



# Master Gardeners Hear it ...

UT Extension The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture

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January 2008

## President's Letter

## MASTER GARDENERS OF HAMILTON COUNTY

I hope everyone had a happy holiday season. The Christmas party was a great success! Abba's House was wonderful, the food was delicious and best of all, the company was spectacular. I know I will always enjoy myself when I am with fellow Master Gardeners. Speaking of spending time with your fellow MGs, I would like to propose the following challenge to all Master Gardeners. I challenge you to get involved!

By now I am sure you have caught on to my theme... "get involved, participate more" and my personal favorite, "you don't want to miss this!" All true. So, I figure one more time won't hurt. So, keep reading!

Master Gardeners will have the opportunity at the March membership meeting to cast their vote in our annual Board of Directors and

Board of Governors election. This is a meeting no one should miss. The nominating committee is accepting nominations for all the officers (President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary) and the vacating Governors' positions (at least 3). Who do you know (including yourself) that would make a great Board member? Serving on the BOD is very rewarding and fun. You are at the heart of the Master Gardeners. Each and every Master Gardener can make a valuable contribution to the MG organization through service on the Board of Directors. It is exciting to know you are helping move the MGs into the future! I have worked with so many interesting and wonderful people and I am looking forward to continuing my service on the

Board after March as "past president". So, get those nominations in...at least two! You can contact Tom Stebbins, any Board member or me with the names of anyone you would like the nominating committee to consider. You can also tell us about anyone you think would make a good candidate, but who you don't know how to approach. This is an easy challenge. I would like to hear from everyone.

Don't forget, the January 2008 Membership meeting has been moved to Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. We are meeting at the North River Civic Center at 6:00 pm for a short meeting before we hear the lecture on native Tennessee plants by Marg Hunter.

As always, you don't want to miss this!

Stephanie Payne

## January Master Gardener Membership Meeting

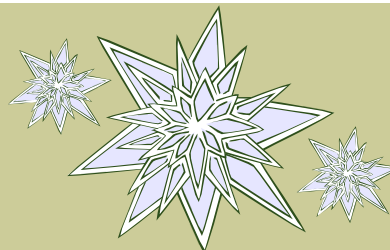
The January Master Gardener Meeting will be Monday, January 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm at the North River Civic Center. Margie Hunter will be

speaking on Native Plants (she is very well known and an excellent speaker and author). A \$5.00 donation is asked for, with all proceeds

going to the Chattanooga Area Food Bank. It is open to the public. The MGs will have a short meeting at 6:00 pm before the presentation.

### In a Nut Shell:

Upcoming Events	2
News	3
Tom's Tidbits	4
News	5



## Upcoming Events

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•Saturday, February 2, 2008  
1:00 - 5:00 p.m., 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. Your instructor is Bill Haley, Aquarium education outreach coordinator and well-known basket weaver. Adults (plus 12 and older accompanied by an adult) Limited to 17, minimum of 5 \$25/Member; \$35/Non-Member call (423) 267-FISH (3474)

•Membership Meeting, February 21st.

## JANUARY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 6:00 Board Meeting	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Membership Meeting	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



## FEBRUARY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Kudzu Basket Weaving
3	4	5	6	7 6:00 Board Meeting	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 Membership Meeting	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

## **Gardening News:**

### **Board Membership Nominating:**

We are forming a 2008 Board Member Nominating committee. Please contact Stephanie Payne with any Master Gardeners you would like to nominate. Please get their permission first. No surprises!

### **Master Gardener Winter School:**

As you know Master Gardeners of Tennessee have a lot of events each year. Well you need to mark your calendars for the last week of February. The University of Tennessee and the Master Gardener State Advocacy Board will host the 1st Winter School in Lebanon, Tennessee February 28, 29th, and March 1st. The school will have classes, lectures and other events that will create a fun pack 3 day event. Look for more details to be issued in the upcoming weeks.

### **Beginning & Newcomer Gardening Classes:**

The beginning and Newcomer Gardening Classes will be held on Four Tuesday nights in March.

#### March 4th

Soil, Fertilization, & Turfgrasses

#### March 11th

Trees & Shrubs and Attracting Wildlife

#### March 18th

Water Gardening and Herbs

#### March 25th

Perennials & Annuals and Wildflowers

We need volunteers to work and help. This will be the 14th year for the classes and you can get ACE hours and CEU hours also. It is a great way to GET INVOLVED and have fun also.

It is one of the best programs that we do as a group.

Contact me if you are interested

-Mike Payne

### **Gardening Funnies:**

If your garden doesn't seem to be coming along just right, throw in the trowel.

There is no way to have a green thumb without an aching back first.

Every man should have his own garden, even if he has to help his wife work it.

If you wish to bridge the vegetable food cost, try leaning with a spade.

Never plant more lawn or garden than your spouse can take care of.

## Tom's Tidbits for January 2008 Vote to Build a Better Future for The Master Gardeners of Hamilton County

Your Master Gardener Board of Directors voted to donate a total of \$1500 to start an endowment fund for the Master Gardener program in Hamilton County. \$1000 will be earmarked for Master Gardener activities, while \$500 will be for general Agricultural programs. A vote will be taken at the February membership meeting concerning this proposal.

The Endowment Fund will increase the stability of current programming efforts. It will assist with long term program development. Through the efforts of the Endowment fund, Extension programs in Hamilton County will be better prepared to meet the needs of a growing population and more stringent funding support from local and state governments. With the funds provided by the Endowment, Extension will be able to:

- Expand programming for youth throughout our county by increasing 4-H staff
- Provide for supplies to better serve both youth and adults through educational programs
- Expand existing adult programs in Agriculture and Family and Consumer Sci-

ence

- Develop on-site educational classrooms for youth programs with "hands-on" activities
- Increase use of on-farm demonstrations for agricultural programming.

These programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, and resource development. University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, Tennessee State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture and county governments cooperating. UT /TSU Extension provide equal opportunities in programs and employment.

### **Individuals can also donate**

Once the endowment is approved, individuals could also donate money or a portion of their estate. The Hamilton County Endowment Fund is managed through the University of Tennessee, Institute of Agriculture. The gifts are considered charitable donations. The University offers several options that allow a donor to receive income, consign the heirs life insurance or even allow the do-

nor to receive a lifetime monetary benefit. There are many options that can be designed to fit a donor's needs. UT will work with the donor to insure their wishes are carried out.

For more information on any activities involving Hamilton County Extension, please come by the UT/TSU Extension office at:

6183 Adamson Circle  
Chattanooga, TN 37416  
Hours: Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
(423)855-6113  
Or E-mail Ray Burden,  
County Director: [rwburden@utk.edu](mailto:rwburden@utk.edu)



## Gardening News:

### Organic lawns turn into battlefield

The organic gardening movement is spurring neighborhood and even community battles, The Wall Street Journal reported last week. Homeowners who have successfully converted their lawns to pesticide-free zones are raising concerns about neighbors. The argument is similar to the one made against secondhand smoke from cigarettes and has reached community-level campaigns. Is this the 1st sign that U.S. cities and towns will soon be passing Canadian-style pesticide bans?

### Gypsy moths defoliate New Jersey

More than 320,000 acres of trees in New Jersey were defoliated by gypsy moth caterpillars this spring, the highest amount since 1990, when more than 431,000 acres of trees experienced leaf loss. The number of acres defoliated more than doubled this year from last year's total of 125,743. A dry spring kept the fungus *Entomophaga maimaiga* from naturally killing off the caterpillars. The state's aerial defoliation survey provides a map of the pest throughout the state.

### Botanist wants money for rare garden

Botanist Mardy Darian, 74, has developed his [3.2-acre home garden](#) into a rarity, The San Diego Union-Tribune reported. The 25-year-old garden boasts all 17 known species of stag-horn fern, more than 100 types of palms and dozens of rare plants Darian collected from around the world. Darian, who is running out of money to maintain his garden, is seeking researchers, plant breeders or anyone who will appreciate his garden to buy his home.

### Wal-Mart won't sell Louisiana cypress mulch

Beginning in January, Wal-Mart stores will no longer offer [cypress mulch](#) harvested, bagged or manufactured in Louisiana, according to Save Our Cypress Coalition. Environmentalists are concerned about the effects cypress harvesting has on forests and swamps. The coalition is also pressuring Home Depot and Lowe's to stop selling Louisiana cypress mulch.

Winter is the time  
for comfort, for  
good food and  
warmth, for the  
touch of a friendly  
hand and for a talk  
beside the fire: it is  
the time for home.

~Edith Sitwell

In seed time learn,  
in harvest teach, in  
winter enjoy.

~William Blake

**MASTER GARDENERS OF  
HAMILTON COUNTY**

PO BOX 25194  
Chattanooga, TN 37422

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



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

**Board of Governors**

**2007-2008**

**Master Gardener Officers:**

*President*– Stephanie Payne

*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

**1 Year Members**

Bud Hines

Jim Keown

Joy Wooden

**Master Gardeners Committee**

**Chairpersons-**

***Bonny Oaks Arboretum:***

Elaine Barker

***Budget/Finance:***

Nancy Williams

***County Fair Committee-***

Charlene Smith

Lynn Wilson

***Crabtree Garden Plot:***

Linda Billingslea

***Food Bank Garden Tour:***

Susan Babineau

***Historian:***

Donna Adams

***Hospitality Committee:***

Kelley Walker

Tammy De Ark

***Hummingbird and Butterfly Garden  
Chairperson:***

Mike Payne

***Photo Directory:***

Wanda Wilkey

***Project Committee:***

Sue Henley

Gretchen Rominger

Jill Stebbins

***Newsletter Committee:***

Gina Turley

Lucie Brant

***Service Hours (ACE/CEU):***

Gretchen Rominger

***Website Committee:***

Mike Smith