



MCMGA Garden News

Volume 13, Issue 11

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November 8, 2007



President's Message

"PREP YOU YARD"

Now is the time to prepare for the next growing season. 1-Aerate the lawn, 2-Feed the grass, 3-Mow closer than usual so the leaves will blow across the lawn, 4-Collect & Compost leaves, 5-Plant new shrubs, 6-Trim dead tree limbs, 7-Cut back perennials, 8-Mulch young plants, and 9-Dry out drip systems.

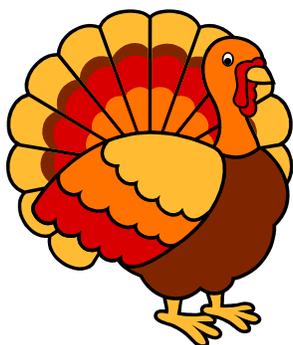
CITYLINE HYDRANGES: If you like big flowers but don't have a big space, try the new Cityline series of hydrangeas (*Hydrangea macrophylla*). Cityline Paris, Cityline Berlin and Cityline Venice all grow 1 to 3 feet tall and 3 to 4 feet wide. The flowers are held upright on sturdy stems, and the plants are very mildew resistant. All three varieties grow in full sun to part shade and are cold-hardy in USDA Zones 5 to 9 and heat-tolerant in AHS zones 9 to 1. These hydrangeas put on a big show for summer to frost. Source: Wayside Gardens at 800-213-0379 or www.waysidegardens.com.

TEN ANNUALS YOU SHOULD MEET: 1-Peek-a-boo plant, *Acmella oleracea* - Thompson & Morgan, www.thompsonmorgan.com or 800-274-7333. 2-Laurentia, *Isotoma axillaris* - Annie's Annuals, www.anniesannuals.com or 888-266-4370. 3-Opium poppy, *Papaver somniferum paeoniflorum* - Park Seed, www.parkseed.com 800-213-0076. 4-Four o'clock, *Mirabilis jalapa* - The fragrant Path, www.fragrantpathseeds.com. 5- California bluebell, *Phacelia campanularia* - Stokes Seeds, Inc., www.stokeseeds.com or 800-396-9238. 6-Read Malabar spinach, *Basella rubra* - Johnny's Selected Seeds, www.johnnyseeds.com or 877-564-6697. 7-Farewell-to-spring, *Clarkia hybrid*, Thompson & Morgan. 8-Painted tongue, *Salpiglossis sinuate* - Johnny's Selected Seeds, www.johnnyseeds.com or 877-564-6697 9-California poppy *Eschscholzia californica* - Seeds of Change, www.seedsofchange.com or 888-7627333 and 10-Monkey flower, *Mimulus hybrid* - Park seed.

CIRCLEHOE PROJECT: You can still purchase one for yourself or for a Christmas gift. I have the 15 and 10 inch on hand. If 4 to 6 persons want a 59" circlehoe, I can place an order. Let me know.

A QUOTE FOR THE MONTH - "I take nothing for granted. I now have only good days or great days". Author-Unknown

**David Baker
MCMGA
President**



HAPPY THANKSGIVING



MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDERS ASSOCIATION

General Meeting Minutes - October 11, 2007

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Following the 6:30 p.m. food and fellowship period, the October MCMGA meeting, held at the Extension Office, was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President David Baker.

- The September 2007 MCMGA minutes and treasurer's report were read and approved.
- The September 22 MG Plant Sale was a great success- plant donations were quickly sold.
- The Don Shadow bus trip was very enjoyable and has been scheduled again for May 24, 2008.
- Bylaws were amended by membership vote to allow changes concerning the time frame for election of MG officers. An appointed three member nominating committee will present a slate of MG officers for vote in November. Officers elected will take office in January. Also, the proposed change allowing UT Master Gardeners, once certified, to remain inactive but still attend meetings and events if paying dues, was approved by vote.
- Karen Pacheco, Refuge Manager for the Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge in Dover, TN, invited MG members to sign up as a refuge volunteer and participate in a pilot program encouraging backyard bird watching and feeding.
- Thanks to Shirley Calvert and Yvonne Wheeler-Hiett for their dedicated leadership to MCMGA service projects. A new editor will be needed for the 2008 MCMGA newsletter. Jim and Holly Conatser will serve as new co-chairmen for the Agricultural Extension Center Gardens project.
- Holiday decorations made from nature's materials will be created during the November MG meeting. Members are asked to contribute any appropriate dried items for this project.
- On Saturday, October 20, there will be a clean-up of garden beds at the Clarksville Police Department Headquarters.
- Jerry Weeks presented a beautiful power-point presentation on shade gardening information. Some valuable points highlighted included - keeping purchased plant information on file, having soil tested in various yard areas, being cognizant of plant zones when purchasing plants and of the sunlight and drainage impact on plant survival when placing in the yard. He contributed various plants referenced in his presentation, as door prizes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace

Executive Board Meeting Minutes Wed., October 31, 2007 Extension Office, 3:30 – 4:10 pm

Present: President David Baker, Barbara Plechaty, Margaret Pace, Shirley Calvert, Delona Shockley, Extension Agent Karla Keane

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Two needed amendments to the MCMGA Bylaws were discussed and will be presented for membership consideration.
- The MG nominating committee presented a slate of officers to be considered for election at the MG November meeting. Nominations will also be taken from the floor.
- Eight possible garden sites were identified for the June 21, 2008 MCMGA Garden tour. Hours of the tour will be from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. A motion was passed to include a plant sale at one of these sites.
- Graduating members of the 2007 MCMGA class will be honored at the December MG Holiday Dinner meeting. All MG members will be asked to donate a canned item to aid with community projects.
- Names of MCMGA members completing required hours for TN MG certification will be listed in the December newsletter.
- Members are asked to contribute nature items to be used in creating holiday decorations at the November MG meeting.

Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace

Executive Board Meeting Minutes – Wednesday October 3, 2007 Public Library, 2:30 – 3:30pm

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Notes from the Executive Board meeting:

- The success of the September 22, 2007 plant sale was discussed.
- 2008 Don Shadow Trip is scheduled for May 24, 2008.
- Barbara reported on bulb sales in the amount of \$427.00
- Linda shared the program schedule for the remainder of the year.
- Karla shared that volunteer hours are due by the end of the month. Shared that name badges are being ordered for 2004 & 2005 graduates. Others can purchase these for \$7.00. She needs volunteers for the hotline.
- Delona shared that it was time to identify gardens for the 2008 Garden Tours.
- Tracey Jackson shared the idea of a possible regional participation with surrounding counties.

Respectively submitted by David Baker for Margaret Pace

A BIG THANK YOU to :

Ginny Bryant – Sandy Janus

the HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE members for tonight

Committee members for November 8th, 2007 are:

Linda Earp – Delona Shockey – Margaret Pace

Hello all! The sizzling temperatures of summer have finally begun to wane this month--and thank goodness! There is much to do before the chilling winds of winter arrive and area gardens slip into their annual slumber. As garden centers and nurseries begin to clear out their plant shelves for the season many will soon be offering bargains. Any reduced price plants will more than likely be pot-bound, so be sure to thoroughly loosen the root balls before planting. Neglected plants may also carry insects or diseases, so check them out and keep them isolated for a few days before incorporating them into your landscape.

While shopping for plants, examine the roots if possible. Light-colored roots are the sign of a healthy plant, while a dark brown color is indicative of a damaged root system, and getting the plant to survive could be a challenge. Many pansies come out of the greenhouses with phythothora root rot and therefore never establish well in the landscape. Fat, striped caterpillars on dill, parsley and fennel possibly will be seen now. But don't be too quick to destroy them, as they are young Eastern black swallowtails preparing for the winter ahead.

Many flowering shrubs are setting blooms now for next year, so, for the best flower show, be sure they are kept watered through any dry times this fall. As a general rule, plants that flower before July 1 should be pruned immediately after flowering. When flowers fade and are no longer showy, it is time to remove the spent flowers (if fruit is not desirable) and shape the new growth that will mature and develop flower bud set for the following spring. These plants develop flower buds on the previous season's wood. Pruning in July will promote shoot growth and allow time for the flower buds to develop for next year's flowering. If pruning is delayed, any pruning will remove potential flowers for the next season. Examples of these plants include azaleas, forsythias, plums, cherries, weigela, mock orange and oak leaf hydrangea.

If you haven't separated your lily-of-the-valley, iris, daylilies or other perennials in the last three years, now is a good time to do it. Chrysanthemums are into their fall glory soon. For maximum bloom, lightly fertilize the plants every two weeks with a water-soluble fertilizer. For a better display from hellebores this winter and next spring, apply a time-release fertilizer around them now.

Tropical houseplants should be moved inside for the fall and winter before nighttime temperatures dip into the 50s. Check the plants carefully for any insect pests or their eggs that might be hiding in the foliage. Also, repot any plants that have become root-bound.

Set plant markers beside herbaceous perennials before they die back in the coming cold. That way you won't accidentally dig them up during the "spring fever" planting season next year.

The beginning of the month is not too late to plant cool-season vegetables such as kale, kohlrabi, leaf lettuce, onions, mustard and radishes. If these plants are going in where summer crops were, turn over the dirt and mix in generous amounts of compost to get the soil back in shape to support maximum growth from the new plants. Even if they don't produce a crop, they can be tilled under as a green manure crop to help build soil structure.

Thank you, to everyone who turned in their hours for 2007. Everyone will be acknowledged during the December banquet and recognition activity. It is still very important to remember that this is a volunteer program and your hours spent volunteering is valued not only by the University of Tennessee but, by the community as a whole. So, while we did incorporate wording into the by-laws that states that you can be "in-active" or "non-certified" and retain membership in the association this does not mean that the volunteer hours are not important! They are!

Tonight you will be asked to vote for members of the Executive Board for 2008. You must be an active (certified) Master Gardener to vote. If you or someone you know is interested in serving on the board or other projects, please speak up! Many times, when volunteers are asked for, everyone sits there and (almost) no-one says a word! Don't be afraid to be an active part of the group...this is YOUR association and if you are not happy with the way things are done, get in there and volunteer for a leadership position!

Happy Fall & Happy Turkey Day!
Karla

2007 MC MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM CALENDAR 2007			
November		November	November
Monthly MCMGA Meeting	8 th	6:30 pm	MC Ext. Off.-Natural Christmas Decorations – Linda Earp
Veterans Day	11 th		
Thanksgiving	22 nd		
December		December	December
MCMGA Executive Committee Meeting	5 th	2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Public Library
Monthly MCMGA Meeting	13 th	6:30 pm	MC Ext. Off -.Christmas Gala – Party
Christmas (Tuesday)	25th		

MASTER GARDENERS PROJECTS FOR 2007

Chair: Barbara Plechaty, , dogwood931@charter.net

As a Master Gardener, community projects are the number one public advertisement for our organization. Our organization has accepted the below named projects in and around the City of Clarksville to assist our community and beautifying our city. Take a moment to review the following projects for one that my interest you and contribute to the necessary community hours in the ACE program. Thank you for your participation.

Project # 1: The *Extension Garden (Sat. 9- till)* 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 for this project is Jay Fangman (931) 645-3632.

Project # 2: *Smith-Trahern Mansion* overlooks the Cumberland River in Downtown Clarksville. This beautiful, historic site is used for public functions to include weddings, meetings, and guided tours. Co-Chair for this project is Katie Smith 647-5893.

Project # 3: *Adopt-A-Plot (Wednesday starting at 6:30 pm)* 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 for this project is Shirley Provence, 645-9601, sprovence@mindspring.com and Barbara Plechaty, (931) 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-Chairs are Janice Ledbetter or Fran Irvine, 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-Chair for this project is Jim & Holly Conatser 553-8725 jim_conatser@yahoo.com

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 for this project is Talitha Deluco 553-0638

Project # 8: As part of our monthly meetings, the *Master Gardener Website and Newsletter* were created to inform our membership of upcoming events and gardening knowledge. All members are encouraged to publish informative creations to this publication. Co-Chairs are Shirley Calvert and Jackie Peak, 906-1691, skcalvert@bellsouth.net

Project # 9: Every Spring (April 21 weekend), APSU invites the master gardeners to lead the campus residents in the *Plant-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 Philenese Slaughter, 358-4187, slaughterp@apsu.edu

Project # 10: *Habitat for Humanity (426 Glen Street Clarksville, TN)* – MG to design and plan gardens & yard. Co-Chair: Debbie Johnson (931) 368-0239

Project # 11: The *L&N Railroad Station (1st & 3rd Wednesday each month from 5pm-6pm)* is another of our city’s historic sites. Located on 10th Street and Commerce, this landmark is used for weddings and picnics. Co-Chair for this project is Shirley Calvert, 906-1691. skcalvert@bellsouth.net