



# Grand Gardeners' Gazette

March-April Issue

Grand Strand Master Gardeners Association

Horry and Georgetown Counties, SC



## Mark Your Calendar!

3/12 - 12-1:00 - Dirt 'n Details - "Houseplant Care" by Patricia Mishoe from Dandelion Florist & Interior Landscaping. Low Country Center, Brookgreen. Free with admission to the Gardens.

3/14 - 9:30-2:00 - "Landscaping Lighting" workshop with lunch provided, Moore Farms Botanical Gardens, Lake City SC, 29560; \$15 pre-registration at [www.moorefarmsbg.org](http://www.moorefarmsbg.org)

3/18 - 4/1 - Go see our decorations of the "Bunny Project" at Inlet Square Mall - and even better, call Pat Hiter (651-3984) or Crystal Lemmons (267-0762) NOW to volunteer services and/or flowers!

3/22 & 3/23 - 8:30-3:00 - "Bulbapalooza," the 1st of four 2013 garden openings at Moore Farms Botanical Gardens, \$10 pre-registration at internet site above.

3/23 - Diggin' It 2013 - 10:00-4:00 - Low Country Center, Brookgreen. Free with admission to the Gardens. Featured speakers such as Jenks Farmer and Dr. Robert Polomski. Check out events schedule on [www.brookgreen.org](http://www.brookgreen.org)

3/26 - 6:00 - GSMGA meeting, Our very own Gary Forrester is speaker on a pertinent topic of the day, refreshments by Dee Braswell and Nancy Kobs, Church of Christ Grand Strand.

4/9 - 12-1:00 - Dirt 'n Details - "Turf 101" by Gary Forrester (you know: Senior HC Extension Agent). Low Country Center, Brookgreen. Free with admission to the Gardens.

4/23 - 6:00 - GSMGA meeting. Program and refreshment information TBA.



## A Note from Our President...Crystal Lemmons

Well, I hope you all have your track shoes on because we are going to hit the ground running this month. I am sorry I missed the January meeting and got so far behind on getting the year organized.

We have made a great recovery so far, I am pleased to say. It is great to have committed volunteers who step up to the plate when we need you!

Our most urgent issues are these: (1) Setting up the "Bunny Site" for Inlet Square Mall [to be completed between March 13th and 17th] and (2) Staffing our table at Brookgreen Garden's "Diggin' It" Spring garden Festival on March 23rd. Please contact Pat Hiter (651-3984) if you can help with the Bunny Project. She will need help with gathering and arranging plants, baskets, signs, and, possibly, mulch.

I would like personally to thank the Officers and Project Chairpersons who served so graciously last year. Jerry Roberts, Becky Roberts, Barbara Murray, Joan Wood, Steve Conrad, Rachel Dedmon, Joyce Ubl, Nancy Luni, Dee Braswell, Nancy Kobs, Michael Grant, Pat Hiter and Robert Quinn. Now I KNOW by doing that, I just forgot someone, so please forgive me.

Remember that our Plant Problem Clinics will be starting soon, and we need "all hands on deck" to serve the community. Don't forget to send your \$20 in dues to our new Treasurer, Dee Braswell. (3364 Wilderness Lane, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576).

Gary Forrester will be our speaker at the March meeting; he is always entertaining and informative.

I think this is what hooks one to gardening: It is the closest one can come to being present at creation.  
Phyllis Therous

We still need a member to be **Chairperson of our Program Committee**. We hope to have interesting and educational speakers at our meetings, and we need ideas from all of you for contacts. Please let me know if you are willing to be the marvelous member who arranges our speakers for the rest of the year! (As you may or may not know, there is a pair of Atlas gardening gloves waiting for you to raise your hand!)

As spring kicks into full gear, I hope you enjoy your time in the garden and have a chance to share your passion with others through volunteer service. As I like to sign off,

"Trowel-ly Yours,"  
Crystal

### Will Work For Gloves!



Well, it was not exactly a bribe or a pay-off, but the officers of the Grand Strand Master Gardeners Association for 2013 were happy to receive a new pair of gardening gloves for their efforts. Above are (left to right), Dee Braswell, Treasurer; Crystal Lemmons, President; Pat Hiter, Vice President; Wanda Hall, Hospitality; Barbara Murray, Secretary and Communications; Alice Vivian, Membership; and Rachel Dedmon, Newsletter. Not pictured are Jerry Roberts and Becky Roberts, Fundraising, and Nancy Launi, Historian (the latter also being the photographer!).

### Agent's Corner...Gary Forrester

March and April are good months to begin the cleanup process necessary when Mother Nature has beaten down our plants all winter. This season has not been too



bad, although some winter damage has cropped up. We also received plenty of rain that should have alleviated the drought problems of last year. It remains to be seen how quickly spring will arrive and we can put the winter of 2012-2013 in the books.

It is also a good time to start pruning. Remember to prune properly using those good pruning techniques you learned in the Master Garden training! Be careful when deadheading branches and use selective pruning techniques to allow for an open, natural looking plant.

For vegetable gardeners growing by seed, it is time to get your tender crops into germination pots. I will start broccoli and cauliflower seed the first of March and follow up with tomato, pepper, etc. probably mid-March. You want to get your vegetables out at a time to avoid late freezes but as soon as possible thereafter to avoid the heat and pests of August.

I have several programs coming up; everyone is welcome to attend and/or pass the information along to fellow gardeners who may need the training. On March 16, from 9:30 am to noon, I will be on a panel with several fellow gardening experts at the Waccamaw Public Library in Pawleys Island. On March 20 and 21, I will be giving several lectures on a variety of garden topics at the Horry County Solid Waste Authority at their Grow Program. Then, on April 9th, from 12 noon - 1:00 pm, I will be giving a turfgrass lecture at Brookgreen Gardens at their Dirt'n Details program.

We will be gearing up shortly with our Plant Problem Clinics, so be sure to mark your calendar when the dates are announced and plan to help.

## Bloom Dates

3/2 - Cleora Everett

3/24 - Pat Hiter

4/3 - Jerry Roberts

4/5 - Lynn Shelton

4/16 - Nancy Kobs

4/24 - Barbara Marshall

4/25 - Becky Roberts

4/28 - Robert Quinn

## Daffodils and Daisies

Those are the birthday flowers for March and April, respectively. The daffodil has a meaning of devotion and friendship. In Victorian time, it carried the hidden mean of: "You are an angel!" The Daffodil Association USA divides the daffodil into two regions, the perianth (petals) and corona (trumpet or cup) and classifies each by its color: (W)hite, (G)reen, (Y)ellow, (P)ink, (O)range, and (R)ed. Also, there are 13 named divisions of daffodils, further describing the flower. The "Carlton," a cultivar that is recommended for southern gardens, is in Division 2 - Large Cup: one flower to a stem, corona more than 1/3 but less than equal to the length of the perianth. So its classification is: Carlton 2 Y-Y.

The daisy family, Asteraceae, is one of the largest families of flowering plants with thousands of species. The Antemis (common name chamomile or golden marguerite) is more common in this area. The name "daisy" is believed to come from the phrase, "day's eye" because of the flower opening as the sun comes up. While the Victorian hidden meaning was, "I'll never tell," the daisy generally symbolizes innocence and cheerfulness. This humble April flower is immortalized in mythology, history and folklore, but it typically symbolizes good and virtuous things

and can never carry a bad message, so it is widely believed, but keep reading!

## Daisy Trouble!



A lady in Portsmouth, NH was sued by her home owners association for planting this small, well-kept garden of daisies and other flowers in front of her unit - her first home. She was fined thousands of dollars and threatened with HOA legal fees. It was only after the case received nation-wide attention, that the lawyers suggested a settlement. The gardener received no penalties, and, in turn she promised to remove a few flowers ! <http://portsmouth-nh.patch.com>

## Interested in Recycling?

If you are among the reportedly 94% of wine drinkers surveyed in the USA who prefer natural cork as a closure to your vino ([www.corkfacts.com](http://www.corkfacts.com)), then here is a suggestion from the stated website: create mulch for your garden! The natural cork is said to be resistant to rot and temperature extremes, so it's great for retaining water in the garden. You can pulverize the cork in the blender, I am told, by adding one at the time to create a coarse texture and then adding the mixture to your potted plants or outdoor garden soil. Cheers! It helps the daffodils! (-)



## Chicken, Tomato, Bean Soup

Winter will be over soon, but I thought I would share with you a favorite soup. While hearty and tasty, I think, it is fairly low in calories. That's the best kind. I hope you enjoy it. Rachel

1 C. chopped onions

1 clove of garlic, chopped

2 TBSPNS olive oil

4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cooked, diced

Several cups broth\*

2 (14.5 oz) cans diced tomatoes, with juice

2 (14.5 oz) cans white beans with juice\*\*

1 small can green chilies (I use mild, but you choose)

1 t. oregano

1/2 t. cumin

salt/pepper to taste

\*if broth from chicken is too light, can enhance with some canned broth

\*\*choose Navy or Great Northern or whatever kind you like

--saute onions and garlic in olive oil

--mix all ingredients in the broth, adding broth as needed

--cook for 1 hour in large pot

--Enjoy with (Southern-style) cornbread! (:)

Send your newsletter ideas, recipes, and recommendations to :

Rachel Dedmon

[rdedmon@sc.rr.com](mailto:rdedmon@sc.rr.com)

843-235-1119

*LATE*

*NEWSFLASH!*

FROM PAT HITER:

PLANT PROBLEM CLINIC AT INLET  
SQUARE MALL OPENS: FIRST THURS-  
DAY IN APRIL: 4-04-13!

AND

FROM ROBERT QUINN:

PLANT PROBLEM CLINIC AT GEORGE-  
TOWN FARMERS' MARKET OPENS:  
SECOND SATURDAY IN APRIL: 4-13-13!

*"DOING*

*WHAT WE*

*DO BEST!"*