



MCMGA Garden News

Volume 13, Issue 10

www.utextension.utk.edu/mastergardeners/montgomery

October 11, 2007



President's Message

(Don Shadow Trip) Those who went to the country to visit Don Shadow had a great day. Several purchased a bounty of plant material. There was a lot to see and learn about. I think we are scheduled to go again in May 2008. Be making your plans to go.

(Growing Herbs Inside) Growing herbs inside in the winter provides fragrance, attractive plants and fresh flavor you can snip when needed. Consider basil, bay, chives, lavender, lemon verbena, marjoram, mints, parsley, thyme, rosemary, sage and scented geraniums. These are some of the easiest to grow. They typically grow best in full sun. Place them near bright windows, especially eastern and southern exposures. Grow lights are fine but standard fluorescent bulbs work quite nicely. Use half the recommended rate of a fish emulsion or a soluble 20-20-20 fertilizer each time you water. About every three weeks use plain water and pour until it flows out the bottom of the pot. This helps to wash out salts which build up in the soil. Herbs do best when clipped lightly. Herbs grown inside will not grow as rapidly as when grown outdoors.

(Double Knock Out Rose) I hope you have tried this one! They are resistant to black spot, powdery mildew and rust. Combine this with the fact that the Japanese beetles can eat it up and it will come right back with a vengeance. Fertilize bi-weekly to make it bloom continuously throughout the summer and late into the fall. Fertilize at planting with 10-10-10, once a month with granular and every two weeks with liquid fertilizer.

(Herbal Christmas Arts -Memphis Botanic Garden) October 24, 2007 9 a.m. to noon. Participants will use herbs, flowers, and other natural materials to complete 6 projects to take home. All supplies are furnished. \$40 with limited class size. Call 901-576-4128 to register.

A QUOTE FOR THE MONTH - Success is a ladder you cannot climb with your hands in your pockets. Author -Unknown

David Baker
MCMGA
President



NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE VOLUNTEER'S NEEDED

December will be my last publication of the MCMGA Newsletter and Website - We need one or MORE volunteers to assume these duties.

THANKS Shirley Calvert

MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDERS ASSOCIATION
General Meeting Minutes - September 13, 2007

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Following the 6:30 p.m. food and fellowship period, the September MCMGA meeting, held at the home of Dr. John Matthews, was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by President David Baker.

- The August 2007 MCMGA minutes and treasurer's report were read and approved.
- At the October MCMGA meeting, membership will vote on changes in the bylaws concerning the time frame for election of MG officers. A slate of MG officers will be nominated in November. MG members not completing required volunteer hours for certification may remain inactive members if they have paid annual dues.
- MG Treasurer Shirley Calvert suffered a heart attack recently while visiting in Mississippi. We wish her a speedy recovery from the bypass surgeries.
- All MG projects are flourishing. Habitat for Humanity is formulating plans for a new project on High St.
- MG members were reminded to contribute to and participate in the September 22 Plant Sale to be held at the Veteran's Plaza from 8:00 – 12:00.
- Orders and money for the Flower Power bulb sale are due now.
- The bus for the September 29th Don Shadow Nursery trip will leave at 6:00 A.M. from the Madison St. Kmart parking lot.
- The October MCMGA meeting will be held at the Extension Office – Jerry Weeks will be the guest presenter.
- MCMGA members will create Christmas ornaments from natural materials during the November MG meeting.

Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace

MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION
Executive Board Meeting Minutes – October 3, 2007
Public Library, 2:30 – 3:30pm

NO MINUTES RECEIVED.

A BIG THANK YOU to :

Jim Pugh – Joanne Hackman – Cheryl Brewer

the HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE members for tonight

Committee members for November 8th, 2007 are:

Ginny Bryant – Sandy Janus

Happy October everyone! It is good to see the temperatures cooling somewhat and have new energy for gardening! My yard and garden needs lots of work because I have not wanted to get out in the heat! I have included an article in this issue about lawn care and renovation which should help you solve some of those problems. Other issues such as trees and shrubs dying have been getting a lot of attention lately. Basically, after the spring freeze, the worst thing that could happen happened---extreme drought. Now we are in a state of wait and see. If your trees and shrubs are totally brown and show no signs of life, it is very likely they are dead and will not come back next year. If you are not certain, break several branches and see if they are brittle and snap easily or green. If they do, yes, they are dead. If they show some green inside and are flexible they are still alive and may make it through this.

October is the month that your Master Gardener volunteer hours are due! I appreciate all who have turned theirs in already! October 1st is the general deadline, but I have extended that to October 31st since many people have the wrong date on their reporting forms. Not sure if that was a typo or what, but please try to remember next year to be finishing up your hours in September and getting ready to turn them in by October 1st.

A change that came about in 2004 was that the University of Tennessee designed official TMG nametags. Now when someone signs up for the Master Gardener class, pays the fee, completes the class and volunteer hour requirements, the agent sends in the list of names for them to receive a nametag. I do not believe that these have been ordered, so I am trying to get a list together of those who need nametags; so please contact me if you are a graduate of the 2004 or 2005 class so that I may order you a nametag. For all other certified MG's, the cost is \$7.00 for a nametag. If you wish to purchase a nametag at this time, make out a check payable to Montgomery County Extension for \$7.00 and I will send in an order soon.

The new class is about half-way through their twelve weeks of training and is an enjoyable bunch to work with! Remember that you can attend these sessions and earn CEU's while getting to know some of the new folks.

It is so great to be back working with all of you!

Best, Karla

"A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in." --Greek proverb

Turfgrass Maintenance Recommendations

Growing a healthy lawn in Tennessee's transitional climate zone can be a challenge. We can grow both cool-season and warm-season grass varieties; however, none of them grow really well at all times of the year. To establish and maintain a healthy, attractive lawn, site preparation, variety selection and correct management practices are essential.

Begin the site preparation process by conducting a soil test. Doing this basic but necessary step will provide important information regarding soil conditions. Soil pH will be determined which indicates the need (or no need) for lime. Soil test results also indicate nutrient levels and provide a complete fertilizer recommendation and application schedule. Following a fertilization schedule based on the soil test will not only save you money but is better for the environment because you are only putting down what is needed. Soils can also be tested for organic matter content and other nutrient levels upon request. A typical lawn maintenance plan is going to call for fertilization five times per year, not every month. For more detailed information on soil testing contact your local Extension office, or go to: <http://www.utextension.utk.edu/publications/pbfiles/PB1061.pdf>.

Turfgrass seed is commonly sold as mixtures or blends and are available at most garden centers. The main thing to remember is to purchase a turf-type-tall-fescue blends recommended for your growing area. Mixtures and blends are popular because they increase the genetic diversity in your lawn and increase the lawns ability to resist diseases and overcome insect pest problems. Many contractors and homeowners plant Kentucky 31 because it is the 'old-standard' and is less expensive than newer varieties. While KY 31 is an excellent pasture grass those varieties bred for lawngress will perform better for the homeowner. Some recommendations are (list is not all-inclusive): Rebel Tall Fescue Blend, Pennington Tall Fescue Blend, Confederate Blend, Falcon III, The Rebels Ultimate, and Five-Star.

Annual Maintenance Recommendations:

January-February-March

- For optimum control of broadleaf weeds apply a liquid, broadleaf-type herbicide such as Banvel, Dicamba Tri-Mec etc. according to label directions.
- Over-seed thin spots.
- Power rake or mow to remove excess old growth, speed soil warming and lawn green-up.
- Soil test (if needed).
- Apply 1st application of crabgrass preventer by March 15 and make 2nd application 6 weeks later to control goosegrass and missed crabgrass seeds (crabgrass seeds start germinating when night temperatures reach 55 Degrees F for 3 or more days in succession).
 - Dimension, *dithiopyr*; Tupersan *siduron* 50WP according to label recommendations
- Apply lime (if needed according to soil test results; may have to split applications in fall & spring)

April-May-June:

- Mow as needed.
- Remove excessive and heavily diseased clippings. Watch for leaf spot and mildew diseases.
- Aerate if thatch is heavy or soil is compacted.
- Apply postemergence broadleaf herbicides for summer weeds.
 - Products containing 'phenoxy' herbicide, such as 2,4-D, MCPP and dicamba, can cause injury to or loss of desired plants when applied when temperatures are greater than 85 Degrees F.
- If needed, start postemergence control of grassy weeds (crabgrass, goosegrass) and nutsedge near the end of the month.
 - MSMA &/or Manage according to label.
- Water infrequently to a depth of 6-8 inches.
- Increase mowing height by 1/2 to 1 inch if grass stand is thin.

July-August-September:

- Continue frequent mowing, and irrigate (about 1 inch of rain or irrigation per week).
- Fall seeding and sodding is best; prepare seedbed in July-August.
- Select and purchase grass seed and fertilizer. If lawns are to be totally renovated, kill all vegetation with a glyphosate (Roundup) application near midmonth. If trying to kill bermudagrass, apply glyphosate on Aug. 1 and again one month later.
- Grub Control:
 - Peel the grass back from the surface, if 5 to 10 grubs appear in 1 square foot area, treat with an appropriate insecticide and thoroughly irrigate to move the insecticide into the zone where grubs are active.
 - White grubs are best controlled when they are small and actively feeding near the soil surface, usually late July to mid-August.
 - Control of white grubs in late-fall or early-spring is difficult, at best, because the grubs are large and may not be feeding. Only trichlorfon (Dylox) and carbaryl (Sevin) formulations are available for such treatments.
 - The key to good control is to make an even application and water thoroughly. So, Apply Merit in Spring; Dylox in fall.
- This is the most important time to fertilize; use well balanced lawn fertilizer to apply 1 to 1-1/2 pounds N per 1,000 square feet.
- Aerate where needed; rake; dethatch; kill weed patches; over-seed thin spots.
- October-November-December
- Mow at regular height until growth stops.
- Apply lime if soil test indicates need (remember...may need to split application according to soil test recommendations).
- For more information on landscape & lawn maintenance, please refer to these website and publications:
 - <http://www.utextension.utk.edu>
 - <http://www.utextension.utk.edu/publications/pbfiles/PB1576.pdf>
 - <http://www.utextension.utk.edu/publications/pbfiles/PB1576.pdf>

MCMGA Treasurer's Report 9/1/2007 – 10/10/2007

Cleared Transactions:

\$ 6,010.92	Bank balance 9/1/2007	
\$ -850.00	#1684 Just for the Fun of It	Bus for Don Shadows Trip
\$ -75.00	#1685 Linda Earp	Gift Cards for Lowe's – MG House Meetings
\$ -14.02	#1686 Linda Earp	Food/Misc for Monthly Meeting
\$ -89.43	#1687 David Baker	Signs for Plant Sale
\$ -512.50	#1688 Second Avenue Café	Food for Bus members to Don Shadow – 41 members @ \$12.50 each.
\$ 300.00	Deposit on 9/26/2007 – Shirley Calvert	Don Shadow's Trip
\$ 698.00	Deposit on 9/28/2007 – Barbara Plechaty	Plant Sale \$882 + Don Shadow \$40(Martin's) - \$224.00 to reimburse David Baker for purchase of Hoes.
\$ 5,467.97	Bank balance 9/30/2007	

Uncleared Transactions:

\$ 5,467.97	Bank balance 9/30/2007	
\$ -203.50	#1689 Barbara Plechaty	To purchase Bulb Sold
\$ -36.92	#1690 MC Extension Office	For Sept & Oct. 2007 mailing
\$ -80.55	#1691 Gateley's Print Shop	For MCMGA Post-Cards (PrePrinted)
\$ -18.46	#1680 MC Extension Office	For August 2007 mailing
\$ 6.00	Deposit on 1/3/2007	
\$ 528.61	Deposit on 10/5/2007- Barbara Plechaty	Sale of Bulbs
\$ 5,663.15	Balance October 10, 2007	

2007 MC MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM CALENDAR 2007			
October		October	October
MCMGA Executive Committee Meeting	3 rd	2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Public Library
Building Great Communities Conference	6 th & 7 th	Thurs. & Fri.	Memphis Hilton - Additional information, registration, & hotel rates at tufc@comcast.net
Columbus Day	8th		
9 th Tennessee Tree Climbing Championship	8 th		Memphis Botanic Garden – Registration at www.tufc.com starting June 1
Monthly MCMGA Meeting	11 th		MC Ext. Off.-Jerry Weeks on Plants
MCMGA Executive Committee Meeting	31 st	2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	To Be Determined
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, (931) 358-9340, 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 may interest you and contribute to the necessary community hours in the ACE program. Thank you for your participation.

<p>Project # 1: The <u><i>Extension Garden (Sat. 9- till)</i></u> 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.</p>
<p>Project # 2: <u><i>Smith-Trahern Mansion</i></u> 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.</p>
<p>Project # 3: <u><i>Adopt-A-Plot (Wednesday starting at 6:30 pm)</i></u> 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</p>
<p>Project # 4: <u><i>Clarksville Police Department Headquarters</i></u> 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 <u><i>Montgomery County Library</i></u>. Donated indoor plants provide a lush background for this quiet haven. Co-Chairs are Janice Ledbetter or Fran Irvine, 552-4590, jledbetter123@yahoo.com.</p>
<p>Project # 6: Our own <u><i>Agricultural Extension Center</i></u> 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 Yvonne Wheeler-Hiett 645-1785 ywartist@aol.com.</p>
<p>Project # 7: The <u><i>Master Gardener Hotline</i></u> 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</p>
<p>Project # 8: As part of our monthly meetings, the <u><i>Master Gardener Website and Newsletter</i></u> 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</p>
<p>Project # 9: Every Spring (April 21 weekend), APSU invites the master gardeners to lead the campus residents in the <u><i>Plant-The-Campus-Red</i></u> 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 Philene Slaughter, 358-4187, slaughterp@apsu.edu</p>
<p>Project # 10: <u><i>Curb Appeal Rossvie High (each Tuesday from 6 pm – 7 pm)</i></u> – Improve entrance to High School. Co-Chair: Barbara Plechaty (931) 358-9340</p>
<p>Project # 11: <u><i>Habitat for Humanity (426 Glen Street Clarksville, TN)</i></u> – MG to design and plan gardens & yard. Co-Chair: Debbie Johnson (931) 368-0239</p>
<p>Project # 12: The <u><i>L&N Railroad Station (1st & 3rd Wednesday each month from 5pm-6pm)</i></u> 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</p>

MCMGA OFFICERS 2007	Additional Positions:
President - David Baker	Refreshments - Beverly Guinn
Vice President, Program Chair - Linda Earp	Historian - Marilyn McCue
Vice President, Project Chair - Barbara Plechaty Dogwood931@charter.net	Newsletter - Shirley Calvert skcalvert@bellsouth.net
Secretary - Margaret Pace pacem@apsu.edu	Website - Jackie Peak jipeak@bellsouth.net
Treasurer - Shirley Calvert (skcalvert@bellsouth.net)	