



MCMGA GARDEN NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 1

www.uctextension.uct.edu/mastergardeners/montgomery

January 10, 2008

President's Message

I trust each of you had a "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy New Year." Remember January is National Mailorder Gardening Month. I have received several catalogs and am excited about the unique varieties that can be obtained by ordering plants by mail.

The new year ushers in opportunities for the Master Gardeners Association. We will have our tour of gardens in June. We are also thinking about including plants for sale at the same time. Be thinking about this and pot-up plants for the sale.

(CIRCLEHOE PROJECT) I still have the 10, 15, and 59 inch circlehoes available.

(Plant Catalogs) The new Burpee catalog contains several NEW Burpee exclusives. These include: (1) Razzle Dazzle Hybrid Tomato, (2) HoneyBunch Tomato, (3) Boxwood Basil, (4) Zavory Hot Pepper, (5) Fanciful Stardust Mix Hybrid Impatiens, (6) Chocolate Mint Coleus, (7) High Scent Sweet Pea, (8) Fantasy Perilla, (9) Highlight Hybrid Zinnia, and numerous others. W. Altee Burpee & Co. can be reached at 1-800-888-1447 or by website www.burpee.com. Contact them for a catalog if you are not on the mailing list already.

A QUOTE FOR THE MONTH: Dorothy Sarnoff is quoted as saying, "Make sure you have finished speaking before your audience has finished listening."

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	(position open)		

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS’
ASSOCIATION
General Meeting Minutes – December 13, 2007**

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

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

- MG members responsible for decorations and food set-up were thanked for their time and effort. Members were thanked for their food contributions to Loaves & Fishes.
- Members were encouraged to volunteer and sign as a monthly host of the MG meals.
- ‘Eight Tips for Pain Free Gardening’ was shared by Martha Williams
- The November 2007 MCMGA minutes and treasurer’s report were read and approved.
- Jim Conaster and David Neblett agreed to serve on the audit committee to expedite transfer of treasurer’s responsibilities.
- Karla Kean welcomed MG members and guests. The fifteen new MG graduates were recognized, presented MG certificates and invited to return as active members in January 2008.
- Recognition and awards were also presented in the following categories:
 - fourteen MCMGA members obtained lifetime status for providing 10 years of continuous active service to the program
 - seventeen members were recognized for having provided 5 years of continuous active service
 - three honorary MG members were recognized for their support to the MG program
 - forty-one MCMGA members were recognized for completing necessary hours for recertification

Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS’
ASSOCIATION
Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

Executive Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 2, 2008

Clarksville-Montgomery County Public Library, 2:30 – 3:25 pm

Present: President David Baker, Katie Smith, Barbara Plechaty, Ann Langmack, Delona Shockey, Diann Nance, Extension Agent Karla Kean

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- The new treasurer, Ann Langmack, and Pres. David Baker will travel to Farmers and Merchants Bank immediately following this meeting to obtain new signature cards. Ann will also ask the bank to send bank statements directly to her home address rather than the Extension office.
- MG Treasurer’s records are up to date through December 13, 2007 with an ending balance of \$5,374.63. Outstanding checks will be calculated accordingly.

- Newsletter: Diann Nance suggested distribution of the newsletter by email to reduce expenditures related to hard copy production. Another option is to go to simpler, black & white format. This question will be put before the membership at the January meeting.
- Garden Tour: Delona Shockey reported that she has confirmed 7 sites for the tour. In addition, a plant sale will be held at one of the sites (TBA).
- Calendar: May 24th, 2008-Don Shadow trip; will invite MG's from surrounding counties to join us and help pay for bus. Details upcoming.
- Projects: Katie Smith will make a plea for volunteers to work on projects. The next big event will be "Plant the Campus Red" in April. Co-chairs are needed for the website and the Extension Youth Garden---project ideas and leadership needed. It was suggested that MG's be encouraged to contribute at least 5 of their 25 hours to an approved, on-going MG project.
- Short course: To be held in March; 4 sessions-2 ½ hours/evening. Barbara Plechaty will work with Dottie Mann to corroborate use of Madison Street Methodist Church as the site for this training.
- Other: Karla Kean mentioned a need for volunteers to judge 4-H Public Speaking Contest on January 15th and was given suggestions on whom to contact. Also, there will be a Master Gardener Winter School held February 28th, 29th & March 1st, 2008 in Knoxville. Details TBA.

Master Gardener Program Calendar

Jan. 10	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	Program Wish List
Feb. 6	Board Meeting	2:30 p.m.	Public Library	
Feb. 14	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	Jamie Pendergrass
Mar. 5	Board Meeting	2:30 p.m.	Public Library	
Mar. 13	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	
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	K. Coleman, Ponds ?
Apr. 28	Plant Sale		Fairview, KY	
Apr. 30	Board Meeting	2:30 p.m.	Public Library	
May 8	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	
May 24	Bus Trip \$20	6:00 a.m.		Don Shadow Nursery
Jun. 4	Board Meeting	2:30 p.m.	Public Library	
Jun. 12	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	
Jun. 21	Garden Tour	9 a.m.-3p.m.		

*See "Karla's Korner" for additional upcoming events.

Karla's Korner January 2008

Hello! Just a short note this month! As we begin a new year, I feel a renewed energy and excitement for what is to come! I hope you all are excited about being involved in the Master Gardener group and will plan to make a significant impact on our community by means of sharing your gardening knowledge. Please read the newsletter closely for upcoming events such as the Master Gardener Winter School and other workshops you may wish to attend this spring.

There are several openings for volunteers with projects and activities within the association. We need someone with basic computer skills to take over as webmaster for the MCMGA website so that it stays up to date and serves as a resource for our members and people that may be perusing the internet looking for garden groups. Take a look at our site if you haven't been there in a while (<http://www.utextension.utk.edu/mastergardeners/montgomery>). The garden at the Extension office (Youth Garden) needs renewal! This is an excellent spot for a demonstration or community garden, but it requires time and commitment from innovative Master Gardeners who wish to take on a challenging project. Please contact Katie Smith, project chair, or myself if you are interested in co-chairing either of these projects!

Maybe we should learn more Lessons from Geese...

- As each goose flaps its wings, it creates uplift for the bird following. By flying in a 'V' formation, the whole flock adds 71% more to its flying range than if each bird flew alone.
Lesson: *Teammates who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier when they travel on shared power.*
- When the lead goose tires, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position.
Lesson: *It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing the leader's role.*
- In formation, the geese from behind honk to encourage those in front to keep up their speed.
Lesson: *Sometimes, team members need to hear a little honking.*
- Whenever a goose is sick or wounded, two geese drop out of formation to help and protect it. They stay with it until it heals or dies.
Lesson: *Stand by one another in times of trouble.*

Upcoming Events/Calendar:

January 17 – 18: Middle TN Grounds Management Short-course; Williamson County Ag Expo Ctr.-Franklin; See Karla for registration form

http://extension.tennessee.edu/county/williamson/landscape_shortcourse.pdf

February 21: Marketing and Trading Forest Carbon; Jackson, TN-West TN Experiment Station; 8:30 am – 4:30 pm; Karla going-will carpool!
 February 28th, 29th & March 1st: Master Gardener Winter School-Lebanon, TN see insert in newsletter or contact Karla.
 February 28 – March 1st: Nashville Lawn & Garden Show
 March 15 – 18: ISA Southern Chapter Annual Meeting and Tradeshow-
<http://www.isasouthern.org/>

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. Take a moment to review the following projects for one that interests you. Hours spent on these projects count toward the ACE program. Thank you for your participation

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.

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

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

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.

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

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.

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 needed.

Project 8: 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

Project 9: To keep pace with advances in technology the **MCMGA website** was developed to keep members up to date and informed. Co-Chair is Jackie Peak, 906-1691.

Project 10: Every spring (April 21 weekend) 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

Project 11: Habitat for Humanity builds houses and master gardeners help landscape them when called upon to do so. Co-Chair is Debby Johnson 368-0239.

Project 12: 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 Shirley Calvert, 906-1691, skcalvert@bellsouth.net

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance as of December 13, 2007	\$5374.63
12/13/07 Check to Linda Earp	- 49.35
12/13/07 Check to Delona Shockey	- 123.62
Balance as of January 2, 2008	\$5101.66

The Obsessed Gardener (from *The Weeder's Reader*)

How can you tell if you're a normal, healthy gardener or have crossed the line into dangerous territory?

Normal Gardener

You can crush a Japanese beetle in your bare hands.

You have dirt under your fingernails.

Obsessed Gardener

You love the sound it makes when you do.

What fingernails?