



President's Corner

We are moving along with preparations for the county fair where we will be doing an exhibit on Winter Gardening. We will be at two different locations this year: a booth space and at the raised beds next to the new pavilion. Seedlings were planted in the raised beds on August 10. We also direct sowed seeds for winter veggies so that fair goers can see the difference. The seeds should just be coming up. The barn crew and raised bed crew have done an excellent job on the raised beds and the pavilion. It is really a game changer for us to have this facility. The pavilion now has a nice concrete floor, a storage building and a bath house.

Unfortunately, this is a little early for fall and winter plants so hopefully we will have some more temperate weather the next 10 days so these cool weather plants will thrive. Thomas is

arranging a shady canopy at one raised bed for the most sensitive plants like spinach and lettuce. Several Master Gardeners are growing container vegetables at home which we will display at the booth. For the fair, we will have Master Gardeners at each location describing fall gardening, selling seed packets and cookbooks and promoting the program. We had a wonderful evening at the new pavilion on July 16 and enjoyed Thomas's grilled lamb chops and stuffing 100 seed packets for sale at the fair. We could still use more volunteers, so if you would like to help out with setup on Thursday afternoon (August 20) or Friday afternoon (August 21) or Saturday (August 22) morning or afternoon, please let me or Kelly or Pennie know.

John

John Kueck

Master Gardener Association President

August Master Gardener Meeting

There will not be an August Master Gardener Association meeting. Everyone please make plans to help out at the Fair!

Associational Dues

It's not too late to pay your Associational dues for 2015! If you would like to continue to get the Master Gardener newsletter and other information, please make checks payable to the Rhea County Master Gardener Association for \$12.00 and send to Diane Bolt at 212 Memory Lane, Grandview, TN 37337.

Master Gardener Meeting Minutes

The Rhea County Master Gardener Association met for a pot luck dinner and work meeting on Thursday, July 16 at the new Master Gardener pavilion at the Ag Center and Fairgrounds. Thomas Greenlee supplied fresh lamb and John Kueck helped cook lamb and pork. The new picnic tables were used in the Master Gardener building area. After dinner a short business meeting was held and then the fair seed project was the evening's activity. Those present included Bruce & Dianne Pfeiffer; Pennie Hendricks; Scott & Ruth Silva; Don, Karen & Brandon Massengale; Myra Bell; Mary Esther & Gary Shannon; Kris & Judy Bancroft; Marty Gibson; Diane Bolt; Caren Ruffner; Liesa Logsdon; Eddie Starring; John & Louise Kueck; Faith Young; Karen Winters and Thomas Greenlee.

President John Kueck called the meeting to order.

At the Fair, Master Gardeners will have two booth locations this year as one will focus on information and recruiting of Master Gardeners and the other will be by the new building and raised beds with an educational program with the theme of "Winter Gardening".

Seeds will be sown in the raised beds and volunteers are needed to sow some seeds in containers. Seed packets for winter crops will include such items as collards, mustard greens, rape seed, lettuce, turnips, etc. and will be sold for \$3.00 as a fundraiser. Each packet will have a selection of winter crops, label sticks and directions for planting.

Volunteers are needed to do Fair signs and man both booths during the Fair. A signup sheet went around for volunteers.

Another fundraiser that should be completed by the end of the fair is the No Bake Sale. Rather than spending money on baking, members are asked to contribute the cost of baked items. Money can be given to Diane Bolt, other officers or brought to the fair booths.

Pennie Hendricks has the Master Gardener calendar on the web site (www.rheacomg.com). As first vice-president, she is responsible for programs and has a schedule through July 2016. Some of the topics include cover crops, closing a garden for winter and making apple butter. Some of the meetings will be interactive and the January 2016 meeting will be a pot luck dinner with the members of the new Master Gardener class.

Some field trips are also on the calendar such as touring Wooden's Apple orchard, Tidwell's Berry Farm, the Gaylord Conservatory in Nashville, UT Gardens in Knoxville and the Fall Festival at the Crossville Research gardens. Kris Bancroft has a connection with buses.

Thomas Greenlee would like feedback on Master Gardener programs, activities, etc. as he is on the state board.

The group worked on seed packets for the upcoming fundraiser/educational presentation for the Rhea County Fair. Karen Winters is chairing this activity.

Respectfully submitted,

Faith

Faith Young

Master Gardener Association Secretary
