

roots

The monthly newsletter of the Sevier County Area Master Gardeners Association

APRIL 2022



SEVIER COUNTY
UEXTENSION
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

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On the cover: A Guzmania Bromeliad peeks out from a fern. Photo credit: Tammie Browning

letter from the president

On behalf of all our Master Gardener Club Members, to all those who contributed in any way to the Plant Sale, THANK YOU! It takes many people to pull this event off. To those digging plants from their own yards, those working in the greenhouse to grow plants, anyone logging hours behind a computer for plant sale needs, and all those who work in person to help set up and on the day of the sales...We truly appreciate you!

It was so great to be back in person once again. And did you realize, this was the first year we have been able to have an in-person sale with our very own greenhouse plants?! We did well as a club, as did the JMG club. Our vendors were VERY happy. All of that makes it a great event.

Andy Bush will be stepping away from leading this event. We appreciate all his efforts over the last few years. He had to endure working through uncharted territory with COVID. Thanks, Andy for your willingness to lead the way!

After some conversations with Andy, I have offered to take the baton from him and run with the plant sale. For 17 years this event has been happening in some form. When I joined Master Gardeners, Linda Oakberg was leading the way and did so for many years. Our group is thankful for all the hard work Linda devoted over the years to this event. We

will keep moving on and raising money for our club.

With that said, I will be reaching out to many of you soon, if I have not done so already by the time the Newsletter is published. If you have been a key leader, volunteer, or coordinator with this event I would love to have you at a meeting soon. At this meeting, I also want to invite anyone else who is interested in serving on the Plant Sale Committee. We will meet sometime in May. Maybe before you read this, but never fear, there will be more meetings along the way to get involved with. I want to hear from our members as well. Send me an email on your thoughts on the Plant Sale, then, now, and way back when. What have you seen that worked well? What would you change? Is there something new we can offer? I love hearing your ideas, so please share them with me so we can talk them through with our committee... even if you do not want to be a part of the committee, your input is valuable!

Thanks once again for another great year of fundraising. By the time our May meeting rolls around we should have all the totals to share with you. One of us can make a difference, but all of us can do even more when we work together!

Tammie Browning

SCAMGA President
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opportunities



demo garden news

The gardens are really looking wonderful! I would like to give a special shout out to the JMGs and Melanie Hill. The kids have been super stars when it comes to working in the garden. Please remember that our next event is Farm Days on May 10th and 11th.

The interns of 2022 are planning and planting a new memorial garden. It is going to be a lovely addition to the Demo Gardens.

We are still in need of someone to tend the garden in front of the extension office. If you could maintain this garden this year please let me know.

Diane McCullen

educational

Melody's Monday Musings (Greene County), check out the 2021 schedule.

[More info HERE.](#)

Check out the First Friday Field Day recordings! Click [HERE](#) for March Fruit, or [HERE](#) for April Vegetable Field Days.

First Friday Office Hours Session - UTK Horticultural Team, June 3, 10am. Fun, interactive and informative session where your questions on summer in the garden are answered. Use [THIS FORM](#) to ask questions ahead of time. Click [HERE](#) to join the webinar (passcode: UThort).

SEVIER COUNTY
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meetings & events

Board Meeting, Monday, May 16, 5:30 pm. In-person, with Zoom option. Info on page 7.

Monthly Meeting, Monday, May 16, 6:30 pm. In-person, with Zoom option. Info on page 7.

TEMG State Conference in Blountville, TN, Jun 9-11. Early bird registration end May 15th. Learn more about the sessions [HERE](#). See full schedule [HERE](#). Register online [HERE](#).

volunteer

4-H Farm Days, May 10-11, 8:30-1pm, help with tours of the demo garden! Contact Tammie Browning if interested

JMG Camp, June 3 & 4, More info on page 6.

Jr. Lunch & Learn Series, Wednesdays in July, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm, More info on page 6.

THESE FOLKS HAVE PAID 2022 DUES AS OF MONDAY, MAY 9TH:

2022 dues | \$25 per MG

Second person from the same household is \$15

Pam Barron
Pat Butler
Lois Cooper
Joan Falsone
Patsy Farmer
Bonnie Gathergood
Sarah Gibson
Steve Greenwell
Karen Hall
Glenna Julian

Guane Julian
Brad Knight
Karen Less
Leo Lubke
Audrey MacClellan
Colette Mancke
Diane McCullen
Donald Norstrand
Linda Oakberg
John Oakberg

Sandra Palmer
Carl Parsons
Melinda Paxson
Teresa Rae
Dixie Seaton
Jerry Shonk
Donna Stinnett
Renee Thrap
Ellen Yatteau

Please send by check to:

Attn: Debbie Hurst
UT Extension Sevier County
752 Old Knoxville Highway
Sevierville, TN 37862

If you prefer, you may drop off your payment at the office, but call first to make sure they know you're coming. Class of 2022 does not owe dues this year.

dandelions

With May comes the Dandelion. Blooming in May through the summer, many people attempt to eradicate this “weed” using herbicides or a lawnmower. But *Taraxacum officinale* has spread across most of North America and has no intention of going away. Perhaps it’s time we make peace with these yellow flowers and begin to embrace their benefits.



that may have been sprayed with Roundup or other noxious chemicals. If taken from a safe area, dandelions are tasty and nutritious. The dandelion flower is edible and quite tasty. They are a good source of vitamins A, B-12, C, E, K, and folate, plus minerals including iron, calcium, magnesium, and potassium, as well as antioxidants including beta carotene and



A member of the Asteraceae family, along with the aster, daisy, and sunflower, dandelions grow from a taproot that can be 6 to 18 inches in length but can penetrate 10 feet into the soil. Even after being cut at or below ground level, they will survive. It is a short-lived perennial that will adapt to almost any soil.

They are useful as both a culinary and a medicinal herb. But be wary of harvesting in those areas

polyphenols. Dandelions are also a potent prebiotic fiber source with digestive benefits. Tender leaves and flowers can be used in salads, but mature leaves can be bitter. Flowers may also be added to pancakes and fritters or be brewed into dandelion wine. Choose large heads in full flower picked early in the day and gently pull the petals away from the base. Young greens can be eaten whenever available. They can be cooked similar to

sauteed, creamed, or stir-fried spinach. The root is not tasty, but can be cleaned, boiled, and used in soups, stews, or other cooked dishes for an additional vegetable boost. Roots can also be dried and ground into a coffee substitute or used in medicine. Stem sap can be useful in treating skin ailments when applied topically.

The dandelion is a part of Appalachian, Ayurveda, and Traditional Chinese medicine as a tea or tincture for digestive, cardiovascular, and immune systems (consult an alternative practitioner for additional information).

When harvesting, please leave plenty for wildlife. Pollinators especially love them and they can be an early source of nectar for bees and other beneficial insects.

So, rather than seeing the dandelion as an enemy to be eliminated, look on it as a plant that could enhance your health and support the bees and other pollinators.

Jarvie, M. (2015). Dandelions for food. Michigan State University Extension. https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/dandelions_for_food.

Link, R. and Hill, A. (2022). 13 Emerging Health Benefits of Dandelion. Healthline. <https://www.healthline.com/nutrition/dandelion-benefits>.

*Mahr, S. (2015) Dandelion, *Taraxacum officinale*. Master Gardener Program, Division of Extension, UW Extension/ UW Colleges. <https://wimastergardener.org/article/dandelion-taraxacum-officinale/>.*

ask a master gardener

virtual edition

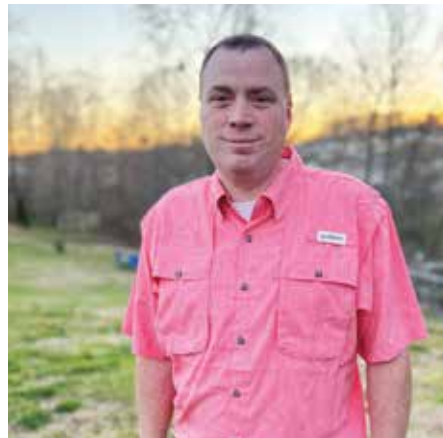
E-mail questions
with photos to

askamastergardener@scamga.org



meet matthew anderson at the may meeting

This month Matthew Anderson, the new ANR Extension Agent specializing in Horticulture for Sevier County, will be speaking at the monthly meeting. He will talk about his background and his vision for the Master Gardener program and other horticultural programs for the county. He



will also be presenting the new Master Gardener Interns their certificate of completion from the intern class this year. He looks forward to seeing more people at the monthly meetings and bring us all together.

**Board Meeting: May 16, 2022,
at 5:30pm**

**Monthly Meeting: May 16,
2022, at 6:30pm**

[Click here to Join the Zoom
Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 860 5328 4328
MUST ENTER PASSCODE:
517638

TEMG PLANS FOR 2022

DISTANCE CONNEC- TIONS FOR EMGS

11 AM ET/10 AM CT-
Live on Zoom
Tours, Teaching and
Q and A with our
statewide Extension
Hort Team

June 3: First Friday
Hort Session

Aug. 5: First Friday
Hort Session

Sept. 9: TEMG Friday
Focus

Nov. 4- First Friday
Hort Session

LIVE TEMG EVENTS

June 9th-11th: State
TEMG Conference,
Northeast TN

Oct. 20th: Leader-
ship Day

MASTER GARDENER
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UTIA AND EXTENSION EVENTS

June 14th: Fruits of
the Backyard
Field Day, Spring Hill
Jul. 14th: Summer
Celebration, Jackson
Aug. 30th: Fall
Gardener's Festival,
Crossville

Online event signups
as well as live event
registration will be
found on the [state
website](#). Plus,
connect with your
coordinator and local
officers for all the
details.



SEVIER COUNTY AREA MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

meeting minutes

APRIL 18, 2022

ATTENDANCE

In Person = 16, Zoom = 8, Guests = 0,
Total = 24

PRESENTATION

In lieu of a presentation, the association discussed the actions still needing to be completed for the annual Plant Sale on April 23rd. This discussion began at 6:42 PM and was led by the Plant Sale Chair, Andy Bush. He reviewed the remaining schedule of events:

- Tuesday – Friday: Potting of seedling from trays. Volunteers needed.
- Thursday, April 21: Set up of tables and chairs in the various booths, starting at 4:00 PM.
- Friday, April 22: Vendor set ups, Noon to 7:00 PM. Inspection of plants by State Agent, 7:00 PM.
- Saturday, April 23: Vendor arrivals and set ups, 8:00 – 9:00 AM. Start of Sale, 9:00 AM. Closing/Cleanup, 3:00 PM.
- Monday, April 25: Inventory of remaining plants, uploading of inventory data, and preparation for Online Plant Sale.
- Friday-Saturday, May 6-7: Online Plant Sale Pickup at Fairgrounds during Wildfire Prevention Expo.

- Signup sheets were made available for these activities.

Karen Less pointed out that for this year's sale a booklet of QR codes will be available so that customers can scan the code with a cellphone camera and look up information about each plant.

Linda Oakberg stated that she had brought to the meeting the signs and cashboxes that will be needed for the sale. Tammie Browning said that these can be stored in the Exhibit Hall tonight.

Tammie also stated that she will need to check to see if a food truck will be available to supply concessions during the sale. In the past neither 4-H nor Junior Master Gardeners have been able to make a profit at concessions.

BUSINESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER:

President Tammie Browning called the business meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the March 21, 2022, meeting were approved without addition or correction by voice vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report for March was approved without addition or correction by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business not already discussed during the opening Plant Sale discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Likewise, there was no other new business other than that associated with the Plant Sale.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ASK-A-MASTER-GARDENER: No report. Tammie announced that Audrey McLellan has resigned as chair for this activity. *Consequently, a volunteer is needed to replace her.*

DEMO GARDEN: Diane McCullen stated that the remaining mulch for the Demo Garden was spread by trustees from the Count prison. Also, she restated that a volunteer is still needed for the Gate Bed. Andy Bush stated that it is not necessary to have tours of the Demo Garden during the Plant Sale.

FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW: No additional information.



scamga speakers bureau

We all have our areas of gardening expertise that we hop you would be willing to share with our group or other groups in our community.

John Oakberg is our Member at Large and the primary contact for this project. Please remember that he is your member contact with the board. Contact John Oakberg, Steve Wilson, or Tammie Browning if you have questions.

If you have ideas, projects, etc., to be considered please call John. He is also in charge of the Speakers Bureau, so if you haven't signed up, please do so. As things continue to open up, we could have community groups seeking speakers in the late summer and fall. So please register if you are interested in sharing your expertise with local groups (while earning service hours).



GREENHOUSE: Dixie Seaton stated that there will be one more fertilizing of transplants before the sale. The current emphasis must be on transplanting the seedlings. To speed up the process, Patsy Farmer is making the labels for the transplants ahead of time. Three trays with white flies have been placed in the pergola, so we need to be vigilant for others. *The infested trays should not be returned to the greenhouse.*

JUNIOR MASTER GARDENERS: Tammie Browning reported that volunteers are still needed for the JMG summer camp and for the 6-9 Grade group.

SENIOR CENTER: Pam Barron reported that the preparation for the Senior Center Plant sale on April 30th from 9:00 AM to Noon is progressing well. The greenhouse there has a lot of milkweed, coleus, and tomatoes in particular Rutgers and Goatbag tomatoes. *A new Coordinator for the greenhouse is still needed.* Workdays are continue on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

COUNTY FAIR: Tammie Browning reported no activity at this time.

WILDERNESS WILDLIFE WEEK: Steve Greenwell reported no activity at this time.

NEWSLETTER: Teresa Rae was absent, but we can assume the deadline for submissions for the May newsletter is May 1st.

EXTENSION AGENT'S REPORT: Matthew Anderson announced that the print version of the Master Gardener Handbook, Chapter 12—Residential Fruit in Tennessee, is now available for those who want a copy. Also he pointed out that registration for the May 17th field trip to Asheville is still open at a cost of \$100. Also registration for the Organic Field Day at the East Tennessee Ag Research and Education Center is still open. The event is free for Master Gardeners.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Patsy Farmer won the door prize – a watering wand.
- There were no other new announcements.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Parsons
Secretary

treasury report

Sevier Co. Area Master Gardener Assoc. | March 2022

MG & JMG Total from February, 2022: **\$9,483.73**

MASTER GARDENERS

MG Carryover from February, 2022, (YTD)			\$ 5,091.82
Transactions	Inflows	Outflows	Year to Date
Membership Dues	\$245.00		\$435.00
Sevier County Fair [^]		-\$460.00	-\$460.00
Plant Sale			
Demo Garden		-\$125.00	-\$120.00
Greenhouse ^{^^}	\$1,000.00	-\$56.50	-\$402.79
Fair Beautification			
MG Flower Show		-\$174.00	-\$120.00
Miscellaneous			
Ice Cream Social			
MG Craft Fair			
Zoom Fees			
Christmas Dinner			
Subtotals	+\$1,245.00	-\$815.50	-\$667.79
Net Change for March			+\$429.50
MG Ending Balance on March 31, 2022 (YTD)			\$5,521.32
MG Net Change for 2022*			-\$667.79

JUNIOR MASTER GARDENERS:

JMG Carryover from February, 2022, (YTD)			+\$4,391.91
Transactions	Inflows	Outflows	Year to Date
4-H Scholarships		-\$600.00	-\$600.00
Donations			
Sevier Co. Mayor Donation			
Greenhouse		-\$13.44	-\$13.44
Supplies			
Sevier County Fair ^{**}		-\$120.00	-\$120.00
Miscellaneous ^{***}		-\$102.80	-\$102.80
Storage Building			
Adjustments			
Subtotals	-0-	-\$836.24	-\$836.24
Net Change for March			-\$836.24
JMG Ending Balance on March 31, 2022 (YTD)			+\$3,555.67
JMG Net Change for 2022*			-\$836.24

MG and JMG Total on February 28, 2022 **+\$9,076.99**
MG-JMG Net Change for 2022** **-\$406.74**

*Defined as the credits vs debits over each calendar year. [^]Sponsorship exhibit awards (-\$340.00), Ad in fair book (-\$120.00)

^{^^}Greenhouse supplies (-\$56.50), Donation for excavation (+\$1,000.00) ^{**}Ad in fair book (-\$120.00)

^{***}Youth best of show floral (-\$60.00), prize for JMG (-\$42.80)

March 2022 Treasury Report prepared by Donald Nordstrand



CONTACT

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Newsletter content is due on the 1st of each month, and should be emailed to peatree@peatreedesigns.com
Articles submitted by members are welcome and should be 300-500 words. Photographs should be at least 3Mb in size. Please make sure emails that contain attachments are less than 10Mb (combined). If attachments exceed 10Mb, send in separate emails or use Dropbox.

committee chairs

Flower & Garden Show & Sale
ANDY BUSH | pgbush@juno.com | 865.363.1515

Craft Fair
Scrapbook
Tomato Seed Project
Junior Master Gardener
Greenhouse Education Committee
TAMMIE BROWNING
shallywag@yahoo.com | 865.604.4829

Senior Center
GLENNA JULIAN | julian1955@comcast.net
H: 865.933.0747 | M: 865.368.3632

Ask-A-Master Gardener
VACANT

Demonstration Garden
DIANE MCCULLEN
ldmccullen@sbcglobal.net | 832.605.5769

Greenhouse Coordinator
DIXIE SEATON | tdseaton@aol.com | 615.498.0340

Greenhouse Policy Committee
KAREN LESS | greyheroncrafts@gmail.com | 828.308.5864

Wilderness Wildlife Week
STEVE GREENWELL | 9catsfarm@gmail.com | 865.556.3636

Sev Co Fair MG Exhibit Area
CO-CHAIR: DIANE MCCULLEN
ldmccullen@sbcglobal.net | 832.605.5769

Newsletter
TERESA RAE | peatree@peatreedesigns.com | 865.414.8176

**“The watering
of a garden
requires as much
judgement as
the seasoning
of a soup.”**

- Helena Ely

*American author, amateur gardener
and founding member of the
Garden Club of America*

