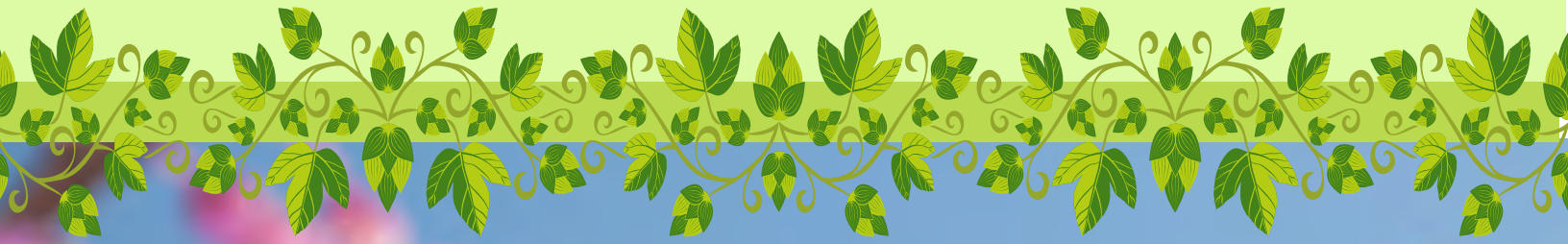


# roots

The monthly newsletter of the Sevier County Area Master Gardeners Association

AUGUST 2024



SEVIER COUNTY  
**U|REXTENSION**  
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE





# in this issue

- August Meeting info.....2
- Meetings, Events, Educational & Volunteer Opportunities .....3
- Letter from the President .....4
- Demo Garden News.....4
- Random Acts of Flowers.....5
- Did You Know.....5
- July Meeting Minutes.....6
- Picnic Memories .....7
- June Financials .....8
- Contacts .....9

## Save the Dates

- Sevier County Fair: August 27th thru September 2nd.
- TEMG Conference: October 9th thru 11th.
- Christmas Party: Monday, December 2nd.
- Wilderness Wildlife Week. January 28th, 2025 - February 1st, 2025

**August Meeting Info**  
**Monday, August 19, 2024**  
**6:00PM**

## mmm, ice cream!

Join us for a delightful ice cream social! Bring your favorite ice cream or topping, and an extra ice cream scoop to earn bonus points. As we enjoy the refreshing sweetness of summer treats, Diane will share exciting updates on the incredible progress of our Demo Garden. Don't miss out on the fun!



# opportunities

## volunteer

My People Senior Activity Center Garden Work Days Saturday, August 21st, Saturday, September 7th, Wednesday, September 18th, 9:00 AM

Demo Garden Work Days, Monday, August 12th, Tuesday, August 20th, 8:30 AM.

Sevier County Fair, Tuesday, August 27th through Monday, September 2nd. Contact Diane for available slots: [ldmccullen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ldmccullen@sbcglobal.net).

## meetings & events

Monthly Meeting, Monday, August 19th  
6:00 PM - Ice Cream Social

September Board Meeting, Tuesday,  
September 10th, 3:00 PM.

Monthly Meeting, Monday, September 16th, 6:00 PM.

**SAVE THE DATE!** TEMG State Conference, October 9th through 11th, hosted by Davidson and Williamson Counties. Register Now  
<https://mastergardener.tennessee.edu/>

## 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/>

Discover Life in America from our own GSMNP offers a variety of online educational resources, including a podcast and archives from the popular Science @ the Sugarlands (pre-pandemic). Go to <https://dlia.org/education/> for information


TEMG First Friday Office Hours in Horticulture Webinars: September 6th. 10:00 AM.

NC Herb Association Wild Herb Weekend, July 26th through 28th, Valle Crucis, NC. For more information, visit <https://www.ncherbassociation.org/>

Fall Gardener's Festival, Crossville, August 27th.  
[https://calendar.utk.edu/event/-fall\\_gardeners\\_festival\\_2024](https://calendar.utk.edu/event/-fall_gardeners_festival_2024)

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

WNC Gardening Symposium, October 9th, Asheville, NC. Featured speakers include renowned environmentalist and author Doug Tallamy and Craig LeHoullier, the author of Epic Tomatoes. Registration information available in August



This year's County Fair will begin on Tuesday, August 27th and end on Monday, September 2nd. We will have a booth in the building but it will not be manned. We will have Master Gardeners out in the Demonstration Garden giving tours and answering questions. There will be a sign up sheet at the picnic for those interested in working this event.

We will also be giving out seeds and plants. If you have any plants that you could donate for the plant giveaway please pot them up and bring them to the gardens on Monday, August 26th. Last year we had lots of Iris to hand out. If you plan on dividing your Iris this year we would love to have your extras. If you have any questions contact Diane McCullen.





# letter from the president

I have always loved butterflies. They are so graceful and beautiful as they flit from one plant to the next. But as we prepare the Butterfly House for the upcoming fair I have found myself reading and researching about them on a much deeper level. I have found them to be intriguing and fascinating.

We are so lucky to have so many butterflies in our part of the world. I decided to dedicate this article to why these beautiful insects are important to our world. A large butterfly population offers numerous ecological, environmental, and socio-economic benefits:

## Ecological Benefits

**Pollination:** Butterflies are important pollinators, particularly for wildflowers. They help in the pollination process, which is crucial for the reproduction of many plant species.

**Biodiversity Indicator:** Butterflies are considered indicators of a healthy environment and ecosystem. A diverse and abundant butterfly population often signifies a rich biodiversity and a well-balanced ecosystem.

**Food Source:** Butterflies serve as a food source for other animals, including birds, spiders, and other insects, contributing to the food web and overall ecosystem health.

## Environmental Benefits

**Genetic Diversity:** Through their pollination activities, butterflies help maintain the genetic diversity of plant populations, which is essential for adaptation to changing environmental conditions.

**Habitat Health:** Butterflies contribute to the health of habitats by supporting plant reproduction, which in turn supports a variety of other species and maintains habitat structure.



## Socio-Economic Benefits

**Ecotourism:** Butterflies attract tourists, bird watchers, and nature enthusiasts, contributing to local economies through ecotourism.

**Education and Research:** Butterflies are often used in scientific research and educational programs, helping to increase understanding of ecological and evolutionary processes.

**Aesthetic Value:** The presence of butterflies enhances the aesthetic value of natural landscapes, gardens, and parks, contributing to human well-being and appreciation of nature.

## Conservation and Awareness

**Conservation Initiatives:** Protecting butterfly populations can lead to broader conservation efforts, as initiatives to protect butterflies often involve preserving and restoring habitats that benefit multiple species.

**Environmental Awareness:** Butterflies can be used as a focal point to raise awareness about environmental issues, encouraging people to engage in conservation activities and sustainable practices.

In summary, a large butterfly population is beneficial for maintaining ecological balance, supporting environmental health, contributing to local economies through ecotourism, and fostering environmental awareness and conservation efforts. I hope to see all of you at the Butterfly House learning about these wonderful creatures!

*Diane McCullen*  
SCAMGA President

# demo garden news

Needless to say I am extremely grateful for the rain!!! When I returned from my trip the Demo Garden had exploded with plants and flowers. I want to thank everyone who came out over the past few weeks and tended to the gardens while I was away. They truly do look amazing. We do have a couple of work days scheduled during August. Please try to attend these days if you possibly can.

August 12th - 8:30 am

August 20th - 8:30 am

Thanks for all you do!

Diane



# random acts of flowers

## request for vases



Random Acts of Flowers believes in the transformative power of flowers. Your contribution of vases fuels the organization's mission, ensuring they can deliver the healing power of flowers to those who need it most!

Your contribution of vases will help the volunteers to make beautiful flower bouquets, to be delivered to people, bringing a moment of kindness, in the form of a beautiful floral bouquet.

Random Acts of Flowers makes a real impact, in east Tennessee. Whether they're improving people's health and well-being through flower deliveries, or recycling flowers and vases that would have gone to the landfill, their work results in real and lasting change.

You can learn more about Random Acts of Flowers by visiting their website at <https://rafknoxville.org>

Please drop off any vases you would like to donate, to the Agriculture Extension office, by Monday, August 26th. There will be a box in the kitchen area marked for your donation.

Thank you, for your donation!

## did you know?

Tennessee is home to over 350 species of native bees, each uniquely adapted to pollinate the native flowers they evolved alongside. These bees can be classified into two main groups based on their behavior: solitary and social.

The majority of native bees are solitary, living and nesting alone, such as leafcutter bees and mason bees. On the other hand, social bees, like bumble bees, live in colonies that can consist of 50 to 400 individuals. While honey bees, an introduced species, are not native to North America, they have become a vital component of modern agriculture.





SEVIER COUNTY AREA MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

# meeting minutes

JUNE 17, 2024

## PROGRAM

Picnic

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Diane McCullen at 6:30 p.m.

### SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes of the June meeting will stand as printed.

### VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Andrew Hennigh reported next meetings will be an Ice Cream Social at the extension office. Diane McCullen will report to members how the Demonstration Garden renovation has progressed over the year.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### DEMO GARDEN

Diane McCullen asked for a volunteer to water the gardens in her absence. She will send out an email on Tuesday, July 16th describing work that needs to be completed in the gardens.

### BUTTERFLY HOUSE

Karen Hall will be at the Butterfly house on Tuesday morning for a workday.

### NEWSLETTER

Have all articles and information to Mandy by August 1st

## NEW BUSINESS

Certificates were handed out to Interns and those who volunteered to work in the Demo Garden in 2023.

If you have any plants that could be used as a giveaway at the fair please have them at the gardens on Monday, August 26th

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was called to close at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Monica Scaccianoce DNP







# picnic memories



# master gardener june financials

Sevier County Area Master Gardener Association June 2024 Financial Report								
Item	Month Account Summary			Year Summary as of Month End				
	Income	Expense	Balance	Budgeted Income	Budgeted Expense	Actual Income	Actual Expense	Funds Remaining*
Beginning amount	as of 05/31/24		6408.12					
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	0.00	0.00	0.00	1000.00	0.00	528.62	471.38
Dues	0.00	0.00	0.00	900.00	0.00	950.00	0.00	950.00
Greenhouse, butterfly	0.00	39.99	(39.99)	0.00	1000.00	19.44	722.35	277.65
Plant sale	50.00	0.00	50.00	3800.00	1500.00	3792.75	1188.55	311.45
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	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	461.31	288.69
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	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	0.00	600.00	0.00
Totals as of 06/30/24	50.00	39.99	6418.13	4700.00	5290.00	4762.19	3500.83	2739.17

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



## contacts

Diane McCullen, President  
ldmccullen@sbcglobal.net 832.605.5769

Andrew Hennigh, Vice President  
arsheffer5@icloud.com 517.614.0642

Monica Scaccianoce, Secretary  
monicascaccia@aol.com 954.309.0434

John Oakberg, Treasurer  
oakbergjl@bellsouth.net 865.428.6265

Linda Douglas, Member-at-large  
4mom2go@gmail.com 865.803.3807

Shauna Bayless, Greenhouse Coordinator  
shauna.bayless@gmail.com 517-719-7290

Karen Hall, Greenhouse Coordinator  
borderhall07@yahoo.com 865.851.2922

Mandy Hyde, Newsletter  
mandy.hyde@earthlink.net 951.662.8557

Adam Hopkins,  
Sevier Co. Extension Director  
ahopkins@utk.edu 865.453.3695

Matthew Anderson  
Sevier Co. Extension Agent Horticulture & 4H  
mande125@utk.edu 865.453.3695

seviermastergardner@gmail.com

UT Sevier Co Extension Office

MASTER GARDENER  
**UT**EXTENSION  
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

**Join in on our 2024 TEMG Conference on  
October 9-11 hosted by Davidson and  
Williamson County EMGs!**



### **Registration and Hotel Information**

Registration is OPEN for our  
October 9-11 conference using  
either mail in or online  
registration. Plus, our  
conference hotel block at the  
Drury Inn is still open.

**Registration at:**  
<https://mastergardener.tennessee.edu/>