

# GardenTalk

The Official Monthly Newsletter of the Master Gardeners of Davidson County and UT Extension

February 2014

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 2



## President's Thoughts

Congratulations to all Davidson County Master Gardeners for another successful year of projects! We all have different responsibilities in our lives, and

cannot put in the same amount of time outside of work and our families. Whatever your hours contribution or level of participation; **everyone is greatly appreciated and makes the Master Gardeners of Davidson County a very successful organization.** I thank you all for your service.

I am happy to report that our planning committees for Lawn and Garden and Urban Gardening Festival 2014 are well under way. I appreciate all of the hard work they are doing to make these events successful.

**Attention 2012/2013 New Class Interns:** if you have not finished your required hours to achieve Master Gardener Certification, we have several opportunities beginning this month.

Firstly, the New Class of 2014 has started! I invite all Master Gardeners AND 2012/2013 interns to look over the class schedule and pick some of the topics for the classes that you might want to audit. You can **earn Educational Hours** for attendance. I also encourage you to bring some refreshments for the class break. It is a great opportunity to welcome and meet the new Interns and talk to them about what it is like to be a Master Gardener. This is the key to retaining new members!

Secondly, everyone talks about how cold January has been and now February looks like it will be a cold month as well. If you haven't already, get out those seed catalogs and place your orders. If you order more seeds than you need, **consider donating to the Nashville Public Library's Seed Lending program.** Our own Lou Ann Williams (1996) is working with this program and has more information on **page 8.**

Thirdly, February and March are the perfect time to trim your Boxwood. The Nashville City Cemetery is the place to learn on February 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Additionally, the Lawn & Garden Show will begin its 4-day run on Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. Grassmere Gardens, The Hermitage and the Demo Garden are well under way to starting the New Year with volunteer opportunities for Interns and Master Gardeners as well. Check the Calendar on page 5 for work day schedules.

I'm looking forward to another great year for Master Gardeners of Davidson County. Check out our new web site at [www.mgofdc.org](http://www.mgofdc.org). We will be updating often. In the mean time, bundle up and take a walk in our garden and enjoy! 🌱

*~ Robert Mather (2000)  
President, Davidson County Master Gardeners*

**MASTER GARDENERS OF  
DAVIDSON COUNTY**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
**Thursday, February 13, 2014**  
**at 6:30pm**  
in the  
**Ed Jones Auditorium,  
Ellington Agricultural Center**  
featuring  
**Leigh Anne Lomax**  
Botanical Garden and  
Horticulture Manager at Cheekwood

## Executive Committee

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## February: Cheekwood's Dynamic Dogwoods



This month learn what you can look forward to when Cheekwood's magnificent flowering dogwoods begin blooming in late-March!

Our **February 13th** program will be presented by **Leigh Anne Lomax**, Botanical Garden and Horticulture Manager for Cheekwood, the 55-acre botanical garden and museum of art located on the historic Cheek estate just 8 miles south of Nashville.

With Cheekwood since 2006, Leigh Anne oversees operations of the botanical garden, including plant collections, seasonal color displays, gardening programs, outdoor garden exhibitions and Cheekwood's garden staff. She previously served as the associate director of horticulture at the Audubon Zoo and Park in New Orleans. She received a B.S. in Horticulture from Virginia Tech in 1996.

Our guest will discuss Cheekwood's treasured dogwood collection that was recently granted membership to the North American Plant Collection Consortium (NAPCC) – the first NAPCC Collection in Tennessee and also the first dogwood collection in North America to be recognized by the organization.

The dogwood collection highlights species and varieties native to both North America and Asia that thrive in Middle Tennessee's climate, with particular emphasis on varieties exhibiting superior disease and insect resistance, bloom, foliage, growth habit, hardiness, and vigor. Mark our monthly meeting of February 13th on your calendars and look forward to a wonderful program! 🌸

~ Becky Fox Matthews (2005)



## New Websites

Be certain to bookmark our new website, [www.mgofdc.org](http://www.mgofdc.org)! Alisa Huntsman has been hard at work constructing the new site featuring some new bells and whistles – remember to check back often!

We also have a new public Facebook page for members and non-members alike to help our community outreach. For those of you that are Facebook savvy, once you 'Like' us, our updates will appear in your news feed. As an added benefit, you can share the group with your friends and increase our visibility in the community. You can find us at [www.facebook.com/mgofdc](http://www.facebook.com/mgofdc). 🐸

## Junior Master Gardeners Camp

Serving youth ages 9 thru 14, the Junior Master Gardeners Camp is scheduled for **June 9-13, 2014** at the UT District II Office Conference Room and Master Gardener Demonstration Garden at Ellington Agricultural Center.



The camp has **limited space for 25 campers**, and the registration form and \$50 fee must be submitted in order to be considered complete. Registration is first come, first enrolled. For more information or to register, call UT Extension at (615) 862-5995. 🐸

~ Doris Weakley (1999)

Please be reminded that the **\$20 annual fee** for certified Master Gardeners is **due at our February 13th meeting**.

They may also be remitted to our Treasurer:

**Master Gardeners of Davidson County**  
**P.O. Box 41055, Nashville, TN 37204-1055**

## Project Chairs

*Demonstration Garden at Ellington Agricultural Center*  
Alisa Huntsman, [ahuntsman@bellsouth.net](mailto:ahuntsman@bellsouth.net)

*Extension Office Liaison*  
Judy Burnette, [judyrburnette@gmail.com](mailto:judyrburnette@gmail.com)

*Garden Tours*  
Becky Fox Matthews, [becky@lostfrogs.com](mailto:becky@lostfrogs.com)

*Grassmere Historic Farm at the Nashville Zoo*  
Cathie Long, [cathielong@comcast.net](mailto:cathielong@comcast.net) (Chair)  
Susan Brown, [susanbrown1@yahoo.com](mailto:susanbrown1@yahoo.com)  
Jean Buffer, [jean.buffer@comcast.net](mailto:jean.buffer@comcast.net)  
Gwen Day, [gwenmartindale@yahoo.com](mailto:gwenmartindale@yahoo.com)  
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Paula Yelverton, [paulayel@bellsouth.net](mailto:paulayel@bellsouth.net)

*Harding Garden at Belle Meade*  
Muff Cline, [muffcline@yahoo.com](mailto:muffcline@yahoo.com)

*Historic Nashville City Cemetery*  
Catherine Atwell, (615) 297-0600 (Co-Chair)  
Robert Mather, [rmather321@aol.com](mailto:rmather321@aol.com) (Co-Chair)

*Hospitality*  
Vacant

*Junior Master Gardeners*  
Barbara Ann Drake, [bsd Drake@comcast.net](mailto:bsd Drake@comcast.net)  
Pam Swoner, [connectingtngardeners@gmail.com](mailto:connectingtngardeners@gmail.com)  
Doris Weakley, [dorisgweakley@bellsouth.net](mailto:dorisgweakley@bellsouth.net)

*Kitchen Gardens at The Hermitage*  
Laura Kraft, [lkraft1212@gmail.com](mailto:lkraft1212@gmail.com)  
Mary Langford, [langfordlaw@hotmail.com](mailto:langfordlaw@hotmail.com)

*Master Gardener Class Liaison*  
Barbara Allen, (615) 309-6130

*Merchandise*  
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Susan Brown, [susanbrown1@yahoo.com](mailto:susanbrown1@yahoo.com)  
Ethel-Lonniell Williams, [elmwilliams@yahoo.com](mailto:elmwilliams@yahoo.com)

*Music & Molasses Festival*  
Tyann Chappell, [tyann.chappell@comcast.net](mailto:tyann.chappell@comcast.net) (Chair)  
Don & Jean Hover, [hooverdj@charter.net](mailto:hooverdj@charter.net) (Co-Chairs)

*Nashville Lawn & Garden Show*  
Barbara Drake, [bsd Drake@comcast.net](mailto:bsd Drake@comcast.net) (Chair)  
Anne Carpenter, [hapcarpenter@comcast.net](mailto:hapcarpenter@comcast.net) (Co-Chair)

*Tennessee State Fair*  
Russell Kirchner, [mudking52580@yahoo.com](mailto:mudking52580@yahoo.com)

*Urban Gardening Festival*  
Alisa Huntsman, [ahuntsman@bellsouth.net](mailto:ahuntsman@bellsouth.net) (Chair)  
Robert Mather, [rmather321@aol.com](mailto:rmather321@aol.com) (Co-Chair)

Visit our new website:  
[www.mgofdc.org](http://www.mgofdc.org)





# MGTV: Master Gardeners filming program series

*Marilee Jacobs (2013) interviews UT Extension Agent David Cook.*

You will soon see familiar faces on your television, thanks to a recent project by Marilee Jacobs (2013) so have your autograph books at the ready!

The series of programs will air on Nashville Education, Community, and Arts Television (NECAT), and feature Master Gardeners and our many projects.

On December 26th, Marilee kicked-off the series filming at the NECAT studios on White Bridge Road.

Featuring David Cook and several Master Gardeners, the interviews focused on the fundamentals of the Master Gardener program, the benefits of obtaining certification and the opportunities to volunteer at our many projects.

A total of 15 programs are planned and topics will vary during these 30-minute programs, showcasing our projects and the expertise of many of our Master Gardeners.



*Carroll Marrero (2004) before her interview.*

Carroll Marrero (2004), wasn't sure what to expect for an interview. When asked how she felt, Carroll said, "Marilee really put us at ease. But when you're on camera, you just have to watch your time!"

As spring breathes new life into our gardens, you may notice Marilee and her crew at our project sites.

Some of these videos may also be used online as education and outreach tools. A viewing schedule will be announce in the coming weeks.

If you would like to share your expertise, or would like to help, be certain to contact Marilee Jacobs at [mljacobs25@hotmail.com](mailto:mljacobs25@hotmail.com) or (615) 297-5419. 🌱

# Calendar & Coming Events

- February 20-21, 2014    2014 Master Gardener Winter School at the Agricultural Center in Murfreesboro
- February 27 to March 02, 2014    25th Annual Nashville Lawn & Garden Show
- April 5, 2014    2014 Annual Plant Sale presented by the Perennial Plant Society of Middle Tennessee
- May 17, 2014    2014 Urban Gardening Festival presented by Master Gardeners of Davidson County
- June 9-13, 2014    Junior Master Gardener Camp presented by Master Gardeners of Davidson County

## February 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>* Grassmere will continue work as scheduled, but only when temperatures are ABOVE freezing.</i></p> <p><i>* Master Gardeners are asked to confirm their contact information for the 2014 Directory. Please contact Jason Goodrich at <a href="mailto:jason.goodrich@gmail.com">jason.goodrich@gmail.com</a> or (615) 403-5766 before February 28th.</i></p>						1 Grassmere 8am-12 noon
2 Demo Garden 10am	3 Grassmere 8am-12 noon	4	5 Grassmere 8am-12 noon L&G Meeting 12 noon at UT Extension	6 2014 New MG Training Class 6:00pm	7	8 Grassmere 8am-12 noon City Cemetery Boxwood Trimming 9am-1pm
9 Demo Garden 10am	10 Grassmere 8am-12 noon	11	12 Grassmere 8am-12 noon L&G Meeting 12 noon at UT Extension	13 2014 New MG Training Class 6:00pm February Meet- ing @ Ellington 6:30pm	14	15 Grassmere 8am-12 noon
16 Demo Garden 10am	17 Grassmere 8am-12 noon	18	19 L&G Meeting 12 noon at UT Extension	20 2014 New MG Training Class 6:00pm 2014 Master Gardener Winter School at Murfreesboro	21	22 Grassmere 8am-12 noon City Cemetery Boxwood Trimming 9am-1pm
23 Demo Garden 10am	24 Grassmere 8am-12 noon	25	26	27 2014 New MG Training Class 6:00pm Nashville Lawn & Garden Show Feb. 27th thru March 2nd	28	



# Timeline of Five Generations at Grassmere

by Cathie Long (1999)

**"Composed by the Side of Grassmere Lake"  
by William Wordsworth**

*CLOUDS, lingering yet, extend in solid bars  
Through the grey west; and lo! these waters, steeled  
By breezeless air to smoothest polish, yield  
A vivid repetition of the stars;  
Jove, Venus, and the ruddy crest of Mars  
Amid his fellows beautifully revealed  
At happy distance from earth's groaning field,  
Where ruthless mortals wage incessant wars.  
Is it a mirror?--or the nether Sphere  
Opening to view the abyss in which she feeds  
Her own calm fires?--But list! a voice is near;  
Great Pan himself low-whispering through the reeds,  
"Be thankful, thou; for, if unholy deeds  
Ravage the world, tranquillity is here!"*

*The Croft House on the grounds of Grassmere.*

I. Michael C. Dunn bought 272.5 acres from Alex Simpson that was part of a land grant to Simpson's father for contributions made during the Revolutionary War. A house was build with bricks made and fired on the property and laid in the Flemish bond style.

III. Lee Shute sold the homestead to his son, William Dickson Shute, for \$5.00. He named the farm 'Grassmere' after reading a poem by William Wordsworth.

II. The home and land were deeded to Dunn's son-in-law, Lee Shute.

After the war, William Shute changed the style of the house from Federal Period to Italianate with porches and arched windows. A summer kitchen was added. The gardens were designed from illustrations in *Shoppell's Modern Homes* (1887). There were three garden terraces: flowers, vegetables and an orchard.

V. William and Kate's second child, Elsie Croft, is born.

The Nashville Zoo moved to Grassmere at the invitation of Mayor Phil Bredesen. Master Gardeners of Davidson County were asked to restore the gardens.

IV. Kate Carney Shute, the fifth child of William and Lavinnia, married William Croft.

The 323-acre Grassmere property was deeded to the Nashville Children's Museum for use as a nature study center.

The Croft Home was certified by the National Register of Historic Places.

V. Margaret Croft is born, the first child of William and Kate.

Margaret and Elise became the sole owners of the Grassmere property.

Tornadoes in April blew down 150 trees, mostly in the back of the house.

The Croft Center was built and Grassmere Wildlife Park was opened to the public. Tours were given of the nature trails and native animals.

*Come be a part of this continuing history  
by working in the gardens of Grassmere!*

# Master Gardeners Recognition

## ACT AWARD RECIPIENTS

### For Administrative hours:

- 1st place, **Robert Mather** (2000)
- 2nd place, **Marilee Jacobs** (2013)
- 3rd place, **Tracy Fulton** (2011)

### For Community Service hours:

- 1st place, **Cathie Long** (1999)
- 2nd place, **Shirley Lee** (2001)
- 3rd place, **Barbara Sullivan** (1993; posthumously)

### For Teaching hours:

- 1st place, **Doris Weakley** (1999)
- 2nd place, **Catherine Atwell** (2004)
- 3rd place, **Pattie Waller** (2004)

### For Continuing Education hours:

- 1st place, **Doris Weakley** (1999)
- 2nd place, **Sandy Dickey** (2013)
- 3rd place, **Lyn James** (2004)

## MORE RECOGNITION

'Busy Bees' were awarded to project chairs **Robert Mather** and **Catherine Atwell** (City Cemetery); **Alisa Huntsman** (Demonstration Garden); **Cathie Long** (Grassmere); **Mary Langford** and **Laura Kraft** (Hermitage); **Muff Cline** (Belle Meade); and **Doris Weakley** (Junior Camp).

Robert Mather presented certificates to Master Gardeners that volunteered considerably during seasonal projects. Recipients included **Don** and **Jean Hover**



*Back: Catherine Atwell, Robert Mather and David Cook; front: Doris Weakley, Pattie Waller, Shirley Lee, Cathie Long, and Marilee Jacobs.*

(2003; Music & Molasses); **Anne Carpenter** (2012; Urban Gardening); and **Russell Kirchner** (2011; State Fair). Also presented were gifts to retiring members of the Executive Board for their service: **Anne Carpenter**, **Tracy Fulton**, and **Sheila Whitlock** (2005).

## PROJECT CHOICE AWARDS

Our project chairpersons recognized Master Gardeners that volunteered considerable hours during 2013. The Demonstration Garden recognized the work of **Tyann Chappell** (2013). Grassmere Historic Garden recognized **Bill MacLennan** (2003). Both **Barbara Drake** (2012) and **Pam Swoner** (2009) were recognized by the Junior Master Gardener Camp. Harding Garden at Belle Meade recognized the contributions of both **Gwen McKinney** (2010) and **Joy Kosarsky** (2010). The Kitchen Garden at The Hermitage recognized **Phil Arnold** (2010).



*Anne Carpenter recognized for her work with the Urban Gardening Festival.*



*Robert Mather and Catherine Atwell recognizing Don and Jean Hover for their volunteerism.*



# Ellington Agricultural Center

*by Alisa Huntsman (2008)*

*Seven Mile Creek along Edmondson Pike, a tributary of Mill Creek, flowing through Ellington Agricultural Center.*

First time visitors to Ellington Agricultural Center are often surprised at what they see.

Formerly Brentwood Hall, the mansion was once the home of Rogers Caldwell, sometimes called the “J.P. Morgan of the South,” who had his home modeled after The Hermitage. After losing his fortune the mansion became property of the State of Tennessee, and in 1958 Governor Buford Ellington, who was previously the commissioner of agriculture, used the mansion to organize his administration.

In 1961, the state legislature voted to name the estate after Ellington. Around the same time, Governor Ellington moved the agricultural offices into the mansion. The agri-



*Covered walkway of Brentwood Hall, now Moss Administration Building.*

cultural commissioner, William F. “Red” Moss also moved his office to the mansion and to this day the mansion is still called the William F. “Red” Moss Administration Building.

The large campus is also home to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Tennessee Agricultural Museum, Bicentennial Iris Garden, a Confederate cemetery, and a stable boarding horses for the Metro Nashville Mounted Police.

The grounds are so large that it is not uncommon for visitors to get lost and completely miss our Demonstration Garden. We jokingly refer to the garden as our “secret garden” but that really isn’t far from the truth since it is



tucked behind the UT Regional office.

However, if you take the time to actually wander around the grounds, you will find many interesting things to see. Try not to limit yourself to visiting the Agricultural Museum or the Iris Garden. Go take a hike! Literally, take a hike along Roger's Walk, a nearly 2-mile loop that skirts the perimeter of the property that is free and open to the public and perfect for beginning hikers or children. (For dog walkers, bring the pooch! The trail is open to dogs but be sure to keep Fido on a leash—it is required that all dogs be leashed and controlled at all times.) However, if you need to use a stroller or a wheelchair, you will have to stick to the paved roads, the trails cannot accommodate them.

#### Did you know...

- ...the property that the center occupies was once a working farm and Tennessee became the first state in the country to place their agricultural department on an actual farm?
- ...there are two creeks running through the grounds, Seven Mile Creek and Briarwood Branch Creek?
- ...the Nashville Tree Foundation lists the center as an official Arboretum with about 70 different species of trees, the majority being native trees including sugar maples, black walnuts, hackberries, and dogwoods?
- ...the Tennessee Ornithological Society lists about 125 species of birds present on the property either year-round or during migration?
- ...the birds viewed on the grounds include 30 different warbler species, 10 different sparrow species and a pair of nesting red tailed hawks that have used the same nest for several years.

#### Sources:

##### Rogers Caldwell

<http://www.tn.gov/agriculture/general/eachistory.shtml>

<http://tennesseencyclopedia.net/entry.php?rec=172>

##### Tennessee Ornithological Society

<http://www.tnbirds.org/birdfinding/EllingtonCenter.html>

##### The Bird List for Ellington

<http://www.tnbirds.org/birdfinding/EllingtonChecklist.pdf>

##### Deadly Galerina

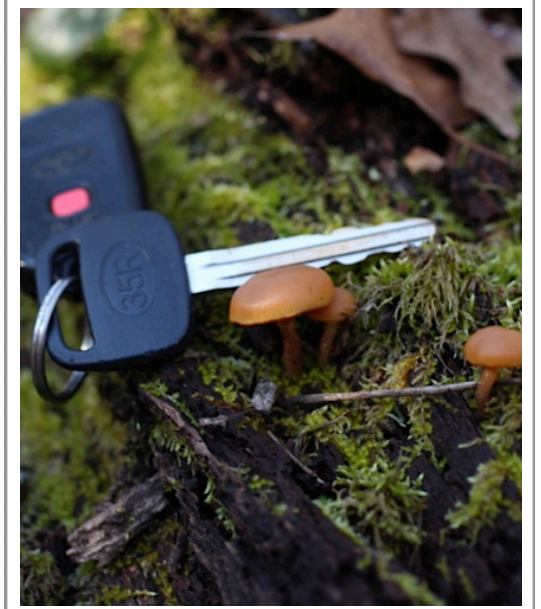
[http://botit.botany.wisc.edu/toms\\_fungi/may2003.html](http://botit.botany.wisc.edu/toms_fungi/may2003.html)

##### Trees of Ellington

<http://www.tn.gov/agriculture/water/woodlands.shtml> 🐼



*Poison ivy vine climbing a tree. The Center is full of poison ivy—be careful as you hike through.*



*The deadly Galerina is, at first glance, pretty and tiny but do not let its size fool you; eating one could kill you.*



*Like every other park, privet is invading the grounds and pushing out native species.*

## Host a Garden Tour in 2014

What is unique about your garden? Is there a feature you like and would like to share with other Master Gardeners? Is there a certain time of year your garden is more interesting to see? Maybe you have issues in your garden you need some advice on how to improve or correct? These are all good reasons to host a Davidson County Master Gardener Garden Tour this year!

My own garden is mainly a collection of daffodils; I'm working on some design techniques to turn the yard full of daffodils with little "mouse-cemetery" style labels into a more attractive garden setting and to incorporate food plants with some permaculture, but that process is just beginning. However, I will once again invite Master Gardeners of Davidson County to come and visit my daffodil collection on Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 4pm as a Master Gardener Garden Tour. Won't you offer a tour of your garden?

You can earn 5 Teaching hours, the "T" of your ACT hours, for preparing and hosting a garden tour. Email me at [becky@lostfrogs.com](mailto:becky@lostfrogs.com), call me at 615-838-1359, or see me at the meetings for more information and sign up to host a Master Gardeners of Davidson County Garden Tour. Let me know as soon as possible so we can put your garden tour on the calendar! 🐸

~ Becky Fox Matthews (2005)

## NPL Seed Library

Be a part of an exciting and totally cool project in Nashville by collecting seed for the new Seed Library at the Nashville Public Library.

We are accepting seed of **open-pollinated** and **heirloom** vegetables, herbs, and flowers.

Just put them in a bag with their name and variety, and if known, include the botanical designation and we'll sort them for gardeners across Nashville to plant in spring including YOU, if you are an NPL cardholder. It's that simple.

Seeds will be available beginning mid-February at four Seed Library branch sites, including Inglewood, Edmondson Pike, Bellevue and Bordeaux. For more information, contact Master Gardener Lou Anne Williams (1996) at [l.a.williams@juno.com](mailto:l.a.williams@juno.com). 🐸

## Nashville Lawn & Garden Show

Volunteers, please mark your calendars for planning meetings on the following **Wednesdays: February 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>**. All meetings will take place at 12 noon at the UT Extension office conference room, 1417 Murfreesboro Pike. Master Gardeners, please remember to save your wine bottles and corks for us!

Please contact me by email at [bsd Drake@comcast.net](mailto:bsd Drake@comcast.net) or by phone at (615) 859-4753. 🐸

~ Barbara Drake (2012)

## 2014 Winter School This Month

The Tennessee Master Gardener 2014 Winter School to be hosted by Rutherford County UT Extension is fast approaching. The Leadership Track is featured Thursday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> to be followed by the Education Track on Friday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>. Special break out sessions are also planned.

Visit the [UT Extension](http://UTExtension.org) website to view the conference schedule and register. Pre-registration is open until February 10<sup>th</sup> for \$45 each track or \$75. Registration fees increase for late registrants. 🐸

## Kitchen Gardens at The Hermitage

Our January planning meeting was filled with knowledge sharing, catalog browsing, and seasonal planning. We are looking forward to a fruitful year! Thanks to our volunteers who joined in the fun!

The Hermitage Gardens have different projects with different volunteer needs: gardening, seed propagation, greenhouse tending, public speaking, and more! Email me for details at [lkraft1212@gmail.com](mailto:lkraft1212@gmail.com)! 🐸

~ Laura Kraft (2010)

## Harding Garden at Belle Meade

Just at the point when every gardener despairs that winter will never end, hope returns in the form of gloriously colored seed catalogs.

The Weedin' Women of Belle Meade are still enjoying the shopping process as we pore through the Seed Savers, Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds, and Monticello cata-



logs. Our continuing commitment to organic and heirloom seeds limits our options somewhat, but we are still hoping to try a few new varieties this year.

Some maybes for 2014 include amaranth (Love Lies Bleeding), Tennessee Red Cob corn, and Southern Giant mustard greens. We also plan on planting such old favorites as poppies, Kentucky Wonder green beans, and scarlet runner beans. If the weather cooperates, we may have spring planting day in late February before starting full time work at the end of March. Until then, stay warm and keep dreaming of spring! 🌱

~ Muff Cline (2007)

## TSU Extension 3rd Tuesday Field Days & Workshops

Tennessee State University Extension has restarted its monthly Third Tuesday Field Days and Educational Workshops series.

Taking place on the third Tuesday of each month, all demonstrations and workshops have a fee of \$10 and include lunch. The announced schedule thru October:

February 18	Pruning and Care for Fruit Trees and Small Fruits
March 18	Local Foods and Gardening Basics
April 15	Hive Splitting for Beekeepers
May 20	Goat Production and Local Meat Producers
June 17	On-Farm or At-Home Biodiesel Production
August 19	Fall Vegetable Production Using High Tunnel Greenhouses
September 16	Turf Establishment and Maintenance
October 21	Eating for Wellness

To register for upcoming programs, visit the [website of TSU Extension](#). If you have questions or need more information, contact Dr. Jason de Koff at (615) 963-4929 or [jdekoff@tnstate.edu](mailto:jdekoff@tnstate.edu). 🌱

## Historic Nashville City Cemetery

As the chilling days and nights of January give way to February, it is time once again to plan our Gardening chores. February and early March are the best time to trim Boxwood. Time also to make sure your bypass hand pruners are ready for the coming gardening season.

The **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Boxwood Trimming** at the Historic Nashville City Cemetery will be held on **February 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9am to 1pm.**



***Master Gardeners at last year's Boxwood Trimming demonstration.***

This annual event started as an educational opportunity to teach Master Gardeners and Interns from our new class the proper way to trim Boxwood and at the same time trim the Boxwood at the City Cemetery. It has grown over the years to include members of the general public as well.

You will learn the proper pruning and shaping of the Boxwood as well as how to take root cuttings and start you own boxwood garden!

Please bring the following tools: bypass hand pruners, hand hedge shears (not electric), lopping shears for larger diameter branches, and a rake. As it is still winter, please dress warmly and gloves are recommended. We'll have hot coffee and our famous Muffins. Remember, you can **earn education hours** for attending this demonstration.

The Nashville City Cemetery is located at 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. South and Oak Street. See you there! (Cancelled only in case of rain.) 🌱

~ Robert Mather (2000) & Catherine Atwell (2004)

Reminder: **Annual fees** for  
certified Master Gardeners  
are **due February 13th.**

## Portuguese Soup

# Recipe of the Month

### Ingredients:

- ▶ ¼ c vegetable oil
- ▶ 2 c onion, chopped
- ▶ 1 lb. smoked sausage, sliced
- ▶ 1 medium head cabbage, chopped
- ▶ 6 potatoes, peeled and cubed
- ▶ 2 15-oz. cans kidney beans
- ▶ 2 c ketchup
- ▶ 1 10.5-oz. can beef consommé
- ▶ 2 ⅔ qt water
- ▶ 2 tsp garlic powder
- ▶ 2 tsp ground black pepper
- ▶ 1 tsp salt
- ▶ ½ c vinegar

### Instructions:

In a large pot over medium heat cook onions in oil until just tender. Stir in sausage and cook 5 minutes more. Place cabbage, potatoes, ketchup, consommé, and water in the pot then season with garlic powder, pepper, and salt. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat and simmer 30 to 45 minutes.

Stir in vinegar and simmer 1 hour more. Add water as necessary.