



Brent Heath with his wife and business partner in Brent and Becky's Bulbs Photo courtesy of brentandbeckybulbs.com

Bulb Expert to Present Program

Members of the fall 2007 Master Gardener Class will hear bulb expert Brent Heath at their class on September 20, 2007. Brent Heath is a giant in the flower and garden industry. This award-winning writer, lecturer, and horticulturist is a third-generation bulb grower and enjoys trialing many unusual and specialty bulbs on his 10-acre farm and gardens in Gloucester, Virginia. Brent and his wife Becky own Brent and Becky's Bulbs, the well known mail order nursery, and have co-authored the award winning books,

Daffodils for North American Gardens, and *Tulips for North American Gardens*. Both books offer over 300 color photographs and provide inspiration and a source of reference for novice and professional gardeners. A limited number of these books will be available for purchase and signing. Heath has also been a consultant for Time Life's *Complete Gardener: Bulbs*, Ortho's *All About Bulbs*, Organic Garden's *Encyclopedia of Organic Gardening*, The American Horticultural Society's *Flower Finder* and numerous other books with chapters on bulbs.

Mr. Heath will also present two other programs while visiting the tri-city area. On Thursday afternoon, September 20, from 2 - 4:30 p.m. Brent will lead a Lecture & Workshop on "Container Gardening with Bulbs" at Evergreen of Johnson City, 511 Princeton Road. Later that evening he will deliver the annual Gathering in the Garden lecture on "Bulbs as Companion Plants" at Crossroads Christian Church, 1300 Suncrest Drive, Gray (2 miles off I-26, Gray exit, near Daniel Boone High School).

At the Evergreen presentation, Brent will spend the first hour presenting a lecture/slide show detailing how to create living flower arrangements with layers of bulbs and showing which bulb cultivars are best suited to pot culture. Brent will demonstrate the most innovative methods of creating forced containers, window box liners, layered patio planters or individually potted bulbs. Then, in the hands-on workshop that follows, Brent will assist participants in creating their own layered combination planting. These pots can be overwintered outdoors for weeks of enjoyment in the garden next spring.

The cost of the workshop is \$30 for SAPS members (\$35 for non-members) and includes all materials - bulbs (approx. \$20 value), a 12" container, and potting medium. To reserve a place, mail a check for \$30, payable to "SAPS", to: Washington County Extension, 206 West Main Street, Jonesborough, TN 37659. Registration is limited to 30. Registration deadline is September 4 at 5 p.m. (Bulb order will be placed Sept. 5.) Sorry no cancellations or refunds! For more information call Washington County Extension office: 753-1680 or e-mail Joy Moore at jonmoore@tricon.net.

The program at Crossroads Christian Church will feature exquisite slides illustrating "the best of the best" - the right bulbs for the right places in the garden. Listeners will learn how to combine many kinds of bulbs with perennials, annuals, groundcovers and flowering shrubs to create four seasons of beauty in the landscape. Whether planning to plant bulbs in a newly prepared garden or adding them to an existing one, gardeners will find the answers here! This program is free and the public is invited. For more information, call 423-230-0654. Southern Appalachian Plant Society (SAPS) is sponsoring Mr. Heath.

NEW MASTER GARDENER CLASS STARTS SEPTEMBER 18, 2007

An exciting line up of classes has been scheduled for the Fall 2007 Master Gardener Program. The classes will meet Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 to 12:30 at the Gray Community Center, near the Fairgrounds. (with the exception of those marked*). A coffee social will be held each morning from 9:00 till 9:30am. The classes are open to all active Master Gardeners and are a wonderful way to earn CEUs and to meet the new interns. Beth Babbit, the State Master Gardener Coordinator, will be presenting the Orientation Session for the Fall Class on Tuesday, September 18. The schedule of classes is listed below:

MASTER GARDENER CLASSES 2007			
Date	Topic	Speaker	Location
Tues 9-18	ORIENTATION, NE TENNESSEE GARDENING / SCIENTIFIC NAMES	Chris Ramsey/ Nina Hedrick MG	
Thurs 9-20	GARDENING WITH BULBS	Brent Heath	
Tues 9-25	BOTANY FOR GARDENERS	Valerya Hyrne	
Thurs 9-27	SOILS AND PLANT NUTRITION	Hubert Lambert	
Tues 10-2*	FRUIT AND NUTS*	Dr Richard Moyer	Dr. Moyer's Garden
Thurs 10-4*	MULCH / COMPOST / PROPAGATION*	Ben Hunter MG	Ben's Garden
Tues 10-9	HERBS	Joy Moore MG/ Samantha Loftin MG	
Thurs 10-11*	PRUNING*	Hugh Conlon	Snaveley's Nursery
Tues 10-16	WOODY ORNAMENTALS	Hugh Conlon	
Thurs 10-18	PLANT PATHOLOGY	Keith Hart	
Tues 10-23	ENTOMOLOGY	Manny Bedwell	
Thurs 10-25	LAWN MANAGEMENT/WEEDS	Chris Ramsey	
Tues 10-30	PESTICIDE SAFETY/IPM	Ty Petty/ Joy Moore	
Thurs 11-1	VEGETABLES	Dr Allen Straw	
Tues 11-6	PERENNIALS / ANNUALS	Betty Freeman	
Thurs 11-8	LANDSCAPE / PLANT ESTABLISHMENT and MAINTENANCE	Bob Schell	

WINGED DEER PARK SITE OF WORKSHOPS

EAST TENNESSEE FRUITS AND VEGETABLES GARDENING WORKSHOP

The Johnson City Parks and Recreation Department presents *Fruits and Vegetables Gardening in East Tennessee* on Saturday, October 6 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at Winged Deer Park. Participants will learn about the unique fall growing season, composting, and raised beds, presented by Master Gardener Ben Hunter. Those attending should meet at the Winged Deer Park Administrative Office. Pre-register by October 5, 2007 by calling 423-283-5821. This workshop is free and open to the public.



Winged Deer Park Gazebo

LEARN ABOUT MUSHROOMS OF THE APPALACHIANS

Mushroom expert Tommy Cox will teach a Mushroom Identification workshop at the Winged Deer Park Boardroom on Saturday, October 20, 2007 from, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Tommy will discuss and show a variety of fruiting mushrooms during the class. Participants will learn about the mushroom's life cycle, habitat requirements and natural history. Tommy will also talk about mushroom cultivation as a food source, a popular topic in this area. There will also be a "Mushroom Foray" at Winged Deer Park during the last part of the workshop. Attendees should dress comfortably for the weather and bring appropriate footwear. Pre-registration is due by October 19. This workshop is free and open to the public.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE <http://netmga.net>



MASTER GARDENER DAY PLANNED FOR OCT. 13

Sevier County Master Gardeners are busily planning their annual Eastern Region Master Gardeners Day for October 13, 2007. The event runs from 8:30 am to 4:15 pm and will be held at the Smoky's Baseball Stadium, exit 40,7 off of Interstate 40.

Included in the day's activities are lectures, tours, a mini-Master Gardeners Store, a silent auction and a live broadcast of "Garden Girls" radio show. Participants may earn up to 6 CEUs by attending all of the educational offerings. Registration deadline is October 3, 2007. The cost is \$25.00 which includes lunch, breaks, and all of the day's events.

Lecture topics include, Tree Fruits, New Plant Ideas for 2007, Unique Container Arrangements, Growing & Using Lemon Herbs, Small Fruits, Relationship of IPM with Organic Gardening, Companion Planting, Making Herbal Soap (Hands-on), The Care and Management of an Apple Orchard, and Water-features, Landscapes & "Natives." For more information contact W. Alan Bruhin, Extension Director, at (865)-453-3695 or wabruhin@utk.edu.

BONSAI EXHIBIT AT GRAY FOSSIL SITE

All friends & fellow "plant folk" are invited to attend the 3rd annual Mid Appalachian Bonsai Exhibit on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 8 and 9, 2007. The first two exhibits were held on the ETSU campus, but this year's event will be at the brand new Natural History Museum at the Gray Fossil Site. There's a free workshop for kids 8-12 on Sat Sept.8 from 10:30-12:30. The instructor, Warren Hill, is a retired engineer and the former head of the Bonsai Section of the National Arboretum in Washington, DC! We're lucky that he chose to retire to Greene County. For more information contact Anita R. Bausman, at abausman@eastman.com.

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IT'S TIME FOR THE FALL FESTIVAL AT EXCHANGE PLACE

Exchange Place Living History Farm, 4812 Ore-bank Road in Kingsport, will hold its 35th annual Fall Folk Arts Festival on Saturday, September 29, from 10 am to 5 pm, and Sunday, September 30, from 12 noon to 5 pm. The Festival will focus on harvest time activities on an 1850s farm with an emphasis on pioneer arts and crafts, traditional foods, music. Children's activities will include demonstrations of hearthside cooking, apple butter and cider making. Artisans will offer quality crafts for sale and the Harvest Market will feature autumn plants and produce. Admission is \$1 for adults and \$.50 for children. For more information, call 423-288-6071. Master Gardeners will have an informational booth. To volunteer for a shift call Joy Moore at 348-6572 or e-mail jonmoore@tricon.net.

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Chris' Corner

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This has been one of the most challenging gardening years in our life times due to the freeze followed by a drought this summer. The result has been less bloom, less or no fruit, and often loss of many valuable plants. Hopefully, we'll return to normal rainfall and moderate temperatures soon. Make sure you support local area businesses that have participated with the MG Discount Card when you consider replacing those lost plants.

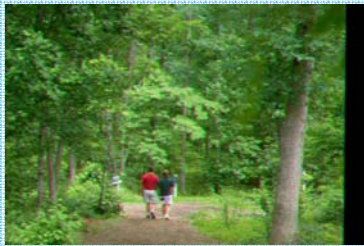
Each year, the list of active Master Gardener projects and Continuing Education Opportunities (CEUs) is updated. If you know of a project or CEU opportunity that should be listed, please let me know

This is the time of year to report your efforts in terms of volunteer service hours and continuing edu-

cation. Please submit your reports to Gwyn Duncan or enter your hours online by Sept. 30. Gwyn's contact information is listed on the MG Thymes newsletter. This will allow for these hours to be compiled and reported to the state. I encourage you also to keep a copy for your records. The Annual Recognition Program is scheduled for Tuesday, November 13. Be sure to mark this date on your calendar.

As a reminder, hours contributed that benefit the community or UT Extension are known as "ACE" hours. The "A" stands for administrative; the "C" stands for community and the "E" stands for education. These educational hours are those where you are directly or indirectly involved in teaching. Making contacts to line up speakers, for example, counts as educational hours. Hours accumulated for your benefit such as seminars are "CEU's." An example would be the SAPS Gathering in the Garden Series, which will be held in September.

Have a great fall, Chris



NORTH CAROLINA ARBORETUM OFFERS VARIOUS EVENTS

The North Carolina Arboretum in Asheville has released its schedule of events for September and October. Several of them are listed below:

Sept. 1, 8, 15, 29	Forest Trails Walk	1:00 pm
Sept. 4	Book Talk by author Paula Robbins	2:00 pm
Sept. 11	Program on overwintering tender perennials	10:00 am
Sept. 15 - 16	Carolina Dahlia Society Show and Sale	12:00 to 5:00 Sat. 10:00 to 5:00 Sun.

Twilight Tuesdays Garden tours, bonsai exhibit and music every Tuesday at 5:00 pm

For more information call 828-665-2492 or visit www.ncarboretum.org.

FIND GREAT PLANTS AT CLOSE-OUT SALE at Gum Tree Farm

Gum Tree Farm, a good friend of the TN Master Gardener program is closing out their inventory with a Big Bang Sale! Many plants are still available at this Hermitage, TN nursery. The remaining sale days are :

Sept 1 Sept 11 - 15 Sept 18 - 21 (closed Sept 22) Sept 25 - 29 Oct 9 - 13 Oct 16 - 20

In addition to the days listed above, the farm is open by appointment. Call (615) 885-0917 to schedule a visit. If you are coming from out of town, or would like to bring a group, please schedule an appointment at least two (2) days in advance. Visit their web site for more details <http://www.gumtreefarmnursery.com/visit.html>

**Hours:
9 am - 5 pm**

GARDEN EVENTS SCHEDULED THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND NATION

As the summer growing season draws to a close, several opportunities arise for Master Gardeners who may be traveling a bit. From Delaware to Oklahoma, gardeners are hosting various tours, sales and speakers. Check the articles below to see if there are any that appeal to you!



Master Gardeners of Rutherford County to Host 3rd Annual Autumn Garden Extravaganza



The Master Gardeners of Rutherford County will host the third annual *Autumn Garden Extravaganza* on September 15, 2007. The event will be held at the Rutherford County Lane Agricultural Park located at 315 John Rice Blvd., Murfreesboro, Tennessee from 9:30 am until 3:30 p.m.

The goal of the Master Gardeners of Rutherford County Association is to create opportunities for the community to increase their knowledge in gardening. It is the only fall garden show in the area and offers a wealth of information to seasoned gardeners as well as anyone planning a new garden or improving their existing one. Autumn is a critical time in the development of lawns and gardens and

topics will focus on fall practices that will enhance gardens throughout the year.

Topics will include Renewable resources in gardening and drought resistant plants.. Featured speakers are Troy Marden, host of the Volunteer Gardener Program on PBS as well as Don Shadow of Shadow Nursery in Winchester, Tennessee. Master Gardeners will also be present and will demonstrate Holiday Floral Design as well as Creative Composting.

Exhibits will feature plants, bulbs, equipment and other items which will be available for purchase. As an added bonus, all attendees will be treated to a free hot dog lunch! Everyone is invited to attend. Admission is \$5.00 for adults and is free for children 12 and under. Tickets may be purchased at the site on the day of the event. For more information contact Monica Kennedy at 615-223-6873 or monicakennedy@aol.com



Memphis Master Gardeners Welcome National Speaker

Memphis Master Gardeners are sponsoring award-winning gardening author Art Wolk on Thursday Oct. 4, 2007. Mr. Wolk will also sign his book: [Garden Lunacy: A Growing Concern](#). The talk will be held at the Agricenter on 7777 Walnut Grove Road in Memphis. Tickets are \$10.00 and may be purchased in advance or at the door. Doors open at 5:30 and the talk begins at 7:00. Tickets are on sale now and the night of the event. Contact the Master Gardener office at 901-752-1207 to purchase now!





Traveling in the Northeast? Visit Garden Faire in Delaware

Everything for the great American garden is available at this spectacular autumn sale and showcase at Winterthur Museum and Country Estate in Winterthur, Delaware, from Sept. 14 – 16, 2007. Plan on seeing:

- More than 60 top plant and garden exhibitors from around the nation
- Free Gardening 101 Workshops & How-To Demos
- Keynote Lecture and *Seeds of Inspiration* Symposium featuring celebrity speakers
- *Antiques in Bloom* Floral Display
- Floral Tour of the Winterthur mansion
- General Admission and Early-bird Shopping FREE for Winterthur Members
- Preview Party Reception



Winterthur Museum & Country Estate is the ancestral home of Henry Francis du Pont. It showcases the world's foremost collection of American decorative arts and antiques in a 175 room mansion. Nestled in the beautiful Brandywine Valley, the 1,000 acre estate features bucolic country vistas and a 60-acre naturalized garden ideal for touring on foot or by garden tram.



Plan Ahead for the Next Master Gardener Conference

The Oklahoma County Master Gardeners are hosting the Southern Region Master Gardener Conference June 18 – 21, 2008. The theme for the event is "A Garden of Dreams in Native America."

The conference site is the Clarion Meridian Hotel and Convention Center in Oklahoma City. It is nestled in the hub of OKC's restaurant and entertainment district. There are over 30 sit-down and fast-food restaurants within 2 miles of the hotel. They are conveniently located off I-40 and just minutes from the Airport, Fairgrounds and other areas of interest. In addition, they provide complimentary shuttle service to and from Will Rogers World Airport and local businesses for fly-in guests.



A list of speakers, tours, and conference facilities plus other general information is available at the conference web site <http://www.mastergardener2008.com/>.

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2007 DATES TO WATCH

September 8-9	Bonsai Exhibit	Gray Fossil Site	
September 15	Garden Extravaganza	Murfreesboro	9:30-3:30
September 18	Master Gardener Classes begin	Gray Community Center	9:00 AM
September 20	Bulb expert Brent Heath speaks:		
	Master Gardener Class	Gray Community Center	9:30 AM
	Evergreen of Johnson City	Johnson City	2:00-4:00
	Crossroads Christian Church	Gray, TN	7:00 PM
September 29-30	Exchange Place Fall Festival	Kingsport TN	
Oct 6	East TN Fruits and Vegetables Gardening	Winged Deer Park	11:00-4:00
Oct 12	Master Gardener Day	Smoky's Baseball Stadium	8:30-4:15
Oct 20	Mushrooms of the Appalachians	Winged Deer Park	11:00-4:00