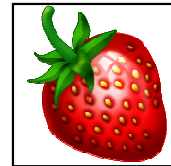


## NC Cooperative Extension



AUGUST– Excellent way to start the month. Lower temperatures and humidity. Butterflies and hummingbirds are in abundance. Not as many Japanese beetles to contend with. Ants keep marching to and fro.

### ROWAN COUNTY EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION MEETING TUESDAY AUGUST 10 1:00PM



Our speaker will be Joe Hampton, Research Operations Manager, Piedmont Research Station, will be our speaker. His topic will be “Goals of the Strawberry Breeding Program”. We will be touring the Research Station later this year. We will also be planning for the Rowan County Fair.

Refreshments by Carolyn Alexander and Sue Davis

### WEST END Demonstration and Trial Garden

Not much to report from the West End. The tomatoes and peppers in the raised beds have struggled with the heat. The gourd and sunflower seeds that the Miller kids planted had a hard time germinating, but a few have made an appearance. The irrigation has kept the front beds alive, and the weeds have flourished. The City has done a less than stellar job of mowing. They successfully mowed down the ‘Scarlett Brandywine’ crabapple. It will not be replaced. The shade garden holds promise. The Japanese anemone should be blooming alongside the Limelight hydrangea. Maybe with cooler temperatures predicted, work can resume on Fridays in limited areas. The raised beds may be replanted with cool season crops. Cover crops could replace areas where nothing but pigweed and nut-sedge are holding court. We still have an obligation, but a much smaller presence.



## From the President:



This has truly been a strange spring and summer with more than forty days thus far where our ambient temperature has been above 90 degrees. As a result, it has limited many of the outdoors activities where our Master Gardeners normally accumulate their volunteer hours. Do not fret as several opportunities are right around the corner with the Rowan County Fair. The Fair is scheduled to kick off on Monday September 20<sup>th</sup> and Master Gardener volunteers will be needed. Our Association will once again be represented at the Fair and volunteers will be needed to plan for, erect and tear down our display booth. Since our local Cooperative Extension office has a major role in the operation and activities of the Fair, we have been asked to help serve as support personnel in some of the Fair events. I am sure that many of you will step up and help out at this major County event. More information will be forth coming via email and at the next Association meeting on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

A special thank you goes out to all of those volunteers that assisted over the past month on several community programs. First of all there were two sessions where Jean Lamb taught county residents, Propagation 101. Trays of new plants now reside in our greenhouse as they attempt to survive and develop prior to going home. All summer long Darrell has led a group of dedicated volunteers at the Millbridge Elementary School as they installed a working demonstration garden for the school. Then there were the 4-H projects that our Master Gardeners supported, Summer Fun and Cloverbuds. Based on what I am hearing, these were huge successes. One project that will stretch into August is the Miller Center Summer Session with Mrs. Massey and all of her volunteers, teaching local children about seeds, plants, vegetables, insects, spiders and birds. Based on current reviews, the children are having a great time.

We have a great group of volunteer Master Gardeners who do so much for our community. You all are much appreciated.

*Bob Bruce*

## August Birth Flower

The gladiolus is the August birth flower. These flowers look like a sword with their tall stalks, hence their being named after the gladiators. The gladiolus is a beautiful cut flower and one of the most attractive garden flowers. There are 255 species of gladiolus. The gladiolus flower means remembrance. The gladiolus is easy to grow and comes in every color except blue. The gladiolus grows from a bulb planted several inches below the ground surface. It is a member of the iris family and is originally from southern Africa.





Monday's terrariums are a hit.



Tuesday's Sensory Plants and Herbs complete with a compact herb garden.



Thursday's Garden Mosaics brought out all of the creative genes.



Friday: Itchy Biting Stinging Things . Darrel and David Jones, Naturalist with Dan Nicholas Park, lead the children on a walk at the West End and then had a show 'n tell presentation.



Thanks to all the Master Gardener Volunteers that assisted with all of the 4-H Summer Programs. We reached over 50 children and offered a quality learning experience every day.



It is time to move those **Camellias** we've been nursing all year. We have six varieties available in limited quantities. Dr. JC Raulston, Shishigashira, Lady Laura, Taylor's Perfection, Scentsation and William Lanier Hunt. Mr. Matt Hunter of the American Camellia Society will be our September Association meeting speaker. The meeting will be open to the public and plants will be available for purchase at \$10 each, 2 for \$18 or 3 for \$25. We will also take orders

This is also the year for our **Crepe Myrtle** sale. We will be taking orders for these plants as well. Varieties are Acoma (white), Pink Ruffles (pink dwarf), Chickasaw (lavender miniature), Pocomoke (deep rose-pink miniature), Dynamite (red 15-20ft.) and Powhatan (purple 10-20ft.). Quantities limited \$15 each. Brochures will be available at the meeting and details will be on-line. Any questions contact Dawn Holshouser: [dholshouser@bellsouth.net](mailto:dholshouser@bellsouth.net)

## **AUGUST 2010**

**6 Set up for Retro Flower Show**

**7 Retro Flower Show**

**10 9:30-10:30AM– Miller Center Summer Session**

**10 10:00AM–Ellunimate session. Sign on from home**

**10 1:00PM—MG Association meeting** Piedmont Research Station. Joe Hampton Research Operations Manager will speak.

**31 10:00AM– BOD– Chamber of Commerce**

## **SEPTEMBER 2010**

**14 1:00PM MG Association meeting–Matt Hunter –American Camellia Society**

**15 9AM-noon Propagation Potting Up**

**19 1-3PM—Set up MG Fair Booth**

**20-25 Rowan County Fair Week**

**23 Guilford Garden Gala—Speakers, Workshops, Vendors -\$35.00 registration fee includes lunch. Registration form on request.**

**26 1-3PM Take down MG Fair Booth**

**28 10:00AM– BOD– Chamber of Commerce**

## **OCTOBER 2010**

**12 1:00PM MG Association meeting**

**20 9AM-noon Propagation Potting Up**

**26 10:00AM—BOD**

**29 9AM-noon Fall Fun Days—Hypertufa workshop (tentative)**

**Radio every Thursday—1490 WSTP**

**West End—Every Friday weather permitting: additional workdays as needed**

**Millbridge-gourds and dwarf vegetables are doing well.**

**Miller Center– Final Summer Session August 10.**

Please note that some of these dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Please check the web page for updates and corrections.

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We will be planning our Fair Booth and hearing about other opportunities for Volunteering during Fair Week at the August meeting.