

Press Release



Contact: Tina Sagartz, UCEMGVA
704-882-0604
cgsagartz@carolina.rr.com

Master Gardeners Call the Union County Heritage Festival a Success *Organizers believe collaboration with UC Farm Show and Festival mutually beneficial*

April 21, Monroe, NC – More than 3,000 visitors came out over the weekend of April 11 and 12 to the UC Agricultural Center for the Union County Heritage Festival hosted by the Extension Master Gardeners. The event was held for the first time in conjunction with the Union County Farm Show and Festival hosted by the Union County Antique Tractor and Power Club.

The event kicked off Saturday morning with the Wild Turkey 5K Trail Run and Walk, followed at 9 a.m. by a vendor fair with more than 60 garden, health, and conservation themed exhibitors, the Master Gardeners' Spring Plant Sale, entertainment, food, and antique farm machinery. More than 20 area experts entertained and informed with free talks and demonstrations.

Superb weather and the diversity, yet cohesiveness of the two festivals are being credited for the success. Music for the Heritage Festival was provided by DJ Jimmy Huntley, radio stations 103.7 and 104.7, and WIXE broadcast their Saturday morning gardening show live from beside the greenhouse. The Farm Show and Festival offered live performances of country and western, gospel and bluegrass music.

To help support local charities, festival goers were encouraged to bring donations for featured Union County non-profit organizations.

“2,300 pounds of food was collected this year, an increase of 1,000 pounds over that collected in 2014,” said Jim Nolen, co-chair of the Farm Show and Festival committee and vice president of the UC Antique Tractor and Power Club.

The Union County Antique Tractor and Power Club is open to those interested in collecting, restoring and the preservation of antique tractors, trucks, engines and farm equipment. For more information visit: www.unioncountytractorsnc.com.

The Union County Extension Master Gardener Volunteers' mission is to foster a partnership to create a sustainable community through education and implementation. They offer Successful Gardener classes to the public, maintain a website of useful gardening information, monitor a call system called the Growline at 704-283-3822 or ucmgwebsite@gmail.com and offer three sales events per year. For more information, visit www.mastergardenersunioncountync.org.