

NC Cooperative Extension



NOVEMBER-Fall crops should be in the ground. Cover crops if nothing else. Still dry, but warmer than usual. Save those fallen leaves for compost or mulch. Don't let them sit on new grass. Prep birdfeeders and get ready for the Bird Counts. Have you planted shrubs with berries to benefit the wildlife and your holiday decorations?

ROWAN COUNTY EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION MEETING TUESDAY NOVEMBER 9 1:00PM



Green lynx spider

Maligned, mistreated and misunderstood. Often misidentified, spiders are not the lethal villains portrayed in horror films and cartoons. Gardeners know they are our friends. Hopefully, Carole Massey will be able to shed some light and change some minds about these eight legged creatures. With assistance from an Elluminate session and NCSU Specialists, come and learn the facts rather than the fiction.

Presentation of slate of offices for 2011. Upcoming dates and holiday events.

Refreshments by Sue Gordon and Martha Mincey

West End Community Park & Garden



The garden has been given a final clean up for 2010. Not our most productive year at the West End, but there are still reasons to be proud of our accomplishments there. The Association received the Community Development Block Grant for 2010-2011 from the City of Salisbury. Our work with the West End Community Park and Garden will continue, as will our commitment to the Miller Center. There will be some changes made in the physical gardens and plant material, but our presence will still be felt.

From the President:



This past month was suppose to have been a slow down period as we coasted into the end of another busy year but it did not turn out that way. As I reviewed all that our Master Gardeners were involved with during October, I was truly surprised. First of all we had our monthly meeting at the Piedmont Research Station where we experienced first hand, the excellent research that is being conducted right here in the Piedmont of North Carolina with strawberries, chickens and various field crops. It was amazing to discover what these scientists are working on and how it will impact our daily lives in the not too distant future.

A little closer to home is the transformation that is beginning to take place at the Extension Office with the Garden Project. This has truly been a team effort with Rowan County government, individual local business men and our own Master Gardener volunteers working together to bring a much needed change to the Extension office campus. It has long been a vision of our Association that we would have the opportunity to display and dedicate our talents, time and efforts at this facility. To support this project, our Association has made both a financial and manpower commitment to bring this project into fruition. Since the ball is in motion and we are finally moving forward, the hope is that individual Master Gardeners will step forward to take ownership of the various gardens segments with the design, development and maintenance decisions. This will be an excellent opportunity to lend a voice in what will surely be a highlight in the horticulture design and landscaping of a major county facility in Rowan County.

Another activity that has been occurring very quietly and with not a lot of fan fair is the Millbridge Elementary School project. There has been a small group of dedicated Master Gardener volunteers that have been working throughout the summer and fall to construct this learning facility for the children in western Rowan County. Thanks to Vance, Jim, Pat, Darrell and all the others who continue to commit to this project. This has been a very physical and time consuming effort and one that our Association can surely be proud of that we are a part of.

Now for the fun portion of this past month, the Fall Fun Days workshop that just concluded. The weather was perfect, the ideas and creative juices were surely flowing and some very different and extremely unusual Hypertufa creations now adorn our Greenhouse shelter area. While much of what Master Gardeners do is to give back volunteer hours to the community, this was truly a time to have fun and learn something new. Thanks to all who attended and played as well as those who worked to make this experience a success.

All in all that was a great October and hopefully we all have just a little more energy left for a couple November projects. Stay tuned as more information will be forth coming in the next week. For those needing volunteer hours, this will probably be your last opportunities to pick them up before the end of the year.

Bob



October's meeting at the Piedmont Research Station was very enlightening. Joe Hamilton, Research Operations Manager, greeted the group with an overview of the responsibilities of the Station. During the tour, various specialists described their work and the tests and trials that were underway. One of the more obvious was having to do with strawberries and small fruits and brambles.

Agricultural Center Entrance Garden

Master Gardener Volunteers:

There will be a work party to prepare for the paver path and planting crepe myrtles and our Shishigashira camellia, Friday, Nov. 5 beginning at 9 am—depending on the weather. Please note the date change.



Watch your e-mails the day before just in case we have to cancel for inclement weather.

Thank all you all have done on this project so far.

Darrell

There will be continuing workdays as the planning and procurement continue. The Association Board has committed funds for start up and encourage all members to participate in this very exciting and beneficial project.

Fall Fun Days and HYPERTUFA ! Bring on the goo!
Madge Eggena from Mills herb Farm was our guest instructor for this year's edition of our annual favorite activity. We'll have a lot to show for our efforts.



Madge shares some instructions.



Carolyn, Eleanor and Karen crafting.



Sue and Edna consulting.



Hipp/Holshouser Family affair: Lisa, Dawn and Tyler



Bob pulled double duty, mixing and playing in the goo!



Vance kept the hypertufa goo coming.



Jean has experience and creates great containers.



Pam admires Sherry's overhead technique. Interesting.



Covered up and curing



If they all turn out as good as Eleanor's

Thanks to ALL of the MG Volunteers who played and kept the party going!

NOVEMBER 2010

1-18 4-H Christmas Wreath Sale

5 9:00AM-noon –Workday Ag Center Entrance Garden

9 1:00PM MG Association meeting “Spiders are our Friends” Carole Massey

10 9am-noon– Workday at the Shade House

10 12:30pm **Silver Can Luncheon** Pancho Villas –E. Innes St.

13 AM– Ag Center—Pavers Clinic with Doug Cline –Cline’s Landscaping

18 final day for 4-H Christmas wreath orders

19 Farm City Day. Pre-register for luncheon meeting 704-216-8970



23 9:00am-Preparation for Festival of Trees

25 Happy Thanksgiving!

30 10:00AM-BOD-Chamber of Commerce—



upstairs

30 1:30PM Holiday decoration—Hall House

DECEMBER 2010

1 10:00am– Hall House –complete decorations

2 and 3 Festival of Trees—decorate Gardening theme tree

14 2:00pm-Decorate Fellowship Hall at John Calvin Presbyterian Church

5:30pm –Set up and social

6:00pm—Dinner—Potluck– Ham and beverages will be furnished



JANUARY 2010

3 and 4 Undecorate Festival of Trees (location TBA)

3 and 4 Undecorate Hall House (Time TBA)

11 1:00pm Association meeting Ag Center

Radio every Thursday—1490 WSTP

West End—Start up in the Spring

Millbridge-Winter crops were planted.

Ag Center Gardens– Workdays scheduled as needed.

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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