



Master Gardener Thymes

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SEPT / OCT 2011

PLAN TO ATTEND A FALL MG CLASS

The schedule has been finalized for the fall 2011 Master Gardener classes. A team consisting of Chris Ramsey, Johnny Suthers, Linda Day, Joy Moore, Pat Mazurkiewicz, Philip Ramey, and Harold Burns worked diligently to create an exceptional schedule for this year's students.

The majority of classes will be held in Building 1 at the Appalachian Fair Grounds in Gray. This year the classes will meet on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 12:00 with the following exceptions:

Tues. Sept 20	Renaissance Center in Kingsport	7:00 – 9:00 PM
Tues. Oct. 4	Ben Hunter's House in Kingsport	9:30 until done
Thurs. Oct. 6	Gray Community Center	9:30 – 12:00
Sat. Oct. 8	Dr. Richard Moyer's House in Bristol	1:00 – 3:00
Tues. Nov. 11	Steele's Creek Park in Bristol	9:30 – 12:00

All Master Gardeners and Interns are welcome to attend any of the classes. This is a wonderful way to meet new people and to earn CEUs. See below for the entire schedule.

2011 Master Gardener Class Schedule

Date/Day	Topic	Speaker	Location
9/13 Tues	Overview	Chris Ramsey / Beth Babbit	App Fair - Bldg 1
9/15 Thurs	Intro to Horticulture	Tim McDowell	App Fair - Bldg 1
9/20 Tues	Gathering in the Garden	Buddy Lee	Renaissance Ctr-Kpt
9/22 Thurs	Soils	Hubert Lambert	App Fair - Bldg 1
9/27 Tues	Herbs	Joy Moore	App Fair - Bldg 1
9/29 Thurs	Water Management	Joy Stewart	App Fair - Bldg 1
10/4 Tues	Vegetables and Compost	Ben Hunter	Ben Hunter's house-Kpt.
10/6 Thurs	Propagation	Bo Shadden	Gray Community Ctr
10/8 Sat	Fruit	Dr. Richard Moyer	Dr. Moyer's house-Bristol
10/11 Tues	Weed Science	Scott Jerrell	App Fair - Bldg 1
10/13 Thurs	Integrated Pest Management	Joy Moore	App Fair - Bldg 1
10/18 Tues	Pesticide Safety	Phil Blevins	App Fair - Bldg 1
10/20 Thurs	Pruning	Hugh Conlon	App Fair - Bldg 1
10/25 Tues	Entomology	Mannie Bedwell	App Fair - Bldg 1
10/27 Thurs	Plant Pathology	Keith Hart	App Fair - Bldg 1
11/1 Tues	Lawn / Turf	Chris Ramsey	App Fair - Bldg 1
11/8 Tues	Trees and Shrubs	Jeremy Stout	Steele Creek Park-Bristol
11/15 Tues	Graduation Dinner		

WELCOME FALL AT EXCHANGE PLACE

It's time once more for the annual Fall Folk Arts Festival at Exchange Place Living History Farm in Kingsport. On Saturday, September 24, from 10 am to 5 pm, and Sunday, September 25, from 12 noon to 5 pm Exchange Place will host its 39th yearly event.

The Festival will focus on harvest time activities on an 1850s farm with an emphasis on pioneer arts and crafts, ol' timey foods, music, children's activities and living history reenactments. Artisans will demonstrate and sell a wide array of traditional folk arts, and the Harvest Market will feature plants, autumn produce and seasonal crafts.

Admission is \$1 for adults and \$.50 for children. For more information, call [423-288-6071](tel:423-288-6071). Master Gardener volunteers are needed to staff a shift at the Master Gardeners' booth and to help with grape vine crafts. To volunteer please call Joy Moore at 348-6572 or e-mail at ijnmoore@embargmail.com.

TRY SOME "TRIAL AND ERROR" GARDENING

Submitted by Sue Stanley

One of the things I like best about gardening is that I can always start over. If a plant doesn't perform well, there's no reason for me to feel guilty about moving it or even removing it altogether. I learned that during a class I attended several years ago on perennial gardening. Our well respected instructor began her presentation by telling us that Roundup™ was her best friend. What a concept! I learned that knowing when to cut your losses is critical and being able to do it guilt free is absolutely empowering.

In my personal "trial and error" garden, some of the best performing annuals I've grown this year include a white petunia, Shock Wave™ 'Coconut' (Park Seed), and Salvia 'Evolution', (a purple perennial that's grown as an annual), also from Park Seed. Both require full sun. In a different sun/shade location I tried a colorful hybrid impatiens, Paradise™ Electric Orange purchased at a local Lowe's. These plants have survived high winds, hail and hard rains on a southwest facing slope all summer and are still going strong. Another plant that's done well is cherry red Vinca rastrera, 'Catharanthus roseus', a trailing form of annual vinca. The typical flowering annual vinca often suffers from mildew in our weather. This one does not seem to have that



problem. It does great in the ground or in a pot.

In order to find the best plants for my garden, I love to visit a variety of nurseries and public gardens at different times of the year. That way I can see what a plant looks like when it's in bloom and later, when it's not. The UT Gardens are a great example. They also have their annual plant sale scheduled for September 17, 2011. Many of the plants they've grown in their trial gardens will be available along with lots more from local vendors. This is a good way to see and buy some of the newest cultivars.

Happy Gardening!

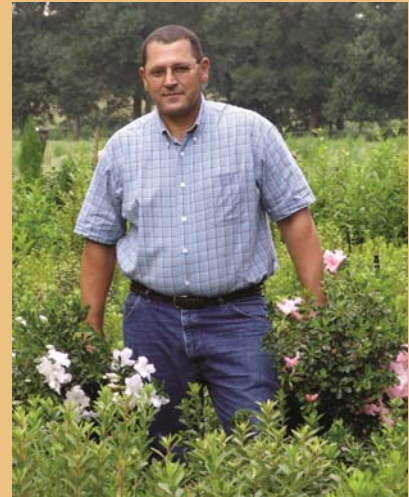
Sue Stanley, MG 2006, gardening in Greenback TN

ENJOY AN EVENING WITH BUDDY LEE

Internationally known plant breeder and horticulturist Buddy Lee will deliver the annual Gathering in the Garden lecture on "Encore Azaleas and Other New Exciting Plants for Your Landscape" on Thursday, September 15, at 7 p.m. at Kingsport Renaissance Center, 1200 E. Center Street in Kingsport.

In this informative program Lee will offer helpful care and planting tips for Encore (R) Azaleas, share news on the newest releases from the Southern Living® Plant Collection, and discuss new plant development and the evaluation processes that occur before a plant is ready for the market. As always in Buddy's talks, questions and comments are welcome. So be prepared to sit back and relax on a tour of backyard plant breeding techniques with one of the most respected plant breeders and horticulturists in North America.

Sponsored by Southern Appalachian Plant Society, this program is free and the public is invited. For more information, call [423-348-6572](tel:423-348-6572) or e-mail ijnmoore@embarqmail.com.



VOTE FOR SYCAMORE SHOALS!

Sycamore Shoals Historic Park is involved in a contest to win \$25,000.00 (or more!) The contest is sponsored by Coca Cola as part of its campaign to "live positively."

Just go to www.livepositively.com and follow directions to vote. If you need more information please call Helen Wilson at [423-543-1938](tel:423-543-1938) <tel:423-543-1938>.

The contest ends on Sept. 6. Sycamore Shoals needs to be in third place to win any of the prize money. Supporters are encouraged to vote EVERY DAY as many times as possible. One hundred votes can be made in 30 minutes.

If Sycamore Shoals wins, the prize money will be used to help restore the historic 1816 home of Gen. Nathaniel Taylor who was the great grandfather of Bob and Alf Taylor, both governors of Tennessee. When they campaigned against each other it was dubbed the "war of roses" as one wore a red rose and the other a white.



Chris' Corner

CHRIS RAMSEY
SULLIVAN COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT
(423) 279-2723
chris.ramsey@utk.edu

Where did the summer go? It seems like just yesterday that we were planting gardens and beginning to enjoy the warm temperatures after a very cool late spring.

I have heard from some of you regarding your work with local Master Gardener projects! It is sure exciting to hear about the progress of area projects and the impact they are having in local communities.

If you haven't had time to get those MG hours this year, there is still plenty of time left for both "ACT" hours and CEUs. Remember Certified MGs

get 25 ACT hours and Interns get 40 hours. Both should accumulate 8 CEUs.

If you're looking for a place to plug into for volunteer hours, you may call me or one of the area MG project leaders. For CEUs, there are still plenty of opportunities around at area garden center seminars and Fall MG classes. I will also offer an opportunity later this fall for MGs to attend a pesticide training that will count as CEU credit.

The deadline for submission of hours is December 31, 2011. Please submit these hours as soon as you can, especially if you use a paper report form so these can be entered online for you. If you need assistance in navigating the MG website, please let me know. I may be reached by calling the UT Ext Sullivan County office at 279-2723.

TOUR EAST TENNESSEE NURSERIES

If you are a NETMGA Project Leader, interested in becoming a project leader, or are a current or future NETMGA Board Member, you should consider signing up for the East TN Nursery Tour. You'll visit green industry growers, landscaping, and value-added horticulture in Northern Kentucky. All of this for \$250.00 dbl. occ. For more information or to get a brochure, call Chris Ramsey at [423-279-2723](tel:423-279-2723). The registration deadline is October 3, 2011.

HELP UNICOI BUILD A COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Submitted by Brenda Warner

The movers and shakers in Unicoi County are working to establish a Farmers' Community Kitchen in Unicoi. The town of Unicoi has the land, the specifications and two grants for the project. They are now working to gather ideas from the public. If you are interested in learning more about this idea or in expressing your opinions, please e-mail the county officials at unicoitownhall@comcast.net or visit their web site at www.unicoi.tn.us.

EARN VOLUNTEER HOURS IN OCTOBER

Master Gardeners and Interns can earn some volunteer hours in a quick, fun way by volunteering to help with the annual Women's Expo October 21 - 23. The yearly event is held at the Meadowview Convention Center in Kingsport and always draws a big crowd. Master Gardeners traditionally help with this event by staffing the ticket booth and the MG Information Booth. Contact Doug Hilton to volunteer. (Phone 423- 239-9433 or e-mail at appfair@embargmail.com. See the schedule below for dates and times when help is needed.

	Ticket Booth	Information Booth
Friday October 21, 2011		
4:45 – 7:00 PM	3 people needed	2 people needed
7:00 – 9:00 PM	2 people needed	2 people needed
Saturday October 22		
9:30 – 12:30	2 people needed	3 people needed
12:30 – 3:00 PM	3 people needed	2 people needed
3:00 – 6:00 PM	2 people needed	2 people needed
Sunday October 23		
12:45 – 3:00 PM	3 people needed	3 people needed
3:00 – 6:00 PM	2 people needed	1 person needed

PURCHASE FALL PLANTS AT UT

UT Gardens in Knoxville is hosting "A Plant Sale Not To Be Missed" on Saturday, September 17 from 9:00am - 2:00pm. UT Gardens' staff members know that fall is for planting! And the UT Gardens Knoxville fall plant sale promises to deliver a spectacular fall selection. Garden enthusiasts will be able to choose from Tennessee native plants, fall and winter interest plants, and winter container gardening plants. All proceeds will benefit the UT Gardens. The sale will be located at the UT Gardens on the UT agriculture campus in Knoxville located on Neyland Drive adjacent to the UT Veterinary Hospital.

ENJOY A STROLL AT THE UT GARDENS

The UT Gardens will be open Tuesday Sept. 20 and Tuesday Oct. 18 for guided walks. This is a lovely way to learn more about plants and gardening while delighting in the beauty of the gardens. The walks are held twice daily at noon and at 6:00 PM. Tours depart from the Friendship Plaza at the entrance to the UT Gardens. There is no fee and the walks are held rain or shine unless there is dangerous lightning. Participants may register in advance but it is not required.

2011 DATES TO WATCH

- SEPT 9 NC Arboretum - Residential Landscape Design Series Begins [828-664-2492](tel:828-664-2492)
- SEPT 9 - 11 Roan Mountain State Park Naturalist Rally
- SEPT 9 -11 Sycamore Shoals State Park Celtic Festival
- SEPT 12 & 19 Home School Days Historic Rocky Mount 10am to 4
- SEPT 13 2011 Master Gardener Classes Begin 9:30 am - 12 noon, Building #1 Appalachian Fair Grounds, Cost \$165.00 Contact Chris Ramsey [423-279-2723](tel:423-279-2723)
- SEPT 14 NC Arboretum Fall Container Gardening 10 - 12 noon, Rock Garden Symposium 1- 4:30 pm
- SEPT 15 SAPS Annual September in the Garden Lecture
"ENCORE AZALEAS AND ADVENTURES IN NEW PLANT DEVELOPMENT"
- SEPT 16-17 Heritage Harvest Festival on the West Lawn of Monticello <http://heritageharvestfestival.com>
- SEPT 17 UT Gardens Fall Plant Sale 9 am to 2pm , UT GARDENS Neyland Drive Knoxville
- SEPT 18 NC Arboretum Close-up Garden Photography 1-4pm
- SEPT 20 Noon and Twilight Tours of UT gardens, Twilight begins at 6 pm at entrance to gardens.
- SEPT 24 Over Mountain Victory Program Historic Rocky Mount
- SEPT 24 -25 Fall Folk Arts Festival Exchange Place 24th-10:00 am - 5:00pm 25th- 12noon -5:00pm
- SEPT 24-25 Sycamore Shoals State Park-Victory Trail Celebration 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- SEPT 24 Tipton-Haynes Sorghum Scutching Festival
- SEPT 29-Oct 1 17th Annual Sycamore Shoals Quilt Show
- OCT 1 Last day to register for INTERNATIONAL MASTER GARDENER CONFERENCE IN WV
- OCT 1 Environmental Education Workshop at Warriors Path State Park 9 am to 4 pm
- OCT 1 SAPS Annual Plant and Seed Swap Rotary Park Johnson City 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
- OCT 1-2 Fort Watauga Knap-In 10 - 4:30 pm
- OCT 1,8,15,22,29 Bird Walks with Lee and Lois Herndon 8:00 am Sycamore Shoals State Park
- OCT 3 MASTER GARDENER MEETING 6:00 PM (HOT DOG ROAST) Ben Hunter's Home
Program- "Getting your Raised Beds Ready for Winter" Bring a Side Dish!!
- OCT 3 REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR EASTERN REGION NURSERY LANDSCAPING AND GREENHOUSE TOUR Contact Keith Hart [423-542-1814](tel:423-542-1814) \$250.00 double room
- OCT 5 NC Arboretum Dry Stack Stone Workshop 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
- OCT 8 15 k Overmountain Victory Run Rocky Mount www.werunevents.com
- OCT 8 Roan Mountain State Park Autumn Harvest Celebration
- OCT 11 INTERNATIONAL MASTER GARDENERS CONFERENCE Charleston, WVA
- OCT 15 Tipton- Haynes "Stories from the Pumpkin Patch"
- OCT 15 NC Arboretum CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW [828-665-2492](tel:828-665-2492)
- OCT 18 Noon and Twilight Tour of UT Gardens (Twilight begins at 6:00pm)
- OCT 18 - 20 Eastern Region Nursery, Landscaping and Greenhouse Tour
- OCT 20 NC Arboretum Winter Container Gardening Workshop 10 - 12 noon
- OCT 21 - 23 WOMEN'S EXPO Meadowview Marriott
- OCT 22 Spirit of the Harvest Rocky Mount
- OCT 22 - 23 Witches Wynd EXCHANGE PLACE 8:00 PM
- OCT 22 Halloween in the Campground Roan Mountain State Park
- OCT 27 Scary Stories at the Carter Mansion 7:30 pm

VISIT LOCAL FARMERS' MARKETS FOR FRESH PRODUCE



Area farmers' markets are overflowing with produce, flowers, crafts and more as fall approaches. All of the larger area markets continue to sell their wares through October. The Abingdon Market is open year-round. It maintains its regular schedule through Nov. 22. then shifts to a Holiday Schedule which is November 26th, Dec 3, 10, and 17 from 10

-12. In January, February and March the Abingdon Market is open the 3rd Saturday from 10-1. See below for times and locations of four of the area's markets:

Bristol Farmers' Market, 810 State Street
Sept. Sat 7:00 – 11:00 am and Wed. 3:00 – 7:00 pm
October Saturdays 7:00 – 11:00 AM

Abingdon Farmers' Market, Corner of Cummings St. and Rensburg Drive
Sept. and October – Sat. 7:00 AM to noon and Tues. 3:00 to 6:00 PM

Kingsport Farmers' Market, Corner of Center St. and Clinchfield.
Sept. and Oct. Sat. and Wed. 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Johnson City Farmers' Market, 500 South Roan St.
Sept. and Oct. – Wed. and Sat. 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM

2011 NORTHEAST TENNESSEE MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

netmga2009@yahoo.com

PRESIDENT

Blenda Anderson
423-276-3028

blajaa5755@charter.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Karen Drought
423-928-0225

momypurr@aol.com

SECRETARY

Kathy Waldo
(423) 913-2121

kathywaldo@embarqmail.com

TREASURER

Pat Mazurkiewicz
423-323-1644

robmazur@chartertn.net

CERTIFICATION OFFICER

Angie Droke
423-578-8281

adroke@chartertn.net

PAST PRESIDENT

Johnny Suthers
423-323-2202

jchemie@aol.com

2011 NETMGA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

MEMBERSHIP

Sally Richard
(423) 341-6166
sdr37615@comcast.net

PROJECTS

Johnny Suthers
423-323-2202
jchemie@aol.com

HOSPITALITY

Kathy & Larry Wagner
(423) 323-5446
kwagner@chartertn.net

PUBLICITY

Teresa Tittle
(423) 967-3695
teresa5937@hotmail.com

2010 CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

Christine Barger
o773h@hotmail.com

WEBSITE

Carl Voigt
(423) 467-2013
voigt7@comcast.net

NEWSLETTER

Jean Green (Editor)
(423) 652-1756
gardenergreen@gmail.com

Junella McClellan (Layout Design)
(423) 534-8097
j.mcclellan@hotmail.com



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

<http://netmga.net>
<http://mastergardeners.tennessee.edu>

netmga2009@yahoo.com

ENJOY HOT DOGS AT THE OCTOBER



MEETING

Ben Hunter will be hosting the October 3rd NETMGA meeting at his home in Kingsport. Those attending will meet at Ben's house where he will give a lesson in raised beds and how to get them ready for winter. The meeting begins at 6:00 PM. After the meeting there will be a hot dog roast and maybe s'mores. Attendees are welcome to bring a side dish to go with the hotdogs. Daylight Savings Time lasts until the first of November, so there should be plenty of light for the meeting.

Directions to Ben Hunter's House: Exit off of I-181 (I-26) at exit 4. Travel toward Fall Branch on Hwy 93. Go approximately ½ mile and turn left onto Shady View Road. Go 1 and ½ miles on Shady View Road and Ben Hunter's house will be on your left at 691 Shady View Road (247-5917). Those who can walk a short distance will be directed to park in an alternate location. If you have questions, call Chris's cell phone at 423-646-9043.

For those who like to plan in advance, the December meeting will have discussions from project leaders, tales of the international gathering in West Virginia and all things possible for 2012. Everyone is reminded to wear name tags.