



Master Gardeners hear it...

THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

UT Extension Service The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture

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February 2007

MASTER GARDENERS OF HAMILTON COUNTY

President's Letter

The organizational dynamics of the Master Gardeners is always changing. What works for a smaller group may not be successful when applied to a larger group. As we continue to grow as a volunteer organization it is even more important to have specific guidelines to help us meet our goals as Master gardeners. The University of Tennessee has made available suggested and mandatory guidelines for all Tennessee Master Gardeners to follow. The Board of Di-

rectors has tried to incorporate the mission of those guidelines in our own. At the February 15th Membership meeting we will be reviewing updated Project and Volunteer Hour Guidelines. The main purpose of these updated guidelines is to clarify points that we are already trying to practice.

The Project Guidelines defines both "Master Gardener Projects" and "Individual Projects". Criteria to be considered before submitting a Project is outlined and submis-

sion requirements are defined.

Annual Volunteer Hours needed for continuing Master Gardener Certification are clarified, including the requirement of Continuing Education hours as well as participation in "Master Gardener Projects."

This will be a very informative meeting. Please make plans to attend. I look forward to seeing everyone.

~Stephanie Payne

February Master Gardener Meeting, Feb 15th, 6:30pm

The February membership meeting will be held at the Ag Center on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. At the February 15th Mem-

bership meeting we will be reviewing updated Project and Volunteer Hour Guidelines. We will also have a speaker. Our guest speaker for

February is Greg Vincent from Shelton Landscaping. There will be a power point presentation on Garden Hardscapes. Hope to see you there!

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Lilies from Gina Turley's Garden.

Upcoming Events

•**February 1st, Master Gardener Board Meeting**, 6:00 at the AG Center.

•**February 2nd, "How to Grow Gorgeous Roses Locally"**, at the HWY 58 Holcomb location at 6:30. Classes are free to their Garden Club members (you join by merely asking), but reservations are required.

•**February 9th, "How to Grow Gorgeous Roses Locally"**, at the Ft Oglethorpe Holcomb location at 6:30. Classes are free to their Garden Club members (you join by merely asking), but reservations are required.

•**February 10th, The Romance of Herbs** 10:00 a.m. - Noon, **HAS BEEN CANCELLED**

•**February 10th, Weave a Kudzu Basket**, at the TN Aquarium has **SOLD OUT**. Sunday Class added.

•**February 11th, Weave a Kudzu Basket** 1:30- 5:30, The TN Aquarium. Weave a unique Appalachian-style egg basket with the notorious kudzu vine, using techniques hundreds of years old. All materials are provided, but please bring a pair of garden clippers. Adults (plus 12 and older accompanied by an adult) \$25/Member; \$35/Non-

FEBRUARY 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:00 Board Meeting	2 6:30 Rose Class at Holcomb's	3
4	5 6-9 pm House-plants	6 9-noon IMP/Wildlife	7	8	9 6:30 Rose Class at Holcomb's	10 TN Aquarium Class
11TN Aquarium Class	12 6-9 pm IMP/Wildlife	13 9-noon Containers & Herbs	14	15 6:30 Membership Meeting	16	17
18	19 6-9 pm Ornamentals/Containers	20 9-noon Spring Express	21	22	23	24 Antiques and →
25 Garden Show →	26 6-9 pm Perennials	27 9-noon Fruit	28			

Upcoming Events Continued

•**February 15th, Master Gardener Membership Meeting**, 6:30 at the AG Center.

•**February 24-25th, Chattanooga Antiques and Garden Show** Chattanooga Choo Choo Grand Central Station. Over 35 exhibitors will have for sale antiques, exotic plants and garden accessories. All proceeds from the show benefit the Houston Museum's outreach programs. Cost: Show admission \$15 for all three days; For more information, please con-

tact: The Houston Museum at 423-267-7176.

•**February 24th, Mushroom Log Cultivation** at Crabtree Farms, 10-2. This training features an introduction to Shiitake Mushroom Log Inoculation. Joel Houser, will instruct volunteers on how to inoculate and care for mushroom logs. Wear appropriate attire for gardening, such as old work shoes and clothes (things that can get dirty). Children welcome! Activity appropriate for kids 10 and older. **Free Activity.**

Upcoming Events

- **March 1st, Master Gardener Board Meeting**, 6:00 at the AG Center.
- **March 15th, Master Gardener Membership Meeting**, 6:30 at the AG Center.
- **March 17th-18th, "Down to Earth" Lawn and Garden Show**, Show; Plant Sell and Seminars. Saturday 9-5; Sunday 10-5. \$5 Admission, kids under 12 free. Camp Jordan Arena, East Ridge. Exclusively for the serious gardening enthusiasts with over 50 exhibitors offering: The latest in ideas; products; and Off-the-floor bargains. Visit <http://www.sertomachattanooqa.com> for more information.
- **March 22nd, "Herbs 101"**, 6:00-7:30 P.M. Bring all of your herb questions and let Possum Creek answer them. Question topics will range from growing herbs to using them in your every day lifestyle. Everyone will take home pots of seeds they started in class. Call Heather at 756-7721 for Reservations. \$25.00; 202 Tremont Street, Chattanooga's North Shore

MARCH 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:00	2	3
				Board Meeting		
4	5 6-9pm Roses / Compost- ing	6 9-noon Perenni- als	7	8	9	10
11	12 6-9pm Trees/ Ornament- als	13 9-noon Trees/ Ornament- als	14	15 6:30 Member- ship Meeting	16	17 Down to Earth Lawn and Garden →
18 Down to Earth Lawn and Garden →	19 6-9pm Insect / Diseases	20 9- noon Insect / Diseases	21	22 Herbs 101	23	24
25	26 6-9pm Fruit	27 9-noon Roses / Compost- ing	28	29	30	31

Upcoming Events *Continued*

- **March 26th, 27th, & 29th, "Wildflower Classes"**, 6:30-7:30P.M. at the Tennessee Aquarium Auditorium (basement) Members \$10, Non-members \$15, .
 - **Tuesday, March 27, "Trillium Species of the Southeast,"** . Tom Patrick discusses the defining character of southeastern trillium and its complex biology, to include propagation and identification.
 - **Monday, March 26, "Fern Forays in the Great Smokey Moun-
tains"**, . Patricia Cox shares her extensive knowledge about characteristics and habitats.
 - **Thursday, March 29, "Gardening with Heirloom Seeds & Seed Swap"**, Lynn Coulter discusses fragrant, antique flowers and old-fashioned veggies, with book sale/signing afterwards. Seed swap.
- Must register for all Tennessee Aquarium Events.
- register at
www.tnqqua.org/Events/
or call 267- FISH

Tom's Tidbits for February 2007



Don't forget to sign up for the Sertoma Lawn & Garden Show, March 17th & 18th. It's a good time to get hours and learn so much.

Send in Your Favorite Garden Picture for the Newsletter

Send Gina Turley, the Newsletter Editor, your favorite picture from your garden and have it featured on the first page of the newsletter. E-mail all pictures to Leobishop@comcast.net

I can't believe that Master Gardener classes are almost halfway completed. The speakers have been excellent as usual. The food at the classes has been wonderful! I want to thank all of the mentors for making the classes go so smoothly. I missed the class last week and everything was completely taken care of. What a nice feeling. Thanks so much to everyone for their assistance.

The basic classes have mostly been completed. The last half of the course is probably the most enjoyable. All of the flower, tree, and turfgrass classes are coming up. The weather will soon turn to the real spring we are used to around here. The smells and sounds of spring just makes us feel like gardening.

Get ready for all of the events coming

in the next few months. On February 19th, my friend Carol Reese will travel from Jackson, TN. Carol is what gardening is all about, which is.. "Fun on top of more fun". Don't miss her lecture. Her topic sometimes give us a hint about what she may talk about. I have not heard her topic for us which is "Plants You Should Have Once in Your Garden". Don't be surprised if she adds a few more topics and stories. Rita Randolph will amaze you with her knowledge and enthusiasm. Her expertise is container gardening. She likes to demonstrate with materials and is planning on bringing these to the talk. Her title is "Creative Container Gardening"

I can't wait to hear what they have to say and to enjoy their visit with us.

Start planning to go to the Master Gardener State conference in Kingsport on June 8-10. This occurs every other year. This should be a great conference. I know I sent a web address for the registration details but here it is again --- <http://tnmgc2007.net/>.

Finally, don't forget to sign up for the Sertoma Lawn & Garden Show, March 17th & 18th. It's a good time to get hours and learn so much.

For Masterful Gardens

Tom

If love is blind,
why is lingerie
so popular?
~Author
Unknown

Ah me! love
cannot be
cured by
herbs.
~Ovid

Valentine's spending to reach \$16.9 billion

The average consumer will spend \$119.67 on Valentine's Day this year, up from \$100.89 in 2006, according to National Retail Federation's Valentine's Day Consumer Inten-

tions and Actions Survey. With 63.4% of consumers planning to celebrate the holiday, total 2007 spending is expected to reach \$16.9 billion. The average male is expected to spend

\$156.22, nearly double the \$85.08 the average female will spend. Flowers remain a popular holiday gift, with 58.3% of men planning to purchase them -- up from 52.3% in 2006.



Valleybrook Gardens introduces Rock Stars

Valleybrook Gardens introduced a new marketing and branding system to drive sales of alpine plants. Rock Stars is a collection of 150 short, hardy alpine

plants that thrive in rock gardens and year-round outdoor containers. Pots, tags, brochures, posters and bench wrap will be available in spring 2007. "We

want to encourage younger and less experienced gardeners to enjoy these cool plants without being intimidated," said Valleybrook President John Schroeder.

Announcements:

VOTING TIME: The Nominating Committee will present the Nominees for the Board of Directors (term starting April 2006) at the February 15th Membership Meeting. We will also take any additional nominations from the floor at this time. We can take nominations for the following positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and four (4) Board of Governors (One: 1 year and Three: 2 year terms). All nominees will be listed in the March Grapevine. We will vote for the new Board of Directors at the March 15th Membership Meeting. All Master Gardeners are encouraged to attend and vote.

GET YOUR HOURS FROM HOME: We're looking to recruit a WEB page team of 2 to 3 persons who agree to jointly maintain the Hamilton County MG web page. HTML knowledge is useful. The new page is already designed; we need it edited and updated from its Shelby County format, and our own document links established. By all reports, this freeware system is much easier to use than standard commercial products. Once set up is complete, we estimate this would only take a couple of hours each month. Would you like to check it out and see if you'd be interested?

Contact Jane Elmore, jelmore51@yahoo.com, 757- 4667.

Eager

By

Kim Garcia

Above the snow,
a single maple
holding forth

its dying flame.
Among the feats
of Nature:

the wild

greening from dry
bulb, sour
alchemy of rot, a
rusty

handprint of
lichen;

the eager

space-seeking
species springing
up after fire,

as though they
took no lesson
from destruction

but to begin
again, twice as
joyful.

MASTER GARDENERS OF HAMILTON
COUNTY

PO BOX 25194
Chattanooga, TN 37422

Phone: 423-855-6113
Fax: 423-855-6115
Email: Garden@MGHC.org



Board of Governors

2006-2007

Master Gardener Officers:

President– Stephanie Payne
Vice President– Dee Clark
Secretary– Ron Bohrer
Treasurer– Jane Elmore
Past President/Advisor– Sue Henley
Master Gardener Coordinator–
Tom Stebbins
Advisor– Sue Henley
New Class Representative–Bud Hines
Certification Officer–Gretchen Rominger
2 Year Members
Linda Billingslea
Lisa Lemza
1 Year Members
Charles Quarles

Nona Harp
Sue Michelena

Master Gardeners Committee

Chairpersons-

Bonny Oaks Arboretum:

Elaine Barker

Budget/Finance:

Jane Elmore

County Fair Committee-

Charlene Smith

Scott Drucker

Crabtree Garden Plot:

Linda Billingslea

Tommy Jackson

Food Bank Garden Tour:

Susan Babineau

Historian:

Joy Sewell

Hospitality Committee:

Kelley Walker

Tammy De Ark

Photo Directory:

Wanda Wilkey

Project Committee:

Sue Henley

Rebecca Goldberg

Newsletter Committee:

Gina Turley

Lucie Brant

Service Hours (ACE/CEU):

Gretchen Rominger

Website Committee:

Mike Smith