

The Foothills Gardener

The Master Gardeners of the Foothills Newsletter

Volume 7, Issue 1, August 31, 2008



Meeting: 9:00 AM Wednesday, September 3, 2008, Hayden Conference Center.

Speaking on "Flowering Shrubs" will be Margot Rochester, freelance writer and speaker.



Jamie Gibson

At the June meeting of the Master Gardeners of the Foothills, Jamie Gibson in charge of Quality Control/Technical Services/ R&D at Conrad Fafard, Inc. was the guest speaker. He is a graduate of West Virginia University and 4th generation Horticulturist specializing in tropical plants. His slide presentation was the blending of tropical perennials and tropical foliage with plants that will survive in the Upstate.

Message from The President:

WATER! It's been on all of our minds, all summer long. I know you, as I, am looking forward to the cooler and hopefully wetter days of Autumn ahead. Now is the time to be planning your fall garden. Trees and shrubs would much rather go into the earth during cooler weather. You can still order plants and nurse them along a bit until the temperatures drop. Look at the plants in your garden that continue to stand tall in spite of a rough summer. Those are the things I definitely want more of. Bulb planting time is coming and we'll be doing the bulb sale again. These bulbs are truly spectacular performers and they help us raise money to contribute back to the community and support club activities. I would like each of you to be thinking about future fundraising ideas in addition to old favorites.

At our first meeting of the year, I will be asking for many new committee volunteers. Some of our current committee chairs would like to turn over the reigns so that they can participate in new endeavors. We have quite a few new members. To them, I'd like to say that there is no better way to get to know everyone than to get involved. No position is too much work and there are plenty of great folks to answer questions. Think about volunteering this year and get ready to raise those hands. Sally Whiddon has once again, arranged a great slate of speakers for our education and entertainment.

I look forward to seeing old friends and getting to know new ones in September. As your new President, I am always available for questions, gardenchat and of course, criticism, if need be.

Debra

Hospitality for September: Martha Grant, Brenda Hendricks, Darlene Roehl, Rita Van Lenten, and Sally Whiddon

Web site of the month: Rainwater Harvesting
<http://www.kidsfromkanata.org/~kfk/files/rainbarrels.html>

Minutes, Master Gardeners of the Foothills, June 4, 2008

President Darlene R. called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

OFFICER REPORTS: VP Treasurer Sandra B. reported a balance of \$3873.21. The April minutes were approved as published. Darlene thanked officers and committee members for the year's contributions and welcomed new officers (Pres. Debra S., VP Mem. Karen T., VP Prog. Sally W., Treas. Linda M., and Sec. Sandy P.) Volunteers are needed for the hospitality, historian, and trip positions. – VP Membership Brenda H. reminded members that dues must be paid by June 30 for names to be in the directory.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Adelaide reported two open spaces for hospitality in Oct. – Sue Q. is taking orders for members who want a name tag by Sept. - Thanks to Sue and Barbara for arranging the May trip. – Gloria recognized class members attending the meeting. – Debra is handling the gift basket for the State MG Conference. Marian said this is the first state conference in three years and encouraged members to attend.

OLD BUSINESS: – Sprouting Wings will use the MG donation for new plantings around the lower level. – The \$1,000 scholarship for a Tri-County student will be sent this month and, if possible, be available for September. The MGs will evaluate the donation next year.

NEW BUSINESS: Debra is looking into creating a MG website. – Darlene said the SCBG needs volunteer tour guides. She reminded all that our hours translate into dollars for the Garden which must generate 1.5 million dollars for the “Children’s Garden”. She also thanked those who worked at Clemson Community Care. Debra added her thanks to those who helped at McKissick Elementary in Easley. – Lily invited members to visit her garden after the meeting. Darlene and John B. added invitations to theirs. – Diane spoke about Cogon grass (*Imperata cylindrical*), an invasive species of grass that we must recognize and eradicate. It is considered one of the worst weeds in the world. For more info, go to <http://dpi.clemson.edu>

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 after door prizes were awarded.
Respectfully submitted, Sandy Parker, Secretary.

Coming Events:

Fall 2008 Plant Sale – Thursday, October 2nd from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm Preview Education & Reception for Members Only. Friday, October 3rd from 2:30 pm to 6:00 pm Members Only. Saturday October 4th 9:00 am to 1:00 pm Sale open to the public and free admission. Location: SCBG Operations Area at the corner of Hwy.76 & Perimeter Road.

The next meeting of the Master Gardeners of the Foothills will be October 1, 2008 featuring Patricia McMillan, botanist and lecturer, Clemson. Speaking on “Nature on the Move.”

The Trading Post: If you have any plants to give away or are looking for a specific plant, The Trading Post is the place to post your notice.

Recipe for September: Sausage & Apple Overnight Casserole

2 lbs. bulk pork sausage
2 granny smith apples, peeled, cored and cut into bite-sized pieces
9 slices bread, crusts removed and cubed
1/4 tsp. dry mustard
1 tbsp. margarine
9 large eggs, beaten
1 1/2 c (6 oz.) grated sharp cheddar cheese
3 cups milk

1. Fry the sausage, crumbling as you cook it. Drain well. Place the sausage in a lightly greased 13 x 9 x 2 baking dish.
2. Sauté apples in 1 tbsp. margarine. Combine apples, bread cubes, mustard, eggs, cheese and milk & mix well. Pour over sausage. Refrigerate overnight.
3. Heat oven to 350 and bake covered for 30 minutes. Uncover and bake another 30 minutes or until nicely browned.

Deadline for information to be included in the newsletter is always the 15th of the month.

REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR NAME TAG

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