

## Tour the Arboretum in our own backyard!



Central campus mall with a large red oak (*Quercus rubra*)

Dr. Timothy McDowell will guide interested MGs on a tour of the ETSU arboretum on Saturday, Sept. 30, starting at 10:00 a.m. Dr. McDowell, Arboretum Director, along with Dr. Foster Levy, founded the ETSU Arboretum. The ETSU Arboretum comprises the entire campus and the adjacent University Woods and includes two hundred and fifty species of trees, native and exotic, in natural and cultivated landscapes. The ETSU Arboretum is a state-certified arboretum that promotes public awareness of the importance of trees in our local landscapes by providing information, planting new trees, and sponsoring other activities.

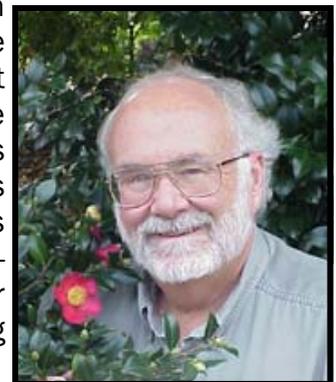
In addition to viewing the giant and noteworthy trees, MGs also may view the Dwarf Conifer Garden, Trees for Tomorrow display and the Asian-American Species Pairs areas. Details on parking and meeting area will be sent to members via e-mail or by phone tree. For more information on the ETSU Arboretum please visit website [www.etsu.edu/arboretum/](http://www.etsu.edu/arboretum/). For program information or questions contact Connie Dean at [lcdean@chartertn.net](mailto:lcdean@chartertn.net) or 423-357-4219. This is another CEU opportunity for you!



## Author to Speak on Native Plants

Dr. Richard Bir will present a program on propagating native woody plants on Thursday, Sept. 21, 7:00 p.m. at the Jonesborough Visitor's Center on Boone Street. Dr. Bir has been a professional horticulturist for over 40 years, but more importantly, he is a gardener. As a faculty member in the horticulture department at North Carolina State University, his primary responsibilities have been working with county agents and nurserymen to grow better plants for the landscape. A large part of his work is devoted to seeking better ways to grow native plants. In this role, he has been director and program coordinator for the Conference on Landscaping with Native Plants (held each summer at Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC) and has lectured on growing native woody plants from Florida to Toronto.

Dr. Bir's writing is read world-wide. His book, *Growing and Propagating Showy Native Woody Plants*, was published by UNC Press in 1992. He is a frequent contributor to gardening magazines and trade journals including *Fine Gardening*, *American Gardener*, *NMPRO* and the *American Nurseryman*. This program, sponsored by Southern Appalachian Plant Society (SAPS) and East Tennessee Nursery Association (ETNA) is free! Everyone is invited! (1.5 CEUs)



Richard E. Bir



## Chris' Corner

CHRIS RAMSEY  
SULLIVAN COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT  
(423) 279-2723

Occasionally, someone will ask the question, "Why should I be a member of the Northeast Tennessee Master Gardener Association, (NETMGA)?" This association has played a crucial role in the growth of the Master Gardener program and its projects in Northeast Tennessee. It brings all Master Gardeners together by offering them an outlet to share like experiences with their peers. A Master Gardener must continue to remain certified to be eligible for membership in this group, which has meaning to its members. This is the only organization in Northeast Tennessee that is exclusive to active Master Gardeners!

Although Master Gardeners are not required to be a member of the NETMGA, I would encourage you to continue your membership and get involved in some way. The retention rate of Master Gardeners has greatly improved during the existence of NETMGA. In just four years, the number of active Master Gardeners has doubled! This organization is largely responsible for creating the environment that supports 150 active Master Gardeners in the Northeast Tennessee area today.

The NETMGA leadership has been encouraging the members to receive the newsletter via email. The email version just makes sense. Many organizations are moving toward an email only newsletter, which promotes conservation by saving

paper. It also saves time by minimizing the amount of preparation for "snail" mail. Time saved means more impact on other meaningful Master Gardener projects.

Some exciting events are coming up in the next few months! The Master Gardener Recognition Meeting will be on Monday, November 6 at the Gray Community Center. Hopefully, you'll be able to attend this meeting which will also be the regular meeting of NETMGA and the election of officers.

It is again time to turn in your volunteer and CEU hours. Please turn these in by September 30 or sooner if possible! Let me know if you need report forms. Please send paper reports to our Certification Officer, Juana Quinones, 1013 Wellington Blvd., Kingsport, TN., 37660. Hours may also be submitted via the Tennessee Master Gardener website.

**Exchange Place**  
4812 Orebank Road  
Kingsport, Tennessee 37664  
Phone 423/288-6071



**FALL FESTIVAL  
TIME IS HERE**

The 35th Exchange Place Fall Folk Arts Festival will be held Saturday, September 23, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, September 24, from noon to 5 p.m. at the Exchange Place Living History Farm, 4812 Orebank Road in Kingsport. Harvest time activities on an 1850s farm will be featured, with apple butter and cider making, traditional arts and crafts, fall plants and produce, home baked goods, music, and children's activities. Master Gardeners will also host an information booth! Call Joy Moore, #348-6582 to volunteer, or e-mail [jonmoore@tricon.net](mailto:jonmoore@tricon.net).



"Growing a New Tomorrow"

**TENNESSEE MASTER GARDENER CONFERENCE**

[www.tnmgc2007.net](http://www.tnmgc2007.net)

## Everything you ever needed to know about MG reporting ...

... but were afraid to ask

**Why bother to report?** To become certified and to gain recertification, MGs are required to report hours each year. Continued reporting records the MG's contributions and helps substantiate the impact of the program in the region, resulting in continued funding and support by the Extension Service.

**Paper or Website?** Either method of recording time (paper or website) is acceptable. Use the paper report to record your time as accumulated. You can then enter the time onto the website or make a copy of the report before you turn it in. Always keep a back-up copy of your report!

**Paper report:** You are encouraged to submit your report as soon as you attain the minimum reporting hours. If you accumulate additional hours before the September 30<sup>th</sup> reporting deadline, send the report with these additional hours only, and mark it as such. Juana Quinones, MG Certification Officer, compiles hours submitted. Send reports to Juana at 1013 Wellington Blvd., Kingsport, TN, 37660.

**Website reporting:** Enter those hours as you earn them. The computer keeps the running tally. <http://mastergardeners.tennessee.edu>

**Reporting Period** Hours are accumulated from October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>. If you are using the website to report your time, you must have entered all your hours by September 30<sup>th</sup>. If you are using the paper report, your report must be received by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

**REMEMBER – ALL HOURS MUST BE REPORTED BY SEPT. 30, 2006!**

## MG RETREAT OPPORTUNITY

Anyone interested in becoming more involved with our Master Gardener Program should consider a wonderful retreat opportunity Oct. 5, 6, and 7 in Jackson, TN., hosted by the TMG Advocacy Board at the west Tennessee Research and Education Center.

The purpose of the Master Gardener Leadership Retreat is to offer leadership development and education resulting in quality Extension volunteers. This training is specifically designed for current or future Master Gardener county leaders and Extension personnel managing these volunteers. Educators at this conference include Extension personnel, State TMG Advocates, and MG peers. Participants are encouraged to share experiences, network and offer suggestions. The state organization, "County 96", will be introduced...6 project areas that determine the direction of the State Master Gardener Program: **Leadership, Communication, Outreach Education, Fund-raising, Volunteer Cultivation, and Master Gardener Training** (basic and advanced). **Share your knowledge to create a better State Master Gardener Program.**

Information is available on the MG website <http://mastergardeners.tennessee.edu>.

## Annual MG Recognition Dinner

The annual Recognition Dinner and election of NETMGA officers for 2007 will be held on Monday, November 6, at 6:30 p.m. at the Gray Community Center. A covered dish meal will be shared. NETMGA will provide utensils/plates and drinks as usual. ***Please mark your calendars and save this date!***

## HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS SET

The annual hazardous waste collection for Northeast Tennessee has been scheduled for September 9 and September 23. In addition to traditionally accepted items, the collections have started accepting an additional range of items. Log on to [www.appalachianrcd.org](http://www.appalachianrcd.org) for a complete listing of items accepted, dates and locations.

**NEW BY-LAWS DRAFTED:** A new set of by-laws for NETMGA has been drafted and will be voted on at the Nov. 6 meeting. All NETMGA members are asked to read the attached by-laws carefully before the meeting and to come to the meeting prepared to vote on them.

## D R A F T

### NORTHEAST TENNESSEE MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

#### Article II Government

**Current Section III** Vacancies in the Executive Board or in any committee shall be filled either by succession or appointment by the Executive Board. Such Successor or appointee shall serve for the duration of the term of the individual being replaced. New officers created in mid-term shall be appointed by the Executive Board and shall serve in that capacity until the next election.

**Current Section IV** Any member of the Executive Board may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board. Such action must then be submitted to the membership for ratification by a simple majority vote of those members present at any regular meeting.

**New Section III** The Executive Board shall prepare an annual budget for presentation at the regular January meeting.

**Proposed revisions - Insert new Section III, move current Section III to Section IV, create Section V and move current Section IV to new Section V**

Rationale: Need arose for a NETMGA budget. Moved so as to insert by-law on budget preparation for flow of instructions.

#### Article V Elections

**Section II** The Executive Board will solicit a nominating committee of three or more members in October or earlier to seek nominations. At the November Executive Board meeting, nominations may also be made from the floor for any office expiring by any Master Gardener in good standing (certified and dues paid) when the floor is open for nominations. The President or someone from the nominating committee will preside and present the nominees. The term of office shall be for one (1) calendar year, beginning in January, with the possibility of reelection for a second term if desired.

**Proposed revisions - change first sentence "October" to "September" and move Section IV into Section II first sentence so as to reflect offices to be considered for the election by the Nominating Committee. Change second sentence "November Executive Board" meeting to the "regular November" meeting.**

Rationale: More time is needed for a slate of officers to be nominated for the November Election. Wording did not reflect offices to be considered for election by the Nominating Committee, nor the correct meeting for election.

#### Article V - Section II shall now read:

The Executive Board will solicit a nomination committee of three or more members in September or earlier to seek nominations for the offices of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Certification Officer, all of whom shall constitute the officers of the Association and shall serve on the Executive Board in addition to all committee chairpersons.

At the regular November meeting, nominations may also be made from the floor, for any Office expiring, by any Master Gardener in good standing (certified and dues paid) when the floor is open for nominations. The President or someone from the Nominating Committee will preside and present the nominees. The term of office shall be for one (1) calendar year, beginning in January, with the possibility of reelection for a second term if desired.

**Section III** The annual election shall be held at the November Recognition Dinner.

**Proposed revisions of Section III - change "November Recognition Dinner" to "November meeting".**

Rationale: Recognition Dinner may be held at different times.

## Message from Our President....

Hello Everyone!

Many thanks to Dr. Richard Moyer for the wonderful program at his home in July! If you were not able to attend, you missed a wonderful morning of sampling apples, eating sweet HUGE blackberries from his trellised canes and tasting kiwi fruit. We were introduced to the intricacies of growing several varieties of mushrooms, a very interesting and healthful addition to the Moyer family garden.

By the time this 'news' is delivered, our 2006 A'ppy Fair will be history... Doug Hilton and his faithful group of volunteers put many hours into the on-going MG projects that are evident all around the Gray site. Some volunteers participated in judging various horticultural entries and other MGs entered into the contests for ribbons and recognition of their efforts in the kitchen, garden, sewing room, etc. Lisa Bradley won a cooking contest with her recipe for Nachos with Pizazz, Nancy Scott and Valerya Hyrne won ribbons in the horticultural divisions, and I'm sure to leave some out that I don't know about! Check out "The Joyful Gardener", a new gardening column featured in Kingsport's Times-News, by our own Jeanne Cope of Jonesborough. A big THANK YOU also is extended to Kathy Francescon and Gwyn Duncan for their work in setting up our first telephone tree for our MG's who do not have e-mail.

Our NETMGA has no lack of projects and activities for members' involvement. There are activities at the State and local level. We have informative programs on a bi-monthly schedule...our September arboretum tour at ETSU is an example of the quality programs planned for you. Thanks to Connie Dean for her dedication as Program Chair this year.

Speaking of dedication, our Executive Board is in need of volunteers to fill some of the offices for 2007. Gwyn Duncan is our Nominating Committee Chair. If you are willing to serve in some capacity on our Board, please let Gwyn know.

Personally, I am glad to be heading toward more autumnal temperatures. It is time to think about adding fresh layers of mulch, and marking our healthiest veggies and flowers for saving seeds. Fall gardens may have already been planted and some plants divided and happily shared with friends.

You all be well, and enjoy your gardening hours. Speaking of hours'... remember the September 30 deadline and send your list of volunteer hours to Juana Quinones!

Cheers! Thanks to all of you for your volunteer spirit and good teamwork.

Ellen

## 2006 NORTHEAST TENNESSEE MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Ellen Hilderbrand  
4205 Nickleby Ct.  
Kingsport, TN 37663  
(423) 239-3309  
ellen421@juno.com

### VICE PRESIDENT

Gwyn Duncan  
221 De Lee Drive  
Kingsport, TN 37663  
(423) 239-0460  
geduncan@charter.net

### SECRETARY

Lisa Bradley  
143 New Salem Drive  
Limestone, TN 37681  
(423) 257-3009  
lgbradley1@comcast.net

### TREASURER

Lois Bronson  
273 South Creek Court  
Kingsport, TN 37663  
(423) 239-4285  
honeybee@copper.net

### CERTIFICATION OFFICER

Juana Quinones  
1013 Wellington Blvd.  
Kingsport, TN 37660  
(423) 245-3469  
qagroupjq@hotmail.com

### PAST PRESIDENT

Doug Hilton  
308 Castaway Drive  
Kingsport, TN 37663  
(423) 239-9433

### 2006 NETMGA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	Sabrina Bader	(423) 477-8937	pausebrina@earthlink.net
<u>PROJECT</u>	Dennis Marshall	(423) 288-3675	marshalls3@earthlink.net
<u>PROGRAM</u>	Connie Dean	(423) 357-4219	lcdean@chartertn.net
<u>HOSPITALITY</u>	Jan Jones	(423) 349-6119	simpleintn@yahoo.com
<u>PUBLICITY</u>	To be announced		

## DATES SET FOR FALL MG CLASSES

The following chart lists the classes for new MGs. All MGs are invited to attend classes. Moderators are still needed to introduce speakers for some of the dates. If you are interested in being a moderator, please contact Nina Hedrick at 423-239-9604, [hedrick@chartertn.net](mailto:hedrick@chartertn.net) or Joy Moore at 348-6572, [jon-moore@tricon.net](mailto:jon-moore@tricon.net). There are still openings in the Fall Master Gardener class. If you know someone who may be interested, they may call 279-2723 for an application.

2006 Master Gardener Program				
Date	Topic	Speaker	Time	Location
9-19	Orientation Gardening in Northeast TN	Chris Ramsey Louisa Jackson- MG	6:30 p.m.	Farm Bureau - Blountville
9-21*	Native Plants	Dr. Dick Bir	7:00 p.m.	Jonesborough Visitor Center *
9-26	Botany for Gardeners	Valerya Hyrne - MG	6:30 p.m.	Farm Bureau- Blountville
9-28	Soils and Plant Nutrition	Hubert Lambert	6:30 p.m.	Farm Bureau - Blountville
10-3	Woody Ornamentals	Hugh Conlon	6:30 p.m.	Farm Bureau - Blountville
10-5	Mulch and Compost	Ben Hunter- MG	6:30 p.m.	Farm Bureau - Blountville
10-7 (Sat.)*	Fruit	Dr. Richard Moyer	10:00 a.m.*	Dr. Moyer's Home in Bristol *
10-10	Pruning	Hugh Conlon	6:30 p.m.	Farm Bureau - Blountville
10-12	Entomology	Mannie Bedwell	6:30 p.m.	Farm Bureau - Blountville
10-17	Lawn Management & Weeds	Chris Ramsey	6:30 p.m.	Farm Bureau - Blountville
10-19*	Propagation	Ben Hunter- MG Bo Shadden Chris Ramsey	6:30 p.m.	Unicoi County High School *
10-24	Vegetables	Dr. Allen Straw	6:30 p.m.	Farm Bureau - Blountville
10-26	Pesticides and IPM	Joy Moore- MG Ty Petty	6:30 p.m.	Farm Bureau - Blountville
10-31	No Class- Halloween	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
11-2	Perennials and Annuals	Betty Freeman	6:30 p.m.	Farm Bureau - Blountville
11-7	No Class- Election	XXXXXX	XXXXXX	XXXXXX
11-9	Plant Pathology	Keith Hart	6:30 p.m.	Farm Bureau - Blountville
11-14	Graduation Dinner	N/A	6:30 p.m.	TBA

\* Note different days and locations.

### *Be A Bud*

Each year "experienced" MGs are asked to serve as mentors for the new MG class. This program, called Buds and Sprouts, is a great way to help new MGs understand how the program works. It is also a terrific opportunity to make new friends. If you would like to be "bud" to a new MG "sprout," please email Lois at [honeybee@copper.net](mailto:honeybee@copper.net) or call 239-4285.

# EDITORIAL

Wow, we have been inundated with an amazing amount and variety of information for this newsletter! Thanks once again to all of you who send us such good news to share. Due to space limitations, we had to edit a few things, but we really hope you will keep things coming our way.

MGs are asked to help with the Women’s Expo, Oct. 21 and 22. We need volunteers to take up tickets and to staff the MG information booth. Please contact Doug Hilton if you want to help.

Tune in to HGTV on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 7:00 a.m. to get a sneak preview of one of our 2007 conference keynote speakers, Erica Glasner! Her show is called “A Gardener’s Diary.”

For this edition, a very special THANK YOU goes out to Ellen, our President, a.k.a. “contributing editor” in emergency situations!

## PREPARE TO SWAP YOUR PLANTS AND SEEDS

The Annual SAPS Plant and Seed Swap plus Silent Auction and Potluck Lunch will be held Oct. 14 from 12 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Rotary Park in Johnson City. All Master Gardeners are invited! Set up begins at 11:30 with lunch at noon. The swap begins at 1:00 p.m. Bring special items for the Silent Auction. SAPS will be donating all of the proceeds from the Silent Auction this year to sponsor a speaker at the 2007 Tennessee Master Gardener Conference! Don't miss this fun event. Great plants, great food, great fellowship!



## NEW WEB SITE FORMED

The *Kingsport Times-News* announces a web site where you publish your news, when it happens. [www.timesnews.net](http://www.timesnews.net) is intended to be a site where local citizens can feature all the events and activities going on in their community, neighborhood, church, school, and even MG events! To get started, go to the Log In and Create Profile tab at the top right of the page and register as a contributor. Contributors can then submit stories, photos, and events by following some simple instructions. *Kingsport Times-News* editors will review stories initially and then post them. After a trial period, contributions will automatically be published when submitted. For more information on how to use this site, call Don Fenley at 423-392-1372 or Diana Meredith at 423-245-5071.



## “Buggy” Book Now Available

An intriguing new book for gardeners, farmers, children, and any other “bug interested” folks has just been written by Tom Turpin of Purdue University. Entitled: ***Flies in the Face of Fashion, Mites Makes Right, and Other Bugdacious Tales.*** This enlightening analysis of Turpin's bugdacious tales may be useful for both farmers and gardeners who would like to know more about those mysterious creatures that eat their plants and crops. Anyone who wants a complete picture of the insect world, in addition to a fascinating and fun read, will find this book delightful and instructive. Since the book is easy to comprehend, children may also find that this is the bug book for them! For more information go to: [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).



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Northeast Tennessee  
Master Gardener Association  
c/o  
UT Extension Sullivan County  
3258 Highway 126, Suite 104  
Blountville, TN 37617

<http://mastergardeners.tennessee.edu>

## UPCOMING EVENTS 2006

Sept 9 & 23	Household Hazardous Waste Collections
Sept 21	"Growing and Propagating Native Woody Plants" Jonesborough Visitors' Center, Boone Street
Sept 23, 24	Exchange Place Fall Folk Arts Festival
Sept. 30	NETMGA Program...ETSU Arboretum Tour
Sept. 30	<u><a href="#">Deadline for Reporting MG hours</a></u>
October 5,6, and 7	MG Leadership Retreat , Jackson, TN
October 14	SAPS Plant and Seed Swap, Silent Auction & Potluck Lunch Rotary Park , Johnson City
Oct 21 - Oct. 22.	Women's Expo, Meadowview Convention Center
November 6	NETMGA Program, election of Officers, Annual Recognition Dinner (covered dish), Gray Community Center



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