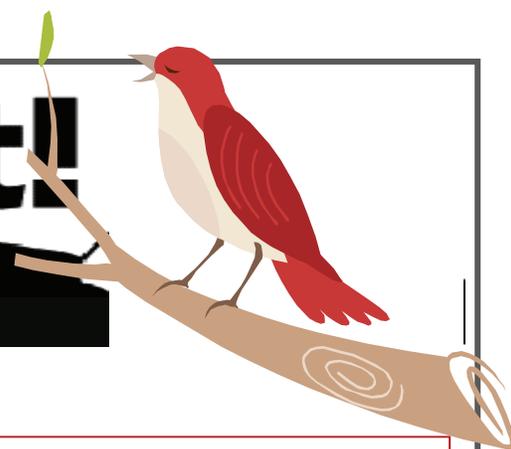


diggin' it!

All the Dirt from the Memphis Area Master Gardeners



Volume 17 Number 2

Nationally Known Gardeners to Speak at Spring Fling



The headliners at this year's Spring Fling are nationally recognized gardening experts and authors.

A native of Kathleen, Georgia, **James Farmer's** love of Southern food and cooking

have put him at the forefront of the garden-to-table lifestyle. James was taught as a young boy how to pull vegetables, herbs and flowers from the family farm and kitchen garden to provide much of the food, decor and flavor of his family's everyday life. He developed an early appreciation for fresh, seasonal foods cooking at the side of his grand-mother, whose Southern heirloom recipes he has revitalized for contemporary tastes.

James earned a degree in gardening design from Auburn University; and opened a landscape design company in 2005. News quickly spread about James' work, and he was soon featured in *The Atlanta Journal and Constitution*, *Southern Living Magazine*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Good Housekeeping Magazine*, *Woman's Day*, *Traditional*

Home, and *The Local Palate*. He has also been appeared on NBC TODAY, HGTV Gardens, and Paula's Home Cooking. He is an editor-at-large for Southern Living and the author of several best-selling books: *A Time To Plant* (2011); *Sip & Savor* (2012); *Porch Living* (2012); *Wreaths For All Seasons* (2012), and *A Time to Cook* (2013). Additionally, James is the national spokesperson for The American Camellia Society. Website: JamesFarmer.com



Cindy Shapton, known as The Cracked Pot Gardener, is an herb expert, speaker and author. A versatile speaker, she is the former owner

of Franklin-based Hyssop Hill Herb Farm and Coyote Herb Ranch. Cindy is past president of the Williamson County Master Gardeners and founder of the Bloom n' Garden Show. She is a regular contributor for *State-by-State Gardening* and *The Tennessee Gardener* as well as a contributing garden expert to Tractor Supply Company's 'Know How Central.' Cindy is the author of *The Cracked Pot Herb Book*. Visit her website at cindyshapton.com.



Get Out and Grow!

Spring Fling 2014

March 21st and 22nd, 9am to 5pm



It's time to start dividing & potting up your plants & starting those seedlings indoors for our favorite plant sale of the year at Spring Fling.

- ⇒ We would like every Master Gardener to **pot & donate a minimum of 5 plants** for the sale. This will earn you one hour credit, but donations of 15 plants or more will earn 2 credit hours!!! Each plant needs to be labeled. The labels will be inserted into a 3" X 4" zip-lock bag and taped to a craft stick or plastic knife for insertion into the plant pot. Potted & labeled plants will be delivered to the Red Barn on Thursday, March 20 from 8:30am to 5:30pm. Plant labels are available to download from the MG Website, or for pickup at the February and March member meetings, along with the zip lock bags. Remember, we are not accepting donations of houseplants this year because they don't sell well. Also, please make sure that all of the plants you donate have been hardened off.
- ⇒ We desperately need a **PhotoShop savvy member** who can help us with editing artwork for various Spring Fling projects. Please contact Amanda Rideout ASAP if you can help.
- ⇒ Can you **crochet**? Learn to make grocery bags for our Recycle Right Booth and join our crochet group. Contact Kathy Sammons. If you would like to learn to crochet and then help with the bags, contact Stephanie Alligood.
- ⇒ We need **donations** of the following items. You can bring donations to any MG Member Meeting or to the Extension Office at any time:
 - *Gardening and cooking books and magazines* for our book sale. The focus is on gardening and cooking, so please don't bring magazines /books with other topics!
 - *Seeds* for our Seed Starting Booth!
 - *Craft Supplies*: 1/4-1/2 inch ribbon; Mason/Ball jars, pint or quart; gallon baggies; silver plate spoons; glass cups, (not mugs); new clay pots-8 inches; and grapevine wreaths.
- ⇒ We need **food donations** to sell in the concession area and the vendor/volunteer party Friday night. Food which will be sold in the concession stand must meet Health Department packaging and form regulations. Each food item needs to have a list of its ingredients; the form is available online on our website and at the Extension Office. You don't need to fill out separate forms for each separate item, one form will do for each batch. For example, you're making cookies and wrapping individual servings, one form will suffice for all of the cookies.
- ⇒ We will take orders for **Spring Fling tee shirts** at the next meeting and have them ready for you before Spring Fling. Show your support & buy a shirt to wear to SF! Aprons and long-sleeve shirts will be available as well!
- ⇒ Please join us for a **"Craft Party"** on Tuesday, Feb. 11 from 1-3 pm in the conference room above the Master Gardener Office. We will be making kits for do-it-yourself mini hypertufa pots. You do not need to bring anything, just your smile & your energy!

(Continued on next page)

⇒ We will be having another **"Craft Party"** to assemble Seed Jars on Thursday Feb. 20 from 1-3 pm in the same location. Come join the fun & fellowship as we prepare for Spring Fling. More "parties" to follow; please frequently check the "Volunteer Opportunities" page on the member side of our website. E-mail questions to Callie Bolyard.

⇒ **Photo Contest:** We'll again have our MAMG member photo contest. The theme this year is "COLOR- LINE - RED"! If you have a photo which you would like to exhibit, please follow the guidelines below. And, yes, we will again have a vote for a favorite!

- 8x10 Photos
- Color or Black and White
- Matted black 8x10 photo will need 11x14 matte.
- Caption: Provide a caption for your photo
- Submit a maximum of three photos
- Number the photos 1 thru 3 according to your first, second, and third choice (display space is limited)
- Your contact information placed on the back side of the photo or matte.



Turn in your photos by March 13th at the Extension Office. And no, we won't turn away the photo if it has a color theme other than red..... Full information will be posted on the website and on the Spring Fling Member Page.

⇒ **Youth Education:** Lots of fun and educational crafts are planned for the Kids Corner Tent! Kids will learn about sunflowers, butterflies and bees, ladybugs, and dandelions!

Contact Linda Taylor, Barbara Gavrock or Amanda Rideout for more information!

MAMG Speakers This Month

February 6th, 6:30pm. Tipton County Master Gardeners. Tipton County Extension Office, 111 West Washington Ave, Covington, TN; Genie Ashworth on the subject of Terrariums.

February 21, 10am. Part of the Bobby Lanier Farm Park Series; event to be held at the Germantown Community Library. Bill Colvard will speak on Organic Pest Management.

February 1st and February 15th, 2:30pm. Bartlett City Beautiful Gardening University, at the Bartlett Library, 5884 Stage Road, Bartlett. Anne Krekelberg on Soil on February 1st, and Jim Volgas on Trees on the 15th.



Recycling at Member Meetings

As good stewards of the environment, we are putting an increased effort on recycling at our member meetings. There is now a recycling can for cans and bottles; and another one for paper. Please take the time after the meetings to make sure to put your trash into the correct can!! Any questions, call Mary Heim.

2014 Dream Team: Spring Forward!

The Memphis Area Master Gardeners and Memphis Botanic Garden present *The 2014 Dream Team: Spring Forward!* This popular panel discussion will be held at the Memphis Botanic Garden on Saturday, February 22, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Hardin Hall. Speakers include University of Tennessee Jackson Curator Jason Reeves, on "Plants to Brighten Winter's Gloom;" Dan West Nurseryman Jim Crowder, with "New Plants for 2014," and Nancy Barden of Barden Stone, on "Using Stone in Landscape." Beverages and snacks provided. Doors open at 8:30 am.; program begins at 9am. MBG members and Master Gardeners with name badges: \$5.00; general public: \$10.00. Please purchase your ticket in the main lobby. For further information please go to memphisbotanicgarden.com or memphisareamastergardeners.org or call 901-752-1207.

Help the Dream Team!

Finger foods needed for the Dream Team seminar. In order to earn the 1 A hour (CoRe), all food must be home made. Please contact Kay to sign up. We need to have a wide variety of dishes with no repetitions. All food should be on a serving dish with the appropriate serving utensils. Thank you very much for helping make our seminars a success.

Executive Committee 2014

President

Robert Hollingsworth, MG'09

Vice - President

Melissa Taylor, MG'09

Immediate Past-President

Anne Krekelberg, MG'09

Recording Secretary

Jane Carter, MG'08

Corresponding Secretary

Vicki Duggins, MG'03

Treasurer

Suzanne Allen, MG'10

Directors

Genie Ashworth, MG'02

Julie Morgan, MG'04

Debbie Reid, MG'13

Ancillary Support

Parliamentarian

To be Named

Website

Julie Morgan, MG'04

Newsletter

Barbara Culligan, MG'10

David Glover, The Bartlett Bee Whisperer



Our February speaker is David Glover, The Bartlett Bee Whisperer. David is a Master Beekeeper, Bee Catcher and Bee Wrangler and a Tennessee Certified Hive Inspector for the West Tennessee Area. Over the last 3 years he has successfully removed honey bees and other stinging creatures from more than 200 residences and businesses in the local area. David will speak on the importance of bees to our environment, addressing the bee's role in our complex food world. Topics he will discuss include pollination and the creation of honey, and the social habits of bees.

www.thebartlettbeewhisperer.com.

February Speaker

No, we haven't forgotten about TOGG!

The TOGG Date this year is June 7th. We are looking for a few more gardens in the Lakeland and East Memphis area. Hosts get lots of help to make your garden the prettiest it has ever been. Plus the TOGG committee members are fun to work with! Please contact Patsy Courtright.

Winter School 2014 Healthy Plants/Healthy People February 20-21, 2014

Mark your calendars now for our next Winter School on Thursday, February 20 and Friday, February 21, 2014. The event will be held in Murfreesboro, TN at the Rutherford County UT Ag Center. Your TMG Advocacy Board has been hard at work planning the program and WS14 is shaping up to be one of the best yet. Thursday, Feb. 20 is scheduled for the Leadership Track and Friday, Feb. 21 will be the Education Track. Speakers are still being confirmed; the following are some of the topics that are planned:

- * fund raising and grants
- * how to deal with the public
- * officer training
- * organizational finances
- * recruiting and retaining members
- * plant diagnostics
- * health and benefits of plants
- * improving indoor environments with plants
- * improving organizational communication
- * horticultural therapy
- * cooking with herbs
- * marketing your organization (including social media)

There will also be special breakout sessions for both small organizations and large organizations to discuss ideas and issues specific to their size group. Another new session this year will be a special orientation -type class for first time attendees or those who would just like to understand TMG a bit better.

As usual, there will be presentations to our TMG award winners and Search for Excellence winners, display booths from each county organization about their programs and events from the past year, regional alliance meetings, a silent auction to raise funds for the TMG endowment fund, and lots of time to visit and network with your fellow TMGs.

Your UT Extension leadership will be on hand for a special meet and greet for all Winter School attendees. Come introduce yourself and get to know your leaders on a personal level. Dr. Cross, Dr. Burns, and Dr. Senseman have all been invited. Sign up during early registration! The pre-registration deadline is February 10th. Be sure to watch the Listserv, TMG website, and TMG Facebook page for more details.

MAMG would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their generous and thoughtful donations:

*Eugenia Levitch in honor of Sarah Richardson becoming a Life Member
Kraft Food Match with matching donations from Tom Rieman
Kim Hamblen restricted to Plants 4 Habitat*

MAMG Nominations Process

It is time to prepare for the election of the Vice Treasurer position for the 2014 MAMG Executive Board. At the January 2014 Membership Meeting the membership voted to approve this new position on the board. The members of the Nominating Committee were appointed and the chair selected. The Nominating Committee consists of MAMG members who currently hold an office on the Board. The Committee is responsible for contacting each nominee to review the job description and address any questions regarding time, qualifications and expectations.

The 2014 Special Election Nominating Committee: Melissa Taylor, MG'09, Chair; Suzanne Allen, MG '10
Genie Ashworth, MG '02; and Vicki Duggins, MG '03.

There are two ways to be nominated for a MAMG Board position:

- **Peer:** Any current MAMG member who feels a particular individual will enhance the quality of leadership on the MAMG Board may nominate that person. Members can do this by completing a "Candidate Nomination Form" prior to but no later than Monday, February 17th, 2014, 12:00 noon.
- **Self:** Any current MAMG member willing to participate and to fulfill the obligations of Board membership may self-nominate by completing the "Candidate Nomination Form" prior to but no later than Monday, February 17th, 2014, 12 noon.

To better understand the responsibilities of this position please review the "Job Description Form." Copies of both the "Job Descriptions Form" and the "Candidate Nomination Form" can be found on the MAMG Website (<http://www.memphisareamastergardeners.org>), in the MAMG Extension Office, and in this newsletter on page 8. Additionally, copies will be passed out at the February 13th meeting. Each nominee is expected to submit a brief bio to be placed on the member side of the website and in the March 2014 MAMG Newsletter, "Diggin It". The election of the Vice Treasurer position for the 2014 MAMG Executive Board takes place at the March 13th, 2014 meeting and members must be present to cast their vote.

Mark your calendars:

 The **deadline** for all nominations is due in the MG office by Monday, February 17th at 12 noon.

 The **election** of the Vice Treasurer position for the 2014 MAMG Executive Board is the March 13th, 2014 meeting and you must be present to cast your vote.

If you have questions about one of the forms or the nomination process, please contact a member of this year's Nominating Committee.

Melissa Taylor, MG'09
Nominating Committee Chair



TREASURER and VICE-TREASURER:

The Vice-Treasurer is elected each year; the Treasurer is the previous year's Vice-Treasurer.

The Treasurer has overall responsibility and accountability for the duties of the office as described below. The Treasurer will train and supervise the Vice-Treasurer. The Vice-Treasurer will not undertake any duty until the Treasurer and the Vice-Treasurer both are confident in his or her ability to perform the task. Bookkeeping responsibilities will be prioritized in the training schedule, and both the Treasurer and Vice-Treasurer will keep the books together until the Vice-Treasurer can take over the computerized system with oversight by the Treasurer. Throughout the year the Vice Treasurer will assist the Treasurer in performing other tasks so that he or she is trained fully by the end of year.

- Must have basic knowledge of double-entry bookkeeping. Experience with Quickbooks (MAMG financials are generated using this software) is a plus.
- Must be familiar and comfortable with the Treasurer's duties as described in the Tennessee Master Gardener's County Program Handbook, specifically pages 4 and 12-20 and as described in the MAMG By-Laws.

Duties include:

- Compiling budget requests submitted by committee/project chairs into an overall budget for presentation at the January Board meeting. The Finance Committee and the previous Treasurer will assist in this process.
- Processing and recording receipts and disbursements according to the policies established by the MAMG Board and in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Treasurer's Manual.
- Compiling monthly financial reports for presentation to the Board and to the membership. Financials are presented to the Board for approval prior to the monthly membership meeting.
- Preparing financials and schedules as of June 30 and as of December 31 for review by the Audit Committee.
- Preparing and timely filing all required filings: (Federal: 501c3-990N; State: Annual Report, Financial Activities of a Charitable Organization, Registration to Solicit Funds; County: Personal Property Tax rendition; Extension: Annual Inventory, Annual Financial Report, Memorandum of Understanding.
- Facilitating an annual training session for committee chairs to inform them of the policies and procedures required for collecting revenue and obtaining expense reimbursements.
- Communicating with the Corresponding Secretary on all donations, honorariums and memorials so they can be acknowledged in a timely manner and ensure compliance with IRS requirements.
- Maintaining the Treasurer's Manual that contains: accounting policies and training materials. All financial records, including financial statements, bank reconciliations, tax filings, and corporate records will be maintained on shared cloud network to facilitate record sharing, consistency, and a permanent history.

MEMPHIS AREA MASTER GARDENERS NOMINATION FORM

Please nominate a member in good standing for the following position. A member of the Nominating Committee will contact all nominees to discuss the requirements of the position and the willingness of the nominee to serve. After all nominees have been contacted, the Nominating Committee will prepare the ballot and members will vote at the March 13th meeting.

VICE TREASURER: _____

Brief bios of nominees will be in the March newsletter and on the website. Please turn in your nominations as soon as possible at the Master Gardener office or email them to info@memphisareamastergardeners.org.

Thank you for your participation in this very important process.

MAMG Member Meeting & Speaker Schedule 2014

February 13th

David Glover
The Bartlett Bee Whisperer

July 17th

Bob Brzuszek Associate Professor
Department of Landscape Architecture, MSU

March 13th

Felder Rushing
Host of "The Gestalt Gardener"

August 14th

Walter Reeves
"The Georgia Gardener"

April 10th

Rita Randolph
Member of the Garden Writers Association

September 11th

Annual Picnic

May 8th

Mary Palmer Dargan
"Lifelong Landscape Design: Gardens for Health & Longevity"

October 9th

Committee Fair

June 12th

Carol Reese
UT Ornamental Horticulture Specialist for Western District

November 13th

Janet Carson
State Coordinator for Arkansas Master Gardener Program

December TBA

Holiday Party

**MAMG MEMBER MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2014
ATTENDANCE 156 MEMBERS**

PROGRAM: Vice-President, Melissa Taylor, introduced the speaker, Dale Skaggs, Dixon Gallery and Gardens, “ who presented “Winter Flowering Plants.”

CALL TO ORDER: President Hollingsworth, called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

UT EXTENSION UPDATE: Dr. Chris Cooper expressed his desire to be transparent and honest with our membership. He stated that he was disappointed in some of the conduct exhibited at our last meeting in November. It is his desire that we conduct our business in an orderly and respectful fashion in moving forward in this year.

TREASURERS REPORT: Deborah Pittman, 2013 Treasurer, presented the statement of Financial Position as of Dec. 31, 2013 compared to previous year. Statement of Income and Expense for 2013 and Budget Variance as of Dec. 31, 2013. Suzanne Allen, 2014 Treasurer, presented the 2014 Budget Proposal. We are budgeting an excess of expenses over revenue of \$6,820, due mainly in increases in speaker fees for our meetings, for Spring Fling, and for the Weekend Gardening Seminars. Jim Volgas made the motion that we adopt the budget as presented. The motion was seconded. During the ensuing discussion, several members made points about the use of restricted funds and Ms. Allen explained the distinction between the budget and the sources of the funds. After the discussion, President Hollingsworth asked for a vote by show of hands. The motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS: President Hollingsworth nominated Suzy Askew, Director of Education, Dixon Gallery and Gardens, and Andy Williams, Director of Lichterman Nature Center, as Honorary Master Gardeners. It was moved, seconded, and voted upon unanimously that Mrs. Askew and Mr. Williams become Honorary Members.

BY-LAWS CHANGE – ADDITION OF VICE-TREASURER POSITION: The President asked Teresa Caldwell, Chair of the Finance Committee, to give a PowerPoint presentation to members showing the “Pros and Cons” of adding the position of Vice-Treasurer. It was stressed that this position would allow a year-long training period to promote continuity in the policies and procedures of the Treasurer office. After Mrs. Caldwell concluded, the President asked for a motion. Pam Parker moved that the By-Laws of the Association be amended to include the office of Vice-Treasurer. The motion was seconded and discussion followed. Several members spoke for the motion; several voiced concerns. Genie Ashworth called for the question and requested a paper ballot. Ballots were distributed and the President then restated the motion, which was also in writing on the overhead projector. He instructed members to write “yes” to approve the motion to add the office of Vice-Treasurer or “no” to not approve the motion. The votes were counted with the following results: 123 “yes” and 22 “no” votes. The By-Laws are amended to include the position of Vice-Treasurer.

DR. CHRIS COOPER: While votes were being counted, Dr. Cooper reported the following changes to UT Extension: Booker T. Leigh will be back serving in the area of Commercial Horticulture. Cathy Faust will no longer be Shelby County Extension Director, but is now Family and Consumer Sciences Agent and Interim 4-H Agent.

NEW BUSINESS:

SUGGESTION BOX: “Could we have our business meeting first and the speaker afterward? Answer: We have tried that in the past and if the meeting goes too long then we have a guest sitting around waiting to present the program.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:20 PM. NEXT MEMBER MEETING: February, 13, 2014. Share and Learn – 1.0 CEU; Speaker – 1.0 CEU; Business Meeting - .5 ADM

Shelby County Extension Office
Agricenter International
7777 Walnut Grove Road,
Suite B, Box 21
Memphis, TN 38120-2140
Dr. Christopher Cooper, Extension Agent
Mary Wade, Extension Program Assistant



Memphis Area Master Gardeners

The purpose of The Association shall be to support and engage in projects and activities of the Extension Service of The University of Tennessee, to enhance the quality of life for the residents of the Greater Memphis Area through horticulture, and to increase the availability of horticulture information and service to the members and the community.



February Member Meeting

David Glover

The Bartlett Bee Whisperer

Thursday, February 13th, 2014

6:30pm

Share and Learn

“Spiders Lurk Beyond the Bloom”

Cathy Bellehumeur MG'10

Agricenter International, Wing C,

Banquet Room; 5:15pm

Social and Visiting Time: 6 to 6:30pm

MAMG Website & Blog:

<http://memphisareamastergardeners.org>

<http://mamgmusings.blogspot.com/>

Please contact the newsletter editor with your articles, ideas and suggestions:

Barbara.Culligan@gmail.com

