



Rhea County Master Gardener Association Newsletter

Greetings to All!

Our next association meeting will be on July 21, 2016 and held in the Farm Credit Building at the AG Center. Since the weather has been so hot and humid we will have a pot luck instead of a cookout. Please bring a main dish along with a tomato dish. Diane Pfeiffer has graciously offered to bring dessert for all. Along with your tomato dish, bring a printed recipe that we can share with our fellow Master Gardeners and folks at the fair. Final prep for the fair is our agenda and **RSVP** to Kelly Grant at kgrant1@utk.edu by July 19, 2016.

Please pay attention to the emails regarding the building project. Work is beginning immediately with the goal of having the building completed inside and out in time for the fair. Any and all volunteers are welcome and needed. Attention ladies! Jerry Lamb has given us the project of painting the building interior and exterior. Volunteers are needed and the call will go out as soon as we have a start date.

We have two projects for bringing in some much needed funds to the Master Gardener Association. Thank you to Diane Pfeiffer for this idea and wonderful poem!

*Remember those things that you once bought
But when you got home they weren't perfect like you thought
So you put them away in a safe place
Hoping that one day you'd find the exact space
But lo that place never did materialize
So away they have stayed, without being utilized
Now is the time to bring out your stash
Because Master Gardeners need to make some cash
A silent auction at the fair is planned
And anything you can donate would be just grand
we're hoping that each of you will come through
With lots of goodies for buyers to view
If we all do our part it is sure to do well
And we may even hear Thomas give out a yell*

Please bring any items you are donating to the auction to our July meeting. If you cannot attend the meeting, but have items to donate email Pennie Hendrick: greytacles@gmail.com. The next project for bringing in funds comes from our 1st VP, Caren Ruffner and is titled

“Pass the Hat”

A Fundraiser!

SPONSORED BY THE RHEA COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION

Members save the cost, time, and **calories** of a bake sale or ice cream sale by simply making a monetary donation to the Association.

We need your support to make the 2016 “Pass the Hat” a success. Please be as generous as you can so we can accomplish our goal of completing the new MG building.

Simply give your contribution to Pennie Hendrick or Diane Bolt OR send to:

RCMG
c/o Diane Bolt
212 Memory Lane
Grandview, TN 37337

Make Check Payable to: Rhea County Master Gardeners Association

Note: Mark Your Check “Pass the Hat”

Please make your contribution as soon as possible before August 2nd.

All funds raised from both projects will go to help complete our new home at the AG Center.

Lowe’s, Tractor Supply and with approval from corporate, Food City has given permission for us to set up and do a tomato blind taste test. The dates and times will be announced ASAP and volunteers will be needed as well as more volunteers for the fair. To date we have the following persons signed up for the fair: Paulette Bitner, Janet Collier and Judy Bancroft for Friday August 12 from 4 pm to 8 pm. Paulette has also volunteered for Saturday morning August 13 and John Kueck is available anytime. Please email me with the time you can volunteer: greytacles@gmail.com.

Looking forward to seeing you on July 21, 2016!

Pennie Hendrick

Rhea County Master Gardener Association President

Master Gardener Monthly Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2016

The meeting was held at the home of Jeff and Cindy Garrett to tour their rose garden and for instructions to build a rose sprayer and root rose cuttings. Attendees: Bill and Debbie Ward, Linda and John Blevins, Ed and Patsy Starring, Karen Winters and Pennie Hendrick.

Old Business: Ed Starring was introduced as Second Vice President and Debbie Ward as co-treasurer with current treasurer Diane Bolt. Pennie Hendrick, current President will be added to the signature card for the Master Gardener checking account at First Bank of Tennessee along with Debbie Ward. Past Presidents John Kueck and Karen Winters will be removed. Current checking account balance is \$2153.03. As agreed in the May meeting, a check for \$1000.00 will be given to Thomas Greenlee, as representative for the Rhea County Extension office, to cover some expenses on construction of the Master Gardener Pavilion.

Please be aware that many members have not paid dues for 2016. They remain at \$12/yr. and are due each January. The UT Extension office and Pennie are compiling a reminder list of unpaid members. DO NOT forget to log in your volunteer hours. The rules for maintaining your Master Gardener certificate have gotten stricter and you don't want to lose all that hard work! If you have questions, please contact the UT Extension office or Thomas.

New Business: Larry Harrison is researching the feasibility of establishing a 501c3.

Bruce Pfeiffer has volunteered to help with Farm-City Day.

The Rhea County Fair is Tuesday, August 9 through Saturday, August 13th. <https://www.facebook.com/therheacountyfair>

The next Master Gardener meeting is Thursday, July 21st at 7pm in the Master Gardener pavilion. We will have a cookout similar to last year so please bring a side dish or dessert. More info will be sent out later. We will also finalize the work schedule for the Rhea County Fair. Diane Pfeiffer has volunteered to make a fairy garden to raffle for some much needed income to the MG fund. You may donate to the cost and/or buy tickets at the July meeting. Currently Paulette Bitner and Janet Collier have volunteered to work Friday from 4 to 8. John Kueck and Karen Winters will work Saturday (morning?). More volunteers are desperately needed for Saturday afternoon and evening, plus we should plan to staff Thursday. Please plan on a 2-4 hours. The more volunteers, the easier it will be for all. Volunteers will explain our tomato bed trials and provide taste tests of the tomatoes. PLEASE attend the July meeting to finalize the instructions for the taste test, and fill in the roster of volunteers. This is one of the easiest times to get your volunteer hours. Please visit the fair's Facebook site for the other scheduled events like the hog cupcake contest!

Oakes Daylilies Festival is Friday and Saturday, June 24-25. Every visitor gets a free daylily! Ed Starring plans to leave his home around 9am on Friday. Contact him at 865-354-1098 if you would like to caravan to the festival north of Knoxville. There will be activities for children, music and refreshments. Visit their website for directions. <https://www.oakesdaylilies.com/>

Please check out Dayton's first Farm to Table Dinner on July 30. It's a great way to support your community and local farmers. Advance tickets are on sale now. Purchase tickets at River Valley AgCredit or Dayton Chamber of Commerce. \$25 per person. All food is locally grown. Sponsored by MainStreet Dayton, River Valley AgCredit and Rhea County Fair. All proceeds will benefit Dayton's Farmer's Market Pavilion and Rhea County Arena. Rhea County Tractor Club tractors will be on display. Horse and Buggy rides with tour guide \$2. Event will be held on Market Street in Downtown Dayton!

Submitted by: Karen Winters, Rhea County Master Gardener Past President, acting on behalf of Faith Young who was not able to attend.