

NC Cooperative Extension



FEBRUARY: Started off with temperatures approaching 70*. It can change overnight. Some pruning can be done now, some still needs to wait. But why wait until you need them to service your tools and power equipment? Be prepared is a good motto for a gardener as well as a Boy Scout.

ROWAN COUNTY EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER

VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION MEETING

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2012 1:00PM-3:00PM -

Ag Center



David Overcash FFA advisor at South Rowan High School will be our speaker. "Starting Seeds" will be his timely topic. Bring any questions you might have. The public is invited to attend his presentation. Other business will include scheduling workdays and committees for upcoming events.

Refreshments by Carol Comer and Carole Massey



January Retreat—



Officers : President Sue Davis,
Vice-President Carol Comer and
Treasurer Dawn Holshouser
Not pictured: Secretary Lana Miller
and Historian Carolyn Glasgow

The January meeting and planning session held at Oak Park Retirement Center was very enjoyable. Lots of ideas and suggestions for the coming year were presented. If you have not signed a recertification or paid 2012 Association dues, there is still time. Don't miss out on what will be an exciting year!

The President's Message:



2012 is only 36 days old and the Rowan Master Gardeners have been busy working on the ideas brainstormed at the January planning meeting. The Board is taking to heart your message that you want education and a greater say in the projects we undertake. VP, Carol Comer, has been busy finding speakers and planning day trips. She has a large list to work from. Thanks to Sherry Walker, Carole Massey and Dawn Holshouser for helping her find speakers for the topics that were called out by the members who attended the planning meeting at Oak Park.

Among our projects for 2012 are developing more of the Pocket Gardens, working with the community to provide education on some of the topics Darrell Blackwelder received comments about on his survey, working with children to showcase your work in the Pocket Gardens and supporting the Farmers Market. If you missed the planning meeting, we will get your interests either by discussions at the next meeting or in one-on-one conversations. My primary focus this year is supporting the needs of the Extension Office and your needs for education and the opportunity to use that education. One of our commitments is to provide education to the public on the Third Friday of each month at the Pocket Gardens. The January event was a huge success, cleaning the Sensory Garden. Our third Friday in February will be a work day for us, but the Second Tuesday will be feature a Seed Starting Program lead by David Overcash. Our program at our February meeting will be open to the public.

The Class of 2012 has begun. Thanks to the Master Gardeners who have attended the classes as a refresher and to support the Master Gardener program. Please attend when you can, the topics of each class are on the website. Classes are 1 to 4 on Wednesdays at the Extension Office.

I will be asking you to serve on committees and participate in our projects. Please plan on committing time to the Master Gardener Program and to learning more about gardening, horticulture and leadership in 2012.



Sue

February—

Get those heat lamps and seed starting pots ready. Turn under those cover crops. No working the soil while it's wet. Work on those persistent weeds. Plan pre-emergence. Think about ordering some summer blooming bulbs.



Broccoli from the Pocket Garden raised beds.

POCKET GARDENS—

Sensory Garden—Workday January 17



Master Gardeners Sherry Walker, Connie Sherrill, Lana Miller, Kay Ball and Eleanor Sandifer worked at deadheading and tidying the Sensory Garden.



Master Gardener Ed Joyner helped move “stuff” from the MG office to storage in the new shed.



Master Electrician and Master Gardener Jim Stricker with assistant Ron Massey, install electricity to the storage shed.

Ron Massey with carpenter Tom Graham completing the deck and ramp for the new shed.



A nice addition to the Agricultural Center. Additional storage and room for programs and training next to the Vegetable and Raised bed area. Thanks to all for the contributions of time and money.



February 2012

14 1:00PM-Ag Center "Starting Seeds"-David Overcash- Ag teacher South Rowan HS-open to the public

17 9:00AM-noon-Pocket Gardens-GH-Outdoor areas- Workday

23 -Johnson Concrete Clinic and hardscaping demonstration-Landscapers and contractors program

contact info:rjones@johnsoncmu.com

28 1:00PM - BOD - Gateway Building-Chamber of Commerce-downstairs conference room

MARCH 2012

13 1:00 PM-Ag Center- "Growing Japanese Maples"- Tom Nunnenkamp- Demonstration also on pruning Japanese Maples - sign up to visit Mr. Nunnenkamp's garden with over 80 varieties of Japanese Maples

14—1:00PM—Tour Mr. Nunnenkamp's Garden, Charlotte NC— carpool from the Ag Center —time TBA

16—Friday workday—Pocket Gardens-Demonstration on Espaliering Camellia with Darrell

27 1:00PM—BOD— Gateway Building-Chamber of Commerce— downstairs conference room

Radio every Thursday—1490 WSTP—give us your program suggestions 704-636-1231
(Go Ahead - Call In, you know you want to)

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



4 H Plant Sale continues thru February 23. Strawberries, Raspberries, Muscadines, Figs, Blackberries and Blueberries. Call 704-216-8970 to order.