

connecticut master gardener association



CMGA NEWSLETTER
January-March 1999
Vol. 12, No. 1

Dear Fellow Master Gardeners,

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season and I wish you all a healthy and prosperous New Year, along with a great gardening year.

The annual CMGA meeting was held at the UCONN Cooperative Extension System (CES) Center in North Haven on December 5, 1998. Over 30 CMGA members attended the meeting, which included a very fine potluck luncheon. The meeting can best be described by the comment of one of the members as she was leaving. She said, "This was like a good old New England town meeting." The following is a brief summary of items discussed and subsequent actions taken.

New Officers: The following slate of officers was presented and accepted by the members:

Larry Van Der Jagt: President
Mira Schachne: Vice-President
Joann Luiche: Secretary
Rose Van Der Jagt: Treasurer

Rose Van Der Jagt was installed as the interim Treasurer until a new treasurer can be found.

Districts: The CMGA by-laws define three districts. The by-laws also call for a representative from each district to serve on the Executive Board. The level of activities varies widely within districts with little or no input to the Board. A central location for Board meetings was also discussed.

Action: The Executive Board will now meet at Extension Centers in rotation and members are invited to these meetings. The following three meetings have been scheduled:

Jan. 14th Haddam Ext. Center
March 11th West Hartford Ext Ctr
May 13th Bethel Ext. Ctr. (tent.)

All meetings are at 10 am.

A committee has been established to organize those districts which do not have a viable organization. The members are:

Larry Van Der Jagt
Paul Brown (past President)
Bob Sherman (past President)
Bette Glickman

If you would like to lend you talents to this committee, please contact me at:
860/658-7716

Organization: A large number of questions concerned the activities of the CMGA: What are our priority activities? How do we make money and, how do we spend the money? How to improve communication between the Board and the members. I will summarize my answers her. In February, I will address them in detail in a letter to all members.

What the CMGA does: Since our inception in 1987, CMGA members have been active throughout the state in a variety of gardening activities. Master Gardeners speak at educational programs, teach and write about gardening topics and issues, build and maintain public gardens and provide

support to the CES centers answering questions from the public.

How do we make money? In addition to membership dues, our annual symposium has been the main source of revenue since 1993. In 1998, this was preempted by the Regional Master Gardener Conference. I might add that this was a most successful endeavor.

How do we spend money? In the past, the majority of our recurring expenses have been for printing and mailing the newsletter and generating newspaper articles. Donations have been made to UCONN for plant research projects. Books have been purchased and donated to the CES centers. Once the districts have been actively established, we plan to help support gardening activities for each district. We will continue to support the CES centers, as well as projects that support our purpose of educating the public. At the annual meeting, the following expenditures were approved:

* \$2500 for cameras and software needed by the Home and Garden Center. These cameras will be adapted to microscopes installed in each CES center. They will be used to transmit pictures of diseased plants or other material needing identification to the Home and Garden Educational Center for help in diagnosing problems.

*\$600 to purchase gardening reference books requested by the CES centers.

A scholarship fund has been suggested as a future project. John Neff, CMGA past Treasurer, will address the project. Anyone interested in helping John in this project may contact him at 860/673-5018.

How we communicate:Our primary means of communication has been the newsletter and two general membership meetings during the year. Conducting our meetings at a different CES center

and publishing the dates and times in the Newsletter in advance will give the members in each district an opportunity to attend a Board meeting in their area. The organization of the districts and the addition of a representative from each district will help improve our communication problem. The newsletter will be published quarterly, with additional letters from the President, as needed.

Activities: Carol Grillo has agreed to head an activities committee. The purpose of this committee is to plan activities such as plant swaps, etc. Both ideas and volunteers are needed. Please contact Carol at 203/248-3002

Mailing List: A request from the CES to share our entire mailing list with them was not approved at the annual meeting. If you want to be included on the Home and Garden Education Center's mailing list, call 1-877-486-6271. They will keep us informed of their various activities, new publications, short courses and upcoming events.

The UCONN Alumni Association is sponsoring a trip to "The Cotswolds, London and the Hampton Court Flower Show" scheduled for June 28 to July 7. If interested, please call 888/822-5861.

Marie Dube Retires: Marie Dube announced her retirement for early this year. We all know Marie and how hard she has worked as advisor to the CMGA. We would like to thank Marie for all her help over the many years that she served as our advisor.

Advanced Master Gardeners Courses: An Advanced Master Gardener course is being studied by the CES along with what changes/upgrades should be made to the existing Master Gardener course. Roy Jeffrey is heading this project and is looking for your thoughts and ideas as well as assistance. Roy can be reached at UCONN at

Hartford Flower Show: The CES will have a booth at the Hartford Flower Show on February 18th-21st. Master Gardeners are needed to staff this booth. The CMGA contact is Roberta Orne at 860/875-3005. The contact for the CES is Cindy Wyskiewicz at 877/486-6271. The current plan is to sell soil test kits, calendars and CMGA t-shirts. Executive Board approval is needed for the t-shirt sales.

Mentors: CMGA members are urged to become mentors to our new AssociateMembers who are currently enrolled in the incoming Master Gardener class. If you can help, please call Julia Griswold at the Norwich CES center 860/887-1608 on any Tuesday or Thursday.

Associate Members: There has been some confusion about the different membership categories and the transition from Associate Member to CMGA member. To clarify: An Associate Member is in training. During their training year, they are entitled to all the privileges of membership, except for voting. They receive all mailings and are invited to attend all activities. Once an Associate has completed the requirements of the Master Gardener course and been certified, he/she can become a full member by completing an application and paying dues.

CMGA Semi-Annual Meeting: The meeting will be held at the Home and Garden Education Center in Storrs. The date will be either June 5th or June 12th. Watch for the confirmed date in this newsletter.

I know that this is a lengthy letter, but there were a number of key issues discussed at our meeting and, in keeping with our commitment to improving communication, I want all our members to be informed of the CMGA plans for the future. As

mentioned, in February, I will be sending a letter to all members discussing our organizational issues. In the meantime, I urge you all to think about how you can help to make our organization stronger. There are a number of opportunities for involvement mentioned in this newsletter. Give one a try and in return, you will learn more and have fun as well. So, let's do it!

Sincerely,

*Larry Van Der Jagt,
President*

Save the Date! Sixth Annual Master Gardener Symposium

Saturday, March 13th

The annual Master Gardener Symposium is scheduled for Saturday, March 13 at the Manchester Community College. As in the past, this popular event will offer workshops on a wide variety of gardening topics. This year's offerings will include talks on Wildflowers; Herbs; Roses; Container Gardening; Rock Gardens and Perennials. A preliminary registration form is in this newsletter. Once you have mailed it in, you will be sent the list of workshop choices. Early registrants will have the best chance of securing their first choice. At \$25.00 (\$35.00 for non-members), including lunch, this Symposium is one of the best bargains around!

*Connecticut Master Gardener Association
Sixth Annual Gardening Symposium*

Manchester Community College Saturday, March 13, 1999

Please Note: This is a preliminary registration form that will secure your spot at the symposium. All who register in advance will receive a class list from which you may select your choice of topics and workshops.

Symposium space is limited and CMGA cannot guarantee you a spot if you plan to register at the door. Refunds are provided only if CMGA has to cancel the program. In case of inclement weather, listen to WTIC radio (1080 AM) for cancellation or postponement.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: ROBERT SHERMAN

ADDRESS: 15 FIRE TOWER RD
KILLINGWORTH, CT 06419

PHONE (include area code): (860) 663-2345

Registration Fee: CMGA Members \$25 Nonmembers \$35
(CMGA members must have paid their 1999 dues to register at member price.)

Make check payable to CMGA. Do not send cash. Send your check and this registration form to:

John Neff, Registrar, 18 Knollwood Rd., Farmington, Ct 06032
For information, please call: 860/673-5018

From the Editor:

Dear Fellow Master Gardeners,
It's not often that you see a Thank-You note combined with an invitation, but that what this is. As the new Editor of our newsletter, I have to thank our departing Editor, Susan Munger, not only for the terrific job that she did in producing this newsletter, but also for all the help that she has given me as I begin to take over this task. Thank you, Susan - you've given me a great start!

Now for the invitation: This is **our** newsletter and, as Larry said, our primary means of communication within our organization. Everyone is invited to submit items for publication. Have you worked on an interesting project? Found a fabulous new perennial? Read a great (or not so great) new gardening book? Attended an interesting lecture or symposium? Gardeners are famous for sharing plants; let's be equally generous with information. Our newsletter should be a forum for sharing information as well as a way of staying connected.

At the moment, I can be reached the old-fashioned ways: by phone at 860/439-0099 and by mail at 9 Northwood Road, Quaker Hill, Ct. 06375-1218.

Thanks in advance,
Kate Cheromcha

BOOK REVIEW

We would like to have book reviews as a regular feature of our newsletter. Have you acquired a new must-have book? Do you want to give new gardeners some suggestions for a home library? All are welcome to contribute.

The Well-Tended Perennial Garden

by Tracy DiSabato-Aust

The subtitle of this book, *Planting and Pruning Techniques*, gives a good idea of the content. I find the most useful section to be the alphabetical list of perennials with specific recommendations for each on deadheading, cutting back, leaving attractive seed-heads, dividing and the like. For example, the author recommends shearing *Veronica teucrium* by one-half after flowering or, if you don't get around to it by then, pruning down to basal growth in late fall. For *Scabiosa* she acknowledges that deadheading is tedious because so many flowers are produced and it is easy to mix up deadheads and new buds; old flowering stems can be cut back before winter but basal foliage should not be cut as it stays evergreen or semigreen throughout the winter. With other perennials, the foliage may be the most attractive feature, calling for the removal of buds before flowering.

There is a limited amount of information on soil, moisture and sun preference for each perennial.

Other chapters deal with general principles. One explains the various reasons for pruning: to encourage new growth, the regenerate life, to stagger plant heights or bloom times to name a few. Elsewhere, basic deadheading is described and illustrated. The appendices include treatment of ornamental grasses and a planting and maintenance schedule by month.

The book has 131 color plates, many from the author's own garden on Sunbury, Ohio. This is a good source of practical information presented in a well organized format.

The Well-Tended Perennial Garden by Tracy DiSabato-Aust is published by Timber Press, 1998, with a price of \$29.95

submitted by Susan Munger

Garden Writers Needed

Have you ever wanted to see your ideas in print? Aspiring authors - here's your chance! For the past nine years, Master Gardeners have contributed weekly garden columns to *The Day* newspaper in New London, Ct.

Master Gardener Bob McNeil coordinates this program and all Master Gardeners are invited to contribute columns. If you live outside the circulation area of *The Day*, you will receive a copy of your published column by mail.

You are welcome to suggest topics. Past articles have covered growing tomatoes, dealing with moles and voles, pruning raspberries and selecting garden tools to name just a few. In order to avoid duplication, send your suggestions to Bob for approval and deadline dates. Articles should be 500 words, typewritten and double-spaced. The author is identified as a Master Gardener with the UConn Extension System.

One of the primary purposes of the CMGA is to provide opportunities for members to "share their knowledge and expertise and offer help and assistance to the public through the Cooperative Extension System." This program is an excellent opportunity for doing this.

Our tenth year of garden columns begins this March. If you are interested, please contact Bob McNeil. Write to him at 16 Damon Heights Road, Niantic, Ct. 06357 or call him at 860/739-5134 for more information.



Renew Your Membership Now!

In this issue of the newsletter, you will find the application for CMGA membership. As our organization begins to plan for the future, there will be many key issues being discussed and decided. All certified Master Gardeners are eligible for membership. Be sure to complete the application and send it with the \$10.00 dues to our Interim Treasurer. Once you have sent in your dues, you can register for the Symposium at the member price - saving you the cost of the dues!

Rave Reviews for the Regional Conference

We have a summary of the evaluations from the Regional Conference. Out of 117 evaluations received, 45 rated the conference as *Very Good* and 48 gave it an *Excellent* rating. Many people took the time to add comments and suggestions; these will be discussed in the next newsletter.

The CMGA is grateful to all the people who contributed time, talent and energy to making the Conference such a success. The following says it even better.

From New York:

"On behalf of the Master Gardeners who traveled by chartered motor coach from Albany and Renselaer Counties of N.Y., I would like to say Congratulations to all of you. You did a magnificent job. It was an outstanding conference in EVERY way. Many thanks and kudos to you all!"

Connecticut Master Gardener Association
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR 1999

Dues are \$10.00/year. Dues paid during Fall 1998 are valid through December 1999.
 YES! I am a fully certified Master Gardener and I want to be a part of the CMGA.
 am renewing my membership OR a new member.
 Please fill out completely, even if there are no changes.

Name: ROBERT SHERMAN Year Course Taken 1986

Address: 15 FIRE TOWER RD Phone: (860) 663-2345

KILLING WORTH, CT. 06419 E-Mail: _____

Extension Office HADDAM District EASTERN

INTERESTS: Circle five or fewer of your most avid gardening interests:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Annuals | Computers | Handicapped, Gardening with |
| Beekeeping | Containers | Herbs |
| Birds | Drying Flowers | <u>Historic Gardens</u> |
| Bonsai | Education | House Plants |
| Butterflies | Flower Arranging | <u>Integrated Pest Management</u> |
| Cactus | Fruit | <u>Landscaping</u> |
| Children, Gardening with | CMGA Fundraising | Lawns |
| Community Projects | Garden Design | <u>Native Plants</u> |
| Compost | Greenhouses | Orchids |
| Organic Gardening | Plant Therapy | <u>Shade Gardening</u> |
| <u>Perennials</u> | Rock Gardens | <u>Slides</u> |
| Photography | Seed Saving | Vegetables |
| <u>Plant Disease</u> | Seedlings | Water Gardens |
| Plant Propagation | Seniors, Gardening with | Wild Flowers |
| | | <u>Woody Ornamentals</u> |
| | | Writing |

Indicate any subjects that you would be willing to teach: WOODY'S, BASIC GDNNG, ~~WATER~~ LANDSCAPING,

Additional affiliations: (e.g. Conn. Hort Society, NOFA, Local Garden Clubs)

CT HORT. SOC, ARNOLD ARBORETUM, CT. COLL ARBORETUM

Please mail completed application and dues payment to: CMGA Treasurer Rose Van Der Jagt,
 (make check payable to CMGA) 2 Gretel Lane
 Simsbury, Ct. 06070

connecticut master gardener association

CMGA NEWSLETTER
Special Edition/February 1999

*Dear Fellow Master
Gardeners,*

This is one newsletter you won't want to put down until later. It contains the complete Symposium registration form, listing topics and speakers. You'll want to return yours right away, in order to insure your spot and choices. Sylvia Wahl has organized an outstanding list of topics and an equally impressive group of speakers. If you take care of the registration now, you'll be able to look forward to yet another cure for "winter blues".

You will also find a reprint of the CMGA Membership Application in this issue as well. This is another task that you won't want to put off. By joining the CMGA, you immediately recoup your membership cost with the savings on the Symposium fee. You are also assured of receiving the newsletter, which will keep you informed of CMGA activities, volunteer opportunities and upcoming events.

Sincerely,
Kate Cheromcha, Editor

Spread the Seed; Share your Knowledge

As our organization begins to tackle new projects, make it a point to stay a member and stay involved. That way, you will be able to take advantage of new opportunities to increase your own knowledge and expertise. The students of the 1999 Master Gardener class will be ready to work on volunteer projects before we know it. They would appreciate our involvement. There are numerous projects and opportunities listed in this article, along with the names and phone numbers of contact persons. You might also have a project in mind that needs volunteers; by all means, discuss it with the Extension Office Coordinator for your region. If you enjoyed working in the office, answering questions and assisting clients, consider becoming a mentor for the new class. Local agricultural Fairs also offer opportunities for us to share our knowledge. (continued on last page)

HELP NEEDED!

CMGA Symposium: Help man the CMGA booth; serve as "speaker keepers"; \$5.00 refund on fee; contact Larry Van Der Jagt at 860/658-7716

Harford Flower Show; February 18-21; Master Gardeners needed to staff Extension Service booth; free admission; call Roberta Orne at 860/875-3005.

Dear Fellow Master Gardeners:

The CMGA, in 1998 became a non profit educational organization under 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3). In addition, the Connecticut Secretary of State has accepted the CMGA filing to do business in Connecticut. As a result of this change in status, the CMGA must formalize its mode of operation. One of the items required is the establishment of an annual budget. The Executive Board at our January 21st meeting approved the following budget.

CMGA1999 Budget

Cash on hand	14,400	
Scholarship Fund	8,000	
TOTAL		22,400

Operating Income

• Dues- Members	4,000	
Associate members	1,900	
• Interest	900	
• Fund Raising	2,500	
• Symposium	<u>6,100</u>	
TOTAL		15,400

Operating Expenses

• Publications		3,600
Printing - Newsletter	1,600	
Directory	600	
Postage	1,200	
Newspaper Articles	200	
• Fund Raising		2,000
• Supplies		200
• Scholarship		2,000
• District Support		1,600
• Symposium		4,500
• Annual - Semi Annual meetings		200
• Misc. (telephone, Advertising, gifts etc.)		600
• Secretary of State Filing Fee		<u>25</u>
TOTAL		14,725

Selective Expenses

• UCONN Support		
Home & Garden Center	2,500	
Extension Center Books	600	
Plant Research	1,000 (pending approval)	
TOTAL		4,100

NOTES ABOUT THE BUDGET

- The recommended cash on hand each year should be \$10,000 in our bank account plus \$8,000 in the scholarship fund. (in a CD account)
- The operating income should exceed the operating expenses, (which includes the scholarship fund)
- Operating income in excess of operating expenses may be used for selective expenses to support gardening activities.
- Selective Expenses: In 1998, The Executive Board approved a number of selective expenses that are considered higher than normal. This extraordinary cash position was the result of a highly successful Regional Conference. This conference yielded \$6,975 to each of the three partners.
- There are funds allocated to support the districts. This should permit each district to conduct small gardening projects with the CMGA support. All requests should be sent to the Treasurer in writing.

The second issue discussed at length was organizing the districts. The CES is conducting the Master Gardener Training program at four locations this year. These locations are:

Haddam (New London and Middlesex Counties)	North Haven (New Haven and Fairfield Counties)
Storrs (Tolland and Windham Counties)	West Hartford (Hartford and Litchfield Counties)

The CMGA plans to organize the districts to be consistent with the CES training locations. This should provide the opportunity for a student to progress from training to certification to CMGA programs all in one location. Each district will elect a representative who will become part of the CMGA Executive Board to act as intermediary between the Statewide organization and the local districts.

This year the Master Gardener Directory will be arranged by district. This will help in identifying the members in each district. I would like to emphasize that the defined districts are for identification only they do not restrict training or membership requirements.

The first meeting of the District Organizing Committee will hold its first meeting in early February. This is one of our priority items. We will need your help to get this job done. If you are willing to help organize your local region please contact me at 860 658-7716 or send a post card with your name and address to me Larry Van Der Jagt at 2 Gretel Lane, Simsbury, CT 06070-1611

Larry Van Der Jagt

HELP WANTED

- **Symposium** 8 people to man CMGA booth during opening and intermissions
12 Speaker Keepers
Registration
Call Larry Van Der Jagt 860 658-7716 to volunteer.-A \$5.00 refund will be given at the symposium
- **Flower Show URGENTLY** needs volunteer Master Gardeners for 3 to 4 hours each day of the show. February 18,19,20,21 **Free admission.**
Call Roberta Orne 860 875-3005 to volunteer

Time is running out guarantee your place in the Master Gardener Directory and save \$10.00 on your Symposium fee. The next newsletter will only be mailed to paid members. So don't miss out **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW:**

**Connecticut Master Gardener Association
Membership Application for 1999**

Dues: \$10/year. Dues paid during fall of 1998, winter 1998 are valid through December 1999.

YES, I am a fully certified Master Gardener and I want to be a part of the CMGA

I am (a) renewing my membership OR (b) a new member .

Please fill out completely, even if there are no changes from previous years.

Name: _____ Year Course Taken: _____

Address: _____ Town _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail address: _____ Phone: _____

Extension Office: _____ District: _____

INTERESTS: Circle 5 (or fewer) of your most avid interests

- | | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Annuals | Computers | with Handicapped | Organic | with Seniors. |
| Beekeeping | Containers | Herbs | Perennials | Shade |
| Birds | Drying Flowers | Historic Gardens | Photography | Slides |
| Bonsai | Education | House Plants | Plant Disease | Vegetables. |
| Butterflies | Flower Arranging | Integrated Pest Mngmnt | Plant Propagation | Water Gardens |
| Cactus | Fruit | Landscaping | Plant Therapy | Wild Flowers |
| With Children | CMGA Fundraising | Lawns | Rock Gardens | Woody Ornamentals |
| Community Projects | Garden Design | Native Plants | Seed Saving | Writing |
| Compost | Greenhouses | Orchids | Seedlings | |

Indicate those subject you are willing to teach

Affiliations you would like listed in the CMGA Directory. (E.g.: Conn. Horticultural Society, NOFA, Arboretum, and Local Garden Club).

Please mail completed application and dues payment to: Rose Van Der Jagt, CMGA Treasurer, 2 Gretel Lane, Simsbury, CT 06070-1611 (Makes checks payable to CMGA)

Spread the Seed; Share your Knowledge *(continued)*

In the New London/Norwich area, projects include working with the Waterford Rotary Club on two beautification projects; assisting with local historic gardens- there are several; creating gardens in group home setting; working with Special Olympians in unified garden projects; work with other volunteers who offer gardening opportunities at Camp Harkness. Interested? Please call Julia Griswold at the Norwich office; 860/887-1608

Check out these projects as well: Bridge of Flowers in Putnam - volunteers needed to plant and maintain container gardens on walking bridge; Williamantic Housing Authority seeking people to work with elderly on planning and maintaining flower and vegetable gardens; Shetucket River Heritage Corridor - work with State Foresters to create guides to tree identification; a garden has been designed for a daycare center in Brooklyn- volunteers needed for installation. Carole Williamson is the contact person; call her toll-free at 1-877/486-6271.

Opportunities are also available through the North Haven Office. Call Marie Dube at 203/789-7865

Editor's Note: Spread the Seed will be a regular feature in the newsletter. It will include not only volunteer opportunities, but also items about projects that have benefited from a CMGA member's involvement. Send your requests and stories to Kate Cheromcha at the address below.

Enid Sherman
15 Fire Tower Rd
Killingworth, CT 06419



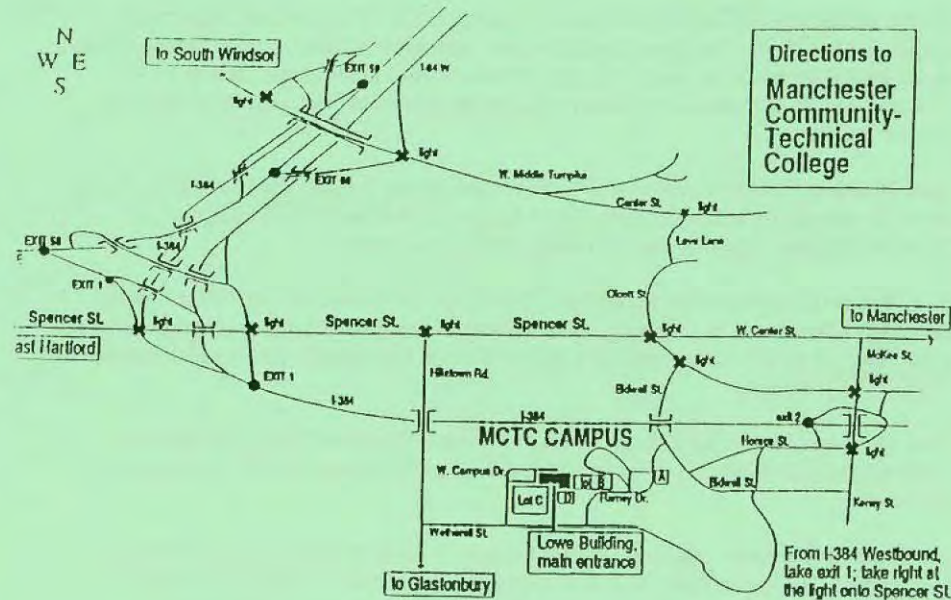
Kate Cheromcha
9 Northwood Road
Quaker Hill, Ct. 06375

Steve Frowine, Horticulturalist and President of the Great Plant Company in New Hartford
Topic: "New Plants for American Gardens" Introduction to new plants from this country as well as around the world that are adaptable for American Gardens.

Juile Hunken, Garden consultant and owner of Honey River Gardens in Woodstock. **Topic:** "Learning from Wildflowers" You will learn the names of beautiful garden worthy flowers and how wildflower adaptations will teach you to have more successful gardens.

Rich Kureger, Geologist and Director of Dinosaur State Park in Rocky Hill. **Topic:** "Arboretum of Evolution" Program about how applied paleobotany is used to enhance the Dinosaur Park. Finding, planting and caring for those plant species that grew during the dinosaur period some 65,000,000 years ago.

DIRECTIONS to Manchester Community Technical College. From Hartford, take I-84 eastbound and leave immediately at exit 59 to I-348. From Boston, exit at 59 and follow same directions as above to I-384. Take first exit off of I-384 to Spencer Street Exit. At end of exit ramp turn left on to Spencer Street and travel about 2,000 feet going East past several stores. At the Sunoco station turn right on to Hillstown Road and follow signs to Manchester College. Proceed to second street and turn left into campus. Park in any available parking lot since school is not in session. No parking restrictions are in force. The meeting takes place in the Lowe building



Connecticut Master Gardener Association

Sixth Annual Gardening Symposium

March 13, 1999
 8:30 AM – 4:00PM

Manchester Community Technical College
 Manchester, Connecticut

**Connecticut Master Gardener Association
Sixth Annual Gardening Symposium
Manchester Community College Saturday, March 13, 1999**

8:30 9:00 Registration and Coffee
 9:00 10:00 Introductions and Keynote Speaker
 10:00 11:30 Coffee Break and Browse Vendor Displays
 10:30 11:45 Workshop I
 11:45 12:45 Lunch
 12:45 2:00 Workshop II
 2:00 2:30 Shop Vendor Displays
 2:30 3:45 Workshop III

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Symposium space is limited to first 200 persons who register. CMGA cannot guarantee space to those who plan to register at the door. Registration is assured only when payment is made in full and includes lunch, which consists of a grinder sandwich, desert and beverage. Your choice of Ham, Tuna, Vegetable, or Turkey.

Registration Fee: CMGA Members \$25 Non Members \$35
 (CMGA Members must have paid their 1999 dues to register at member price.)

WORKSHOP I 10:30 - 11:45	WORKSHOP II 12:45 - 2:00	WORKSHOP III 2:30 - 3:45
1. Hostas and Ferns (IL)*	1. Planting and Harvesting	1. Roses
2. New Plants	2. Garden Designs (IL)	2. Rock Gardens (IL)
3. Water Gardens	3. Container Gardens	3. Wild Flowers
4. Photosynthesis (IL)	4. Propagate Rhododendrons	4. Arboretum Evolution

* (IL) Intermediate level

HOW TO SELECT WORKSHOP COURSES

Select one course in each workshop by number, then choose an alternate course in the event your first choice is no longer available.

REGISTRATION FORM

Your Name _____ Phone () _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Workshop I First Choice _____ Second Choice _____

Work shop II First Choice _____ Second Choice _____

Workshop III First Choice _____ Second Choice _____

Lunch Choice: Ham ___ Tuna ___ Vegetable ___ Turkey ___

Make checks payable to CMGA. Do not send cash. Send your check and this registration form to: John Neff, Registrar, 28 Knollwood Rd. Farmington, CT 06032
In case of inclement weather, listen to WTIC radio (1080 AM) for cancellation or postponement

Speaker Introductory Background

Keynote Address Dr. William Niering, Professor of Botany at Connecticut College. Author of three books about wetlands, and editor of "Restoration Ecology" an international Journal. **Topic:** "Restoration Ecology", its Future Role" Discussion of current practices in making lands more environmentally safe and an overview of what the Master Gardener can do to protect the environment.

Dr. Mark Bridgen, Professor of Horticulture and head of the Plant Biotechnology facility at the University of Connecticut in Storrs. He is known for his research and breeding of Alstroemeria plants. **Topic:** "Hostas, Ferns and Other Shade Plants"(IL)

Priscilla Twombly, Horticulturalist and co-owner of Twombly's Nursery in Monroe **Topic:** "Rock Gardening for Anyone" (IL) Talk will include different types of rock gardens and a variety of plants for the rock garden from those that are easy to grow as well as ones that are more challenging.

Jodi Mara, Master Gardener and member of the Lectes Island Federated Garden Club. **Topic:** "How Deep Does Your Garden Grow", all you need to know about water gardens. Please submit any special question you may have to Jodi at 110 State St., Guilford, CT 06537 or to jodi@cshore.com

Dr. Israel Zelitch, Distinguished Scientist Emeritus at the CT Agriculture Experiment Station in New Haven. In his retirement, he now writes for "Kitchen Garden" Magazine and raises vegetables on Block Island. **Topic:** "Photosynthesis in the Home Garden"(IL). Discussion of his technical knowledge about photosynthesis to basic aspects of the home vegetable garden.

Jack Donohue, Instructor, writer and Vice President of the Connecticut Horticulture Society. He is the web master of the Herb Society of America and editor of its Connecticut Newsletter. **Topic:** "Planting and Harvesting a Potpourri Garden"

C. L. Fornari, Garden writer and author of the "Cape Cod Gardener" and "Your Garden Shouldn't Make You Crazy. **Topic:** "Garden Design Principles" (IL) This program illustrates some standard garden design principles and talks about why specific plants and combinations work in these designs.

Pam Jacobsen, Horticulture writer, lecturer and Master Gardener. **Topic:** "Creating an Outside Container Garden." Program will include the use of some unusual annuals in these containers.

Dr. Richard Kiyomoto, Associate scientist at the CT Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven. His special areas include breeding plants for disease resistance and plant propagation of fruit crops and ornamentals. **Topic:** "Approaches to Rhododendron Propagation": (IL)

David Berg, Rosarian **Topic:** "How to Grow Beautiful Roses" A program on how to plant, grow, prune, and care for roses including the prevention and control of insects and disease. Various types of roses will be described and how they can be used in the homeowner's garden.

connecticut master gardener association

CMGA NEWSLETTER
April-June 1999
Vol. 12, No. 2

Dear Fellow Master Gardeners:

Winter is finally over and spring is here; now we can get the gardens going and growing.

The CMGA Executive Board met on March 11, 1999 at the UCONN Cooperative Extension Center in West Hartford. Attendance is slowly climbing at these meetings, which is a good sign. The following is a brief summary of those items discussed and the action taken.

New Treasurer: The Board unanimously approved Lucy Goodridge to replace Rose Van der Jagt as Treasurer. Our thanks to Rose for taking the position until someone could be found to take the responsibility. Lucy, we welcome you aboard and look forward to working with you.

All CMGA members requesting reimbursement for expenses must include a receipt and a reason with the request. In addition, our Bylaws require the approval of the Executive Board for any expenditure over \$100.00

Scholarship Fund: John Neff presented the Scholarship Committee recommendation to the Board. After a discussion, a motion was made to approve the recommendations of the Committee. The motion was voted upon and approved. Following are the stipulations of the scholarship:

A sum of \$2000.00 will be provided to an upper division student (Junior or Senior) in good academic standing with financial need.

The student must be enrolled in the UCONN College of Agriculture, Department of Plant Science.

UCONN will evaluate and select the recipient.

The first award will be made this spring for the 1999-2000 academic year.

The scholarship agreement was signed and forwarded to UCONN with our first check. In addition as approved at our January Board meeting, a separate Scholarship Fund has been established with an initial deposit of \$6000.00. We welcome any and all donations to help make our scholarship fund a success. Thank you to John Neff and his committee for a job well done. This is a significant accomplishment for CMGA.

Selective Expenses: The Board approved a \$1000.00 donation (included in our 1999 budget) for plant research. This money will be given to Professor Mark Bridgen of the UCONN Plant Biotechnology Facility to start a new research project with field-grown herbaceous perennials as cut flowers. There is a tremendous demand for information on field-grown cut flowers and he would like to help answer some of the questions.

Semi-Annual Meeting: The CMGA June Membership meeting will be held on Saturday, June 5th in the W.B. Young Building at the College of Agriculture on the UCONN campus in Storrs. Room 100 has been reserved for us from 9 am until noon. Our guest speaker is Kristin Schwab, Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture of the Department of Plant Science. She will be speaking on "Sustainable Landscaping in Connecticut." We would like to make sustainable landscaping our theme for the year 2000 Symposium. Ed Marrotte will also be available in the Home and Garden Center to demonstrate his equipment. Let's have a good turnout!

Membership: Membership for 1999 has exceeded 400 members. Membership cards are being sent out

the directory is well on its way to completion. A mailing date in April is anticipated.

Flower Show: The display/information booth set up at the Hartford Flower Show was extremely well done. We have received many compliments on the information available and the eye appeal of the displays. Thanks to UCONN/CMGA volunteers who set up and staffed the booth.

The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 13th at the Bethel Cooperative Extension Center at 10 AM. We look forward to meeting you there.

Sincerely,

Larry Van Der Jagt
President

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Hidden Garden of Bethlehem, Connecticut, is seeking full-time and part-time employees for the 1999 season. Applicants should demonstrate knowledge of woody ornamentals, herbaceous perennials and annuals, and basic gardening principles. Retail experience is desired, but not mandatory. Applicants must be enthusiastic and excited about horticulture and gardens and eager to share that enthusiasm with customers.

The position will include both greenhouse work, (seeding, transplanting, watering, etc.), and working at the garden center doing retail sales and caring for the plants and display beds.

INTERESTED? call Cynthia or Stuart at THE HIDDEN GARDEN, 203/266-5595 or send resume to PO BOX 365, Bethlehem, Ct. 06751 Faxed or email resumes also welcomed:
FAX: 203/266-7874
email: STURAB@AOL.COM



Southwest District

Three Master Gardeners have volunteered to represent the Southwest District (Fairfield and New Haven counties). With assistance from Marie Dube, Carol Grillo (203/248-3002) and Craig Helmrich (203/453-5167) from New Haven County and Maureen (Moe) Sprano (203/322-6895) from Fairfield County will combine efforts to help improve communication within the CT Master Gardener Southwestern District.

Representation Established

Craig would like to set up an email list of district members. Please email Craig with your email address and county. His email is Craig.Helmrich@snet.net Information about on-going and future Master Gardener projects should be sent to: Carol Grillo at 1905 Whitney Ave., North Haven, Ct 06473 or to Craig Helmrich, 1 Sanford Road, Guilford, Ct. 06437 or to Moe Sprano, 435 Old Long Ridge Road, Stamford, Ct. 06903.

District Development

The membership has been divided into four districts as follows: (Bylaws will be amended)

- Northwest (NW) Litchfield and Hartford Counties
- Northeast (NE) - Tolland and Windham Counties
- Southwest (SW) Fairfield and New Haven Counties
- Southeast (SE) Middlesex and New London Counties

A list of members is available for each district. The guidelines for organizing the districts are defined in Article VIII of the bylaws. They are very general and are repeated below for easy reference:

"Members in each district may decide what activities to have, when and where to meet, and any other matter to come before the group.

All activities must comply with the statement of purpose in Article II of the bylaws. Activities in each district, if appropriate, should be open to members from all districts.

A representative elected from each district shall serve on the Executive Board."

Following are the names of CMGA members and UCONN Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Coordinators working on organizing each district along with some of the projects planned or requested for the district. **Help is needed:** We need project leaders, mentor and other volunteers to work with the current master gardeners in training to accomplish these goals. In addition people are needed to plan activities within the districts to make it an enjoyable, educational and fun experience. If you signed your name on the district list for volunteers at the symposium you will be contacted soon.

Northwest:

UCONN Master Gardener Coordinator - West Hartford - Cindi Wyskiewicz - 860-570-9010 Torrington - Karen Anderson - 860-626-6240

CMGA Members Larry Van Der Jagt - 860-658-7716 - Ellen Morse - 860 649-6192 - Betty Glickman 860 633-2939

Projects

- Sustainable Landscaping - UCONN West Hartford Campus and Auer Farm Bloomfield.
- Plymouth Historical Society Museum - Plymouth - New gardens being designed at Museum.
- Hungerford Nature Center - Kinsington - Children and adult gardening projects.
- Alzheimer Resource Center of Conn - Plantsville - Group leaders for patients or one on one instruction.
- New Britain Youth Museum - New Britain - Development of shade gardens behind museum.
- Simsbury Farms Playscapes - Simsbury - Establish demonstration gardens.

Northeast

UCONN Master Gardener Coordinator - Vernon - Jennifer Tanner - 860-875-3331 Brooklyn - Carol Williamson - 860-774-9600

CMGA Members Roberta Orne - 860-875-3005 Linda Gardiner - 860-742-0865

Projects

- Senior Citizen Flower and vegetable gardens at Willamantic housing authority
- Creating a brochure about the trees along the Shetucket River corridor-walking trail.
- A bridge of flowers on the Iron Bridge in Putnam.
- Helping inmates at Brooklyn Correction Center
- Flower garden at Illing Middle School in Manchester

Southwest

UCONN Master Gardener Coordinator: Bethel/North Haven Marie Dube 203-797-4176 or 203- 789 7865

CMGA Members: Fairfield - Maureen Spano 203-322-6895 New Haven Carol Grillo 203-248-3002 and Craig Helmrich 203-453-3957

Projects

- Burr Homestead - Fairfield, CT Help plan and plant to restore gardens around this historic site.
- Kellogg Environmental Center - Derby, CT - Give programs, help with gardens.
- Childrens Gardens - New Haven Nature Center also in Stamford - Contact Pat Sullivan 203-454-4235.
- Gardening with challenged - Trumbull - Group Home - Bridgeport
- Special Olympics Unified Gardens
- Low maintenance gardens at Extension Office - North Haven.

Southeast

UCONN Master Gardener Coordinator Norwich/Haddam - Julia Griswold 860-887-1608

CMGA Member Robert Sherman - 860-663-2345

Projects

- Gardening with challenged - Broadway Group Home Norwich
- Gardening with Youth - 4H Club - Eastern Point School Groton - Contact Pam Grey - 860-887-1608
- Waterford Beautification project with Rotary Club
- Historic Garden at Eugene O'Neil - New London

Choose a project/activity get involved in your district!

Larry Van Der Jagt

COMING EVENTS

Plant Sale to benefit the Haddam Land Trust

The 7th Annual Native Plant Sale sponsored by the Haddam Land Trust will be held on Saturday, May 1st and Saturday, May 8th; from 9 am to 4 pm. It will be in Higganum Center at the intersection of Rtes. 154 and 81. The sale, which is a fundraiser for the Haddam Land Trust will feature indigenous native plants, native cultivars and less common Non-native plants - in other words, something for every garden. For further information, please call Pamela Quayle at 860/345-2631 or email her at herbgatherer@snet.net.

Master Gardener's Gardens on Display

- John Neff's garden will be on the Farmington Library Garden tour scheduled for Saturday, June 12th. Call the Farmington Library for details.
- Louise O'Callahan's garden will be on the Stonington Garden Club tour on June 11th and 12th and on the Garden Conservancy tour on June 13th.

Garden in the Woods Trip

The Connecticut chapter of the New England Wildflower Society is planning a trip to the Garden in the Woods in Framingham, Mass on May 26th. The bus is scheduled to leave from E. Hartford. The trip will include special guided tours of the Garden in the Woods in the morning and a tour of Weston Nurseries in the afternoon. The cost will be approximately \$35 and will include a box lunch. If you choose to carpool, the cost will be \$22. For details, please call either Master Gardener Bette Glickman at 860/633-2939 or Ellen Bender, President of the Ct. Chapter of the NE Wildflower Society at 860/871-8085.

Meskwaka Tree Project needs you

We have received the following letter from Robert M. Ricard, Extension Educator, UCONN:

Dear Master Gardener:

The Meskwaka Tree Project is a public service educational program designed to help people increase the social, environmental and economic benefits produced by Connecticut's public trees and landscapes. This will be achieved by improving the quality of community tree programs through the training and support of community tree volunteer activists. And you are invited to participate!

The 1999 Meskwaka Weekend is scheduled for June 10,11 and 12 at the Connecticut College Arboretum and will involve approximately 25 participants. As a Master Gardener, you have already received significant training and volunteered to educate your community. By participating in the Meskwaka Tree Project - as dozens of your Master Gardeners colleagues have done on the past - you can extend your volunteer activities to helping your community improve its trees and forests; a resource that benefits everyone.

To become a Meskwaka Cooperator for your community first call me at 860/570-9257 and leave your name and address. I will send you an application form, which must be returned by May 15th. Though there is no financial cost to participants for materials and training, Meskawa Cooperators must be willing to commit themselves to improving the community forestry effort in their towns for at least one year- and hopefully beyond.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me at 860/345-4511. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Robert M. Ricard;
Extension Educator; Unrban and Community Forestry;
UCONN Cooperative Extension System

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND

**Gardening
Around
the World**

**Heirloom
Gardens**



**Environmentally
Friendly
Gardening**

**Search for
Excellence**

1999 International Master Gardener Conference

**Adam's Mark Hotel
San Antonio, Texas
August 19 - 22, 1999**

**Guest room, \$99, double or single
Call 1-800-444-ADAM**

Mention International Master Gardener Conference

**For more information call the Bexar County Master Gardeners at 1-877-456-4769,
Bonnie Hammett at (409) 634-5641 or Jaquie Rothermel at (210) 653-4024**

**Join us in San Antonio for the
1999 International Master Gardener Conference & Trade Show**

As a popular travel destination, San Antonio offers the Alamo, the River Walk, and the influences of Mexico and cowboys.

This summer, it will also be the site of the 1999 International Master Gardener Conference on August 19–22. Attendees will participate in tours, clinics and a trade show, and listen to speakers such as:

- ✿ Penelope Hobhouse, British author and TV personality—"Trends in Garden Design"
- ✿ Craig Tufts, Chief Naturalist at National Wildlife Federation—"Backyard Habitat"
- ✿ Kent Whealy, Director of Seed Savers—"Heirloom Vegetables"
- ✿ Roger Swain, "Victory Garden" TV personality and author—"Saving the World Through Gardening"
- ✿ Mark Plotkin, author and public TV personality—"News from the Jungle"

Conference activities will be centered at the Adam's Mark Hotel on the River Walk. A single or double room costs \$99. To make reservations, call 1-800-444-ADAM and specify that you are attending the International Master Gardener Conference.

Conference registration is \$145 and includes two lunches, breakfast, coffee breaks, the Saturday tours, clinics and speakers.

Visit the conference Web site at <http://mastergardener.tamu.edu> for more information, including how to submit a poster and how to participate in the "Search for Excellence" program.

To receive a registration packet, call the Bexar County Master Gardener office toll-free at 1-877-456-4769. (In San Antonio, call 225-5848.) Or, mail your request to International Master Gardener Conference, c/o Bexar County Master Gardeners, 700 Garcia, San Antonio, TX 78203.

This will be a wonderful event!



CMGA Symposium Survey Results

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, founded in 1875, is the first experiment station in America. It is chartered by the General Assembly as an independent State agency governed by a Board of Control. Station scientists make inquiries and experiments regarding plants and their pests, insects, soil and water quality, food safety, and perform analyses for State agencies. Factual information relating to the environment and agriculture is provided freely and objectively to all. The laboratories of the Station are in New Haven and Windsor; its Lockwood Farm is in Hamden. The Experiment Station is open from 8:30am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, except for State Holidays.

Among the services provided to the public are soil testing, insect identification, plant problem and disease diagnoses and speakers for groups.

Thanks to the Experiment Station:

It was researchers at the Experiment Station who discovered the fungus that keeps gypsy moths under control.

A hybrid corn discovered at the Experiment Station has doubled the yields of this important crop.

Vitamin A was discovered by Experiment Station scientists while studying animal nutrition.

For more information about information and services available through the Experiment Station, call toll free: 877/855-2237 or check out the web page at: www.state.ct.us/caes.

The 1999 CMGA Gardening Symposium was held on March 13, 1999 at the Manchester Community Technical College. Fresh from the success of the Regional Symposium, members of the CMGA organized a Spring Gardening Symposium that was the perfect cure for winter blahs. It was a sell-out and, judging from the comments received, it was also a success. To all the volunteers and the Chairperson, Dr. Jonas Zucker, congratulations on a job well done and thank you for all your efforts.

Of the 226 attendees, 92 took the time to complete a survey and give their comments and suggestions. Overall, the comments were positive and helpful and should be very useful in planning future sessions. The overwhelming majority would like more vendor booths and to see the CMGA booth continue as well. Organizational suggestions include creating an archive of handouts, running a book swap (possible CMGA fundraiser) and repeating the more popular sessions during the day. Suggestions for topics are as varied as gardening itself. They included propagation; trees, choosing, planting and caring for; using computers in garden design; wildlife, attracting and deterring; organic gardening and site-specific gardening including shade, steep slopes, seaside and urban.

Before we know it, it will be time to begin planning the Symposium for the year 2000. If you like these ideas, please consider assisting with planning and organizing the next Symposium. With your help, it will keep getting better and better.



Kate Cheromcha
9 Northwood Road
Quaker Hill, Ct. 06375

Robert Sherman
15 Fire Tower Rd
Killingworth, CT 06419



Calendar

Thursday, May 13th at 10 am
CMGA Executive Board Meeting
Bethel Cooperative Extension Ctr

Wednesday, May 26th
Garden in the Woods Trip
Framingham, Mass.

Saturday, June 5th at 10 am
CMGA Membership Meeting
College of Agriculture, UCONN, Storrs

Connecticut Master Gardener Association



CMGA Newsletter
July - Sept. 1999
Vol. 12, No. 3

Dear Fellow Master Gardeners,

The CMGA semiannual meeting was held on June 5th, 1999 in the W.B. Young Building on the UConn campus in Storrs. Krisitn Schwab, UCONN Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture gave a very informative and interesting talk on "Sustainability and Landscape Design: How "Green is Your Garden?" In addition, Ed Marrotte demonstrated his computer and camera equipment.

A brief summary of the semi-annual meeting follows:

Treasurer's Report: Lucy Goodrich, CMGA Treasurer reported that the organization is financially sound.

Scholarship: UCONN Scholarship Committee selected Mary Fox, Class of 2000, majoring in Landscape Architecture with a minor in Horticulture as the current recipient of the Master Gardener Scholarship. Ms. Fox completed the Master Gardener Program in Brooklyn, Ct. in 1996. She states that it was the Master Gardener Program that inspired her to return to college to earn her degree.

Advanced Master Gardener Course: Cindi Wyskiewicz has been assigned the task of establishing an Advanced MAster Gardener Program. She gave a brief update and announced that a survey has been mailed to the members. Many of us have been asking for an Advanced Course. Please help Cindi bring you the subjects that you would like to have included by completing and returning the survey. You will find a copy of the survey in this newsletter, in caae you missed

it. The main topic for the November Annual Membership meeting will be this Advanced Course. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 13th at the Haddam Extension Center

Districts: The setup of the CMGA organization into four districts is ongoing. We have had numerous requests for help from the Master Gardener Coordinators which have gone unanswered due to the poor response from our members. We must make support for these projects a priority in 2000. We need volunteers and leaders in all of our Districts. Please contact me with any ideas to help us achieve this goal or to volunteer for one of these positions. I need your help.

2000 Symposium: Ellen Morse has agreed to be the chairman for the year 2000 symposium. The theme will be "Sustainable Landscaping".

By-Laws: John Neff has agreed to chair a group to review the bylaws. We are a growing organization (more than 450 members) and must expand our bylaws to include committees to achieve the objectives of the organization. Please contact John Neff (860/673-5018) to volunteer your help in this effort.

Board Meeting: The Executive Board meetings have been scheduled at different Extension Centers around the state to give the members of each district the opportunity to meet with the Board and express their ideas. The attendance at these meetings has been disappointing. Please make an effort to attend these meetings to help us make this organization the kind of organization you would like to have.

Nominating Committee: Pam Weil and Cindi Wyskiewicz have agreed to work on the Nominating Committee. We need one more member to volunteer for this task. Please contact Pam Weil at 203/259-5273.

As the summer draws to a close, we pray for much needed rain to help prepare our gardens for the upcoming fall and winter seasons. Hope to see you soon at one of the board meetings.

Sincerely,
Larry Van Der Jagt

Can You Share/Spare Some...?

Thanks to its dedicated volunteers and staff Camp Harkness in Waterford continues to expand its gardens, making the beauty and joy of gardens accessible to everyone.

A new rock garden has been designed and is ready for installation IF the plant "wish list" can be filled. Fall is the perfect time for planting, dividing and transplanting. If you have any of the following plants, please consider sharing some with Camp Harkness. Contact Julia Griswold at the Norwich Extension Office at 860/886-1608. She will provide details on how to deliver your donation or have it picked up. Thanks!

WISH LIST

any variety of the following:

lavender	bee balm
thyme	missouri primrose
meadowsweet	hyssop
dianthus	campanula
artemesia	echinacea
butterfly weed	cushion spurge

OR any other plants that grow well in hot, dry locations.

Greenhouse Gift to Camp Harkness

One of the goals of the Camp Harkness Summer Garden Program has been to have gardens that are accessible to people of all abilities and appealing to all the senses. Paths are wide enough to accommodate wheelchairs, plants are chosen for texture and fragrance as well as their visual appeal and the water garden provides background music.

Now the garden for all the senses will become a garden for all the seasons as well. Due to an unexpected and extremely generous bequest, Camp Harkness will be able to a much needed and longed for greenhouse. Mary Smeraldi, a longtime volunteer at the summer garden program, has donated the funds that will allow the greenhouse construction to begin. Mary is making this donation in the memory of her husband, Angelo Smeraldi, who passed away recently. Like the gardens, the greenhouse will be designed to be fully accessible to people of all abilities.

"Having the greenhouse will enable us to run the garden program year-round and offer gardening opportunities to people who don't attend Camp Harkness." said Julia Griswold, Coordinator of the Summer Garden Program. "We will be able to invite local area residents - nursing home residents, for example - to come and enjoy gardening here. This will be the first, fully accessible greenhouse in our state. We are so grateful for this donation that make this dream a reality."

Thank you Mary, for your desire to share the joys of gardening and for your donation that will bring that joy to even more people.

Advanced Master Gardener Course Survey

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Year CERTIFIED as a
Master Gardener: _____

Classes that you would like to see taught: (pick as many as you like)

Garden Design - what to put where	Perennials
Woody Ornamentals - ID	Landscape Design
Pruning/ Grafting - hands on	Houseplants/ Indoor Gardening
Advanced Entymology	Orchids
Horticulture Therapy	Historical Gardens
Herbs	Urban Gardening
Sustainable Landscapes	Soil - Composting
Propagation	Wine making
Roses	Shady plants
Weed ID/ Invasive Plants/ Poisonous Plants	
Others _____	

You would like to see the class offered at:

Night _____ Day _____ Weekend _____ Location _____

Best time for the class:

Summer _____ Fall _____ Winter _____ Spring _____

If you have expertise in any of these subjects, would you be willing to teach or assist with them?

es _____ No _____ Maybe _____

We are also planning to require 15-20 hours volunteer time in the office and/or at out-reach programs per year for the Advanced Class.

Your comments and suggestions: _____

THANK YOU!

Return completed survey to : Cindi Wyskiewicz, UConn's Home and Garden Education Center,
1380 Storrs Rd., Storrs, Ct. 06269

District News

Fairfield County CT. Master Gardeners Meeting

Fairfield County Master Gardeners met at the home of Pam Weil on June 10th. We were treated to a tour of a private garden in Westport and enjoyed the morning at Pam's exchanging ideas. The July 20th meeting was at the home of Marianne Gjersvik, which included a tour of Marianne's conifer and daylily gardens. The group also met on September 9th at the Bartlett Arboretum in Stamford. This was followed by a tour of the private garden of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bartlett, (great grandson of the founder of the Arboretum).

There are plenty of upcoming volunteer opportunities:

*Bartlett Arboretum's first annual Fallfest - September 18th - 9am to 3 pm.

On sale: a selection of unusual conifers, woody ornamentals, perennials and ornamental grasses. Tempted?

The Fairfield Master Gardeners will have an Information Table at the Fallfest. It will be great fun and a marvelous opportunity to make Master Gardeners better known to the public. Volunteers (two at a time) are needed for one or two hour shifts. Please contact Pat Obermuller at 203/322-1902 or Hilary Forsyth at 203/353-9847 to offer your time.

**Bartlett Arboretum offers ongoing opportunities to work in the greenhouse, where you can learn to care for the permanent plant collection and cacti, plant division, propagation from cuttings and growing plants from seed. There's also the Perennial Borders; the All-American Selections Annual Garden; the Wildflowers and the Conifer Gardens all in need of volunteers. Contact Hilary Forsyth at 203/353-9847 for more information.

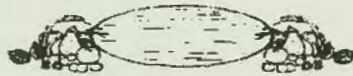
**A Community Garden in South Stamford - Chris Hadin from Soundwaters needs Master Gardeners to help with this wonderful project - contact Chris at 203/323-1932 A soil enrichment day (i.e. a fun day shoveling manure!) is being planned for the end of the garden season - Able bodied MGs are needed. We also need the use of a couple of trucks - call Chris or Moe at 203/322-6895.

**Ct Food Bank - PAR program - Plant A Row for the hungry. Have an overabundance of veggies? Contact Steve Spears at 203/469-5000 for info - Drop off produce in East Haven at 150 Bradley Ave from 8:30 to 3 or in Fairfield at 74 Linwood Ave. -call 203/256-1935 for directions, etc.

****CT Special Olympics and ARC of CT needs Master Gardeners to act as consultants or leaders in a competitive gardening project. Contact Mary Ahern at 203/332-4535 ext. 245**

**** New Canaan Nature Center has opportunities to work with the Tropical Plant Collection (learn propagation, botanical families) with horticulturist Gail Egol. Help maintain exterior gardens - small fish and aquatic plant display pond - help on trip and speaker committees on Saturdays or Tuesdays 9 am to noon. Contact Gail Sept - June: Tues - Sat, 9-4 at 203/966-9577.**

Editor's Note: My sincere apologies to these District Members. Despite your timely submission of these items, I was unable to complete the newsletter in time for your meeting announcements to be included. We plan to set a schedule of "submit by" and publishing dates that should prevent such lapses in the future. You are to be commended on your group's organization and activities. Similar news from other districts is welcomed for this newsletter.



Remember answering the phone at the Extension Office? What an excellent learning experience that was. A recent review of the caller log froms for both '98 and '99 showed that Master Gardeners are still assisting with a wide variety of questions and problems. For the past two years, the #1 question has been:

1. Hemlocks infested with the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA).

This non-native insect is a serious pest of the Canadian hemlock, a popular and widely used garden tree. It was first discovered in Connecticut in 1985 and has spread rapidly to both forest and cultivated trees. Adelgids, which are closely related to aphids, feed on the sap of the tree, primarily on the young branches. This causes premature needle drop and branch dieback. Trees may die in as little as one year from infestation.

The female adelgids overwinter and lay eggs in cottony white egg sacs between March and May. These sacs, which will be seen along the needles of the new growth, are the most visible evidence of infestation. Our recent mild winters have allowed more insects to survive with a resultant increase in affected hemlocks.

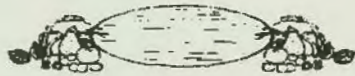
Controlling the woolly adelgid begins with regular inspections. There are many insecticides that will control the adelgid, but they should not be used as a preventative. Be sure to read and follow the directions for application exactly. Since thorough coverage with a drenching spray is essential for control, very large trees may need to be treated by a professional. The Connecticut Agricultural Experimental Station has been testing for control using natural diseases and predators. Results are promising, but not yet widespread. If your trees are currently infested, do not delay treatment.

Applications for the 2000 Master Gardener class are now available in the Extension Offices. The application must be submitted by November 16th, in order to be considered. If you know of anyone who is interested in becoming a Master Gardener, please pass along this information.

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The Connecticut Unit – The Herb Society of America

presents

Herbs, Heirlooms, and Honey

a Symposium

Wednesday, October 6, 1999

Registration opens at 9:00 a.m. - Program 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

First Congregational Church, Old Lyme, Connecticut

Featuring: Author Tovai Martin, *Heirloom & Herbal Crafts*
Garden lecturer Jack Donohue, *The Ornamental Nature of Herbs*
Connecticut State Bee Inspector Ira Kettle, *Honey Bees, Endangered?*

Ways & Means - In the Garden Room

Bee Skeps • Baskets • Plants • Wreaths • Angels • Cookbooks
Honey • Honey Cakes • Herbal Seasonings • Garden Markers • Books • Magazines
Cookie Cutters and more ...

Raffle (proceeds support HSA educational projects) and Book Signing

Directions to First Congregational Church:

From the North: I-95 Exit 70 at end of ramp turn left onto Lyme St.
and proceed 7/10 mi., church is on right.

From the South: I-95 Exit 70, at end of ramp turn right onto 156.
Go 4/10 of a mi. to Ferry Rd., turn left, 3/10 mi. to church on right.
Parking on Lyme Street and Ferry Road.

For more information please call 1-860-388-4035

Symposium fee of \$30.00 includes coffee, lunch and program.

NOTE: Seating is limited, please respond by October 1.

Please return this form with your check payable to Connecticut Unit HSA to

Kathy Donohue, Box 1231, Litchfield, CT 06759

Tickets will be held at the door.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Total enclosed _____

Kate Cheromcha
9 Northwood Road
Quaker Hill, Ct. 06375



Robert Sherman
15 Fire Tower Rd
Killingworth, CT 06419



Calendar

Saturday, Sept 18th 9am - 3 pm
Fallfest, Bartlett Arboretum
Stamford, Ct.

Wednesday, October 6th 9 am - 1:30pm
"Herbs, Heirlooms and Honey" a Symposium
Old Lyme, Ct.

Saturday, November 13th
Annual CMGA Membership meeting
Haddam Extension Office
Haddam, Ct

