

NC Cooperative Extension

ROWAN COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2009



JUNE —The May rains have left many of us with weeds in our once weed-free beds. Steve Aitken, Editor of Fine Gardening says, “I consider weeding like eating chocolate: It gives me joy, but it can often be hard to stop. Pulling one weed can make a bed look so much better I always want to pull just one more.”

ROWAN COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION MEETING TUESDAY June 9, 2009

Landis Gourmet Mushrooms
414 North Meriah Street
Landis, NC

704-202-1216

DIRECTIONS BELOW

Or Meet at Ag Center at 12:30

Bring a Lawn Chair!!



In the lower floor of Linns Corriher Cotton Mill in Landis John Herron grows oyster mushrooms. A big proponent of sustainable methods, John uses scrap cotton (from another mill) as the growing medium for his mushroom spores. In his climate-controlled environment, these spores grow into harvest-ready mushrooms in three weeks. John and his partner Roger Safrit are at the Farmers Market every week with mushrooms, recipes and great stories. John will treat Master Gardeners to a tour and discussion about how he became interested in growing mushrooms, his successes and his plans. John's oyster varieties include: Brown Phoenix, Blue Tree, and Golden.

Refreshments provided by Jean Gillooly and Bob Bruce

DIRECTIONS from Ag Center:

Leave Parking Lot, turn left onto Old Concord Road. At traffic light at Julian Road and Old Concord Road, turn left. At the I-85 interchange, take the southbound ramp. At exit 68, US 29 / NC152 exit toward China Grove. Continue on **29 South** to East Ryder Road (4.2 miles). Turn **Right** on East Ryder Road. Follow East Ryder about 1 mile. Turn right at the flashing light onto North Meriah St. Follow North Meriah to the mill. Park in the lot north of the sign.



RCMGVA Family Ice Cream Social at West End Gardens **Thursday June 24 at 7PM**



Bring the whole family for fun and ice cream. Show off the West End Gardens and enjoy the fellowship of our volunteer association. Bring cookies, a topping or your favorite add on to ice cream. Sign up at the meeting on June 9.



From the President:

Congratulations to the Master Gardener Class of 2009 after your successful completion of weeks in the class room and probably far too many exams. Now that you are officially Master Gardeners I would like to invite each of you the opportunity to join the Rowan Association. I can guarantee that there will be many tasks that will require your attention and special talents, plus there are always group trips and of course a social event or two. This is a great bunch of folks, who work well together and have so much in common. Please come and join us.

June is always a catch your breath month for our Master Gardeners. We have finally cleared away the winter mess, planted our spring and summer gardens, completed another successful plant sale and started planning for numerous warm weather activities. Summer is also the time when we devote special attention to the youth in our community, especially through 4-H youth programs. Stay tuned as there will be more announcements regarding these activities and opportunities as to how you can help.

There are several events occurring in June that you may want to mark on your calendar. First is the Association meeting on June 9th that will be off-site. We will be visiting a grower who produces gourmet mushrooms in Landis. Sue Davis will be providing directions for those who plan to meet there or if you wish to travel as a group, we will meet at the Extension Center at 12:30pm and car pool to Landis. On June 24th there will be an Ice Cream Social at the West End Garden, beginning at 7:00 PM. This event will be open to spouses and the families of Master Gardeners. More information will be provided about this event at the June 9th Association meeting. June is also the time to sign-up for the Propagation and Air Layering classes that will be held in July. These classes will also be offered to the public so if a Master Gardener is interested in either the July 1st or 29th class, June will be sign-up time.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at the West End Garden on Friday mornings or at the Association meeting on the 9th.

Bob



Dig Life's ...
Earth Rich Colors!

Class of 2009 Name Tags and Special Order Name Tags

NAME TAGS HAVE ARRIVED FOR CLASS OF 2009. THEY ARE AT THE AG CENTER, IN MELVA MINUS' OFFICE. FOR THOSE WHO SPECIAL ORDERED A NEW NAME TAG, IT SHOULD ALSO BE AVAILABLE FROM MELVA.



Katherine Jones and Sue Davis are having fun getting to know all of the vendors at the Salisbury Farmers Market, representing all Rowan County Master Gardeners, and of course good eats. One of the most fun parts about writing articles is feeling responsible for trying new vegetables and recipes on the family. We've relied on the cooking suggestions of the vendors for the most part. When you visit the market this year, try something new. Ask for recipes and ideas for preparation. We are very fortunate to have local vendors providing us not only vegetables, but meats, breads, pasta, desserts, herbs, plants and cut flowers. Remember the market is open **Wednesday and Saturday 7AM until NOON.**

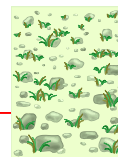
Earn Hours with Special Projects

Now is the time for Master Gardeners to take a look at schedules to volunteer. Many from the Class of 2009 have already been hard at work. Thank you for all your hard work and continued support of the program. Please take time to put your volunteer contributions. I must document your volunteer hours to legitimize the Master Gardener Program. You can go to the Master Gardener website at <http://www.rowanmastergardener.com/MG%20time%20sheet%2008.xls> for a copy of the time sheet.

Engineering MGs-Darrell needs a team to install a the rain barrel at the outdoor storage building at the office near the greenhouse at the Extension Office. This will include tastefully installing guttering and a drip system to demonstrate for the public. This needs to be done soon. There funds for guttering and other material needs. Rain barrel sales will resume in July.

Turf Test Plots-both plots need help. There are two plots with over 28 different fescue cultivars on each plot. The plot at the office near the greenhouse needs to be sprayed for weeds, rows sprayed for definition and over-seed. Darrell has all the herbicides and seed. The plots at the West End Garden needs to fertilized again, pamphlets in the boxes at both places and general maintenance.

The grass is greener — HERE!



PLANTS, PESTS and PATHOGENS

If you would like to come to a trial run of the Plants, Pests and Pathogens Elluminate session Tuesday June 9 beginning at 10:00AM-12:00 noon. Bring your lunch and plan on going to the Master Gardener Meeting at Landis Gourmet Mushrooms in the afternoon. We'll have the room set up and hopefully the session will be educational and entertaining.

4-H Summer Fun Horticultural Week July 20-24



Schedule for the week is as follows:

Monday—July 20-Garden in a Jar-Making a Terrarium
Tuesday—July 21-From the Grower, to the Grocery, to the Kitchen!
Wednesday-July 22-Water wise Plants and Xeriscape Container Gardening
Thursday-July 23-Garden Art- Mosaics
Friday- July 24-Exploring the Fields-Itchy, Biting, Stinging Things!

Volunteers will be needed to assist with all classes. There is a limited size to all classes, most are 10, two are 12. A training and planning session will be held closer to the dates.

We will also be having a fun day for Cloverbuds, the youngest 4-Hers, 5-9 yrs old. On Tuesday July 8, Pamela Deal will be conducting a gourd art class for the youngsters. Again, there will be 10-12 and assistance would be appreciated. All classes will be held at the Ag Center, with two off site trips for Tuesday and Friday dates. Mark your calendars and **save the dates!**



On the radio!!!

Tune in every Thursday morning on WSTP 1490AM at 8:35AM to hear the latest in Rowan County Horticultural happenings. Thanks to our sponsors: Patterson Farms, Inc., Carolina Stalite, Farm Bureau Insurance, James River Equipment, Steele Feed & Seed, Villa Franca Estates, Godley's Garden Center & Nursery and Lazy 5 Ranch.

Propagation Workshops

July 1, 2009 and July 29, 2009
at the
Ag Center Covered Work Area
9AM until...

Sign Up Now...these are open to the public...there is a charge for members and non members

**Rowan County Master Gardener Volunteer Newsletter
June 2009**

JUNE 2009

- 9 10:00-noon Elluminate—*Plants, Pests and Pathogens*
- 9 1:00PM Association meeting-Landis Gourmet Mushrooms
- 12 1:00PM Planning Meeting with Darrell for MG activities
- 13 9AM Noon Field Day at West End Garden for the Public
- 24 7:00PM Ice Cream Social—WE
- 26-27-28 Longwood Gardens Trip
- 30 10:00AM BOD-Chamber of Commerce



JULY 2009

- 1 9:00AM- noon -GH- propagation class—sign up
- 8 9:00-noon- 4-H Cloverbuds—Fun with Gourds
- 11 9:00AM—Farmers Market-tomato tasting
- 14 10AM_12PM—Ag Center—Elluminate—*Plants, Pests and Pathogens*
- 14 1:00PM Association meeting-Ag Center—Grafting and Air Laying — Garrett Owen (Owen Greenhouse) and Jean Lamb...Hands on Air Layering
- 20-24 4-H Horticulture Week
- 28 30 10:00AM-BOD-Chamber of Commerce
- 29 9:00am-noon- GH—propagation II—sign up

August 2009

- 11 10AM_12PM—Ag Center—Elluminate—*Plants, Pests and Pathogens*
- 11 1:00PM Association Meeting — Ag Center — All About Bees Bob Blackwelder

Radio every Thursday

West End Every Friday-weather permitting

Please note that some of these dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances.
Please check the web page for updates and corrections.

www.rowanmastergardener.com

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Keep Smiling, Even when Problems TURNIP!



CHRISTMAS Planning and Creating Sessions
to prepare for ARC Festival of Trees
will be held
First and Last weeks of August