



MCMGA GARDEN NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 3

www.utextension.utk.edu/mastergardeners/montgomery

March 13, 2008

President's Message

The 2008 Daylily Festival at Oakes Daylilies is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, June 27 and 28. Refer to the February newsletter for additional information.

(LASAGNA GARDENING) Lasagna Gardening by Patricia Lanza will be presented on April 19, 2008, in the Ed Jones Auditorium at \$10.00 which includes lunch. Registration is 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. with the presentation from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. Questions and answers will be between 11:00 and 11:30 a.m. and book signing from 11:30 to noon. Lunch at noon. This event is hosted by the Davidson County Master Gardeners. Patricia Lanza authored the book Lasagna Gardening. It presents a no-digging, no-till, no-weeding method of cultivation.

(Huntsville Botanical Garden) April is packed with special events, classes, workshops and the fabulous Annual Plant Sale April 18-20. They have thousands of bulbs, colorful annuals, a woodland full of wildflowers, magnificent dogwoods, and amazing azaleas. Call 256-830-4447 or visit www.hsvbg.org for more information.

(Savannah, Georgia Tour of Hidden Gardens) April 18 and 19, 2008, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. hosted by the Garden Club of Savannah. Cost is \$30.00. Call 912-961-4805 or visit www.gcfofsavnnogstour.org for more information.

(Yew Dell Gardens) Their 2008 Plant Sale and Garden Market is on Saturday, April 26, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, April 27 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Located in Crestwood, Kentucky. Call 502-241-4788 or visit www.yewdellgardens.org for more information.

(Mint) Mint is tasty in salads, tea, and even brownies—and it's easy to grow if you know how to contain it. It can be placed in containers to prevent it from being a garden bully. Here are seven that you might like to try: (1) Apple Mint, (2) Pineapple Mint, (3) Orange Mint, (4) Peppermint, (5) Chocolate Mint, (6) Spearmint, and (7) Curly Mint. Mints are available at Diann's Greenhouse, 648-8701.

A QUOTE FOR THE MONTH—Robin Williams is quoted as saying, "Spring is Nature's way of saying, 'Let's Party!'"

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance as of February 6, 2008		\$5821.66
1/11/08	Deposit—dues	+ <u>340.00</u>
Debits		
	1701—Mont. Co. Ext. postage	- 22.62
	1702—Donation, Smith Trahern Mansion	- 25.00
	1703—Mont. Co. Ext. postage	- 20.80
	1704—Ann Langmark, postage, envelopes	- <u>32.57</u>
Balance as of March 5, 2008		\$6060.67

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 – February 14, 2008

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

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

- Clipboards were circulated with the following requests:
 - MCMGA member information to be updated and checked for needed corrections
 - Volunteers to complete the 2008 schedule of monthly meeting hosts
 - Election poll workers for the August and November elections (\$75 pay for the election and \$10 for the training)
- The January 2008 MCMGA minutes and treasurer's report were read and approved, with corrections to the date of June MG Garden Tour and Plant Sale.
- Charles Fitzpatrick will serve as the MCMGA webmaster – (Acrobat Reader program, a free download, is necessary to read the PDF format of the MG Newsletter).
- MG members are urged to volunteer at least 5 hours to MG community projects.
- MG members were reminded to adhere to the 9:00 – 12:00 timeframe of the scheduled Saturday MG garden tours.
- The MG Short Course, focusing on basics of gardening, will be held in March, 6:30-8:30 on Tuesdays (March 4 – 25) at the Madison St. Methodist Church. Cost for the 4 sessions is \$40.
- Members were reminded of the upcoming MG Winter School to be held in Lebanon, Feb 28-March 1. Cost is \$60. Karla Keane and Tina Ramsey will teach a landscaping design workshop on Saturday, March 1.
- MG members are encouraged to read the MG Newsletter online prior to the monthly meeting to enable approval of minutes and treasurer's report. Fewer copies will be printed each month as members become acclimated to the change of format.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM: Robert Scarlett from the 'Plant Ranch' in Dickson presented an informative program focusing on shrubs, trees, water plants and bedding plants thriving well in the local area. To break down the dense concentration of area soil, use of ample soil conditioner such as peat moss, sand, compost, pine bark and liquid kelp was stressed. Be cognizant of the winter landscape when placing deciduous and evergreen plantings. A variety of low maintenance plants thriving in this locale were recommended - included were dwarf Japanese Red Cedar, Dazzle series of dwarf Crepe Myrtle, Bordeaux Holly and Cleopatra and Mark Anthony lirope.

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

Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS'
ASSOCIATION
Executive Board Meeting Minutes, March 5, 2008**

Executive Committee Meeting – Wednesday, March 05, 2008

Public Library, 2:30 – 3:30 pm

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

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- The MG treasurer's report indicated an ending balance of \$6060.67 as of March 5, 2008
- Sign-up rosters for MG members to volunteer for 2008 MCMGA projects will be available at the March meeting. APSU's 'Plant the Campus Red' project is scheduled on April 19.
- Sign-up deadline for the April 24th Don Shadows trip is April 10th for MG members. After that time, guests will be allowed to purchase vacant seats. MG member cost is \$20, which includes a box lunch.
- A total of 41 participants enrolled in the MG Short Course scheduled for March. 4, 11, 18 and 25. Purchase of \$25 gift certificates for the six MG presenters was approved.
- Montgomery County Arbor Day activities include -
 - March 7, Tennessee Arbor Day, tree seedlings given away at the State Forestry Office
 - March 8, Custom House Museum Family Day, tree-related activities and free tree seedlings distributed
 - March 15, Official Arbor Day Ceremony & Tree Planting at Barkers Mill Elementary. MG volunteers are welcomed.
- Kenny Coleman's 'Kountry Koi' presentation has been rescheduled for the July MG meeting.
- The MG plant sale will be held at Shan Smith's residence during the June 21 MG Garden Tour - John Matthews will be in charge of the plant sale.
- MG membership will be asked to make a decision on the use of the Extension Garden located behind the UT Agricultural Extension Office and to vote on participation in the 'Red River in Bloom' community project scheduled for April 25 and 26.
- The Master Gardener Winter School in Lebanon, TN, February 28-March 1, was very successful with approximately 50 MG's from across the state participating. Local MG's Vince Hernandez and Colleen Johnson attended the Educator Tract. Karla Kean and Tina Ramsey taught the Landscape Design session in which 20 people participated. This was a great event!

Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace

Dates to Remember

Mar. 13	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	David Neblett, Veg.gardening
March 4-25	Short Course	6-9 p.m.	Madison St. United Methodist	Barbara Plecaty, contact
Apr. 2	Board Meeting	2:30 p.m.	Public Library	
Apr. 10	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	
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, box lunch included	Bus leaves at 6:00 a.m.	Meet at Sango K-Mart	Don Shadow Nursery (Sign up by April 10.)
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.-11 a.m.	Shaun Smith	John Matthews, contact
Jul. 2	Board Meeting	2:30 p.m.	Public Library	
Jul. 10	Monthly Meeting	6;30 p.m.	Extension Office	Kenny Coleman, Kountry Koi

Karla's Korner February 2008

March brings with it the beginning of spring, but also the tradition of Arbor Day. As a [Tree City USA](#), Clarksville holds an official Arbor Day Celebration as well as other educational events throughout the month of March (see upcoming events listing). There are many benefits of being a Tree City include creating a framework for action, education, a positive public image, and citizen pride.

The History of Arbor Day

The idea for Arbor Day originally came from Nebraska. A visit to Nebraska today wouldn't disclose that the state was once a treeless plain. Yet it was the lack of trees there that led to the founding of Arbor Day in the 1800s. Among pioneers moving into the Nebraska Territory in 1854 was J. Sterling Morton from Detroit. He and his wife were lovers of nature, and the home they established in Nebraska was quickly planted with trees, shrubs and flowers.

Morton was a journalist and soon became editor of Nebraska's first newspaper. Given that forum, he spread agricultural information and his enthusiasm for trees to an equally enthusiastic audience. His fellow pioneers missed their trees. But, more importantly, trees were needed as windbreaks to keep soil in place, for fuel and building materials, and for shade from the hot sun.

Morton not only advocated tree planting by individuals in his articles and editorials, but he also encouraged civic organizations and groups to join in. His prominence in the area increased, and he became secretary of the Nebraska Territory, which provided another opportunity to stress the value of trees.

Arbor Day's Beginnings

On January 4, 1872, Morton first proposed a tree-planting holiday to be called "Arbor Day" at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture. The date was set for April 10, 1872. Prizes were offered to counties and individuals for planting properly the largest number of trees on that day. It was estimated that more than one million trees were planted in Nebraska on the first Arbor Day.

[Arbor Day was officially proclaimed](#) by the young state's Gov. Robert W. Furnas on March 12, 1874, and the day itself was observed April 10, 1874. In 1885, Arbor Day was named a legal holiday in Nebraska and April 22, Morton's birthday, was selected as the date for its permanent observance.

According to accounts from the *Nebraska City News*, April 1885, the City celebrated Arbor Day with a grand parade and a speech by J. Sterling Morton. Students of different grades met at their respective school rooms in the morning for the purpose of planting at least one tree. Each tree that was planted was labeled with the grade, the time planted, and was to be specially cared for by that grade.

When the plantings were completed, 1000 students formed a line to begin the parade from the various schools to Nebraska City's opera house. In the parade, each class carried colorful banners made of satin with silk lining and trimmed with gold fringe. The letters on the banners were painted in oil colors. By the time the parade reached the opera house the throng numbered well over the 1000 as townspeople joined the march. Every available foot of space in the opera house was occupied, the students having the front seats and gallery while the older persons stood. At 11:00, the throng of celebrants was addressed by the founder of Arbor Day, J. Sterling Morton.

Mr. Morton was listened to with much attention, and loudly applauded at the close of his address. At the conclusion of the ceremonies, the students sang "America," and the large audience was dismissed. This ended the first celebration of Arbor Day as a legal holiday, and, as reported by the newspaper, "... to say that it was a complete success but faintly expresses it. A celebration of this kind results in good to all, and is worthy of imitation by every school in the state." During the 1870s, other states passed legislation to observe Arbor Day, and the tradition began in schools nationwide in 1882.

Today the most common date for the state observances is the last Friday in April, and several U.S. presidents have proclaimed a national Arbor Day on that date. But a number of state Arbor Days are at other times to coincide with the best tree planting weather, from January and February in the south to May in the far north.

Arbor Day has now spread beyond the United States and is observed in many countries of the world.

Upcoming Events:

March 7th: Tennessee Arbor Day
Tree seedlings will be given away at the State Forestry Office-1030
Cumberland Heights Road.

Arbor Days:

Clarksville Tree Board celebrates Arbor Day's throughout the month of March!
Contact Dottie Mann (647-8339) Tree Board Chair to volunteer!

March 6: Help bag tree seedlings at the Customs House Museum
3 – 5 pm

March 8: Family Day at the Customs House Museum;
10:30 am – 12:30 pm.
Tree related activities for kids and adults!

March 15: Official Arbor Day Ceremony & Tree Planting
Barkers Mill Elementary (off Tiny Town Road)
1230 Little Bobcat Lane, Clarksville, TN 37042
Time: 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Bring: shovels, rakes, gloves, wheel-barrows, etc. for tree planting &
mulching activities.

April 21 – 25: Red River in Bloom: Neighborhood Tree Planting
Details TBA-contact Karla

Engaging Communities in Urban Tree Risk Assessment Workshop Series
Four workshops will be offered across TN; Detailed information and registration
information coming soon!

FYI: Site 1: April 18: Nashville-TSU
Site 2: May 13: Cookeville-TTU
Site 3: June 18: Jackson-Research Station
Site 4: September 11-Knoxville (in conjunction with TUFC annual
conference)

More Obsessed Gardener

Normal Gardener

You value all living things ,
great and small

You've had a soil test.

You know the pH of your soil.

You invest in fine gardening tools.

Obsessed Gardener

You cheered when Bambi's
mother died

You studied for it.

All your friends know the pH of
your soil.

You keep spare tools in your car
for gardening emergencies.

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>