

roots

The monthly newsletter of the Sevier County Area Master Gardeners Association

APRIL 2024



SEVIER COUNTY
UEXTENSION
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE



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*On the cover: Butterfly Weed (Asclepias tuberosa)
One of the showiest native wildflowers, Attracts butterflies and bees, particularly a Monarch butterfly magnet.*

April Meeting Info Monday, April 15, 2024 6:00 PM

**Speaker: Andy Bush
Container Gardening**

Andy's presentation will be on what he does in terms of container gardening. He will include starting seeds, intermediate potting up, and finally large containers mounted on casters. Andy will talk about the potting mixes he has used and his experience with them and will suggest some tropical plants that do better than others.

Andy was in the 2013 Master Gardener class, but has been growing fragrance and spice plants since college. Andy says much of what he has learned has been through trial and error.



WILDERNESS
WILDLIFE WEEK
PIGEON FORGE ★ TN

Steve reported that the WWW event only lasted three days due to a scheduling conflict. He wants to thank all the members of the group who volunteered. There was a lot of interest in the booth especially from the home-schooled children. Many seeds were given out and the JMG packet was very popular. This event allows the Master Gardeners to interact with many people from our community and areas surrounding us.



opportunities

volunteer

My People Senior Activity Center
Garden Work Days Wednesday, April
17th, 9:00 AM, Saturday, May 4th,
9:00 AM.

Demo Garden Work Days, Tuesday,
April 16th, 10:00 AM.

Master Gardener Intern Class Tuesdays,
March 5th through April 9th, 6:00 PM.

2024 SCAMGA Main Plant Sale,
Saturday, April 20th, 9:00 AM to 2:00
PM.

2024 Senior Activity Center Plant Sale,
Saturday, April 27th, 9:00 AM to 12:00
PM.

meetings & events

Monthly Meeting, Monday, April 15th
6:00 PM.

Master Gardener Intern Class Tuesday,
April 9th, 6:00 PM.

2024 SCAMGA Main Plant Sale, Satur-
day, April 20th, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

2024 Senior Activity Center Plant Sale,
Saturday, April 27th 9:00 AM to 12:00
PM.

May Board Meeting, Monday, May 20th,
4:30 PM.

Monthly Meeting, Monday, May 20th,
6:00 PM.

SAVE THE DATE! TEMG State Confer-
ence, October 9th through 11th, hosted by
Davidson and Williamson Counties.

educational

Melody's Monday Musings (Greene
County). <https://sites.google.com/utk.edu/mondaymusings/2023-schedule?authuser=0>

Buncombe County (NC) Master
Gardener Video Series, <https://www.buncombemastergardener.org/gardening-videos/>

TEMG May Fruit and Vegetable Webi-
nar Series, Tuesdays, May 7, 14, 21,
and 28, 12:30 to 1:30 PM. Information
and registration at: <https://uthort.tennessee.edu/may-fruit-and-vegetable-webinar-series/>

Western North Carolina Horticulture
Tour, Tuesday, May 21. Contact Matt
for information.

TEMG First Friday Office Hours in
Horticulture Webinars: June 7, July 12,
August 2, and September 6. 10:00 AM.

Fruits of the Backyard Field Day, Spring
Hill, Tuesday, June 11th.

Fall Gardener's Festival, Crossville,
August 27th.

TEMG 2024 Welcome Home Series,
October 1, 8, 25, 22, 6:30 PM.

donating to the plant sale

Our customers love to purchase the quality plants harvested from the personal collections of our master gardeners. In order to provide them with the most complete information possible on growing them at their homes, we want to provide the same QR code for those plants as for the ones being grown from seed in the greenhouse. Please provide to Karen Less (greyheroncrafts@gmail.com or call 865-908-4907) the names and varieties of any plants you will be donating for the sale no later than Tuesday, April 16th.

letter from the president

As my year as president of the SCAMGA goes into the second quarter, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for all that you do to support our organization. Many of you volunteer numerous hours serving on the board, committees, community projects, and working in the Demo Garden to meet our mission. Time is a precious commodity and the time that you give is your gift to the community.

One of the most compelling aspects of volunteering is its ability to effect positive change, no matter how small the contribution. Every act of kindness, no matter how seemingly insignificant, has the potential to make a difference in someone's life. Whether it's offering a listening ear to a struggling individual or participating in a larger scale community project, every volunteer effort contributes to the greater good.



Moreover, volunteering often has a ripple effect, inspiring others to get involved and creating a culture of generosity and compassion. When people see the impact that volunteering can have, they are motivated to join in, creating a snowball effect of positive change that spreads throughout society.

As we spend time preparing for a new season of growth in our own gardens,

please remember to continue to support our organization. We will be having our second and most important plant sale on April 20th. This plant sale is the fundraiser that allows us to financially support all the projects that are so important to our community. Tell everyone you know about our sale and make time to participate in it as a volunteer.

Thanks again for all you do!

Diane McCullen
SCAMGA President

demo garden wish list

This Wish List will be published each month in the newsletter. Please look over this list and see if you have any of these items that you would consider donating to the gardens. If you can help us out please let Diane know and we can set up arrangements to get it delivered to the gardens if you can not deliver it yourself. THANKS!!!!

NEEDED:

Small Card Catalog Cabinet for Seeds
Wooden Rocking Chair
Bench
Stepping Stones
Metal Corrugated Roofing

demo garden news

We will have a workday in the garden on April 16th at 10:00 am. Please try to come out and help if you can.

Diane



what's your NEW zone?

In late 2023, the USDA updated their plant hardiness zone maps, which resulted in about half of the continental United States advancing at least half a zone upward. The new maps show a large portion of Sevier, Jefferson, and Cocke Counties falling into zone 7b. While part of the change can be attributed to changes in climatic conditions, such as an average rise of 2.5 degrees Fahrenheit in average temperatures, more robust data was available in the most recent survey due to a 70% increase in weather reporting stations than 2012. This allowed for more precise information regarding elevation and proximity to water sources through the use of more advanced technology.

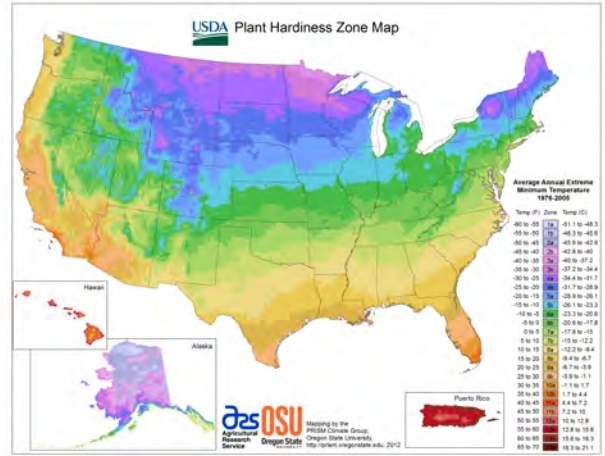
For gardeners who have been tending plants in the same location (or at least the same USDA hardiness zone) for several years, several decades, or most of your lives, the new map confirms what we have been suspecting. On the 1990

map, most of the area was contained in zone 6b. In 2012, the USDA updated the map and much of our area was reclassified to zone 7a, with the cooler regions going from zone 5 to zone 6b. So what might the USDA hardiness zone map changes mean for your garden and landscape? The USDA map is a somewhat generic data point and many of us have several microclimates on our properties. So “right plant, right place” is an even more important consideration. As we know, supporting our native plants supports our native wildlife. The maps do not take into consideration those cold snaps like Dogwood Winter or Blackberry Winter, periods of drought, or the other anomalies of our area. Supporting native plants is more important than ever, and we need to keep an eye on our native perennials and perhaps do some transplanting if they appear to be struggling with prolonged temperature increases.

Projections from the U.S. Forest Service indicate that some tree species will begin to migrate northward, causing a decrease in some of our native species and introduction of some species more native to bordering southern hardiness zones.

With many of the vegetables planted here being annuals, we might enjoy a longer growing season plus the ability to grow more heat-loving vegetables and certain varieties of eggplant, tomatoes, and other veggies that thrive in hot weather. It will also allow for potentially longer growing season. However, longer growing seasons have some disadvantages, like potentially more pest and disease problems.

To confirm your USDA hardiness zone on the new map by zip code, go to <https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/>





SEVIER COUNTY AREA MASTER GARDNERS ASSOCIATION

meeting minutes

MARCH 18, 2024

ATTENDENCE

23

PROGRAM

A Taco Bar and desserts were available to all who attended.

Joy Grissom presented about Native Plants and the Native Plant Rescue Squad. The program was presented via Zoom. 1 Member was on Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:13.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes of the February meeting were published in the last newsletter. There was one addition for Wilderness Wildlife Week. The minutes were approved unanimously with the above addition.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Andrew Hennigh states Andy Bush will present Container Plant Gardening next month.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John Oakberg reported the January financials were published in the last newsletter. Without an objection the financial statement was approved unanimously. He will prepare a list of those who have not paid dues. He plans to revise the financial statement to reflect what monies are remaining for use versus what has been spent.

EXTENSION AGENT

Matthew Anderson needs volunteers to assist with a program at Northview school. He reminded the group to sign up for the Biltmore trip.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

JUNIOR MASTER GARDNERS

Melanie Hill will present an upcoming session about flower arranging. The JMGs will have native plants for sale at the plant sale.

DEMO GARDEN

There will be workdays on March 19th and April 8th.

TOMATO SEED PROJECT

Almost all the schools have been completed. Patsy thanked all who assisted with this project.

GREENHOUSE

Twenty-four grow lights have been installed. Shauna asked for plastic shelving for the butterfly house.

PLANT SALE

Karen Hall reported The early sale earnings were \$1266. The expenditures were \$927. The profit was \$338.27. She thanked everyone who volunteered for this sale. She acknowledged Matt and his son for helping

The Annual Sale is scheduled for April 20th 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Vendors are needed. Help will be needed on April 20th. Items for the MG Store go to Diane.

NEWSLETTER

Mandy needs all articles and information by April 1st. Pictures are needed for the newsletter. E-mail is Mandy.hyde@earth-link.net

SENIOR CENTER

Glenna Julian stated the SC volunteers will be transplanting on Wednesday at 9 a.m. There will be new varieties of plants for sale at the SC annual sale on April 27th . The butterfly garden is progressing and a pathway has been installed.

OLD BUSINESS

PLANT SALE TAGS

If you are bringing plants to the plant sale, be sure and let Karen Less know.

NEW BUSINESS

LOGGING VOLUNTEER HOURS

Matt reminded the group to log volunteer hours on a regular basis so he can complete his quarterly reports.

KEY TO BUTTERFLY HOUSE

The butterfly house has a key in the shed. The key is on the key ring with the greenhouse key.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Monica Scaccianoce, Secretary



early sale photos





tomato seed project

Well fellow master gardeners, the 2024 Tomato Seed Project has come and gone once again. Along the way, several Master Gardeners have planted with approximately 1,200 kindergarteners. Isn't that amazing! Big thanks to these Master Gardeners Margaret Donnenhoffer, Linda Douglas, Joan Falzone, Becky Felty, Kathy Hammer, Andrew Hennigh, Collette Manke, Monica Scaccianoce, Dixie Seaton, and Bonnie Young. They traveled with me to twelve schools and spent time with these sweet 5/6 year olds. It is so rewarding to see their faces and small hands planting their very own tomato! Also, there was one Master Gardener in particular who worked very hard to make all this possible. That was Collette Manke. She wet all our pods, counted them, and labeled them by schools! She punched holes in all 1,200 cups and counted those out also. AND she helped me pack all the containers for each school. Which was a tremendous help to me, since I traveled to all the schools. Collette Manke, thank you SO much for all you did to help facilitate the 2024 Tomato Seed Project. Again I would like to thank each master gardener who helped make the 2024 Tomato Seed Project successful. TEAMWORK divides the task and multiplies the SUCCESS.

Patsy Farmer, Chairman
Tomato Seed Project





february financials

Sevier County Area Master Gardener Association February 2024 Financial Report								
Item	Month Account Summary			Year Summary as of Month End				
	Income	Expense	Balance	Budgeted		Actual		Funds
				Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Remaining*
Beginning amount	as of 01/31/24		5356.77					
Added approved items	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
County Fair	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
December meeting	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Demo garden	0.00	75.00	(75.00)	0.00	1000.00	0.00	75.00	925.00
Dues	275.00	0.00	275.00	900.00	0.00	475.00	0.00	475.00
Greenhouse, butterfly	19.44	344.42	(324.98)	0.00	1000.00	19.44	344.42	655.58
Plant sale	0.00	544.44	(544.44)	3800.00	1500.00	0.00	544.44	955.56
Senior Center	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Storage unit	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	65.00	0.00	0.00	65.00
Tomato seed project	0.00	208.91	(208.91)	0.00	750.00	0.00	208.91	541.09
Virtual meetings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	175.00	0.00	0.00	175.00
Wilderness Wildlife	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4H Scholarship	0.00	600.00	(600.00)	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00	0.00
Totals as of 02/29/24	294.44	1772.77	3878.44	4700.00	5290.00	494.44	1772.77	3992.23

* Budgeted expense minus actual expense; for Dues, actual income

From the Treasurer: February 2024 Financial Statement

After the January newsletter, the Board discussed the contents of the financial statement, resulting in additional information being included.

The 'Month Account Summary' part has not changed. This portion on the left side of the statement includes the end balance of the previous month, all increases/decreases during the current month and the ending balance.

The 'Year Summary as of Month End' for the year to date now includes the budgeted amounts, actual income/expenses and a 'Funds Remaining' column. The 'Funds Remaining' column (with a footnote) shows the difference between what has been budgeted for that specific line item and what has actually been spent.

In the event there are additional expenses resulting in going over the budget, the Board will need to approve those. This column gives those responsible for a budget item to follow how much they have remaining to spend. The treasurer can always be contacted if additional details are needed. Also, contact the treasurer if there is an expected budget overrun, so the Board can be informed.

John Oakberg
Treasurer

jr. master gardener february financials

Junior Master Gardeners Financial Report February 2024

		Totals Remaining 1/31/24	Expenditures February	Totals Remaining 2/28/24
Knoxville Funds		\$ 1,226.89	\$ 245.91	\$ 980.98
Sevierville Funds		\$ 1,120.62	\$ -	\$ 1,120.62
Total		\$ 2,347.51	\$ -	\$ 2,347.51
Education				
Leaf and Vine: CS	Consumables	212.45	\$ 99.35	\$ 113.10
Curriculum supplies	Lesson supplements	\$ 100.00		\$ 100.00
Curriculum supplies	Field Trips	\$ 150.00		\$ 150.00
	Beyond the Classroom	\$ 100.00		\$ 100.00
Summer Programs	Day Camp	\$ 250.00		\$ 250.00
	Mornings in the Garden	\$ 200.00		\$ 200.00
	Summer showcase	\$ 100.00		\$ 100.00
Outreach programs	Supplies	\$ 250.00	\$ 20.23	\$ 229.77
Orientation				
Fall Kickoff	Supplies	\$ 50.00		\$ 50.00
Garden				
Demo Garden Bed	Supplies	\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00
Plant Sale	Supplies	\$ 250.00	\$ 108.45	\$ 141.55
Snacks				
Leaf and Vine	Meeting snacks	\$ 200.00	\$ 10.98	\$ 189.02
Community Service				
Project	Supplies	\$ 119.04	\$ 7.00	\$ 112.04
Other Expenses				
Budget TOTAL:		\$ 2,960.00	-245.91	\$ 3,205.91
Funds Not Budgeted		\$ 1,387.51		\$ 1,387.51
Deposits Budgeted		(2000.00)*		(2000.00)*
*income expected for next year				
Total Funds		\$ 4,347.51		\$ 4,101.60



contacts

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UT Sevier Co Extension Office

road trip

Reminder:
Payment Due April 12, 2024

**WEST NORTH CAROLINA
HORTICULTURE TOUR**

**BILTMORE HORTICULTURE TOUR
AND NC ARBORETUM \$100**

May 21st

Call or email to register 865-453-3695/
mande125@utk.edu

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