



## From The President

Wow! Another beautifully planned and implemented Spring Plant Sale. Thank you everyone for the plants, boxes, and volunteer hours you put in to make this sale such a success. And special thanks to Judy Rice, Tharon Kirk, and Mary Kay Havranek. What a great team they make!

A special thanks as well to Carol Reese for another humorous and informative talk at our May meeting....long live the pollinators!

We are looking forward to our trip in June to St. Louis. Jason's plans for the trip sound wonderful; many gardens and a special light "show." At the May meeting, there were only two seats left on the bus! Maybe a few people on the waiting list will be able to join us.

Thank you again to everyone for the time and effort you put in to make our most important fundraiser a success. This is what helps us get wonderful speakers and take great trips together.

We will see you on June 4th at the UT Extension Auditorium at 6:30. We'll be back at the Research station for our August meeting if all goes as planned.

Mary Nenarella

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## Thank You, MCMGs

A big THANK YOU to every Master Gardener who participated in the MCMG Plant Sale in any way. Wow, we had a great day despite a change in venue and threatening weather! Everything at the Extension Office looked great and we utilized the space there better this time. Thank you to everyone who volunteered on any of the three days, donated plants or other items for sale, offered suggestions and bought plants! Things ran more smoothly this time as we tried to learn from some of the issues there last time as well as issues we had last year. Each year we learn something new that helps us do a better job the next year! In reality you are the key to a successful plant sale and we depend on you and as usual you were magnificent! We heard lots of comments about how helpful people were! We did notice that the crowd was down this year and the weather probably affected us but there were some great plants and buys for those who came and shopped!

There are many people who go the second mile to help us with the plant sale. We owe a special thanks to Carol and David Sams for the large number of plants that they provided as well as their expertise in helping us plan. Bill and Frances Bobbitt also contribute lots of plants each year. To those of you who provided 100 plants plus, we are so grateful. Thanks to Carol Dix who allowed us to use her tents which came in handy with the rain. Thanks to Carol Reese who helps us greatly with publicity and also shows up to buy plants! And certainly we are grateful to Jason who helps us think through set-up, pricing, etc. Of course, Celeste was a tremendous help in getting things done in the office that saved us time and energy. When you see these folks, please thank them. It takes all of us giving our best to make the sale a success.

Hopefully by our next meeting we will know what we cleared and what Jason cleared. Please know how much we appreciate each and every one of you and the many contributions you make to our organization, to this community, and surrounding communities. It is a pleasure to serve with you. THANK YOU!!!

MCMG Plant Sale Committee (Judy Rice, Mary Kay Havranek, Tharon Kirk)

**You are all cordially invited to the 6th Annual  
"Through Our Garden Gates" garden tour  
presented by Memphis Area Master Gardeners  
Saturday, June 6, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

**This year's tour includes six gardens within a small driving distance from Overton Park in Midtown to Audubon Park in East Memphis. Details of the tour are attached and at our website. The website also includes maps and will soon publish a list of on-site experts at each garden.**

**<http://www.memphisareamastergardeners.org/togg.htm>**

**We always enjoy meeting new Master Gardener friends from across the  
state**

**Plant Sale:** Suddenly it's over! The annual plant sale which has dominated so many lives these last several months is over and now we can turn our attention to our yard which is a mess!

The actual sale went superbly well which is a tribute to the planning the committee put into it. There were no long lines this year yet the sale totals were nearly as high as last year. I was able to sit back some and watch the preparation and the actual sale happen. What I saw was a large number of people working together astonishingly well! You should all be proud of yourselves. I also saw the highest quality plants which the master gardeners have ever produced for a plant sale.

Yet all was not perfect and next years' committee will have decisions to make. It was, for example, apparent that there are some plants which will not sell no matter how good they look. We need some control over the actual species of plants produced for the sale. Secondly, Mary Kay worked herself nearly to death making labels and is not likely to want to do that again.

As for Carol and I, there is no way we will ever attempt to produce 600 plants for the sale again. Nothing else gets done in the yard and with a yard the size of ours there is much which needs to be done in the spring. I see my role in the future as one who produces mostly specialty plants not found in the average yard. These are going to have to be advertised better to the buyers who are mostly unfamiliar with them than they were this year. Far better than they were this year. Right now Carol and I are busy planting, weeding and mulching as we should have been doing some months ago. And, as old habits die hard, we are beginning to plant just a bit to place in the cold frames for the next sale...

**Weather:** It looks like another cool but dry summer if current weather patterns continue. Irrigation is likely to be the key to successful gardening this year once again.

**Do Now:** Finish harvesting cool season crops such as lettuce, English peas, broccoli and spinach which will soon bolt. Finish planting warm season crops like okra, southern peas and melons. Mulch, water and watch for insect problems in the ornamental garden. Get newly purchased plants in the ground, mulch them, and keep them watered while they establish themselves. Removing old flowers as they fade (deadheading) will keep Shasta daisy and many other perennials flowering much longer than their natural flowering period. Remember that flowering involves active growth and to keep plants growing and flowering they must continue to be fed. This is especially true for pot plants which have a restricted root system.

**Next Year:** Did you know that there is a rare form of white hardy begonia? I found it 3 years ago and divided my pot into 5 pots last year. It is now becoming 20 pots. Look for it to appear in the next plant sale in limited numbers. With the rare white hardy begonia soon to appear can the white form of crested iris, '*Iris cristata alba*', be far behind?

Remember to check in on the [Madison County Master Gardener Facebook page](#). It is a public page so anyone can find, and view it. In order to post your own comments just click on “Join.” The purpose of this page is to share with the community all of the wonderful projects our group participates in and to share gardening information. Please use to post things from your own garden that you are particularly proud of, or disease/insect damage that you come across, as well as gardening events, and reliable resource information. I only ask that you not share the information of others. Example: Don’t download the directory through the “files” tab. I have already added a lot of great group photos, project updates, and articles. Check it out and invite others to join as well. Happy Facebooking!! P.S. The events calendar on the MCMG facebook page has been updated. Please let me know of any events that may need to be added in the future! <http://madisoncountymg.org/>

## **2015 International Master Gardener Conference**

Check out the web site for the [2015 International Master Gardener Conference!](#) We have nearly 70 speakers with 80 breakout sessions, 10 terrific tours from the foothills of the Rockies to the banks of the Mississippi, and 3 keynote speakers.

Subjects range from constructing containers of hypertufa and gardening in them, to using floral design as therapy; from hands-on sessions planting a living flower arrangement or constructing papercrete containers to a session on how plants think; and from gardening mistakes to avoid to growing and keeping Master Gardener volunteers. With three pre-conference tours, five day tours, six tracks in eight breakout rooms, and two post-conference tours, your hardest problem is to choose which to attend

Several calls at the office this week concerning the Periodical Cicada. Adult form causes no feeding damage on foliage of plants but can harm tender trees and shrubs when depositing eggs into the bark. For more information call 668-8543!

# 15 MADISON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS SPRING PLANT SALE

BY Mary Kay Havranek



## And Celeste Luckey





ENJOYING .....Milan elementary School outdoor Classroom



**Thanks Master Gardener's for a job well done**





## Summer Celebration 2015

**Wednesday, July 8th and Thursday, July 9th**

Please sign up for at least one spot. We need all the help we can get!!! Please let me know if you need to change your time slot or day at: [dndtanner@gmail.com](mailto:dndtanner@gmail.com). We need people in all areas, and we need help in the holding area all day. Thanks for your help!!!!

**Tom, David and Darlene**

**WEDNESDAY, July 8, (5:00 PM set up). Meet us in front of the station, to the left of the circle. We need heavy lifters for tables.**

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**(WALK THROUGH AT 6:00PM AFTER SET UP)**

**THURSDAY, July 9. SALE DAY!!**

**\*\* 8:00AM-**

**10:00AM\*\***

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<b><u>PLANT SELLERS</u></b>	<b><u>ADDERS FOR THE LINE</u></b>	<b><u>HOLDING</u></b>
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**\*\* 10:00AM-**

**12:00PM\*\***

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<b><u>PLANT SELLERS</u></b>	<b><u>ADDERS FOR THE LINE</u></b>	<b><u>HOLDING AREA</u></b>
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**\*\*12:00PM-2:00PM\*\***

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**\*\*4:00PM-6:00PM\*\***

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**CASHIERS ONLY (TAMMY WILL CONTACT YOU).**

**\*\*8:00AM-10:00 AM\*\***

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**\*\*10:00AM-12:00 PM\*\***

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**\*\*12:00PM-2:00 PM\*\***

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**\*\*2:00PM-4:00 PM\*\***

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**\*\*4:00PM-6:00 PM\*\***

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# Wanted!! Articles for the Newsletter

You can earn volunteer hours by writing about some garden you visited, some technique you tried which worked (or did not), or share your enthusiasm for some special plant, or condensing a gardening article you read.

Keep contributing. Keep reading. Keep sharing.

Please send your contributions to:

Liz Whitsitt    lizv@tds.net

Pam Stanfield    pamstanfield@gmail.com

## June Meeting

**THURSDAY**  
**June 4th • 6:30pm**

**UT Extension  
Auditorium**

**309 N. Parkway,  
Jackson, TN 38305**

**Please bring a dish to share**



**Check Out  
UT Gardens Jackson  
On Facebook!**

Lots of great info being shared there, and you don't have to wait for a monthly newsletter!

### **The Bridge to Knowledge**

The University of Tennessee Extension

Madison County

309-C North Parkway

Jackson, TN 38305

Phone 731-668-8543    Fax 731-668-8440

Email cscott52@utk.edu (Celeste Scott)

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information is available upon request.