

A Bit of Dirt

Volume 9, Issue 1

Winter Supplement

January, 2001

The Newsletter of the Gwinnett Master Gardeners

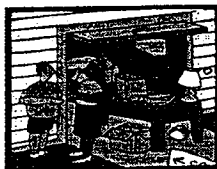


*Message from our
President*

Just a Reminder

Are you digging through those old boxes in your attic? Rummaging through your bureau drawers? Looking in the dark recesses of your closets for that just right white elephant?

If you only have a few weeks to gather any new or gently used items to donate to the Love Auction that will be held at the February meeting. Don't forget to save your spare cash to bid on those wonderful castaways. A few dollars may just bring home the "treasure" of your dreams.



Anything of value from \$2.00 on up will be accepted. Get ready for a fun filled evening of frantic bidding and nerve racking suspense. After all, you may just be saving a piece of nostalgia or whimsy from a dusty fate.

Note: Please pre-label your donation with minimum bid before attending the February meeting.

**Feb 19th 6:30PM
GJAC**

Next Meeting Dates

February 19
March 19
April 16

Something of Interest

Great Backyard Bird Count

February 16th - 19th
4th Consecutive Year

Helps define where birds are living and their populations

Their migration patterns

Bird habitat needs

Obtain data sheets & birdwatching tips at Wild Birds Unlimited.
1630 Hwy 124, Snellville, GA 30078
770-982-2650

www.wbu.com
<http://stores.wbu.com/snellville>

**Hospitality Chairperson
Needed!
Volunteer Now**

A Bit of Dirt is published quarterly. Send your news articles to:
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Gardeners are naturally optimistic because there is always a new growing season right around the corner. Even our recording breaking cold temperatures have not dulled our gardening enthusiasm or our community spirit. As I hear from members, I realize we are already setting goals to make 2001 a success.

How do we say thanks to those who have worked so diligently to make our group what it is today? I suppose by following in their well traveled footsteps and being innovative in making new ones.

We have planned our February Love Auction as our first fund raiser and hopefully we'll have another colossal plant sale. Our treasury is growing so let's make plans to use these funds to serve our community. As always our time is our most valuable asset. A combination of volunteer efforts and financial resources will accomplish even more.

Our state association, GMGA provides wonderful programs. Let's research and chose a project to submit for a GMGA grant (up to \$500). Let's also consider applying for (and winning) a Maggie Award.

Your new officers are anticipating a wonderful year. Please welcome Sharon Matthews, Vice President; Bonnie Smolinski, Secretary; and Kathy Parent, Treasurer. Let us hear from you because we need to know your goals. Let's meet the challenges and make it our best year yet!
Karen Brandon

The Passing of an Era

My friendship with Gail Martin started in 1991 when we signed up to do volunteer work at Vines Botanical Gardens. She was Chairman of the volunteers and I was in charge of the Brook Garden. The next year she took Master Gardener training and encouraged me to do the same in 1993. Gail has been a mentor to me and a trustworthy friend since I have known her.

In the last months of '93 a small group of Gwinnett Master Gardeners decided to start a club to give the GMG's a feeling of togetherness and to encourage community service. It seemed right that Gail and I decided to work together on a newsletter which we named *A BIT OF DIRT*.

We were co-editors until my husband became ill in 1997. At that time Gail willingly "took over the reins" and continued the work of publishing. Now her husband is ill. Gail has had to drop some of her activities to care for him. She has put in approximately six

years of meeting newsletter deadlines. Quite a responsibility, which she carried out in her usual excellent manner.

Now Marlene Gillman has consented to be our new editor. Let's support her in every way we can. Marlene, thanks to you for taking on this project.

The next time you see Gail, please express your thanks for a job well done.

Gail, we appreciate your hard work and devotion. Thank you so much!

Brenda Adams



Want to increase your knowledge?

Advanced Master Gardener Training

Urban Trees
March 6, 2001
Held at: Haralson County
Chamber of Commerce
Waco, GA

Turf Maintenance (Session 1)

March 16, 2001
Stuckey Auditorium
Griffin, GA

Turf Diagnosis (Session II)

April 6, 2001
Stuckey Auditorium
Griffin, GA

Georgia Master Gardener's Association

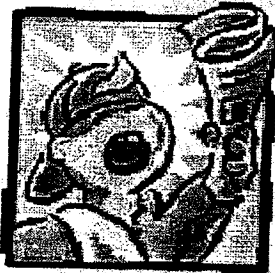
March 23 & 24, 2001
Spring Conference Savannah, GA

International Master Gardener's Conference

May 28-June 1, 2001 Orlando, FL

A Bit of Dirt

Marlene Gillman
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Auburn, GA 30011



Special Edition