

GRASS ROOTS

NEWSLETTER OF THE BALDWIN COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, INC.

October 2007

Volume XV Issue X



SBCT Honors Carol and Frank Griffin

By Tanys Waldron

In Robertsdale, the South Baldwin Center for Technology's FFA Chapter presented Fairhope residents, Carol and Frank Griffin with FFA's highest honor for non members, the Honorary FFA Degree.

This Award was given in recognition of the many years of Volunteer service that the Griffins have given the Horticultural department at the campus greenhouse. They were also given a basket of specialties coffees, teas and cookies to help them get settled in their new home in Montgomery, Alabama.

Carol Griffin started volunteering at the greenhouse in 1997 as part of her Baldwin County Master Gardener training. She so enjoyed working with the students and sharing her gardening knowledge that she continued volunteering as part of the Master Gardener greenhouse team. Carol's main gardening interest has been perennials and butterfly plants and many of the SBCT greenhouse plants were propagated from plants that came from her garden in Fairhope. Carol's interest in plants also extended into her home town of Fairhope. She served as the President of the Fairhope Garden Club for two years, 2004 and 2005.

Frank Griffin started volunteering at the greenhouse in 1998 doing maintenance projects. With help from the SBCT students, Frank helped design, build and maintain many of the



L-R: Jeff Kelley, Mark Petties, Lisa Jackson, Tim Spencer, Jr., Carol Griffin, Frank Griffin and Kendall Mowdy

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President's Corner

by Sam Andrews

Above this column, we have a report on the honors that the South Baldwin Center recently bestowed on Carol and Frank Griffin who have now moved to Montgomery to be closer to family.

The Griffins very much deserved the SBCT's recognition. Over the last ten years, they have made major contributions to the special needs children that the Center serves. They have also been very important to the overall success of our Baldwin County MG organization and its mission.

Thanks for your leadership, extensive volunteer time, and your ever-steady contributions on all levels, Carol and Frank. You are already missed. Good luck and god speed!

As I have said many times, we have a remarkably dynamic group of self-starters and cheerful volunteers. We are making a difference in our outreach and encouragement of sound gardening practices. Keep up the good work!

Whoa, we have a very full *Grass Roots* this month so I need to cut this message short. We have a very busy October mixed with work and study. Let's have fun, share our knowledge and ourselves.

Oh, and please...

- Remember the October 4 Continuing Education Day at Faulkner State in Fairhope.

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Meeting Minutes

by Ann Pierce

The BCMG monthly meeting was held at the Auburn Substation, Highway 104, Fairhope. President Sam Andrews opened the meeting at 10:05 after a social get-together around the refreshment table. He gave the Busy Bee Award of the month to Rod and Linda Chappelle, who continually do the jobs in the background that sometimes are taken for granted.

Treasurer Jane Wright was welcomed back after a few months' absence, and she reported on the last two months' treasury income, expense and balance. Jane also mentioned that replies to emails routed through BCMGINFO from a member should be sent directly to the person who originally sent it. She asked that the sender put his own email address at the top of the message. This will probably be a faster communication than responding through the main address, since that would have to be forwarded.

Sam urged the club to support our Spring Plant Sale because we are dependent on the income from it to support our projects.

Marilyn Mannhard, Projects Chairman, said that Jane sent an e-mail with two attachments to print out for any possible projects. One is the ongoing projects report. Open up the list to verify whether your project is still current. The other is the project proposal form which should detail information to go before the Board by groups requesting our assistance.

Sam said these project reports give us a grasp of what Master Gardeners are doing in diverse areas of community service.

Jobs in the MG program will soon be open for next year. Contact Sam if you are available and interested in any aspects of offices, committees and projects. One large job will be to fill the void left when Carol and Frank Griffin moved away this month. They will be greatly missed for their work at the Robertsdale Vocational School greenhouse and for their many other talented efforts.

Tanys Waldron, Outreach Chairman, still has many Master Gardener aprons available. Contact her if you haven't bought yours yet. The Baldwin County

Fair will be held in Robertsdale at the new Fair Park Arena, September 25 through 29. Master Gardeners have always volunteered for the Outreach Booth, and she asked for help on those days anytime from 3:00 till 7:00 p.m. The InfoLine will have its home in this building some time this winter.

Fred Nation described the arboretum at the former RV Park at Weeks Bay as a collection of trees and shrubs native to Baldwin County. People will be able to see the species identified by signs. Fifty species are in place with about 25 more coming with the help of a grant. The 14th annual plant sale will be held on that site October 12, 13 and 14. Wednesday October 10** begins the delivery and unloading of plants from an 18-wheeler; Thursday the plants will be placed, watered and labeled. The sale is from 8 till 4 each day Friday through Sunday, with leftover plants being uploaded about 3 pm Sunday afternoon. If you can help, please bring a cart to assist buyers in hauling their purchases to their vehicles. Sarrah Rankin will again help prepare lunch for the workers each day. Since the regular MG meeting is that Thursday, you can come about 1 pm to help.

Sam said we have a special relationship with Weeks Bay, with reciprocal help with each other's plant sales. Our group helps with the Weeks Bay plant sale in the fall, and Weeks Bay furnishes the location and assistance for our Spring Sale.

Tom Dukes said that service reports are due the end of October. The ANR-985 document can be printed from the ACES website. These need to be completed and sent to Tom to justify the assistance of the Extension Service to our Master Gardeners Program.

Pat Libby, Continuing Education Chairman, reminded us of the upcoming seminar, October 4, at Faulkner Community College: "Grass Roots and True Grits". Tickets are \$10.00 each and may be obtained by mail from our Treasurer, Jane Wright, by sending a check along with a stamped, self addressed envelope. Pat also has a few tickets. Seating is limited to 300 people, and parking is available but tight around the campus. Refreshments will be served in the

Dahlgren Hall next to the auditorium, and a signup sheet is being passed out for volunteers to bring food. Pat asked for helpers to stuff packets at 9:00 a.m. on September 25 here at the Auburn Substation. Frieda Romanchuk has fliers about the seminar to post anywhere they are permitted.

Harry Anderson announced that today after our meeting is the deadline for nominations for the Wayne de la Rua Award for this year.

Harry Kohler has a signup sheet on the table for September and October Info Line workers.

Rosemarie Morgan introduced our program speaker, landscape architect Russell Coker, whose topic "Landscape Design--Mistakes We All Make" covered a huge array of ways homeowners ignore professional guidance and recommendations, and add to or change designs by crowding or moving plants, mixing colors, and not giving the landscape a chance to mature. He said a low maintenance landscape involves buying the right plant, putting it in the right place, and leaving it alone!

There is 1 CEU hour for this program.

**** Weeks Bay Plant delivery time was changed to Tuesday, October 9 at 8:00 a.m., but other deliveries will still occur on October 10.**

President's Corner

(Continued from Page 1)

- Attend our very special October Monthly Meeting at the awesome 5 Rivers Delta Refuge.
- Volunteer some of your time to work with the Weeks Bay Plant Sale.
- Consider serving as a regular or back-up with the Information Line team.



Projects Report

By Marilyn Mannhard

This month, instead of a report of specific activities, I thought I'd provide you with the latest list of BCMG approved projects. Please be aware that this list will change on a regular basis as projects are completed and new projects are added. Work on any of these projects can be counted as hours on your service record. For those of you coordinating projects, please check the list and make sure it is correct and up to date. Please email me with any changes to the information and next month I hope to hear from you as to what is happening with your projects this fall.

GREENHOUSES

BCMG members work with two Baldwin County public schools in their greenhouses. These schools are South Baldwin Center for Technology located in Robertsedale, and Daphne High School located in Daphne. Our membership helps the students with propagation, planting, and caring for plants under the direction of the horticulture instructor. The plants from these greenhouses are sold during our plant sale and the schools sell these plants to the public as well.

SBCT: To be announced

Daphne: Linda O'Rear
LLOrear@earthlink.net

ARBOR DAYS

A number of cities in Baldwin County hold Arbor Day celebrations, usually during February. The coordinators for these Arbor Days change from year to year. BCMG members help pass out the trees and answer the public's questions. Arbor Days are organized by the municipalities with help from volunteers like BCMG and garden clubs. Cities and coordinators for 2008 to be announced at a later date.

PLANT SALES

There are three major plant sales that BCMG members become involved in. The Weeks Bay Volunteers have a fall plant sale at the RV park across from the Reserve. We help staff this plant sale. The BCMG plant sale is held in the spring, also across from the Reserve.

The Wolf Bay plant sale is held in conjunction with the Elberta Sausage Festival at the Miflin Community Center. Coordinators may vary, but at the present time the following may be contacted for more information.

Weeks Bay Plant Sale: Maureen Nation fredmoe@worldnet.att.net This years dates are October 12-16.

BCMG Plant Sale: Linda O'Rear LLOrear@earthlink.net and Selena Vaughn Vaughn@mchsi.com

Wolf Bay Plant Sale: Tom Dukes wolfbaytom@gulftel.com

FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS

Festival of Flowers is held yearly in March by the Providence Hospital Foundation. BCMG members work with Mobile master gardeners to staff an information booth at the festival. The festival is held on the grounds of Providence Hospital in Mobile. The coordinator for this year is:

Ann McAdams 580-4214

anmcadams@bellsouth.net

FOLEY ROSE TRAIL

BCMG members help the City of Foley with the establishment and care of a trail of antique and old garden roses in downtown Foley. Hank Alexander is the coordinator of this project and may be reached at shirhank@gulftel.com.

LILLIAN RECREATIONAL PARK

A group of BCMG members help to plant and maintain the park and library grounds in Lillian. They have planted many native azaleas and other appropriate species. Jan Sanders is the coordinator of this project, and she can be reached at jansanders@gulftel.com.

CATHERINE PLACE

Catherine Place is an assisted living community in Daphne. BCMG volunteers help the residents in the spring and fall with container gardening. Please contact Jim Huggins at hugjim@bellsouth.net.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

BCMG members help with landscaping when a new Habitat home is completed in Baldwin County. Please contact Mary Burns at mburns@gulftel.com if you are interested in this project.

INFOLINE

InfoLine is not exactly a project but it is an excellent way to earn hours and to learn at the same time, and it is required by the Extension Service for certification. Coordinator for this year is Harry Kohler 929-2619 kohleralice@earthlink.net

ALLIGATOR ALLEY BUTTERFLY GARDEN AND MONARCH

WAYSTATION

This is a joint project between BCMG and the City of Daphne Beautification



Program Notes

By Rosemarie Morgan and
Rebecca Trosclair

Thursday, October 11, 2007

10:00 A.M.—Meeting-5 Rivers

10:30 A.M.—Tour of 5 Rivers

We'll convene at the Theatre (main building complex) for a spectacular widescreen, surround-sound film excursion. Then Manager Hank Burch will show us the highlights of this wonderful Delta Resource Center, which comprises 250,000 acres of waterways, woods, and wetlands. (At Spanish Fort, on the Causeway, across from Meaher State Park.) Tel. (251) 625-0814

LOOKING AHEAD: Master Gardener Gaynell Dumas spent 8 lovely days in May touring "The Best of English Gardens." Her stunning photographs of 5 public and 3 private gardens (with highlights of the 2007 Chelsea Flower Show) will prove the next best thing to being there.

Committee. The location is D'Olive Park which runs from the Scenic Overlook just north of the intersection of I-10 and Hwy. 98 along the boardwalk. The purpose of this project is to contribute to butterfly conservation, particularly for the Monarch butterfly, and to educate the public about butterflies and the native plants that support them. The coordinator is Frieda Romanchuk friedanr@bellsouth.net.

BON SECOUR WILDLIFE REFUGE

BCMG will be partnering with the Bon Secour Wildlife Refuge to landscape three areas at the entrance to the Jeff Friend Trail. This is a good opportunity for project work for people living south of the Intracoastal Waterway. Contact Jan Uthe at 981-2190 or Harry Anderson at 928-7190 or weeksbay@aol.com.

SWIFT SCHOOL

This is a brand new project and Tom Dukes, Richard Carpenter, and Carma Gronback have agreed to work on this project. Please contact one of them if you are interested in helping out. The school is getting a new cafeteria and they are looking for BCMG expertise to design

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Meet Your Volunteers—Continuing Education Seminar

By Tanys Waldron

It is impressive how many Master Gardeners have volunteered to help plan and organize the upcoming "Grass Roots and True Grits" continuing education seminar. At last count there were 27 people on the various committees plus more people still phoning in to bring refreshments. The seminar will be held on Thursday, October 4, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Location is Fairhope Faulkner State Community College at the Faulkner Auditorium on School St. This event is open to the general public and tickets are \$10.00. Space is limited and there will be no refunds for unused tickets.

The overall topic for the event is residential exterior landscaping. This is a very timely topic for Master Gardeners. Baldwin County is growing very quickly and new schools, churches and parks are being built everywhere. Many of the requests for gardening assistance that our Master Gardener group receives from these non-profit groups is for help with landscaping designs and ideas. This seminar should give us some practical and up to date ideas and information.

This event has taken a great deal of organization. Pat Libby volunteered to coordinate the 2007 continuing education seminar and she started her search for qualified speakers early in the spring. There are four speakers, two in the morning, two in the afternoon and a lunch break in the middle. The expected attendance is for 250 to 300 people. Tickets will be available at the door. Make sure and get there early if you have not yet bought one as there are only a limited number of seats left.

There will be snacks to nibble on during the breaks and there will be draws for a variety of door prizes. There will be books on sale available from some of the speakers. This seminar has a double benefit for Master Gardeners. You will attend an excellent seminar and also receive a credit of 4 hours for Continuing Education.

The 27 Master Gardener volunteers in alphabetical order are: Sam Andrews, Debbie Calhoun, Barbara Carlson, Gretchen Coats, Judy Earle, Dawn Garcia, Mary Gibson, Carma Gronback, Rosemary Hart, Jim Huggins, Caterina Kenworthy, Jodie Klugel, Pat Libby, Ann Luscombe, Marilyn Mannhard, Ann McAdams, Joyce Mudrak, Elizabeth Mundine, Linda O'Rear, Ann Pierce, Dana Pledger, Frieda Romanchuk, Judy Thompson, Tanys Waldron, Jane Wright, Edwin Wirgowski and Ronnie Zak. The committees set up to organize this event were Audio Visual, Book Sales, Door Prizes, Hospitality for Speakers, Information Folders stuffing, Printed Program, Public Greeters, Publicity, Refreshments, Speakers, Ticket Printing and Ticket Reservations. Many of the volunteers are doing double duty. They are working on two different committees and many are bringing refreshments as well.

Special thanks go to Sandra Walton who is the Baldwin County Extension Office Administrative Assistant at the Bay Minette office. She gave a tremendous amount of time and help with the photocopying and correlating of seminar handouts.

Many thanks from the Baldwin County Master Gardeners to all of the volunteers who are giving their time and energy to help organize "Grass Roots and True Grits". Thank you for being great Volunteers!

"Grass Roots and True Grits"

Kerry Smith is a Horticulture Associate in ACES and is the state coordinator for the Alabama Master Gardener Program. She will cover advanced residential landscaping.

James Miles' topic is Turf Management. He has an excellent power point presentation and talk on how to keep your lawn healthy.

Marie Harrison will present "Groundcovers for Coastal Areas". She understands our Gulf Coast climate as she lives in Valparaiso, Florida, which is just west of Fort Walton Beach.

Beth Bolles is a Horticulture Agent with Escambia County. She will talk about tropical plants and gingers.

For more detailed information regarding the speakers and their topics please see the September *Grass Roots* Newsletter - page 4. The seminar will be a very informative day of "home grounds" topics offered by enjoyable, humorous and "soil-stained hand" speakers. Tickets for the seminar are \$10.00 each. To order your tickets by mail, please send a check to Jane Wright, Master



L-R Back row: Ann McAdams, Ann Pierce, Judy Earle, Frieda Romanchuk.

Middle Row: Carma Gronback, Pat Libby-Coordinator, Jim Huggins, Judy Thompson, Elizabeth Mundine, Mary Gibson.

Front Row: Dana Pledger, Marilyn Mannhard, Jodie Klugel.

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Nominations for the Wayne de la Rua Award

Our 2007 Nominees!!!

Edwin J. Wirgowski

Honorable Master Gardeners of Baldwin County:

I would like to nominate Edwin J. Wirgowski for the 2007 Wayne de la Rua award. He is one of the most deserving of this award; as his love and dedication to Master Gardeners is outstanding.

Ed recently received his badge for over 2000 hours of volunteer work. He is so reliable on the phone lines, missing only once since 2002. He has answered the phone lines every Monday afternoon and fills in as needed.

He worked at South Baldwin Center for Technology helping students in planting, propagation, greenhouse upkeep, soil mixing, etc. In the summer he would come and water, care for all the plants inside the greenhouse and outside. The students love Ed. He has also been an Environmental teacher for Baldwin County.

Ed has worked with Brenda Davis on Outreach for years. His smile to people and kindness was always there. He always helps set up and take down the Outreach Booth. Ed is a real gentleman. He has worked all or most Outreach projects, Fairs, etc. He has worked every BCMG and Weeks Bay Plant Sale since 2002. He worked with me in the teaching of the Intern Class of 2003. He helped correct tests, setting up and taking down, cleaning, collecting garbage, and even made coffee for the class!

He worked the Foley Arbor Day since 2002. He was in charge for several years. The City of Foley knows and appreciates what Ed has done for them.

He works at the desk at Weeks Bay, answering the phone, directing guests, etc. Ed recently received the Busy Bee Award.

Ed was responsible for all the printed matter, set up, correction, etc for Baldwin Master Gardeners at the Convention in 2004. He also checked people in.

He is a volunteer at the Council on Aging in Robertsdale. He is loved and respected by all. Ed also plays the Dulcimer at various occasions with the Dabbling Dulcimers of Fairhope.

Every one who knows Ed loves his kindness, personality, and dedication to Master Gardeners. If anyone needs help, he is always there. This is a man who is very unassuming, but he always gets it done! He deserves this Award for all his many hours of dedicated work.

Submitted by: *Jackquelin L. Angelotti*

Tanys Waldron

Nominations of Tanys Waldron for the Wayne de la Rua award:

Tanys Waldron is driven by an unending wave of energy, enthusiasm and dependability that is not easily rivaled. She serves our organization with a calm graciousness and unassuming nature that puts everyone at ease, all the while motivating others with her great zeal for any task. Baldwin County Master Gardeners and the world at large would not be the same without her smiling countenance, involvement and leadership.

Submitted by: *Selena Vaughn*

Tanys has been tireless over the last couple of years doing so much for BCMG. For two years, she was our coordinator for the Festival of Flowers in Mobile. That was a huge job, and her hard work made it turn out so well. Our booth in 2006 was the best I've seen since I started attending. Tanys has always taken the job of Outreach and turned it into an extremely vital program. Through the Outreach booth at multiple events, BCMG has interacted with the public and provided information and education. Tanys has attended every event and lugged box after box of brochures and pamphlets, tables, chairs, banners and plants to make the booth effective and attractive.

In addition, she has worked coordinating the 5 Rivers landscape project and acted to publicize BCMG events in the newspapers. She also volunteers at the SBCT greenhouse.

While we have many wonderful, dedicated volunteers, I cannot think of anyone who deserves this award more this year than Tanys.

Submitted by: *Marilyn Mannhard*

Tanys Waldron is a native of British Columbia, Canada. She has had a variety of jobs appropriate for that climate. She worked in a resort hotel and was a flight attendant for several years. She was an investment broker, then changed pace and was a chef on a sailing vessel in the Caribbean where she met her husband.

Several years ago, they came to the Robertsdale area where they became landlubbers again. She tried her hand with a vegetable garden in July. With that experience, she enrolled in a Master Gardener course. Upon completion of the 11 weeks, she immediately began volunteering on projects and received her certificate after completion of 40 hours in December 2004. She assisted in the Election and Nominating Committee in 2005. She coordinated the efforts of Baldwin County and Mobile County Master Gardeners with the booth for Festival of Flowers in 2005 and 2006. She

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SPECIAL NOTICE



**OCTOBER MEETING WILL BE AT
5 RIVERS DELTA CENTER ON
THE CAUSEWAY!!!**

SBCT Honors

(Continued from Page 1)

greenhouse fixtures. He helped construct new potting tables, new plant growing tables, cold frames to protect plants in the winter, an indoor sprinkler system and an exterior irrigation system.

The plants grown at the SBCT greenhouse are for sale Monday through Friday during school hours, 8:30-11:00 a.m. and 12:30-2:30 p.m. They will also be available at the Weeks Bay Plant Sale on October 12-14, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Presenting the awards, from L to R are: Jeff Kelley--SBCT Instructor of Horticulture; Mark Petties--Building Grounds Maintenance Supervisor; Lisa Jackson--SBCT Teaching Aide; Tim Spencer Jr.—Senior at SBCT and Robertsdale High School; Carol Griffin, Frank Griffin and Kendall Mowdy - Principal of SBCT.

Tanys Waldron

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planned the booth, selected the theme and decorated it. She headed up Outreach in those years with other Master Gardeners. She earned her bronze star in 2005. She has also coordinated the sale of MG aprons in 2006-2007.

Her articles in *Grass Roots* are numerous, timely, interesting and informative. She did a series of articles on "Meet Your Board Members" in 2006-2007, and also a series on "Dirt, Soil, Roses, Trees". She took photos on all activities involving Master Gardeners and published them in *Grass Roots* or local newspapers. Tanys does not lose an opportunity to spread good news about BCMG and all of its activities.

Tanys received the "Busy Bee" ribbon for January 2007. She is busy now with a new project at the 5 Rivers Delta Center. Her current cumulative hours are 665 according to Tom Dukes.

It is a pleasure to nominate Tanys Waldron for the 2007 Wayne de la Rue Master Gardener Award of the Year.

Submitted by: *Mary A. Gibson*

Projects Report

(Continued from Page 3)

the layout of trees, shrubs, and other plants as well as some help with the planting. They will also have PTA volunteers to do the heavy physical work.

Tom Dukes: 986-8448 or wolfbaytom@gulftel.com

Richard Carpenter: 625-0191 or richardcarpenter@morganstanley.com

Carma Gronback: 955-2100 or gronback@gulftel.com

5 RIVERS PROJECT

The new 5 Rivers facility on the Mobile Bay Causeway asked for Master Gardener help in choosing native plants for landscaping that would replicate the plants that grew in the area when the explorer William Bartram explored the Delta in 1775. Master Gardeners are helping with the research, plant selection and landscaping for this project.

Tanys Waldron: 947-4121 or tanyswaldron@yahoo.com

Selena Vaughn: 605-6243 or Vaughn@mchsi.com

EASTERN SHORE INSTITUTE FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

Master Gardeners teach gardening classes through this non-profit organization that offers courses in two terms and a summer session each year. If you are interested in teaching one of these courses contact:

Marylee Smith: 928-7519 or smithmarylee@hotmail.com

WEEKS BAY ARBORETUM

Master Gardeners are assisting the Weeks Bay Volunteers in acquiring, planting, maintaining, and labeling trees for the new Arboretum where the

old RV park was located. To help with this project contact:

Maureen Nation: 626-6816 or frednmoe@bellsouth.net

Sarra Rankin: 990-4126 or rankin1937@bellsouth.net

BALDWIN COUNTY FAIR

The Baldwin County Fair is held the last week of September each year. Outreach sets up a booth and provides brochures, information, and demonstrations for the fairgoers.

Coordinators for 2007 are:

Tanys Waldron 947-4121

Jodie Klugel 625-1773

OUTREACH

Outreach sets up a booth at garden and environmentally related events throughout the year and provides information and Extension Service brochures to the public.

Tanys Waldron 947-4121 or tanyswaldron@yahoo.com

Continuing Ed Seminar

(Continued from Page 4)

Gardener Treasurer, 13789 Underwood Road, Summerdale, AL 36580. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for ticket return and an e-mail address for confirmation of purchase. For further information please call Pat Libby - Coordinator for this event at (251)-971-6277. If you would like to volunteer to bring some refreshments please call Judy Earle at (251)-971-6407.



Rod and Linda Chappelle



Busy Bees

- 🐝 Tanys Waldron — January
- 🐝 Ed Wirgowski — February
- 🐝 Joyce Mudrak — March
- 🐝 Selena Vaughn — April
- 🐝 Tom Schubert — May
- 🐝 Tom Dukes --- June
- 🐝 Lynn Andrews --- July
- 🐝 Marilyn Mannhard --- August
- 🐝 Rod & Linda Chappelle—September
- 🐝 October? — Buzz, Buzz...



Volunteers for Education and the Environment The Arboretum at Weeks Bay Reserve

By Maureen Nation

The *Baldwin County Master Gardeners* are working with the *Weeks Bay Volunteers*, contributing their time, expertise, and financial support to an exciting ongoing restoration project at Weeks Bay Reserve. Safe Harbor, the former recreational vehicle park across Highway 98 from the Reserve Interpretive Center, is being transformed into a natural area. As the concrete slabs are removed, native trees are being planted to take their place. This restoration project not only enhances the natural beauty of the site, but is intended to function as an educational arboretum, to showcase many of the trees that are native to South Alabama.

The *Master Gardeners* and the *Weeks Bay Volunteers* together have written and been awarded grants from the *Alabama Urban Forestry Association* and the *Alabama State Master Gardeners' Association*. They have also contributed funds directly from their own memberships. The *Weeks Bay Foundation* has also generously provided matching funds for the installation of a well, pump and irrigation equipment needed to maintain and expand the arboretum.

Nearly 50 native trees have been planted so far, with volunteer labor, in the first area being restored, just north of the volunteer center in the park. Each of the 25 species is identified with an attractive sign. Some of the native trees which have been planted include Longleaf Pine, White Oak, Catalpa, and the endangered Loblolly Bay. An adjacent second site, along the canal, will be planted in the fall.

The arboretum at Safe Harbor will be an important educational tool in the future, and this worthwhile project at Weeks Bay Reserve is a powerful example of what can be accomplished when volunteer groups join forces.



Infoline News

By Harry Kohler

The Infoline is in need of volunteer help during the month of October. As you can see from the sign-up sheet below, there is one slot on October 9, 2007 with no volunteers, and several slots with only one volunteer.

Please check your schedules to see if you can volunteer for one or more of these slots.

If you can volunteer, just send an e-mail to kohlerharry@earthlink.net or call me at (251) 929-2619. Thanks for your support!!

OCTOBER INFOLINE SCHEDULE

<u>MONDAY</u>			<u>TUESDAY</u>			<u>WEDNESDAY</u>		
Oct 1	AM	Barbara Carlson	Oct 2	AM	Thomas Schubert	Oct 3	AM	Nicole Fehn
	AM	Jane Wright		AM	Carolyn Wilson		AM	Amie Wright
	PM	Ed Wirgowski		PM	Harry Kohler		PM	Pat Wood
	PM	Sam Andrews		PM	OPEN		PM	Tom Dukes
Oct 8	AM	Barbara Carlson	Oct 9	AM	OPEN	Oct 10	AM	Nicole Fehn
	AM	Mary Gibson		AM	OPEN		AM	Amie Wright
	PM	Sam Andrews		PM	Harry Anderson		PM	Tom Dukes
	PM	Ed Wirgowski		PM	Marguerita Riggall		PM	Pat Wood
Oct 15	AM	Barbara Carlson	Oct 16	AM	Thomas Schubert	Oct 17	AM	Amie Wright
	AM	Jane Wright		AM	OPEN		AM	Rod Chappelle
	PM	Sam Andrews		PM	Marguerita Riggall		PM	Tom Dukes
	PM	Ed Wirgowski		PM	OPEN		PM	Rod Chappelle
Oct 22	AM	Barbara Carlson	Oct 23	AM	Thomas Schubert	Oct 24	AM	Marylee Smith
	AM	Mary Gibson		AM	OPEN		AM	Judy Earle
	PM	Sam Andrews		PM	Harry Anderson		PM	Tom Dukes
	PM	Ed Wirgowski		PM	Amie Wright		PM	John Meyer
Oct 29	AM	Barbara Carlson	Oct 30	AM	Thomas Schubert	Oct 31	AM	Judy Earle
	AM	Jane Wright		AM	OPEN		AM	Frieda Romanchuk
	PM	Ed Wirgowski		PM	Amie Wright		AM	Rena Johansen
	PM	Sam Andrews		PM	OPEN		PM	Tom Dukes
							PM	OPEN



Mark Your Calendar!

- October 4, 2007 — *Continuing Education Day 9:00 am-4:00 pm—Faulkner Auditorium, Fairhope*
- October 11, 2007 — *Monthly Meeting 10:00 am—5 Rivers Delta Resource Center, 30945 5 Rivers Blvd., Spanish Fort, AL 36526, Tel. 625-0814*
- October 12-14, 2007— *Weeks Bay Plant Sale, Weeks Bay Reserve*
- November 1, 2007— *Annual Report Due*
- November 8, 2007— *Monthly Meeting 9:30 am—Research Station Hwy. 104*
- December 13, 2007— *Christmas Luncheon and Awards, PZK Hall, Robertsdale*



Grass Roots

The BALDWIN COUNTY MASTER GARDENER newsletter is published monthly. The publishing date is the first Monday of each month. The deadline for submitting items to the editor for publication is the **20th** of the month preceding publication.

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Change of Address

If you move or make any changes to your address, phone or E-mail, please contact:

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Time for Annual Report

By Tom Dukes

November 1st is just around the corner, so it is time to start to work on this year's report. The forms you need are enclosed in this issue of *Grass Roots*. Please use these as your master copies and duplicate them to meet your needs.

I want to emphasize the importance of getting your report in early. Some of our members always procrastinate until the last minute, resulting in too little time to prepare the master report for the Extension Service and compile the list of members who have earned awards. This results in errors and omissions plus the embarrassment that some of our members have experienced when they bring family members to the awards ceremony only to be overlooked.

We will hold a question and answer session at the October meeting to help with any problems or uncertainties that you may have. Please attend! Your presence adds to the importance of our meetings.



22398 Palmer Street
Robertsdale AL 36567

Next Meeting: 10:00 A.M.—October 11, 2007
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Continuing Ed Day—October 4, 2007