



Red Currants

photo courtesy of www.hort.cornell.edu

PLAN TO ATTEND....URBAN FRUIT PRODUCTION

***A program presented by Dr. Richard Moyer
At his home - 241 Edgefield Rd, Bristol
Saturday July 15, 10:00 A.M.***

Did you know that shiitake and oyster mushrooms are a type of fruit? Neither did I!...Dr. Richard Moyer will show us how he and his family have begun growing these "lesser known" fruits, as well as plenty of more familiar fruits and veggies at their home in Bristol.

Last year's class of MG interns cited this class trip as their favorite of all the sessions taught. Please come and plan to really have a fun time. This is an outdoor meeting, so come prepared. We will provide bottled water for all comers.

Richard Moyer was born into a family of gardeners in Augusta, Georgia near swamps and the floodplain forests of the Savannah River. He spent summers on the Atlantic coast, on a dairy farm, leading trips on the AT, collecting bugs in the Puerto Rican Rain Forest, and traveling in Norway. Dr. Moyer attended graduate school at Oregon State University, did his postdoctoral study at Duke, and has been professor of Biology at King College since 1992. He spent a sabbatical in Seoul, Korea. In all these locations (covering 25 years) he has walked or biked to work.

Dr. Moyer met his wife Ginny in Puerto Rico. She also comes from a family of gardeners. They are blessed with 6 children, ages 15 to 8 months.

Master Gardeners are lucky to have the opportunity to visit in such a personal setting with this well-traveled professor and passionate gardener. According to Dr. Moyer, his family's primary goal is year-round fruit for their table, whether fresh or variously preserved.

The family is trialing as many fruits as possible over a formal demonstration garden, so are always in transition with room for improvement. Feel free to ask why or how about any management decisions; some is mere happenstance, while in other spots plants or methods are being intentionally compared.

As for activities that day:

- 1) Bring clippers if available. We will be topping blackberry and raspberry canes to encourage branching and more manageable growth.
- 2) We may also prune some grapes or other vines, trees or bushes, as time and interest allow.
- 3) We will remove diseased or insect-infested growth as we find it.
- 4) Several small fruits will be ripe, including gooseberries, currants, raspberries, mulberries and maybe a few blackberries. There are labels on the plants, so you'll be able to taste what you like.

We are asked to meet at the parking lot of King College and carpool to the home. Parking space is limited and we do not want to inconvenience the neighbors with extra cars. We did this for the intern class and it worked out fine. Directions follow. See you in Bristol!

Directions to Dr. Moyer's home:

Drive east on State Street under the "Bristol, A Good Place to Live" sign, east end of town near the train station, keep going past the cemetery, past the main entrance to King College, turn in at the second entrance, at the brick gates. Go up the hill, go straight at the fork, park on either side of the road just after the fork, but the left side under the beech trees will be shaded. This is parking on King Campus at the back side of Sells Hall. Meet in the parking lot at 9:30. Plan on leaving the parking lot for Dr. Moyer's home at 9:45.

To get to the Moyer household from King College:

Go back out of the college, turn right onto King College Rd (continue east). Go to the "T". Take a left. Go to top of hill, about 1/2 mile. Take a left onto Edgefield Rd. Go one block, bearing left on Edgefield Rd. We are at bottom of hill on left, with open field, fruit trees, white house with blue shutters.



Chris' Corner

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

Dear Master Gardeners,

Hope your summer is going well. Mine has been very busy with an above average amount of walk-ins and telephone calls. The cool and somewhat wet spring created an excellent environment for the formation of leaf spot diseases on trees. Anthracnose on maple and sycamore has been the most common.

The questions regarding "ACE" hours and "CEUs" have decreased greatly. I hope this is because there is generally a better understanding of each of these. Just to reinforce this understanding, I'll briefly describe each. An "ACE" hour is the time contributed by the Master Gardener for the good of the community. This is 40 hours for the intern and 25 hours for the certified MG. "A" stands for ad-

ministrative, "C" stands for community, and "E" stands for education. The "E" hours, often confused with "CEU", are those hours incurred while working directly with an educational program. An MG accumulates "E" hours when they serve as a speaker or if they do research for a program. "CEU" hours are those hours which benefit the MG. These are hours spent learning in a seminar or educational tour. Note that tours should have a speaker or guide. Both Certified MGs and Interns are required to accumulate 8 "CEU" hours. **Be sure to turn in all hours by September 30, 2006.**

Periodically, there are needs for MG assistance at the Extension Office and our MG Support Staff serves a very important function. They often help by completing large projects that would otherwise be difficult with current office staff. They also help with

educational programs such as the Grafting Workshop. This MG role is ideal for those who enjoy working indoors in an office environment and is also a great way to accumulate "A" hours. It also gives you the opportunity to observe and participate in what goes on "behind the scenes" to keep the MG Program up and running.

Our current MG Support Staff is doing a wonderful job, but we are always in need of additional volunteers. Kathy Francescon (Class of 2005) has been serving as the Volunteer Coordinator for this group, but due to time constraints and other obligations will no longer be able to serve in this capacity. This person maintains a list of MGs interested in working at the Extension Office and schedules these volunteers as the need arises. If you would be interested in joining the Support Staff or serving as Volunteer Coordinator, please contact me at 279-2723 or Kathy at 392-4426.

Thanks for your continued support of the Northeast Tennessee MG Program. Chris

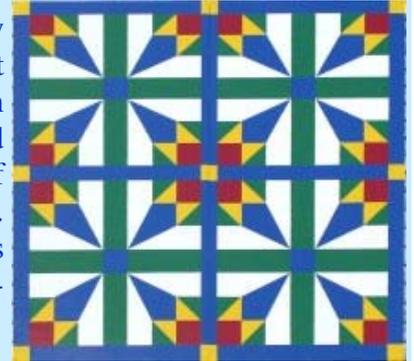
TOP 10 Ways to Know You're a Master Gardener

(Submitted by Joy Cox)

- You rejoice in rain...even after 10 straight days of it.
 - You have pride in how bad your hands look.
 - You have a decorative compost container on your kitchen counter.
 - You can give away plants easily, but compost is another thing.
 - Soil test results actually mean something.
 - You get up before dawn to check on your new plantings.
 - You'd rather go to a nursery to shop than a clothes store.
 - You look for gardens open to the public whenever you go on vacation.
 - Your non-gardening spouse is actually getting involved with your garden endeavors...digging ponds, building bird houses, watering, pruning, turning compost piles, planting...
- AND YOU DEFINITELY KNOW YOU ARE A MASTER GARDENER WHEN...**
- You are surrounded by terrific people who share your passion!

Allendale Perennial Garden Up and Growing!

Another new perennial garden in the Kingsport area has been approved by NETMGA and is now "up and growing". A relatively small garden (about 700-800 sq. ft.) is in place near the party barn at the Allendale Mansion in Kingsport. This garden will be a joint effort between Friends of Allendale and NETGMA. Garden design and plant selection was done by Ken Hyche of NETGMA. Plants and materials were purchased by Friends of Allendale. Plants and mulch were put in on May 11 by Ken Hyche and Bill Bard (Friends of Allendale). Regular maintenance work will be done on each second Tuesday of the month during the growing season.



Attention NETGMA members on the west side of Kingsport... This will be a good site for master gardeners living in Church Hill, Mt. Carmel, and Hawkins County to help maintain. I hope many of you can make it on the 2nd Tuesday. Please pass this note on to others in this area that I don't have an e-mail address for. Drive by the mansion and take a look! Also take in the beautiful rose garden directly behind the mansion! Thanks.

URBAN TREE CARE PROGRAM SCHEDULED

On August 7 The UT master Gardener program is offering a workshop in urban forestry education. The program will be held at the Appalachian Fairgrounds in Gray and will cost \$15. The program is geared for Master Gardeners, Tree Board members, public works team members and community leaders. Curriculum will include classroom instruction, outdoor demonstrations and tours to view local arboreta or other urban forestry programs. Each participant will receive a manual and CD-ROM to conduct UF programs in their community. Lunch included. Registration deadline July 13, 2006. For more info, see <http://mastergardener.tennessee.edu/TMGopps/index.htm>

IMPORTANT NOTICE

In the Sept/Oct Newsletter we plan to publish a complete list of Master Gardener members. This list will include addresses, phone numbers and e-mails. It is intended for Master Gardener use only and should be helpful in making contacts for meetings, projects, programs, etc. If you do NOT want your contact information published, please notify Jean Green by Sept. 1, 2006. Also, if your information needs to be updated, contact Jean. She can be reached at 652-1756 or at greenfam2@chartertn.net.

Saturdays in the Gardens

GOING STRONG!

Be sure to mark your calendars for July 8, 10:00 to 2:00 for the next "Saturdays in the Gardens." On this date we will tour the beautiful Fairacres gardens of SAPS members, Tim and Linda Martin, 1407 Fairidge Drive, and Nikki and David Shivell, 1745 Orchard Place. Tickets are \$10, children under 12 free. Light refreshments are included. Tickets are available at the Kingsport Chamber, at the Kingsport Times-News kiosk on the upper level of Fort Henry Mall, and at featured gardens on tour day. For more info call 392-8814 or e-mail pcox@kingsportchamber.org. Proceeds benefit Keep Kingsport Beautiful.

Also, mark August 12 for another "Saturday in the Gardens." On this date visitors will see the Cornett Garden at Manderly Rd, and the Faust Garden at 1263 Linville St. Tickets are available at the same sources listed above.

Show Off Your Produce at Tomato Fest

The region's 2nd Annual Homegrown Tomato Fest will take place Saturday, August 19, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Glen Bruce Park in downtown Kingsport. Jointly sponsored by Southern Appalachian Plant Society (SAPS) and Downtown Kingsport Association, the event will feature tomato tasting, tomato cooking demonstrations by chefs from Virginia Inter mont, and competition to determine the best tasting tomato, best salsa, biggest tomato, prettiest tomato, ugliest tomato, most bizarre tomato, and best dressed tomato. An outdoor art show featuring tomato inspired art will also be included. Admission is free and there are no fees to enter contests. So gather your tomatoes and join in the fun. For information and contest entry forms, contact Downtown Kingsport Association. For additional information, contact Nancy Scott 230-0654 or jascott1@prodigy.net.



Tomato variety: Sweet 100

Photo by Harald Zoschke

UPCOMING EVENTS 2006

- July 8 Saturdays in the Garden
Nikki & David Shrivell's and Tim & Linda Martin's gardens
 - July 15 NETMGA Program
"Urban Edibles" – 10:00 am Dr. Richard Moyer Bristol
 - August 12 Saturdays in the Garden
Marc and Nash Cornett's and John Faust's gardens
 - August 19 Homegrown Tomato Fest
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Glen Bruce Park Kingsport
- Second Tuesdays – Perennial Border Maintenance at Allendale Mansion
(Except July 4th – changed to July 10th at 3:00 pm.)

Message from Our President....

Greetings everyone!

Yaay! Summer's here. Time for visiting our local Farmer's Markets, (we have a new one at the Gray Fairgrounds), harvesting produce from our own gardens, or being beneficiaries of thoughtful, generous friends and neighbors. I enjoy all of the above! Blueberries are my favorites...hint! Hint!

We've had many travel miles logged by members in June. A large group of us, (15 or so), attended the Regional MG conference in Chattanooga. This included several spouses, (Ron and Jim enjoyed themselves) and Lisa Stair's family of four had lots of fun. We learned much and especially enjoyed the opportunity to network with everyone about our upcoming '07 conference at the MeadowView in June. Our brochures and informative poster with our logo and slogan were well received. Thanks to Valerya Hyrne, Belinda Bridwell, and Lisa Bradley for jobs well done with those. Everyone attending seemed excited to hear about our keynote speakers, Roger Swain and Erica Glasener. The consensus is that we are well on our way to hosting a popular and successful State MG conference next year. We will need everyone to pitch in and help as we get nearer our goal dates of June 8, 9, and 10, 2007. Save those dates now!

Another group MG venture was our trip to Parks Seed and Wayside Gardens. More on that from Doug, in our next newsletter...

Our May membership program featuring, "Bonsai, the Living Art" was terrific. Mike May, our NETMGA member, and his friends, Anita and Carl, presented a jewel of a program. Thanks to Connie Dean for making the arrangements for such an informative and beautiful program.

Another local treasure, Dr. Richard Moyer, will be providing our program Saturday, July 15th at his home in Bristol. (see program info.) Remember your hats and sunscreen. NETMGA will provide bottled water. You won't want to miss this program...See you in Bristol!

p.s. I must give special thanks to all who donated items for the Silent Auction at the Regional. Our contributing members and several of our small nursery owners were very generous! We had at least 13-14 items that were hotly bid on, and raised funds for our UTK MG endowment fund. Thanks to ALL. You made me proud, and showed everyone that NETMGA is truly a regionally cooperative group.

Happy gardening!
Ellen

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<u>PROGRAM</u>	Connie Dean	(423) 357-4219	lcdean@chartertn.net
<u>REFRESHMENT</u>	Jan Jones	(423) 349-6119	simpleintn@yahoo.com
<u>PUBLICITY</u>	To be announced		



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Moderators Needed for Master Gardener Classes

It is time to begin scheduling the moderators for this fall's Master Gardener Classes. If you are interested in serving as a class moderator, please contact Joy Moore at 348-6572. Individual classes will be scheduled soon.

ON-GOING WORK AT FAIRGROUNDS

Just a reminder - Master Gardeners meet every Wed. and Sat. morning at 9:00 at the Fairgrounds in Gray to work on various projects. This is a great chance to meet people and to earn volunteer hours.

