

## 2017 is Rushing to a Close!

The Holidays are upon us! Have you completed your Volunteer Hours and CEUs for 2017?

Check out the opportunities to earn those last few 2017 CEUs and volunteer hours. See the Calendar of Events located at the end of this issue!



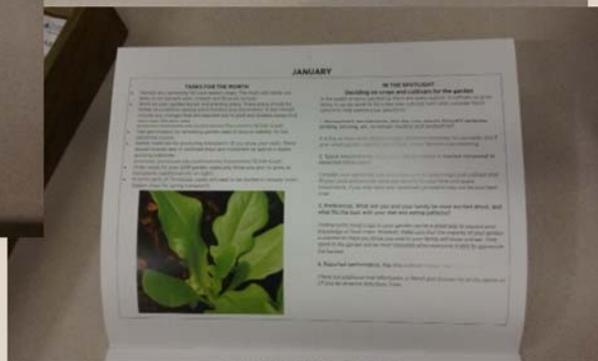
## 2018 Calendar Incentive

Fellow Master Gardeners,

Below are pictures of a calendar for gardening the UT Extension Department in Knoxville has made available for 2018. The Board of Directors has authorized Chris to purchase 50 of these calendars. We are offering these calendars to the first 50 Master Gardeners **free of charge** who have **paid their dues for 2018** and **submitted their required hours for 2017 by November 30th**. **You may still log in hours after November 30th**. These calendars will be given out at the **December 11th meeting**. Determining who receives these calendars will be based on the date Sally Richard receives your dues payment and the last date **you logged in your volunteer and CEU hours before November 30th**. **The start time for sending in your dues payment is October 15th**. If all the calendars are not awarded they may be purchased first come first served for \$5.00. One per person.

Thanks for all you do for the Master Gardener Program.

Jerry Ramey, NETMGA President



## NETMGA Board Meeting

Monday, **November 6** at 6:00 p.m. in the Sullivan County Extension Office, 140 Spurgeon Lane Blountville, TN.

## NETMGA Christmas Dinner/Meeting

The Master Gardener Christmas Dinner and Meeting will be **December 11th** (second Monday) at 6pm at the Ron Ramsey Agricultural Center, 140 Spurgeon Lane in Blountville. Dinner will be served at 6:30. We will have a silent auction. Dinner details will be announced soon. Ticket cost: \$15. All proceeds will go to our Master Gardener General Fund. Please bring loved ones to join our celebration.

## Put These on Your Calendar

### Herb Saplings Meeting

Herb Saplings will meet Thursday, **November 2**, at 7 pm at Exchange Place. Led by Susan Scheer and Christy Shivell, the topic will be Herbal Beverages from tea to cocktail ingredients. Some will be available for tasting. Please bring an herb snack to share if you have time. Note: There is no December or January Herb Saplings meeting.

### November SAPS Meeting

Plantsman, garden designer, author and host of "Volunteer Gardener," Troy B. Marden will present "At Wits' End: A Collector's Story of the Trials and Tribulations while Establishing His Personal Garden" on Thursday, **November 16**, at 7 pm at the Johnson City Power Board (BrightRidge) Auditorium, 2600 Boones Creek Rd (Hwy 354), Johnson City. In this program Troy will recount the story of the creation and development of his personal garden over the past 9 years. When he moved to the current property, the bones of a garden existed, but it had gone through several years of neglect. It took nearly two years just to get the garden back to a point where planting could take place. From then, the garden has continued to develop and change with his changing lifestyle. Now, as he enters full time into the travel business, he is looking toward lower maintenance options and redesigning the garden with plants that will survive with minimal care. Sponsored by Southern Appalachian Plant Society (SAPS), the program is free and the public is invited.



In a bonus program for SAPS members only, Troy will showcase "Great Gardens of the World" at 4 pm also at the Johnson City Power Board (Bright Ridge) Auditorium. For more than 20 years, Troy has traveled and visited gardens all over the world. From the smallest mountaintop gardens of Italy and France to the grandest country estates of England and the jaw-dropping beauty in the gardens of New Zealand, there is inspiration and beauty to be found everywhere. Join Troy on a trip around the world to just a few of the gardens he has found the most beautiful and inspiring! If you're not sure your SAPS membership is up to date, you can pay your dues at the program and be covered for the rest of 2017 and all of 2018.

With a career spanning more than 25 years, Troy Marden is a true Renaissance man in the world of horticulture and design. An award-winning garden and floral designer with a passion for plants, Troy's career began as a teenager working in a retail nursery and garden center near his hometown in north central Kansas. His college years found him focusing heavily on greenhouse management and production, eventually leading to internships at Callaway Gardens and Longwood Gardens. For the past 20 years, Troy has called Nashville home and has continued to grow his business and his brand by venturing into the worlds of garden and floral design, special events, garden photography, writing, public speaking and television. He is watched each week by tens of thousands of viewers across the state of Tennessee on Nashville Public Television's hit gardening show *Volunteer Gardener* and his gardens, floral design, writing and photography have appeared in both regional and national gardening magazines, including *Horticulture*, *Fine Gardening*, *Garden Design*, *Southern Living*, and *Tennessee Gardener*, among others. He is a popular lecturer, known for his engaging style and his ability to connect with gardeners of every skill level and he has addressed groups on the topic of gardening from Boston to Portland and from Montreal to Miami. Always looking for new opportunities, he leads garden tours both at home and abroad.

<http://troybarden.com/>

For more information email [sapsinfo@embarqmail.com](mailto:sapsinfo@embarqmail.com).

## Wreath-Making Workshops at Exchange Place

Exchange Place Living History Farm, 4812 Orebank Road in Kingsport, will offer two Wreath Making Workshops this year: an evening workshop on Tuesday, **November 28**, from 5:30 - 9 pm and a daytime workshop on Wednesday, **November 29**, from 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. With inspiration and guidance from Christy Shivell of Shy Valley Plant Farm, participants will create a unique evergreen wreath to take home. All materials - fresh greenery, cones, dried flowers, wreath form, and wire - will be provided. Celebrate the holidays with a fresh wreath you make yourself!

The cost is \$30 (\$25 for SAPS members and Exchange Place volunteers) and includes all materials and a light meal of soup, bread, and dessert. These are very popular classes so don't wait to register. 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 for each session. Registration deadline is November 25. 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. For more information call Joy Moore at 423-348-6572 or e-mail [ijnmoore@embargo.com](mailto:ijnmoore@embargo.com).

### Wreath-Making Tool and Supply List

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

pruning shears, wire cutters, scissors, "findings" (any special objects, special greenery, etc. that you wish to include in your wreath). You are encouraged to bring interesting plant material from your own yard to use and share for even more variety, 3-5 yards of 2" ribbon (optional).



## 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 2**, 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: 423-288-6071 or <http://exchangeplace.info>.

**Feed the birds!**





### Chris' Corner

**CHRIS RAMSEY**

SULLIVAN COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT  
(423) 646-9043 [cwramsey@utk.edu](mailto:cwramsey@utk.edu)

This has been another great year for the Northeast Tennessee Master Gardener Program. We have continued to evolve as a group with regional impact by reaching more people with home horticulture education. This is the mission of the UT Extension Master Gardener Program.

Hopefully, you have had the opportunity to visit our new office at the Ron Ramsey Regional Ag Center, located at 140 Spurgeon Lane, Blountville, TN (near Tri-Cities Airport). In case you didn't know, our new phone number is 574-1919. The Ag Center is a reality now which started four

years ago on a UT Extension Beef Cattle Tour to Kentucky.

The Ag Center is truly an awesome resource for our Master Gardener program. The future is surely brighter than it has ever been for the opportunity to teach home horticulture. Our opportunities will only grow as we develop the arena behind the conference center. If you haven't been out to the ag center, I would be glad to give you a tour. Just give me a call at 646-9043 or 574-1919.

### NETMGA Projects List

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|--|---|
| <p><b>1</b><br/><b>Boundless Playground at Warriors' Path State Park</b> Kingsport<br/>Gwyn Duncan 423-239-0460 <a href="mailto:geduncan@charter.net">geduncan@charter.net</a></p> <p><b>2</b><br/><b>Carver Peace Gardens</b> Johnson City<br/>Nancy Shilling 423-833-1420 <a href="mailto:nancyshillig@gmail.com">nancyshillig@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>3</b><br/><b>Church Hill Senior Citizens Center Garden</b><br/>Marcia Vandermause <a href="mailto:mmvdvm@charter.net">mmvdvm@charter.net</a><br/>Christine Barger 423-288-5115 <a href="mailto:o773h@hotmail.com">o773h@hotmail.com</a></p> <p><b>4</b><br/><b>Exchange Place Living History Farm</b> Kingsport<br/>Earl Hockin-Vegetable Garden <a href="mailto:ehockin@yahoo.com">ehockin@yahoo.com</a><br/>Dave Gostomski-Lawns, Trees, etc. <a href="mailto:e3fan98@yahoo.com">e3fan98@yahoo.com</a></p> <p><b>5</b><br/><b>Harvest of Hope Community Garden</b> Kingsport<br/>Doug Hilton 423-239-9433 <a href="mailto:howlatthemoon1775@gmail.com">howlatthemoon1775@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>6</b><br/><b>Johnson City Medical Center, Woodridge Hospital</b> Johnson City<br/>Barbara Voigt 423-467-2013 <a href="mailto:voigt7b@comcast.net">voigt7b@comcast.net</a></p> <p><b>7</b><br/><b>Northeast State Community College Gardens to Degrees</b><br/>Contact Chris Ramsey for details</p> | <p><b>8</b><br/><b>Rocky Mount Living History Site</b> Piney Flats<br/>Don Davis home 423-854-0152, cell 423-943- 2392<br/><a href="mailto:donfdavis@aol.com">donfdavis@aol.com</a></p> <p><b>9</b><br/><b>Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park</b> Elizabethton<br/>TBA</p> <p><b>10</b><br/><b>Tipton Haynes Historic Site</b> Johnson City<br/>Vern Maddux <a href="mailto:vjornmaddux@embarqmail.com">vjornmaddux@embarqmail.com</a><br/>Betts Leach <a href="mailto:BettsL@aol.com">BettsL@aol.com</a></p> <p><b>11</b><br/><b>Vance Community Gardens</b> Bristol<br/>Gini Powell <a href="mailto:PowellG@btcs.org">PowellG@btcs.org</a><br/>Rebecca Craddock <a href="mailto:Craddockr@btcs.org">Craddockr@btcs.org</a></p> <p><b>12 &amp;13</b><br/>Projects 12 and 13 are one weekend a year for each of the 4 activities:</p> <p><b>Johnson City Home Show and Women's Expo</b><br/>Penny Rutledge <a href="mailto:pennyrutledge2@aol.com">pennyrutledge2@aol.com</a></p> <p><b>Kingsport MeadowView Home Show</b><br/>Doug Hilton 423-239-9433 <a href="mailto:howlatthemoon1775@gmail.com">howlatthemoon1775@gmail.com</a></p> |
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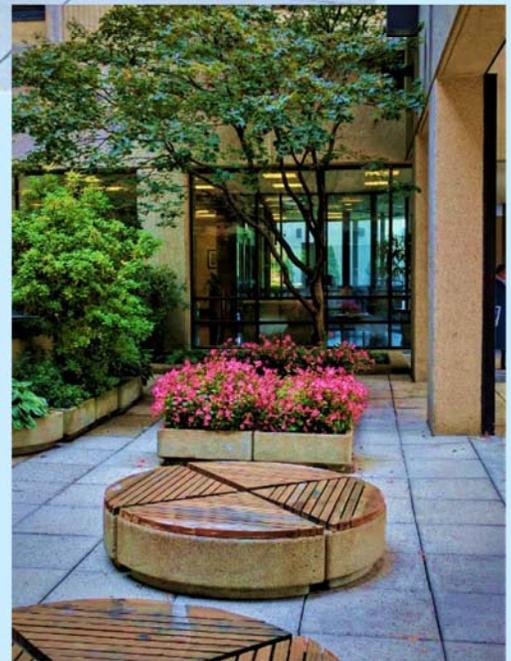
## ***Featured Project***

### ***Gardens at Johnson City Medical Center and Woodridge***

Since 2005, Master Gardeners have enjoyed creating therapeutic garden spaces at two local hospitals. Two new garden spaces were adopted this year. At JCMC a new hardscape and expanded planting area greets visitors as they approach from the main parking lot.

The second addition is a group of raised bed planters near the Emergency Room. Once used as an herb garden, our group has added some cheerful annuals to enhance their look.

We continue to maintain many garden areas around the JCMC property, keeping them updated with seasonal colors.



Courtyard by the JCMC Front Door

**2017 NETMGA OFFICERS**

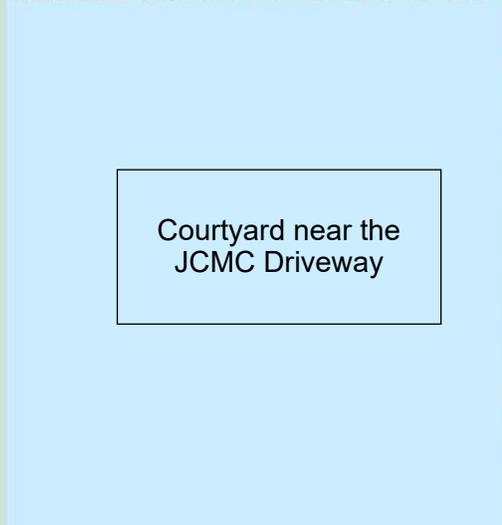
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St Jude Affiliate  
At Niswonger  
Children's Hospital



Courtyard near the  
JCMC Driveway



Planters in an  
Outdoor Dining  
Area



Niswonger  
Children's  
Hospital

At Woodridge Master Gardeners continue to maintain entrance gardens and a butterfly garden in a private patient courtyard.



More volunteers are welcome. Anyone who would like to help with this community service project can contact Barbara Voigt for more information. (423) 457 2013

**Master Gardeners: Report your hours each month!!**

## NOVEMBER 2017 Calendar of Events

- NOV 16      Weekly Outdoor Wonder Wanders at Warriors' Path State Park  
3:00 – 4:30pm. Wander in the wonder of the natural world! Be prepared to be “wowed” by the amazing discoveries in our nearby natural places. Contact: 423-239-6786 Email: [marty.silver@tn.gov](mailto:marty.silver@tn.gov)
- NOV 16      Botanical Latin for Gardeners at The North Carolina Arboretum in Asheville  
10:00am – 12:00pm. This class will explore the reasons to use Latin for plant names and how to use botanical Latin to improve gardening efforts. Cost: \$27 Member / \$37 Non-member. Register: <https://4020a.blackbaudhosting.com/4020a/FA17-Botanical-Latin-for-Gardeners>
- NOV 16      SAPS Meeting  
7:00pm. Guest Speaker: Troy B. Marden. Johnson City Power Board (BrightRidge) Auditorium; 2600 Boones Creek Rd (Hwy 354), Johnson City. Contact: email [sapsinfo@embarqmail.com](mailto:sapsinfo@embarqmail.com).
- NOV 18      Branching Out at Rocky Fork State Park  
12:00 pm. Meet at parking lot. Learn about the vast number of tree species in the park; also talk about current and historical uses for each tree. Contact: Park Ranger Tim Pharis, Phone: 4233530899 or Email: [Tim.Pharis@tn.gov](mailto:Tim.Pharis@tn.gov)
- NOV 18      Terrariums - Kid's Workshop  
10:30 am. Create a fun child-themed terrarium with dinosaurs, fairies, & animals. (Workshop fee will apply.) Registration requested: (423) 282-3431 or [www.evergreenofjc.com](http://www.evergreenofjc.com)
- NOV 19      Creating Festive Artificial Wreaths  
10 am – Kingsport Evergreen – Riverport Rd. \$25 Activity Fee. Register: [www.eGardenplace.com](http://www.eGardenplace.com).
- NOV 19-JAN 7      Lamplight Christmas Wreath Exhibit at Sycamore Shoals State Park      Contact:  
423-543-5808 or <http://tnstateparks.com/parks/events/sycamore-shoals/#/?park=sycamore-shoals>
- NOV 26      Creating Festive Live Wreaths  
10 am – Kingsport Evergreen – Riverport Rd. \$25 Activity Fee. Register: [www.eGardenplace.com](http://www.eGardenplace.com).
- NOV 28      Wreath Making Workshop at Exchange Place Living History Farm in Kingsport  
5:30 – 9:00pm. Cost: \$30 (\$25 for SAPS members and Exchange Place volunteers). Registration is limited to 15 participants for this session. Registration deadline is November 25. See registration information in newsletter article.
- NOV 29      Wreath Making Workshop at Exchange Place Living History Farm in Kingsport  
10:00am – 2:30pm. Cost: \$30 (\$25 for SAPS members and Exchange Place volunteers). Registration is limited to 15 participants for this session. Registration deadline is November 25. See registration information in newsletter article.

## DECEMBER 2017 Calendar of Events

### DEC 2 Christmas Greenery Workshop

10:30 am. Create your own fresh holiday decor. (Workshop fee will apply.) Registration requested: (423) 282-3431 or [www.evergreenofjc.com](http://www.evergreenofjc.com)

### DEC 2 Fresh Seasonal Wreaths at UT Gardens

1:00 – 3:00 pm. Cost: \$25/members, \$35/nonmembers. Instructor: Derrick Stowell, HGTV – UT Gardens Education Director. Information & Registration: [https://secure.touchnet.com/C21610\\_ustores/web/product\\_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=935](https://secure.touchnet.com/C21610_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=935)

### DEC 2 Creating Porch Pots With Greenery

10 am – Kingsport Evergreen – Riverport Rd. \$25 Activity Fee. Register: [www.eGardenplace.com](http://www.eGardenplace.com).

### DEC 2 Farm Dreamers Workshop at Organic Growers' School

10:00am – 4:00pm. Information & Registration: <https://organicgrowersschool.org/farmers/farm-dreams/>

### DEC 3 Orchid Society of East Tennessee – 1 pm Gray Community Center.

### DEC 5 Washington County Bee Keepers Association

7:00 pm; Gray Ruritan Bldg., Ruritan Dr. (behind fairgrounds), Gray, TN.

### DEC 9 Creating A Holiday Centerpiece

10 am – Kingsport Evergreen – Riverport Rd. \$25 Activity Fee. Register: [www.eGardenplace.com](http://www.eGardenplace.com).

### DEC 11 NETMGA Christmas Dinner Meeting

6:00pm Networking; 6:30 Dinner. Silent Auction. Tickets: \$15. Location: New Sullivan County Extension Building, 140 Spurgeon Lane, Blountville

### DEC 16 House Plants for Beginning Gardeners

10 am – Kingsport Evergreen – Riverport Rd. Register: [www.eGardenplace.com](http://www.eGardenplace.com).

### DEC 23 Holiday Fairy Garden Make & Take

10 am – Kingsport Evergreen – Riverport Rd. \$25 Activity Fee. Register: [www.eGardenplace.com](http://www.eGardenplace.com).

