From the President's Desk
by George Hibbard, State Advisory Board President

Your State Advisory Board continues to work on establishing the Missouri Master Gardener Association described in the last issue of Heartland Horticulture. It has been incorporated as a non-profit in the state of Missouri and By-Laws have been written and approved. Work continues on the 501(c)(3) submittal to the IRS. Thanks to all who have been supporting this effort.

David Trinklein and his self-directed work team of Extension agents are developing a distance learning package of our Master Gardener core curriculum. This should be available in a year and greatly assist in getting our training to a broader audience. They are also working on establishing a methodology to evaluate the impact of Master Gardener programs on the community. This should be a great help in maintaining support for the Master Gardener program in the future. Thanks to Dave and his team for the good work.

Finally, the folks in and around Hannibal are hard at work finalizing plans for this year’s State Master Gardener Conference. Please plan to attend on Friday – Sunday, September 23 – 25. You will learn a lot and have a great time.

Thanks and Happy Gardening!
News From Around the State

Master Gardeners of St. Charles County
By Mary Medina, St. Charles County Master Gardener

The Master Gardeners of St. Charles County have our onsite demonstration gardens up and running after copious rain and extreme temperatures delayed planting of the group’s raised pantry garden beds and newly prepared annual beds. French drains installed last fall were put to the test and performed well. Spring vegetables, donated to local St. Joachim and Anne’s food pantry, were paltry this year because of the weather, but hopefully an overabundance of tomatoes, squash, onions, potatoes, peppers, green beans; as well as, apples, peaches and grapes will increase our contributions. The 2,200 pounds donated last year is our goal again for 2011 all grown in our ten raised beds and a small orchard!

New to community visitors this year is a cottage garden (sun loving perennials) that replace a shade garden in decline when a giant post oak died. Three planned annual beds were also planted featuring many of the “Plants of Merit” for viewing. These gardens join our herb garden, native garden, perennial beds, bulb garden, enabling garden, butterfly garden, rain garden and a second season daylily walk featuring over a hundred varieties.

Members enjoyed an old fashion ice cream social while hearing from Bill Rupert on Raising Backyard Chickens. Other speakers this year included Japanese iris hybridizer, Don Delmez and Chandler Hills Winery representatives presenting their Defiance, MO vineyards and inviting members to their Farmer’s Market.

St. Charles Master Gardeners invite any Master Gardeners from around the state who are visiting the St. Louis area to give us a call and plan a visit to our garden! (636-670-3000)

Hope to see everyone at the State Convention in September.
Master Gardeners Beautification Project in Forsyth

by David Burton, Civic Communication Specialist, University of Missouri Extension

Members of the Master Gardeners of the Ozarks have started a beautification project at the University of Missouri Extension office in Taney County, 122 Felkins Avenue, Forsyth, Mo.

“If everything goes according to plan, the group will ultimately create a demonstration garden showcasing plants that do well in this area of the Ozarks,” said Wayne Dietrich, a community development specialist with University of Missouri Extension and county program director for the Taney County Extension Center.

The Master Gardener program is sponsored by University of Missouri Extension. Participants receive training on a wide range of horticulture topics. In exchange for the training, Master Gardeners agree to volunteer on public or community projects.

“This Master Gardener chapter has members from Stone and Taney Counties, and they have undertaken a number of similar projects, primarily in Stone County,” said Dietrich.

The volunteers are currently working with the Dewey Short Visitor Center at Table Rock Dam and the Kimberling City Library to develop and maintain landscaping projects. The project in Forsyth was the result of several Master Gardeners wanting to start a project in Taney County.

The Taney county volunteer team includes: Danny Manis, Barbara Keys and Bill Walley from Forsyth and Cathy Meyer and Marva Ramsey from Protem.

“This group visited the site a couple of times, drew up some plans and went to work. The amount of work they have completed with a shoestring budget is incredible,” said Dietrich. “We invite the public to drop by our Forsyth office and watch their progress.”

To date the group has raised about $600 for the project which covers the initial phase. Individual members have also donated plants and materials. Members of the volunteer team estimate they will need several times that amount to complete the entire project, adding that they will gladly accept donations of cash, labor and materials.
Registration Form - Register by Mail
Missouri State Master Gardener Conference
September 23 - 25, 2011
Hannibal Quality Inn
Registration Deadline: August 26, 2011

We will publish a list of conference participants with name and address. To opt out check here ______

Name ________________________________

Address ________________________________

City __________________ State ______ ZIP code __________________

Home Phone ______________ Cell Phone ______________ E-mail __________________

Conference Registration

_______ Early Registration (must be postmarked by August 26, 2011) $140.00 _______

_______ Late Registration (postmarked after August 26, 2011) $160.00 _______

Optional Advanced Training (Friday, September 23, 2011, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.) choose one

_______ Roses - Jane Kroencke $10.00 _______

_______ Plant Disorders and Diagnostics - Adam Leonberger $10.00 _______

Meals place a ‘V’ by the number if you need a vegetarian meal
Saturday’s and Sunday’s lunch and the Saturday banquet are included in the registration fee

← please indicate the number of people attending each meal in the boxes provided

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<tr>
<th>MG</th>
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Commemorative Conference t-shirt  no exchanges at pickup. If unable to attend conference, please have someone pick up your t-shirt. Cost is $10.00.

S _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ 2X (add $1.50 for size 2X) _____ 3X (add $2.00 for size 3X) _____  $________

GRAND TOTAL  $________

Gardening In America’s Hometown tours and seminars
All-day tours
select one

_____ Forrest Keeling Nursery, Stark's Nursery
_____ Christmas Tree Farm, Flower City Park, Roland Outdoor drip irrigation system demonstration
_____ Private Gardens in Hannibal

Sunday seminars
7:00 a.m.    Ecumenical Church Service
8:00 - 8:50 a.m.  Training session 1  Please rank choices
                   Digital Wildflower Photography by Jim Rathert
                   Organic Farming Practices by Jane Hays
                   Growing and Culinary Herbs by Glenna Olson
                   Gourds by Rhonda Adair
9:00 - 9:50 a.m.  Training session 2  Please rank choices
                   Hostas by Pat Beckman
                   Companion Planting by Jane Hays
                   Home Orchards by Patrick Byers
                   Tomatoes by Jennifer Schutter
10:00 - 10:50 a.m.  Training session 3  Please rank choices
                   Hostas by Pat Beckman
                   Landscaping with Ornamental Trees by John Graham
                   Berries and Brambles by Patrick Byers
                   Creating Fall Flower Arrangements by Jennifer Schutter

Important Information: Please Read
• Scheduled and listed tours and classes are subject to change without notice
• Registration verification will be returned after receipt of individual registrations by email with return receipt requested. If no email address available, a notice of registration received will be mailed. There will be no verification of assignment to individual tours or classes; those will be in your registration packet. All tours will be filled on a first come - first served basis
• Our host motel is the Quality Inn. Room rates are Double Queen $89.95 + tax, Single King $89.95 + tax, King Suite $99.95 + tax. Hotel registration includes a free hot breakfast. Call the Quality Inn (573-221-4001) to reserve your room; ask for the Master Gardener Conference rate.
• Refunds will be given less a $25 fee through August 26, 2011. After August 26, there will be no conference refunds. Cancellations should be made by contacting Alix Carpenter at 573-769-2177. You may be requested to confirm your cancellation in writing via e-mail or fax.
To pay by check or money order:
Print & complete this form
Make check or money order payable to Marion County Extension Council
Mail completed form and payment to:
   Alix Carpenter
   University of Missouri Extension - Marion County
   100 S. Main Street, Suite 201
   Palmyra, MO 63461

To pay by major credit card:
Print and complete this form, including credit card information.
Mail completed form to:
   Vanessa Miller
   University of Missouri Extension – Adair County
   503 E. Northtown Road
   Kirksville, MO 63501

To pay by credit card, please complete the following:
☐ MasterCard       ☐ Visa       ☐ Discover       Exp. Date: _____/_____

Card Number: __________________________________________________________

CSV (3-digit number on back of card) _______________________________________
Cardholder Name (Print) _________________________________________________
Cardholder Signature ___________________________________________________}

The Salt River Master Gardeners are grateful for the support of their corporate sponsor, HNB Bank, of the 2011 Missouri Master Gardener Conference.
Do you have a disability and need accessibility assistance? Please check any items below you will need when you send back this form, and we will contact you to discuss details.

_____ Mobility assistance – NOTE: The conference includes garden and plant nursery tours. However, we were not able to locate wheelchair-accessible busses. The steps into the busses will likely be steep. The tours will also require occasional ground travel on uneven terrains and narrow paths. We will arrange alternative transportation upon request. We may not be able to change garden and/or nursery walkways without fundamentally altering the gardens and/or nurseries themselves. We will make every effort to provide an equivalent experience for those who may not be able to use the walkways.

_____ Sign language interpreter
_____ Assistive listening device
_____ Audiotaped materials
_____ Materials on computer disk
_____ Sighted guides for assistance to/from specific sessions
_____ Large print
_____ Braille
_____ Other

If you need immediate assistance in regard to any of these, please contact Alix Carpenter at 573-769-2177 or carpenterac@missouri.edu.
We Thank the Following Sponsors!

Lead Sponsors:
Ball Horticultural Company
WVU Extension Service

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Scott’s Miracle-Gro

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West Virginia Master Gardener Association

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WVU Extension Small Farm Center

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Featured Session Sponsor:
Capital Soil Conservation District (WV)

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West Virginia Herb Assoc.
Western Conservation District

Hosted by
West Virginia University Extension Service
West Virginia Extension Master Gardeners

For more information:
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john.jett@mail.wvu.edu
Delores Barber, Co-Chair
wv2011intconf@aol.com
Sally Fry, Chair, Registration Committee
wv2011reg@gmail.com

October 11-14, 2011
Charleston Convention Center
Charleston, W.Va.
**On the Schedule**

**“Taste of West Virginia”**
Opening reception where you’ll be treated to local foods and traditional Appalachian music.

**Three Keynote Speakers.**
(See next panel for biographies.)

**Six Featured Speakers to Choose From:**
- Bill Cullina: *Sugar, Sex and Poison: Shocking Plant Secrets Caught on Camera*
- Brian Jorg: *Going Green – Leading by Example*
- Janet Macunovich/Steven Nikkila: *Gardeners – 21st Century Shamans*
- Barbara Pleasant: *Wiser Living Through Gardening – Advice from Mother*
- Lee Reich: *My Weedless Garden*
- Vincent Simeone: *Creating Sustainable Landscapes*

**More than 30 Breakout Sessions.**
See [http://imgc.ext.wvu.edu/speakers/presenters](http://imgc.ext.wvu.edu/speakers/presenters) for details.

**Conference Banquet**
With entertainment by Brown Chick Brown Cow String Band.

**Trade Show**
Featuring gardening items as well as West Virginia crafts and foods.

**Search for Excellence Awards**

**Optional Day Tours**

**Optional Pre- and Post-Tours**

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**Keynote Speakers**

**Anna Caroline Ball**
President and CEO of Ball Horticulture. Ball is an industry leader in the sustainable movement. The cycle of life used by Ball focuses “eco-friendly” ways to garden.

**Joe Lamp’l**
Author, speaker, and environmental steward recognized by the American Horticulture Society for giving “eco-friendly gardening information to the public.”

**Rick Darke**
Author, photographer, and lecturer who is dedicated to the design and stewardship of livable landscapes.

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**Join Us!**

**Color It Green**
In a Wild & Wonderful Way

Explore sustainability, stewardship, eco-friendly gardening, Appalachian history, and culture.

Register now at [http://imgc.ext.wvu.edu](http://imgc.ext.wvu.edu)
Plant of Merit - *Rudbeckia hirta* 'Prairie Sun'

By Chris Nejelski, Coordinator, Plants of Merit Program, Missouri Botanical Garden

‘Prairie Sun’ is a black-eyed Susan (also sometimes called coneflower or gloriosa daisy) cultivar that typically grows to 3’ tall on stiff, upright, leafy stems. It produces a long summer-to-fall bloom of large, daisy-like flowers (to 5” diameter) featuring orange rays tipped with lemon yellow and greenish center disks. Flowers bloom singly atop strong, sometimes-branching stems. Rough, bright green leaves (3-7” long) in basal clumps with smaller stem leaves. Species name of hirta means hairy in reference to the short bristles that cover the leaves and stems. *Rudbeckia hirta* is a Missouri native wildflower that typically occurs in open woods, prairies, fields, roadsides and waste areas throughout the state. ‘Prairie Sun’ is an All-America Selection winner in 2003 and a Gold Medal winner at the 2003 Fleuroselect trials in England.

*Zone:* 3 to 8  
*Plant Type:* Herbaceous perennial  
*Family:* Asteraceae  
*Missouri Native:* No  
*Native Range:* None  
*Height:* 2.5 to 3 feet  
*Spread:* 1.5 to 2 feet  
*Bloom Time:* June to frost  
*Bloom Color:* Yellow-tipped orange rays with green center disk  
*Sun:* Full sun  
*Water:* Medium  
*Maintenance:* Low