

roots

The monthly newsletter of the Sevier County Area Master Gardeners Association

AUGUST 2022



SEVIER COUNTY
UT EXTENSION
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

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On the cover: Passion Flower (*Passiflora incarnata*), aka Maypop, with fruit. Photo credit: Karen Less

letter from the president

I am now in my 10th year of being a part of this great group. Over those years, I have truly learned so very much from all of you. The accumulated knowledge of this group is truly incredible! I want to personally say thank you to each and everyone of you for all you have done and/or continue to do for our group and the community. I am not sure if you realize, no matter how big or small you feel your service is, it is an important part to our group. It takes each of you to make it all happen!

Recently, I have been thinking about just how much our club has done as a group since it began. From pulling weeds, giving garden tours, talking to folks at the Ask-A-Master Gardener table, teaching classes, and so very many other ways...you have impacted our community. Times change and new ideas are always welcome. There is never a bad idea. Sometimes we may have to adjust an idea or brainstorm with it, but we love to hear from you. Please never hesitate to reach out to us if you have something on your mind. Once again, you each are appreciated!

Tammie Browning

SCAMGA President
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new website!



We have a [new website](#) thanks to Matt. He has been working hard and it is now up. Go over and take a look at it! If you have any ideas about it please contact Matt. It sure looks good. There will be more things added.

Tammie Browning



opportunities



educational

Melody's Monday Musings
(Greene County), [More info HERE.](#)

First Friday Office Hours Session - UTK Horticultural Team, August 5, 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 joining the webinar (passcode: UThort).

Seed Saving with Angie Lavezzo, Creekside Farm at Walnut Cove, Asheville, NC. August 9, 6 to 8 pm. [More info HERE.](#)

Native Seed Tour, Roundstone Native Seed, LLC, Upton, KY. Friday, August 12. \$25 per person. Contact Extension Office for additional information.

Landscape & Turf Grass Management, August 25, 1-4pm, \$25 per person, Sevier County Extension building. [Register HERE.](#)

Fall Gardeners' Festival, Tuesday, August 30, Plateau AgResearch and Education Center, Crossville, TN. Contact the Extension Office for additional information.

Keep Sevier Beautiful Fall Series, Thursdays in September.

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

Did you know that you can earn CE hours watching popular gardening shows on YouTube? Go to YouTube and search for Growing A Greener World, Brie the Plant Lady, Gardeners World, GardenSmartTV, and other garden related shows. There are also lots of garden tours available from all over the world. You could easily get way more than your minimum 8 CE hours and learn some things to help you be a better gardener.

meetings & events

Monthly Meeting, Monday, Aug 15, 6:30 pm. Sevier County Fairgrounds Pavillion. More info on page 5.

Monthly Meeting, Monday, Sep 19, 6:30 pm. Sevier County Extension Building. Board meeting at 5:30 pm.

Sevier County Fair, August 30 - August 5. Sevier County Fairgrounds.



volunteer

Demo Garden Workday, Thursday, August 25 9:00 am.

Senior Center Garden Workdays First Saturday and Third Wednesday of each month 9:00 am.

Sevier County Fair, August 30 through September 5. Multiple volunteer opportunities available from August 19 through September 12. In addition to working onsite at fair, we will also need assistance in the Demo Garden giving tours to fair goers.

2022 dues | \$25 per MG

Second person from the same household is \$15

THESE FOLKS HAVE PAID 2022 DUES AS OF AUGUST 4th*:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Pam Barron | Leo Lubke |
| Tammie Browning | Audrey MacClellan |
| Andy Bush | Colette Mancke |
| Pat Butler | Diane McCullen |
| Lois Cooper | Donald Norstrand |
| Joan Falsone | Linda Oakberg |
| Patsy Farmer | John Oakberg |
| Bonnie Gathergood | Sandra Palmer |
| Sarah Gibson | Carl Parsons |
| Steve Greenwell | Melinda Paxson |
| Karen Hall | Teresa Rae |
| Kathleen Hammer | Dixie Seaton |
| Melanie Hill | Jerry Shonk |
| Glenna Julian | Donna Stinnett |
| Guane Julian | Renee Thrap |
| Brad Knight | Steve Wilson |
| Karen Less | 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.

lawn and landscape weed control for homeowners

INTRODUCTION

Weeds found throughout lawns and landscapes can be challenging to control. For example, stolons (i.e., “runners”) from a bermudagrass (*Cynodon* spp.) lawn can encroach into a plant bed, making bermudagrass a weed in one spot but not the other. There can also be a wide array of plant materials in lawns and landscapes — including desirable turfgrass, flowers and shrubs, as well as weeds. This diversity can make herbicide selection difficult as some products used to control weeds in lawns may be injurious to flowering plants in landscape beds, and vice-versa. Often, selection of plant materials for the landscape is dictated by aesthetic attributes to showcase a property (Image 1) while maintenance of weeds (and other pests) after installation is not considered. This publication is intended to guide homeowners with decisions pertaining to weed control in lawn and landscape areas and provide suggestions for balancing the management of these areas within residential spaces.

CULTURAL PRACTICES FOR LAWNS

Lawns across Tennessee can be established using cool-season (i.e., grasses that remain green throughout much of the year) or warm-season (i.e., grasses that are brown in winter during dormancy) turfgrasses. The most common cool-season turfgrass used to establish lawns in Tennessee is tall fescue (*Festuca arundinacea*) while the most common warm-season turfgrass is bermudagrass. Whether it’s cool- or warm-season, the best defense against



Image 1: Plant selection can enhance residential landscapes. Photo credit: J. Brosnan.

any weed infestation is maintaining a dense, vigorous stand of turfgrass.

Selecting the proper species for a lawn is a critical first step to limiting weeds in the landscape. For example, warm-season species such as bermudagrass require sunlight to grow optimally and will struggle in shaded landscapes. Conversely, to grow vigorously through the summer, tall fescue lawns will require supplemental irrigation as well as timely applications of fungicide to control summer diseases. More information on the attributes of different turfgrass species can be found here: <https://ag.tennessee.edu/turf/Pages/Turfgrass-Selection.aspx>.

MOWING

Mowing Height. Bermudagrass, zoysiagrass (*Zoysia* spp.), and several

other turfgrass species are classified as sod-forming grasses due to their ability to grow laterally by way of stolons and/or rhizomes. Generally, these sod forming species can

be maintained at a slightly lower mowing height than turfgrasses such as chewings, hard and tall fescues which have a bunch-type growth habit. Mowing height affects root growth with lawns maintained at higher mowing heights producing deeper roots than those mowed lower.

Optimum mowing height ranges vary among turfgrass species and according to weather conditions.

For example, when it is

cool (60 F to 75 F), improved, turf-type tall fescues usually perform well at a mowing height from 2 inches to 3 inches (Table 1). However, it is advisable to increase the mowing height of this cool-season species in advance of hot, dry weather (Image 2). Warm-season turfgrasses can be mowed a bit lower during favorable growing conditions than during cold and dry weather. For example, hybrid bermudagrass (*C. dactylon* x *C. transvaalensis*) varieties (e.g., Tifway, etc.) usually perform well at a mowing height from 0.75 to 1.5 inches when air temperatures are warm (greater than 80 F) and the soil is moist. Increasing the mowing height of hybrid bermudagrass by one-half inch or more in early fall may help plants survive extremely cold and dry periods during winter dormancy.

[Click HERE to read the rest of the article online](#)

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).



august meeting info

It's time for the annual ice cream social! Bring your favorite homemade or store bought ice cream to share! Sevier County Fairgrounds Pavilion, 6:30pm.



TEMG PLANS FOR 2022

DISTANCE CONNECTIONS FOR EMGS

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

Aug. 5: First Friday Hort Session

Sept. 9: TEMG Friday Focus

Nov. 4: First Friday Hort Session

LIVE TEMG EVENTS

Oct. 20th: Leadership Day



UTIA AND EXTENSION EVENTS

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

JULY 18, 2022

ATTENDANCE

13 in person. (Zoom attendance has now been stopped.)

PRESENTATION

Steve Wilson introduced Eric Fortenberry of Little River Landscape Management in Knoxville. In a question and answer format, Eric addressed various topics on landscaping, stressing such items as soil management and proper mulching.

BUSINESS MEETING

Call To Order: 7:30 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tammie Browning pointed out that new officers will be needed next year for the positions of President, Vice President, and Treasurer.

Later in the meeting Tammie announced that Samantha Franklin is retiring from the Sevier County Extension office staff on July 29th after 21 years of service.

Dixie Seaton asked for volunteer speakers for the meetings of Keep Sevierville Beautiful during Thursdays in September.

JUNE MEETING MINUTES

Andy Bush stated that the URL for the new SCAMGA webpage shown in the

minutes was incorrect. Carl Parsons will correct. Otherwise, the minutes were approved by voice vote.

TREASURER'S JUNE REPORT

Sarah Gibson pointed out that the Treasurer's Report for June shows deficit balances for both the MG and JMG accounts. Don explained that he had also noted in the report that transfers had been made from the local accounts to the new UT accounts whenever the local amounts exceeded \$1,000 and that to show a true balance we will need to have details from both our current local accounts AND the UT account. Debbie Hurst was not able to supply this information in the time for the June Treasurer's report was prepared. Now, however, she can. Tammie distributed the report, which now shows the corrected positive balances for both the MG and JMG accounts. Several members voiced concerns about having the two separate accounts, the effect of which was to reduce the local account to a petty cash fund. But Don also pointed out some of the advantages in that the tax reporting responsibilities are now with UT. Also the new reports shows all of the transaction details.

Tammie added that some adjustments must still be made between the MG and JMG accounts for the Plant Sale, especially regarding the online orders that were not picked up.

There was additional discussion about how much control UT would have over how the MG organizations spend their money.

The Treasurer's report was eventually approved by voice vote.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tammie stated that discussion of the Christmas party is deferred to the September meeting due to Matthew Anderson's absence since he has been gathering information about the possibility of using the Sevierville Golf Course facility.

NEXT SCAMGA MEETING

The next SCAMGA meeting is the ice cream social to be held at the Fairgrounds pavilion on Monday, August 15. Members should bring either ice cream or toppings.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ASK-A-MASTER-GARDENER: Dixie reported that public response to the first use of the AAMG booth at the Sevierville Farmers' Market was positive.

DEMO GARDEN: Reporting for Diane McCullen, Dixie stated that the JMGs had weeded the Demo Garden.

PLANT SALE: No report.

GREENHOUSE: No report.

JMGs: Dixie reported that the older JMGs are still meeting every other week. Tammie reported that the attendance for Lunch-n-Learn was 27 children and that she needs volunteers to help with the remaining sessions in July.

SENIOR CENTER: Glenna Julian thanked the four new volunteers who have helped with watering and garden maintenance recently to keep at the Senior Center gardens looking nice during the hot weather.

COUNTY FAIR: Tammie stated that the Fair Books are now available and told the members they could take some from the supply she brought to the meeting.

TOMATO SEED PROJECT: No report.

WILDERNESS WILDLIFE WEEK: Steve Greenburg reported that WWW for 2023 will be held January 24 – 28th at the Ramsey Hotel and Convention Center in Pigeon Forge.

SCAMGA NEWSLETTER: Reporting for Teresa Rae, Karen Less stated that the deadline for the August edition will be August 1st.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Parsons

Secretary

demo garden news

As the fair gets closer we all need to pull together and spruce up the gardens. We will have a ALL HANDS ON DECK work day on August 25th at 9:00 am. Please plan on attending this work day. Bring a your gardens tools and join us for some fun, fellowship, and weeding.

The County Fair begins on the 30th of August and runs through the 5th of September. We will need people to man the gardens for our garden tours. I will send out a Sign Up Genius in a couple to weeks. Please pick a time and help us reach out to the community. This is one of our biggest events and we need everyone to pitch in.

This months Gold Star Gardener goes to Karen Hall. What an amazing person to have in our Master Gardener group. She is always willing to show up and help. I'm not sure how I would have got anything done without her. I want Karen to know I truly do appreciate her help on the chores that aren't so fun but have to be done.

See you in the garden,

Diane McCullen



fair news

Please consider helping at the County Fair this year. I will need help decorating the entry gate and the booth on Saturday, August 27th. We will meet at the ticket booth area at 10:00am and hopefully have both areas done in a couple of hours. We will also have our Ask-A-Master Gardener booth again. Even if you are new to the MG organization, you are more than able to handle this booth. Most people just want to tell you stories about their garden. If they do have a question and you don't know the answer just give them some resources so they can do the research. It is a great place to recruit people to join our organization. I am also working on a pizza garden wheel for kids to interact with. I will be sending out a Sign Up Genius in a couple of weeks. Grab a MG friend and come spend some time at the fair!

See you in the garden,

Diane McCullen

treasury report

Sevier Co. Area Master Gardener Assoc. | June 2022

Combined MG & JMG Total from May, 2022: \$ 2,730.00

MASTER GARDENERS

MG Carryover from May, 2022, (YTD)			\$ 2,025.00
Transactions	Inflows	Outflows	Year to Date
Adjustments**			-\$2,793.83
Christmas Dinner			
Demo Garden		-\$58.80	-\$612.02
Fair Beautification			
Greenhouse			-\$3,417.51
Ice Cream Social			
Membership Dues	\$100.00		\$800.00
Miscellaneous			
MG Craft Fair			
MG Flower Show			\$176.00
Plant Sale		-\$61.28	\$2,114.97
Sevier County Fair			-\$460.00
Storage Building			-\$50.80
Zoom Fees			
Subtotals	\$100	-\$120.08	-\$4,243.19 (YTD)
Net Change for June 2022			- \$20.08
MG ending balance in local account on June 30, 2022, (YTD):			\$2,004.92
(MG ending balance including \$2,793.83 sequestered by UT is \$4,798.75)			
MG Net Change for 2022 (YTD)*			-\$4,243.19

JUNIOR MASTER GARDENERS:

JMG Carryover from May, 2022, (YTD)			+\$705.00
Transactions	Inflows	Outflows	Year to Date
4 - H Scholarships			-\$600.00
Adjustments^			-\$2,914.35
Demo Garden			-\$36.32
Donations			
Greenhouse			-\$13.44
JMG Camp		-\$235.02	-\$530.02
Miscellaneous			-\$102.00
Plant Sale			+\$500.00
Sevier County Fair			-\$120.00
Sevier Co. Mayor Donation			
Storage Building			-\$105.00
Supplies			
Subtotals	0	-\$235.02	-\$3,921.13 (YTD)
Net Change for June 2022			-\$ 235.02
JMG Ending Balance in local account on June 30, 2022 (YTD)			\$ 469.98
(JMG ending balance including \$2,914.35 sequestered by UT is \$3,384.33)			
JMG Net Change for 2022*			-\$3,921.13

Combined Total for MG and JMG on June 30, 2022 **\$2,474.49**

MG + JMG including \$5,708.18 Sequestered by UT (YTD) **\$8,182.67**

Combined MG and JMG Net Change for 2022, (YTD):* **-\$8,164.32**

*Defined as the credits vs debits over each calendar year.

^Balance transfer to UT centered Master Gardener account(s) from extension office centered accounts. The funds still belong to SCAMGA per Adam Hopkin

June 2022 Treasury Report prepared by Donald Nordstrand



CONTACT

officers

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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
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Ask-A-Master Gardener
VACANT

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Greenhouse Coordinator
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Greenhouse Policy Committee
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Wilderness Wildlife Week
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Sev Co Fair MG Exhibit Area
CO-CHAIR: DIANE MCCULLEN
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Newsletter
TERESA RAE | peatree@peatreedesigns.com | 865.414.8176



Fairy Tale Hybrid Eggplant



Midnight Snack Hybrid Tomato



Fooled You Hybrid Jalapeño

"We don't need a melting pot in this country, folks. We need a salad bowl. In a salad bowl, you put in the different things. You want the vegetables - the lettuce, the cucumbers, the onions, the green peppers - to maintain their identity. You appreciate differences."

- Jane Elliot