



# Master Gardeners hear it...

## THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

UT Extension The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture

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### President's Letter

### MASTER GARDENERS OF HAMILTON COUNTY

What a way to end the summer with a bang! If you did not get a chance to see the Hamilton County Master Gardener Fair Exhibit you missed an extraordinary event. It surpassed every ones expectations. Master Gardeners you out did yourselves! What can we possibly do next year to even come close the success of our Japanese Garden? But, you know as beautiful as the garden was,

what made this year so special was the MG participation and team work. Lynn Wilson inspired us with her great design, Charlene Griffin kept us going in the right direction [no small task!] and Bud Hines, Gretchen Rominger, Mike Payne, Jeff Jarrett as well as so many others brought Lynn's vision to life. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves as much as I did. I look forward to doing it again next year.

Now that the fair excitement is over we can wind down with some simple fun. Our next Master Garden Membership meeting at Rock City Maize is just what we need to have fun and enjoy everything fall has to offer. I hope everyone is planning on attending. When else can you have fun getting lost? See you on the 18<sup>th</sup>!  
Stephanie Payne

### October Membership Meeting: Let's Get Lost!

The October meeting will be at the **Rock City Corn Maze**. We will meet at the pavilion at 6:30 for a short meeting. The corn maze and hay ride admission is \$6.00 per person. Guests

are welcome. We are having a fall fest with apple cider and goodies. There will be a carved pumpkin contest. Anyone that wants to bring an already carved pumpkin to submit can do

so. There will be prizes.

In case of bad weather, we will meet at the AG Center.

Visit <http://www.enchantedmaze.com/> for full directions.

#### In a Nut Shell:

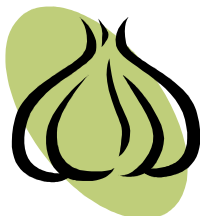
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## Upcoming Events

•**October 9th, Bread Baking, 5:30 to 7 pm at Crabtree Farms.** Learn to craft beautiful artisan bread! Baker Todd Hamm will demonstrate basic baking & special tricks for creating delicious baked goods. This hands-on training takes place in the Crabtree Farms kitchen. Register by phone 493.9155 x16; Member:\$15 Non-Member:\$20

•**October 13th, Garlic Planting - Farmer For a Day, 2pm-5pm at Crabtree Farms.**



This volunteer training teaches techniques on successful planting of this culinary staple.

Joel Houser, Crabtree's Farm Manager, will instruct participants through hands-on demonstration in our own garlic patch. 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.

•**October 18th, Master Gardener Membership Meeting, 6:30 at the Rock City Maize.**

•**November 1st, 6:00, MG Board Meeting** at the AG Center.

•**November 16th, Master Gardener Membership Meeting, 6:30 at the AG Center.**

## OCTOBER 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Bread Baking	10	11 Board Meeting	12	13 Garlic Planting
14	15	16	17	18 6:30 Membership Meeting	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## NOVEMBER 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Board Meeting	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 6:30 Membership Meeting	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## Opportunity for Community Involvement

### *Kids Like You, Kids Like Me*

#### Introduction

*Kids Like You, Kids Like Me* is an annual exhibit at the Creative Discovery Museum in partnership with Siskin Children's Institute. It focuses on a day in the life of a child with a disability. The aim is to show that all children like to have fun, play and make friends even if they have a disability.

#### What volunteers will do in the exhibit

We are looking for volunteers to work in the exhibit on week day mornings with small groups of visiting school children to help them experience what life is like for a child with a disability.

Exhibit volunteers will take on the role of a parent, sibling, teacher or friend to demonstrate how life may be different for a child with a disability through the use of simulation equipment, such as frosted goggles to impair vision. Exhibit volunteers then encourage the children to try every day activities like playing basketball, making milkshakes or completing art projects.

#### Other important information

- Full training is given to all volunteers before the exhibit opens
- Volunteers will be working alongside other volunteers, Siskin staff and museum staff

School groups visit the exhibit during mornings only, so volunteers need to be available between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

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## Tom's Tidbits for October 2007

### Master Gardeners Dig the Hamilton County Fair

Master Gardeners came through in a big way for the Hamilton County Fair weekend. The Japanese theme exhibit was a great choice for the county fair. There were several features that made it work. The bamboo fence was constructed so people could see that there was something interesting inside. They had to enter to see it. We had a greeter at the entrance at all times. This encouraged people on their way to the ponies or to the music to stop for a minute to see our exhibit. Once they entered they were encouraged to wash their hands from the basin. Some people looked puzzled by this. However, this set the tone for the rest of the path. There was so much to see that this helped slow down the pace going through. The tea ceremony was very special. When that was in progress, the crowds really swelled. We had a line almost as long as the pony ride. The informational tent was outstanding. There were handouts on stepping stones, hypertufa and a Japanese coloring book for kids. Finally, the path

led to the exit where they could use a bamboo stick to hit a chime. This symbolized their joy for the garden. We heard a lot of clanging of the chimes. Of course there was also the Master Gardener answer tent. Many of the questions dealt with the drought. The answer really was in the Japanese garden display. Have lots of hardscape for interest. It doesn't have to be Japanese. It could be Italian, Spanish, Mediterranean, or American Country. It can have bird feeders, arbors, benches, etc in almost any style. The idea is to have a smaller, manageable space with drought hardy plants.

Many Master Gardeners also helped with AgVentures. This was the first time for this project. Four inner-city schools were invited to the fair for a preview. We showed them how potatoes were grown. They got to dig for potatoes. We also told them about the importance of bees. They got to see a bee hive and the equipment used in bee-keeping.

I think the kids were fascinated by all of the infor-

mation.

Several Master Gardeners even helped with the Ag food tent. We helped feed the hardworking volunteers from other areas of the County Fair. I know this was very much appreciated by the fair staff.. We had a lot of fun doing it and we could eat extra banana pudding!

Thanks to all who pulled these projects together. We all learned a lot from the experience. I actually started to enjoy wearing that red kimono.

Thanks

For Masterful Gardening  
Tom

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Fall is transplanting time-come dig your own at Joe Nichols' home in Soddy. Call 842- 8120.

Available: many named daylilly varieties.

blue/maroon bearded irises (many)

medium (no stake) and tall dahlias, in gold and other colors

hardy hibiscus, pink and white

red bud seedlings and more!!

## FOR THE GARDENERS OF BHAGDAD

By Lisa Lemza

In the ruin of your city, your family, your life—  
 In the desolation of dreams and scouring of hopes,  
 As the good and ordinary desiccate  
   Among acrid, unexpected stinks-  
 And red, unknowable smears-  
 In terrors of loud noises-  
 And nauseas of fear,  
 And dirt without hope of washing...

Still, does your heart not break—  
   In a slivered, secret place,  
   Distinct from greater griefs,  
 For the pomegranate your grandmother planted, a bride;  
 And the fig which cuttings you gave at weddings;  
 You hope, unvoiced, that your home's new occupants—  
   Loud and hard they came in the night—  
 Will remember to water the roses.

*Lisa, a Hamilton County Master Gardener, wrote this poem thinking of all the gardeners who have lost their homes or gone through crisis over the last few years.*

## Virus may be culprit in bee die-offs

USDA scientists have found a possible cause for the widespread [honeybee deaths](#), Science Express (the online version of the journal Science) reported. The virus, Israeli acute paralysis virus, is unlikely to be the only cause for the sudden colony collapse disorder, and research into other reasons continues. To date, the bee die-off has been a mystery. Instead of finding hundreds of bodies in the hives, beekeepers opened hives to find the bees simply were no longer there. The press has had some fun coming up with causes, from cell phone signals to alien abduction.



**More photos  
 needed 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 [Leo-bishop@comcast.net](mailto:Leo-bishop@comcast.net)

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[http://  
mastergardeners.tennessee.edu/](http://mastergardeners.tennessee.edu/)

**Board of Governors**

**2007-2008**

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*Vice President*– Dee Clark

*Secretary*– Ron Bohrer

*Treasurer*– Nancy Williams

*Past President/Advisor*– Sue Henley

*Master Gardener Coordinator*–

Tom Stebbins

*Certification Officer*–Gretchen Rominger

**2 Year Members**

Linda Billingslea

Lisa Lemza

Sue Michelena

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Bud Hines

Jim Keown

Joy Wooden

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Elaine Barker

***Budget/Finance:***

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Charlene Smith

Lynn Wilson

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