District I Horticulture PIT Meeting
MINUTES JULY 25, 2007

JACKSON COUNTY EXTENSION
OFFICE

MEETING CALLED BY The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Ken Rudisill

TYPE OF MEETING Program Implementation Team meeting

NOTE TAKER Theresa Friday

ATTENDEES Collin Adcock, Beth Bolles, Alex Bolques, Charles Brasher, Sheila Dunning, Cathy Frank, Theresa Friday, Scott Jackson, Judy Ludlow, David Marshall, Eddie Powell, Stan Rosenthal, Ken Rudisill, Carrie Stevenson, Dr. Pete Vergot, Larry Williams

Agenda Topics

UPCOMING TRAINING ISSUES

DISCUSSION
1. With travel budgets being cut, Agents expect some difficulty traveling to other counties to assist with Master Gardener (MG) training.
2. Agents were encouraged to ensure that County Commissioners understood the reciprocal benefit of being allowed to assist in other counties.
3. Agents should review what they charge for their MG classes and when necessary, charge more to cover the cost of guest speakers.
4. Whether to charge a consistent price across counties was discussed. The consensus was that the courses are much too different (using different books, different lab costs, etc.) to charge the same amount.
5. What to do when an MG applicant states they cannot pay for the course? Ideas included (1) installment payments (2) assign a dollar value to volunteer service hours and have them commit to more hours (3) offer scholarships.
6. Most all of the represented counties will be offering classes in 2008. One county will have classes on Wednesdays, four on Thursdays.

RECOMMENDATIONS
1. Schedule the spring district faculty meeting on a day other than Thursday.

ADVANCED MASTER GARDENER TRAINING

DISCUSSION
1. The quarterly advanced trainings started with 4 counties and were limited to 60 people with breakout sessions and hands-on activities. Response has been positive.
2. How many to offer in 2008 and rather to make it district-wide was discussed.
3. The 5-county regional meeting was discussed. Since this is a MG-driven meeting, it should be up to the MG’s to coordinate.

RECOMMENDATIONS
1. Send a survey to the Agents to be discussed with their MG groups on Advanced Training topics for 2008. Beth Bolles to coordinate.
2. Offer a minimum of two advanced training sessions in 2008. Final decision to be based on survey.

MARKETING IN THE FACE OF BUDGETS CUTS

DISCUSSION
1. David Marshall and Stan Rosenthal of Leon County shared information on what their county is doing to market Extension in light of anticipated budget cuts. Everyone received a copy of their quarterly eXtension today newsletter.
2. Agents are encouraged to be proactive in dealing with the budget cuts.
3. UF will repeat their Stakeholders meetings in February.
4. A member of each county’s overall advisory committee is invited to the IFAS Regional Advisory Committee. Work with representatives that attend.

RECOMMENDATIONS
1. Advisory Committees members and meetings are very important. Include clientele that utilize our services.
2. Ensure that everyone knows and understands the differences we make within our counties—the “so-whats”.
3. Communicate what the University provides in dollar figures to Extension. Emphasize the
importance of a partnership.
4. Volunteers can be important advocates for Extension. Work with volunteers to develop an action plan.
5. Invite Commissioners to programs and workdays.

### Master Gardener Bylaws

**Discussion**
1. Ken Rudisill reported that information he received indicated that revised bylaws are due out late July or August
2. Marjorie Moore is on a Committee that has discussed the by-laws with Tom Wichman
3. Bay County is evaluating the advantages of obtaining 501C3 status

**Recommendations**

### District Horticulture Newsletter

**Discussion**
1. The quality of duplication on older equipment was poor. It was suggested that the "black" boxes not be all black and the article titles be a dark text.
2. The quality of the photographs used in the newsletter need to be improve
3. Webtrends has been discontinued and a replacement is needed.

**Recommendations**
1. Include volume and issue number on the newsletter
2. Ken Rudisill will compile distribution numbers and forward to all contributing agents
3. EDIS dollars can be used to print the newsletter if needed
4. Add a section in the newsletter to promote new/revised UF publications and “for sale” items
5. IFAS Communications to continue formatting the newsletter
6. Include contact information in the newsletter for all contributing Agents
7. Email Dan Cromer and cc Dr. Dusky and Dr. Vergot to request a replacement for Webtrends
8. Build in SFYL information into the newsletter
9. Articles will be due:
   b. October 15, 2007 for the Nov-Dec newsletter
   c. December 10, 2007 for the Jan-Feb newsletter
   d. February 11, 2008 for the Mar-Apr newsletter
   e. April 14, 2008 for the May-Jun newsletter
   f. June 16, 2008 for the July-Aug newsletter
   g. August 11, 2008 for the Sept-Oct newsletter

### Solutions for Your Life Templates

**Discussion**
1. Videos can be added to our webpages. Increase space is needed to put videos online and the video must be encoded to minimize its file size.
2. Marion Douglas is the person to talk to increase our webspace.
3. Best to use "wav" files since Real Player is not supported by UF
4. 1-2 minute clips are best

**Recommendations**
Theresa requested that counties link to the Panhandle Butterfly House webpage at www.panhandlebutterflyhouse.org.

### Africanized Bee Training

**Discussion**
1. Dr. Ellis has agreed to do “face-to-face” inservices in our counties on Africanized Bees.
2. Ken has suggested having programs in half the counties in the fall and the other half in the spring.
3. Inservice to be approximately 2 hours and will be for the general public

**Recommendations**
Ken will coordinate dates with Dr. Ellis

### Calendars

**Discussion**
August 8, 2007: Limited Pesticide Training. Okaloosa County
August 13, 2007: Nuisance Wildlife Training. Crestview
August 14-15, 2007: Auburn Master Gardener Advanced Training
August 17, 2007: Deep South Short Course
August 25, 2007: Viticulture Field Day. FAMU

September 15, 2007 (tentative): Small Farm Conference, Jackson County
September 20, 2007: Putting Water and Nutrient BMP’s into Practice
September 24-27, 2007: EPAF Annual Conference. St. Augustine
October 6, 2007: TREEmendous Give Away. Santa Rosa County
October 11, 2007: Faculty Meeting: Chipley
October 12, 2007: Tree give away: Escambia County
October 13, 2007: Green Thumb Jamboree. Escambia County
October 16-18, 2007: Green Industry Update, Quincy
October 19, 2007: Worker Protection Training in Spanish, Quincy
October 20, 2007: Fall: Florida’s Best Gardening Season. Okaloosa County
October 22-24, 2007: Master Gardener Conference, Gainesville
October 29, 2007: Upland Master Naturalist Training. Okaloosa County
November 1, 2007: Limited Pesticide Training. Okaloosa County
November 2, 2007: Horticulture PIT meeting via polycom
June 18, 2008: Turfgrass Expo. WFREC

Winter 2007: Arborist Training with Sam Hand
Spring 2008: Bugs & Rot

OTHER ITEMS

DISCUSSION

1. Pesticide CEU provider website has changed. You must download software and change password. It should be more efficient once completely operational.
2. Ken Rudisill provided an inservice on palms.

RECOMMENDATIONS

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30 pm

NEXT MEETING

November 2, 2007: Polycom

SPECIAL NOTES

Handouts:
• Hort-NW-PIT-L membership. Hort PIT list serve listing
• Leon County eXtenison today newsletter
• Jackson County MG training class announcement
• 10 reasons why Leon County Extension should be well-funded
• Lawmaker Contact Information
• Advocate letter form Leon MG

Please send additions or changes to these minutes to Theresa Friday at tlfriday@ufl.edu.