



Newsletter, February 2022



“Raised Bed and Container Gardening”

*presented by
Amanda Mathenia*

*MCMG Meeting
Tuesday, Feb 1, 2022*

*Join us at the Sr. Citizen’s Center
1020 Maury County Park Dr.
Columbia , TN
Activities begin at 6 pm CT*

Amanda Mathenia is the UT Extension ANR agent in Perry County. Her love for gardening and plants began at a young age by working in her parents’ and grandparents’ vast family gardens. She now enjoys tending to her own raised bed gardens, flower beds, and house plants. “I built my first raised bed the first fall after I built my house on our family farm. With living on a hillside, a large, conventional garden just wouldn’t fit my landscape and topography. I’ve been experimenting with raised bed and container gardening ever since.”

During her professional career, Amanda has given presentations at the Fruits of the Backyard field day, to local garden clubs, and to local Senior Citizen organizations. She says, “I really enjoy working with the Senior Centers by creating a raised bed and container garden in the front lawn of our office to allow for our local Seniors to plant, nurture, and harvest vegetables each summer. We even grow enough for them to take fresh produce home and enjoy.

I look forward to meeting and speaking to your group about the advantages, site selection and preparation, materials and configuration, installation and construction, crop selection, crop management, crop rotation, and support and training of raised bed and container gardening.”

Potluck Reboot

Our January Master Gardener meeting was the official reboot of potlucks at each of our 2022 meetings.

The funny thing is the potluck table had a couple of appetizers and *many* desserts! In the pre-pandemic “old days,” our Master Gardener potlucks were famous for an array of appetizers, salads, main dishes, sides and desserts. Until many people want to participate (the secret to diverse potlucks), an anonymous member has made this suggestion:

In February, everyone who participates in the potluck should bring a main dish or side. Salads count as a side. People will be designated to bring dessert.

Potlucks are optional! If you want to bring a dish and participate in the potluck, please do. If you prefer, you may eat at home or bring a “sack meal.” Please come by 6:15, however, because the business meeting will begin immediately after dinner and door prizes. You don’t want to miss a thing!



Proposed Changes to Association Bylaws

Our bylaws have been in place since 2020. They will be edited by the officers to represent how we currently operate. Kathie will present the proposed changes at the February meeting. Then the changes will be published in the March newsletter. Finally, a vote to approve will be taken at the March meeting.

Getting to Know MCMG



EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND MAURY COUNTY MASTER GARDENER MEETINGS!

Membership is by completing the Master Gardener Course offered by the University of Tennessee Extension and meeting their requirements to become a Certified Master Gardener. (See Newsletter page 3 for more information). Active members maintain their status by completing the required number of volunteer service and continuing education hours and paying annual dues each calendar year.

Where to Find More Information About Our Organization

<https://maurycountymastergardeners.org>
Facebook [maury county master gardeners](#)
Email info@maurycountymastergardeners.org
Instagram [@maurycountymg](#)
Use the MCMG website QR code



Interested? Questions? Ideas? You Can Contact Our Officers



(left to right)

April Ray, Secretary socaldiva@hotmail.com
George Patton, Past President gpatton703@gmail.com
Kathie Wilson, President kwf@southportforge.com
Kelly Raimondo, Vice-President kraimondo@att.net
Sue Nagel, Vice-President shelby6866@yahoo.com
BruceMcShirley Treasurer bcmcshurley@yahoo.com
Cay McShirley, Treasurer bcmcshurley@yahoo.com



Speakers Corner - and Events

Feb 1st – Raised Bed Gardening
March 1st – Bloomstall Flowers Floral Demonstration
March 19th (Sat) – Graduation 2022 MG Class
April 5th – Garden Tools Maintenance (Hands-on Workshop)
May 7th (Sat) - No Meeting – Plant Sale
June 4th (Sat)- MCMG Garden Home Tour



Upcoming Service Projects March – May 2022

Plant Sale
Polk Home Kitchen and Garden Projects
Polk Home Rose Planting Project
Maury County Senior Citizens Center Grounds Cleanup and Mulching
Maury County Senior Citizens Center Container Planting
Maury County Senior Citizens Center Back Bed Planting

Question about these events? Contact:

Kelly Raimondo, (985) 320-0941, kraimondo@att.net or
Sue Nagel (307)640-0004, shelby6866@yahoo.com

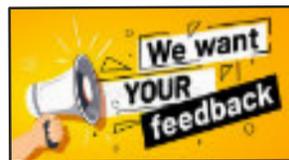


MCMG Care

If you know of a Master Gardener that is sick, had surgery, in the hospital or has lost a loved one, please let me know. I will send a card or flowers as stated in the Sunshine bylaws. You may contact me by calling, texting 931-446-1027 or email bcmcshurley@yahoo.com.

Thank you,
Cay McShirley

February Survey – We Want to Hear From YOU!



We will be handing out a 2022 MCMG Survey to all meeting participants at the February Meeting. Please take a few minutes to complete and leave on the table. We want to hear from you to build our 2022 Calendar of events. Thank you in advance for participating!

Our Master Gardener Coordinator



Roger Wayne Clark,
County Extension Agent 1

E-mail: rogwclar@tennessee.edu

Phone: (931) 375-5301

Address: Maury County Extension,
10 Public Square, Columbia, TN 38401



2022 MASTER GARDENER CLASS SCHOLARSHIPS

Nicknamed "Brent Burt Fund"

At the January 4 Master Gardener meeting, Roger Clark, our Extension Master Gardener Coordinator, announced that the 2022 Master Gardener Class enrollment is open until January 24. (A late fee will be charged after that date.) Classes begin on Monday, January 31, and continue through mid-March with classes each Monday and Thursday from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Classes are in person at the State Farm Bureau office at 147 Bear Creek Pike in Columbia.

Roger reminded the group that need-based scholarships are available for two individuals (\$100 each) or two couples sharing one book (\$150 each).

No one present could remember when the Association decided on the scholarships but all agreed they should continue. Roger promptly nicknamed the scholarships the "Brent Burt Fund" because Brent originally suggested the assistance for people interested in becoming Master Gardeners but unable to afford the class.

Later sleuthing revealed that the Mentoring and Retention Committee, chaired at the time by Kelly Raimondo and Kathie Wilson, brought the motion to the membership and it was unanimously passed to first fund the scholarships for the 2021 class. The motion also said that this expenditure would be budgeted annually so that two scholarships continue to be awarded for each class.

If you know of someone who would like to be a Master Gardener, but who needs help to afford the class, please contact Roger at rogwclar@utk.edu or call 931-375-5301.

Master Gardener Class for 2022 Enrollment is open!
Come learn about horticulture and become a Master Gardener.

You will learn a wide array of Horticulture topics from UT Extension Specialists, Agents, and Professors. Topics include- Soils, Environmental Stewardship, Herbaceous Ornamentals, Woody Ornamentals, Vegetables, Fruit, Entomology, Bees, Landscape Design, and more.

Classes will run January 31st until graduation on Saturday March 19th on Monday and Thursday nights from 6-9pm.

Class dates are: January 31st
February 2nd, 7th, 16th, 14th, 17th, 21st, 24th, 28th.
March 3rd, 7th, 10th, 14th, 19th

Scholarships Available

Where: Classes will be in person at The State Farm Bureau office
147 Bear Creek Pike, Columbia 38401

Cost \$100 a person or \$150 for Couples (one book) late fee of \$25 if signing up after Jan 24th

Contact Roger Clark Master Gardener Coordinator to sign-up at rogwclar@utk.edu, call 931-375-5301, or stop in our office at 10 Public Square, Columbia, TN 38401

2 ways to sign-up

1. Mail the form included on last page of newsletter and your check to Roger Clark, UT Extension Agent, 10 Public Square, Columbia, TN 38401 .
2. Send the form included on last page of newsletter to Roger Clark at rogwclar@utk.edu and pay online here https://tiny.utk.edu/MG_Class.

There are scholarships available: if you know anyone who would like to attend and needs a scholarship, contact Roger by e-mail or phone.

Save the Date **March 19th**
6pm
Spring Hill Ag Center
Graduation 2022 Class
&
Certification of
New Master Gardeners

Now is a great time to submit soil samples for testing to the UT Extension office



MCMG Annual dues for 2022 are \$10.

They are collected in January and February. Please submit yours to Bruce McShurley via cash or check (make check out to Maury County Master Gardeners). May be paid at February meeting or mailed to Maury County Master Gardeners, 148 Shapiro Trail, Columbia, TN, 38401.

The State Master Gardener program has many events planned for this year. Visit mastergardener.tennessee.edu

TREASURER'S REPORT

2022 Budget Approved!

Report for January 2022

Balance on January 1st- \$5,665.73

Income- \$140.00

Expenses- \$221.48

Balance on January 31st- \$5,584.25



2022 MCMG Members Garden Tour

Advance Notice for interested gardeners

Planning on Saturday June 4, 2022 Garden Tour!

History- Prior to our virtual garden tour in 2020 and COVID 2021 where we supported the James K. Polk Home, Gardens of Columbia event. We had showcased our MCMG Members Gardens. Normally touring three gardens on a Saturday in June. We are planning to bring this event back in 2022. Please consider supporting our MCMG Garden Tour. This event will be held in the even calendar years as we continue to support the Polk Homes Garden Tours on the odd years; 2023.

Please consider allowing the MCMG Members to tour your garden in 2022!

Calling anyone interested in wanting to have their garden highlighted and showcased on the MCMG Tour for June 2022.

I hope you will consider nominating your garden for 2022. We are looking forward to tour three gardens and then a member's luncheon afterwards at a local eatery or possible potluck.

Individuals allowing us to tour your garden will receive a \$50.00 Gift Card vendor of your choice as a Thank you for your participation.

If interested please contact Sue Nagel, (307)-640-0004, shelby6866@yahoo.com Sue needs the gardens prior to May 2, 2022.



February

How can it be February already?

One of the favorite months of a gardener. We are bombarded with seed and plant catalogs and start to dream of our perfect garden. It also holds one of the favorite celebrations for the gardener, Groundhog Day. The day when the groundhog is forced out of his hibernation to let us know if we will have an early Spring or six more weeks of Winter.

Groundhog Day was derived from a Pennsylvania Dutch superstition. It is said that, if a groundhog leaves his burrow and sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of Winter. If he leaves his burrow on a cloudy day, we will have an early Spring.

The observance of Groundhog day was made famous in the United States in 1887 by the Punxsutawney Spirit newspaper, in Punxsutawney Pennsylvania. According to Wikipedia, Clymer Freas {1867-1942} was the editor of the newspaper and the father of the conceived idea of Groundhog day. This is where the celebrations originated and spread across the United States and Canada. We still celebrate today, anxiously waiting to see if the groundhog sees his shadow.

The accuracy of the groundhog is questionable.

Either way, we as gardeners know it's still a little early to plant our seeds.

In the meantime, while we are patiently waiting, here are some **seeds** we can plant.

Seeds of kindness, Seeds of Patience, Seeds of Hope, Seeds of Compassion, and Seeds of Encouragement.

May each of us take time to plant as we patiently wait for Spring.



Cay

There is a new Extension Master Gardener website!! <https://mastergardener.tennessee.edu/>

Sign up for the Tennessee Extension Master Gardener Resources

Listserv (State MG Newsletters) [https://](https://listserv.utk.edu/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=tmg&A=1)

listserv.utk.edu/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=tmg&A=1

eblast (keep in the loop on statewide happenings in our Master Gardener program)

<https://utk.us20.list-manage.com/>

[subscribe?u=6a3a58afc0fb35b534c3cee59&id=446131cd83](https://utk.us20.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=6a3a58afc0fb35b534c3cee59&id=446131cd83)

Plan Your Calendar

February

February 1 **Maury County Master Gardeners Meeting, "Raised Bed and Container Gardening"** Amanda Mathenia, 6 pm Senior Citizen's Center; 1020 Maury County Park Dr; Columbia, TN

March

March 1 **Maury County Master Gardeners Meeting, "Bloomstall Flowers Floral Demonstration"** 6 pm Senior Citizen's Center; 1020 Maury County Park Dr; Columbia, TN

March 19 **MCMG 2022 Class Graduation,** 6 pm, Spring Hill Ag Center

March 25-26 Western Region Conference, Clarksville, TN- hosted by Montgomery County Master Gardeners

April

April 5 **Maury County Master Gardeners Meeting, "Garden Tools Hands-on Maintenance Workshop"** 6 pm Senior Citizen's Center; 1020 Maury County Park Dr; Columbia, TN

April 28 Organic Gardening and Farming Field Day, Knoxville

May

May 2 **Deadline for sign up to showcase your garden in the 2022 MCMG Members Garden Tour**

May 3 **Maury County Master Gardeners Meeting,** 6 pm Senior Citizen's Center; 1020 Maury County Park Dr; Columbia, TN

May 6 Set up for MCMG Plant Sale

May 7 **Maury MG plant sale, Baker Bldg, Maury Co Park, 8:00 am-12:00 noon**

June

June 4 2022 MCMG Garden Home Tour

June 14 Fruits of the Backyard Field Day, Spring Hill

"The UT Dogwood Story"

At MCMG Meeting in January, Dr. Alan Windham spoke about how dogwoods became so popular, how UT scientists developed dogwoods resistant to new diseases, and how they have been accepted by the public.

Thanks, Dr. Windham, for a wonderful presentation!



Sherry White received her 10 year service badge. Congrats, Sherry!



TENNESSEE MASTER GARDENER

Application

I wish to become a Tennessee Master Gardener and would like to be accepted into the training program for 2022, beginning January 31st, 2022 and continuing each successive Monday and Thursday through Thursday, March 19, 2022 for twelve meetings.

The first training will be on Thursday, January 31, 2022. Classes (1 thru 14) will be held at the State Farm Bureau office located on 147 Bear Creek Pike, Columbia, TN 38401. Each meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. and end no later than 9:00 p.m. You will be notified of any changes in time or meeting place.

I understand that the cost of the program is \$100, which includes the Master Gardener handbook and other materials for the program. This fee is due with the application on or before January 24th, 2022 and will not be refunded after **Monday, February 14, 2022**. Classes are filled on a first come, first served basis as payment is received. Married couples, who agree to share a Master Gardener notebook, may register at a cost of \$150, if they desire to do so. **if signing up after January 24th the cost will be an additional \$25.**

I understand that if accepted into this program, I will become a **Tennessee Master Gardener Intern** upon completion of the 40-hour course and will be a certified **Tennessee Master Gardener** after donating 40 hours of volunteer service and attending 8 CEU's (Continuing Education Units) by March 20, 2023.

I understand that being absent from two (2) or more training sessions will require makeup work before certification is awarded. Absenteeism from two (2) or more sessions without makeup or three (3) or more sessions overall will require dismissal from the 2022 program.

Name: _____
(Please Print)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

County: _____ Telephone: _____

E-Mail _____

Amount Enclosed: Individual \$100 _____ Married Couple \$150 _____ Late Fee \$25 _____

(Signature)

Please make checks payable to Maury County Extension Master Gardener Program.

I have read the Policies and Procedures section included in this packet and regarding my services as a Tennessee Master Gardener volunteer and do hereby agree to give 40 hours of service and attend 8 hours of Continuing Education in return for the training provided by the University of Tennessee Extension Service.

Signed: _____
(Signature of Applicant)

Date: _____