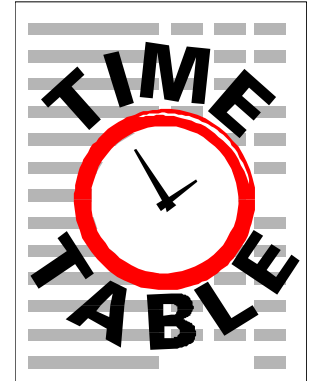




State Conference '06 Report Barbara Lucks, 883-7984



Preparation for the 2006 State Master Gardener Conference is moving ahead. Two planning sessions have been held. The hotel has been contracted and dates Selected. It will be September 15-17, 2006, at the Clarion Hotel (used to be Sheraton—by Friendly Ford).

A small group of committee chairs will be formed between now and March. Our planning timetable for the next several months is:

Timetable:

- March Meeting to elect committee chairs and review committees that are needed.
- April Meeting of committee chairs who will estimate the costs for various activities and supplies.
- May Meeting to determine tentative schedule of conference, along with estimated costs and some idea of registration cost.
- June Meeting to determine speakers, tours, and to get these folks contacted!
- July & August Meeting to prepare skit, journals, display for presentation at 2006 State Conference.
- And— September is *The 2006 State Conference!*

So far, committees for the following have been identified and chairs will be needed:

<u>Committees:</u>	<u>Responsibilities:</u>
Door prizes and sponsorships	For give-aways and sponsorships.
Packets	Packets to be presented to attendees.
Food	Reception, snacks, meals, tour box lunches – all things edible.
Registration	Pre-registration and event registration.
Workshop/Program	Topics, speakers, AV materials.
General Support	Porta potties, signage, tent, and similar things.
Transportation	Shuttle buses (if needed), speakers' transportation (if needed), and tour buses.

In addition, there will be many volunteer opportunities, such as, hotel coordination; volunteer coordination; hospitality room coordination; church service coordination; gift coordination; plus many, many more as we continue our planning. Please be thinking of where you will want to serve!! Stay tuned!!

Showcase Your Gardening Talents at the 10th Annual Springfield Watergarden Society Two-Day Pond Tour

SWS would love for you to be a part of this 10th annual event! If you have a watergarden (any size, shape or construction) and are interested in being a host, that's great—the tour is set for Saturday, June 11, and Sunday, June 12. Hosts are needed for one, or both days, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. All we ask is that you join the society which is \$20. It's a terrific way to open your garden to the public. The visitors are enthusiastic about gardening in general, learning more, and visiting with

you. An added bonus: you can count your hours towards public education!

We're making big plans for this year's event so please call soon if you are interested, or if you would like more details. Contact Linda Siler at O'Quinn's, 883-2399. We're hoping to have all hosts confirmed by the first of April.

Thank you for your consideration and happy gardening (and ponding). Amy Tuggle





Moore Thoughts Gaylord Moore — 862-9284 Horticulture Specialist

This is the time of year when service hours and commitment forms are being requested from the Master Gardener membership. If you gave volunteer hours to the Master Gardener program in 2004 and have not sent in your hours, please do so soon. If you do not have the form you may request one by calling the office (862-9284), or call Cindy Arrowood (881-5996) directly and report your hours. Also in the February newsletter you received a commitment form to indicate your intention for involvement with the Master Gardener program.

I am requesting that all volunteer hours for '04 or volunteer commitment forms for '05 to be submitted no later than March 25. There are several

Master Gardeners who I know are very active in the program and have not sent in hours. It is important that we have that record to show impact of the local and state program. Too, the hours are an indication of your interest and active participation in the program. With no volunteer hours, or indication of future commitment, I assume you are no longer interested in active membership with the program.

We have a great '05 class with thirty three students. All are enthusiastic and ready to become involved in our program. Thank you to the Library Station where the classes are being held. The meeting facility is excellent.

Gaylord is looking for anyone interested in doing some seminars at the Symposium being held at the Expo Center, June 1.

**Do you have gardening tips to share?
Are there unique things related to gardening that have worked for you over the years?
Please send to the editor.
Keep them short and helpful.**

What's Happening South of Our Border! Barbara Self, MG, Christian County MGs Publicity

An ensemble of 29 MG graduated November 8, 2004, after completing their 30 hours of core training. They have established the Christian County Master Gardeners. Officers have been selected, by-laws drafted, and several project ideas are being considered.

The training was facilitated by Gordon Carriker, University of Missouri agriculture business specialist, with a great amount of help from Gaylord Moore, horticulture specialist. The MG trainees found the slate of speakers for the ten classes enlightening and entertaining.

Attendance at the December and January general meetings has been encouraging. In December, Bobbi Wixson of Hazel's Flowers in Ozark discussed how to use outdoor, natural items for holiday decorating. In

January, Keller Hasner, of the Nixa Parks Department, discussed projects in which the Christian County MGs might partner.

On February 17, guest Kathy Workman, University of Missouri 4-H youth program assistant, discussed her 4-H Butterfly Gardening program; yet another potential partnering project for Master Gardeners.

The new Christian County Master Gardeners are endowed with high levels of eagerness and enthusiasm. They are hoping to draw on the experience of their neighbor MGs in Greene County as they proceed. Several of the Greene County MGs have already helped. Thank you!

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

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**Master Gardeners of Southwest
Missouri Extension Office**
Phone: 417-862-9284
Fax: 417-862-1809

2005 Master Gardeners Program Calendar

March 1 **Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m., Extension Office**

March 8 **“Getting Ready for the Plant Sale,” 6:30 p.m., St. John’s
Cancer Center**

Social Committee meeting, 5:30 p.m., prior to program.

March 18, 19 and 20 **Garden Expo at the Expo Center**



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