

# HEART OF MISSOURI MASTER GARDENER NEWS MARCH 2004

## **NEXT MEETING -MARCH 16 , 2004**

**BOB MCCONNELL** will be our speaker March 16, 7:00 at the Extension Office. Bob will present the program, "Perennial Plantings Care". Great time of year to get expert advice! Don't miss this one!

## **CRAFT SUPPLIES FOR CONFERENCE CENTERPIECES**

Please bring any craft supplies you may have to donate towards the clay pot painting project. The kids at JJC have offered to paint the clay pots for the State Conference. Art supplies such as stickers, stencils, stamps, craft paint, patio paint, decoupage, foam/regular brushes, or finishing spray will be very useful! Vera Gelder will collect these at any meeting.

## **STEERING COMMITTEE**

### **MASTER GARDENER STATE CONFERENCE**

The Steering Committee will meet at 5:30 p.m., just prior to our regular meeting.

## **APRIL MEETING WILL BEGIN AS A WORKMEETING**

Please come early to our April meeting - 5:00 or whenever you can make it. We will begin our meeting with a grounds cleanup.

## **THANK YOU**

Lisa Beamer presented a wonderful program about the Mid-Missouri Chapter of WILD ONES. Wild Ones is very involved in hands-on projects such as planting a new site near the Hearnese Center. Their plan is to use 2,000 plants in order to prevent erosion on this steep hill site. For more information check out their website: <http://wildones.Missouri.org>

## **EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS**

We will have a booth at Earth Day, which is noon to 6 on Sunday, 4/25, in Peace Park. The rain date is the following Sunday. As usual, we need lots of people to set up, tear down, staff the booth throughout. Also, we need plants, seeds, bulbs, etc. for our sale. Houseplants, blooming things and herbs are always in great demand. Excess garden magazines and catalogs, and clean plastic pots to give away will be welcome. And, any ideas for a good educational display/activity are needed, since there is a \$\$\$ prize competition involved.

## **GREENHOUSE GROWER'S SCHOOL FEBRUARY 3, 2004**

Some new annual introductions coming out from Proven Winners: (most of these are good for containers)

Gypsophila, "Festival Star" thicker growing baby's breath 12" to 18" tall.

Lobelia, laguna "Compact Blue" intense blue with a light colored eye.

Phlox, intensia "Lavendar Glow" dark lavender, nice flat growing phlox.

Scaevola aemula "Whirlwind White" a white fan plant.

### **Pat Bellrose from Fahr's Greenhouse**

Pat talked about growing different plants in one pot and about growing different plants with different needs in the same green house; specifically geraniums, impatiens, and petunias. If you are under time restraints pick the correct series for time allowed; compact, dwarf, or vigorous growers. He did not recommend pinching because it causes crop delay. Spacing and rotation of plant creates a better appearing plant. Geraniums like high calcium and

magnesium so nitrate form of nitrogen was recommended for fertilizer. Impatiens are sensitive to nitrogen so less is better with them. They are also very sensitive to soluble salts. Vegetative petunias need long days to grow well. They like high nitrogen and iron fertility. Remember hard water can cause a problem with iron uptake. If you are growing different crops in a greenhouse his best message to us was to know your greenhouse (just like knowing the microclimates in your yard). Different parts of the greenhouse have dead air spots, hot spots, dry spots, windy spots and spots where the bugs come to plants first (by the vents). If you are trying to initiate bloom, stress the plant. If you are trying to get a bloom to open, water the plant.

Dave Trinklein talked about Disease ID and management. To manage disease, eliminate one of the following three; host (plant), pathogen (they are everywhere), environment (most logically managed). In other words sanitation is the best management method. Use sterile planting media, sterile equipment, work in a clean area, and keep the growing area free of weeds. Use soilless mix within 6 months of opening for best results. Buy seeds and plants from reputable dealers, maintain basic plant nutrition and watering needs, and use early detection methods; scout plants and check roots regularly. Also choose resistant varieties, decrease humidity by watering before 10:00 a.m. and don't water the leaves, use fans to eliminate dead spots, space plants well, and remove all infected plant material immediately, discard or isolate. Remember some spores can travel up to 15 miles. Many diseases are always present but need the right environment to proliferate and become a problem.

They had talks on greenhouse gases, IPM research in the greenhouse and root zone management but I won't report on all them now. If you are interested in any of those contact me. Report by **Marie Pasley**

## RUNGE NATURE CENTER

March 20 the Runge Nature Center will hold a **Naturescape Symposium**, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Free hot dogs, chips, fruit and drinks from 11:30 - 1:00 or while supplies last. Free tree seedling and packet of native wildflower seeds while supplies last. Programs include: Danger plants, Those Invasive Exotics; "Extra Terrestrial" Gardening; Easy, Fun and Affordable Native Landscape Designs; The Right Plant for the Right Site; Plants of Lewis and Clark in Missouri. No reservations required, but for more information call 573-0526-5544.

## COMMUNITY GARDEN COALITION

The Community Garden Coalition is looking for office space. They are looking for something about 200 square feet, possibly 12 x 15 feet minimum. Must have good-grounded outlets on two or more walls and a phone jack. Must also have no access to anyone but CGC, no transit access to another office through CGC. Must have a door with a deadbolt or an office in which they can install one.

If you know of something that might be a perfect fit for the Community Garden Coalition office; please contact Barb Michael at 445-0661.

## ~~~ LESSONS FROM TREES ~~~

- \*\*It's important to have roots.
- \*\*In today's complex world, it pays to branch out.
- \*\*If you really believe in something, don't be afraid to go out on a limb.
- \*\*Be flexible so you don't break when a harsh wind blows.
- \*\*Sometimes you have to shed your old bark in order to grow.
- \*\*If you want to maintain accurate records, keep a log.
- \*\*It's okay to be a late bloomer.
- \*\*Avoid people who would like to cut you down.
- \*\*As you approach the autumn of your life, you will show your true colors.
- \*\*You could be Brilliant!
- \*\*In other words "bloom where you are planted and make the best of what you've got."

## SNACKS

The following people have volunteered to bring snacks or drinks:

**March** - Kathy Richmond (drinks)

Paula Easten (snacks)

**April** - Carolyn Doyle (drinks)

Alice Havard (snacks)

**May** - Nancy Franklin (drinks)

\_\_\_\_\_(snacks)

**June** - \_\_\_\_\_(drinks)

Barbara Ball (snacks)

**July** - Betty Smith (drinks)

Barbara Michael & Betty Smith (snacks)

**August** - Barb Kribbs (drinks)

Jackie Thomas (snacks)

**September** - H. M. Wiedmeyer (drinks)

\_\_\_\_\_(snacks)

**October:** Harvest Feast

**November** - \_\_\_\_\_(drinks)

Sandy Deraps/Peggy Ann Eichen (snacks)

#### OFFICERS FOR 2004

President - Art Gelder 474-8837

Vice-President - Phyllis Barks 698-3845

Secretary - Carolyn Doyle 445-0061

Treasurer - Melissa Hough 696-0198

State Regional Rep - Barb Kribbs 573-682-3980

Agricultural Engineer/Info. Tech. Specialist - 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 and Melissa Hough 696-0198

Extension Grounds: Carolyn Doyle 445-1381

Habitat for Humanity: Phyllis Barks 698-3845

Hotline-Boone Cty.: Monica Frank 446-7508

Hotline-Cooper Cty.: Nancy Hendrix 660-848-2357 and Sharon Young 660-248-2356

Jr. Master Gardeners: Lisa Rose 442-1469/

Cindy Thomas 474-6322

School Gardens: Melissa Hough 696-0198

MU Botanical Garden: Marcia Fluharty 442-2430

Newsletter: Barb Devine 474-6798;

devinebarb@hotmail.com

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

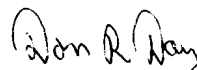
Speakers Bureau: Alice Havard 445-4624

State Conference: Marie Pasley 443-8797

Web Page/Plant Protection Grant:

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*Heart of Missouri Master Gardeners* is published for Master Gardeners in Central Missouri. For more information, contact:



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