

HEART OF MISSOURI MASTER GARDENER NEWS

APRIL 2005

**NEXT MEETING - Tuesday, April 19- 5:30 p.m.
CLEAN-UP AT THE EXTENSION GROUNDS
and
FLOWER ARRANGING at 7:00 p.m.
with Carolyn Doyle**

THANK YOU

To Hsiao Mei Wiedmeyer for her whirlwind tour of "GARDENS OF THE WORLD," last month's program.

GRAB & GO PRESENTATIONS

Don't be intimidated if you are invited to make a presentation to a group or organization; there are two resources available to Heart of Missouri Master Gardeners to make it easy for you.

Mary Kroening, our state MG coordinator, has developed a number of PowerPoint presentations that you are welcome to use. Some of them have detailed talking points, others do not, but are relatively self-explanatory. They vary from 20-minute presentations to more in-depth depending on the audience. Contact Mary if you want to borrow/use any of these presentations at (573)882-9633 or kroeningm@missouri.edu. The topics are:

- Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- Butterfly Gardening
- Container Gardening
- Gardening in Missouri
- Go Native
- Greenhouse
- Basic Insects (designed for the casual audience)
- Rose Gardening
- Gardening with Tropicals
- Organic Control of Insects
- Beneficial Insects

The Responsible Home Gardening program also has a variety of presentations available for use. These were developed by Don Day and Todd Lorenz. To borrow, contact Don at 445-9792 or daydr@missouri.edu. The following topics are available:

- Lawns
- Flower gardening
- Vegetable gardening
- Composting
- Tree fruits

Small fruits
Trees and shrubs

You can also check out a laptop computer and projector to use when making presentations. Be sure to schedule the equipment in advance. If you need instruction in learning how to operate the equipment, also schedule in advance with Don.

HOTLINE TRAINING

Master Gardener Hotline Training has been set for Wed, April 20. It will be held at the Extension Building, 6:00–7:00 p.m. The Hotline runs from May through August, on Tuesday afternoons (2:00–4:00 p.m.) and Thursday evenings (6:00–8:00 p.m.). Any volunteers interested in helping with the Hotline can come to the training, even if you haven't signed up for the committee. Volunteering to cover hotline calls is a great chance to increase our own understanding of garden challenges and opportunities. For more information, please contact Monica Frank at 446-7508 or Barbara Ball at 442-6839.

FRUITS OF OUR LABOR

The 2004 State Master Gardener Conference was such a success that our bank account runneth over. The executive committee is currently soliciting ideas on how to use the funds. Please send your ideas to Debbie Scholes, treasurer, at scholesd@missouri.edu or (573) 657-9731.

JUNE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The Tiger Pilot Club is hosting their 3rd annual garden tour on June 25 from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. They would once again like to have a master gardener at each location to assist with the tours and answer basic gardening questions. We will have a sign-up sheet at upcoming monthly meetings. If one person will coordinate getting volunteers for each location and time slot, please contact Phyllis Barks, barksp@missouri.edu or (573) 698-3845.

EARTH DAY – APRIL 24TH

Start bedding plants, divide perennials, and share extra catalogs for the Heart of Missouri Master Gardener display at Earth Day. You can bring plants and catalogs to the April 19 MG meeting or contact Peggy Ann

Eichen at eichenp@missouri.edu or 660-841-5253. Also let Peggy know if you will work at the booth.

ADVANCED TRAINING

Recently, the State MG Advisory Board decided to let local organizations develop their own guidelines and content for advance master gardener training. We would like to have a small ad hoc committee to develop recommendations for the Heart of Missouri group. Please contact Phyllis by April 19 if you want to serve on this committee at barksp@missouri.edu or (573) 698-3845.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Columbia Garden Club is hosting its annual plant sale on April 23 from 8:00 a.m. – noon at Trinity Presbyterian Church (1600 W. Rollins Rd.).

HABITAT WORKDAY

On April 30 from 9:00 a.m. – noon, there will be a “take pride in your home” work day. We will need two MGs with pick-up trucks to haul mulch from the city mulch site (free loading) to various houses. We will need four MGs to assist families with landscape clean-up: adding mulch, answering questions, talk about common garden tools and their uses (informal). If you can volunteer, contact Brenda Jones at (573) 445-2543 or jonesbj@missouri.edu.

SPEAKER’S BUREAU

Library Series

Daniel Boone Regional Library Friends Room 7:00 p.m.
April 26 – GARDEN PREP – Paul Morris
May 24 – LABYRINTHS – Betty Smith

“ROOTS RUN DEEP”

By Tony White

Though I spent most of my life in southeastern Nebraska it was not until my wife, Lindsey, and I worked overseas with the U.S. Peace Corps that I began to identify myself as a Child of the Prairie – born under blue skies stretched between distant flat horizons, memories of a childhood spent running through farm fields and along wide slow creeks. So it came as no surprise to me when I found myself back in the Midwest looking for a place to put down my proverbial roots, accepting a position with the Missouri Department of Conservation’s Native Ecotype Program, and getting involved with the Master Gardener program.

Compared to most gardeners, in general I am still a baby, having only recently completed my training. Thus I am honored by the opportunity to write for such a diverse and knowledgeable audience as the Heart of Missouri Master Gardeners. I look forward to working with Barb Devine and many of you to make this fine newsletter even better.

In the coming months we will explore elements of the natural world that are near and dear to my heart.

First, Missouri’s Natural Heritage – from its prairies to its woodlands to its wetlands and the unique plant life that forms the foundation for each of these ecosystems. In addition, we will look at how these leafy landscapes have and continue to shape countless generations of Missourians.

Second, how natural systems work in a built urban environment like Columbia. Or, in other words, what sort of life lives under all of these acres of pavement; where does all that water go when it rains on buildings and parking lots; why do certain plants (and animals) do better than others in cities; and how can we reintroduce native plants into our (sub)urban landscapes – from vacant alleys to office rooftops and from abandoned lots to the very cracks in our sidewalks.

If you have topics you would like explored or constructive feedback on past topics please feel free to contact me at green_places_forever2003@yahoo.com. So until next month, remember “you cannot take care of what you cannot see.” (Dr. Gerould Wilhelm, speaking at the North American Prairie Conference in Kirksville, Missouri in 2002)

PREACHING TO THE GARDENING CHOIR

Time to SPRING for Trees

By Barb Devine

As gardeners we sometimes get stuck in our “comfortable” zone of gardening such as growing annuals, perennials, shrubs or vegetables. This spring, why not choose a special focal point tree to beautify your yard (American sweetgum, lacebark elm) or consider a tree specific to attracting wildlife (crabapples, birches).

Remember that shade trees (thornless honeylocust, white ash) can cool your house in the summer and/or enhance an outdoor living area. Spring blooming trees (dogwoods, Japanese flowering cherry) can be one of the most pleasant harbingers of the spring season.

Of course, what can be as exciting as a little piece of your own Missouri autumn color (red maple, sugar maple)?

These are just a few suggestions to whet your appetite for tree planting.

Keep in mind that trees conserve energy, reduce erosion, clean the air we breathe and help protect our rivers. Established trees are an asset if it comes time to sell your home. If you plan to build a home, be sure to find a contractor who will seek advice about which trees to save and how to protect them during the construction phase.

For more information about trees contact:

The National Arbor Day Foundation
100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410
Arborday.org 888-448-7337

2005 CALENDAR

July 24-27, 2005 International Master Gardener
Conference – Saskatoon, Canada.
<http://www.mastergardener2005.usask.ca/index.html>

September 16, 17 & 18 - State Master Gardener
Conference in Kansas City, MO.
<http://outreach.missouri.edu/gkcmg/>

SNACKS/DRINKS

Please contact Phyllis Barks (698-3845) if you can
bring refreshments: drinks (D) or snacks (S), for any of
the open dates.

April 19: Mary Jane King (D); Betty Gayle Smith
May 17: Angela Nance & Cedar Albert
June 21: Marie Pasley (D); Brenda Jones (S)
July 19: Celeste Mazzacano (D); Carolyn Doyle (S)
Aug. 16: Sandy Perley (D); Barbara Ball (S)
Sept. 20: Barb Michael (S)
Oct. 18: Barb Kribbs (D); Everyone brings food for the
Harvest Dinner
Nov. 15: Cindy Deegen (S)

PROGRAMS FOR 2005

May 17 – Garden Tour at Sandy Derap's house
June 21 – Tour of Flat Branch Park by city horticulturist

OFFICERS FOR 2005

President – Phyllis Barks 698-3845
Vice-Pres – Betty Gayle Smith 874-3997
Secretary – Mary Jane King 474-2489
Treasurer – Debbie Scholes 445-1263
St. Region. Rep-Barb Kribbs (573) 682-3980
Natural Resource Engineer – Don Day 445-9792 ext.
310
Horticulture/Agronomy Specialist – Todd Lorenz (660)
882-5661

PROJECTS/COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Community Gardens: Barbara Michael 445-0661
Educational Displays: Peggy Ann Eichen 660-841-
5253; Melissa Hough co-chair 696-0198
Extension Grounds: Carolyn Doyle 445-1381; Mary
Jane King co-chair 474-2489
Habitat for Humanity: Phyllis Barks 698-3845; Brenda
Jones co-chair 445-2543
Hotline-Boone Cty.: Monica Frank 446-7508; Barbara
Ball co-chair 449-1888
Hotline-Cooper Cty.: Nancy Hendrix 660-848-2357 and
Sharon Young 660-248-2356
Jr. Master Gardeners: Lisa Rose 442-1469
School Gardens: Melissa Hough 696-0198
MU Botanic Garden: Hsiao-Mei Wiedmeyer 445-4735
Newsletter: Barb Devine 474-6798;
devinebarb@hotmail.com

Plant a Row for the Hungry: Betty Gayle Smith
874-3997

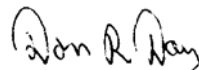
Speakers Bureau: Alice Havard 445-4624

Web Page/Plant Protection Grant:

Don Day 445-9792 ext. 310

Missourian articles: Don Day

Heart of Missouri Master Gardeners is published for
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Boone County Extension Center
Office Hours are:

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.