

January 9, 2012

Hello to all our Master Gardeners and AMGRO members.

I'm Sheila Truett, the new President of AMGRO. Many of you I know but some I have yet to meet but I hope to do that soon. I'd like to invite each of to attend our January meeting scheduled for January 23 at the extension office at 6:00 pm.

I'd really like to see everyone there, the agenda is open for any new business. If you have items please call Layne Hawley at 859-779-8811 or myself at 606-877-4685 .

I know that some members are concerned about not having hours completed but Bonnie has assured me that she will be happy to work with everyone to get certified or re-certified. I'd like to emphasize how much we need each of you to make AMGRO successful.

We've been working and making plans for the 2012 Garden Show. It's progressing but I am now realizing what a large undertaking it is and I surely appreciate everyone who has made it such a success in the past. Wow! Lot's of hard work goes into it. We need volunteers to take on specific project areas. We plan on having a mixture of vendor and demonstration areas. Those demo areas are where we really need our Master Gardeners to assist.

Besides the Garden Show there are other projects and opportunities to make AMGRO a strong viable resource to the extension service and the community. We currently have the community gardens plots next to the extension service to assist with and Bonnie has another community garden that has asked for our help. Requests come in throughout the year, we need to help the extension service answer those needs.

I'd also like to see AMGRO members have some fun! All of us have a passion for gardening so let's plan some activities to enjoy and perhaps learn something new. Upcoming opportunities include Organic Growers School Spring Conference, March 3 and 4<sup>th</sup> in Asheville, NC. The regional spring Master Gardener's Conference in Natchez, MS. That is the week following our Garden Show. We could schedule a day trip to Snug Hollow Farm and visit our speaker from last year or a visit to the lavender farm in the western part of the state. Let's make some plans.

I look forward to seeing you on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Happy Gardening,



Sheila