

EVENTS FOR 2013 HOLIDAY SEASON!!

Herbs for the Holidays – Foods and Decorating

The Monday, December 2, Master Gardener general meeting will be at the Kingsport Chamber of Commerce Building which is adjacent to the Farmers Market. The address is 400 Clinchfield Street #100, Kingsport, TN 37660, phone 423-392-8800. Networking begins at 6:00 p.m. and the program begins at 6:30 p.m.

Refreshments will be provided as part of the program.

Members are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items or a cash donation to be made to the Second Harvest Food Bank. This donation will be made on behalf of the NETMGA because Second Harvest serves the entire area of our membership. Let us lend a hand to those less fortunate in our communities during this holiday season.

The program will be presented by Christy Shivell and Jane Mullins. We hope everyone will come and visit this wonderful new facility. Members will get some great ideas for holiday herbal gifts, foods and decorating, plus there will be a variety of foods to sample. As always, wonderful door prizes!

Hope to see everyone on December 2.



Decorating Help Wanted!!!

Volunteers are requested to plan and decorate the tables for the December Meeting. Please contact Jane at 423-737-7915 or janemullins2013@gmail.com, if interested. This will count as ACT hours. Table cloths will be provided by MG's. Any and all ideas are welcome and the tables do not have to be identical. Creativity is encouraged. Tables should be set-up prior to the meeting.

Wreath Making Workshop at Exchange Place

Exchange Place Living History Farm, 4812 Orebank Road in Kingsport, will hold its annual Wreath Making Workshop on Thursday, December 5, from 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. With inspiration and guidance from Christy Shivell of Shy Valley Native Habitat Nursery and Herbarium, participants will create a unique evergreen wreath to take home. All materials - fresh greenery (holly, magnolia, cedar berries, pine, yew, etc.), cones, dried flowers, wreath form, and wire - will be provided.

The cost for the day is \$30 (\$25 for SAPS members and NI/EP Association members) and includes all materials and a soup lunch. To reserve your place, mail check, payable to "Exchange Place", to: Joy Moore, P.O. Box 87, Fall Branch, TN 37656. Please include your phone and/or e-mail for confirmation. Registration is limited to 15 participants. Registration deadline is December 2. Sorry no cancellations or refunds (though we will save your materials for you if you have to cancel.) Proceeds from the workshop go to Exchange Place's restoration efforts.

Wreath Making Tool and Supply List

A limited number of tools will be available, but, if possible, please bring:

pruning shears

wire cutters

needle-nose pliers

scissors

"findings" - any special objects, special greenery, etc. that you wish to include in your wreath. You are encouraged to bring plant material from your yard to use and share for even more variety.

3-5 yards of 2" ribbon (optional)

For more information call Joy Moore at [423-348-6572](tel:423-348-6572) or e-mail at jinmoore@embarqmail.com.

Christmas in the Country at Exchange Place

Christmas in the Country at Exchange Place Living History Farm, 4812 Orebank Road in Kingsport, will be held Saturday, December 7, from 10 am - 4:00 pm. Fresh greenery and trees, handcrafted wreaths and roping, unique folk arts and handcrafts, herbal products and traditional holiday foods will be on sale. The celebration also features hands on activities for all ages and demonstrations of hearthside cooking and baking on the 19th century farmstead. The traditional Yule Log Ceremony with carol singing around the bonfire and a cauldron of wassail begins at 4:15 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call [423-288-6071](tel:423-288-6071). <http://exchangeplace.info>





Chris' Corner

CHRIS RAMSEY
SULLIVAN COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT
(423) 646-9043
chris.ramsey@utk.edu

The gardening year is coming to a close. Without a doubt one of the tougher years we have had in a long time with much insect and disease pressure. Each year is uniquely different. Very quickly this winter, I'll be looking forward to the colors of spring.

Please enter your hours either online or via the blue report form as soon as you can. Hours entered by late

November will be included on my regional report. The overall total entered by December 31, 2013 will be included on the State Master Gardener Report.

We will have our Annual Master Gardener Recognition Dinner on the first Monday in February. This dinner will count as the NETMGA February meeting.

Thank you for your continued membership and participation in the NETMGA. The existence of this group is essential to the success and growth of the North East TN Master Gardener Program. The group brings everyone together as an identifiable group.

Call me at 423-279-2723 if you have any questions.

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Featured Project

Exchange Place, Kingsport

The Master Gardeners began Spring with cold and wet...extremely wet, weather. Planting and maintaining a new garden proved to be a challenge with a minimum number of Master Gardeners. Heirloom crops did get planted and they included peas, potatoes, all the Southern greens, lettuce, and cabbage. Further on in early June, tomatoes, peppers, okra, squash, and pole beans were set out.

To make the 1850s garden look truly authentic, I raised some sorghum plants at home for Exchange Place which have been amazing. They grew to 12 feet high. No one has ever seen this grow that high. Cotton did well from seed also. Tobacco is also a favorite in the garden every year.

Our crops did well enough that the Master Gardeners shared some of them with the food kitchen in Kingsport. These included the greens, four 5-gallon pails of beans, and seventy pounds of potatoes.

We are trying something new this year with Fall and Winter gardening. We have planted a new crop of greens, snap peas, lettuce, radishes, carrots, beets, garlic, and onions. The cabbage family crops were also planted. We're hoping to have a mild winter so we can continue showing all of our efforts to Festival attendees and those visitors who come to Exchange Place to tour the farm.

Master Gardeners work on gardens on Tuesdays at 9 AM and additional times when necessary or if weather is a problem. Anyone interested in our project is welcome and can contact David Gostomski at e3fan98@yahoo.com or 423-212-0231.



Check out NETMGA's website <http://netmga.net/>

Featured Project

Vance Community Garden

Work skills classes from both sides of Bristol battled it out “garden style” during the traditional VT Week rivalry. VT Week hosts a variety of celebrations in both cities for the Virginia High and Tennessee High football. Through a program at Rivers Way Outdoor Adventure Center, the Tennessee High students work in the garden two days per week. This year, their new friends on the Virginia side are joining them one day per week.



Looking for an interesting way to display your veggies at Thanksgiving?



Go For Gold

The bright blooms of pansies and violas will make your pots and flowerbeds glow.

Article: Gene B. Bussell



Container Recipe: 'Ogon' golden sweet flag, 'Matrix Yellow Blotch' pansy, 'Penny Clear Yellow' viola. Photo: Laurey W. Glenn

Container Gardening Ideas

Enjoy nonstop color all year long with these container gardening ideas and plant suggestions. You'll find beautiful pots to adorn porches and patios.

Ask Carol Guedalia, horticulturist with The Greenery on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, the easiest way to add long-lasting color to the fall garden, and her answer is simple: pansies and violas. "They bloom prolifically and just ask for a few things," says Carol. "They love sun—at least six hours a day—and fertile, well-drained soil. Also, it's important to feed your flowers." She prefers an organic fertilizer, such as blood meal, periodically supplemented with a liquid plant food. She mixes her petals with herbs such as parsley, lemon thyme, golden sage, and rosemary, as well as with veggies such as kales, chards, and mustards. Carol adds, "Pansies and violas are always happy plants—ideal for both new and experienced gardeners."

Try Cool Wave Pansies!

Be sure to try this season's newest blooms: Cool Wave pansies. These spreading plants love cold weather. They grow 6 to 8 inches tall, and one plant can spread 24 to 30 inches, so you won't have to use as many. Look for these selections at your local nursery: 'Yellow,' 'White,' 'Frost,' and 'Violet Wing.'



Fill Up Flowerbeds

Use Cool Wave pansies at the front edge of your beds to create sweeps of color. Choose taller plants, such as Chinese pinks (*Dianthus chinensis*), larkspurs, foxgloves, snapdragons, and poppies, to bloom behind them.

Container Recipe: 'Cool Wave Violet Wing'
Photo: Laurey W. Glenn



Perfect for Container Gardens

You'll love these pansies in hanging baskets or pots, where their flowers can cascade over the sides.

From the October 2012 Southern Living Magazine



Michael Dirr Symposium



Save the Date: Saturday, March 8, 2014 – Grow 2014: A Celebration of Trees, presented by Lexington Horticultural Symposiums at the VMI Center for Landscape and Ethics, Lexington, Virginia

Dr. Michael Dirr is to plants what Bill Gates is to technology. Every horticulturist, landscape architect, landscape designer, reputable plant nursery, and serious tree geek has a copy of Michael Dirr's *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*, considered the standard handbook for trees and shrubs. He is the author of numerous other books and was a revered horticulture professor at the University of Georgia for many years. And – he is actually coming to Lexington! Dr. Dirr will be the keynote speaker for a new horticultural symposium, **Grow 2014: A Celebration of Trees**. He'll be joined by Vince Dooley, retired coach of the University of Georgia Bulldogs and an avid gardener (and friend of Dr. Dirr) who will talk about the horticultural journey of a football coach and Nancy Ross Hugo, co-author of the *Remarkable Trees of Virginia* who will discuss the rewards of looking closely at ten common trees of North America as featured in her recent book, *Seeing Trees: Discover the Extraordinary Secrets of Trees*. Seating is limited, so sign up now via the symposium's website, www.grow-2014.com.

Continuing education hours will be offered for the day, in addition to book signings and book sales. The \$75 fee includes lunch. Visitors arriving on Friday have the opportunity of a free tour of historic Lexington with a trained guide.

NETMGA Projects List

1. **Appalachian Fairgrounds** Gray
Herb Garden Debbie Green djgreen1955@gmail.com
Water Wise Gardens Joy Stewart joylarry@btes.tv
2. **Boundless Playground at Warriors' Path State Park** Kingsport
Gwyn Duncan 423-239-0460 geduncan@charter.net
3. **Carver Peace Gardens** Johnson City
Sam Jones 423-773-3204 simpleintn@yahoo.com
4. **Church Hill Senior Citizens Center Garden**
Marcia Vandermause mmvdvm@charter.net
Judy Penley chscgarden@yahoo.com
5. **Exchange Place Living History Farm** Kingsport
Dave Gostomski e3fan98@yahoo.com
6. **Harvest of Hope Community Garden** Kingsport
Doug Hilton howlatthemoon1775@gmail.com
7. **Johnson City Medical Center, Woodridge Hospital** Johnson City
Barbara Voigt 423-467-2013 voigt7b@comcast.net
Quillen Rehabilitation Carol Collins 423-639-0341 ccollins47@Comcast.net
8. **Northeast State Community College Gardens to Degrees**
Johnny Sutters 423-323-2202 jchemie@aol.com
9. **Rocky Mount Living History Site** Piney Flats
Don Davis home 423-854-0152, cell 423-943- 2392 donfdavis@aol.com
10. **Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park** Elizabethton
Vikki Bradach vbradach@gmail.com
11. **Tipton Haynes Historic Site** Johnson City
Claudia Hazel claudiajhazel@yahoo.com
12. **Vance Community Gardens** Bristol
Gini Powell PowellG@btcs.org
Rebecca Craddock Craddockr@btcs.org

Projects 13 and 14 are one weekend a year for each of the 5 activities:


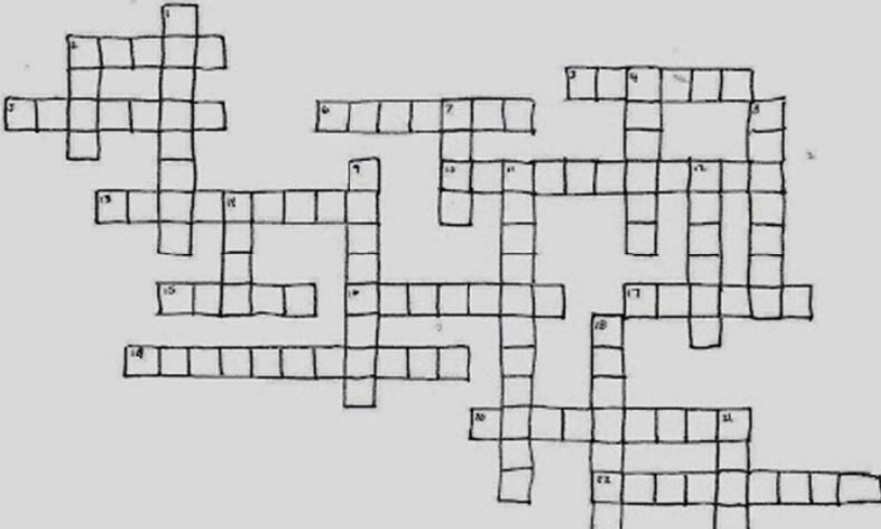
13. **Johnson City Home Show and Women's Expo**
Penny Rutledge pennyrutledge2@aol.com
14. **Kingsport MeadowView Women's Expo, Home Show and Farm Show**
Doug Hilton 423-239-9433

NOVEMBER 2013 Calendar of Events

- NOV 2 Tips to Protect Tender Herbs, Roses, Perennials, etc. for Winter – Evergreen of Johnson City; 10:30 am. Pre-registration not required but is recommended; call (423) 282-3431.
- NOV 2 Creating a Native Woodland Garden - Instructor: Lisa Wagner
10:30 a.m. to noon; North Carolina Arboretum, Asheville. \$20 Member/\$29 Non-member
- NOV 2 & 9 Analyzing and Landscaping Your Mountain Homesite
9 am – 1:30 pm; The Botanical Gardens at Asheville, Butler Room & Gardens
Pre-registration/pre-payment/pre-coursework assignment required
Contact Office Administrator at BGA for additional information and/or to register (828) 252-5190. Cost: BGA members: \$30, Nonmembers: \$45
- NOV 3 Native Conifer Trees of Western North Carolina - Jason Rodrigue
2:00 – 3:30 pm; The Botanical Gardens at Asheville, Butler Room & Gardens
Reservation required. Contact Office Administrator at BGA for additional information and/or to register (828) 252-5190. Cost: BGA members: \$10, Nonmembers: \$15
- NOV 3 Orchid Society of East Tennessee – 2:00pm - Gray Community Center
- NOV 5 Washington County Bee Keepers Association
Boones Creek Christian Church – 7:30 pm
- NOV 7 Learn: Bulbs! Planting Propagating and Caring for Your Bulbs - Knoxville Botanical Garden and Arboretum; 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Registration required; Cost: \$7 members, \$12 non-members; Call 865-862-8717 or email info@knoxgarden.org to register
- NOV 7 Herb Saplings Meeting at Exchange Place; 7:00 pm. Topic: "Pomander Balls and other Spicy Christmas Traditions," led by Sue Cadwallader.
- NOV 8 Garden Sprouts: Fall Nature Crafts - at UT Gardens, Knoxville
10:00 – 11:30 am; for children ages 3-5; pre-registration required. Contact Derrick Stowell at 865-974-7151 or dstowell@utk.edu to pre-register or for more information. Cost: \$8/member; \$12/nonmember
- NOV 9 Clean Air Houseplants for Indoors - Evergreen of Johnson City; 10:30 am. Pre-registration not required but is recommended; call (423) 282-3431.
- NOV 9 How to Make Custom Holiday Toppers for your Christmas Trees - Karen Gibson and The Green People; 10:00 am; Evergreen – Riverport Rd., Kingsport
- NOV 9 Old Time Yule at Roan Mountain State Park
For more information: 423-772-0190 or www.tnstateparks.com/RoanMtn
- NOV 9 Ijams Enchanted Forest, Ijams Nature Center in Knoxville
Event begins 1:00 pm; Tours begin 3:00 pm; Walks leave every 20 minutes; call (865) 577-4717, ext. 130 to register for a start time. Fee: \$5 members/\$8 non-members.
- NOV 10 Sunday Garden Talks: Native Plants – at UT Gardens, Knoxville
2:00 - 3:30 pm.; pre-registration required. Contact Derrick Stowell at 865-974-7151 or dstowell@utk.edu to pre-register or for more information. Cost: Free/member; \$5/nonmember
- NOV 11 NETMGA Board Meeting, 6:00 pm, Gray Fairgrounds Ticket Office
- NOV 14 November SAPS Meeting at the Johnson City Power Board Auditorium
7 pm. Speaker: Horticulturist Hugh Conlon. For more information, call 423-348-6572 or e-mail ijnmoore@embarqmail.com.

- NOV 16 Adult Workshop: Garden Paper – UT Gardens, Knoxville
1:00 – 3:00 pm; pre-registration required. Contact Derrick Stowell at 865-974-7151 or dstowell@utk.edu to pre-register or for more information. Cost: \$20/member; \$30/nonmember
- NOV 16-17 Harvest Celebration & Militia Muster at Fort Watauga, Sycamore Shoals
Begins at 10 am both days. For more information call (423) 543-5808.
- NOV 19 Growing Healthy: Extending Your Growing Season – UT Gardens, Knoxville
4:30 - 5:30 pm. This program is for children and their families. pre-registration required. Contact Derrick Stowell at 865-974-7151 or dstowell@utk.edu to pre-register or for more information. Cost: Free
- NOV 23 Creative Decorations for the Holidays Seminar – Karen Gibson
10:00 am; Evergreen – Riverport Rd., Kingsport
- NOV 30 Creative Decorations for the Holidays with Live Greenery Workshop – Karen Gibson. 10:00 am; Evergreen – Riverport Rd., Kingsport. \$10 Fee

HOLIDAY CROSSWORD CHALLENGE!!!!

DOWN

1. "Santa Clause" lead
2. ___ Crosby, teamed with 2 Across in "Drummer Boy"
4. Milky Christmas drink
7. Stocking-stuffer for naughty children
8. Over-used Christmas villain
9. Festival of Lights
11. Home of the Brick Haus
12. Twinkling tree decorations
14. Bob & Doug's "12 Days of Xmas" 1st day – "___ in a tree..."
18. Victim of Santa Hit & Run
21. ___ log

ACROSS

2. David ___, teamed with 2 Down in "Drummer Boy"
3. Leafy door decoration
5. 9-branched candelabrum
6. Paired with a Dancer, featured in Xmas movie
10. Comedian famous for singing about Hanukkah
13. Visited his furry family in "Star Wars Holiday Special"
15. Ancient king, hated babies
16. Weeklong celebration of African-American heritage/culture
17. UK Santa: ___ Christmas
19. Anonymous workplace gift-giver
20. Dec. 26th – Servants' day off
22. Plant – induces kisses

DECEMBER 2013 Calendar of Events

- DEC Lamplight Christmas Wreath Exhibit, Sycamore Shoals Visitor Center
Event runs entire month of December through January 4. For more information call (423) 543-5808.
- DEC 1 Orchid Society of East Tennessee – 2:00pm - Gray Community Center
- DEC 2-31 Holiday Tree Exhibit – Historic Jonesborough Visitors Center
- DEC 2 NETMGA General Meeting at Kingsport Chamber of Commerce; 6:00 pm
Herbs for the Holidays - Decorating and Foods; Speakers: Jane Mullins and Christy Shivell
- DEC 3 Washington County Bee Keepers Association Boones Creek Christian Church – 7:30 pm
- DEC 6-7 Candlelight Christmas at Rocky Mount Living History Museum. 4:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Due to the popularity of this event, reservations are highly recommended. For more information and to make reservations please call (423) 538-7396.
- DEC 6-7 Christmas at the Carter Mansion, 6:00 – 9:00 pm. For more information call (423) 543-5808.
- DEC 6 Berries and Boughs – Knoxville Botanical Garden and Arboretum
10:00 am – 4:00 pm; For more information call Vicki at 865-862-8717
- DEC 7 Adopt a Tree at Warriors' Path State Park 10 am – Noon; For more information call (423) 239-8531.
- DEC 7 Christmas in the Country 2013 at Exchange Place in Kingsport
10:00 am – 4:00 pm; Yule Log Ceremony at 4:00 pm. For more information call 423-288-6071
- DEC 7 Crockett Christmas – Davy Crockett Birthplace
4:00-8:00 pm. For more information contact: Dawn.Coleman@tn.gov.
- DEC 8 Sunday Garden Talk: Edible Flowers – UT Gardens, Knoxville
2:00 - 3:30 pm.; pre-registration required. Contact Derrick Stowell at 865-974-7151 or dstowell@utk.edu to pre-register or for more information. Cost: Free/member; \$5/nonmember
- DEC 14 Adult Workshop: Wreath Making – UT Gardens, Knoxville
1:00 – 3:00 pm. ; pre-registration required. Contact Derrick Stowell at 865-974-7151 or dstowell@utk.edu to pre-register or for more information. Cost: \$30/member; \$40/nonmember

Holiday Puzzle Answer Key

BOLO
(be on the lookout for)...

...an email with information
about ordering
NETMGA
t-shirts and sweatshirts.

DOWN:

1. Tim Allen
2. Bing
4. Eggnog
7. Coal
8. Scrooge
9. Hanukkah
- 11 .Amana Colony
12. Lights
14. Beer
18. Grandma
21. Yule

ACROSS:

2. Bowie
3. Wreath
5. Menorah
6. Prancer
10. Adam Sandler
13. Chewbacca
15. Herod
16. Kwanzaa
17. Father
19. Secret Santa
20. Boxing Day
22. Mistletoe



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Master Gardener Association
c/o
UT Extension Sullivan County
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Blountville, TN 37617

<http://netmga.net>

<http://mastergardeners.tennessee.edu>

Welcome 2013 Master Gardener Class!!!



MG Class at Joy Stewart's Water Management Class



MG Class at Abingdon Organics with Anthony Flaccavento

Master Gardeners: report your hours each month!!