



MCMGA GARDEN NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 9

www.utextension.utk.edu/mastergardeners/montgomery

September 11, 2008

President's Message

(Door Prizes) We can still use additional door prize items - if you can bring one.

(Nominating Committee) Sharon Baggett, Ginny Bryant and Beverly Guinn will serve as our nominating committee. We want to have a slate of 2009 officers presented during the October meeting for election during the November meeting. Think about accepting an office in our organization. Nominations can be offered from the floor during the November meeting also. Officers must be Tennessee Certified Master Gardeners. Officers can not serve more than two consecutive terms. The 2008 officers were as follows.

David Baker - President - Has served two terms.

Linda Earp - First Vice-President - (Arranges Programs) -Has served two terms.

Katie Smith - Second Vice-President - (Oversees Projects) - Has served one term.

Margaret Pace - Secretary - Has served two terms.

Ann Langmack - Treasurer - Has served one term.

(Drought-Tolerant Perennials) During August we had several days without rain. That meant spending time and money dragging around the hose at my house. There are several good drought-tolerant perennials we can include in the landscape. Here are ten plants you may want to consider: (1) Jerusalem sage, *Phlomis* spp., Zone 7 to 9 (2) Rock rose, *Cistus* spp, Zone 8 to 10 (3) Autumn sage, *Salvia greggii*, Zone 7 to 9 - These three may need to be treated as annuals or growth in containers that can be moved to the garage or greenhouse (4) Plumbago, *Ceratostigma plumbaginoides* (5) Yucca, *Yucca filamentosa* 'Bright Edge' (6) Alpine sea holly, *Eryngium alpinum* (7) Spike speedwell, *Veronica spicata* (8) Cushion spurge, *Euphorbia polchroma* (9) Barrenwort, *Epimedium* spp. and (10) Pine-leaf penstemon, *Penstemon pinifolius*.

(Rejuvenate a Tired Bed) At times in the summer you may need to spruce up a sparse-looking bed. (1) Consider moving plants from other areas. (2) Look for late-season plant sales at garden centers and pick up a few bargains. (3) Share plants with fellow gardeners. (4) Put in 2 to 3 inches of mulch and give the plants a shot of fertilizer. (5) Place a few colorful container plantings among the plants to quickly fill in thin areas. and (6) Include some hardscaping or a piece of garden art.

A QUOTE FOR THE MONTH - Cullen Hightower is quoted as saying, "Wisdom is what's left after we've run out of personal opinions"

MCMGA OFFICERS AND APPOINTED POSITIONS 2008

President	David Baker	(931) 645-3020	
Past President	Delona Shockey	(931) 326-5385	
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.edu
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
Exten. Liaison	Karla Kean	(931) 648-5725	kkean@utk.edu

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning balance (checkbook) 8-6-08	\$ 9,203.56
Debits - #1932 Lunches/Shadow trip	\$ 475.00
1933 Linda Earp - door prizes	<u>200.00</u>
Total	(675.00)
Deposits July 11, 2008	\$ 98.00
Ending balance (checkbook) 9/3/08	\$ 8,626.56

MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION General Meeting Minutes – August 14, 2008

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

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

- The July 2008 MCMGA minutes and treasurer's report were read and approved.

- MCMGA volunteers are still needed to serve as horticultural judges on August 19 at the Cheatham County Fair.
- An order for MG Kneeling Pads, discounted to \$5, will be submitted.
- Canned goods donations will be distributed following the December meeting, and may be brought to any MG meeting. Small cans will be delivered to the Safe House and large cans will be delivered to Loaves & Fishes.
- MCMGA volunteers are needed to facilitate the October 11 MG Plant Sale to be held at the Veteran's Plaza.
- MG volunteers are encouraged to continue support of the twelve MCMGA projects. Volunteer hours for MG recertification are to be submitted by October 1, 2008.
- Montgomery County Water Garden Society tour is scheduled for August 23, 2008 from 9:00am to 4:00pm. A cook-out at Rotary Park with door prizes will conclude the tour.
- David Baker demonstrated a step-by-step procedure for propagating hydrangeas from stem cuttings. An inverted, vented translucent plastic tub is placed over a smaller tub of cuttings to create a mini greenhouse effect.
- **AUGUST PROGRAM:** Extension Agent Karla Kean explained and demonstrated the process of entering MG 2007-2008 certification hours on-line. Submission of volunteer hours is necessary for recertification and shows MCMGA impact on the community. Twenty-five A.C.E. (*Administration/Agricultural Extension, Community Service, Education*) hours and eight C.E.U. (*Continuing Education Unit*) credits are required for certification. These hours may be submitted continuously as they are completed. To aid in the form completion, the total attendance (*contacts*) for each monthly MG meeting was announced. A Master Gardener Questions & Answers handout and the 2008 MCMGA Class schedule were distributed.
- Following door prize drawings, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.
Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace

MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Executive Committee Meeting – Wednesday, September 3, 2008

Public Library, 2:30 – 3:40 pm

Present: President David Baker, Linda Earp, Katie Smith, Margaret Pace, Delona Shockey, Extension Agent Karla Kean

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- The MCMGA treasurer's report indicated an ending balance of \$8,646.56 as of September 3, 2008. The beginning balance on 08-06-08 was \$9203.56 with debits of \$675.00 and deposits of \$118.00.

- The twelve 2008 MCMGA projects were reviewed with discussion of the Extension Office vegetable garden at Cumberland Heights and the L & N Railroad Station site. These projects will be considered for changes in the future.
- Dr. John Matthews will present an overview of fruit tree management and fall preparation requirements at the September MCMGA meeting. At the October MCMGA meeting, Jim Pugh will demonstrate hypertufa, the art of creating garden planters from personalized forms and specialized mixes.
- The October 11th MCMGA Plant Sale, scheduled from 9:00 - 11:00am at the Veterans Plaza, will be facilitated by Herman Albright, Sue Albright and Margaret Pace. Start preparing and potting surplus plants now.
- Changes to the current MCMGA Rules and Bylaws were approved to present to the MCMGA membership for their action.
- The time schedule was discussed for the nominating committee to assemble a slate of MCMGA officers to present to the membership in October and for election in November.
- Twenty-eight registrations have been received for the 2008 Fall Master Gardeners class. Current MCMGA members may attend these classes, scheduled each Tuesday from 6:00-9:00pm through November 18, to receive CEU credits for MG certification. Many topics will have new speakers.

Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace

Dates to Remember

Sept. 2 – Nov. 18	Master Gardener Course	Tuesdays 6-9 P.M.	Extension Office	Karla Kean, Contact
Sept. 11	Monthly Meeting	6:30 P.M.	Extension Office	TBA
Oct. 9	Monthly Meeting	6:30 P.M.	Extension Office	TBA
Oct. 11	Plant Sale	9-11 A.M.	Veterans' Plaza	TBA
Nov. 13	Monthly Meeting	6:30 P.M.	Extension Office	Yvonne Hiatt, Holiday decor
Dec. 11	Monthly Meeting	6:30 P.M.	Extension Office	Christmas/Graduation dinner
May 16, 2009	Don Shadow trip	TBA		

Tennessee State University, The University of Tennessee, USDA, and County Governments Cooperating.

The Agricultural Extension Service offers its programs to all persons regardless to race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Hello all!

Doesn't it seem like this summer has flown by! Just yesterday I was planting my spring garden and planning for vacation time with the family! In the blink of an eye school is back in session, Labor Day has passed and taken with it the hazy, lazy days of summer. My garden did well and now it too looks tired and just about ready to bed down for the winter! This is not a time to slow down though! We have a new bunch of Master Gardener interns to welcome and train and new project ideas abound in the community. In the months to come you will hear more about projects such as "The Gathering", Brandon Hills Heritage Gardens and the F.U.E.L Garden project. There is even talk of a downtown market that we can help develop and provide education to the public. With that, I am sure we all have plenty to do this year!

Important Dates to Remember:

Master Gardener 2007 Interns:

Hours & CEU's (40 ACE hours plus 8 CEU's) are due **September 30th, 2008**. If you have these completed now, you may turn them in at anytime. After 9-30-08, I will order your official name-tags and certificates.

Certified Master Gardeners:

Hours & CEU's (25 ACE hours plus 8 CEU's) are due **September 30th, 2008**.

Project Leaders:

Project evaluation forms are due **September 30th, 2008**. Please keep track of what is going on with your project as well as pictures for my end of year reports! Contact me or Katie Smith if you need a copy of the project evaluation report.

Upcoming Events:

September 11-12: The Nature of Design: Educating for the Future; Annual Conference of Tennessee State Urban Forestry Council (TUFC) and American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA); Knoxville, TN;
<http://www.natureofdesign.org>

September 16: Commercial Turfgrass and Ornamental Pest Management Workshop- The Tennessee State University (TSU) Cooperative Extension. The workshop will be held on the TSU main campus, 3500 John A. Merritt Blvd. in Room 118 of the Farrell-Westbrook Complex (The Barn). **There is a \$30 registration fee to cover lunch, break, and materials.** Please pre-register by calling (615) 963-1842, or e-mail: bbush@tnstate.edu. 6 pesticide recertification points have been assigned in categories 3, 6, 10 and 12.

October 3, 2008: Rain Barrel Workshop;; Jeffers Bend Education Bldg., Hopkinsville, KY; \$40 fee; Pre-register before September 26 by contacting the Christian County Extension Office at 270-886-6328 or Kelly.jackson@uky.edu

Eating less, eating local and eating better could slash U.S. energy use, Cornell University study finds

By [Susan Lang](#)

How much energy we use to produce food could be cut in half if Americans ate less and ate local foods, wolfed down less meat, dairy and junk food, and used more traditional farming methods, says a new Cornell study.

"We could reduce the fossil energy used in the U.S. food system by about 50 percent with relatively simple changes in how we produce, process, package, transport and consume our food," said David Pimentel, professor emeritus of ecology and agriculture in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell.

Pimentel's analysis, co-authored with five former Cornell undergraduates who were in Pimentel's Environmental Policy course in 2006, is published in the academic journal *Human Ecology*.

Pimentel says that about 19 percent of the total fossil fuel used in this country goes into the food system -- about the same amount we use to fuel cars. His analysis details how changes in the food system could reduce energy.

For example, the researchers recommend:

- **Eat less and cut down on junk food:** To produce the typical American diet requires the equivalent of about 500 gallons of oil per year per person, says the study. Americans, on average, consume about 50 percent more calories than recommended by the federal government for optimal health and get one-third of their calories from junk food. Eating less and cutting down on junk food would use significantly less energy, considering all the processing, packaging and transportation costs saved.
- **Eat less meat and dairy:** We use 45 million tons of plant protein to produce 7.5 million tons of animal protein per year, according to Pimentel. Switching to a vegetarian diet, he says, would require one-third less fossil fuel than producing the current animal-based American diet.
- **Eat more locally grown food:** Food travels an average of 1,500 miles before it is eaten. "This requires 1.4 times the energy than the energy in the food," Pimentel said. A head of iceberg lettuce, for example, which is 95 percent water, provides 110 calories and few nutrients. Irrigating the lettuce in California takes 750 calories of fossil energy and shipping it to New York another 4,000 calories of energy per head, according to the analysis. Locally grown cabbage, on the other hand, requires only 400 calories to produce and offers far more nutrients, not to mention it can be stored all winter long.
- **Use more traditional farming methods:** Pimentel's team also shows how using methods to reduce soil erosion, irrigation and pesticide use, through such things as crop rotation, manure and cover crops, could cut the total energy now used in crop production. The study's co-authors are Sean Williamson, Courtney Alexander, Omar Gonzalez-Pagan, Caitlin Kontak and Steven Mulkey, all Cornell Class of 2007.

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 Phil Greenawalt, 906-2967, plgreenawalt@charter.net.</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>