



MCMGA GARDEN NEWS

Volume 14, Issue 7

www.utextension.utk.edu/mastergardeners/montgomery

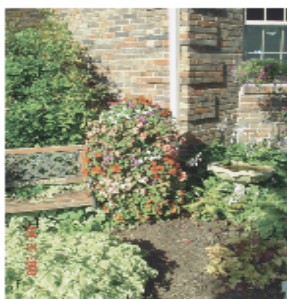
July 10, 2008

President's Message

I enjoyed talking with the many guests who toured my garden on June 21, 2008. There was a total of seven gardens on the tour. Many individuals shared that they enjoyed the variety within the gardens.

My guests were very impressed by the show that my large hydrangea provided. It is an old-fashioned mophead hydrangea. I have taken cuttings each time we have moved. One popular question - How do you keep it's blooms blue in color? The answer is the application of aluminum sulfate. Since my wife likes a mixture of color, I apply the aluminum sulfate to three sides of the plant. This allows a few pink to lavender colored blooms on the front of the plant. The other question - What fertilizer do you use? The answer is that I don't. This plant has been happy in its corner since 1989.

The endless summer hydrangea also offered numerous blue blooms. Although the oak leaf hydrangea had gone through it's peak season of white bloom it still had numerous bloom heads that had faded to a pinkish color. Several people were quite interested in this plant. My oak leaf hydrangea is a standard one which I keep pruned. I shared that persons considering a foundation planting might consider a dwarf form of the plant to avoid pruning.



We had many conversations throughout the day about my impatiens tower located on the north side of our home. The mixed colors in the tower offered numerous blooms. I shared the material list and construction tips with many individuals. I have prepared a sheet that details the construction of this project. Many guests indicated that they intended to construct their own tower. You could use other plants in the tower in sunny locations. Petunias would be one such plant.

Another great plant that put on a good show was Monarda (Garden View Scarlet) - common name Bee Balm.

Several people purchased a brugmansia - common name Angel Trumpet. Mine were not ready to bloom. I provided the purchasers with a photo sheet with instructions how to over winter the plant since it isn't winter hardy in our zone. I have four varieties of this plant - a pink, a yellow, a white, and a variegated. They always put on a spectacular show each year.

A QUOTE FOR THE MONTH - Samuel Johnson is quoted as saying, "The true measure of a man is how he treats someone who can do him absolutely no good."

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 Gardeners' Treasurer's Report July, 2008

Beginning balance per checkbook (June 4, 2008)		\$7,812.22
Debits:		
	Linda Earp (supplies/D Shadow trip) 64.85	
	Clarksville Quick Print 107.31	
	Chas. Fitzpatrick (software) 148.00	
	Beverly Guinn (supplies/meetings) 8.19	
	Linda Earp (supplies/meetings) 100.00	
	Chris Robins (speaker) 50.00	
Total Debits		<u>(478.35)</u>
		\$7,333.87
Deposits:		
	6/13 (See checkbook.) 160.00	
	Plant Sale 660.00	
	Garden Tour 310.00	
Total Deposits		<u>+1,130.00</u>
Ending balance per checkbook (July 2, 2008)		\$8,463.87

MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDERS ASSOCIATION General Meeting Minutes – June 12, 2008

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

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

- The May 2008 MCMGA minutes and treasurer's report were read and approved.
- MCMGA members were asked to volunteer on the provided sign-up lists to assist with 6 MG Garden tour sites and the plant sale (located at 353 Excell Rd., home of MG Shan Smith). The Halliburton site will not require additional help. Each garden tour site will need MG signs, tickets and site maps.
- MG members volunteering for the June 21 Garden Tour and Plant Sale may tour the other garden sites on Sunday, June 22 from 2:00 – 5:00 pm.
- MG members were reminded of the July 10 Summer Celebration Lawn & Garden Show, scheduled from 10:00 – 8:00pm at the Jackson Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station. MG Jim Willard will be attending this event and still has 5 seats available for those wanting to carpool.
- JUNE PROGRAM: Chris Robbins, Cheatham County Farm Agent/ TSU Research & Demonstration presented a program on types of effective irrigation with emphasis on drip irrigation which is less expensive than other watering methods. Numerous irrigation items were demonstrated and circulated, including filters, drip lines, connectors and pressure plugs. Irrigation benefits, cost, equipment and suppliers were discussed. Catalogs were available.

Following door prize drawings, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace

MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Executive Committee Meeting – Wednesday, July 2, 2008

Public Library, 2:30 – 3:14 pm

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

AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- The 2009 Don Shadow Nursery trip has been scheduled for May 16, 2009. Kenny Coleman with Kountry Koi is scheduled to present a Plants & Ponds program for the July MCMGA meeting. Required web entry of MG volunteer hours for MG certification will be demonstrated at the August MG meeting.
- The June MCMGA Garden Tour and Plant Sale was a huge success – thanks to all who contributed to this event. The next MCMGA plant sale is scheduled for October 2008.

- The MCMGA treasurer's report indicated an ending balance of \$8,462.87 as of July 2, 2008.
- Delona Shockey's garden has been placed on the 2012 International Garden Tour – wow!
- All twelve MCMGA projects are flourishing, thanks to MG volunteers.
- Carpools are being provided by Karla Kean and Jim Willard to the July 10 Summer Celebration Lawn & Garden Show scheduled from 10:00 – 8:00pm at the Jackson Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station.
- Brochures for the 2008 Fall Master Gardeners class, scheduled to begin September 2 and continue through November 18, are available for MG members to distribute. The classes will be held at the Extension Office each Tuesday from 6:00 – 9:00 pm. Cost is \$100.
- MG volunteers are needed to serve as judges for horticultural entries at the July 16 Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. MG volunteers are also needed to serve in the same capacity at the Cheatham County Fair on August 19 and 20.
- The Brandon Hills Heritage Garden on Glenn St. is expanding by collaborating with the Hispanic Association. Project volunteers meet every Wednesday from 9:00 – 12:00 and every other Saturday.
- On Saturday, August 2, a fundraiser for F.U.E.L. will be held at the Hilldale Baptist Church. This Farmers' Market style event charges a \$20 vendor participation fee. The F.E.U.L. program, in conjunction with schools, provides weekend food for local children who otherwise go hungry.

Respectively submitted by Margaret Pace

Dates to Remember

Jul. 10	Monthly Meeting	6:30 p.m.	Extension Office	Kenny Coleman, Kountry Koi Bring a covered dish.
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	Karla Kean, Record hrs. online
Sept. 2 – Nov. 18	Master Gardener Course	Tuesdays 6-9 p.m.	Extension Office	Karla Kean, Contact
May 16, 2009	Don Shadow trip	TBA		

NEED HOURS? Colene Johnson needs you at Brandon Hills Heritage Garden at the corner of Commerce and Glen Streets on Wednesday mornings and every other Saturday from 9 to 12 in the morning.

Karla's Korner July 2008

I hope you all had a great 4th of July holiday and that many of you will join us for the field trip to Summer Celebration in Jackson on July 10th. This is the day of our regular monthly meeting and activities will be going on at the Extension office; however, several of us are car-pooling to Jackson on that date—see upcoming events for more information.

Are rabbits, deer and other critters eating your veggies? You're not alone! One of the most sensible approaches to deer control is simply to plant what deer are least likely to eat. These plants are known as "deer-resistant plants." Mary Lynn Cox, in her article "Co-Existing with Deer" in Pacific Horticulture released a list of plants that deer seem to avoid. This can be found at <http://ceamador.ucdavis.edu/files/954.pdf>. To Keep deer from eating plants in raised beds by sinking a post at each corner of the raised bed and attaching a length of four-foot-high fencing to each post. Run the fence the length of the bed to the next post. Leave one side loose so you can have easy access. Personally, I have found that a cat in the garden works wonders! I also empty the contents of the litter box around the garden and this seems to repel the pesky little critters.

Gempler's sells a product called The Liquid Fence® made of garlic and whole egg formula produces a scent that deer and rabbits avoid. It dries odorless and will not harm plants or animals. 1-800-382-8473 or customerservice@gemplers.com

To discourage rabbits, you can put a low fence around your garden. Use wire mesh fencing no larger than one inch because rabbits can squeeze through small openings. The fence should be at least 18 inches high. Building raised beds for your vegetable garden is a good way to protect your plants from both gophers and rabbits. Before filling the beds with dirt, securely attach fine-meshed hardware cloth across the bottom.

Ants may be a nuisance in your vegetable garden but may not be causing significant damage. First, identify what kind of ants you have. Fire ants will require a special method of control, but regular garden ants may be following aphids feeding on their honeydew excrement. Ants in the garden are just doing their job and while they may be unsightly, they are part of nature's design.

A visit to Woodlawn led me to diagnose Bacterial Leaf Scorch on some red oak trees. Bacterial leaf scorch (BLS) is an infectious chronic disease caused by the bacterium *Xylella fastidiosa*. This bacterium, which is transmitted by xylem-feeding insects, colonizes and physically "clogs" the tree's water conducting tissues or xylem. Water transport becomes disrupted in roots, branches, and leaves due to large amounts of multiplying bacteria and their by-products. The presence of the bacteria also triggers a reaction in the tree that plugs the xylem, further impeding water transport and eventually killing the tree. There is no effective preventative treatment or cure for bacterial leaf scorch, so one should expect diseased trees to be gradually lost over the years. The eventual best remedy for bacterial leaf scorch is tree replacement. Dead

wood may be pruned from infected trees. Pruned, not topped! Leafhoppers, which spread the disease, are active most of the growing season making it impractical to control this disease by insecticidal treatments.

Trunk injections with antibiotics have been shown to suppress symptoms. Treatments must be made annually in late May or early June. The antibiotic oxytetracycline has been tested as a treatment, but it only caused the remission of symptoms; it did not provide a cure. Mulching and irrigating during periods of little rainfall will reduce moisture stress and possibly delay scorch development. Since a number of other diseases, as well as cultural problems, can mimic bacterial leaf scorch symptoms, it has been recommended that suspected infections be confirmed by sending samples to a diagnostic clinic before concluding the tree is infected with the bacterium.

I had two cases positively identified as cucumber mosaic virus in home gardens. The disease affects a number of important vegetables and ornamentals including tomato, pepper, cucumber, melons, squash, spinach, celery, beets, and petunia. Tomatoes infected with the cucumber mosaic virus develop a slight yellowing and mottling of the older leaves. Expanding leaves typically become twisted, curl downward, and develop a "shoestring" appearance as a result of a restriction of the leaf surface to a narrow band around the midrib of the leaf. Diseased plants are stunted and produce small quantities of fruit.

The leaf distortion associated with some of these viral diseases often is confused with injury resulting from phenoxy herbicide exposure. Generally a phenoxy herbicide (2,4-D) will uniformly affect all tomato plants in a garden or greenhouse. Plants exposed to low levels of the herbicide may recover. In contrast, virus diseases normally will not affect all plants at the same time or cause injury to other types of plants in the area. Once the plant is infected it will not recover.

Upcoming Events and Volunteers Opportunities:

July 10th: Summer Celebration, Jackson TN;

<http://westtennessee.tennessee.edu/events/default.asp>

Time: 10:00 am - 8:00 pm; Master Gardeners and others are welcome to join our carpool to Jackson for Summer Celebration on July 10th, 2008. Karla Kean & Jim Willard will be driving for sure (there may be one other person driving also).

Carpoolers will meet at **7:30 am at K-Mart** (on the by-pass). Return time will be early evening for Karla and late evening for Jim! Please notify Karla or Jim if you plan to ride and if you plan to ride, please be there on time!

July 16th- 19th: Montgomery County Agriculture Fair-Judges needed on July 16th at 5:00 pm (to judge horticulture and vegetable entries); entries will be taken in at 1:00 pm with judging at 5pm. Please contact Karla to volunteer as a judge.

August 3rd: F.U.E.L Fundraiser and Farmers Market at Hilldale Baptist Church; 10:00 am – 3:00 pm; vendors needed; food, crafts, plants etc. for sale. For more information contact Karla.

- August 7th: Deadline for 2008 Master Gardener class applications.
- August 8th: TSU Small Farms Expo; TSU Farm in Cheatham County; 7:00 am to noon; registration info TBA
- August 19th & 20th: Judges needed for Cheatham County fair;
August 19th-vegetable judging at 9:00 am
August 20th-flower judging at 1:00 pm
Please contact Karla to volunteer as a judge
- 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 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.



**Spectacular
Hydrangea**

Over 100 blooms adorned this family heirloom hydrangea in David Baker's yard for the Master Gardener biennial garden tour June 21. The tour and plant sale were a great success. The final tally will be in next month's newsletter.

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>