

Newsletter

MAURY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
UTEXTENSION
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

July 2022

MCMG's in Action

Showing and Touring
Local MCMG Gardens



SEE THE GARDENS by Clicking on the Garden Name

[Stephanie Horstman's Garden](#)

[Columbia Oldtime Garden](#)

[Dawn Bourff's Garden](#)

[Shannon's "Hodge Podge Heaven Garden"](#)

Assisting with “Blackberry Picking and Research”

Middle Tennessee Research and Education Center



“We really appreciate the Master Gardener volunteers that helped pick blackberries at MTREC yesterday. Thanks to them we were able to get it done by 8:00, before it got very hot.”

Embra



A Word From the President

Our Master Gardeners Association needs a new standing committee to plan special events.

If you enjoy putting together parties and other social events, the chairperson's job is for you. Our Bylaws say, "Standing committees are necessary for the continued existence or functioning of the Association." Our organization has depended on volunteers in the past to perform the very necessary duty of party planning. Now, we need to formally recognize a "Social Events Chair" to plan and carry out our annual Christmas party and at least one summer social.

Please let me know if you are interested in the job! I would like to announce the new Social Events Chair at our August meeting.

Kathie Wilson

Education Corner

The Tufted Titmouse

by Candice Gourley

[CLICK HERE to
be introduced](#)



MCMG Speaker/Events

AUGUST “Member Share” “WE NEED YOU”



MCMG Members needed for “Members Share” workshop in August

If you have experience and would be willing to share anything about gardening, we would love to have you present!

We are looking for three presenters to share for 20 minutes each! Please contact us no later than July 8 to let us know if you would like to present so we can set up the agenda. A picture and short Bio will be needed for the August Newsletter.

Contact: Kelly Raimondo, (985) 320-0941, kraimondo@att.net or

Sue Nagel (307)640-0004, shelby6866@yahoo.com



COMING IN SEPTEMBER

A New Weekend Event
“Members Plant Swap”
STAY TUNED

Polk Home - Reminder

Service hours are available anytime you need them by weeding. You can weed on your time and schedule. Polk Home Raised Garden Community Demo and Planting on hold to be rescheduled

Maury County Senior Citizens Center

Back Bed Planting. Coming Soon. Date TBD.

Family Center Project

Planting raised beds is a possibility. *Questions? Contact* Kelly Raimondo, (985) 320-0941, kraimondo@att.net or Sue Nagel (307)640-0004, shelby6866@yahoo.com



PLAN TO WORK THE FAIR

Fun . Hours . Set up the Booths . See the Fair

Check in 4-H and farm entries - Judge 4-H and farm

entries - Create the MCMG booth - Stock the MCMG

booth during fair week. Sign up at MCMG meeting August 3.

Contact Gail Patton fgapatton@gmail.com or 703-371-9704

SWAG - Maury County Master Gardeners Additional Orders

(NEW PRICING WILL INCLUDE TAX)

T-Shirts- S – XL are \$20.00 and 2XL-5XL \$22.00 + tax.

Variety of color choices

Aprons – One size and must order same color \$20.00 + tax

Ball Caps – \$20.00 + tax

Note: Orders will be placed once we have enough items in each category to place the order and the money is collected.

Contact Sue Nagel (307)640-0004, shelby6866@yahoo.com



NEED A HAND? – Finding a person to work in the garden can sometimes be challenging. If you need additional help in your garden or with projects, I have the name and number of a helper.

Last year in preparing for the Polk Home Gardens of Columbia I placed an ad in Neighborhood Riverside and had five people show up to help me pull weeds, lay mulch, move rock, install pavers, trim, mow, assemble metal raised beds and the list goes on. Along with working on some other miscellaneous garden projects, one of the guys has been working for me for the past year. He does garden labor and is willing to help anyone needing a hand. He charges \$15.00 per hour and is available to work for you. He is a hard worker and several Master Gardeners have used him for various projects. If interested, give Sue Nagel a call (307)-640-0004.



NOMINATIONS ARE IN

Finalists to be published in August Newsletter

Vote taken at the August Meeting



A LITTLE SUNSHINE AND TOMATOES

I hope by now you are enjoying those summer tomatoes.

Here is one of my family's favorite recipes.

Enjoy!



Cay

Grilled Green Tomatoes Caprese

1/2 cup olive oil

2 cloves garlic, minced

1/8 teaspoon salt

16 ounces mozzarella cheese, sliced

black pepper, freshly ground

1/4 cup white balsamic vinegar

1 tablespoon brown sugar

4 medium green tomatoes, sliced

1/4" thick, (about 2 pounds)

Kosher salt

1/3 cup fresh basil, thinly sliced

1. Combine first 5 ingredients in a large zip-loc plastic freezer bag; add tomatoes, seal, and shake gently to coat. Chill one hour.
2. Preheat grill to 350 to 400 degrees. Remove tomatoes from marinade, reserving marinade. Grill tomatoes, covered with grill lid, 3 to 4 minutes on each side or until tender and grill marks appear.
3. Arrange alternating slices of warm grilled tomatoes and mozzarella cheese on a large, shallow platter. Drizzle with reserved marinade; season with Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper to taste. Sprinkle with basil.



by Candice Gourley
Master Gardener Intern

Fruit and Veggies for the Month:
Papaya, Mango, Garlic, Nectar

Flower: Larkspur, Water Lily

Nat'l Picnic Month
Nat'l Grilling Month
Nat'l Ice Cream Month
Nat'l Baked Beans Month
Nat'l Horseradish Month
Nat'l Blueberry Month
Nat'l July Belongs to the Berries Month
Nat'l Outdoors Month
Nat'l Peach Month
Nat'l Water Gardening Month
Nat'l Water Melon Month
Nectarine Month
Melon Month
Egg Plant Month
Garlic Month
Lettuce Month
Smart Irrigation Month
Wheat Month
Wild About Wildlife Month
2--Cherry Pit Spitting Day
3-- Eat Beans Day
4--Jack Fruit Day
4--Nat'l Cesar Salad Day
4--Nat'l BBQ Day
4--Nat'l BBQ Spareribs Day
5-- Nat'l Apple Turnover Day
6--Nat'l Fried Chicken Day
7--Build A Scarecrow Day
7--Nat'l Strawberry Sundae Day

7--World Chocolate Day
8--Nat'l Chocolate with Almonds Day
8--Nat'l Blueberry Day
9--Nat'l Sugar Cookie Day
10--Pick Blueberries Day
10--Don't Step On A Bee Day
10--Barn Day
11--Nat'l Ranier Cherries Day
11--Nat'l Blueberry Muffin Day
12--Cow Appreciation Day
12--Nat'l Pecan Pie Day
13--French Fry Day
13--Int'l Rock Day
15--Nat'l I Love Horses Day
15, 16, 17--Celebration of the Horses Days
15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21--Rabbit Week
16-- Nat'l Fresh Spinach Day
16--Nat'l Cherry Day
16--Nat'l Corn Fritter Day
16--World Snake Day
17--Nat'l Ice Cream Day
17--Yellow Pig Day
17--Nat'l Peach Ice Cream Day
22--Mango Day
23--Nat'l Vanilla Ice Cream Day
23 thru 31--Nat'l Moth Week
23--Mosquito Day
25--Nat'l Wine & Cheese Day
27--Take Your Houseplant for A Walk Day
28--World Nature Conservation Day
31--Nat'l Avocado Day
31--Nat'l Raspberry Cake Day



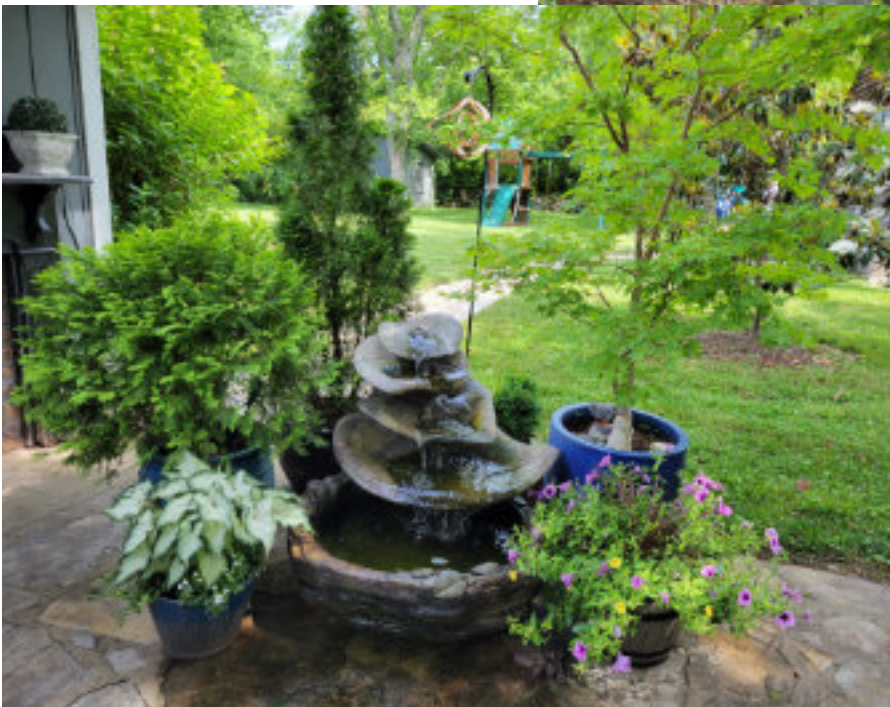
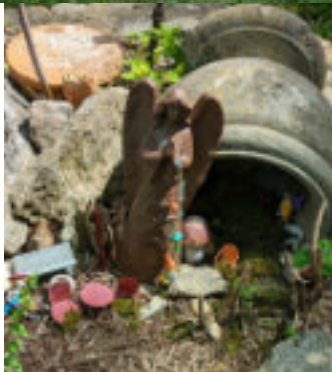
FIRST GARDEN STOP
Stephanie Horstman's
A developing garden
with greenhouse, in
ground and raised
beds, flowers,
vegetables, art and
friends.



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SECOND GARDEN STOP
Old town Columbia
Serene. Tranquil.
Loved for centuries.



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THIRD GARDEN STOP
Dawn Bourff's
Out of suburban
woods beautiful
gardens emerge.



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LAST GARDEN STOP

*Shannon's "Hodge Podge Heaven"
Pasture land and hillside being
transformed by flowers,
vegetables and art.*



*Beautiful View
Yummy Lunch
Relaxation
SWEET ENDING*

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The Tufted Titmouse

by Candice Gourley

The only gray bird with a bushy crest (top knot) is the Tufted Titmouse, *Baeolophus bicolor*. This small songbird with beady black eyes and a tiny black beak often flocks with other birds such as Chickadees and House finches. It has a black forehead, gray on its back, rust color on its sides and a whitish soft gray chest. Male and female look alike. They are in Tennessee year round.

The oldest Tufted Titmouse lived to be 13 years, 3 months. Usually they live about 2 years. Some can live as long as 10 years in the wild.

They like the woods—terrestrial and temperate deciduous or mixed woodlands. It is these areas areas they can nest. Usually a swamp or river basin is close by. To build a nest, they pluck hair off of live animals - a dog, a human, etc. They add snake skin pieces, dry leaves, moss, wool and cotton. The nest is about 12 feet off the ground with an entrance hole in an already hollowed out tree of 1 ¼ inch. The female incubates 3 to 8 creamy white spotted eggs while the male feeds her. In two weeks the eggs hatch. Both parents feed the babies. In two and a half weeks they fledge (leave the nest) and learn to be somewhat on their own, At times, one youngster will stick around and help raise the next brood. They have been know to use cedar or redwood nest boxes that face the east, also. Raccoons, Sharp Shinned Hawks, Coopers Hawks, squirrels, cats, owls, skunks, and snakes are their predators.

They are omnivores and stock pile their food under leaves or in tree bark, which may include insect larvae, spiders, berries, pine seeds, crickets, caterpillars, ants, beetles, bees, wasps, tree hoppers, stink bugs, snails, mulberries, blueberries, Virginia creeper berries, Nyjjer seed, sunflower seed, crushed peanuts, suet, acorns and beech nuts. They have been know to eat out of the hand that feeds them or fly to someone with hair so they can pluck a few strands.

Their range is the mid and eastern US and now the southern part of Canada. Birds have no boundaries. The cute little song of “peter, peter, peter” and a few other melodies can be heard in the woodlands or even at a feeder. A group of Titmice is known as a banditry or dissimulation. These birds are 4 1/2 to 5 1/2 inches long. Their wingspan is about 9 3/4 inches.

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