working with Garvan Woodland Gardens on a Bonsai workshop in late February,

Advanced Training change of Level are as follows:

Following Crittenden County AT class:

Level I: Debora Carpenter, Prairie County
Debbie Stults, Pulaski County

Level II: Jan Bowen, Pulaski County
Melody Parsley, Pulaski County

Level III: Audrey Holt, Baxter County

Following Faulkner County AT class:

Level III: Merrily Ward, Madison County, needs to complete project

Level V: Kay Kunkel, Baxter County, needs to complete the project for Level IV.



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Faulkner County MASTER GARDENER plant sale 2019

Conway EXPO/Fairgrounds
May 11, 2019 – 8AM to 2PM

FEATURING MOTHER'S DAY ITEMS

- HANGING BASKETS
- PERENNIALS
- NATIVES
- ANNUALS
- TREES/SHRUBS
- SUCCULENTS
- GROUND COVER
- COUNTY 76
HAND TOOL SALE
- FREE PARKING
AND ADMISSION
- FREE TOOL SHARPENING
- FREE ADVICE AND
INFORMATION
- FREE GARDENING
DEMOS ALL DAY
- CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
"PLANT A MOTHER'S DAY GIFT"
(LIMITED TO FIRST 100 KIDS)
PROVIDED BY ACE HARDWARE

RAFFLE

POTTING BENCH, OUTDOOR FURNITURE
AND CONWAY LEAGUE OF ARTIST PAINTING



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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS SYSTEMS OF AGRICULTURE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/EQUAL ACCESS AFFIRMATIVE ACTION INSTITUTION. IF YOU REQUIRE REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE OR NEED MATERIALS IN ANOTHER FORMAT PLEASE CALL 501-329-8344 OR DIAL 711 FOR ARKANSAS RELAY.

The Faulkner County Master Gardeners (FCMG) will host their annual plant sale in Conway on Saturday, May 11, 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Doors will open at 8 a.m. Admission is free. This is the 18th FCMG Plant Sale and is reportedly the largest MG plant sale in the state—you do not want to miss it! Categories of plants that will be available include: sun and shade annuals, sun and shade perennials, iris, lily bulbs, day lilies, caladiums, hostas, ferns, succulents, grasses, vines, ground covers, house plants, herbs, vegetables, shrubs, and trees. FCMGs with expert knowledge will be available in each of these areas to answer your questions. You can go on a plant walk and visit informational booths on beekeeping, composting, rose gardening, fire ant management, and container gardening. The Faulkner County Horticulture Agent Richard Klerk will be there to guide you through applications for Crape Myrtle Bark Scale. You can buy gardening tools from County 76, or bring your garden tools from home—we will have FREE tool sharpening available. You can purchase raffle tickets for a gardening bench and a piece of outdoor furniture. As an extra bonus, The Conway League of Artists has agreed to set up a local art exhibition. The FCMG Plant Sale will be held at the Conway Expo Center, 2505 E Oak Street, Conway, AR, which is two miles east from the I-40 Exit 127 (Oak Street/Highway 64 East Exit).

For more information, contact:

Cindy Thornton at cathornton59@gmail.com Pam Trent at pamatrent@gmail.com
Faulkner County Extension Office at 501-329-8344

Thank you to the Faulkner County Master Gardeners for conducting the March 26 - 27 Advanced Training class.

“Healthy Trees, Healthy Lives”.

Sixty-Nine Master Gardeners from across the state, including fifteen attending their first Advanced training class, were immersed in all things trees. Community forestry, trees in green infrastructure, right tree for the right location, identifying hazardous trees and pruning and training trees were just a few of the topics. Participants enjoyed a tree planting demonstration at the AT site and at the end of the class each participant was given a bare root tree to plant.

Congratulations to:

Merrily Ward, Madison County, who has completed 23 advanced classes. To reach the **Level III** recognition she must write an article for a county newsletter, the *Garden Voice* newsletter, or other publication OR give a presentation at a regular Master Gardener meeting or public workshop.

Kay Kunkel, Baxter County, who has completed 38 advanced classes. After completing the **Level IV** requirement of creating a fact sheet or 30-slide Power Point Presentation with script on a preapproved topic, Kay will be eligible to attain **Level V** by completing a preapproved service project that is educational in nature and makes a significant contribution to a local community, school or Master Gardener program.

Advanced Trainings are a product of County 76. Classes are offered to active Master Gardeners who have been in good standing in their county program for at least three years.

Notices of upcoming Advanced Training classes are provided via Constant Contact. Classes fill quickly, so don't delay when you see a topic

COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT

The Communications Project has once again filled our "To Do" list with many different items.

The Communications Project has reduced the publication time of the *Garden Voice* newsletter from as much as four weeks to less than two weeks. There is an exception with this current issue as the 2019 April meeting and the 2019 State Conference events are being held so close together.

The County Contact and Speakers Bureau lists are in a continual process of updating and the distribution to the respective recipients has been noted.

The current format of the County 76 membership poster is now under review. This is due to the large time requirements necessary for updates each quarter. We feel our time will be better utilized in other more productive projects. New member photos will continue to be taken for archival purposes.

The Communications Project now refers any inquiry for membership information to the current membership roster that is produced after each quarterly meeting.



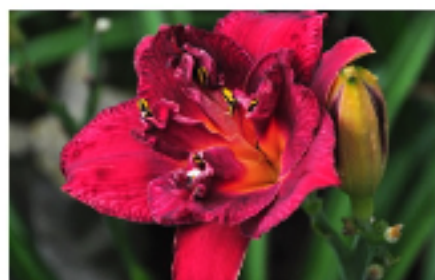
The first guy who heard a
parrot talk
was probably not ok for
several days

Call for entries!

Deadline to submit photos is **June 1, 2019.**

It is time to begin submitting your best photos for the 2020 MG calendar.

Below is the information you will need to submit a photo for the 2020 MG Calendar Contest. Photos **MUST** be properly named in the JPEG format only to be accepted for consideration. You will have to correctly label the photo file name to be eligible for submission.



For example, the picture on the left would need to be labeled:

mikewilbanksCGdoubletruebloodSP.jpeg
(my name, my county two letter ID, brief description, season photo submitted for.jpeg)

Renaming multiple files using the Tab key

1. Open File Explorer.
2. Browse to the folder that includes all the files you want to rename.
3. Select the first file in the list.
4. Press the F2 key to rename it.
5. Type a new name and press the Tab key to jump to the next file automatically.

LANDSCAPE DIMENSION ONLY!

PLEASE UNDERSTAND: If your photo(s) have not been properly renamed and abide by the following conditions, they will not be sent to the selection committee for consideration.

1. Only four (4) entries per person (one per season). Meaning only one Winter (WT), one Spring (SP), one Summer (SU), and one Fall (FA) photo may be entered in the 2020 MG Calendar Contest.
2. All photos need be between 1 mb and 7 mb for the resolution to be acceptable for full page reproduction by the offset printing method.
3. All photographs must have been taken within the borders of the state of Arkansas.

Send your photos to:
mwilbanks3@gmail.com

If you have any questions, please
contact me at any time.

Mike Wilbanks
870-530-0669

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RRR Project

The RRR Project Team has been very busy. RRR members under the leadership of Jan Rensing and Mimi Cox provided the luncheon for C76 members and visitors. Jan carried on a tradition using Janet Carson's chicken salad recipe with a variety of vegetables and added a twist with RRR members providing several varieties of pasta salad. Mimi's group topped off the meal with delicious desserts. RRR chair, co-chair, and two past chairs worked to finish preparations for the Arkansas Master Gardener Awards Program scheduled on Tuesday, April 30 from 1:15-1:45 pm. This year we are pleased to announce 13 of the 15 award recipients will be participating in the Awards program. This year's recipients are an extraordinary and diversified group. Part of these preparations included the submission of included recommendations to the County 76 Board regarding (1) the hanging award recipient photo posters, (2) the Years of Service certificates, (3) the information included on award recipients' awards and (4) the design of the Master Gardener Awards.

Jan Rensing and SueAnn Buratowski are overseeing RRR Project's POP-UP ART Activities at the State Conference. RRR is fortunate to have two creative and hard-working members. Jan and Sue will showcase ideas and provide directions on making items of "Garden Art with A Flair" and also involve MG in a quick make-and take-home project so stop by the RRR table.

Barbie Luther, co-chair of the RRR Project, is heading up the 2019 Annuals to Perennials (A to P) Program. Annuals to Perennials celebrate our new

Master Gardeners as they grow from an Annual to a Perennial Master Gardener and recognizes the vital roles of mentors and county agents. Four programs will be offered to our first-year MG and their mentors. The first program will be held on Monday, June 24 from 9:30 a.m. — 12:30 p.m. in Hempstead Hall at UA Community College in Hope. On Tuesday, June 18, the second A to P will take place in Fayetteville at The Tyson Center for Agricultural Sciences from 1:00 — 4:00 p.m. Our third A to P program is scheduled for Saturday, July 13 from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in Independence Hall on the campus of UA Community College in Batesville. Our final A to P program will take place on Sunday, July 14 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at the U of A, Division of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service in Little Rock. The 2019 Annuals to Perennials programs will feature two speakers. Our new state Master Gardener Coordinator and Extension Educator – Consumer Horticulture will speak at each of the Annuals to Perennials programs. Look for a Constant Contact announcement the week prior to the MG Conference with further details on the speakers and their topics. Additionally, participants may register for more than one A to P program. So, mark your calendars and enjoy meeting your counterparts from other MG programs while extending your knowledge base with a special program developed just for our new Master Gardeners, their mentors, and County Agents.

Submitted by Debbie Howell





2019 MASTER GARDENER
AGENT OF THE YEAR

50 OR LESS MEMBERS

Rachel Bearden
Hot Spring County

2019 Award Winners



2019 MASTER GARDENER
AGENT OF THE YEAR

51 OR MORE MEMBERS

Branon Thiesse
Craighead County



2019 MASTER GARDENER
OF THE YEAR

50 OR LESS MEMBERS

KIM HUGHES
POLK COUNTY



2019 MASTER GARDENER
PROJECT OF THE YEAR

50 OR LESS MEMBERS

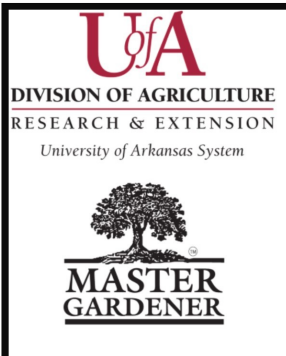
HAPS School Garden
Denny's Place, Marlon Ward
and Nan Wright, Chairs
Hempstead County



2019 MASTER GARDENER
OF THE YEAR

51 OR MORE MEMBERS

Donna Woodard
Faulkner County



2019 MASTER GARDENER
NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR

50 OR LESS MEMBERS

Greene Garden News
Connie Whitman, Editor
Greene County



2019 MASTER GARDENER
PROJECT OF THE YEAR

51 OR MORE MEMBERS

Salad Tables
Bonnie Moody and Jean
Fortenberry, Chairs
Lonoke County

2019 Award Winners



2019 MASTER GARDENER
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

50 OR LESS MEMBERS

Terri Gregory
Boone County



2019 MASTER GARDENER
ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

51 OR MORE MEMBERS

Pamla Stevens
Garland County



2019 FRIEND OF MASTER
GARDENER (INDIVIDUAL)

50 OR LESS MEMBERS

Bruce Ward
Hempstead County



2019 FRIEND OF MASTER
GARDENER (INDIVIDUAL)

51 OR MORE MEMBERS

Judge Mike Loftin
Union County



2019 FRIEND OF MASTER
GARDENER
(ORGANIZATION)

50 OR LESS MEMBERS

Mainstreet Paragould
Gina Jarrett
Executive Director
Greene County



2019 FRIEND OF MASTER
GARDENER
(ORGANIZATION)

51 OR MORE MEMBERS

Quapaw Quarter
Association - Curran Hall
Patricia M. Blick
Executive Director
Pulaski County



2019 MASTER GARDENER
EXCELLENCE IN
EDUCATION

50 OR LESS MEMBERS

SFC and Cub Scout Pack
224 Partnership
Joan Collier, Chair
St. Francis County



2019 MASTER GARDENER
EXCELLENCE IN
EDUCATION

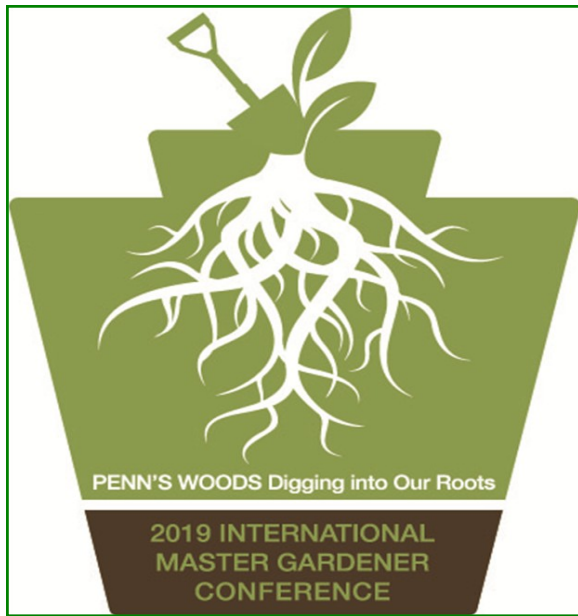
51 OR MORE MEMBERS

Ten-Year Fig Trial
Susan Randolph, Chair
River Valley









Penn's Woods: Digging into Our Roots

June 17-21, 2019

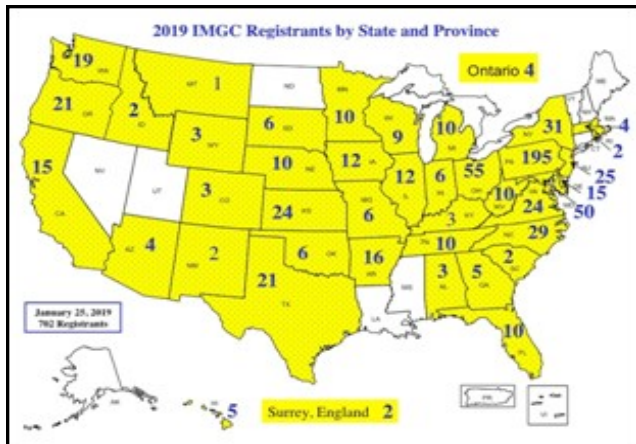
*Half and full day tours to area public gardens:
June 16, 17, and 21, 2019.*

**Valley Forge Casino Resort,
Valley Forge, PA**

Registration is now open!

<http://www.event.com/d/hgqxlp>

Registration Fee: \$390 April 15, 2019 until Close
of Registration: May 23, 2019



***Registration numbers accurate as of
January 2019**



20/20

Garden Vision

A VIEW FROM THE RIDGE

2020 MASTER GARDENER STATE CONFERENCE
May 14-16, 2020 ■ Craighead County

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**MASTER
GARDENER**



New ideas and thoughts regarding the "Garden Voice" newsletter are always welcome!
 Email Mike Wilbanks at:
 mwilbanks3@gmail.com

2019 Officers are:

President	Patsy Louk
Vice President	Susan Colles
Secretary	Mary Wells
Treasurer	Ouida Wright
Past President	Linda Soffer
County 76 Agent	Berni Kurz
County 76 Coordinator	Julie Treat

What is County 76 ?

County 76 is the statewide advisory group for the Arkansas Master Gardener program. It is open to all active Master Gardeners in Arkansas. County 76 members help set policy, and provide guidance to county programs. Programs offered statewide will be County 76 "projects."

The structure of the group is based on our county programs, and since there are 75 counties in Arkansas, this group is now the "76" county. The "County Agent" is the State MG Coordinator (Berni Kurz) and the officers will be elected from the membership of County 76. The projects will focus on organizational, leadership and general management issues. County 76 members will decide which projects will be created, and each member will decide on which project he/she wants to work.

County 76 is open to all Master Gardeners who have completed the training and are in good standing in their local county programs.

In addition to their county commitment, each County 76 member must accrue 10 additional hours on County 76 sanctioned projects. Membership term is unlimited for those who recertify both in their local county and at the state level. County Agents who have an active Master Gardener program in their county may also participate.



New C76 Members who attended our April 2019 meeting

Sandra L. Collettt, White, Fundraising
 Charita Gregory, Marion, Advanced Training
 Dot Holt, Jefferson, RRR
 Georgie Huggins, Lonoke, Advanced Training
 Mariam Lester, Jefferson, RRR
 Linda Pitts, Marion, Advanced Training
 Kay Roberts, Lonoke, Advanced Training
 Linda Varnadore, Cleburne,



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