Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
By CHUCK SCAFFIDI, MG

Keeping with this year’s theme of Valentine’s Day, love was in the air at our 2008 volunteer recognition luncheon. We celebrated the love of our fellow MGs and volunteers for being helpful, generous, caring, and kind, to name just a few of their lovely attributes.

Carol Suggs and her daughter Brandy did a superb job of decorating the room in a valentine motif.

I had my hard working elves help again this year who were from staff members Jean Field and Wilma Holley as well as from volunteers, Jean Barnes and her sister-in-law Sue Barnes. Taking several months to prepare, a special thanks to elf Peggy Vincent, MG, who devoted her time coordinating with the vendor community. She solicited and arranged delivery for hundreds of donations used as raffle prizes which were greatly appreciated by the luncheon attendees.

A tasty southern style catered lunch from Dolores Helm, Catering was followed by sinfully delicious desserts that were provided by MGs. The dessert tables were a sight to see! To further enhance the festive mood live music was performed by Mary Ellen’s husband Lyle and Friends.

Prior to the eagerly anticipated raffle, Pam focused on the achievements of the assembled group. She recognized the milestone volunteer hours from our MGs, and presented awards to selected groups for their efforts in the garden and for their outreach to the community. Enjoy viewing the sampling of pictures from the event shown below and on page 2.
We are especially appreciative of staff, MGs, and others who contribute articles, events, and other items of interest to *The Green Leaf* each month. Please submit your input by the 20th of each month. This will help us assemble and publish the newsletter in a timely manner. Also, to save mailing costs, please limit your articles to 700-800 words or less. Limited newsletter space does not allow for full photograph viewing. If you would like a copy of any photograph presented in the newsletters, please contact me @ 727-582-2117.

Chuck Scaffidi
MG Editor

*The Green Leaf* is published by Pinellas County Extension for the County Master Gardeners and depends on submission of articles from Master Gardeners, Extension Staff and other authors.

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ASSISTANT EDITOR: Carrie Shelby, MG

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*The Green Leaf* is available on line by clicking on newsletter at: [http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/master_gardener/index.shtml](http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/master_gardener/index.shtml)
Plant of the Month in our FBG
By JAMES STEVENSON, Public Education Specialist, FBG

Gumbo Limbo
Bursera simaruba

On the east bank of McKay Creek stands one of our “Champion Trees” a Gumbo-Limbo, or *Bursera simaruba*. For those unfamiliar with the Champion Tree Project, this is a public foundation-funded effort to preserve the “champion trees” in each state. “With Tree Trust funding and resources, the Tree Project is rapidly fulfilling its mission to preserve our national and state champion trees from all of America's over 800 tree species.” ([www.championtrees.org](http://www.championtrees.org))

The Gumbo-Limbo is a Florida native, from just a bit further south, where it may be referred to as the Tourist Tree. The reason for this common name is not due to the fact that the tree is a temporary resident, but because the reddish and peeling bark reminded someone of a sunburned tourist!

The tree was first described to western sciences in 1753, when Swedish botanist and “namer of all living things” Carolus Linnaeus considered it a type of pistachio and gave it its original name *Pistacia simaruba*. The current name, *Bursera simaruba* was published in 1890 in a charming Victorian journal: *Garden and Forest; a Journal of Horticulture, Landscape Art and Forestry*. It is named for German botanist and herbarium curator, Joachim Burser (1583-1649). His collection of plant specimens was studied by and valuable to Linnaeus as he went about assigning names to organisms in the living world.

This tree has the remarkable ability to root from huge “cuttings” up to 12” inches in diameter. It is believed that this is an adaptation to life in the face of hurricanes. Should a tree lose a major limb during a storm, that limb—wherever it lands—may set roots and become another tree—thus ensuring the tree’s survival.

Master Gardener 2007 Recognition Hours

I must apologize for my error at the Volunteer Awards and Recognition Luncheon. I picked up the wrong piece of paper when heading for the auditorium. The result was that I called out the wrong names for the 500 and 1,000 hours plaques and the new names are listed in the chart. The 2,000 hours names on the plaques were correct and are also listed along with the other honorees. Congratulations and thank you all for all of the hours of service that you have so freely given to Extension. We appreciate all of the work that you do. I will try to do better next year.

Pam Brown

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<tr>
<th>500 Hours</th>
<th>Linda Alcorn</th>
<th>Viviane Castoro</th>
<th>Carrie Shelby</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lois Archer</td>
<td>Joanne Drake</td>
<td>Denys Walk</td>
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<tr>
<th>1,000 Hours</th>
<th>Susan Baughman</th>
<th>Richard Davis</th>
<th>John Hood</th>
<th>Elizabeth Morse</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ann Brown</td>
<td>Suzanne Girves</td>
<td>Cheryl Korschek</td>
<td>Irma Porterfield</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mary Crowe</td>
<td>Helen Gould</td>
<td>Jackie McQuaid</td>
<td>Carol Raines</td>
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<tr>
<th>2,000 Hours</th>
<th>Linda Barnette</th>
<th>Joyce Giesech</th>
<th>CarlaLevesque</th>
<th>Jace Pinkard</th>
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<td></td>
<td>Richard Berube</td>
<td>Robert Kay</td>
<td>Patrick Mann</td>
<td>Ruth Ried</td>
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<td>Tom Carrell</td>
<td>Charlie Kohnken</td>
<td>Barb Orr</td>
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<tr>
<th>5,000 Hours</th>
<th>Bob Abben received a Silver Star</th>
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<tr>
<th>10,000 Hours</th>
<th>Chuck Scaffidi received a Gold Star</th>
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The landscape changed yet again when we charted a bus for an impromptu visit to Lankester Botanical Gardens. Here greenhouses were filled with orchids; meandering trails took us through tunnels of giant bamboo and carpets of blooming bromeliads.

We were prepared not to like the tram ride, too tame, we thought. The trained naturalists riding in each six man car pointed out broccoli trees (for their shape) and palms with red new fronds. We rode close to the ground and then high in the canopy so we could see the complexity of the rain forest followed by a walk stopping for leaf cutter ants and sleeping sloths.

Even the golden orb spider had us in its web. We could easily have spent the day.

The banana plantation was just a momentary stop, enough for Donna Z, Linda Culhane and Angela Strain to play with a fist-sized rhinocerous bug while the rest of us watched workers chopping, washing and packaging very green bananas.

A 1-1/2 hour fast boat ride deposited us at Pachira Lodge in Tortuguero National Park on the Caribbean coast. Our rooms were in small buildings tucked between nicely labeled heliconias, palms and bamboo orchids. Howler monkeys scrambled through the tree tops hooting like barking dogs. We were off season for the sea turtles that nest on nearby beaches in March, but the caimans, river otter, two and three toed sloths more than made up for it. A stroll through the small town of Tortuguero gave us a glimpse of a slower paced lifestyle where transportation is by boat or walking, groceries and internet very limited. A tree was covered in nests of Montezuma Oropendolas shaped like long necked gourds thought to bring good luck. The fresh-caught dorado and prawn lunch was outstanding.

Another quick stop on our way to La Fortuna was at Selva Verde lodge. Here we saw chestnut-mandibled toucans, black and green dart frogs as well as the Blue Jean frog whose blue legs resemble torn jeans on its tiny red body.

Our hotel, Arenal Manoa, looked directly on Arenal Volcano, Costa Rica’s most

Many of you say you don’t know where the library is located. The old timers out there will know exactly where it is when I tell you it is located in Bob Albanese’s old/old office. Will those who know please help those who don’t find their way.

We will also display some of the Leaf Art Work that was created in Wilma Holley’s class "Look What I Can Do With A Leaf." That was such a fun and interesting class. Thank you Wilma.
active. Again, its own weather shrouded the night lava fireworks. The group split up, some stayed with the tour for a boat ride in Cano Negro National Wildlife refuge where we saw 6-foot green iguanas now gold for mating, a dinosaur-like emerald basilik lizard, a huge black collared hawk on the Nicaraguan border as well as a Great Potoo taking a well camouflaged nap in a tree. Patsy Schamber, Wilma Coffey, Shay Blough and a few others opted instead to fly through the canopy on a zipline and later a “Tarzan Jump” (think bungee). The afternoon was spent souvenir shopping or recovering in the 20 pools at Baldi Thermae Hot Springs.

Our last overnight stop was in Puntarenas on the Pacific Coast. The thought of another 5-hour bus ride was enough for part of the group to opt for a closer visit to a colorful orchid garden and a wildlife sanctuary for a chance to get up close to macaws and monkeys. The rest of us braved two “Oh My God Bridges” made of poorly patched metal rods barely wide enough for our bus to Manuel Antonio National Park. Here, jungle went down to the bright blue water’s edge. White throated capuchin monkeys played in the tree tops while iguana-like black ctenosaur lounged on trunks and raccoons rummaged the ground for handouts. Narrow trails led to a scenic overlook or tiny private beaches carved out of lava. It was just stunning, just like the rest of the trip.

In just a few hours, the plane carried us from Central America to Tampa. There’s much more to explore in Costa Rica, it’s worth a return trip.

In March, Caravan Tours will send Ruth, the group coordinator, a commission. Since the climate is almost the same, maybe some of plants we saw in Costa Rica that are not now in the Florida Botanical Gardens could be purchased with that money.
Used to be I had to go on a field trip into the Everglades, Corkscrew or some other nature preserve for a chance to catch the rare sight of an eagle. That was when I lived in Miami-Dade County, where maybe, a misguided cattle egret occasionally landed on the roof of a car parked on a city street. Fast forward to my home in Gulfport, where not only flocks of ibis freely roam streets and yards, but hawks, owls, and even wood storks make themselves at home on our lawns, grace our trees and hover overhead.

One day while working in my yard, head down, busily engrossed in weeding, from the corner of my eye I detected a movement. Expecting to see a squirrel, I turned to face a Great White Heron, not more than three feet away, its bead-shiny eyes regarding me intently. It had apparently approached stealthily, hoping, I guess, to snatch a snack from the soil I disturbed uprooting weeds. I had seen bold Great Blues and egrets shadowing fishermen that way, jockeying to score a bit of bait, but my yard is on a corner adjacent to street traffic with no obvious food sources. I was astonished, but pleased for the company, as unafraid, it chose to hang around awhile. I do not feed wildlife, but the bird was welcome to scavenge what it could.

As remarkable to me as that encounter was, the pair of bald eagles easily top that. We year-round residents can mark the beginning of Fall with the cascading of soon-to-be-mulch oak leaves, and other more subtle changes in foliage and air. But I have begun to gauge it with the return of the eagles. It’s several years now since I first saw them while running on the Pinellas Trail. The Gulfport Spur of the Trail is a couple of short blocks, two or three minutes from my house. Where the Spur joins the Trail and heads west, it is bordered on both north and south by cemeteries. You can see the cemeteries from 58th St. South where the street intersects the Trail.

I don’t recall whether someone first pointed them out or I spotted them myself. Being a birder, I doubt I’d need anyone to point them out, as I take in all the sights, smells and sounds of nature during my runs. But to find eagles in so urban an area, minutes from my house, and so easy to view was, for me, unprecedented.

In the cemetery perhaps 50 feet north of the Trail, stands a very tall, dead pine tree, its branches gnarly gray, long devoid of needles. It is the favorite perch for an eagle, whose dark, distinct form silhouetted against the bright sky, is easily noticeable from a distance. One is usually on an upper branch surveying its domain of grass, graves and Trailblazers, while the other rests a short distance away in a living pine tree. High in that second tree is a massive nest, which has remained intact the several years I’ve been aware of it. To this nest and these trees our pair of eagles returns annually. This year they arrived at the end of September.

I must now be as familiar a sight to the eagles as they are to me, because I always stop to marvel at them before running on. And always, I point out the birds to passing cyclists or walkers on the Trail. Reactions vary. Some are ecstatic and in awe to see them; others are indifferent, like the young girl the other day who gave them a disinterested glance before returning to her cell phone conversation. Me? I’m always enchanted.

It is February. The eagles are still here. I saw both of them a few days ago. Once again I await the appearance of a fuzzy young head or two bobbing above that fortress of a nest. The eaglets, along with the last of my azalea blooms, will herald the promise of Spring.

This month thousands of bird lovers will participate in the annual Backyard Bird Count being conducted throughout the country. How many can boast, like me, that they’ve got eagles in their backyard?? (Well, practically!)
**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- MG Advisory Association
- MG Update Meetings
- Palm Harbor Library Garden Series
- Volunteer Hours Sign in
- Plant Sale Update

**Continued on page 8**

- Southern Region MG Conference
- Update on the Children's Trail

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**Important Change for Signing Out**

**Recording Your Volunteer Hours**

**NOTE: As of February 26,** there will be a shorter list of assignments to choose from when you sign out in the volunteer computer system. Instructions about this new feature will be posted by the computer to guide you in selecting your assignments.

**Please Remember to Sign Out!**

The computer program for logging volunteer hours is in the volunteer office.

- You must sign in and sign out when you are at Extension.
- You can still log your time in the book or use e-mail, but it is preferred that you use the computer sign-in sign-out method.
- With over 200 volunteers at Extension it becomes a considerable burden on the volunteer coordinators to manually enter your hours.

If you have been sending your hours by e-mail, use the form in the log book as a guide and send to: MGEDU@co.pinellas.fl.us. Please direct your questions to coordinator Chuck Scaffidi or an assistant, Carrie Shelby, or Mary Crowe.

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**MG Advisory Association, Chuck Scaffidi, Chair**

The articles of incorporation is approved and filed with the State of Florida as of December 12, 2007. The current bylaws are in effect until the changes to the bylaws are complete. The bylaws are being modified to comply with both Incorporation and UF/IFAS requirements. Even though the board gave their approval to modify these documents for incorporation, the recent need to change them to comply with UF/IFAS requires the board and members to re-approve.

The annual MGAA meeting for elections and 2008 budget approval is **Saturday, March 8th, 11AM to 1PM** with a potluck lunch.


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**March MG Update**

**Saturday, March 8th, 10AM.** Sylvia Durell from the Southwest Florida Water Management District will present, "**Understanding and Preparing for a Drought.**" She will compare the historic drought of 1998-2000 with how conditions are today and discuss what the water management district has done to address the current drought and what everyone can do to help. Please plan to attend this important update.

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**Looking Ahead to the April MG Update**

**Tuesday, April 8** at the EMS building. James Stevenson will give an update on Sustainability in the Florida Botanical Garden, along with a tour to look at new initiatives in the garden.

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**Free Micro Irrigation Class Offered by Master Gardener**

Pinellas County MGs are offering a free **Micro Irrigation Class** **Wednesday, March 12,** as part of their monthly **Palm Harbor Library Garden Series.** Join MG Charlie Iserman to learn about installing a micro irrigation system in your yard, using your outside tap, current irrigation system or rain barrel as your water source. **The same class will be held twice with one at 2PM and another at 6:30PM.** Please note that the series will be held at the Crystal Beach Community Hall, 517 Crystal Beach Ave. in Crystal Beach, while Palm Harbor Library undergoes renovation.

Admission is free, but space is limited. Call Pinellas County Extension at 727-582-2573 to reserve a seat for this class.

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**MGs at Market in the Park, Sat. March 22, 8AM to 1PM**

Come buy some beautiful, aromatic plants and visit with the friendly MG Herb Garden team. They will be selling a wonderful variety of herb plants cultivated in our greenhouse.

Market in the Park—Saturdays 8 AM to 1 PM, until April 19, 2008.

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**Plant Sale Update by Linda A.**

Hey Y’all. Don’t forget the plant crews are hard at work preparing for the May 10th plant sale.
A message from David Hillock, State Master Gardener Coordinator, Oklahoma State University

Dear Master Gardeners,

I know you have not heard from us for a while and I hope you haven’t forgotten about the Southern Region Master Gardener Conference – A Garden of Dreams in Native America coming up this June 18-21, 2008.

We are very close to completing details for the conference and will be opening registration in the very near future. A lot of exciting activities and speakers have been planned for the conference and this is one you will not want to miss. To give you a little teaser, there are 12 tours that will be offered at the conference – six pre- and post-conference tours and six as breakout sessions. Public and private gardens are included on the tours. For detailed descriptions about each tour visit the conference web site http://www.mastergardener2008.com/touragenda.htm.

The conference site will be at the Clarion Meridian Hotel and Convention Center in Oklahoma City. You can now reserve your rooms at the hotel for a price of $64.00 per night by calling 405-942-8511. Remember to mention that you are coming for the Southern Region Master Gardener Conference to get the conference rate. The Hotel and Convention Center is nestled in the hub of Oklahoma City's restaurant and entertainment district. There are over 30 sit-down and fast-food restaurants within 2 miles of the hotel. They are conveniently located off I-40 and just minutes from the Airport and other areas of interest. In addition, they provide complimentary shuttle service to and from Will Rogers World Airport and local businesses for fly-in guests.

We hope you have this on your calendars and plan to visit our grand state – Oklahoma!

Happy Gardening and hope to see you in Oklahoma City in June!

- Update on the Children’s Trail

Next Children’s Trail Committee meeting is Wednesday, March 4, at 11AM to 12PM, in the Orchard room.

Stacey Zidi is currently conducting the naming contest for the Children’s trail logo and is encouraging ideas from children.

Dianne Wheatley-Giolotti’s personal goal is to inaugurate the trail by October 2008.

Committee Members:
Dianne Wheatley-Giolotti, Mary Campbell, Vivian Haicken, Betty Lipe, Cindy Peacock, Chuck Scaffidi, Pat Dieterich, Lou LaGrande, and Bobbie Jones.

MGAA approved $2,000 for the Children’s Trail MG Project.
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES & EVENTS

For March, April & May

- Bloom & Garden Fest
- Compost & Raised Beds
- Earth-day Celebration
- Historic Northeast Spring Garden Stroll

Help Needed in Composting and Raised Vegetable Bed Areas!

Volunteers are needed to work in the composting and raised vegetable bed demo areas on Tuesday and Friday mornings.

Contact John Kingsbury 727-569-6409, Pam 727-582-2112 or Carol 727-582-2124 to let them know if you are interested in this volunteer activity. You might get to take home some wonderful compost!

A Night at the Theatre

Our own Master Gardener Dick Davis will sing in the Tarpon Springs Gilbert and Sullivan production of H.M.S.Pinafore. Dick sings the part of the Carpenter and will be part of a trio that sing, "A British Tar". Performances will be March 7, 8, 9, 13, 15, and 16, at the Tarpon Springs Cultural Center. For more information call the Box Office: 727-942-5605 http://www.tarponarts.org/UI/event/event.php?eventld=131

Bloom & Garden Fest in Downtown Safety Harbor

Saturday, March 15 from 9AM to 3PM on Main St at the gazebo in downtown Safety Harbor. Vendors and local gardening clubs will be on hand to get your spring planting going. Enjoy educational seminars, fun craft for kids and a mini Farmer's Market.

Looking for a Fun Learning Experience with Kids?

Earth-day Celebration is Saturday, April 19 from 8AM to 1PM at Extension

There will be a tent set-up with Earth type activities for kids to do; in conjunction with the Market in the Park. Cindy Peacock would love to have some fun loving volunteers to work with kids. Contact her at 727-582-2671.

HISTORIC OLD NORTHEAST SPRING GARDEN STROLL

"Enchanted Gardens" Sunday, May 4, 2008, 12-4PM

A much-loved rite of spring, the Historic Old Northeast Neighborhood Association Garden Stroll returns to St. Petersburg. Visitors will have a rare opportunity to wander through a diverse selection of private gardens featuring lush landscape designs, native and exotic plants, creative patio designs, and unique water features and garden accessories.

Ticket prices are: $10 advance, $15 day-of.

This year the ticket price includes admission to Sunken Gardens on the day of the stroll. Sunken Gardens, a 4-acre botanical garden is located in the neighborhood at 1825 4th Street North. Bill O'Grady, Supervisor of Educational Programming at Sunken Gardens will be at one of the private gardens to answer all of your Florida gardening questions.

Tickets can be purchased in advance for $10 either by mail, (check should be made out to HONNA and sent with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to HONNA Garden Stroll, c/o Peebles, 136 19th Avenue NE) or beginning on March 28th at the following outlets:

- Dolins Garden Center, 801 62nd Avenue N
- Bloom, 3005 S. MacDill Avenue, Tampa
- Jene's Tropical Fruit Trees, 6831 Central Avenue
- Marions, 1301 4th Street N
- Savannahs Nursery, 2601 34th Street S

Advance tickets will be redeemed at the Westminster Presbyterian Church at 126 11th Avenue NE. Day-of-event tickets can be purchased for $15 at Westminster as well. For further information see www.honna.org or call 727-825-0479.
By PAM BROWN
Urban Horticulture Extension Agent

Tetanus (lockjaw) differs from other vaccine-preventable diseases in that it does not spread from person to person. *Clostridium tetani* bacteria are usually found in soil, dust, and manure, and they enter the body through breaks in the skin. You can become infected through deep puncture wounds or cuts, like those made by nails, knives, or animal bites. But the bacteria can enter through even a tiny pinprick or scratch. When tetanus gets into the body it can take up to 3 weeks for the first symptoms to appear. The bacteria produce a toxin (poison), which spreads throughout the body, causing painful muscle spasms in the neck, arms, legs, and stomach. Everyone needs protection from tetanus. If you have not had a booster shot in 10 years or more, you should receive a tetanus shot. If you never had the initial childhood tetanus vaccines, you should receive a series of three tetanus shots. As gardeners we can be exposed to soil and manure, so it is imperative that we keep up our tetanus vaccination every 10 years.

**Information source:**
Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
http://www.cdc.gov

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Those of us that came of age in the 60”s or earlier probably know the Bob Dylan song *The Times They Are A-Changin’*. The face of Pinellas County Extension is changing and we will need the Master Gardeners help with this change process more than ever. Change is never easy, but if you look at it as an adventure and a new chance to excel, it can be very energizing.

Last month I mentioned that we would like to train some of you to help with our Lawn & Garden phone help line. Well, since change is dynamic, that idea has been scrapped and we have moved on. We will be phasing out this phone help line over the next few months and focusing our clients more towards e-mail questions and our web site. I would like to have a group of you trained to help at the Lawn & Garden Help Desk. This process involves some willingness to do research on your own along with training at the desk by the horticulturists who work the desk. Several of you have already become quite proficient at this task and I would welcome your thoughts on this process.

Some of the other challenges with this change involve your willingness to volunteer to help at events without one of the staff also present. We have had some great successes in this realm already this year. The Home Show is a great example. Marie Singer agreed to coordinate this event and with the help of a number of other MGs, she was able to get the booth set up, had volunteers in shifts to staff the booth and then took the booth down and brought the materials back to Extension. We have also had several smaller events where some of you have set up and staffed the exhibits. We certainly appreciate all of your efforts volunteering as representatives of Extension at these events.

As the next few months unfold, we will be exploring new ways of doing our jobs. If you have any words of wisdom or thoughts on this process, please feel free to express them either to me or one of the horticulturists. You come to us from many diverse backgrounds and probably have thought of things we might never think of. Your opinions and ideas are as valuable to us as the time you spend volunteering as Master Gardeners.

Thank you from the bottoms of our hearts!
♥ Pam
Master Gardeners Advisory Association is registered on GoodSearch. MGAA receives a direct donation every time supporters use GoodSearch to search the Internet!

Please go to www.goodsearch.com. At about 1 cent a hit, GoodSearch is earning MGAA money. We have earned since inception $16.10 and MGAA received a check for $13.29 last year. Come on, join in and try this search engine. Most of you probably use Google. Yahoo's search engine also seems to be adequate. The first time you use it you need to sign in as "Master Gardener Advisory Association" if you need help call Chuck at 727-582-2117.

Africanized Bees
Wednesday, April 9 from 7-8PM
Sponsored by: Jeanne Murphy and the Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP)
Maintaining your family's safety while enjoying the outdoors includes increasing awareness about the aggressive, Africanized bee. Join bee expert Jerry Hayes with Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to learn how this non-native bee differs from other important Florida pollinators. Mr. Hayes will help us understand where these bees came from, how they have impacted the European honeybee and the effect of their invasion on our own, docile, native pollinators. We will also learn how to recognize a potentially Africanized colony, what to do, and the negative impacts of over-reacting to the presence of non-threatening insects. No fee. For registration, call (727) 582-2673.

2008 March

SATURDAYS IN MARCH, 8AM-1PM
- Market in the Park at Extension

SAT, MAR 1, 10-11:30AM
- Compost Happens Workshop at the Extension

SAT, MAR 8
- 10AM MG Update - Sylvia Durell, SWFMD, "Understanding & Preparing for a Drought"
- 11AM to 1PM - Annual MGAA meeting for elections and 2008 budget approval with a potluck lunch.

SAT, MAR 15, 9AM - 3PM
- Bloom & Garden Fest Downtown Safety Harbor
  Main St. in the gazebo

Looking Ahead!
SATURDAYS THRU APRIL 19TH, 8AM-1PM
- Market in the Park at Extension

TUES, APRIL 8, 10AM
- MG Update, at EMS building
  James Stevenson's update on Sustainability in the FBG & a garden tour of new initiatives.

SAT, APR 12, 10- NOON
- Compost Happens Workshop at Brooker Creek Education Center

SAT, APR 19, 8AM-1PM
- Earthday Celebration at Market in the Park at Extension

For details on some of the events listed go to the calendar on the Pinellas County Extension Lawn & Garden website: http://www.pinellascounty.org/scripts/publish/webevent.pl?cmd=opencal&cal=cal6
Good Work Volunteers!

Reminders

- **March MG Update Meeting**
  Saturday, March 8 at 10AM

- **Annual MGAA meeting**
  Saturday, March 8th, 11AM to 1PM
  Elections and 2008 budget approval with a potluck lunch.