

# BRADLEY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS



November/December 2016

BRADLEY COUNTY  
**UT**EXTENSION  
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

## Our Mission

The Bradley County Master Gardeners promote environmental stewardship through a network of volunteers who provide research-based information and education to Tennessee communities in home gardening and related areas. As part of our mission, the program supports continued education and development for committed volunteers.

## 2016 Officers

Bradley County Extension Agent  
Kim Frady

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Agricultural Extension Agent  
Patrick Sweatt

[psweatt@utk.edu](mailto:psweatt@utk.edu)

President, Johnnie Arnett  
[jarnett68@charter.net](mailto:jarnett68@charter.net)

Vice President, Melody Savio  
[melodysavio@att.net](mailto:melodysavio@att.net)

Co-VP, Arlene McAree  
[macintenn@hotmail.com](mailto:macintenn@hotmail.com)

Secretary, Linda Merritt  
[clanofmany@aol.com](mailto:clanofmany@aol.com)

Treasurer, Steve Humberd

Membership Administrators  
Jerry and Ernie Eppinga  
[jerryann66@gmail.com](mailto:jerryann66@gmail.com)

Project Coordinators  
Bruce and Phyllis Tilden  
[phyllis@uncommonink.com](mailto:phyllis@uncommonink.com)

Historian, Brianne Yancy  
[brianneyancy@gmail.com](mailto:brianneyancy@gmail.com)

**Next meeting:**  
January 5, 2016. 6:00 pm

## Eleven graduate from Junior Master Gardener program



Graduates, flanked by JMG leaders.

Eleven young adults graduated from the Junior Master Gardener Program on Tuesday, November 22. This could not have happened without the coordination between the Bradley County Master Gardeners and the Bradley County Justice Center.

The seventh group of Junior Master Gardeners was a quiet group. They were able to grow a decent vegetable garden in spite of the drought. The JMG students and the BCMG hand watered every week to keep the vegetables growing. We also had several guest speakers during this fall session.

Thanks go out to all of the teachers and helpers. The spring session should start sometime in March. Please let Leslie Humberd ([lshumberdpersonal@gmail.com](mailto:lshumberdpersonal@gmail.com)) or Robin Ramsey ([r Ramsey3@utk.edu](mailto:r Ramsey3@utk.edu)) know, if you would like to volunteer and/or teach during the spring session.

*Leslie Humberd  
Master Gardener*

## Remember:



## Master Gardeners celebrate earning green badges, 100-hour pins



Top: Getting their official green badges at the annual Christmas party were (l-r) Matthew Thayer, Stacie Campbell-Eckhoff, Jackie Westfield, Ron Arnett, Amy Banks and Kay Cox. Bottom: Receiving recognition for volunteering 100 hours or more in 2016 were (l-r) Dave Hopper, Johnnie Arnett, Jerry Eppinga, Linda Merritt, Leslie Humberd.



### Congratulations!



### Message from Johnnie

Hello everyone,

We had a great Christmas party/December meeting at the home of Beverly Johnson. Thank you so much Beverly! Ron & I delivered five boxes of food for the *Share Your Christmas* project Friday morning after the party. Thank you all for contributing; we had a great response.

I am so excited about everyone who got their official MG badges last night, congratulations to all. Our Master Gardeners, as of December 1, have entered 1,733.6 volunteer hours and 562 CEU hours this year. This is wonderful. You still have time to get those remaining hours entered. Kim has asked us to enter all of the volunteer hours, as it provides information to UT Ag Extension regarding the value of the Master Gardener Program to the Bradley County community.

We just wrapped up another semester of Junior Master Gardener. Our thanks to Leslie Humberd and everyone who worked on this project.

Our new Master Gardener Class will start in January and we will have a start date soon. If you know someone who is interested, they need to call the UT Extension office and provide their name & phone number. We will contact them to explain the program and other information to hopefully get them signed up for the class. There will be information to follow about the MG Class Mentoring Program.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas with your family, and we will see you at our next meeting on January 5.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

*Johnnie Arnett, President BCMG  
Master Gardener*



Hosted by Master Gardener Beverly Johnson (far left), a large group of Bradley County Master Gardeners and their significant others came together to celebrate the holidays on December 1. Good food, good company and a good time was had by all.

## Slate of officers elected for 2017

At their November 3rd meeting, the Bradley County Master Gardeners elected new officers for the upcoming year. Though many of the officers remain the same, three positions were open due to the two-year term limitations set by the organization's by-laws.

New to their positions are:

Kay Cox and Jackie Westfield, Project Coordinators  
 Julie Halsey, Secretary.  
 Linda Merritt, Treasurer.

Returning officers are:

Johnnie Arnett, President  
 Melody Savio, Vice-president  
 Arlene McAree, Co Vice-president  
 Jerry and Ernie Eppinga, Membership Administrators  
 Brianne Yancy, Historian

A hearty thank-you to all those willing to serve. Thanks also to the nominating committee for assuring an excellent slate of officers. Serving on that committee were Matthew Thayer, Arlene McAree and Erma Brewer.



**Stay connected!**

[www.bradleycountymastergardeners.org](http://www.bradleycountymastergardeners.org)  
[www.facebook.com/bradleycomastergardeners](https://www.facebook.com/bradleycomastergardeners)

## Pioneering Invasion Biologist to speak in Chattanooga Jan 9, 6:00 at green spaces

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of Wild Ones will present renowned biologist Dr. Daniel Simberloff in a talk titled *Invasive Plants* that will be FREE and open to the public. Click [HERE](#) for details.

Dr. Simberloff is a distinguished professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Tennessee. He directs the University of Tennessee's Institute for Biological Invasions. His talk will highlight notable local invaders and the ecological impacts they pose, cover current efforts to stem their spread, and describe ways for the public to join this fight.

This could be an interesting **CEU opportunity**.



### Interested in common weeds/ wildflowers in our region?

#### Here's a recommended book:

*Weeds of the South,*  
 Charles T Bryson and Michael S DeFelice

This is a great reference book, showing great pictures and detailed information about the common weeds (aka wildflowers) in the southern regions. The book includes

illustrations of the most common characteristics of plants and the terms used to describe them, a key to plant families, a glossary of frequently used terms, a bibliography, and indexes of scientific and common plant names.