



Master Gardeners of Southwest Missouri

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
Extension

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2005

GRAPEVINE

From the President

Cindy Arrowood, MG—881-5996

Cynarrowood@sbcglobal.net

The new master gardeners have just finished an intense month of classes. Thinking back on my own class time, I was concerned how I would ever learn all the material (still haven't). The past four years as a Master Gardener have given me such great opportunities to continue to learn. The classes were just a beginning. I want to welcome the members of the class of 2005.

Thanks to everyone who has turned in their hours. The total for this year is 13,141 hours. That is 1,729 hours more than last year. March is maybe a little late for a New Year's resolution, but it is the start of a new garden season. I have heard different ways that MGs have used to keep track of their hours. Some write the hours in their calendars. Last year I put the hour sheet in my garden journal as a helpful reminder. The important thing is to keep up on recording your hours. It is hard to remember several months later the hours you worked.

Thanks again!

Cindy



**WELCOME
MASTER GARDENERS!
2005 CLASS**

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Vines

**Tuesday, April 12
6:30 p.m.
St. John's Cancer
Center**

**Neil Hayes,
Carlson's
Nurseries**



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Articles due by 12th of the month.

*Thank you for your contributions to the
Master Gardener Grapevine!*

MG Executive Board of SW Missouri

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Barbara Lucks 883-7984
- Member-At-Large,
Gene Wallace 833-8278



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417-862-9284**

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Dorothy Haase
417-581-4853**

**Treasurer's Report
Barbara Lucks MG,
Bookkeeper—883-7984**

At the end of February our account balances were:

Regular Account	\$13,348.09
Petty Cash Account	474.38
Total Cash	\$13,822.47

Xeriscape Account \$178.50

Spring is just around the corner! Our primary fund raising event of the year, our Plant Sale, will be held soon (I can't believe how fast this year is flying!). Thanks to everyone for their contributions to this very important event!!



**Costa Rica EGRET
Study Trip**

It is very early in the season to be advertising the Costa Rica Horticulture Study Trip, however, I already have 10 of the 20 available slots filled. We have not set the official dates as of yet. I am aiming for a February 9, 2006, departure date – but that is still tentative.

Mary K. Kroening—573-882-9633
kroeningm@missouri.edu

Advanced MG Training

Master Gardeners who are wanting to receive Advanced MG training may do so in Reeds Spring. Space is limited, but if interested you may contact Tim Schnakenberg, Agriculture/ Rural Development Specialist, through the Stone County office at Galena.

Phone 417-357-6812
schnakenbergc@missouri.edu



MG Regular Board Meeting *Highlights*, Mary Lou Braswell, MG, Secretary—417-485-0563 and Ernest Braswell, MG, Assistant

President Cindy Arrowood called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. with board members and committee chairpersons Dan Bohannon, Gene Wallace, Barbara Lucks, Ernest and Mary Lou Braswell, Sal and Marie Macaluso, Naomi Shaw, Jana Belk, Carl Redmon, Gaylord Moore, Rebecca Hilmes and special guest, Al Judycki.

The minutes were approved. Barbara Lucks handed out the treasurer's report through February 28. The following bills were presented: Norma Smith (Social Committee) \$42.28; printing/purchase of 518 new Journals \$672.46.

Mentors have been selected and appointed to their new graduates.

Due to update of the University computers, the MG printer will not print properly. The computer needs either repaired or replaced. A motion passed to allow up to \$500 to repair or replace printer.

Sal reported the hotline is up and running with five new MGs. There were 20 "green sheets" turned in that have their questions answered.

Jana Belk reported that plans for the Spring Banquet have been finalized and there have been 54 signed up to date. Barbara Lucks met with the Convention Committee and Gaylord to discuss plans and ideas. They will be getting committee chairpersons together. The timetable for the planning is ready. Paula reported that we have 518 printed Journal covers and she will be getting the contents printed and inserted. There were 35 Journals sold at the L & G Show. Linda Duncan and Paula are working on details for a booth at the conference.

Gaylord introduced Al Judycki who introduced us to the excellent database he has developed for the gardens. The board members were very impressed with his presentation and enthusiasm.

PROGRAMS

Amy Tuggle, MG—886-0866 amy.tuggle@sbcglobal.net



Vines can be a wonderful part of any garden landscape. Neil Hayes will teach us what vines will

work well for our area, training methods (such as espaliering), support needs, care and maintenance—and more.

Looking Ahead

May 3 will be our annual group plant exchange! Don't miss it!

June is being finalized.

July 12, Michael Fessenden with Myron Royce Farms will be joining us for a program on shade gardening.

August 9, we will have a neat feature on veggies and their nutrients and also super tips and a demonstration for preparing them.

September will be our potluck at Nathanael Greene.

October 11, Nick Buksas will have a program on Dahlias. If you have room, can you put those in too?

[Http://outreach.missouri.edu/greene/mgg](http://outreach.missouri.edu/greene/mgg)



News From the Gardens

Carl Redmon, MG — 886-6316 cjred@swbell.net

The temperature was almost 80 two days ago and 25 degrees this morning! I believe spring is here! Easter definitely is and when you're involved in church cantatas (two for Wesley UMC this year!), it takes a toll on time available for other things. So, I apologize for being so late getting going on the garden stuff this year. Thanks to those of you who are "taking the bull by the horns" and going ahead with bed clean-up. By the time you read this, I hope to have bed assignments completed, and be ready for our big pot-'em-up/clean-up get-to-gather April 2. We will work both the Xeriscape and Nathanael Greene that Saturday, and I will have pots and potting soil/compost available at both gardens. My trailer will also be avail-

able for transporting debris and potted plants and those of you with pick-ups might also be needed. If you can take some of the potted plants home to care for until the plant sale April 30, that would be great. Otherwise, we'll put them in the service area at Nathanael Greene and keep them watered there.

I'm looking forward to another great year in the gardens. Thanks to all of you who have indicated a willingness to be part of our gardens crew this year. Let's start making our new plant lists so we can begin fine-tuning each bed. Remember to include some plants with fall blooms, or attractive foliage for display when we host the State Conference next year. Happy Gardening!

Hotline

Marie and Saverio Macaluso, MGs—889-6574
mari@getatlas.com



By the time you read this my lettuce and spinach will be up several inches. As the soil warms up, so does the hotline. Thanks to all you new people who have volunteered to work the hotline. Sal and I appreciate all you "old-timers" and you "newbies." We could still use a few good men and women to fill a few morning or afternoon spots.

If you prefer to work with an experienced hotliner for two or three times, that is fine, we have several who love to teach, and would enjoy showing you how it's done. The hotline is a wonderful learning tool. As you find answers for clients, you also learn something new. Come on in to air-conditioned comfort, away from the bugs and humidity and meet some new friends.

We're Lost—Please Help Us Find Our Way Home!



If you find any of these books among your collection, in you potting shed or on you summer porch, please return them. No fines, questions or penalties. These books belong in the hotline room and may hold the answer to an inquiring mind's question! The lost books are: "Trees for Urban Missouri" by Rocca, Starkey & Heflin, MO Dept. of Conservation, 1990; "Handbook for the Management of Insects & Plant Disease," M-146 (& M-145), MU Extension; and "A Guide to Common Insects & Disease Forest Trees in the Northeastern US," US Forest Department.

Remember: Please feel free to stop by and use the library. All books must remain at the Extension Office because the books are needed by the hotline crew! So, no personal borrowing from the Master Gardener book collection!

[Http://outreach.missouri.edu/greene/mgg](http://outreach.missouri.edu/greene/mgg)



Plant Sale April 30
Susan Boswell, MG, Chairperson—966-6360
Outsidein@comm-terrace.net

The Plant Sale will begin promptly at 7:30 a.m. A tent will be set up near the Japanese Stroll Garden, same as last year. Plants need to be brought to the tent beginning at 10:00 a.m., Friday, April 29, the day before the sale. We will need wheelbarrows, wagons, and plastic bags. It was agreed by the members that MGs who bring five extra plants can purchase up to five Friday evening, except for plants in the "Collectors Corner." Sign-up sheets for the Plant Sale will be available at the April meeting. Please sign up, Susan needs your help!



At April's program we will have questions and answers to help you prepare for the sale. The weather is great so get your shovels ready. Locate your pots to re-plant in. The Plant Sale is known for its quality and variety of plants and the most important part is the price. Keep all this in mind for our sale. We will have our dig out and repotting at the park. The date will be set later along with the info. Thanks for all the volunteers who signed up at the March program meeting

The annual Plant Exchange will be done at the May 3 meeting. See details in article below.

Social Committee
Sharon Masterson, MG—732-8391
and Jana Belk, MG—725-3203

Spring is finally here and it's time to think about our gardens and a great way to get started is the MG annual Plant Exchange. The date is May 3 at 6:30 p.m., at Nathanael Greene Park on Scenic, in the front pavilion. This will take the place of our regular May meeting.

You may bring up to seven plants and exchange for however many you bring. Upon arriving you will place your name in buckets for the drawing. Bring seven plants and you draw for seven plants. After the drawing we have a free-for-all for the leftover plants. Many of our MGs bring extras just for the

fun. The Social Committee will provide the drinks. The food will be provided by H I U and anyone who would like to bring snacks.

We would like to know if anyone is interested in having a one day member's only tour of MG gardens. We need gardeners and volunteers to help these members get ready for the tour and others who are willing to provide cookies and lemonade. Check at the April meeting for sign-up sheets and a tentative day for the tour. In April the snacks are CFY.

Help Beautify Fair Grove!

A Brownie troop in Fair Grove is seeking help with planting a butterfly garden for a service project. If you'd be willing to help the troop of about 15 girls learn about gardening, from soil preparation to plant selection and care, please contact troop leader Tandra Merisotes, 885-9217, during the day and 759-6133 in the evening. The troop already has several sites in mind, including the city park, or the Old Mill and will make those arrangements. Troop members' parents also are willing to help with the manual labor. The troop also is seeking plant donations. All they need is a Master Gardener to help oversee the project!

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Paula McBurnett, MG—417-866-6858
pmcburnett@drury.edu

**Book Review: “A Blessing of Toads
A Gardener’s Guide to Living with Nature”**

Every time I read a new book (for fundraising or gardening), there seems to be more work for me and whoever happens to be working with me on a project at that moment. Not so with my most recent read by Sharon Lovejoy, an award winning garden and nature writer and watercolor illustrator. Her book “A Blessing of Toads,” which is a collection of her stories for *Country Living Gardener* magazine and her column “Heart’s Ease” is chocked full of ideas for attracting wildlife of every size, shape and form to her gardens.

While Lovejoy writes about her gardens in California as well as her seaside cottage in Maine, her ideas, observations and even recipes for critters are certainly applicable to us gardeners here in the Midwest. For instance, this winter my husband and I were observing the mass of growth at the entrance to our home in Goodland Gardens, 68 acres in the Mark Twain National Forest, when he remarked that we needed to “clean all that up in the spring.” Wildish weeds and overgrown shrubs were overtaking the drive and the mailbox. But, since I had just finished reading Lovejoy’s book which included information on natural bird sanctuaries, I immediately defended the dried up mass of brush and grass

swaying in the breeze. I responded, “See that little bird in there? This is her winter home ... ” My husband was relieved to not have another gardening project.

This is the first book on wildlife that I’ve read that wasn’t a reference book on identifying wildlife, their habitats, food sources, etc. Lovejoy makes it both educational and enjoyable because she is very thorough in her scientific research, and yet she brings the scientific facts and lingo down to an amateur gardener’s level with all the expertise of a seasoned gardener. She includes all the common names as well as detailed class names of plants, birds, amphibians and other things with two, four or more legs—and even no legs! She writes with compassion and incite about bumblebees, dragonflies, squirrels, finches, bats, hummingbirds, beetles, wasps, miles, snakes, worms, to name a few—and of course, toads.

Lovejoy shares her tasty recipes for birds, architectural plans for wildlife housing and names of plants best suited to help wildlife through all seasons. Her book makes you want to go out and assess your landscape and to rethink what you plant (and don’t plant), where you plant it, how long you leave it in your garden, and how you can attract something new to your garden.

Gardening Notes for April

- Begin potting up plants for the MG plant sale.
- Plow, till and cultivate only if soil is workable.
- Don’t forget to spring forward for Daylight Savings Time, Saturday, April 2.
- Apply pre-emergence crabgrass preventers by April 15. Organic alternative: As ground temperatures near 50 degrees F, apply corn gluten for early pre-emergent weed control.
- Remove winter mulches from roses.
- Remove tree wraps from fruit trees.
- Seeds to plant early: spinach, lettuce, snow peas. Try green beans, squash and corn, too, the second week of April.



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Moore Thoughts

Gaylord Moore — 862-9284

Horticulture Specialist

Wow! The 2005 Master Gardener season is off and running. A number of activities are planned again this year which present many opportunities for MGs to become involved. The Garden Symposium is planned again this year for the first weekend in June. This event held at Nathanael Greene Park is an opportunity for the public to observe some of the gardens, including the MG demonstration garden that continues to be developed at this botanical park. Sonja Lallemand has agreed to chair this event again this year.

The State Master Gardener conference is not scheduled for Springfield until 2006, but work behind the scenes has certainly started. To effectively present an event such as this requires strategic planning and a number of responsible volunteer leaders willing to take a major leadership role. I recently reviewed a written document from Barbara Lucks, conference chair, which has many of the du-

ties than will need special attention to make this happen. If you want to become directly involved in this conference opportunities will be there.

It has been some time since we have updated our Master Gardener Speaker's Bureau. If you are interested in presenting an educational program to various groups or organizations, please fill out the insert in this Grapevine. If you have a specific gardening subject that is of particular interest and you are willing to give presentations, I suggest that you prepare a talk, or workshop, for a 30 to 45 minute presentation. The group requesting the presentation will often influence the time you may have. Bottom line, you will need to be a little flexible. Those who have given presentations in the past and want to continue please fill out this survey as well. Be sure and return it as soon as possible as public requests are beginning to come forth.

Fairs and Shows

Dan Bohannon, MG—634-5172 5172 danbo@isp.com

Greetings Fellow Volunteers!

Thanks for your enthusiastic response for the show at the Expo Center. I hope that we can make as good an impression with the crowd this weekend as we did at the Lawn and Garden Show. There are still afternoon slots for the Naturescaping event on April 2 at the Nature Center, and someone is needed on April 23 to man a booth at the Library Center for a reading event for LDA. Barbara Lucks is providing an activity for the kids to do. There is also a booth at WOW on April 30 if someone would like to be there and do a short presentation about Master Gardeners.

I was thinking about the impact we have at these events. Because public education is the main thing we are about, giving information is what we want to do. What I have seen in action at the shows is like

evangelistic zeal! You Master Gardeners want to inform and enlighten the public because you love gardening and working outside so much. I think this garden evangelism is great and is the reason Gaylord's class keeps filling up. Just this week I was talking to a member of the 2005 class and he said he had already told five people about Master Gardeners and they were ready to sign up.

Again, thank you for your enthusiasm. Whether at a show or just in your daily life, remember to spread the gardening word around, throw a little compost here and there and wait for more Master Gardeners to grow.

Keep Growing,

Dan Bohannon MGE (Master Gardener Evangelist)

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2005 Master Gardeners Program and Events Calendar

- | | |
|----------|--|
| April 1 | Spring Banquet, Reservation Required |
| April 2 | Naturescape Symposium, Nature Center
Pot'em-up/clean up in gardens |
| April 5 | MG Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m., Extension Office |
| April 12 | Program "Vines," Neil Hayes, Carlson's Nurseries, 6:30 p.m.,
St. John's Cancer Center |
| April 23 | Booth at Library Center for LDA |
| April 29 | Beginning at 10:00 a.m. Bring plants to Nathanael Greene for
Plant Sale |
| April 30 | Plant Sale! Nathanael Greene
Booth at Wonders of Wildlife |
| May 3 | Annual Plant Exchange |

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