



Master Gardeners Hear it ... Through the Grapevine

UT Extension The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture

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MASTER GARDENERS OF HAMILTON COUNTY

The Importance of Volunteer Work

Today, the ethic remains strong, as across our nation Americans of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities are donating their time and talents to schools, churches, hospitals, and local nonprofits in an effort to improve their communities and serve a purpose greater than themselves. They are beautifying schools and neighborhoods, building homes, cleaning up after disasters, mentoring students, donating professional services, coaching youth sports teams, holding benefit fundraisers, and much, much more. These actions are critically important because volunteering today is a necessary aspect of meeting many of the needs facing our nation.

For many, volunteering is a way of life. Whether taking part consists of a few hours after work, an entire day, or months or years at a time, volunteering fulfills a need to give back. (1)

Volunteers must have an open mind, be willing to embrace wisdom learned from others and also let the experience of volunteering lead to personal inner growth. Volunteers realize the importance of time and kindness.

Volunteers trade off more than an hour a day of TV watching, on average, to engage in service. New study shows that adults who have never volunteered spend an average of 436 more hours per year watching TV than adults who volunteer.

With the wide range of opportunities, volunteers have the freedom to find an organization that best suits their needs. (2)

A volunteer is someone who gives time, energy and talents to others, expecting nothing in return.

What's in it for me?

- *a sense of personal fulfillment?
- *an opportunity to 'give something back'?
- *involvement in the community?
- *the chance to meet new people?
- *to acquire new skills?

joseantoniook.wordpress.com/2006/08/02/the-importance-of-volunteer-work/ (1)

thomasja.wordpress.com (2)

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June 2011 Board Business

President Patsy Boles welcomed our 2nd New Class Representative to the Board. Sandy Bunting will represent the 2011 night class along with Libby Hickman who is the day class representative. The Board welcomes them both.

The Treasury reports was given by Carol Mathews

A new Projects Committee has been formed and will currently have 5 members. The committee has been requested to clear up missing information and organize the projects in a new, better to understand format for the members to use.

The 2011 County Fair theme has been tentatively called "Backyard Retreats"

And finally, Hamilton County has a new County Director for the Extension. We welcome Nancy Rucker to Hamilton County.

For the Board,

Donna Smolinski, Secretary

New Yahoo Groups Tips

Yahoo Groups is a great way to send messages to the entire group. You can post messages directly from Yahoo Groups if you are logged into your account online – look to the left column of your page, select "Messages" and under that "Post." By default, you will be posting a message to the entire group. If you just want to send a message to one member, you will need to select the member under "Members" and then "Search Members." Once you have found the individual, select "Send Message" under their name.

You can also send a message from your own email program (i.e., Outlook, Eudora, et al) by addressing the message to mghcmembers@yahoogroups.com. This will only work if you are sending this message FROM the primary email account that you selected in your Yahoo Groups membership settings. This means you can't send a message FROM your work account email program unless you set it up as your primary email address. If you changed your email account and didn't change your email address in Yahoo Groups, you won't be able to send messages until you make this change in your Membership Contact Information.

If you don't know what email address Yahoo Groups uses as your primary address, just go to this link: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mghcmembers/join> and see which email address is selected under Step 1. This is where you make changes to your email address setting, by the way, as well as your other Yahoo Groups membership settings. If you make a change *remember to hit the "Save Changes" button before your exit!*

Yahoo Groups Hands On Help

Do you know someone who needs help with getting on Yahoo Groups? If so, please pass the word that during the July 21 membership meeting, Mike Smith will be available to help fix people's Yahoo Groups accounts, including getting accounts set up and working. Please RSVP with Mike by emailing him at rmsbss@yahoo.com or contact Sally Wencel at 847-8845 to set up an appointment.

Calendar Events (for more events, see mghc.org)

July

Every Sunday: The Chattanooga Market from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Sign up by contacting Donna Smolinski at: buschmandonna@bellsouth.net

July 7, Thursday

MG monthly board meeting @ 6:00pm at the AG center on Bonny Oaks.

July 9, Saturday

Early workday (to beat the heat) at the Aquarium gardens at 8:15 am. We will deadhead, pull weeds and do basic clean-up. Bring gloves, pruning shears, trowels, cultivators, brooms, shovels, and trash bags.

The Tennessee Valley Bonsai Society meets on the second Saturday of each month from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Agriculture Center

July 11, Monday

Native Plant & Wildflower Group is meeting **Monday, July 11 at 6 pm** at the CAFB. The topic is Photographing Wildlife and the guest speakers are Tom and Pat Cory, professional nature photographers.

July 16, Saturday

Regional Alliance meeting will be in Knoxville; Time: TBD (most likely around 12:00 with a lunch) All M.G. county officers and anyone interested should attend.

July 21, Thursday

MG monthly member's meeting @ 6:00pm. Social time and food at 6:00. Meeting starts at 6:30.

August

Every Sunday: The Chattanooga Market from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Sign up by contacting Donna Smolinski at: buschmandonna@bellsouth.net

August 4, Thursday

MG monthly board meeting @ 6:00pm at the AG center on Bonny Oaks.

August 13, Saturday

The Tennessee Valley Bonsai Society meets on the second Saturday of each month from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Agriculture Center on Bonny Oaks.

August 18, Thursday

MG monthly member's meeting @ 6:00pm. Social time and food at 6:00. Meeting starts at 6:30.

Send August CALENDAR EVENTS to jsmolins@bellsouth.net by Monday, July 25, 2011

Send September CALENDAR EVENTS to jsmolins@bellsouth.net by Thursday, August 25, 2011

"In case you missed it" The speaker at the June 16th. member's meeting was our very own Jim Gumnick, aka, 'Mr. Bone-Sigh'. Jim made a beautiful bonsai from a cypress specimen and turned a 'sows ear into a silk purse'.

The "Master Your Garden" radio show

Mike and Stephanie are on WPLZ on Saturday morning from 9 to 11a.m. to help listeners with their gardening questions. Do you or your friends and neighbors need some gardening help? Email: masteryourgarden@yahoo.com Phone: 423-702-9111

Website, Yahoo Groups and Newsletter posting Policy

Purpose: Define information that may be communicated to MGHC members and the public through MGHC private and public communication channels at the request of non-affiliated groups or organizations. Private communication channels include MGHC member newsletters, Yahoo Groups, the members-only section of the website and other email-based communications. Public communication channels includes the public section of the MGHC website.

Policy: "It is the policy of the MGHC to communicate information about events sponsored by groups not affiliated with the MGHC, Tennessee Master Gardeners and the University of Tennessee only if the events provide members an opportunity to earn continuing education units (CEUs) or service hours. The MGHC newsletter editor and website administrator may deny any post or submission that does not fit these criteria. Members may, however, freely post items of general gardening interest, to include personal observations as well as non-commercial notice of bargains and availability of plant/gardening material(s).

Nothing in this policy statement is intended to limit a member's involvement in outside organizations or right to communicate directly with other members via public or private communication channels.

Adopted January 14, 2010,
Revised 2-16-10

New Veggies for 2011

Tomatoes:

There's still a little time left to plant tomatoes this year for your fall crop and a new one to try this year is 'Fried Green'. It's the first tomato that was developed to be harvested and eaten while the fruit is still firm, so there's less chance of bruising. The indeterminate plants produce 6- to 7-ounce, firm, apple green to yellow tomatoes. They have a slightly citrus flavor and ripen in approximately 70 days. According to NOAA, the first average frost day is October 21 so if you can get a plant in the ground by August 1, you'll have just enough time. Courtesy: (www.seedsbydesign.com)

Potatoes:

When planting potatoes, you generally get "seeds" in the mail that look like lifeless grocery store spuds. You cut them into pieces, stick them into soil and hope they sprout. Quick Sprouts™ potatoes are already-rooted transplants that take the guesswork out of potato growing. By getting a jump on the growing season, you'll also be harvesting your crops in less time. Courtesy: (www.grimes-hort.com)

Salad-sized head lettuce:

You've heard of personal-size pizza before, but have you ever heard of personal-size head lettuce? 'Bambi' develops small sweet-leaved heads in just a little more than a month. Each minihead is the perfect size for a dinner salad. As a bonus, the puckered leaves are exceptionally crisp. Courtesy: (www.johnnyseeds.com)

Cucumber:

This crazy-colored cuke (pale lime) resists powdery mildew. While this may not look as nice as a typical green cucumber, it tastes like one. 'Salt and Pepper' is a pickling cuke with thin skin and sweet flavor. Additionally the plants have good resistance to leaf spot and powdery mildew. Courtesy: (www.johnnyseeds.com)

By: The Taunton Press

Inspiration for hands-on living®

ZUCCHINI, ZUCCHINI, they're everywhere!



It's that time of the year when it's hard to even give away a zucchini. Here are some suggestions for using this prolific fruit.

1. Simply slice it or cut into cubes and use in a salad. Use your dressing of choice.
2. Pan fry thin slices with onions and butter and/or EVOO and season to taste.
3. Shred it and freeze it in a zipper bag and use it later for making bread and cakes.
(Remove as much water from the shredded zucchini before freezing.)
4. Zucchini makes a delicious soup (hot or cold) Other ingredients include onions, potatoes, herbs and seasonings, chicken broth and milk. Check your recipe book.

Positions Open for 2012 Master Gardener Board of Directors

The Nominating Committee is looking for volunteers to serve on the 2012 Board of the Master Gardeners of Hamilton County. We welcome any Master Gardener who is interested in serving our Organization as an officer on the Board of Directors or as a member of the Board of Governors, to submit his/her name to the Nominating Committee.

All positions are open to any member of MGHC who is willing to give at least one (1) year of service. This is a great opportunity for Master Gardeners to see how the Organization functions from an administrative point of view.

Qualifications: Any person wishing to be an officer on the Board of Directors must have completed two (2) consecutive years as a certified Master Gardener. Board of Governors candidates may serve even though in their first year of certification.

Duties of all Board of Directors officers and members of the Board of Governors are printed on Pg. 23 under Article VIII of the 2011 Directory.

The following six Board of Directors offices are open:

- President
- Vice president
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- News editor
- Certification officer

For the Board of Governors:

There are three (3) positions open, each to be two (2) years in length.

Please contact one of the following members of the Nominating Committee to have your name placed in nomination for one of the positions listed above. We look forward to your enthusiastic participation. Elections are held in November at the regular monthly meeting.

Denise Chivington at dgchivington@comcast.net

Diane Slover at ladybugchatt@comcast.net

Donna Smolinski at buschmandonna@bellsouth.net

Thank You,

the 2011 Nominating Committee

MG PROJECTS CORNER:**Current projects list**

1. Hamilton County Fair
2. Tennessee Aquarium Hummingbird and Butterfly garden
3. Master Gardener Hotline
4. Chattanooga Area Food Bank Garden Tour
5. New Master Gardener Mentor Program
6. Chattanooga Area Food Bank Demonstration Garden
7. Chattanooga Market at the Tennessee Pavilion
8. Tennessee Aquarium
9. Siskin Early Learning Center
10. Chattanooga Area Food Bank
11. Crabtree Farms
12. Habitat for Humanity
13. Greenway Farms Restoration Project
14. Seeding the Cumberlands
15. A Children's Garden (CSTCC Child Development Center)
16. CCS Student Gardens
17. Hospice Care Center of East Brainerd
18. Brainerd United Methodist Church Landscaping
19. Abba's House Butterfly/Hummingbird Garden
20. St. Alban's Community Garden
21. The Mitchell Street Garden
22. The Gathering Garden
23. Brainerd Community Garden and Grace Gardens
24. Argonne Memorial Square
25. Energize East Ridge (EXIT 1 project)
26. St. Elmo Community Garden
27. Bonny Oaks Arboretum
28. Rain Barrel workshops
29. 'Bud Sprout' program
30. Thrasher Kindergarten Raised Bed Garden
31. The Hart Garden

Contact Stephanie Payne @ 423-842-3743 or spayne@cbizmp.com if your project is not listed or for more project information.

Full guidelines for projects can be found on page 25 of the 2011 MGHC Directory.

“Gardening throughout the year”, a guide for Tennessee Gardeners

July

Trees and shrubs

- Prune hydrangeas right after bloom for those that bloom on year-old wood.
(*H. macrophylla* and *H. quercifolia*)

Perennials, Annuals and Bulbs

- Keep feeding all aquatic plants every two to three weeks until late August at a rate of one (1) tablet per gallon size of pot.
- Continue to deadhead annuals and perennials to encourage more blooms.
- Cut back tall fall-flowering perennials (swamp sunflowers, Joe Pye weed, iron weed, mums and asters by one-third to one-half to prevent them from lodging .
- Be sure to keep plants watered, especially container gardens.
- Plant fall-blooming perennials such as anemone, hardy sunflowers, goldenrod, sedums and toad lily.

Fruit, Vegetables and Herbs

- Cover fruit trees and berries with netting to protect fruit from birds.
- Prune blackberries after their harvest has ended.
- Harvest vegetables regularly from your garden to keep it productive.
- Consider taking extra produce to your local food pantry participate in the “Plant a Row for the Hungry” campaign.
- Mulch the vegetable garden with straw or newspaper to control weeds and to conserve moisture.
- Remove dead and diseased foliage to discourage the spread of diseases.
- Direct-seed Crowder peas, beans for drying and winter squash.
- Start seeds indoors for fall crops of broccoli, Brussels sprouts and cabbage.
- Harvest corn when ears are full and silks are brown and dry.
- Harvest garlic when leaves have died back by approximately one-half. Hang (bulb end down) in a covered, warm, dry location for two to three weeks to dry and cure. Cut tops back and store in net bags.

Miscellaneous

- It’s hot, but keep up the weeding.
- Reduce mosquito populations by finding and draining sources of stagnant water.
- Keep bird baths clean and filled with water through the hot weather.
- Clean out cold frames for use in the fall.

UT Extension-Hamilton County
6183 Adamson Circle
Chattanooga, TN. 37416

Phone: 423-855-6113
Fax: 423-855-6115



<http://mastergardener.tennessee.edu/>
<http://mghc.org/>

Board Members & Chairpersons

2011

Master Gardener Officers:

President – Patsy Boles

Vice President – Charlene Griffin

Secretary – Donna Smolinski

Treasurer – Carol Mathews

Certification Officer – Gretchen Rominger

Newsletter Editor – Jerry Smolinski

1 Year Members

Denise Chivington

Bud Hines

Mike Payne

2 Year Members

Lisa Clark

Katie Bishop

Barb Blankenship

MG Coordinator – Tom Stebbins

Master Gardeners Committee

Chairpersons-

Bonny Oaks Arboretum:

Jack Townsend

Budget/Finance:

Carol Mathews / Patsy Boles

County Fair Committee:

Bud Hines

Hospitality Committee

Lisa Clark

Events Coordinator:

Donna Smolinski

Food Bank Garden Tour:

Jo Lawrence

Historian:

Joy Wooden

Hummingbird and Butterfly Garden:

Mike Payne

Membership Directory:

Wanda Wilkey

Mentor Coordinator

Ron Bohrer

MG Hotline:

(TO BE DETERMINED)

Newsletter Editor:

Jerry Smolinski

Nominating Committee:

Diane Slover

Denise Chivington

Project Committee:

Stephanie Payne

Scholarship Committee

Denise Chivington

Tom Stebbins

Speakers Bureau:

Sue Henley

State Advocate:

Mike Payne

Communications Committee:

Sally Wencel