

Washington County Master Gardeners Newsletter • April 7, 2021

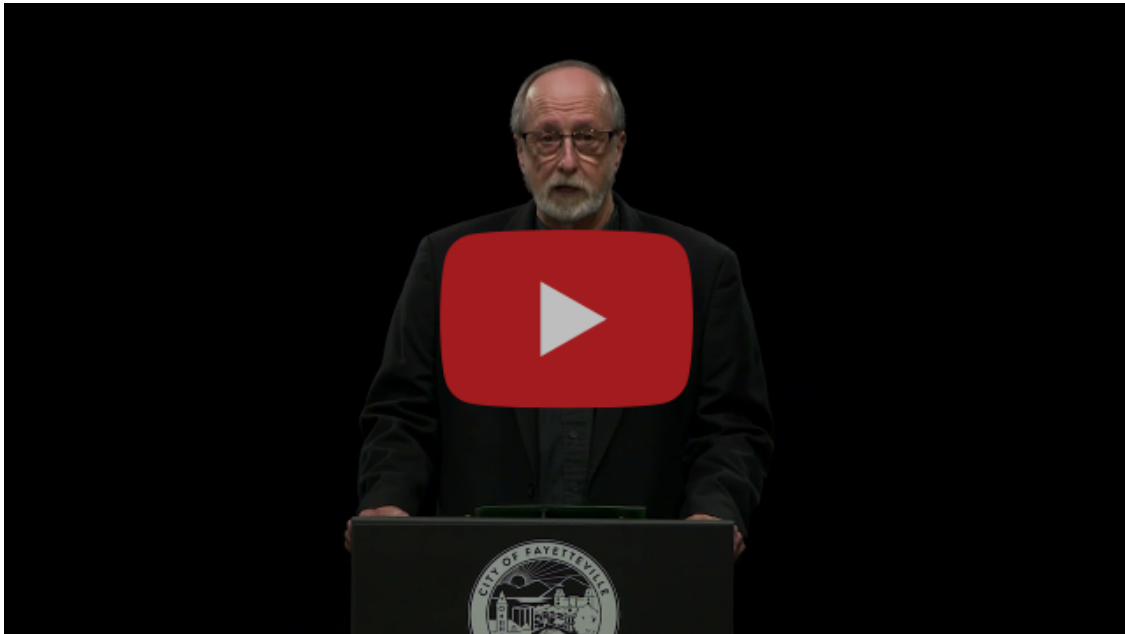


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However, *Garden Thyme* is best viewed in your browser (instead of viewing it within your email). Formatting within an email often gets messed up (sorry for the technical jargon there), which is a frustration for you and for your newsletter committee that works so hard to provide you with a newsletter lovely to behold. **So, to view *Garden Thyme* in its full glory, just click on the link at the top of this page that says "View this email in your browser."**



From County Leaders



Fayetteville Mayor Lioneld Jordan



Springdale Mayor Doug Sprouse

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- [Elkins Mayor Bruce Ledford](#)
 - [Lincoln Mayor Doug Hutchens](#)
 - [Prairie Grove Mayor Sonny Hudson](#)
 - [Citiscapes, March 2021](#)

From Us

MARILYN JOHNSON HEIFNER

Class of 1999

WOW! Congratulations Washington County MGs on your anniversary. I was in the Class of '99. Master Gardeners have never disappointed in the classes and information available to participants. One fond memory of that year was when Beverly Melton and I scoured all of Washington County looking for wooden pallets so that we could built a cheap compost container. At those early meetings, we always had food, brought by members who signed up. I learned that Master Gardeners are not only great gardeners, but also great cooks.



My favorite experience in all my years was working on the America in Bloom project which promotes beautification through education and community involvement. For ten years, Fayetteville hosted national judges who rated the city on its quality of life, including

heritage preservation, environmental efforts, volunteerism, turf and landscaping, and overall impression. We won our population division every year for 10 years and won first in the nation in our last year of competition. Master Gardeners helped with the effort with visits to individual gardens, showing the demonstration composting site, volunteerism, and helping us host the national judges. They were always impressed with the Master Gardeners.

LINDA MORROW for MARY MORROW THOMAS
Class of 2015/Class of 1991

My sister-in-law, Mary Morrow Thomas, was a member of the inaugural Washington County Master Gardener training class in 1991. During a recent visit she shared some memories of that first year or so. She participated in planting and maintaining yellow lantana and portulaca around the old Washington County Courthouse in Fayetteville and was both surprised and pleased about how they thrived and provided a bright pop of color during a hot Arkansas summer. As a part of the group's producing video tapes and mini-courses for the public, Mary teamed with other members on growing cucurbits and planting roses. Ozarks Electric Cooperative was the venue for the mini-courses. Specifically, Mary recalled that Pauline Keegan answered gardening questions in the local newspaper and that Sherry Morrison was a driving force that served to unify the group's activities. Despite having to drop out of WCMG due to work and family responsibilities, Mary remains an avid gardener and is a much sought after source of advice.



LYNN ROGERS
Class of 1999

After my MG training class in 1999, I chose "Ask A Master" as my project for my service hours. After at least 15 years, I reflected on what the project meant to me. First, it was a great learning experience. For what I didn't know, there were reference books. Second, I met some wonderful, interesting people.




For anyone just finishing their MG class, I'd recommend choosing Ask a Master as your project. It is very rewarding. One of those friendship began when Catherine Foster called to ask about paw paws, so I went to her home where they grew, near Prairie Grove. The trees she had grew different size & shape fruits. I told her they were both the native with some varietal differences. She was a fascinating woman, who taught Cherokee and whose father was Ralph Shreve. He had owned a nursery that grew & sold native wildflowers to Kew Gardens in London and corresponded and exchanged plants with Elizabeth Lawrence, author of *Southern Gardens* and *Gardens in Winter*. We visited many times over the years.

From Our Scrapbooks



1992

rie show - 7



Planting pansies

Washington County master gardener Dr. Carol Fossy, left, along with Root Elementary students Tanner Beam and Sara Stone, plant pansies outside the school. Members of the Master Gardeners Club and students' parents dug flower beds alongside the school for the beautification project. Students from each classroom will maintain the pansies and will plant summer flowers in the spring.

Northwest Arkansas Times / William A. Cooksey

Northwest Arkansas Times. November 15, 1995

1995



Sue Madison, Pauline Keegan, and Nancy Varvil were honored Saturday, March 1, at the WCMG 1997 class graduation. These three and David Richerson (not pictured) received 5-year pins. All are charter members of the 12-member WCMG class of 1991.

1997



1990s



2002

How Does Her Garden Grow?

FARMINGTON FLOWERS FOUND IN AWARD-WINNING ARRANGEMENTS

By **Joey Marberry**
an Arkansas writer

Dolores Canico of Farmington was destined to be a gardener. Canico, a master gardener with the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, grew up in a family in which both parents and grandparents were gardeners. Her brother and sister, who both live in California, also garden, following the family tradition.

"Gardening is what we did as recreation," Canico said, describing many memories of family trips to the nursery and then planting seeds and trees in the yard.

Canico was able to grow almost anything growing up in California, and she took classes at the local community college to learn how to create flower arrangements.

After moving to Arkansas, she realized she still had a lot to learn about gardening in the South. Canico registered at the Washington County Fair two

years ago for classes to become a master gardener so she could learn how to handle the constant weather changes

that sweep through Arkansas. "The classes are just wonderful, and so are the people," she said, noting she

just earned her five-year pin from the organization. Now, she is able to grow annuals and native trees in

her garden and use the plants as inspiration for her arrangements. Recently Canico was several arrangements for neighbors who had a daughter graduating from school, as well as a



PHOTO BY J. MARSHALL FOR THE WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR

WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR
 Aug. 28-31 - Farmington, Arkansas

Exhibits Accepted
 Saturday — clothing, home furnishings, household arts, needle arts, food preservation, creative arts and crafts, fine arts, photography.

Monday — food preservation. All arts and crafts, old-fashioned parties, home arrangements.

Exhibitors should be listed in Washington Fair. Exhibitors will be asked to provide their Social Security numbers for payment of premiums and will be given tickets to enter their exhibits and prizes. Tickets are \$100.00.

Call the Washington County Extension office at 843-2476 for more information.

...in the garden, watch them grow; watch them bloom; and you baby it — it's like watching a child grow." Canico smiles.

She started for something a "little unusual" and used long-stemmed, bi-colored and white flowers as the yard, she said.

Canico creates arrangements in all sizes, shapes and colors. She favors plants to work with the most beautiful of its base and versatility in any arrangement, she said.

But just about anything if flowers can earn a spot in a garden.

Canico and her family live in Jones, Arkansas, Calif. in Ark. in 1995, then returned to Washington County in 1996, where they built a home on 20 acres of land. In front of the home is a large pond with a fountain and a large garden.

"My oldest son loves roses, so I planted some the pond," Canico said of a couple of cuts in my garden. I think of one variety of arrangement.

Sometimes Canico and three sons are in the garden. They build more the expensive help when asked. I do not vegetable a date — which she needs — and one meal.

"We have a lot of kinds of peppers, peas, and we have tomatoes. My (brother) was in a pickup a while and this more with a laugh.

Canico's fat parts her garden, art, "plants and so, growing about

2003

From Our Photo Archives



1997, Wilson Park



1997 State Conference, Fayetteville



1998 Training Class



2008 State Conference, Springdale



2008 State Conference, Springdale



2016 Master Gardener Appreciation Day, BGO



2016 Master Gardener Appreciation Day, BGO



2018 Annuals to Perennials



2018 Plant-Nurture-Grow Conference



2019 Garden Explorers



2019 International Master Gardener Conference, Pennsylvania



2020 Elkins Community Center Volunteers with Mayor Bruce Ledford



Rolling the Credits!

Thanks to WCMGs who shared photos for the slideshow and this special issue of the *Garden Thyme*: Geri Alvis, Doris Cassidy, Jan Lefler, Patsy Louk, and Kitty Sanders.

Thanks again to the 30th Birthday Committee:

Nancy Ballard: Lynn Rogers

Chris Bell: proclamations, banner, and Marilyn Heifner

Gayle Howard: contacts and photos

Marilyn Misenhimer: *CitiScapes*

Linda Morrow: Merle Gross and Mary Thomas

Judy Smith: slideshow and *Garden Thyme*

Special thanks to Susan Young for suggesting the special edition and making it look great, as usual!

And to our April program guests: Janet Carson, Merle Gross, and Berni Kurz.

Another special thanks to Randi Cruz and *CitiScapes* magazine for including us in their March Home and Garden issue!

And to Colin Massey, our multi-talented county agent.

Contact Information

The *Garden Thyme* email address is wcmgnewsletter@gmail.com. You may use this address for submissions and for questions and comments that are specific to the newsletter. For other needs, please contact the appropriate officer or chairperson as listed in your WCMG workbook.

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Send all newsletter submissions to Judy Smith or Mary McCully.

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WCMG Facebook Group (private)



WCMG Facebook Page (public)



WCMG Website



UA Extension Service Website

The Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information or any other legally protected status and is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

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