**Community Newsletter** -- You are receiving this email newsletter because you gave your email address at one of the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE) Master Gardener community outreach events. If you no longer wish to receive updates on the Master Gardener program, please contact Mary at bertschm@unce.unr.edu.

**The Desert Blooms!**
Native and desert-adapted plants can give wonderful color to your landscape...even in the heat of a Las Vegas summer. Stop by the UNCE Demonstration and Test Gardens to see what is in bloom. The gardens, located at 8050 Paradise Road in Las Vegas (215--Windmill exit) are open Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. or visit our Facebook page for a photo tour:  [http://www.facebook.com/MasterGardenersOfSouthernNevada](http://www.facebook.com/MasterGardenersOfSouthernNevada)

**Look for the blue signs...**
... to learn both the Common Name and Scientific Name of the plants in the UNCE Demo Gardens.

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**Master Gardeners of Southern Nevada on FACEBOOK**
Check our Facebook page for information on:
- upcoming gardening classes
- pest alerts and
- on-line publications
You can Google “Master Gardeners of Southern Nevada Facebook” or click on the link:  [http://www.facebook.com/MasterGardenersOfSouthernNevada](http://www.facebook.com/MasterGardenersOfSouthernNevada)
Home Gardening Help Line
Master Gardener volunteers are available to answer your gardening questions from 8-5, weekdays. Call 702-257-5555 or stop by. You may also email your questions/photos to: LVMasterGardeners@unce.unr.edu.

Volunteer Appreciation and Awards

Congratulations to **MG Kimberly Williams** (L), recipient of the Silver Trowel award, for contributing 482 hours on Master Gardener projects at Nellis AFB and the Springs Preserve in the past year.

**MG Larry Nelson** (R) was awarded the Silver Phone for volunteering 132 hours on the Home Gardening Help Line.

"Silver" awards because Nevada is the Silver State!

The annual Master Gardener Volunteer Appreciation and Awards luncheon was held June 6 at the South Point Hotel and Casino. Master Gardeners were honored for the hours volunteered on community projects across the valley. This special event also marked the 20th anniversary of the Las Vegas Master Gardener program as well as the graduation of the Spring 2012 Master Gardener Class.

Milestone pins were presented to Master Gardeners in recognition of their total volunteer service since joining the MG program. Richard Leifried has volunteered 18,000 hours since 1994. He has chaired numerous community projects over the years and is regular on the Help Line. Don Fabbi (MG ’97) was recognized for his 14,500 hours of teaching and support to Community Gardens across the valley. Cliff Wood (MG ’02) has contributed 7,500 hours staffing “Ask a MG” information tables and at the Master Gardener Orchard. Richard Cutbirth (MG ’04) reached 6,250 volunteer hours at Acacia Park and at the Help Desk. Lee Heenan (MG ’96) received the 5,250 pin for her work propagating native plants and docenting, both at the Springs Preserve. In addition, 28 volunteers received milestone pins for reaching 100-750 volunteer hours, while 25 Master Gardeners were honored for volunteer contributions between 1,000-5,000 hours.

Did You Know?
Master Gardeners are volunteers who have completed Cooperative Extension’s 80-hour horticulture training course and volunteer a minimum of 50 hours each year. Over 1,000 Las Vegas-area community members have completed the Master Gardener training, and an average of 300 remain active each year. Since the Las Vegas program began in 1992, Master Gardeners have contributed 307,727 hours of service to the community. The value of this volunteer service exceeds $6.5 million (based on $21.36/hour volunteer rate per [http://independentsector.org/volunteer_time](http://independentsector.org/volunteer_time)).

For information on the Master Gardener Training Program, offered in the Spring and Fall semesters, please contact: Mary Bertsch, Program Assistant, bertschm@unce.unr.edu or 702-257-5501.

Antoinette (Ann) Edmunds
Program Officer II, Master Gardeners of Southern Nevada
edmundsa@unce.unr.edu or 702-257-5587

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Lifelong Learning Center & Demonstration Gardens
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(Windmill exit off the 215)

*Master Gardeners from the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension provide free, research-based horticulture information. UNCE is an EEO/AA Institution.*