



MCMGA GARDEN NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 6

www.utextension.utk.edu/mastergardeners/montgomery

June 12, 2008

President's Message

(Door Prizes) A special 'Thank You' to those who brought in door prize items at our May meeting. We can still use additional door prize items - if you can bring one.

(Plant Sale/Garden Tour) June 21, 2008 – We will need several volunteers to help at the garden sites on June 21, 2008. Volunteers will assist by conducting tours at the various sites and checking tickets, etc. We will have sign up sheets at our June meeting for the seven sites. Also tickets are available – I hope each member will pick up some and sell them to your friends and neighbors.

(Master Gardener Projects) Select a project – sign up – get involved. You are encouraged to log at least 5 of your volunteer hours on one of our projects.

(Six Savory Herbs) Many gardeners are turning to plants that are known to be drought tolerant – once established. Herbs add color, texture, and scent to the garden. Here are six you should consider: 1) Lamb's Ear 2) Lavender 3) Tarragon 4) Sweet Annie Artemisia 5) Oregano or Wild Marjoram and 6) Thyme.

(Hot Plants) Tiger Eyes Sumac is definitely a sun-lover. This one is a diminutive 6 x 6 foot tree that thrives on neglect and tolerates dry nutrient-poor soil. The summer foliage is screaming yellow and it finishes with a great blast of fall color. Cut-leaf forms are less aggressive and can be grown with great success in large containers over many years. Generally, sumacs tend to colonize, and spread anywhere their roots wish to go. Tiger Eyes shows little of this vigorous invasive nature and stays neatly in check.

(Clematis) They are among the most spectacular flowering vines. Here are 4 ways you can help your clematis thrive: 1) Put their heads in the sun. They need at least six hours of sunshine to bloom well. 2) Keep it cool. Roots require cool temperatures – add 2 to 3 inches of organic mulch. 3) Provide well-drained soil. They prefer humus-rich, well-drained soil. Water regularly to maintain even moisture. 4) Support your plant. Since clematis climb by twining, they need something to wrap themselves around, such as latticework or wire.

A QUOTE FOR THE MONTH – Unknown person is quoted as saying, "Success is a ladder you cannot climb with your hands in your pockets."



Don Shadow drove and guided the tour of his vast nursery and exotic animal farm for Montgomery County Master Gardeners on May 24. There was some concern about whether there would be enough room on the bus for all the plants and the Master Gardeners on the trip home.

**Montgomery County Master Gardeners' Treasurer's Report
June, 2008**

Beginning balance per checkbook (April 30, 2008)		\$8,276.82
Deposits:	Don Shadow Trip	\$420.00
	Dues	140.00
	D. Baker, dues & donation	150.00
Total Deposits		<u>+665.00</u>
		\$8,941.82
Debits:	Just for the Fun of It bus	\$850.00
	Signs, garden tour	138.00
	Extension, postage, cards	41.60
	Speaker-MCMG meeting	100.00
Total Debits		<u>(\$1,129.60)</u>
Ending balance per checkbook) (June 4, 2008)		\$7,812.22

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

MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDERS ASSOCIATION General Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2008

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

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

- The April 2008 MCMGA minutes and treasurer's report were read and approved.
- MCMGA members were reminded of the need to support the June 21 MG Garden Tour and Plant Sale. Sign-up lists for the seven tour sites and the plant sale were circulated and members were asked to volunteer time to assist with the garden tours and to donate plants for the plant sale, located at 353 Excell Rd., home of MG Shan Smith.
- A sign-up sheet for MG members who can provide assistance to the June presentations at Ft. Campbell's Fisher House was also circulated. Vince Hernandez serves as project leader for this educational endeavor.
- Nine seats are still available for the May 24 Don Shadow Nurseries bus trip. The bus will depart at 6:00 A.M. from K Mart South – this will be the only pick-up point.
- MG official nametags are available for certified MG members at a cost of \$7. Nametags will be available at the June MG meetings if ordered this week.
- There is a need for Master Gardener Hotline volunteers. A training workshop for volunteers is scheduled for May 15 from 9:00 – 10:00 AM at the Extension Office.
- MG members are urged to support the twelve 2008 Master Gardener projects. MG projects with established work dates are as follows –
 - *Dogwood Adopt a Plot – Wednesdays at 6:00 PM*
 - *Smith-Trahern Mansion – Wednesdays at 9:00 AM*
 - *Agricultural Extension Center – Mondays at 6:00 PM*
 - *Extension Garden – 3rd Sunday each month, 9:00 – 12:00*

- A workday has been scheduled for Saturday, May 10 at Brandon Hills Community Garden - Commerce & Glenn St. – MG volunteers are welcome.
- MG members are invited to the Clarksville Garden Club ‘Flower Show’ to be held on June 5, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM in the Dog Hill area.
- **MAY PROGRAM:** Dr. Randy Westbrook from the National Wetlands Research Center presented a program on invasive species introduced into our country. One out of 100 new plants will become invasive, threatening our natural resources – many invasive plants come from China. Kudzu has already spread over five million acres and is moving into Canada. Other major invasive plants in this locale include; Virginia Creeper, English Ivy, Chinese Wisteria, Chinese Privet, Barberry, Burning Bush, Japanese Bush Honeysuckle and Sweet Autumn Clematis. Americans are urged to buy and plant native plants when possible.

Following door prize drawings, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.
Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace

MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS’ ASSOCIATION Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Executive Committee Meeting – Wednesday, June 4, 2008

Public Library, 2:30 – 3:03 pm

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

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- More MG volunteers are needed to help facilitate the June 21 MG Garden Tour and Plant Sale. Posters with event information were distributed to be placed for local advertising.
- The MCMGA treasurer’s report indicated an ending balance of \$7,812.22 as of June 4, 2008.
- The upcoming scheduled MCMGA events include the following activities:
 - June 7 – Hydrangea Tour, Joanna Hackman
 - June 12 – Irrigation program w/Chris Robbins
 - July 10 – Plants & Ponds program w/Kenny Coleman
- The 2008 Fall Master Gardeners class is scheduled to begin September 2 and continue through November 18. The classes will be held each Tuesday from 6:00 – 9:00 pm and will be limited to 60 participants. Cost is \$100. Posters have been ordered, advertising the Master Gardeners program and the fall class, and will be distributed at all MG Garden Tour sites.
- Handouts of the July 10 Summer Celebration Lawn & Garden Show, scheduled from 10:00 – 8:00pm at the Jackson Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station, were distributed.
- Due to the recent UT Extension electronic upgrade, there are still problems accessing the MG webpage.
- Vince Hernandez is facilitating the MCMGA educational project being held each Tuesday in June from 6:30-8:30 PM at Ft. Campbell’s Fisher House.

- Items for the MG Plant Sale may be delivered on Friday, June 20 to MG Shan Smith's home, 353 Excell Rd. – site of the MG Plant Sale.
Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace

Dates to Remember

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, contact
*Jun. 21	Plant Sale	9 a.m.-11a.m.	Shan 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
Jul. 10	Summer Celebration	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	Jackson, TN	
Aug. 6	Board Meeting	2:30 p.m.	Public Library	
Aug. 14	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	Program TBA
Sept. 2 – Nov. 18	Master Gardener Course	Tuesdays 6-9 p.m.	Extension Office	Karla Kean, Contact

*Plants may be delivered to Shan Smith's house on June 20.

Karla's Korner

June 2008

Springtails, galls and mushrooms are among just a few of the problems popping up this spring. Warm, damp, humid conditions are providing a favorable environment for various plant fungal disease as well as moisture loving insects and they are flourishing! Let's look at just a few issues I have been receiving questions about in the Montgomery County area.

Are you having problems with tiny little insects both inside and outside your home? They may be in the sinks and bathtub as well as outdoors on our patio. They are very small and jump but do not seem to bite. Springtails are tiny insects without wings in the Order *Collembola*. They occur in large numbers in moist soil and are found in homes with high humidity, organic debris, or mold. Homeowners sometimes discover these insects in large numbers in swimming pools, potted plants, or in moist soil and mulch. They feed on decaying, damp vegetation causing organic material and other nutrients to return to the soil which are later used by plants.

Sometimes, springtails enter the house through small cracks and crevices, under doors, or through windows. Seal cracks and crevices with caulk and install weather stripping around doors and windows. This will not only seal access of springtails from the outside but will also keep humidity and moisture out of the house. Chemical insecticides can be applied for control of springtails both indoors

and out. Apply treatments as crack and crevice or spot sprays to infested areas where springtails occur in the house. Read and follow all label directions to assure that the pest and location of application are on the label. Keep children and pets off sprayed areas until dry.

Azalea leaf gall is a problem of widespread occurrence in all areas of Tennessee. The pale green, pink, white, or brown fleshy galls are caused by the fungus *Exobasidium vaccinii*, and may develop on leaves, branch tips, flower parts, and even on seedpods. The fungus overwinters within the infected plant. In the late spring and early summer, a whitish coating appears on the swollen plant tissue. This coating is composed of many microscopic fungal structures which produce spores capable of infecting more plants during moist weather. This disease is not usually a serious problem unless wet conditions prevail for long periods of time.

The severity of symptoms varies depending on the weather conditions. Spores are produced on the leaves during the spring and summer. The spores are dispersed on air currents and splashed by rain drops on to healthy leaves where they can cause new infections. This normally occurs during cool, wet weather. The symptomatic galls are not visible until the following spring. To control this problem, the galls should be hand picked and destroyed before they turn white. Most native and horticultural azalea and rhododendron plants are susceptible. Susceptible plants growing in poorly aerated soils are more subject to infection by the fungus than those growing in well-aerated soils. Southern Magnolias are experiencing their annual leaf drop at this time of the year. If your tree is dropping leaves or just looking downright pitiful right now, it is OK! This is just typical behavior for this time of year. Although the Southern Magnolia is evergreen they still drop their old leaves.

Other trees such as maple, oak and hickory may be succumbing to the 2007 freeze and drought. Many of these and other flowering trees may have bloomed or leafed out and then suddenly died. It seems like they have given their last hurrah and then died. I have also seen a lot of fireblight on apple and related species as well as typical fruit tree diseases such as apple scab and cedar-apple rust. Your best bet with fruit trees is to get on a regular fruit tree spray schedule, Disease and Insect Control in Home Fruit Plantings-PB 1622, which is available through your county Extension office or online at www.utextension.utk.edu under publications. Tis' the time for bugs and fungi in Tennessee! Happy Gardening!

Other:

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.**

Team 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:

- June 10th: Tennessee Green Industry Field Day; Ag Expo Center; Franklin, TN;
<http://www.tnla.com/events.php>
- June 14th: Brandon Hills Community Garden Open House/Open Garden-all day
Contact: Geneva Bell-552-8026
- June 18: Engaging Communities in Urban Tree Risk Assessment; Jackson TN; \$25 fee; contact Karla Kean kkean@utk.edu
- June 20: Production and Marketing of Specialty Crops; TSU Farm Cheatham County; contact Karla Kean kkean@utk.edu
- June 21: Master Gardener Tour of Gardens and Plant Sale; tickets available at the Extension office, Clarksville Quick Print and local MG's
- June 23: "The Gathering" field trip to Stewart County; will tour Doalnara Organic Farm and other local entrepreneurships; contact Karla Kean kkean@utk.edu or Martha Pile mmpile@utk.edu
- July 10: **19th Annual...Summer Celebration!** Jackson, TN
Thursday, July 10, 2008 - 10 am - 8 pm
Indoor Presentations starting at 10:30 a.m
<http://westtennessee.tennessee.edu/events/default.asp>
- August 2: F.U.E.L. Program Fundraiser...more information TBA
- August 8: TSU Small Farms Expo & Small Farmer Recognition Program
TSU Farm-Cheatham County
- 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/>

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>