

The Leaflet



April 2014

CONTENTS

Hermitage Garden Tour	1
Only a Few Short Weeks until Saturday, May 3rd	1
The 7 th Annual RCMGA Plant Sale!!!!	1
RCMGA Garden Tour: June 7, 2014	2
Educational Opportunities at Goodlettsville	2
RCMGA Member Attends "Tree Id Class 101" at Wilson County Arboretum	3
Give a Look and a Listen to Garden Shows	3
Cheekwood in Bloom (and More)	3
April Contest Entry:	3
Profiles in Gardening: Janice Derby	4
Contact List	4
Upcoming Garden Events	4
Happy Birthday!	4
We need your articles!	4

Hermitage Garden Tour

Don't Forget: Robertson County Master Gardener Association will be taking a tour of the gardens at The Hermitage on Saturday, April 26. The tour will begin at 10am and the cost is \$15 per person. Bring a sack lunch as we've been invited to stay and have lunch on the grounds.

If you haven't already, please RSVP by emailing Cate Henning (mtnrider55@yahoo.com); she will share additional details such as carpooling arrangements.



Only a Few Short Weeks until Saturday, May 3rd The 7th Annual RCMGA Plant Sale!!!!

There are many ways to get involved, contribute, and earn volunteer hours at the plant sale:

- Sign up to work at the sale: time slots are still available for sales as well as for setup or cleanup jobs.
- Bring plants (perennials, annuals, herbs, grasses, shrubs, ground covers, trees, etc.) and garden related items (garden art, birdhouses, gourds, magazines, etc.) for sale.
- Bring boxes and bags for our customer's purchases.
- Put up signs at businesses, churches, and community centers in your area.
- Spread the word among your garden-loving family and friends.
- Plan to visit Catey's Herb Corner, Bridgette's Heuchera table, Michelle's Worm Composting Class (9:30am) or Lynn's Garden Art Class (10:30am).

Label your plants with the common plant name, whether it is perennial or annual, color, shade or sun. Price all items to sell! Although OUR plants come from the best of homes where they were nurtured and loved by gardening aficionados (us), we need to sell them in just a few hours, and we share our plants as

a community service as well as a fund raiser for our Association. (We sell a lot of \$2, \$4, and \$8 plants . . . avoid fractional dollar amounts.)

The signup sheets for the plant sale workers will be at our meeting on Thursday, April 24th. Or contact Ursula Otto uotto2012@comcast.net to find out what time help is needed. Posters are available at the meeting or at the Extension Office anytime.

The plant sale is a good opportunity for us to meet the gardening public, to educate them about the Master Gardeners program, to tell them about the upcoming (June 7th) Garden Tour, and to share our enthusiasm about growing things. If customers have questions about gardening issues, which you do not know, or you cannot locate someone who can help them, get a name and number and we will call them later in the week. (Another opportunity to garner volunteer hours.)

Most important have fun at the plant sale! Learn from your fellow gardeners. And don't buy all the plants for yourself!

We need plastic table covers for the plant sale! Please bring loaners or donations to the RCMGA meeting Thursday, April 24th! If you cannot attend the meeting and have covers, email Ursula (uotto2012@comcast.net).

NEXT MEETING April 24

Program:
Hogan Seed Company

MEETING INFORMATION

The Robertson County Master Gardener Association meets on the fourth Thursday of every month.

Meetings are at 6:30 pm at the UT Extension Office, 408 North Main Street, Springfield, TN

RCMGA Garden Tour: June 7, 2014

Garden tour tickets will be available at the April and May RCMGA meetings. We are preselling tickets this year and encourage you to buy for your family and friends! Garden tour posters and flyers will be distributed at our meeting Thursday, April 24th or you can pick them up at the Extension Office. If you have a business, church or other location with public access, please post some advertising there.



Garden docents Bridgette and Patricia demonstrate the hard work at 2011 Garden Tour.



Visit to SCG Test Gardens June 14

Tim Best, RCMGA member and our informal liaison with South Central Growers, reports that we have the opportunity again this year to visit their test gardens. The visit is scheduled for Saturday, June 14th. Watch your email and the May Leaflet for further details on this enjoyable trip.

Winter School Report

by Jeanne Prottzman

First of all I would like to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to attend Winter School. It was a great experience. I did learn a lot about Master Gardeners and the UT connection. I was able to meet a lot of interesting people and hear some great speakers. T.J. Tennant was a key note speaker. He talked about having Fun going through life-Have a Passion-Work hard-Support one another.

I feel that our group has a lot of fun in things we do and we work hard

at projects. I have developed a lot of friends through our group. I hope that you all know how much you *are all appreciated*. Your hard work and volunteer hours don't go unnoticed. We have to work together, to participate, and to build our enthusiasm if we are to accomplish the things we talk about at the meetings. This is where you get your say and become involved. Attend meetings! Speak up! Become passionate about where you want us to go and what projects we should take on!

Eastern Region Master Gardener Day: May 31st

You are invited to the 2014 Master Gardener Day scheduled for Saturday May 31st at the Ag. Campus in Knoxville. The planning committee has put together an educational and fun program that includes several different topics, tours of the UT gardens, and an advanced Master Gardener track on plant diseases and insects. There will be a plant swap, a silent auction and a meal provided by Anderson Farms. Cost for the day's activities is \$25, and registration is needed by May 21st. Feel free to invite

prospective Master Gardeners and spouses.

UT Gardens Staff will teach most of the educational sessions including: Best of 2013 Plants in the UT Gardens; Butterfly Gardening; Spice Plants; Sustainable and Chemical-Free Community Vegetable Gardening; and How to be More Green in Your Garden. If you want to review a detailed schedule of activities, driving directions, and plant swap guidelines, email Paul Hart or Leaflet staff.

Educational Opportunities at Goodlettsville

Goodlettsville Parks, Recreation and Tourism and the Sumner County Master Gardening Association are collaborating to offer gardening classes that are free of charge and open to the public. Most of the classes are held at held at Historic Mansker's Station unless otherwise noted. Classes

are scheduled on the second Saturday morning of the month, May through October. If you are interested in attending these classes, pre-register by going online to www.manskerstation.org and click on the Workshops and Special Events tab or call 851-2241 for more information. Classes will fill

up quickly so be sure to reserve your spot. Classes topics include: edible plants as we hike one of the woodland trails in Beaman Park; native plants in our landscapes with Mike Berkley from Gro Wild; putting up the summer harvest; butterflies of Tennessee; beekeeping; and more.

RCMGA Member Attends "Tree Id Class 101" at Wilson County Arboretum

By Lynn Stenglein

At Winter School I enrolled in the Wilson County Master Gardners' Tree Identification Beginners Class. Since I have worked on our Robertson County (Ridgetop Station Park) Arboretum, I thought could handle an advanced class. However, I wanted to see the arboretum at the Wilson County Fairgrounds, and I am very glad I attended the beginning

class. About 27 attendees participated in the class; most attendees were in the Wilson County Master Gardener Program.

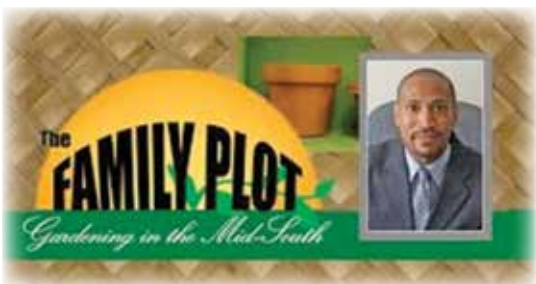
We began the class in the "field" learning to identify the trees using the UT Extension booklet PPB81756 *The All Season Pocket Guide to Identifying Common TN Trees*. We learned to use the leaf structures (single, compound, alternate, etc.), shapes, margins, veins as well as tree

crown shapes to identify trees. The Wilson County Master Gardeners rounded out the class with an excellent classroom presentation that built on the field experience. They also include instruction on planting trees.

If you are interested in learning more about trees: what to plant, how to plant, how to identify trees, contact Lynn Stenglein (lcsqts@hughes.net) to discuss having a class at our arboretum later this year.

Give a Look and a Listen to Garden Shows

Before venturing out to plant or weed in the mornings, gardeners have access to two valuable gardening programs that air on local stations: *The Family Plot: Gardening in the Mid-South* (7:30am Sunday on Nashville Public Television (NPT2)) and *You bet Your Garden* (6am Saturday on Public Radio (WPLN 90.3 FM)).



The Family Plot features Dr. Chris Cooper, horticulture expert from the UT Shelby County Extension Service and interim coordinator of the Tennessee Master Gardener Program. Tennessee Master Gardeners share garden wisdom, take you on field trips throughout the Mid-South, and describe upcoming Master Gardener events.



You Bet Your Garden is hosted by Mike McGrath, former Editor-in-Chief of *Organic Gardening* magazine. Gardeners from across the country phone in with their questions. Visit the web site www.gardensalive.com for archived questions from "You Bet Your Garden". The link is hidden among Mike's recommended organic products, but topics include everything from "Got Weeds? Get Goats" to "What's the deal with Zoysia grass."

April Contest Entry:

"You're sooo much a RCMGA member if ...

the ground-hog asks YOU if winter is over!"

—Dorothy Briggs

Don't forget (or hesitate) to submit your entry to our 2014 contest. Email your entries to a Leaflet Staff member (see page 4) or bring it to any RCMGA Meeting.

Cheekwood in Bloom (and More)

Miss tulips time in the Netherlands this year? You could have gotten a hint of the tulip bloom season at Cheekwood this month. Cheekwood is just a few miles away and is consistently rated as one of the best botanical gardens in the South. Although you have missed the height of the spring bulb display, you will enjoy the perennial gardens, herb garden, wildflower garden, dogwood specimens, Japanese garden, and the magnificent Chinese Fringe trees adjacent to the Visitor's Center. Visit www.cheekwood.org for special events and lunchtime lectures.



Profiles in Gardening:

Janice Derby

Janice is one of our newest Master Gardener interns who completed the Master Gardener training in 2013. However, gardening is not a new interest for Janice; she first became interested in gardening through 4-H when she was a child. And, Janice was awarded a RCMGA 2013 beautification award for her garden in Cedar Hill.



Until 2003, Janice lived and gardened in Northeast Pennsylvania. After moving to Robertson County, Janice's daughter Trina, included her on several RCMGA outings and recruited her for our Association. Janice reports that her favorite thing about the Master Gardener program is "... learning more and better gardening techniques." Interested in both vegetable and flower gardening, Janice's favorite plants are roses and herbs. She includes reading, quilting, painting, and chickens among her other interests.

Janice has always been an animal lover (she's pictured above with her favorite pet, Sweetie). Over the years she has taken care of all kinds of animals from her 4-H pig who loved his belly scrubbed to her Guernsey calf, Becky, who after the vet had given up hope, Janice brought back from near death with leftover antibiotics. She has raised flocks of chickens, a few ducks and innumerable cats, dogs, birds, fish, and hamsters.

Janice is a licensed private pilot and a licensed general ham radio operator. When asked if she had been in one of the Cessnas "violating my airspace" lately, she said that she and her husband, Bob, mostly confine their adventures to rides on their Harley these days.

Upcoming Garden Events

Apr 25-26	Native Plant Festival	GroWild, 7190 Hill Hughes Rd., Fairview
Apr 25-27	2014 Flower and Garden Show	Crossville, TN
Apr 26	Grassmere Class - History of Medicinal and Culinary Herbs	Grassmere Zoo Croft House Gardens
Apr 26	RCMGA Tour of the Hermitage Gardens	The Hermitage
Apr 30 9am	Rain Garden Workshop	Mount Juliet
May 3	RCMGA Plant Sale	Springfield
May 3	Farmer's Market Begins	Springfield Fairgrounds
Jun 7	RCMGA Garden Tour	Springfield
Jun 14	Garden Tour	Franklin, KY
Jun 14	South Central Growers Test Garden	Springfield
Aug 26	6th Annual Fall Gardener's Festival	UT Research Ctr., Crossville

Happy Birthday!

April

6 *Bridgette Wakefield*
19 *Jinny Huls*

May

19 *Michelle Adcock*

We need your articles!

Send in your pictures, articles, and ideas for upcoming Leaflet additions! Have questions? Send them in and we will get answers. Been to a garden recently? Send us pictures and a writeup. Spotted some nifty plants this spring for sale? Let us know. Share your knowledge! Get a few volunteer hours!

CONTACT LIST

President: Michelle Adcock
 (615) 384-9845
 shelladcock@yahoo.com

Vice President: Catey Henning
 (615) 433-4103
 mtrider55@yahoo.com

Secretary: Ann Rausch
 (615) 305-2598
 alrausch@charter.net

Treasurer: Jeanne Protsman
 (615) 859-2042
 jeanne.protsman@comcast.net

Robertson Co. Ext. Agent: Paul Hart
 (615) 384-7936,
 pehart@utk.

Project Coordinator:
 Lynn Stenglein, (615) 859-9659,
 lcsfts@hughes.net

The Leaflet: Lynn Stenglein, Editor
 (615) 859-9659,
 lcsfts@hughes.net

The Leaflet: Trina Fulton, Production
 (615) 382-6822
 trinaf@charter.net

