

BRADLEY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS



October 2018 Newsletter

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.

2018 Officers

Bradley County Extension Agent
Kim Frady

President, Jerry Eppinga

Co Vice President, Dianne Hadorn

Co Vice President, Matt Thayer

Secretary, Julie Halsey

Treasurer, Linda Merritt

Membership Administrator,
Johnnie Arnett

Project Coordinators,
Kay Cox & Jackie Westfield

Historian, Armen Epperson

Next meeting: November 1, 2018
6:00PM

Speakers:

Tiffany Pendergrass "Gardening Experiences"

Jim and Joyce Brinkmeyer
"Gardens of Ireland"

Master Gardeners and interns in attendance for the October 4 meeting were treated to educational topics from fellow Master Gardeners, Nancy Hoffman and Bruce Tilden. Nancy (pictured right) gave a wonderful presentation on herbs which discussed how to grow, use, and preserve them. Nancy also told attendees which herbs were the easiest to grow and the best soil composition to have.



Master Gardener Bruce Tilden gave an informative presentation on the different kinds of plant markers and labels. Among his favorites are Everlast, which have steel wires and stainless nameplates.

Bruce also introduced attendees to the Broadfork and demonstrated how it could be used to prepare soil instead of tilling and discussed how the tool can be used to harvest root crops.

Left: Bruce with Matt Thayer demonstrating a couple of the markers Bruce uses in his garden.



Jerry's Garden

If I haven't told you how much I appreciate all of your volunteer efforts, thank you everyone! Looking back over this year, we have logged many, many volunteer hours. We have been involved in a variety of new projects and are not finished yet. Our 4H Co Op project begins this month with teaching gardening to kids, and the Apple Festival is October 20-21, giving us one last opportunity to get more hours! If you haven't signed up to volunteer, contact Linda Merritt. We are continuing with our Gourd Crafts as we prepare for the Spring Garden Festival, March 30, 2019.

Our Christmas party will be graciously hosted again by the Johnsons on December 6. A food sign up will be forth coming. One can record volunteer time for preparing a dish. We hope to see everyone there. We are expecting to give out quite a few green badges to members from our 2018 Master Gardener class. You all will be amazed how many people will be receiving award pins for 100, 200 and more volunteer hours! If you are still in need of CEUs you can visit the UT website, uthort.com, and read the material found there.

Thank you all for your volunteer service to the Bradley County Master Gardener organization and the members of our community. You make me very proud!

Jerry

Jerry Eppinga— President BCMG, Master Gardener

Volunteer and CEU Opportunities

Volunteer Opportunities

Apple Festival



The Apple Festival is approaching fast, October 20 and 21.

Volunteers are needed for Friday evening for setup, Saturday 9:30-6:00 through close up, and Sunday 1:00-5:00 and tear down. This is one of our biggest events, great opportunity to meet and help and educate the community. Contact Linda Merritt at clanofmany@aol.com

Gourd Day with Celia

October 27, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Celia and her crew are already starting to prepare gourds for BCMG's 2019 Spring Garden Festival. They will be doing bird house prep work. Bring a lunch and join them at Celia's house. Contact: shaneyfelt@gmail.com

Ongoing gourd growing and cultivation

Gourd growers may earn up to 10 hours a year as per the following guidelines:

- 1 hour - Starting seeds indoors
- 1 hour - Planting seeds or plants out in garden
- 1 hour each month May through September - cultivation of gourd plants (up to 5 hours)
- 1 hour - participation in pure seed project with hand pollination of at least one variety and supplying pure seeds back to the program

Time awarded when gourds are donated back to the project:

- 1 hour per giant gourd (too big for the bucket)
- 1 hour per each 5-gallon bucket of mature gourds donated back to the project (medium gourds)
- 1 hour per 1-gallon bucket of miniature gourds
- *Up to but not to exceed 10 hours for the year

Ocoee Whitewater restoration project

In the planning stages. Volunteers will be needed to help clean out and replant beds and other restoration activities. Contact Celia for more information.

Museum Center at 5points renovation project

Volunteers are needed for the ongoing cleanup and restoration project at the museum. Contact Johnnie Arnett, jarnette68@charter.net

Continuing Education Opportunities

Native plant Certification program, Wild Ones

You don't need to be working toward certification to take classes. The Certificate in Native Plants program is designed to expand student's knowledge of Botany, ecology, conservation, and uses of native flora in the SE United States. Registration is limited and is now open. For more information, Tennesseevalley.wildones.org

Sunday, November 11—9:30am to 2pm



Smith-Gilbert Gardens will host its 4th Annual Day of Bonsai. Garden staff and Bonsai Study Group volunteers will showcase an impressive collection of bonsai, have activities and unveil a new educational exhibit.

The event also features demonstrations by renowned bonsai expert Rodney Clemons.

Admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors and military, \$5 for children ages 6 – 12; children 5 and under are free with parent or grandparent. Garden members are admitted for free. Visit SmithGilbertGardens.com for information.

Volunteer Gardener on PBS

Produced by Nashville Public Television, Volunteer Gardener features local experts who share gardening advice, landscape design tips, and environmentally conscious farming practices. We visit with growers, plant collectors, and hobbyists alike who share insight and experience. Airs Thursday nights at 7:30 and Sunday mornings at 9:30 on NPT, channel 8. Episodes available to stream on the PBS website, pbs.org

UTHort

The UTHort website is devoted to providing high-quality, research-based residential and consumer horticulture information to Tennesseans. If you still need to earn CEUs, the site provides a wealth of educational resources to read & learn. To access the site, visit UTHort.com

