



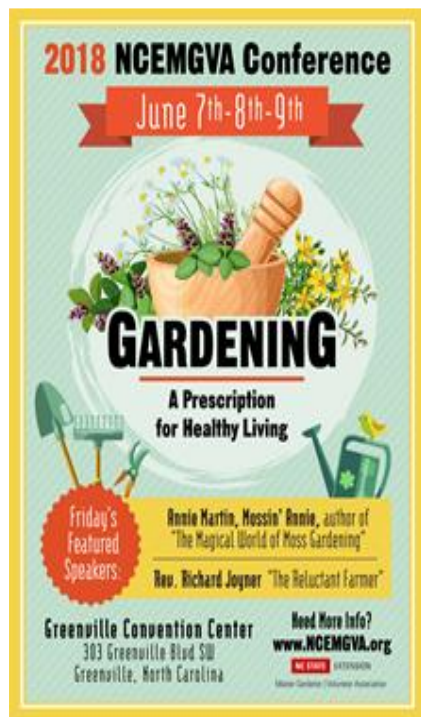
NORTH CAROLINA EXTENSION MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION

NC STATE

Extension Master Gardener

Helping North Carolina Grow

President's Message



It's fall, or so the calendar says! One day the A/C is on and the next there is a fire in the fireplace. Finally, leaves have started turning and falling. Whatever the season, your Association is hard at work!

Much activity is under way in planning the 2018 NCEMGVA Conference. With great assistance from Pitt and neighboring counties, plus master gardener volunteers literally from the mountains to the sea, details are being finalized. There is a special folder on our website so all can see the latest and greatest!

As previously announced, the location is the Greenville Convention Center, Greenville, NC with acres of free parking and the dates are June 7-9, 2018. Later in this newsletter, you can see the official flyer and the schedule. The cost will be \$135 for NCEMGVA members, \$150 for other master gardeners and \$175 for the public including meals and breaks. There will be a Friday only option, \$100, which includes two breaks and lunch. There will be options for lunch and featured speaker only or dinner and featured speaker only, but those prices have yet to be determined.

The Holiday Inn, which is located within the Greenville Convention Center complex, is our host hotel and is offering a special rate of \$109 per night. Rooms can be booked online at www.higreenvillenc.com and key in the group code NCM or call (252) 355-8300. Our Friday featured speakers will be Mossin' Annie (Annie Martin), the author of "The Magical World of Moss Gardening" at lunch and Rev. Richard Joyner, "The Reluctant Farmer", who has established gardens in underserved neighborhoods. Speakers for our concurrent sessions are in the process of being finalized and will soon be posted on the website. Registration will open after the first of the year. We are working hard to make the "Gardening: A Prescription for Healthy Living" Conference a must attend event!

The assistance of each master gardener is needed. First, as associations prepare their budgets, would you please add NCEMGVA as a line item? We would appreciate individual EMGVs contributions, as well. We are looking for additional ways to increase our funds. It takes these funds to serve our members and to finance a quality Conference. We will be presenting at least 6 awards and grants. Individuals and associations can aid by sending a contribution. Any and all amounts are appreciated; each one adds up!

Another way to participate is for each county to prepare a basket of goodies that represents your home county. With a minimum value of \$25, just pick a theme, gather items and bring to the Conference! The baskets were outstanding at the 2015 Conference. Will your county have the biggest and best in 2018? Details will soon be on the website.

The next way to contribute is to begin saving gardening magazines and books for the Pass Along Books and Magazines area. Again, details will be on the website. Lastly, the eagerly awaited silent auction! Plants, garden accessories, and who knows what treasures will be available, but only if items are donated. So many opportunities to make this a great event for all! Check the website.

Another way to participate is to volunteer! All sales areas and hospitality rooms will need help. Keep an eye on the website.

Save the June 8th - 9th dates, ring in the New Year by registering and get ready for food, fellowship and fun, fun, fun!

Wishing everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving. We all have so much for which to be grateful. May each of you celebrate the upcoming holiday season with friends and family.

Chat again next year! --Edna

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NC STATE

Extension Master Gardener

Dr. Lucy Bradley, Director, Extension Master Gardener Program NCSU on Copyrights

Why do we need a copyright policy?

The EMGV program exists to assist the NC State Extension consumer horticulture program achieve specific objectives and outcomes outlined by NC State and the local county horticulture agent. However, in the past, agents and Extension personnel often experienced frustration and wasted time and resources on projects that had limited benefit for the Extension program and the public because a volunteer withdrew permission for the use of the material. In addition, agents' and attorneys' time was required to determine ownership for using materials created specifically for the Extension Master Gardener Program. For example, Master Gardener Volunteers (MGV) requested to have printed publications, billboards, PowerPoints, and websites taken down because they no longer wanted their work included. Agents invested time and resources in projects that volunteers then refused to share. When the MGV withdrew a product, agents were no longer able to use the documents or program components and had to either abandon the effort or spend time recreating everything from scratch. This policy clarifies copyright ownership and permissible uses of various written materials created by volunteers for the EMG program so that everyone can make informed decisions about participating in and contributing to the program.

We have held several meetings to review the policy and gather input:

- On May 25th Extension agents and Master Gardener volunteers met with copyright attorney Will Cross to share concerns, ask questions, and hear answers regarding copyright law and the NC EMG Copyright policy.
- On May 30th Extension agents who direct EMG programs met to review input from the May 25th meeting and prepare a request to the NC State Attorney to revise the EMG copyright policy.
- On June 29th Extension agents who direct EMG programs met to review the proposed draft of the policy, the FAQs and decision trees.
- On July 6th, Extension agents and Master Gardener volunteers met with NC State Associate General Counsel, Shaw Troxler, to review the proposed draft of the policy, the FAQs and decision trees.

The proposed policy provides NC State with copyright to all works created by Master Gardener volunteers while in the role of a Master Gardener volunteer. It also provides, in perpetuity, a non-commercial license to the volunteer.

Rationale for recommendation

- The EMG program exists to support NC State University in distributing information.
- Volunteers will still be able to distribute products they develop to venues outside the program
- NC State will have authority over the use of the information (update, repurpose, sell, take down, etc.)
- NC State will have authority over EMG program social media, and websites
- NC State will have authority to protect items from being misused by third parties (would not be the case if NC State had a license instead of copyright)

For most of you, this is just formalizing the way you were already operating, but I know this is not what some of you were hoping to hear. Please take some time to put yourself in the role of a county agent and recognize the intent to spend time focused on horticulture and education and sharing information. This policy affects only what you do in your role as a Master Gardener volunteer. If you do not want to share information, then do not create it in the program.

[NC EMG Program Policy on Copyright](#)

As a [Student and Intern](#), and then each year after as a part of [re-certification](#), Master Gardener Volunteers are required to sign a code of conduct which states: "I have read and agree to abide by the EMG Program Policies and Code of Conduct regarding my service as a Master Gardener volunteer."

As always, all volunteers will need to sign the re-certification form by January of the new year to remain active in the NC EMG program.

If you have any questions, please contact your local Extension Horticulture Agent

Best regards,

Lucy Bradley

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AWARDS! AWARDS! AWARDS!

2018 is an NCEMGVA Conference Year! Your professional Association values and recognizes outstanding people and exceptional work. The 2018 Scholarship, Award, and Grant recipients will be honored each day of the Conference in Greenville, June 7th-9th. [Apply to Win!](#)

New this Year! The NCEMGVA is sponsoring an opportunity for a newly certified EMGV in financial need to receive some funding to attend the 2018 NCEMGVA Conference in Greenville. Do you know a valuable EMGV who can benefit from the assistance? Nominate them for the new **Legacy Conference Scholarship!**



Do you want to honor the EMGV who has been with your group 5 years or more and who your group just can't do without? The person you think personifies the word "Outstanding"? Nominate that EMGV for the **NCEMGVA Outstanding EMGV Award!**

Is your group proud of your County Agent, County Director or other Extension personnel? Do you rely on their leadership and support? Nominate them for the **NC State Extension Achievement Award** to make your pride known!

Does your county have a great idea for a one-day or partial-day event to educate EMGVs and would like some funding to make it happen? Perhaps even collaborate with another county? Apply for a **NCEMGVA Educational Matching Grant!** (Formerly: Symposia Matching Grant)

Does your county have a specific type of garden they want to establish or expand but needs some financial help to get started? Or, perhaps your county wants to carry out an educational project for Junior Master Gardeners or for an after school program? Apply for a **NCEMGVA Project Grant** (formerly: Competitive Grant) to make those plans a reality!

Does your county want to showcase a demonstration or educational garden that has been completed, is under construction, or is in the late design stage of planning? Entering the **NCEMGVA Madeline Collier Landscape Garden Design Competition** could win your group a cash prize!



He who marvels at the beauty of the world in summer will find equal cause for wonder and admiration in winter.... In winter the stars seem to have rekindled their fires, the moon achieves a fuller triumph, and the heavens wear a look of a more exalted simplicity. ~John Burroughs

2018 NCEMGVA CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Gardening: A Prescription for Healthy Living

- Day 1** 9 am -noon - Set-up
7-Jun Tours on the way to Greenville
Thursday 1-5 pm Registration
 6-8 pm Reception
BRING THE GARDEN INSIDE - come to the Thursday night reception in your special gardening or garden-related outfit. Personalize with your favorite gardening hat, garden-themed jewelry, shirt, apron, socks, shoes and/or other garden wear while you enjoy hors d'oeuvre and surprise entertainment. There will also be a special raffle only for those attending.
- Day 2** 9:00 am Welcome
8-Jun 9:30 - 10:45 am - Session 1 - Workshops & Lectures
Friday 10:45 - 11:15 am- Break 1
 11:15 - 12:30 pm - Session 2 - Workshops & Lectures
 12:30 - 2:00 pm - Lunch and Featured Speaker
 2:00 - 3:00 pm - NCEMGVA Business Meeting
 3:00 - 3:30 pm - Break 2
 3:30 -4:45 pm - Session 3 - Workshops & Lectures
 5:30 - 6:30 - Happy Hour and Musical Entertainment
 6:30 - 9:00 pm – Dinner and Featured speaker
- Day 3** 9:00 - 9:30 am – Announcements
9-Jun 9:30 - 10:45 am - CES
Saturday 10:45-11:15 am - Break 3
 11:15 - 12:30 pm - Session 4 - Workshops & Lectures
 12:30 - 2:00 pm -Lunch and Final Surprises

SE District Report, Spring 2017 Issue:

Submitted by Griffin David Lockett

Below are the articles from: Brunswick, Carteret, Craven, Greene, Robeson, and Wilson counties.



Brunswick County-Submitted by Anne D. Coleman

The Rose Garden Evolution

Many say the Botanical Garden at the Brunswick Government Complex is our county's best kept secret. Now EMGV are working to change that by enhancing the gardens and drawing visitors from around the Southeast.



The Rose Garden
Photograph courtesy of Anne Coleman

One of the garden's areas that has enjoyed an impressive transformation is The Rose Garden. In November of 2016 a new focal point fountain was installed in the middle of an old drained pool. This five-foot fountain is surrounded by Whirling Butterflies *Gaura*, welcomes visitors to the Rose Garden with its gentle water sounds and invites everyone to explore further. A paver walkway leads in two directions bringing over 50 rose varieties in sight. An arbor covered in both white and yellow *Lady Banksia* as well as *Clematis* is posted at one of the garden's three entrances. Two potted *Secret's Out* tree roses greet visitors at a second entrance raising the enticing fragrance higher for optimum enjoyment.

Most recently, perennials that attract beneficial insects and repel damaging pests and diseases have been included in the garden. An experimental planting method for lavender that included oyster shells from the Brunswick County Oyster



runoff next to this busy road. Here developers and homeowners alike can experience the benefits of installing a rain garden. For information on scheduling a group tour of the entire garden please contact Maryann Horgan at gerbil333@aol.com.

Photographs courtesy of Anne Coleman

Festival placed in the bottom of the planting hole has proved successful. A pungent "Alfalfa Tea" was cooked and applied throughout the garden as a natural fertilizer. When winter comes the Rose Garden provides an excellent location for EMGV to conduct rose pruning workshops. This demonstration garden works hard all year long to show the many varieties of roses that thrive in a Zone 8, hot and humid environment. Another garden area that has garnered more and more interest is the Rain Garden located in a natural swale and drainage spot along the road at the back of the Botanical Garden. This was a class project for the 2015 Brunswick County EMGV students who researched appropriate plantings for specific levels of water detention that would also perform well in the inland coastal climate. Mallow, crinum lilies, and ruellia are just some of the many plants working in the Rain Garden to help slow and purify water

Carteret County-Submitted by Marie Roberts

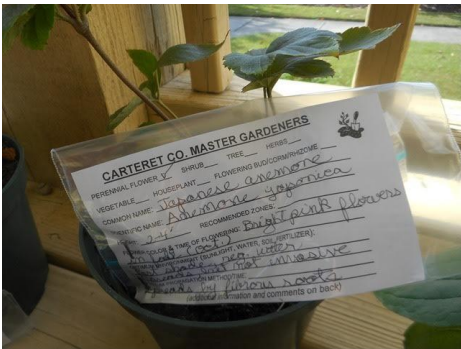
For those of you who keep up with our Carteret County Articles, I am beginning this article with a different weather forecast than usual. WE NEED RAIN! We have received a half an inch of rain for October and over 45 inches for the year. Our Fall garden looks good but that is due to regular watering. Carteret County is temperamental where the weather is concerned: wind, humidity, extreme heat and more.

Propagation at the Beaufort Historic Site

Under the direction of team leader, Stacey Luker, our propagation area has been taking cuttings and/or dividing plants for next Spring. Next year they would like to enhance their inventory by concentrating on native or highly adaptable plants to Carteret County. Fall has also been the best time to divide perennial plants like Phlox and others that have small offshoots with roots. Small plants in pots do not need to be in a heated environment to overwinter but they do need to be protected from harsh winds and temperatures. Loose pine straw placed around the pot and plant in a sheltered location most often is adequate.

In August, Shawn Banks, our Extension Director, gave the Propagation Team an air layering demonstration at the Beaufort Historic Site. Stacey provided a bay laurel, a rubber plant and a Duranta for demonstration purposes and asked other team members to bring a potted fig if possible. The weather was getting too late for outdoor trees and ornamentals. They will tackle that in the Spring. They are also planning to give training on tomato plant grafting in 2018. This group is ambitious!

Annual Plant Swap, Wednesday, October 11th



Our Annual Plant Swap was held last week and is one of the most popular events of the year. Many of our volunteers attended and assisted by setting up for us at the Blair Farm House Meeting Room. Volunteers also: greeted attendees, took in plants, sorted plants, decorated our luncheon tables, served in the kitchen, cleaned up by leaving everything as we found it and set up and managed our Chinese and Silent Auctions. As you know our EMGV are GOOD!

We are allowed 0 to 10 plants at the Swap. If you bring 10 plants you can swap for 10, 3 for 3, etc. A whistle is used sounding the order for us to go swap. Our older EMGV are honored by getting in the front of the line and going first. The plants are sorted by categories which makes it easier for all of us. Only a very few plants were left at the end and were taken home by the person who brought them or taken for next year's Plant Sale.

Everyone attending brings a Covered Dish or two for lunch and we all enjoy sampling each other's cooking and swap recipes. We enjoyed the entire event, but the luncheon is a special time to talk about plants, equipment and what is going on in our lives other than gardening.



Plant Swap
Photographs courtesy of Linda Holleman

Craven County - Submitted by Nancy Dell'Aria

Celebrating 25 Years of Service to the CCEMVG



Jean Smith in her home garden-CCEMVG. Photograph courtesy of Susan Broderick

On September 21st, 2017, the Craven County EMGV Association celebrated the twenty-five years of dedicated service of volunteer, Jean Smith. Jean and her husband, James, moved to New Bern about 30 years ago from Marcellus, New York. An avid gardener in New York, she learned from her mother and grandmother a love of coaxing beautiful flowers, shrubs and trees from humble seeds, bulbs, roots and slender shoots. As many of us who have relocated from other regions, Jean soon discovered that gardening here in New Bern is "a whole different ball game." Luckily, they moved into a home next to Dr. Tom Glasgow, the Director of CC Cooperative Extension and was encouraged by him to become an EMGV. She completed her EMGV training in 1992.

As a passionate gardener, Jean was part of the group of EMGVs who over the years labored long hours to turn the grounds surrounding the CC Cooperative Extension into a lovely array of demonstration gardens that may be considered worthy of arboretum designation.

There is a small gem of a garden at the entrance to New Bern's Farmers Market originated and maintained by EMGVs and Jean has worked in it through four or five incarnations. She has planted trees in the City of Bridgeton, has been a judge for horticultural exhibits at the CC Fair and has provided horticultural educational program support.

An accomplished musician and teacher, Jean's other community activities include singing with the Garber United Methodist Church Choir which visits assisted living centers and Centenary United Methodist Church Cantata Choir. She is a member of the D.A.R. and a past President of Colonial Capitol Humane Society.

We are proud of Jean and grateful for her many years of service and wish her many more.

Well done, Jean, and thank you from all the CC Master Gardener Volunteers.

Greene County-Submitted by Roy Thagard, Jr.

Community Garden Highlights Hart Street Block Party

A late summer block party in the Snow Hill-Hart Street community was highlighted by the successes of the local community garden. Many former and current residents stopped by to notice the changes and improvements the garden has seen during the last four years. As many as 30 people gathered under tents with local foods and infused water to share memories of their neighborhood. The Alley, as Hart Street is reputed, was once a place where teenagers knew to be a place to find trouble. Important life lessons were learned by those men and women who are stronger today because they faced those troubled times and overcame them. Today, it seems those troubled times have been replaced with tranquility and maturity. They look at the physical garden and are reminded of their own personal growth in their own lives.



Sitting back listening to these stories made me proud. I am proud of the accomplishments of our community garden over the year. We have distributed just over 700 pounds of produce from the garden to local Interfaith food distribution and senior center community. We have employed an assistant garden manager who has helped sustain pest management and labor needs of the garden. The garden has seen an increase in bed rentals over the year, and there are plans in place to purchase a small greenhouse to be used for seed germination. But more than these physical accomplishments, I am proud to see our community come together to work for a common goal. I am proud of the presence this community garden can be as a symbol of growth for the community.

Community Garden Reflection
Photograph Courtesy of Roy Thagard, Jr.

Robeson County – Submitted by Gayle Bigelow

Robeson County EMGV continued their Pollinators in Agriculture theme with education, hands on demonstrations, and seed giveaways. We also reactivated our Facebook page so “friend us,” “like us,” comment and share. We would love to hear from fellow EMGV! We are Robeson County Extension Master Gardener Volunteers on Facebook.

Lumber River Day 2017 - Lumber River State Park



Our booth for Lumber River Day, July 22, at Lumber River State Park included free, ice-cold, locally grown watermelon, pollinator information with free pollinator seed packets and potted plant demonstrations, which were raffled to participants. Altogether, it was a lovely day with lots of community participation and interest. One of EMGV Gretchen Baumann’s annual potted plant creations was raffled. On July 26, the RCEMGV set up an educational booth for Pollinator Day at the Robeson County Farmer’s Market in Downtown Lumberton for children and adults. Information on pollinators and free seed packets of annuals were given to all who stopped by the booth. RCEMGV packed up their booth, seeds and talents and set up at the inaugural Honey Festival in Whiteville on September 9, where the community warmly received them.

EMGV Gretchen Baumann with one of her annual potted plant creations
Photograph courtesy of Gayle Bigelow, RCEMGV

71st Robeson Regional Agricultural Fair

Highlights of our booth at the fair included an interactive exhibit of insects in the garden, examples of healthy indoor plants and a Guess the Weight of the Pumpkin Contest. The EMGV were there every night of the Fair from opening night, September 28 until closing night, October 8 answering questions and interacting with gardeners and future gardeners of all ages. Fairs are fun, and this year proved to be, quoting a young fairgoer, "The fun-est!" Free sunflower seeds, like magic beans, proved irresistible. We gave away more than 500 packets of annual flowering plant seeds eliciting countless garden stories while meeting some of the region's most interesting people and sharing our concerns and hopes for all pollinators. Proving that our fair is truly a regional affair the winner of the prize for correctly guessing the weight of the pumpkin was from Columbus County. Weighing in at 64 pounds, it was not the biggest pumpkin at the fair, but it was the biggest we could buy!



The 64-pound pumpkin!
Photograph courtesy of Gayle Bigelow, RCEMGV

Wilson County – Submitted by Judy Buzard

Ribbon Cutting of Newly Completed STEM Garden

Wilson County EMGVs held a ribbon cutting ceremony for our newly completed Science Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) garden in May. It was a very sunny and quite warm day in May, but visitors had a wonderful time. Within the STEM garden our newly completed stage has been opened to private events such as weddings and parties.

Annual Plant Sale

In April the EMGV held their annual plant sale with the most profitable sale to date. This event is widely successful and upon opening our doors, the customer line nearly went out of the doors! Our city loves plants almost as much as we do.

Advanced Training

Monthly training has covered many interesting topics such as blueberry pruning, growing and harvesting garlic, learning how to plant and care for hostas, and completing a container garden with thrillers, spillers, and fillers.

Halloween Treats

Halloween is over already and Wilson County EMGVs planned an evening of fun for all ages. Our event was on Sunday, October 29 from 4-6:30 p.m. There was pumpkin carving, a costume parade complete with a marching band, and treats for all. We had to watch out for all those goblins hiding in the gardens!

Wilson Winter Lights

Two fun filled weekends of winter wonderland will be presented in December by our EMGVs to delight both young and old. This event will be held on December 1-3 and 8-10 from 6-9 p.m. From the children's secret garden through the STEM garden, lights, lights and more lights will twinkle and shine. Santa will be here every night for photo opportunities. Live musicians will be performing on our stage in the STEM garden. A fantasy light show to Christmas music will light up the night.

Nature looks dead in winter because her life is gathered into her heart. She withers the plant down to the root that she may grow it up again fairer and stronger. She calls her family together within her inmost home to prepare them for being scattered abroad upon the face of the earth.

~Hugh Macmillan



Northeast District - Anne Pierce, District Reporter

Dare County submitted by Chris Stadther Summer School in the Arboretum



The Summer School series had its last session in September. Propagation by dividing plants and cuttings was discussed and demonstrated. Participants could get dirty and take home plants to care for. Over 100 participants attended the four Summer School classes. Next summer they want more. That is a great compliment.



Coastal Landscape Workshop at The Elizabethan Gardens



This October workshop, a collaboration between the Elizabethan Gardens' staff and NC Cooperative Extension of Dare County, provided information on coastal habitats, landscape design and appropriate plants for Outer Banks homes.

Propagation workshop in Arboretum Shannon Brooks,
County Extension Director & Jeff Wuilliez, Elizabethan Gardens Manager

Gearing up for Christmas- Centerpiece Fund Raiser.

It's already time for Christmas. Most of the stores have their Christmas decorations on display. The Dare County Master Gardeners are preparing the ornaments and bows that help to create the centerpieces that are a fundraiser for the Dare Master Gardener Volunteer Association. They will be created on December 13 and go on sale that weekend. Merry Christmas!



Thinking ahead – Coastal Gardening Festival 2018

The first meeting for the 2018 Coastal Gardening Festival was very productive. "Never Enough Thyme" is the theme for next year, highlighting growing and using herbs in our everyday life. The Coastal Gardening Festival is scheduled for May 19 at the Thomas A. Baum Senior Center in Kill Devil Hills. For more information call Shannon Brooks at 252-473-4290 or email sebrooks@ncsu.edu.

Happy Holidays from Dare Extension Volunteer Master Gardeners!

Nash County submitted by Anne Pierce

On September 23, 2017 the Nash County Master Gardeners Volunteer Association hosted its third annual Day in the Arboretum at the Nash County Arboretum located on the grounds of the Nash County Agriculture Center in Nashville. Free and open to the public this years' event entitled "Art in the Gardens" featured 19 plein air artists, musicians and craftsmen as well as various gardening demonstrations and attracted over 300 visitors. Artists worked in a variety of mediums including quilting, painting, music, crafts and of course the art of gardening. The purpose of this yearly event is to promote and celebrate our Arboretum and the role it plays as a local venue for horticultural education, relaxation, recreation and beauty. We welcome you to take a stroll through our gardens the next time you are in our "neck of the woods".



Pickin' at the cabin



Maggie Barkley EMGV

Container Art



Art in the Garden

Wreath Workshop

In early December Nash County EMGVs will be combing the surrounding areas collecting a vast assortment of live, fresh greenery for our very popular annual wreath making workshop. We are offering 3 classes this year and fully expect to see some fabulous and festive creations by our regular and new attendees. It is a wonderful way to start the Christmas season, come and join us on Dec 3rd and 4th.

Farmers Market

As the 2017 season comes to a close at the Nash County Farmers Market, we would like to thank all the Nash EMGVs who participated in our regular Ask a Master Gardener information booth and the Arboretum team who was focused on advertising our garden jewel at the county extension building.

Pitt County submitted by Mary Jo Larkin

Trip to Soil Lab NCDA&CS Agronomic Division

On October 13th a vanload of Pitt County EMGVs headed to Raleigh for a three hour tour of where our soil testing is done. First, we donned blue suits if we did not wear long pants and closed toed shoes. The soil testing is a remarkable and gigantic process done in four different rooms using scientists and robots. The samples are meticulously handled as they go through all the different tests. The Nematode Lab had been set up with microscope viewing for us, quite helpful. The Waste Testing Lab was quite shocking in the kinds of materials that are tested to be used for fertilizers, everything from money to animal carcass. We recommend this trip to EMGVs. You can learn a lot!

Plants to Pot for Winter Interest

In October our arboretum container curators offered the community a chance to look at winter stalwart plants for thriller, spillers and fillers to pot up for the winter months. Twenty one people came to learn about plants such as creeping jenny and snapdragons that would survive in planters in the cold season. Frost proof pots, potting mix soil and good drainage are all important factors.

Wreath Workshop

Last year's workshop was so well attended, we are doing two in one day this year. Participants will have our garden's greenery to use to design and make their own wreaths. The workshops will be on December 7th from 10-12 and 1-3 at the Pitt County Extension Office.

Brie Arthur

On Saturday January 27, 2018 we will host Brie Arthur for a fundraiser at Pitt County Extension Center Auditorium to speak on "The Foodscape Revolution: Ecology and Sustainable Management". Doors open at 9 AM, advance sale tickets are \$20, at the door \$30. She has been a correspondent on PBS, "Growing a Greener World", and is the author of The Foodscape Revolution. She will speak from 10-12.

Hope Lodge

EMGVs have been invited to help solve a problem at the American Cancer Society's McConnell-Raab Hope Lodge. Years ago a fountain was designed at the front of the building which has a broken pump now and is no longer maintained by the giver. We were asked to transform this watery pool somehow. This winter we will experiment with plants that might stay alive submerged. The trial will be evaluated in the spring for a more permanent look.

Wake County submitted by Catherine Burton

Wake EMGs at North Carolina State Fair



A BIG THANKS to all the Wake County Master Gardeners who volunteered at the Fair. 110 volunteer spots were filled by those who gave their time to work the booth, greenhouse, and waterwise garden. Over 6,000 contacts were logged! The Wake County EMGV Composting Committee set up an educational display so people could learn how easy it is to compost and vermicompost: two compost bins, a demonstration worm bin, finished compost, a notebook of composting resources, and extension fact sheets on how to compost and vermicompost. More than 1,000 people stopped to examine the bins, talk with EMGVs about composting and vermicomposting, and take home fact sheets.

New Materials at the Southern Ideal Home Show

Thanks to Wake County EMG expert graphic designer, Joyce Clark, we introduced a new display on lawns at our Ask an EMG booth at the Southern Ideal Home Show in the Jim Graham building in September. These new posters clearly caught the attention of visitors to the show. We recorded 1245 resident contacts at this three day event!



This new display featured four very attractive and educational poster boards addressing frequently asked questions:

- What grass is best for my yard?
- When should you plant cool season grasses?
- When should cool season grasses be fertilized?
- Why should you have your soil tested? (over 200 soil test kits were distributed!)

A graphics display of the 30 most common Broadleaf Weeds, crafted by Joyce, was also prominently displayed. The individual graphics displays on pest control (moles, voles, deer, rabbit and fire ants) also continued to draw people to our booth as they address many of the most common questions and concerns we hear from residents.

Additionally, all of our poster boards now have QR codes, prepared by Chris Rieser, which link directly to either a recommended publication or website.

The spring Southern Ideal Home show at the Fairgrounds is scheduled for April 5-8, 2018, so put this date on your calendars. This show is a lot of fun and a great opportunity to spread the word about our EMG program



Wake County Junior Master Gardeners

We're excited to see the Wake County Junior Master Gardeners return to the JC Raulston Arboretum. The program runs September through May for ages 4-teens. JC Raulston has generously allowed us to use their facility for our four classes that meet on the third Thursday each month at 6 PM. Kids are able to learn about gardening, sustainability, wildlife and so many fabulous topics. Also, check out this article in Sir Walter magazine about the program. <http://www.waltermagazine.com/our-town/game-plan-junior-master-gardeners/>
Learn more about about the Wake JMG at <http://wakeimg.org>

JC Raulston Arboretum Lectures now on Youtube

Arboretum Lectures by Wake County EMGs on you tube also! Cindy Chappell did one on Winter Blooming Plants and Sally Newman has one called Made - beautifully in the shade. https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLRQi_EkeFffu5vZpF50ufAxN-ruttcvg

Nature has many scenes to exhibit, and constantly draws a curtain over this part or that. She is constantly repainting the landscape and all surfaces, dressing up some scene for our entertainment. Lately we had a leafy wilderness; now bare twigs begin to prevail, and soon she will surprise us with a mantle of snow. Some green she thinks so good for our eyes that, like blue, she never banishes it entirely from our eyes, but has created evergreens. ~Henry David Thoreau



North Central District – Christina Larson, District Reporter



Davidson County – Sue Smith, Reporter

Fall is busy for DCEMGVA. **The Public Outreach council** completed the year with several activities at two Farmers' Markets. This was followed by the Davidson County Fair. A booth was set up at the entrance of the exhibit hall displaying scarecrows dressed in 1930s vintage clothing. The display included a grandma, grandpa, mom, dad, little boy and baby. In addition, one volunteer made a straw dog and straw pig while another added a felted crow. Directions for making scarecrows were available. This same tableau was used to create a welcoming entrance at the Lexington Barbecue festival more recently. Visitors to the festival used the scene as a photo opportunity and a time to learn more about the Master Gardener volunteer program.



County Fair Scarecrows Display

The Public Service council completed a project at the Thomasville library at which they re-landscaped the surrounding yard. Ground was reworked, and new plants planted. This project followed a landscaping of a memory garden at one of the local facilities for the elderly in Lexington.

The Demonstration Council has stayed busy all summer keeping the gardens around the extension office weed-free and beautiful. Butterfly weeds have been in full bloom to welcome the monarchs at the Monarch Way Station. Recently there was a dedication of benches that had been bought and placed in the garden, so passers-by and visitors could come in to sit and enjoy the surroundings. Various city and county officials attended the dedication. Later members of the council attended a county commissioners' meeting at which they were recognized for their work and for the work of the MG volunteers in general.



Butterfly emerging

Continuing Education council enjoyed visiting the gardens of fellow volunteers during the summer and **hope** to visit other fall and winter gardens. Agent Kira Chaloupka set up a field trip to Bartlett Tree Research arboretum in September. She has presented several continuing education programs for volunteers and the public this summer. MG volunteers will learn more about getting perennials ready for winter at the next monthly meeting. Members are invited to go to Tom's Creek Nursery to make holiday wreaths at the end of November. Then we'll take a break until spring.



EMGVs visiting Frankie Sisk's Garden

The committee for the Annual Gardeners' Conference has been busy for several months planning the conference for February of 2018. Speakers have been selected and registration will open in December. Anyone interested should register early. More information will be on the calendar, the Extension website and Davidson County EMGVA Facebook. In addition, information will be included soon in the group's monthly newsletter.

Forsyth County submitted by Teresa Lowry

Tanglewood Arboretum

The November Adult Education lecture on “Spring Blooming Bulbs” featured Adrienne Roethling, Garden Curator for Paul J. Ciener Botanical Gardens in Kernersville. Her presentation focused on extending the bulb season by incorporating early, mid, and late varieties to the garden; as well as a discussion on planting bulbs to create color, size, and texture. The 2018 program begins January 17th with Tyler O’Mara, Extension Horticulture Technician, discussing “Borders, Screens, and Hedges”.



**Arboretum Adult Education
lecture with Adrienne
Roethling**

A public community workday was held November 8th which allowed community volunteers to work side-by-side with an experienced EMGV to determine if the Master Gardener program was one in which they may be interested in joining. It was a great fall day that provided education, fun, and relationships building.

Plans for 2018 have begun on the Arboretum Youth Education program. Third graders will be visiting the Arboretum on March 20, 22, 23, 26 and 27 to learn about growing plants. Meetings for this program, along with meetings on Spring Plant Sale will be taking place during the winter months when it is too cold to work outside. The **Spring Plant Sale is scheduled for April 20-22, 2018**. Mark your calendars, as this is a sale you do not want to miss.



**2017 Arboretum
Youth Education Program**

Forsyth County Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Association

Our 2017 year ended in November with an informative meeting and lively discussion on “The Joys of Plant Propagation”. Master Gardener Volunteers, Sheilah Lombardo, Harriet McCarthy, Carol Devries, and Patsy Cuthrell, presented the various ways of plant propagation and held the panel discussion for members. General Meetings for the Association will resume in February, 2018.

Our last Field Trip for the year enthralled us with a breathtaking tour of a private Camellia garden in Kernersville. Fourteen Master Gardeners attended this event and were introduced to many varieties of Camellias and learned many growing techniques from an experienced gardener. Will Ferrell, our host, has also presented at our Arboretum Adult Education Lectures.



**Ferrell Camellia Garden
Field Trip**

Triad Home and Garden Show

Forsyth County Master Gardener volunteers will be manning a booth at the Triad Home and Garden Show being held in Winston-Salem February 23-25, 2018. If you are getting ready for spring and plan to attend this event be sure to stop-by and say hello.

Master Gardener Program Update

Forsyth County welcomes the 18 new interns who graduated November 17th during the Extension Master Gardener Appreciation luncheon.

Guilford County - Allison Heisel, Reporter

Children were abuzz with excitement as a pollinator-themed scavenger hunt led them throughout the Guilford County Demonstration Garden during our annual Bee Kind to Bees Day in August. Attendees young and old clamored over supplies to make their very own bee hotel, and volunteers used Cheetos dust to demonstrate how bees transfer pollen from plant to plant. Members of the Guilford County Beekeeping Association brought live bees for a fascinating beekeeping demonstration, and home-grown, North Carolinian honey was available for sample and for sale. All in all, the day was truly the bee's knees

Bee Day was followed by an aptly themed “Pollination Celebration!” Gala and Seminar. This September highlight featured 3 keynote speakers: Jessica Walliser, renowned horticulturist, freelance writer, radio host, and author of bestseller Good Bug, Bad Bug: Who's Who, What They Do, and How to Manage Them Organically; Mike Dunn, caterpillar enthusiast, nature photographer, and natural science educator at the NC Botanical Garden in Chapel Hill; and Angel Hjarding, Director of Pollinator and Wildlife Habitat Programs for

the North Carolina Wildlife Federation, and creator of the Butterfly Highway. We are grateful to all who attended and made it such a fruitful day.



In October, the class of 2017 Master Gardener Interns completed their final presentations, showcasing the work they did planning and tending to a three-season vegetable garden, planting an orchard, constructing a crevice garden, and so much more. All the interns eagerly await graduation next week where they will abandon their paper name tags in favor of official, engraved emblems of their Master Gardening accomplishments. As this year's program winds down, we are looking forward to welcoming the 2018 class of interns to the horticultural family come January.

Orange County – Susan Lamb reporter

For several years, Orange County MGs Ellen Johnson and Anne Sadler have been advising the dedicated group of volunteer gardeners at the Seymour Center, a senior center, in Chapel Hill. We attend their meetings, answer some gardening questions, and offer suggestions about plant selection and care. And we have helped to plan a shade garden of Hellebores and ferns under the building overhang.

Until this spring the garden has been one of annuals, perennials and ornamental shrubs. Now with the addition of two large raised beds, built and filled with soil by the Orange County Parks Division staff, the gardeners have added vegetables to the mix. Cucumbers, okra and some more exotic Asian vegetables have been part of the harvest this fall.

Currently a renovation of the flower gardens by the entry walkways is under way. Come by and see what these very active seniors are doing.



Seymour Gardeners – Orange County

Durham County - Kathryn Hamilton reporter

Tomato Experiments Summer Focus of Durham County's Briggs Avenue Community Garden

The Briggs Avenue Community Garden was host to a plethora of tomatoes this summer! More than 30 different varieties of tomatoes developed by tomato researcher, author, and gardening enthusiast, NC Tomato Man Craig LeHoullier were planted at Briggs and available to all. Throughout the summer, EMGV intern Brandon Minnich-Walton observed and recorded her findings on growth habits and reported them to Mr. LeHoullier.

The growing season culminated in style with a tomato tasting and a presentation from Craig, at the Durham County Extension Office, about his research in the fields of tomato growing and straw bale gardening. The tasting included observations about flavor, texture, appearance, and intensity. Here are the findings.

In the category of tart, old fashioned, tasting tomatoes "Sleeping Lady" and "Pink Berkeley Tie-dye" Were the hands-down winners. "Sleeping Lady" is one of the dwarf tomatoes Craig developed for those desiring an heirloom taste without the sprawling growth habitat of traditional heirloom plants. "Pink Berkeley Tie-dye" was an heirloom from her own garden, that Brandon "fell in love with on first bite." However, it is a plant that needs plenty of room and trellising – no cage will hold this one back!

Craig's experimental dwarf cherry tomato, "Teensy F3 choc 5803," is quite a small plant for a cherry, (about 6') with a beautiful golden/brown/green color. It had a more tart, old-fashioned taste and beat out the well-loved "Sungold." It has the bonus of tolerating bacterial leaf spot very well.

In the sweet or balanced category "Sean's Yellow Dwarf" and "Sandy F2" were the favorites – everyone seemed to agree on their pleasant, balanced flavor. Neither plant seemed bothered by bacterial leaf spot, wilt, heat, insects, etc. and just kept producing. Both are also dwarf plants which require less space in the garden and will be a crowd pleaser for those who prefer a balanced or sweet tomato.

"Carbon" had everyone talking, mostly trying to decide if it was a "love it" or "leave it" tomato. It is a huge tomato on a giant plant. It overtook everything in its path; the fruit was plentiful and so heavy in many cases it had to be supported. It has an unusual, smoky/earthy taste. It is a lovely tomato, pretty as a picture and the perfect sandwich slicer.

And a final observation from Brandon: "Blue and black tomatoes were everywhere this year. I planted some and tasted several others. In my opinion their color is their best attribute. I found them to be balanced in flavor but lacking in intensity. They did have tremendous visual appeal and were show-stopping gorgeous in a salad. On a platter of mixed tomato slices they were always the first to disappear. I suspect the eye-candy element was irresistible to many people. Next year I believe I will just eat a "Sleeping Lady" or "Pink Berkeley Tie-dye" with my eyes closed and a smile on my face!"

Vance-Warren Counties – Submitted by Eileen Novak

Our August meeting was combined with the training class and our own Edna Gaston gave her talk on herb gardening. In September, we had Jeana Meyers give a presentation on Certified Organic Gardening, surely a challenge but such an excellent class. The volunteers did a little more work on our memorial garden in front of the Vance County Farmer's Market in preparation for the arrival of the work crew to pour the sidewalk. We continued our Second Saturday presentation at the Vance County Farmer's Market with a lovely show on plants for Fall Color presented by our Past President Marty Finkel.

October was busy as well – our monthly meeting was a reprise of the presentation by Marty of the Plants for Fall color. Our Second Saturday class was a "make it and take it" bulb planter using the excellent bulbs from the Terra Ceia company, soil provided by one of our members, and pots procured by our professional shopper, Edna Gaston. To finish the pots, we had the participants put in pansies, to give color through the winter and as a reminder to water the pots! Also in October, our EMGVs set up an information table at the Warrenton Fall Festival. We continued our outreach in Warren county by holding a second annual fall symposium, entitled "Ready, Set, Grow – Coping with Clay" and had gratifying attendance. The presentations on composting leaves, vermicomposting and planting perennials were all well received.

And the highlight of the quarter was our November meeting at which we recognized (TA DAA!) the 12 new EMGV's from the training class!



I-r Extension Agent Paul MacKenzie, Michelle Bugg, Juel Duke, Luly Carson, Bill Daye, Patty Bugg, Shelley de Fossett, Joy Taranto, Betty Roop, , Cyndi Greer. Missing from the picture are: Cathy Burke, Pat Sturgis, Joy Smith

Calendar of Events – North-Central District:

November 16: Education in the Garden - Making Hypertufa Containers, Friday 10am 3309 Burlington Road in Greensboro.

February 8: The 12th Annual Gardeners' Conference (Snow date February 15). The location will again be Center Methodist Church in the community of Welcome, a few miles north of Lexington. Main speakers will be Pearl Fryar, topiary expert, and Tony Avent, master plantsman. Options will be given for two additional concurrent sessions which will be listed on registration form.

February 23-25: Triad Home & Garden Show, Winston-Salem Fairgrounds Education Building. 414 Deacon Blvd. \$8.

South Central District

<Vacant position> District Reporter



Gaston County - Submitted by Barbara Linster

August, September and October **programs** were open to the public and well attended. In August Erin Hall, Coordinator for the Central Carolinas Master Naturalist (CCMN) program, explained what is entailed in becoming a CCMN. Our own Denise Furr, active Gaston County MG volunteer, also a CCMN, spoke about her volunteer work at the Schiele Museum where she is actively doing research and curating a large collection of mollusk specimens. Tiz Johnston, local garden landscape designer, presented "Garden Design Ideas & Inspiration that Wow and Work" in September. Not only did Tiz cover the rules for design with examples, but also emailed us her presentation! A treasured resource for sure. Our October speaker, Frank Hyman, presented "Not Tonight Deer" and spoke about deer-resistant gardening.

Additionally, we had three local education opportunities. In September MG Vickie Rauch's garden was toured to view and learn how she handled the challenge of landscaping a steep slope. A good number of us also visited Bartlett Tree Arboretum in Charlotte, watched a presentation and were given a grounds tour by the curator, Craig Paige. In October MG Teri Clark opened her crazy for conifer garden and conducted an optional leaf-making class. Our final trip for the year was also in October when we toured the High Point University Botanical Gardens. Jon Roethling, Garden Curator, spent three hours with us. The campus was on break so he even took us into some of the architecturally interesting buildings.

During these months, many **outreach** events and opportunities occurred. Master Gardener Day at Creative Opportunities projects were a watermelon slice craft and mini pot-head people planters. A number of MG volunteers dressed in period clothes for Cotton Ginning Days and the Heritage Garden (Pics 1 & 2). The Keep Gastonia Beautiful black gold and mulch sale also provided volunteer hours for a number of MG volunteers. Yard of the Week and the Farmer's Markets were winding down, but in spite of our ever-lingering heat, our **Learning Garden**, with the ever-patient guidance of MG Gene Martin, continued to wow (pic 3). Connect with us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/MasterGardenersOfGastonCounty.



Pic 1

Heritage Garden, Cotton Ginning Days 2017:
MG David Thornburg with his son and grandson. Three generations of gardeners.



Pic 2

Heritage Garden, Cotton Ginning Days 2017: MGVs Camille Jones, Tim Pearson, Carolann Shannon and Judith Jaeger in period clothes.



Pic 3 – Learning Garden

Moore County Submitted by Sharon Lowery

Pollinator Garden Adventure



On October 14, Master Gardeners helped support the Greenway Wildlife Habitat Committee by providing an afternoon of fun and learning in this garden along the Pinehurst Greenway Trail. Everyone had fun participating in a scavenger hunt for plants and pollinators and learning about native plants to support pollinators. Weymouth Woods ranger Nancy Williamson was there to lead some of the activities. There were displays of pollinating insects, a craft table for making plant stakes, face painting of plants and pollinating insects and refreshing hibiscus tea for all. Happy guests each went home with a native plant to support pollinators in their own backyards.



Volunteering at Community Gardens – It's What We Do



One of the gardens Moore MGV's support is the First Health Hospice Gardens in West End. These extensive gardens on the hospice campus provide families, patients and staff some peace, comfort during a most challenging time. Here, some of our volunteers take time out to say, "Cheese!"

Working with Kids

In August, volunteers helped Pinehurst Elementary School prepare raised beds as part of an ongoing, after school program. The school's Garden Club is sponsored by the PTA for grades K-5. The kids participate in all aspects of gardening- from planning and planting to harvesting and tasting the foods they grow. Last month, the children learned about soil, composting, and cover crops from a MC Master Gardener Volunteer. They planted fall crops of lettuce, kale, broccoli and spinach and weeded the pollinator flower gardens.



Lincoln County – Submitted by Marcia Scheideman

Lincoln County EMGV Respond to Call to Action

Charles Jonas Public Library in Lincolnton reached out to Master Gardeners in a time of need. Large trees and shrubs as well as dense hedges had created hiding places for uninvited overnight guests. Master Gardeners responded in force pruning shrubs, cutting out dead branches and eliminating overgrowth. It was an opportunity for Extension staff and EMGV to work with the county on a mutually beneficial project. Lincoln County leadership expressed their gratitude to Tom Dyson, Lincoln County Extension Director and all participating EMGVs.



November Lincoln County EMGV Meeting and Community Service Outreach



Master Gardeners will be creating "Folded Paper Sphere Ornaments" which were popular in Victorian times and specifically during the Civil War period when supplies were scarce.

They consist of folding varying widths of paper strips accordion style and taping the ends of each strip to itself to form a circular pleated shape. The circles are then stacked and glued together so that they form a ball or sphere. These ornaments will be sold at the Mundy House in Lincoln County. Mundy House is a historic landmark in Lincoln County that was built between in the mid 1800's by Revolutionary War descendant Jeremiah Mundy and remained in the Mundy Family until the 1990's. EMGVs in Lincoln County maintain a community garden in collaboration with the East Lincoln Garden Club and in keeping with the historic period of the home.



Cabarrus County - Submitted by Mitchell Hagler

The Cabarrus County association does not meet in July but our August speaker was Bob Blackwelder, long-time beekeeper and a member of the NC State Beekeepers Association. This is the 100th anniversary of the NCSBA and was celebrated at a conference in Winston-Salem. Bob explained the reasons for the decline in the bee population: loss of natural landscapes, loss of hardwood forests, and new pests including mites that plague bees.

President Wendy Tate has been encouraging our members to prepare short presentations to give to our association in preparation for developing longer presentations that can be used in a Speaker's Bureau. In September, two members presented—one on growing garlic including the types of garlic that can be successfully grown in our zone and one on growing spinach including planting date, where to buy seeds, pests, soil, etc.

In October we took a road trip to Lucky Leaf Farm. Owner Kate Brun provided us with a history of her Microgreen operation which started out in a sunroom of her home and now is a 5+ acre site with a 2800 sq. ft. double layered hoop style greenhouse. The single person operation has many features found in big commercial operations: overhead watering, evaporator cooling air handlers, water based radiant heated grow tables, sanitation and GAP certification. Kate grows about twelve varieties of microgreens for area chefs. Microgreens take one week to grow a crop, which is fresh for about ten days. Produce is delivered two times per week to the chefs and to Earth Fare, and additionally she sells to individuals who are using microgreens for health issues. In addition, she holds seminars and training activities. She provides educational opportunities to 4-H kids and Girl Scouts to interact with nature and spark curiosity.

Member Steve Mosier presented the November program on cankerworms. He explained his trial and error methods to combat a massive invasion of cankerworms several years ago. Steve explained how he bands his 50+ trees and which products work best.

Extension Agent Lauren Duncan Hill unveiled the newly created NC State Extension logo which will be used on all materials going forward. She also reported that she will again this year work on the Rhubarb Project at the Piedmont Research Station; Barbee Farm is going to grow this crop in Cabarrus County.

Our members participated in the county fair and in Ag Business Days by staffing a booth at the fair and by hosting all county 6th graders during the Ag Business Days. Each child planted a pansy to take home and learned about plant production.

At our annual Christmas dinner we will present the Master Gardener of the Year Award as well as join with Toys for Tots by again bringing toys for that organization.

Winter is a time of promise because there is so little to do — or because you can now and then permit yourself the luxury of thinking so.

~Stanley Crawford

**West District report,
<Vacant Position>, District Editor**



Polk County - Submitted by Jackie Weedon

The Foothills Association of Master Gardeners met for its quarterly educational session on November 6, 2017. Jean Woods, president of the North Carolina Native Plant Society, gave a great talk on "The Color Palette of Native Plants."

FAMG members and their guests met for their fall potluck in October at member Lucy Robert's lovely home. We enjoyed friendship, good food, and gorgeous weather.

Our Polk County Cooperative Extension Director and Master Gardener Coordinator, Scott Welborn, announced an exciting new project for us. The Senior Center is adjacent to the Extension offices and we will be taking over their vegetable garden as a research and educational project. The food we grow will go to the Senior Center's kitchen. The kickoff meeting is later this month.

Burke County – submitted by Donna Teasley

As summer got underway in Burke County, the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Association was kept busy trying to stay ahead of weeds in the perennial garden at the Extension office and in the community garden, also located there. Rain is great but it sure makes for a lot of work! The group also decided to expand its scholarship program to include the 2 FFA programs in the county. For many years they have also presented a scholarship to a student in the horticulture program at Western Piedmont Community College.

The group also volunteered to help with various summer youth programs such as 4-H Summer Fun, Exploring Joara summer camp and the Burke County Library summer youth program. Various gardening topics and activities were presented to area youth.

In August the Exploring Joara Foundation held a celebration of the 450th anniversary of the founding of the Spanish settlement in Burke County and EMGVA participated by giving tours through the native gardens which includes the Three Sister Garden and the Medicinal Herb Garden. The EMGVA built and maintains these gardens as well as giving educational talks to local school groups throughout the year.



The Drexel Community Fair is a big event in Burke County and Extension Master Gardener volunteers always play a key role in processing vegetable and flower entries in the exhibit hall as well as the judging of the exhibits. The Veggie Varmint contest is also a big event at the fair as EMGVs assist youth in the creation of their own "Veggie Varmints" made from locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables. The "Varmints" are then judged and displayed in the exhibit hall for the week of the fair.



The fall found the EMGVA celebrating the harvest with their annual social at Silver Fork Winery in Burke County. The food was great and the views were spectacular as the group enjoyed each other's company for a well-deserved rest after a long and busy summer.



*Of winter's lifeless world each tree
Now seems a perfect part;
Yet each one holds summer's secret
Deep down within its heart.*

~Charles G. Stater

Editor's Note:

It is exceedingly difficult to believe another year has just rolled by. I remember doing things, but this much time has elapsed? Surely that's impossible!

Each edition of the newsletter gives us a chance to see just how much good is done by the Master Gardeners of North Carolina. I am proud to be associated with this fantastic group of people. I hope you are, too

-Eileen Novak, Newsletter Editor