

CHILTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION
March 11, 2014
Meeting minutes

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President, Pat Farmer. Pat welcomed all our members and guest to the meeting.

Lanell Baker, secretary, asked for a motion to accept the minutes as posted on our web site. A motion was made by Margaret Goolsby and seconded by Julie Soileau. The motion to accept was approved.

Margaret Goolsby gave the following treasurer report.

Balance last statement	\$4,476.75
Deposit	+ 92.26
Checks written	- 444.44
Ending bank balance	\$4,124.57
Outstanding checks	- 66.00
Actual Balance	\$4,058.57

A motion was made by Bonnie Hairrell and a second by Linda Hayes and the report was approved as read.

Jackie Hickman gave a brief report of the success of “The Fairytale Gardens” that was held at the Jemison City Hall on February 28, and March 1. There was a slide show of all the Fairytale characters as they worked with the children. She thanked everyone that helped her decorate and for making this a great adventure and success for the children.

She also asked for anyone wanting to make a mini-garden to sell at the Maplesville Plant sale to let her know. She has the supplies already.

Alice Broome gave a report about the new DEMO garden design. She explained there would be a contest of the best theme and well-kept garden. The signup sheets are on the table. Please pick your spot in the garden and have fun designing it. If you have question, please call Alice Broome or Sondra Henley.

Tammy McGriff made a report of a Boy Scout project just outside of the Jemison City Hall in memory of one of their police officers that was killed in the line of duty. There is going to be a nice monument and two large planters in the memorial area. She was asking for the Masters Gardeners to please plant flowers in the planters and area to make it more attractive. The MG will plant these planters when we plant the other flowers for the City of Jemison if the board approves it.

Pat asked for a show of hands of those planning on going to the Alabama Master Gardener Association Conference. Those going were Alice Broome, Sondra Henley, Harriett Jackson, Linda Hayes, Diane Clapp, Wayne Freeman and Joan Davis.

Sarah Saunders asked for volunteers to work at Garrison Farms each Saturday in April from 8:00AM – 12:00PM answering questions for their customers. The signup sheet is on the table.

Our first door prize was won by Wayne Short and the second door prize was won by Jimmy Knowles.

Committee Reports:

Cards: Jane Mason has sent a Thank You card to Renee' Powers for getting the plants donated for the Veterans Home landscape project. She also thanked each one that had signed up to work at the Water Festival on March 14th. Please be at the Jefferson State Jr. College campus by 7:45AM-12:00PM. Those that have not signed up and find you can work that day, please come on, we'll find a place for you. Extra help is always needed. This event is for all 4th graders in the county.

DEMO Garden: Alan Reed stated that only 6 people came out to work on March 10 but they got a lot accomplished. Each Monday and Thursday in March we will begin working at 10:00 AM but in April we'll begin working Monday and Thursday at 9:00 AM. Jerry Farmer is building shelves for the pump house Jim said we could use for storage. If you have any extra lumber suitable for shelves you would like to donate it would be appreciated. Also, if you have extra garden tools you don't use are would like to share please bring them and they can be stored and used in the garden without having to bring everything with you each day. We are going to start work on the irrigation system soon. At the present time there is no water available.

Door Prize: Betty Knight said that Imogene Bresse, Diane Clapp and Bob Bates are responsible for the door prizes for April.

Fig and Vine: Bill Hairrell and Jerry Farmer have buckets of fig cuttings. Everyone please take as many as you can to get potted up and rooted for the EXPO sale in August. Please keep up with the varieties you get and have them labeled correctly for the sale. Due to the weather we have not been able to get the vine cuttings yet. There is still no definite date set for vine cuttings – TBA.

Finance: Margaret Goolsby stated that a check to the IRS has been mailed, also, our 501c3 forms have been mailed and we are waiting on an answer.

Fund Raising: Barbara McAnally had the travel mugs with the CCMG logo on them for sale at \$8.00 each. She also stated that an order form will be on our web site by March 24 for any logo items any one might want to purchase. Copy the form, fill it out and return it with the money at our next meeting. The cutoff date for ordering any items will be April 22, 2014.

Diane Clapp reminded us of the April 12th plant sale at Maplesville. She will have a trailer at our next meeting, April 8, for us to put our plants on. Make sure you have them labeled correctly and watered and ready for sale and she'll see that they get to the sale. If you do not bring them to the meeting make sure you have them in Maplesville by 7:00 AM.

Hospitality: Mildred Knowles stated that she needs someone to bring juice and drinks for the April 8th meeting. Also, there are still several vacant spots for the rest of the year. May is our annual plant swap and it will be announced later as to what we'll do for that meeting.

Recruitment and EXPO: Harriett Jackson needs names for new Master Gardener prospects. Be asking all your neighbors, friends and family if they would be interested in being a Master Gardener and get the names to Harriett.

Lee and Wally Walters are heading up our EXPO event held the first Saturday in August. Jim Pitts has given us permission to do three presentations in the Demo Garden this year.

Help Line: Pat Farmer ask everyone to sign the help line sheet and fill it in for the year. CCMGA mans the help line each Thursday for the months of April through September. So please sign up!!

Ben Matthews is back in ICU at Shelby with an internal infection. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Two more door prizes were given out. The winners were Jerry Farmer and Trisha Williams.

Linda Turnipseed stated that we would plant the City of Clanton planters on April 22, 2014 starting at 9:00 AM. Not sure if we are going to plant the Jemison Planters that same day or not. We will discuss this at our next meeting on April 8th.

Pat Farmer introduced our guest speakers, Barbara and Fred Muenzmay, owners of the Eagles Roost Herb Farms in Rockford, Alabama. They are both Master Gardeners from Coosa County for 15 years. They have had Eagles Roost Herb Farms for the past 25 years and grow 40-60 different types of culinary herbs. They grow herbs that are not available anywhere else. They also have a Tea Room/Restaurant that is only open when you make reservations. They cook with the herbs they grow and explain how to use them in cooking and for medicinal purposes. They brought several flats of the herbs they grow to sell and explained and demonstrated the use of a few of them. Fred explained how to plant some of the herbs. For example, Lavender, when you plant it you only put it about 50% into the ground and as the plants grows you pull the soil up around it. This keeps it from rotting and losing the bottom leaves. Also, if you have an herb dish garden you need to replace or replant it every 12 months. After the first year the herbs have gotten root bound and used up all nutrients in the soil. He also stated that dried herbs are twice as strong in flavor as fresh herbs. After many years of research they have a list of about 15 herbs and their uses that show the interplant ideas, culinary and medical uses and some gift ideas you can make with herbs. They also shared with us some of the recipes they use. This was a very interesting, entertaining and informative program that was enjoyed by all. You may contact them at 205-377-2444 if you are interested in having them speak to your club or group.

Audrey Giles won our last door prize.

Trisha Williams presented Awards to members that were present:

Bronze - Dick Whisner and Tammy Walters

Silver - Rick Miller

Gold - Joan Davis and Margaret Ennis

April 8th will be our next meeting at Jemison Municipal Building, 9:30-11:30AM and our program will be on Soap Making with Alison Chappell. We'll break for lunch and tour Petals from the Past at 1:00 PM.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Total present: 37 members, 4 guest: 41 present