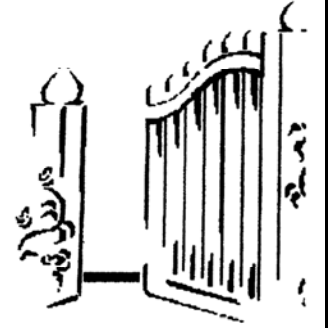




Christian County Master Gardeners  
Across the Garden Gate



**Volume 5 Issue 1**  
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**March 2009**  
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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

By now we should have had time to read all of our garden books (seed catalogues). We can set back in our easy chair while snow and ice flies by and dream of having the best garden in our community. The best flowers, trees, shrubs, and the best lush lawn. But reality sets in when it is time to produce all of these things. It takes much preparation in advance to accomplish these tasks.

The land needs to be prepared. Our soil needs to be tested for the right amount of fertilizer. The old stalks, leaves and trash left from last fall or blown in during the winter needs to be cleaned up. This takes time and energy.

March is the good month to plant our cold weather vegetables'. Here is just a partial list: Asparagus, Beets, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Kale, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, Mustard, New Zealand Spinach, Onions, Snap Peas, Radish, Rhubarb, Spinach, Swiss Chard, and Turnip. There may be many more that you are familiar with that can be planted in March. Be cautioned that we are in the North Missouri Planting Region because of our altitude. This was taken from MU Guide for Vegetable Planting Calendar by Lewis W. Jett. Guide # G6201.

Good Web Site: [Http://extension.missouri.edu](http://extension.missouri.edu)

*Denvard Heasley*

Your Christian County  
Master Gardener 2009 Officers:

President: Denvard Heasley  
Vice President: Virginia Roberts  
Treasurer: Joe Kleiber  
Secretary: Carlene McDaniel  
Program Chair: Kathy Workman

Our next meeting:

March 19,2009

OTC Richwood Valley Campus

6:30 pm

## Window Shopping

Gardeners like to “window shop” as they peruse garden catalogs, attend garden shows, and frequent seminars.

According to Missouri Environment and Garden (Feb. 2009), there are 45 new annual bedding plants to catch our attention. Here’s a few to look for in catalogs or at the local nursery:

The “Big” series of Begonias with large flowers of 2-3 inches.

“Non-stop” tuberous begonias for shady areas with 4 inch flowers of yellow, gold or orange.

Seven bold colors of Cuphea “Vienco” to make a high-impact container plant.

“Purple Flash” ornamental pepper has superior drought resistance.

“Easy Wave” petunias are available in 14 colors now.

“Joey” Ptilotus is a new ornamental which has spikes of bottlebrush flowers and is drought tolerant.

“Amore White Surprise” Salvia is different with a red lip on the white flower. It is also heat, wind, and rain tolerant.

“Garden Statement” Sunflower is lemon-yellow with three layers of petals. This three-foot annual is heat tolerant.

And, that’s MY shopping list.

*Barbara Self*

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## Celebrations of Spring

With today’s overcrowded cities, air and water pollution and the destruction of rain forests, it’s hard to imagine that in the middle of the last century, a warning came from J. Sterling Mortin, a Nebraska resident, angry at the wanton clearing and desecration of the western plains by settlers. He organized an annual planting contest where prizes were awarded to the clubs and granges that planted the most trees. He was so successful that April 22, 1872, marked the first Arbor Day with one million trees planted across Nebraska’s barren prairies. A century later, Arbor Day is still celebrated across America, but halfheartedly at best. A gift of a tree or a shrub, planted in memory of a friend, a birth, a wedding, or a gradua-

tion, is a lasting memory and a gift returned to Mother Earth.

May Day is a very old holiday few of us remember and even fewer of us celebrate. May Day is May first, and the custom, years ago, was to ring the doorbell of a special friend, leave a basket of flowers and run away without being seen. Create a bouquet yourself and leave it on a friend’s doorstep on May first (or any day). The act itself expresses your love. Compose a note using the language of flowers.

*Dorothy Haase*



## Upcoming Events

2009 International Master Gardner Conference

“New Frontiers”

Las Vegas, Nevada

March 22-26, 2009

Register online at <http://www.unce.unr.edu/imgc>

March 12: “High Tunnel Workshop for Growers” at the Missouri State - Mountain Grove Campus  
Cost is \$20.00 To register contact Pamela Mayer at [PMayer@MissouriState.edu](mailto:PMayer@MissouriState.edu).  
High tunnels are solar-heated structures used to extend the growing season.

March 14: 9A.M.-1:45 Master Gardeners Spring Workshop “Frugal Gardening”. United Methodist Church, W Hwy 76. Make checks out to Taney County Extension. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Contact: Taney County Extension at 417-546-4432 to determine if there is space available.

March 21,28, and April 4: Three classes on “Heirloom Tomatoes” 9-11:30 A. M. at US Bank, Branson West. \$25.00 per person. Register online at [missouririta@msn.com](mailto:missouririta@msn.com) or call 417-779-4677. Each person will receive three free packets of seeds.

March 28: Greene County MG 2nd annual “Spring Into Gardening” event at St. Johns Cancer Center, 2nd floor, 2005 S. Fremont, Springfield, MO. 8-11:30. Cost is \$10.00.

April 18: Christian County Master Gardener Plant Sale at OTC Richwood Valley Campus

April 25: Greene County Master Gardener Plant Sale at Nathanael Greene Park in Springfield

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## INFORMATION

Hot Line: Contact Chris Harstick at: [cpstocl@mowisp.net](mailto:cpstocl@mowisp.net) to sign up and help out.

Classified Ads: Contact Debbie Clithero at: [declithero@gmail.com](mailto:declithero@gmail.com) or 725-6261 with any ads for our FREE classified ad section in the MG

News Letter. Ads may include “for sale”, “wanted”, “free to a good home”, or “need good help”.

Articles: Articles are need for our next Newsletter. Please send to Barbara Gale at: [bggale68@mowisp.net](mailto:bggale68@mowisp.net) or mail to Barbara Gale, P. O. Box 6,

Ponce De Leon, MO 65728. Those on the list for articles for the next issue are: Tim Breaux, Christine Brooks, Debbie Clithero, Kathleen Coffey, Dottie Collins, Martie Cornell, Ellen Crawley, Ben Crowley and Elaine Crowley.

The next Newsletter is scheduled for the end of April 2009

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## Going Native

It's never too late to make a resolution for the year and a good one for gardeners would be to plant one new native species in your garden in 2009.

On the decorative side, Missouri Wildflowers Nursery at [www.mowildflowers.com](http://www.mowildflowers.com), Alice Counts locally at [alicecounts@att.net](mailto:alicecounts@att.net), and Angel and Tom Kruzen at [pansgarden@hotmail.com](mailto:pansgarden@hotmail.com) are three trusted sources of a wide variety of Missouri native flowers, ferns, shrubs and decorative trees. You also can get ideas by touring the native section of the Nathaniel Greene Park in Springfield. Our group visited there last year.

Last fall, I planted beauty bush, rattlesnake master, river oats, side oats, little and big bluestem, button bush, golden currant, scarlet elder and paw paw grasses, big bluestem grasses and maidenhair fern, all from the above native sources. I can hardly wait for these new additions to my garden to spring to life in the next month or so!

Don't forget the eatables. Over the years I've

planted buckeyes, blackberries, raspberries and blueberries and last year I added elderberries. These hardy natives can help fill the larder and make our households more self sustainable.

Finally, while heirloom seeds aren't necessarily native to Missouri, they are an excellent source of vegetables often hardy to our region. Baker Creek Seeds, at [www.rareseeds.com](http://www.rareseeds.com) near Mansfield is a tried and true source of both heirloom vegetable and flower seeds. The Baker Creek catalog is a joy to read; you can also learn a lot by attending regularly scheduled workshops and garden days.

So, give natives a try this year. Instead of buying an exotic, imported plant from your favorite gardening center, consider experimenting with a Missouri native plant.

*Jennifer Ailor*

## 2009 Perennial Plant of the Year

Wayside Gardens reports the Hakonechlo 'Aureola' (Botanical Name: Hakonechloa macra 'Aureola') has been named the Perennial of the Year. It is a shade-loving grass with 3 colorful stripes and reddish flower spikes in autumn. It is a native of Japan and it forms a dense mass of arching, 1-foot leaves. It is happy in shade but tolerates some sunlight. It may be used as an ornamental in a border,

foundation, patio, or even a container. It grows slowly and is only 12 inches tall. It spreads, so should be planted 18 inches apart. It prefers moisture-retentive soil with ample organic matter. Zones 5-9



## With Sadness we Report

Gene Neyer, one of our Master Gardeners passed away on February 4, 2009. He will be surely missed at our meetings, work days and the plant sale. Our sympathy to his family.

Sharon Weter's husband, Mike Weter, passed away on February 16. Sharon is the Christian Co. Extension Center's former office manager. He also will be missed by many.

## Cook Books

We have a large number of cook books left. They will be available at the next meeting. We will also sell them at the plant sale in April.

## Classified

Canaan Bluff Farm

All Natural Grass finished beef for sale. Buy it in bulk or by the piece. We have deals on packages. We never use any hormones, antibiotics or chemicals. Contact us for more information.

Laura and Tucker Vimig

[ljvimig@earthlink.net](mailto:ljvimig@earthlink.net)

417-582-0921



### WANTED

Straw bales for my garden.

Susan Leach

H: 634-0203

C: 987-1962



Canaan Bluff Farm

Natural chemical free pork. We are now taking orders for our natural pork. Contact us for more information.

Laura and Tucker Vimig

[ljvimig@earthlink.net](mailto:ljvimig@earthlink.net)

417-582-0921

## PLANT SALE

To get ready for the plant sale, I need to know what you are planning to donate. For example, trees, shrubs, bulbs, vegetable plants, house plants, annuals, perennials, or seeds. **YOU GET THE IDEA.** (A reminder for your plants and seeds, each item or package needs identification tags.)

Example:

What is it--Tree, Shrub

What does it need--Shade, Sun, Partial Shade, Full Shade. Drought Tolerant.

Height and Width. When it blooms and the color. If it is a bulb, does it need to be dug up for Winter and stored. A PICTURE MIGHT BE NICE.

Please let me know if you or someone you know needs help digging up and potting plants. Please let me know if you would like to help dig up other peoples plants and pot them.

If you can provide card tables (for cashiers), boxes (for people to carry home their new treasures) tarps or sheets (in case it gets cold or frosts) wagons and wheel barrows. Please let me know if you have these items and then plan to bring as many as you can.

On setup day (Friday April 17 1P.M. to 6:30 P. M.) I have a few jobs such as pricing, help to haul tables from extension office and basic set up. And whatever else comes up.

On the day of the Plant sale ( April 18th 6:30 A. M. Until everything is sold) I need 3 cashiers, roaming advisors, people to count, write down and add up in the receipt book the items sold. This will make it easier for the cashiers to take money and give change.

I hope I haven't forgotten anything. I'm sure if I have someone will let me know and be willing to help out.

Sorry this wasn't sooner but I'm still learning.

"Over Whelmed"

*Jayson Essick*

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## CHRISTIAN COUNTY MASTER GARDENER'S MINUTES

**February 19, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 6:26 by President Denvard Heasley at the Richwood Valley Campus of O.T.C. The following members were present: Carlene McDaniel, Dorothy Haase, Ernie Braswell, Mary Lou Braswell, Donna Singleton, Lindon Dancer, Susie Harp, Kathy Coffey, Martie Cornell, Lois Helderman, Karen Daake, Elaine Crowley, Ben Crowley, Barbara Gale, Pat Wright, Denvard Heasley, Marti Ingram, Nancy Kisee, Susan Lech, Joe Kleiber, David McCurdy, Chris Brooks, Jayson Essick, Chris Harstick, C.J. Evans, Becky Voss, Tina Cackley, Faye Ballard, Kathy Workman, Dixie Bradley, Julie Martin, Laura Virnig, Tucker Virnig, Joni Chudomelka, Tiffany Kauffman, J.J. Leek, Judy Evans, Bob Moore, Gaylord Moore, Dan Self, Barbara Self and Debbie Clithero.

Kathy Workman introduced our guest speaker, Gaylord Moore. Gaylord gave a very informative program on pruning. Not only did he cover the correct way to prune but also the proper time to prune shrubs and trees.

We broke for refreshments at 7:12p.m. The meeting was called back to order at 7:26 p.m.

Minutes for the January 15, 2009 meeting were approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** by Joe Kleiber is as follows:

December beginning balance	\$4,201.17
One deposit-cookbook	\$10.00
Less expense for party supplies for Christmas dinner to Dorothy Haase of	\$35.41
Leaving ending balance of	\$ 4175.76
January beginning balance	\$4175.76
No income	
Less expense for meat for Christmas dinner to Kathy Coffey of	\$147.48
Leaving ending balance of	\$4028.28
Petty cash remained the same -----	\$99.04

Motion was made and second to accept report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The motion was made and second for the plant sale to be April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009. It was suggested that cookbooks be sold at the meetings and the plant sale. The price is \$10.00 per book.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was a discussion of sponsoring seminars. It was suggested that we think about sponsoring a seminar in January or February 2010.

The motion was made and second for members to be reimbursed for seed, potting soil and out of pocket expenses in preparation for the plant sale. A receipt needs to be presented. A copy of the tax exempt letter can be obtained from the extension center.

If you want a free classified ad in the MG Newsletter, notify Debbie Clithero.

It was suggested that we need a budget committee. Chris Harstick was appointed as chairman of the committee. The following members are on the committee: Denvard Heasley, Joe Kleiber, Virginia Roberts, Marti Ingram, Carlene McDaniel and David McCurdy.

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# Across the Garden Gate

## REPORTS

Program Chair-----Kathy Workman-----no report

Seed Chair-----C.J. Evans--- bring seed, with both common and botanical name; also, note if sun, shade, height, etc. Joe Kleiber said he had several bare root plants if anyone wanted to pot for the plant sale.

Hot Line-----Chris Harstick----started volunteer sheet

Hospitality-----Chris Brooks----A volunteer sheet was sent around for March's meeting.

Photo Chair-----Larry Maples-----No report

Fair & Shows-----Jan Hoover-----Not present

Plant Sale-----Jason Essick-----A volunteer was sent around for working at the plant sale.

Publicity-----Barbara Self----gave reports on several upcoming events

News Letter-----Barbara Gale----reminder to submit articles

MG of the Ozarks-----Joe Kleiber---talked about seminars

## PROJECT LEADERS

Clever Butterfly Garden-----Dan Self---gave report and talked about expanding garden

Nixa Community Center-----Lois Helderman---gave report-will meet March 16<sup>th</sup>

Ozark Judicial Center-----Nancy Kissee ----gave report

Nixa Xeriscape-----Lois Helderman---gave report

Ozark Museum-----Roxie Gallagher

OTC Native Garden-----Liz Ballard

Garrison Springs-----Nancy Kissee

## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS-----

Denvard Heasley

A sympathy card for the family of Gene Neyer was sent around to be signed. Planting a tree in the memory of Gene was discussed. Denvard will check on the location. Also, a bench was mentioned. Flowers were sent to the funeral.

Denvard reported that there was a total of 4,292 hours turned in for 2008. This would be an average of 85.8 hr per active member.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Carlene McDaniel

Secretary

# Across the Garden Gate

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Christian County Master Gardeners



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Ozark, Missouri  
65721