

BRADLEY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS



June 2017 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.

2017 Officers

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**Next meeting: August 3, 2017
NO MEETING IN JULY**



Congratulations, Grads!

May 25 marked the date when 16 Master Gardener class students graduated to full fledged Master Gardener interns. Good job! Pictured, l-r: Debbie Johnson, Deborah Slaughter, Dianne Hadron, Blake Simms, Celia Shaneyfelt, Tiffany Pendergrass, Jonnie Christian, Kelli Zarhart, Vicki Vicars Hal Abegg, Judy McMahan, Carl McMahan. Not pictured, Jane Callahan, Jim & Joyce Brinkmeyer, Anson Christain.



Thank you, Mentors!

Fourteen members volunteered as mentors to the 2017 Master Gardener class. Pictured, l-r: Armen Epperson, Jerry & Ernie Eppinga, Linda Merritt, Johnnie Arnett, Jackie Westfield, Anita Walcheski, Arlene McAree, Anita Bailey, Dave Flower, Kay Cox. Not pictured: Tim Leffew, Julie Halsey, Ron Arnett.

We had 14 members volunteer to be mentors in the 2017 Master Gardener Class.

We divided into teams of two so each mentor had a backup and did not have to come to every class, but every night our class members had someone present to talk with them, answer questions and help them to feel comfortable in their upcoming new role as Master Gardeners. They did a great job!

As each week passed we were able to see the class becoming friends with each other and their mentors. All of our class members have begun volunteering and understand the importance of their role in the community as educators. The Mentors set a wonderful example of giving of their time and effort to the Master Gardener organization.

Seven of our interns from the 2017 class volunteered to be mentors and received their green badges during this time. It was well deserved and we are very proud.

If anyone is interested in being a mentor to the class of 2018 please let one of us know.

Thank you for volunteering!

*Jerry and Ernie Eppinga, Membership Administrators
Master Gardeners*



Message from Johnnie

Hello everyone,

I hope you are enjoying this beautiful weather we are having. I am sure you are getting outside and working in those gardens.

The Junior Master Gardeners gardens are looking really good. We will have graduation at the BCJC on June 14.

Thanks to Leslie Humberd and all the volunteers who gave their time for the kids. If you have never worked with the JMG program, we would love to have you help in our next class.

We had the Master Gardener Graduation on May 25 with 16 interns finishing the class. Congratulations to all of you, as we look forward to working with you in the future. Thanks to all the mentors and thanks again to Jerry and Ernie.

We still have lots going on, so be sure to get involved with one of our projects that are listed in the June newsletter.

We do not have a meeting in July, so spend some time with your family and I hope to see you at our next meeting on August 3.

*Johnnie Arnett, President BCMG
Master Gardener*

Volunteer and CEU Opportunities

Volunteer opportunities

- ◆ **June 17, 10:00 a.m.— 4:00 p.m. Craft Day with Nancy Hoffman**
Craft making for next April's Spring Forward event. If you're "Crafty" and want to join in a fun day, contact Nancy Hoffman for details and directions.
nancyhoffman28@gmail.com
- ◆ **June 30, 2:00—7:00 p.m. Community Festival Museum Center at Five Points.**
Join other Master Gardeners as we partner with the museum and others to celebrate the importance of our local waterways. If you'd like to be a part of our booth volunteers, contact Kay Cox, kaycox@netzero.net
- ◆ **Bradley Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center.** Work with residents on planting and maintaining flower and vegetable gardens. 2910 Peerless Rd, Cleveland. Contact Anita Walcheski at farmers2aw@yahoo.com or Arleen McAree at mac-intenn@hotmail.com
- ◆ **Spring Forward Fest , April 21, 2018**
Presented by us, Bradley County Master Gardeners!
Here's the best chance yet to get involved. You can work on classes and displays, make crafts, even grow gourds. Committees have been formed to secure vendors, booths, crafts, advertising, logistics and more. If you haven't signed up and would like to be a part of our first major event, contact Jerry Eppinga, jerryann66@gmail.com

Continuing Education Opportunities

- ◆ **June 17, 9:30am – 4:00pm Kick off to Pollinator Week Reflection Riding Arboretum & Nature Center**
Join Reflection Riding Arboretum & Nature Center and the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Wild Ones to kick off Pollinator Week. There will be programs throughout the day focusing on our native pollinators and the plants that help support them. \$10 for adults and \$7 for children and Seniors. Members are free.
- ◆ **June 24, 11:00a.m.—1:00p.m. Butterflies Reflection Riding Arboretum & Nature Center**
Join author and butterfly expert Rita Venable as she does a presentation on "A home for Butterflies." Rita is the author of *Butterflies of Tennessee* and will be discussing her book and signing copies. Bring a lunch or you can order a lunch through our caterer Family Concessions.
- ◆ **August 10, 6:00 -7:30 p.m. Seed Saving & Fall Planting Methods & Reasons, a Tennessee River Seed Library workshop.** E.G. Fisher Library Community Room, Athens. Free.
- ◆ **August 29, Fall Gardener's Festival, Plateau Ag Research & Education Center, Crossville TN. Registration opens at 8:00 a.m.**
Workshops, exhibits, wagon tours of the entire facility and garden vendors. 320 Experiment Station Rd, Crossville TN. Visit the website in early August for the exact agenda.
www.ccmga.org

Volunteer and Education Opportunities in Action A look back on the busy month of May



The Pollinator class presented by Master Gardeners, Stacey Campbell- Eckhoff and Linda Merritt, on May 13 had a great turnout and went very well. Attendee's included Master Gardeners and Master Gardener Interns as well as interested folks from the community. All were given lots of information about pollinators, how to help them and pollinator gardening tips. Above: Linda (left) and Stacey.



Ask a Master Gardener day, May 3, was a great success! Thank you to all that volunteered. There were lots of folks asking questions and picking up information from the booth. Everyone did a great job helping ACE patrons. Jason Rymer, Garden Manager, was very grateful for our attending the event. We even got a few people interested in next year's MG class. Pictured, standing l-r: Two Garden Club volunteers, Arlene McAree, Judy McMahan, Jim & Joyce Brinkmeyer. Kneeling, l-r: Another helpful Garden Club volunteer and Celia Shaneyfelt.

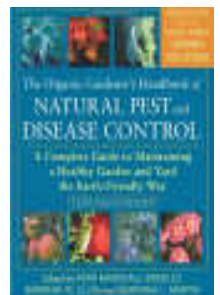


A pretty sunny day found, l-r, Anita Walcheski, Arlene McAree and Tiffany Pendergrass planting veggies for residents of the Bradley Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center on Peerless Road.

Looking to have a chemical-free garden? Here's a recommended reading:

Natural Pest and Disease Control, by Fern Marshall Bradley, Barbara W. Ellis & Deborah L. Martin .

"The plant-by-plant guide features symptoms and solutions for 200 popular plants, including flowers, vegetables, trees, shrubs, and fruits. The insect-and-disease encyclopedia includes a photo identification guide and detailed descriptions of damage readers may see. The extensive coverage of the most up-to-date organic control techniques and products, presented in order of lowest impact to most intensive intervention, makes it easy to choose the best control."



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