



MCMGA GARDEN NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 2

www.utextension.utk.edu/mastergardeners/montgomery

February 14, 2008

President's Message

The 2008 Daylily Festival at Oakes Daylilies is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, June 27 and 28 between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. There are six acres of Display Garden with over 1500 varieties. Oakes Daylilies is located in Corryton, Tennessee, near Knoxville, Tennessee. During the festival refreshments will be served, each guest will receive a free daylily, pre-dug select daylilies will be available at sale prices, and there will be a chance to win one of several \$100 daylilies or other prizes. Other open days this season will be June 13, 14, 20, 21, July 4, and 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The growing fields are at a different location, but you can call ahead and have an order ready to pick up. You may wish to visit their web site at www.oakesdaylilies.com or call at 1-800-532-9545.

(GARDEN WATCHDOG) Dave Whiting maintains a web site where you can find comments and ratings on more than 5,800 gardening vendors. You can go to www.davesgarden.com and click on the garden Watchdog section to read mail-order experiences of other gardeners, or to share your own. Here is a listing of the five most highly rated and the five lowest rated major mail-order nurseries, as compiled by Dave's site. The top five are the following: Bluestone Perennials, Forestfarm, Lazy S'S Farm Nursery, High Country Gardens, and Garden Crossings. Here are the bottom five: Michigan Bulb Company Wayside Gardens, Gardener's Choice, Direct Gardening, and Four Seasons Nursery. When ordering for the first time from a given company, it is perhaps best not to place a huge order. You can order a plant or two to see how a new nursery will perform.

(FRAGRANT FLOWERS) The sense of smell has the power to evoke memories. These are the two top fragrant annuals: stock (*Matthiola incana*) and heliotrope (*Heliotropium arborescens*). Two top fragrant perennials are Lily-of-the-valley (*Convallaria majalis*) and pinks (*Dianthus hybrids*).

A QUOTE OF THE MONTH—George Bergman is quoted as saying, "Tact is the art of making guests feel at home when that's where you wish they were."

MCMGA OFFICERS AND APPOINTED POSITIONS 2008

President	David Baker	(931) 645-3020	
VP Program	Linda Earp	(931) 645-9700	
VP Project	Katie Smith	(931) 647-5893	kfs37042@hotmail.com
Secretary	Margaret Pace	(931) 647-4328	pacem@apsu.com
Treasurer	Ann Langmack	(931) 553-2953	Lhar29@charter.net
Refreshments	Volunteers		
Historian	(position open)		
Newsletter	Diann Nance	(931) 648-8701	diann@diannsgreenhouse.com
Website	Charles Fitzpatrick	(931) 906-6408	cfitzpatrick@charter.net

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDERS ASSOCIATION
General Meeting Minutes – January 10, 2008**

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Following the 6:30 p.m. food and fellowship period, the January MCMGA meeting, held at the Extension Office, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President David Baker.

- The December 2007 MCMGA minutes and treasurer’s report were read and approved.
- The results of the audit committee’s mandatory review of the treasurer’s records were satisfactory.
- Current status of the MG 2008 projects was reviewed – help is needed. It was suggested that members contribute a minimum of 5 hours service to MG projects. The possibility of turning the extension youth garden into a community garden was discussed.
- MG members are encouraged to read the MG Newsletter online prior to the monthly meeting to enable approval of minutes and treasurer’s report. A limited number of copies will be printed for those without email connections.
- CEU hours will be available to MG members attending the MG Short Course to be held in March at the Madison St. Methodist Church. Barbara Plechaty will facilitate these sessions.
- Linda Earp presented 2008 MG program ideas. Program presenters will include Kenny Coleman of the Pond Society (Plants Around and in Water), David Neblett, (Vegetable Gardens), Chris Robbins (Irrigation) and Dr. Randy Westbrook of the U. S. Biological Team (Invasive Weeds). On June 7, Joanne Hackman will host Saturday yard visitation from 9-12. The MG Garden Tour is scheduled for June 21.

Following the drawing for door prizes, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00.

Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS’
ASSOCIATION**

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Executive Committee Meeting – Wednesday, February 06, 2008

Public Library, 2:30 – 3:20 pm

Present: President David Baker, Linda Earp, Katie Smith, Margaret Pace, Ann Langmack, Diann Nance, Delona Shockey

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- The MG treasurer’s report indicated an ending balance of \$5,821.66 as of February 5, 2008
- The Executive Board voted to sponsor a cake for the ‘Sweetheart Cake Bake’ (Katie Smith volunteered to bake the cake) - proceeds benefit the Smith-Trahern Mansion
- The position of MG Newsletter webmaster is still open
- Planting gourds in the Extension Garden to be sold in the MG plant sale has been suggested
- The gardens of Tina Ramsey, Leaf Chronicle ‘Garden Blogger’, will be included in the MG Garden Tour
- John Matthews will be in charge of the April MG plant sale
- Newest confirmed additions to the impressive list of planned 2008 MCMGA programs include:
April 12 – Eunice Martin, Wildflowers (9:00-12:00)
May 10 – Lionel Austell, Roses (9:00-12:00)
June 12 – Chris Robbins, Irrigation (7:00 MG General Meeting)
- David Baker will provide 25 black and white newsletter copies monthly (for those not utilizing the website)
- Logistics of providing MG workers for the April Garden Tour and Plant Sale, who would also want to attend other sites, will be addressed.

Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace

TREASURER’S REPORT

Balance as of January 2, 2008	\$5201.66
1/11/08 Deposit—dues	<u>+ 620.00</u>
Balance as of February 6, 2008	\$5821.66

Dates to Remember

Feb. 14	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	Robert Scarlett, Plant Ranch
Mar. 5	Board Meeting	2:30 p.m.	Public Library	
Mar. 13	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	Kenny Coleman, Kountry Koi
March	Short Course	TBA	TBA	
Apr. 2	Board Meeting	2:30 p.m.	Public Library	
Apr. 10	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	David Neblett, Veg.gardening
Apr. 12	Wildflower Tour	9 -12 a.m.	471 7 Springs Rd	Eunice Martin
Apr. 30	Board Meeting	2:30 p.m.	Public Library	
May 8	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	Dr. Randy Westbrook, Invasive Weed Expert
May 10	Tour rose garden	9-12 a.m.	104 Hawkins Rd	Lionel Austell
May 10	Hosta Sale			
May 24	Bus Trip \$20	6:00 a.m.		Don Shadow Nursery
Jun. 4	Board Meeting	2:30 p.m.	Public Library	
Jun. 7	Hydrangea Tour	9-12 a.m.	376 Salem Rd.	Joanne Hackman
Jun. 12	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	Chris Robbins, Irrigation
Jun. 21	Garden Tour	9 a.m.-3p.m.		Delona Shockey
Jun. 21	Plant Sale	9 a.m.-11a.m.	TBA	
Jul. 2	Board Meeting	2:30 p.m.	Public Library	
Jul. 10	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.		

Karla's Korner February 2008

Hello all and a Happy Valentines Day! I guess you could say I am taking the lazy-man's way out this month, but I thought you all would enjoy this article written by an Extension Horticulturist from Illinois.

Plants in Honor of Valentines Day

Sandra Mason

Unit Educator, Horticulture & Environment and Interim County Director
Champaign County Unit-University of Illinois Extension

As I was leafing through a garden book recently, I was amazed at the number of plants with love or heart in their names. In honor of Valentine's Day I have listed a few plant selections to add to any passionate gardener's plant list. Heartleaf is a common name since many plant leaves are heart shaped. The houseplant, heartleaf philodendron tolerates a lot of abuse such as low light and forgetting to water it while you are on vacation for a month. Another houseplant is Lovejoy, *Episcia*. A relative of African violets, Lovejoy has very attractive dark green or copper colored leaves with reddish flowers.

Outdoor plants include heartleaf *Bergenia*, *Bergenia cordifolia* that has beautiful shiny evergreen leaves for the partial shaded flower garden. *Bergenia* looks great in combination with Fringed bleeding heart, *Dicentra eximia*. Fringed bleeding heart grows to 18 inches and has blue green finely dissected leaves with long lasting pink heart shaped flowers. A larger two to three feet tall version is the Old fashioned bleeding heart, *Dicentra spectabilis*. Their rosy red heart shaped flowers are on delicate arching stems. It is also called "the living Valentine." Bleeding heart vine, *Clerodendrum thomsonae*, is a greenhouse vine with very showy flowers of white and crimson.

There seem to be a lot of bleeding heart plants. I don't think it has anything to do with their political persuasion, although I did see a bleeding heart liberal plant listed in a Bumpee catalog once. For the truly adventuresome Valentine, there is exotic love, *Mina lobata*, a vigorous annual vine. Its dark green fleur-de-lis shaped leaves are practically hidden by the scarlet to creamy yellow tubular flowers held on arching stems. Another attractive annual vine is Love-in-a-puff, *Cardiospermum halicacabum*. Its white flowers are followed by papery globe shaped seedpods that look like little green balloons. The pods contain black seeds with a heart shaped spot.

One of my favorites is Love-in-a-mist, *Nigella damascena*. Love-in-a-mist is an annual flower often grown for its delicate seedpods used in everlasting flower arrangements. The blue or pink flowers seem to float above the fine feathery foliage, hence its name. It reseeds like crazy so maybe it should be love-in-a-foggy-field.

In the "not so great a name" category is Love-lies-bleeding, *Amaranthus caudatus*. It has long red tassel flowers which droop to the ground and are very long lasting. Supposedly the flowers were worn by Swedish knights as emblems of incorruptibility during medieval times. A truly great Valentine name is Hearts-a-burstin, *Euonymus americanus*. It's a native burning bush relative with scarlet seeds enveloped by a papery coat. Purple love grass, *Eragrostis spectabilis*, is a Native American grass 12 to 18 inches high with airy reddish purple seed heads in late summer.

Herbs are not left out of the love list with the five feet tall lovage, an attractive celery substitute. Another herb, southernwood, is also known as lover's plant or lad's love. At one time it was thought to stimulate not only a young man's passion, but also the growth of beards so young men would rub the aromatic lacy leaves on their faces. A plant with questionable ornamental appeal is Love Leaves also known to most of us as burdock or "those sticky things that get on our dogs." Supposedly eating the raw stems of Love Leaves will stir up lust and was used as a love potion. It's hard to find a good recipe for a love potion anymore.

2008 Master Gardener Winter School- Lebanon, TN February 28-March 1

Registration options \$60 each (choose one)

Leadership Track: February 28-29

Education Track: February 29- March 1

Registration Instructions

Register at your county Extension Office prior to February 25. Late registrations will not be guaranteed meals or materials.

All interested Master Gardeners should contact their County Extension office to be registered on the SUPER system. Meals and materials will be provided for each track. Checks or cash (\$60) payable to *The University of Tennessee* will be received in the county office at the time of registration.

Directions

Wilson County Fair Grounds: From I-40 via EXIT 76A toward LEBENON / KNOXVILLE. Merge onto US-70 W / TN-26 W via EXIT 239B toward LEBANON (1.1 miles). End at **945 E Baddour Pkwy** Lebanon, TN 37087-3777, US.

Lodging

Lodging can be found in the Lebanon surrounding area.

Lebanon Hotels Link: <http://www.hotels-rates.com/Lebanon/TN/usa/#visited=true>

For Questions or More Information

Please contact:

Keith Miller, TMG Advocacy Board, Co-Chair

ksramiller@yahoo.com

Beth Babbit, State Master Gardener Coordinator

ebabbit@utk.edu

2008 Master Gardner Winter School- Lebanon, TN

Leadership Track:

Thursday, February 28:

9:00 - 10:30a.m. **Welcome. Annual reports and what they can do for you!**

10:30- 10:45 a.m. Break

10:45a.m. -12p.m. **Managing New Master Gardeners**

1. Selecting Newbies
2. Helping newbies figure it out
3. Keeping everyone interested

Lunch

1 - 2 p.m. **Programs that Work**

1. Basic Gardening
2. Habitat Outreach
3. Jr. Gardeners

2:00- 2:15 p.m. Break

2:15- 5:00p.m. **Community Outreach**

1. Community Gardens
2. Historical Sites
3. Botanical Gardens

5:15- 6:30 p.m. **A Sustainable Tennessee** Dinner on your own.

Friday, February 29

8:30-10:00 a.m Mock Meeting with Robert and His Rules

10:30-10:45 a.m. Break

10:45—12:00 p.m. Breakout session for officers

1. President/Vice President: Duties and By-laws
2. Secretary/Treasure: Recording

Lunch

1-2:30 p.m. Fundraising doesn't mean you have to abuse the shrubbery

2:30- 3:00 p.m. Break

3-5:00 p.m. Communication: Did you get the message?

5:30 p.m. extension Presentation

Don't forget the Nashville Lawn and Garden Show: hours Sat (until 8:00 p.m.) and Sunday

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. www.nashvillelawnandgardenshow.com

2008 Master Gardner Winter School- Lebanon, TN

Educator Track:

Friday, February 29: Teaching Master Gardeners How to Teach

9 - 10a.m. Presentations: Start to Finish - Denisa Cate

It is *all* in the presentation! Learn techniques and tips for preparing, developing, presenting, evaluating programs for any audience.

10- 11 a.m. Practice What You Preach!- Denisa Cate

Put your knowledge to work. Small groups practice the principles of delivering their message.

11a.m. -12p.m. - Morphing Learning Behavior - Dave Craig

Don't look now you just might see someone learn something new! Dave discusses how to achieve ultimate goal of teaching: change and gain in knowledge!

Lunch

1 - 2 p.m. - Creating the Teachable Moment - Dave Craig

Get your wheelbarrow ready! Start loading your tools for beginning the teaching process.

2 - 3 p.m. - Walking the Talk- Dave Craig & Beth Babbit

Witness a lesson plan's evolution! Follow an Extension specialist as she follows the step by step process of pulling a program together.

3 - 5p.m. Now Its Your Turn - Dave Craig, Denisa Cate & Beth Babbit

On your mark get set go! You have one hour to plan and organize a group talk, and 10 minutes to deliver! Don't worry we are all in this boat together.

5:15- 6:30 p.m. eXtension Presentation Dinner on your own.

Saturday, March 1: Train the Trainer Sessions

9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. Choose one of the following concurrent sessions.

1. Introduction to Horticulture- Beth Babbit, Natane Davis
2. Plant Propagation- Lori Osburn, Lucas Holman
3. Landscape Design Karla Kean

Lunch

1-3 p.m. TT Breakout Activities

Return classroom of previous session for breakout activities. This is the fun stuff!

3:00 p.m. Dismissed Don't forget the Nashville Lawn and Garden Show: hours Sat (until 8:00 p.m.) and Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. www.nashvillelawnandgardenshow.com

MASTER GARDENER PROJECTS FOR 2008

Community projects are the number one public advertisement for Master Gardeners. Our organization has accepted the projects named below to assist Clarksville and Montgomery County in beautifying our area. Please review the following projects for one that interests you. Hours spent on these projects count toward the ACE program. Thank you for your participation

<p>Project 1: The Extension Garden located behind the UT Agricultural Extension Office. Three separate plots are combined to create the Youth Garden. These plots include the Butterfly Garden, the Herb Garden, and the Handicap Garden. Co-Chair is needed.</p>
<p>Project 2: Smith-Trahern Mansion overlooks the Cumberland River in downtown Clarksville. This beautiful, historic site is used for public functions including weddings, meetings, and guided tours. Co-Chair is Katie Smith, 647-5893, kfs37042@hotmail.com</p>
<p>Project 3: Adopt-a-Plot (Wednesdays starting at 6:30 p.m.) for the Montgomery County Master Gardeners is located at the intersection of Madison Avenue and Dogwood Avenue. Our organization has been a long-time contributor to this Street Department Program. Co-Chair is Barbara Plechaty, 358-9340, dogwood931@charter.net</p>
<p>Project 4: Clarksville Police Department Headquarters is located on Commerce Street in downtown Clarksville. This is a well-visited public site that supports our local city government. Co-Chair is Allen Gilbert, 798-9763, allen.l.gilbert@us.army.mil.</p>
<p>Project 5: Most residents of our community utilize The Montgomery County Library. Donated indoor plants provide a lush background for this quiet haven. Co-Chair is Janice Ledbetter, 552-4590, jledbetter123@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Project 6: Our own Agricultural Extension Center has been landscaped to provide show for visiting speakers and organizations. Three areas that are maintained are the Shade garden, the Roadside Garden, and the Main Entrance Garden. Co-Chairs are Jim and Holly Conaster, 553-8725, jim_conaster@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Project 7: The Master Gardener Hotline was instituted to give community members a wealth of knowledge to draw upon for everyday gardening questions. This program is key to understanding and sharing of knowledge. Co-Chair is Karla Kean, 648-5725, kkean@utk.edu.</p>
<p>Project 8: To keep pace with advances in technology the MCMGA website was developed to keep members up to date and informed. Co-Chair is Charles Fitzpatrick, 906-6408, cfitzpatrick@charter.net</p>
<p>Project 9: As part of our monthly meetings the MCMGA Garden News was created to keep our membership informed. Contributions are welcome. Co-Chair is Diann Nance, 648-8701, diann@diannsgreenhouse.com</p>
<p>Project 10: The L & N Railroad Station is another of our city's historic sites. Located on 10th Street and Commerce, this landmark is used for weddings and picnics. Co-Chair is Jay Fangman, 645-3632, fangmanj@bellsouth.net</p>
<p>Project 11: Every spring APSU invites the master gardeners to lead the campus residents in the Paint-the-Campus-Red Day. Master gardeners use their skills to direct the students in proper garden design and placement under the direction of the university landscapers. Co-Chair is Philenese Slaughter, 358-4187, slaughterp@apsu.edu</p>
<p>Project 12: Habitat for Humanity builds houses and master gardeners help landscape them when called upon to do so. Co-Chair is Debby Johnson 368-0239, debtj@hotmail.com</p>

