The 2011-2012 year has seen a lot of MG happenings…. … this issue is a review of just a few of them

WORDS FROM OUR OUTGOING CHAIRMAN….Marco Baldi

My year as chair of the Riverside Master Gardeners is coming to a close, It has been a great year; busy and intense, but in most respects a year full of fun gardening activities, and sharing time with many of you at different functions and events. I must say this is such a good time to be involved in doing something one likes and enjoys sharing; our membership in the Master Gardeners certainly affords us those opportunities. I believe that for most of us these are times, activities, and associations that will be remembered fondly for years to come, whenever we might serve, and wherever we might call home.

As in years past, we have dutifully fulfilled many requests for information tables throughout the county; members of the Gold Mining Committee have played an important role in ensuring adequate representation at many of these events. So to all who have participated in information tables as well as other public events, a great THANKS to each of you. To my knowledge we receive many compliments, but never a complaint about the information we share, or our demeanor and conduct with those who approach our tables. So kudos to all who have helped! Since staffing the information tables is such a vital part in how the Master Gardeners fulfill our mission to educate the public in sound, research-based gardening information, a call for your help in continuing to “work” the tables is always open and welcome.

Another group of people who deserve a lot of credit for how things are organized and carried out is the Advisory Board and the various Project Coordinators; this is a group of fine people, and to a person dedicated to the program. I am honored to call them my friends, and I am grateful for all they have accomplished. You may not know all of the ways in which the Board members and the coordinators fulfill their respective positions. I can tell you that for some of them this is done with great personal sacrifice and dedication. Each of them understands their responsibilities well and while we may not always agree on everything, we get a lot of things done. Please take a minute and personally thank those who have helped you, organized a tour or a social event or whatever it might have been. Thank and recognize them, they keep the program alive and going.

As chair I have been flanked by two great ladies, friends, and gardeners, they have done so much to help me that I feel it necessary to acknowledge them, so THANK YOU LUCY AND JO BETH.

Some of our larger projects have given us lots of hours of enjoyment and participation, among the new project at the WMWD Lifestyles Southern California Garden that has consistently been teaching large groups of residents about gardening techniques and strategies. We have many docents assisting there as well and each one is appreciated. The JMDC and the Grow Lab have also offered excellent hands-on opportunities for Master Gardeners and trainees to participate and to learn; from propagation of vegetable seeds, native California plants, drought resistant varieties, as well as opportunities to sell our own plants at various venues have allowed us to make a small profit that goes to support our program. Thanks for your help everyone!
I would be remiss if I did not highlight the professional looking Newsletter we receive every month, thanks to Janet Hough and her committee for continuing to provide such a great resource, and thanks to all those who have contributed throughout the year. In addition to the Newsletter, Sean Nealon has been instrumental in making sure articles about the Master Gardeners appear in area newspapers, he also helped us create our own Facebook page where MG’s and the public alike can gather to exchange information and to keep current with events and with each other. We expect this resource to grow with every passing year, please check it out at: http://www.facebook.com/pages/UCCE-Master-Gardeners-of-Riverside-County/286512898061766

Our membership gets a boost every year through our training program; this year’s trainee class is shortly coming to an end. Soon they will be taking their final exam and will joining the ranks of the Master Gardeners. Good luck everyone! If you haven’t met these trainees, you are in for a treat, they are dedicated, love to volunteer and participate in all types of events, and many are already accomplished gardeners. We welcome them, as much as we welcome every new group of students. For next years’ class we have had experienced a tripling of applications, and we find ourselves struggling with the overwhelming response. The surge in people’s interest in growing their own food, buying organic and local produce and goods will continue to grow every year, and so will our Master Gardener Program. This is a very exciting thing to contemplate. Now more than ever we need all Master Gardeners to make their contributions to the program, there are so many things to do. I am sure you can find your niche and volunteer in something you are good at, or something you can become good at. So if you will allow me, I sincerely would like to invite all of our present and past MG’s to join and rejoin us in taking our program to the next level, and to contribute and continue to volunteer your services to maintain and enlarge our outreach to residents of Riverside County.

My parting thought as we complete another successful year is this anonymous verse, “No one cares what you know, unless they know that you care”. I hope I have served you well, and if not, at least I want you know that I care. But enough of that, we have work to do. Oh yes ….and THANK YOU Master Gardeners for your support and caring involvement in our program and our communities.

Marco

Meet JoBeth White in our next MG Newsletter. She has been your MG Chair-elect this past year.

Without a Doubt
by Lynn Bailey, Master Gardener

For the final newsletter of this MG year, our editor asked each of us to write about a highlight from this past year or so. It did not take more than a minute for me to realize that my highlight was learning that accessible gardening is a hot topic. I wrote an article about raised garden beds - ones that are about 36 inches off the ground that accommodate wheelchair bound gardeners as well as those with knees past warranty (like mine). I received the most feedback after this article appeared in the newsletter; people shared about how they were redesigning their garden beds to make it easier for older parents to work in. Teachers emailed about how well preschoolers like standing up at a raised bed and working - much like they stand at an art easel. As America ages and our economy struggles, accessible gardens will remain a high interest topic.

I hope that accessible gardens, whether they are raised or traditional with wider paths, will promote people of all ages to try gardening as a hobby. Incorporating garden beds where people can touch and smell flowers and plants can provide enjoyment for the sight impaired. Unlike many other hobbies which are expensive or require a certain level of fitness, gardening can be a lifetime adventure. Garden design can either facilitate or hinder participation; I look forward to helping others understand the importance of an accessible garden.

Check out Lynn’s article: MG Newsletter, April 2011, “Tilting a Whirl for All Gardeners”.

Meet JoBeth White in our next MG Newsletter. She has been your MG Chair-elect this past year.
Meet A Great Family of Phone Squad Volunteers

May I introduce Linda Kilfeather to those who have not already met her. Linda has worked on the Phone Squad Hotline since 2006 and is 1/2 of the "Bob and Linda Show" which you can catch each Tuesday Morning. She is very dedicated to answering the phones and I can't recall if she's ever missed a day volunteering. In talking with Linda, I found that what she likes most about her volunteering is the camaraderie she shares with Bob Duke, her co-volunteer and Tom Shea our Citrus and mostly everything else advisor. "We sometimes talk with people who have questions that we sometimes can't answer right away. Working with Bob makes it easier to get the correct answers right back to these callers which makes them very happy and so are we". Thank you, Linda, for your dedication and excellent service.

And then we can't forget Bob Duke, the other 1/2 of this dynamic duo. One who gives of himself and time to help out when he has so many events he supports in his community. Now when you first meet Bob, you'll see a soft spoken and relaxed man who knows what he's talking about. Bob has been one of our volunteers since 2-13-2007. Usually you find him standing or walking around the Phone Squad room as he talks on the speaker phone to the caller. Linda is sitting at the second desk at the computer and joins in the conversation while pulling up information on the screen. They compliment each other very well. What Bob enjoys most on the hotline is getting calls more challenging than usual which he can't answer at the time. But then they "dig down" to get the right answer. I'm so glad he's on the hotline as he makes it look so easy. Thank you Bob for bringing years of experience and wit to our hotline even though you're so busy with your community events.

Now what can I say about this lady, Nanci Nelson, who is very attached to her dogs. She started gardening with her Dad when she was 6 or 7 years old. Dad was a landscape architect who took Nanci everywhere with him. From these experiences he passed on so much gardening information to her that she has become a walking encyclopedia who loves to share information with everyone. In 2008, Lucy Heyming asked Nanci if she would like to work on the hotline and when she did for the first time, she knew that she was going to stay. She really loves being a volunteer and shares an enormous world of gardening with her callers. Better have a recorder with you when you talk gardening with her for she talks fairly fast and will leave you breathless. What she likes about volunteering on the hotline is her ability to learn more and more when she talks with her callers. "I love learning new stuff and informing people" she says. Thank you Nanci for being a joy on the hotline and bringing a whole world of information to the gardening community. And Thank you, too, Lucy for bringing in such a dedicated volunteer.

Meet Beatrice Etchison who came to our hotline in 2006. As a trainee she worked for several years on the hotline and continued off and on for a total of 4 years. On many Thursday mornings you will find her at work taking calls for a while. She really enjoys when someone calls in who was referred to her by a friend for gardening advice. "Questions are rather simple and it doesn't take much time to answer them". Volunteering on the hotline has been one of the most rewarding things she has done. Thank you, Beatrice for bringing such gusto and enthusiasm to the hotline and sharing your gardening wisdom with our callers.

To Mr. Tom Shea, you have really been an inspiration to me and those you help on the hotline when we were stumped by a question or a specimen someone brought in for identification. Thank you Bob for bringing years of experience and wit to our hotline and sharing your gardening wisdom with our callers.

Miss Stephanie Pocock has been the Queen of organizing our Phone Squad room and taking such good care of me when I needed something. All too often I could call out to her and she would leave her very busy desk to come help me. I thank you Stephanie for taking care of new trainees in the morning when I couldn't come in to train them. You are such an amazing lady!

I would like to personally thank Pat Hughes, Sophia Dean, and Janet Hough for all her work on Thursdays and her great ideas she shared with us. Thanks also to David Meyer-Rieth, Steve Dickinson, Chuck Larsen, Bernard Mansell, Ginger Dwyer, Judy Oliver, Karen Williams and the countless others who have pitched in throughout the last 2 years by manning the hotline when I wasn't there or just for coming in to help take calls for a while. I can't say enough about you and how I could be away and know that everything would run smoothly. You all are the Greatest!!!!

And there's me, Pauline Pedigo, Chairman of the Phone Squad and Hotline. I also was cleverly invited to "try out the hotline a few times to see how I would like working there". Lucy Heyming seems to be everywhere at times but I'm glad my neighbor thought I wouldn't make a good volunteer. Since starting, I've learned far more than I ever thought I could. Well it was rather interesting to say the least as I sat down at one of the desks to take my first call during that summer of 2006. Things are always changing in the Phone Squad room. We can never have enough information flyers and posters around the room. It's all great stuff. And I couldn't be happier volunteering anywhere else. I'm having the time of my life.

We eat candy, laugh at funny things, talk too loud at times but all in all there is an indescribable feeling of warmth and excitement when you walk into our Phone Squad Room and everyone who volunteers there makes the magic happen by answering the phones and providing the best public service ever.
## Garden Views

The *Garden Views* newsletter is published monthly, September through June, by UC Cooperative Extension, Riverside County, Master Gardeners. All reporters are Master Gardeners or Master Gardeners-in-training.

**Editor**

Janet K. Hough
janetkhough@hotmail.com

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### Stephanie’s Corner

Another Master Gardener training class is about to take their final exam bringing them one step closer to becoming Master Gardener volunteers. Their graduation will be on June 24th and quite a few have already completed and entered on VMS the initial 50 hours. Once they pass the exam, they can receive the official Master Gardener badge at graduation!! I know some trainees are working hard to complete those hours and get their badge at the luncheon too.

We are working on a plan with the UCR Palm Desert campus to join with them and begin work on a community garden and a demonstration garden on the campus, part of the plan includes holding meetings and MG trainings at the campus as well. We now have a hotline at the UCCE office in Indio, kudos to Chris Lyman and Jackie Smith for spearheading these projects. We will keep you all informed as we progress.

Thank you to the Advisory Board for the time and effort they gave to keeping the Riverside County Master Gardener Program moving forward: Marco Baldi, Elaine Byrd, Shelley Craig, Ginger Dwyer, Karen Fleisher, Cathy Godfrey, Carol Haffter, Lucy Heyming, Janet Hough, Caroline Hughes, Sheila James, Sean Nealon, Steven Orr, Pauline Pedigo, Cindy Peterson, Jonathan Simper, Kathy Swanson, Kathy Taylor, and JoBeth White. I’d also like to thank Cindy Crawford and Dona Jenkins, Cindy had to take a leave and Dona just joined.

Please do not forget to fill out the online reappointment forms on VMS. We have a new insurance policy from the Hartford Accident Insurance. This required accident insurance is a group policy that covers every MG that is Active, Limited Active, Gold, and above. We are being charged $6 for the insurance so be sure to fill in the forms for reappointment.

Additional information will be placed in the VMS under Documents and the claim form can already be found there.

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### Moving?

Please let us know when you change your address, phone number or email. Contact Stephanie Pocock, Volunteer Services Coordinator, at 951.683.6491 x 230 or sapocock@ucdavis.edu. She will make sure the information gets changed on the membership roster so you will not miss out on newsletters and emails. Thanks!

To simplify information, trade names have been used. No endorsements of name products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products which are not mentioned.
Each year we need to fill out our paperwork to be reappointed as MGs. We attest that we have done our volunteer and continuing education hours and that we have a valid driver's license and car insurance. This fulfills the UCCE Master Gardener Program requirements and makes sure that we are current with all our information.

We can do this online through VMS—saving a lot of paperwork and headache. So just follow the links and do each of the three options: the Annual Volunteer Agreement and Request for Reappointment, the Code of Conduct/Responsibilities Rights link and the Proof of Driver’s License and Automotive Liability Insurance link.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>MG Tour - Edible/Vertical Landscape [Simpson Home], Winchester</td>
<td>10:45 am - 12:30 pm</td>
<td>CE</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Home Depot-Garden Friendly Plant Sale, MG Information Table, Perris Blvd., Moreno Valley</td>
<td>8:00 am - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>V</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Home Depot-Garden Friendly Plant Sale, Case Road, Perris</td>
<td>8:00 am - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>V</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Backyard Composting Workshop, City of Wildomar Council Chambers</td>
<td>10:00 am - 12:00 noon</td>
<td>CE</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Corona Antique &amp; Collectables Faire, MG Information Table, Corona Heritage Park</td>
<td>8:00 am - 2:15 pm</td>
<td>V</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>UCR Botanic Gardens, &quot;Children's Adventure in the Garden&quot;</td>
<td>9:00 am - 11:00 am</td>
<td>CE</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>WMWD Garden Docent Day</td>
<td>10:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>V</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>WMWD Free Workshop: &quot;Desert Oasis - Landscaping with Succulents&quot; by Buck Hemenway</td>
<td>11:00 am - 12 noon</td>
<td>CE</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>WMWD Free Workshop: &quot;Creating Succulent Container Gardens&quot;</td>
<td>12:00 noon - 1:00 pm</td>
<td>CE</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Home Depot-Garden Friendly Sale, McKinley Street, Corona</td>
<td>9:00 am - 2:00 pm</td>
<td>V</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Backyard Composting Workshop-Temescal Valley, Lee Lake Water District</td>
<td>10:00 am - 12:00 noon</td>
<td>V</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Corona Senior Center, MG Information Table, S. Belle Avenue, Corona</td>
<td>12:00 noon - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>V</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>MG Advisory Board Meeting, UCR Extension Office</td>
<td>7:00 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>MG Veterans Meeting, WMWD - To be announced</td>
<td>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm</td>
<td>CE</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Home Depot-Garden Friendly Plant Sale, Case Road, Perris</td>
<td>8:00 am - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>V</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Backyard Composting Workshop, Idyllwild Nature Center</td>
<td>10:00 am - 12:00 noon</td>
<td>V</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Lavendar Festival, MG Information Table, Highland Springs Resort, Cherry Valley</td>
<td>9:30 am - 6:15 pm</td>
<td>V</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Home Depot-Garden Friendly Plant Sale, MG Information Table, Hamner Avenue, Eastvale</td>
<td>9:00 am - 2:00 pm</td>
<td>V</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Backyard Composting Workshop-Jurupa Valley Community Service District, Harrel St., Mira Loma</td>
<td>10:00 am - 12:00 noon</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>MG Trainee Graduation Luncheon Class of 2012, Canyon Crest Country Club, Riverside, Lunch fee</td>
<td>12 noon to 2:00 pm</td>
<td>SE</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Lavendar Festival, MG Information Table, Highland Springs Resort, Cherry Valley</td>
<td>9:30 am - 6:15 pm</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Lavendar Festival, MG Information Table, Highland Springs Resort, Cherry Valley</td>
<td>9:30 am - 6:15 pm</td>
<td>V</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>MG Picnic &amp; Pool Party, Sally and Charles Beaty's Home, near Mt. Rubidoux (Potluck)</td>
<td>4:00 pm - 7:00 pm</td>
<td>SE</td>
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‘Reappointment’ - The time is now.

Each year we need to fill out our paperwork to be reappointed as MGs. We attest that we have done our volunteer and continuing education hours and that we have a valid driver’s license and car insurance. This fulfills the UCCE Master Gardener Program requirements and makes sure that we are current with all our information.

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### MASTER GARDENER EVENTS CALENDAR

**V** = Volunteer Hours  
**CE** = Continuing Education Hours  
**SE** = Social Event

#### JULY

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lavender Festival, MG Information Table, Highland Springs Resort, Cherry Valley</td>
<td>9:30 am - 6:15 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Appreciation Dinner hosted by Lucy Heyming, at Heyming House, Riverside</td>
<td>7:00 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>SE</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>MG Veterans Meeting, WMWD - TBA</td>
<td>6:30 pm - 8:30 pm</td>
<td>CE</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>WMWD Garden Docents ONLY - no workshops scheduled</td>
<td>10:00 am - 1:00 pm</td>
<td>V</td>
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#### AUGUST

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<td>8</td>
<td>MG Advisory Board Meeting, UCR Extension Office</td>
<td>7:00 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>V</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>WMWD Garden Docents ONLY - No workshops scheduled</td>
<td>10:00 am - 1:00 pm</td>
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**A HEADS UP FOR YOUR JUNE CALENDAR**

**A Picnic & Pool Party**  
**Scheduled for June 30, 2012**

Sally and Charles Beaty’s Home  
near Mt. Rubidoux.  
They have an acre of land  
to wander about and enjoy  

Time 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Potluck—bring your favorite food to share  
For directions and more details contact Carol (below)

Carol Haffter is looking for other MGs willing to open their homes / yards for lunch or dinner gatherings throughout the year. Please call or email her if you are interested in hosting a future event: 951-924-1095 or haffter@verizon.net

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ABOVE: The Lavender Festival provides a treat to all your senses: smell, taste, sight, touch, and sound

BELOW: Orientation Night for the new class of MG Trainees — graduates of 2012
Fat-Melting Vegetarian Chili
Recommended by Marco Baldi, Master Gardener

Ingredients
Makes 14 cups

3 tbsp vegetable oil
2 1/2 cups diced red onions
1 cup diced carrots
2 peppers diced
1 1/2 cups diced sweet potato (1 medium sweet potato)
2 cups diced mushrooms
3 tbsp ground cumin
1/2 tsp crushed pepper flakes
2 tbsp chili powder
4 tbsp chopped garlic
2 tbsp chopped jalapenos
3 (14.5 oz) cans diced, fire roasted tomatoes
1 (15 oz) can chick peas
1 (15 oz) can red kidney beans
1 (15 oz) can black beans
1 (15 oz) can Adzuki beans
2 tbsp dried oregano
2 tbsp chopped chipotle in adobo sauce
3 tbsp tomato paste
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1 (10 oz) bag frozen corn

Optional toppings
Diced avocado
2% sour cream
Chopped fresh cilantro
Sliced scallions
Limes

Directions
In a large heavy-bottom pot, warm the oil and sauté onions, carrots, peppers, sweet potatoes and mushrooms, stirring occasionally until the vegetables start to soften, about 10 minutes. Stir in the cumin, crushed pepper flakes and chili powder as well as the garlic and jalapeno and cook a few more minutes until fragrant. Add the tomatoes, all beans and chick peas, oregano, chipotle in adobo, tomato paste and cinnamon. At this point, you can add a little vegetable broth or vegetable juice or water if you like your chili a bit thinner. Cover and simmer for 15 minutes, stir in the corn; cook 5 more minutes – until corn is heated through.

Serve with diced avocados, some sour cream, scallions and cilantro, and spritz with a little lime if you desire.
UCRBC + UCR MGs = SUCCESS

The Master Gardeners were very supportive of the UCR Botanic Gardens this year. We had one of our most successful plant sales this Spring and I really think it was due to the great support of the Master Gardeners - there were over 20 Master Gardeners helping each day of the sale - they helped at the herb and vegetable sale tables, at the information table, roamed around and answered questions, straightened plants, helped in the receipt line - the list could go on and on. Master Gardeners were also very supportive of our Keep Our Gardens Clean and Beautiful project which we do twice a year. The Master Gardeners are a major part of every step and every activity such as propagation, rose pruning, weeding, and maintenance that keep the Gardens running smoothly on a day-to-day basis.

The staff and Friends of the UCR Botanic Gardens are very, very appreciative of all the support they receive from the Master Gardeners. Master Gardeners volunteered over 2,600 hours last year for UCRBG!

It is a pleasure serving as your liaison between our MG Advisory Board and the UCR Botanical Garden Board. I look forward to another successful year!

Karen Fleisher, MG

Master Gardeners volunteered over 700 hours at Information Tables last year to provide gardening advice to Riverside County residents.

Master Gardeners volunteered over 700 hours at Information Tables last year to provide gardening advice to Riverside County residents.

Monthly Veteran’s Meetings were always well attended; attendees receive continuing education hours.

Jonathan Simper-Turney, MG, gives garden lecture at Western Municipal Water District (WMWD); MG Docents, and MG guest lecturers volunteered over 300 hours last year at WMWD events.

Last year over 500 hours were volunteered by MGs at Grow Lab—The MG Vegetable Plot.
Garden Views

June 2012

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Sheila James was a busy lady scheduling and coordinating Master Gardener Tours in 2011-2012

August 2011:
Snowline Apple Orchard in Oak Glen-above the heat (5,000 feet) an extremely friendly tour of this century old apple growing area. From growing to pressing-and raspberry picking! Not to mention the hot mini-apple cider donuts and fresh cider.

September 2011:
Wein's Winery, Temecula-very entertaining tour of how wine is made.

November 2011
Mystic Lakes Iris, Nuevo-an iris tour of wonderful information and we just beat the rain!

March 2012:
Citrus Experimental Station, UCR-popular yearly tour that is both educational, interesting, and eye-opening to all levels of MG’s.

April 2012:
Kallisto Greenhouses, Fontana-everything to know about houseplant propagation in one place (25,700 square feet).

May 2012:
Temecula Olive Oil Co, Temecula- from groves to pressing (tasting included)
   This was our 2nd tour and is becoming an annual tour due to it's popularity.
   Tour of MG Barbara Lauck’s Iris garden.
Garden Views

Veteran Classes:

Evenings: 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, WMWD
June 14, 2012  “Edible Flowers” by Lucy Heyming
and Jean Weiss

Lunch n’ Learn: 11:00 am to 1:00 pm, WMWD

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ment with the University on the basis of race, color national origin religion, sex, physical or mental disability, medical condi-
tion (cancer related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or status as a
covered veteran (special disabled veteran, Vietnam-era veteran or any other veteran who served on active duty during a
war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized). University Policy is intended to be
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Natural Resources, 1111 Franklin, 6th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607-5200 (510) 987-0096.

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Moreno Valley, CA 92557
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