

Summer 2013



Green Adventures Events:

September 7—Protecting Our

Gardens: 10:00 am Wilson Ag.
Center Call 237.0113 to register

October 5—Birds & Feeders:

10:00 am Wilson Ag. Center Call
237-0113 to register

November 2—Wilson Whirligig

Festival—Nature Mobiles:
10:00 am Downtown Wilson

Adult Gardening Programs

September 16—Ikabana

Flower Arranging: 3:00pm
Wilson Ag. Center Call
237-0113 to register

October (date to be announced) — Car Show:

Wilson Ag. Center Call
237-0113 for entry info.

From Our President: Dr. Roger Z. Thurman

To Friends of the Wilson Botanical Garden,

We as gardeners appreciate the end of summer of 2013 with the usual “too hot, too wet, too dry” of eastern North Carolina. However, the flowers bloom, plants grow, and our Botanical Garden grows.

Thanks go to every curator, homeowner, contributor, and visitor to our Garden Tour. Everyone must appreciate the hours of effort required to accomplish

such a project.

The success of the multi-year project for the Children’s Secret Garden is now funded. Many thanks go to all involved, especially Ms. Sandy Goetz and her exuberant leadership. We invite all to visit, play, and enjoy!

The future is the development of the Reflecting Garden secondary to a grant from the Visitor Center. This should be a major step

in completing the ring about the Agriculture Center and a site for personal reflection or public celebration.

Help us spread the potential and beauty of the Wilson Botanical Gardens.

Thank you and Happy Gardening

View of Children’s Secret Garden



Volunteer Spotlight: Sandy Goetz

If you look up “enthusiastic” in the dictionary, you will find a picture of Sandy Goetz. Sandy is originally from Maryland then moved to Tennessee for seven years. In Tennessee she became interested in the Master Gardener Program. While in Tennessee she worked at Randolph's Greenhouses. In 2002, she moved to North Carolina and became a Extension Master Gardener Volunteer.

She is a mother of two and grandmother of five who took up hang-gliding at age 59. Her other interests are stained glass, sewing, cooking, and gardening with her grandchildren.

On any day you might have visited the Wilson Botanical Gardens in the past year or more you were sure to find her little red truck parked out by the Children's Secret Garden and Sandy, working feverishly – but always with a happy grin to greet

you. She logged more than **580** hours in 2012 – that's not a life time total – that's just last year! And it is also just the number she found time to record. There's no telling how many more hours were spent researching online, searching out and meeting with sponsors, and just thinking constantly about how the gardens could be improved.

One of her favorite things to do is to greet visitors to the garden from places such as Maine, New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Australia & Alaska, always making a wonderful impression on all she met due to her open friendliness and her enthusiasm for her garden.

Sandy has served as Extension Master Gardener past president and WBG garden curator. She is

Wilson County's representative to the North Carolina State Master Gardeners Association and is a regular contributor to the state newsletter. In 2013 she won the State Master Gardener of the Year award. She helps with all Extension Master Gardener fundraisers and workshops, assists with programs for 4-H and Girl Scouts. She has spoken on behalf of the Wilson Botanical Gardens to local civic clubs such as Kiwanis, Elks, Optimists and AARP, and manned the booth at the Triangle East Home & Garden Show, and the Chamber Business Expo.

But her finest accomplishment as a Master Gardener has been her leadership in, her vision for, and love of our wonderful new Children's Secret Garden. Sandy has spent many hours planting hundreds of trees, shrubs, bulbs and flowers. She has also painted,

cleaned and deadheaded. She had a hand in planning all aspects of the garden-the music court, the dino dig, the labyrinth, the treehouse, simply everything that happened in the Children's Garden has had Sandy's hand on it in some way. We know that many thousands of children will enjoy the results of Sandy's hard work.

Submitted by:
Jane Connor, WBG Treasurer



Sandy's Wish List:

Wheel Barrow—\$40
Make check payable to WBG



L: Jane Allman, WBG Executive Board; R: Linda May, WBG Board & both Extension Master Gardeners

2013 WBG Executive Board

President: Roger Thurman

Past President: Boo Blake

Vice President: Larry Daniel

Secretary: Dixie Thurman

Treasurer: Jane Connor

EMG Liasion: Jane Allman

WBG Board of Directors:

Jane Allman

Walter Earle

Kim Edmundson

Sandy Goetz

A nn Jennings

Linda May

Kenan Rand

Sally Smith

Dennis Vick

Ellis Williford

Collin Batten

A.P. Coleman

Gary Farmer

Courtenay Griffin

Kenneth Jones

Eldon Newton

Andy Rawls

John Sugg

Tim Webb

Judy Zampella

Karen Blume

Karen Corbett

Worley Forbes

Kim Hoffman

Thomas Lucas

Pet Pruden

Grady Robbins

Barnes Thompson

William Westbrook

Green Adventures

What are Green Adventures? Does it have to be the color green?

Green Adventures came to be on March 2, 2013, a new green door, so to speak opened for the Wilson Botanical Gardens. A workshop was given through the Community Sparkplugs of The Rensselaerville Institute, a foundation of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina. This grant opened a door available to change our community for the better, using awareness on nutrition and physical activity.

Let's start with the 'Who?' The Green Adventures are a group of youth that gather to be more in tune with nutrition for their body, action in exercise, and thinking about the "why would" and "how could" gardening be so important and fun at the same time.



Charles Jones, Extension Master Gardener exercising with the Green Adventures

'What' and 'Where' are the Green Adventures? The Green Adventures are projects planned and carried out by the Wilson Extension Master Gardener Volunteers and are held at various gardens within the Wilson Botanical Gardens. Some of the Projects were:

*A Greenhouse – what it is, growing plants from seeds and transplanting plants to the garden.

*Art and Butterflies – youth would make a butterfly craft and were educated on the beauty and purpose of butterflies.

*Garden Grazing – class started out by exercising, as the pollinators get their exercise going from flower to flower to receive nectar to keep their strength and survive, we also need exercise and certain foods to stay healthy and strong.

We hope to promote growing a vegetable garden in their yard. The youth got to sample fresh fruits and vegetables. Even peanuts were served to educate about heritage crops that are grown in NC. Peanuts have protein, B6 and fiber so they were a good crop to discuss. Feedback from the youth is encouraged and we hope to make a positive change and impact on their lives.

The projects are currently being held April through November, see front page for dates & times, but a green adventure is waiting to be discovered by you any day of the year at the Wilson Botanical Gardens!

Sandy Goetz
Extension Master Gardener Vol.



1806 SW Goldsboro St.
Wilson, NC 27893
Phone: 252.237.0111
Fax: 252-237.0114

Visit Us On The Web:

<https://www.facebook.com/WilsonBotanicalGardens>

wilson.ces.ncsu.edu/spotlight/wilson-botanical-gardens

Mission Statement:

Wilson Botanical Gardens serves this region to:

- **To promote horticultural education through outdoor classrooms**
- **Heighten adults and children appreciation of horticulture, gardening, and landscape design and environmental stewardship**