



Kentucky Extension
Master Gardener
Fayette County

NEWSLETTER

FAYETTE COUNTY MASTER GARDENER'S ASSOCIATION



The Prez Sez...



BY ANN HENRY

Dear Master Gardeners,

This newsletter is packed with news for Fayette County Master Gardeners. There are photos from the Greenhouse 17 continuing education event, the Flower Show, and the Open Gates tour. You will also find information about CE opportunities and an article by Judi Daniels about rebuilding her garden after last winter's freeze.

There will be a Fayette County Master Gardeners picnic this year and you will find details on page 2. We have decided to go back to the potluck format with the meat being provided by FCMGA.

Thank you to all the MG volunteers for work you have put into the Co-op Garden, the Newsletter and Continuing Education and all the volunteer hours you are putting into working with organizations throughout the community. Please find the update in this newsletter on page 6 on entering your continuing education and volunteer hours. Be sure you get your time entered before the end of the year.

Happy gardening,
Ann

From Mary Miller and Susan Miler (the Editors): We had the pleasure of working with Augusta Hosmer (MG class of 2022) on recent issues of the Newsletter. She will be missed by all of us who knew her and her passing is a huge loss to the Master Gardener program. We've included information on her passing on page 3.

Newsletter Committee:

- SUSAN MILLER, CHAIR
- MARY MILLER, CO-CHAIR
- SHARON BENNETT
- JUDI DANIELS
- PAMELA DORREL
- SUSAN MCDANIEL

This Issue

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Weeds are flowers
too, once you get to
know them.
AA Milne

**FCMGA Annual Picnic
October 8, 3 to 6 pm
at Susan Miller's farm
(1175 Grimes Mill Rd., Lexington 40515)**

**Fried chicken and bottled water will be provided.
You are welcome to bring additional drinks.
Bring a chair!**

Based on what letter your last name starts with, please bring:

A - I: Vegetable Dish

J - Q: Dessert

R - Z - Salad

RSVP to Susan Miller, gourmetgoats@msn.com, Phone 859-421-6983

Guests Welcome, but please RSVP so we know how much chicken to provide.

Directions to farm:

Farm is 12 miles from town. Go straight out Richmond Road, which turns into Athens-Boonsboro Road. (Do not veer off to the right on Old Richmond Road near Jacobson Park.) Keep heading straight, cross over I-75 and you'll come to a 4-way stop in the community of Athens. Continue straight for about 2 miles, then turn right on Grimes Mill Road. Go 1 mile and Miller Trust farm is on the right. There will be a sign out front. Come all the way back to the end of the drive where there's plenty of parking. We have covered porches, so it's rain or shine!



Tour of Greenhouse 17

On June 30, the Master Gardeners had a tour of Greenhouse 17, an advocacy agency committed to ending intimate partner abuse in families and the community. The main facility is situated on a beautiful 40-acre property in rural Fayette County and provides these crisis intervention and stabilization services. Their vision is for the farm to become a self-sustaining program that provides a reliable source of revenue for our agency while offering living wage employment opportunities for survivors.

**Lexington Council of Garden Clubs
2023 Open Gates to Bluegrass Living
Garden Tour**

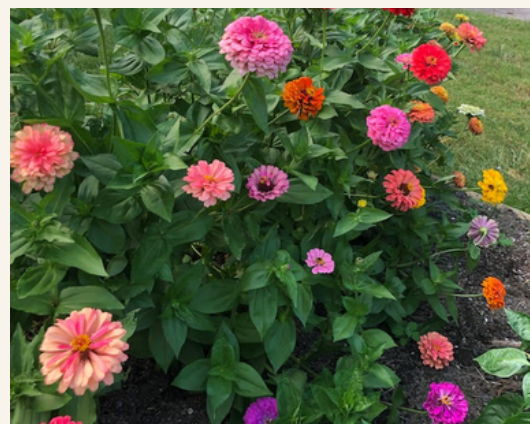
The garden tour was a great opportunity to not only experience a variety of gardens but to see how those gardens reflected the owners and their creative approaches to their growing conditions.

Gardens ranged from one in which almost all the plants were in low containers arranged to create the illusion of a shady natural woodland glen to a full-sun garden that included a surprising section of perennial cacti. Another was a lakeside garden with a deep shoreline border planted to accommodate wildlife. What a treat!





Augusta Hosmer Sept. 24, 1994 to August 6, 2023



Our Master Gardener community is mourning the passing of Augusta Hosmer as a result of a tragic auto accident in Lexington, Ky. Augusta was a graduate of the 2022 Master Gardener class and created the new design for our Newsletter and contributed articles as well. She will be missed by all in the Master Gardener program who shared her passion for gardening. Augusta graduated as Valedictorian of Armuchee High School in Floyd County, Georgia, in 2013. As a Stamps Scholar, she attended Mercer University before going on to earn two Bachelor Degrees from the University of Kentucky, one in Animal Science and another in Equine Management. Augusta also earned a Master Gardener credential through the Kentucky Extension Office. Augusta will be remembered for her talents in gardening, playing piano, painting, drawing, sculpting and writing and for her love of literature and Marvel. She had a passion for all animals, especially horses, and any stray and/or hurt animals she could manage to bring home. Her robust laughter and sharp wit will be missed by those who knew her well. Augusta is survived by her parents, William Hosmer Jr. and Kerri Bowers Hosmer of Rome, Ga.; grandmother, Vera Cason Bowers of Fernandina Beach, Fla.; grandfather, Peter Kirch of Frederica, Del.; aunts, Krista Bowers and Karla Bowers; cousins, Kathryn Jackson and Nathan K. Bowers; best friend, Jordan Thompson; and other dear friends and relatives.

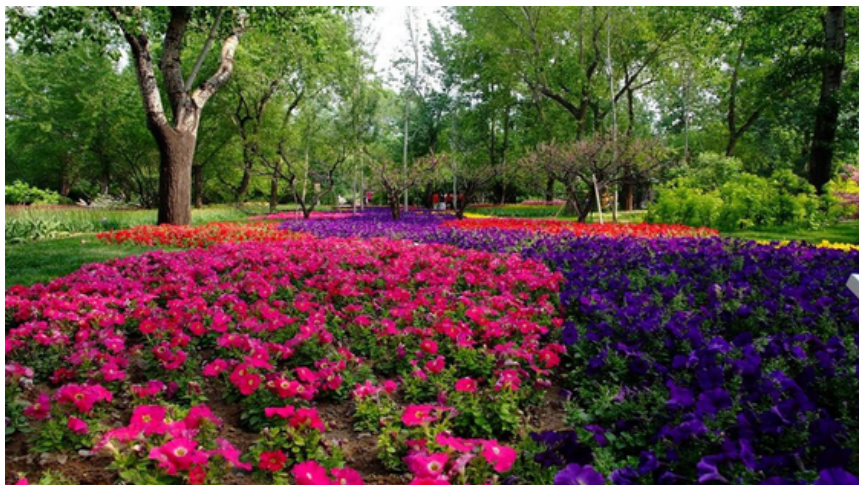
In celebration of Augusta's life, a memorial service will be held in Lexington, Ky., at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please honor Augusta's memory and her love of animals with a donation to the Live Like Roo Foundation at www.livelikeroo.org



BLUEGRASS FAIR FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW - IF YOU HAVE IT, THEY WILL COME!



After a three-year hiatus, some of us on the flower show committee were concerned that we had lost the momentum of the flower and vegetable show and entries would be way down. Jamie, of course, assured us "they would come," despite the early June date when many plants were not even close to maturing. He sure knew something, of course, because several hundred flower cuttings, plants, arrangements and even a few vegetables came through the door, and it was a huge success. Thanks to Jamie, chairs Linda Klink and Mary Turner, and committee members who helped make it happen, it was a spectacular sight!



Please join the FCMGA Facebook group!

Did you know we have a Facebook group? It's a great place to share photos, ask questions, offer up extra plants and keep in touch with other Master Gardeners. This is a private group, so simply click the link below and request to join
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/FCMGA>.

POST APOCALYPTIC FREEZE EVENTS BY JUDI DANIELS



Lots of empty space after the freeze.

Fresh from the 2022 Master Gardener program, I armed myself with gardening magazines and (with help from a friend) a graphed picture of my garden space. I bought plant stakes to write the plant names (will use Latin names I will not ever be able to pronounce but expected from a MG), a gardening knife that Tyson said no gardener should be without and a list of plants to buy. With my gardening plans in hand, I began waiting for the right time to get started but good ol' mother nature had other plans.

The quick December 2022 freeze with temperatures plunging 30 to 40 degrees in one day and then another freeze assault in early to mid-spring, left me with: 3 dead mountain laurels, weak to lifeless boxwoods, a Kwanzan cherry that simply defoliated, 12 defoliated golden Euonymus and my prize-winning oak leaf hydrangeas with stem rot. I know that many Lexingtonians were also looking at plant graveyards but, sheesh, what was I to do? So, I threw the plans away and resorted to my unfortunate habit of winging it. Lessons are to be learned from winging it and maybe my experiences will be of future benefit. Here are 4 winging it garden takeaways:

1. Go big or go to a big box store. Now, the cost of purchasing large replacement shrubs is daunting. Gardening magazines are full of wonderful descriptions and pictures of shrubbery, all very healthy and full grown. I was not prepared for the prices, but equally I was not prepared for the size of shrubs that I could afford. Hence, you cannot replace a full-grown shrub with a quarter-size similar specimen and expect first-year greatness. What I was left with as I planted my \$15 yews versus \$60 yews, was a lot of empty space. Should I have opted for a few big nursery shrubs to preserve the look? I have ended up with a mishmash of plants, ferns, etc. I do not have a lot of dead space though.



Starting to fill in the gaps

2. "Patience Young Grasshopper." If I heard Jamie once I heard him 100 times on plant frost damage, "wait before you pull the plug." I did not heed his advice and yanked out (literally) six euonymus shrubs on one side of the yard. This turned out to be a big mistake as the remaining six are recovering nicely. Those who are still hoping their boxwoods will green up should be commended for their patience but clearly it is now time to remove. I must say I have enjoyed the folks who shaped their dead boxwoods into round balls of various sizes as though they were healthy. This is true commitment to the boxwoods.



This comeback kid proves that you shouldn't give up too quickly.

3. My eyes have seen the glory of days gone by. Let's face it, neither I nor my husband can dig, pull, tug, and then dispose of grown shrubs. We CAN effectively argue, swear, and search for someone to help. The latter involved looking on the Next-Door app, Craigslist, and Thumbtack. We found and watched three strapping young men in complete awe, realizing there is no way in Hell, Michigan, we could ever do this again. So, we added this sort of task to other never-again activities: white water rafting, washing windows inside and out, possibly riding a two-wheeler bike, putting on clothes without sitting down, and staying up after dusk. It is what it is. But in the end, they removed all the shrubs along with their big roots and after we paid them several hundred dollars, we were exhausted from just watching. The moral is: be ready to pay unless you have a kid that can be forcibly made to help or go back to item #2. Had I focused on patience ... well there is no going back.

4. The recipe for successful shrubs involves water. Of course, we all know that but make no mistake, if you engage in a large planting this takes on new meaning. Add to this a nice KY drought, with very high temps, and high humidity and again item #2 becomes even more important. I put buckets of water on each shrub, which helped but after looking the situation over and having rainwater (yes, it did eventually rain) seep into our basement we installed a rain barrel. The barrel has a soaker hose attached that helps ... sort of ... as long as it rains, but going out of town requires hiring a water gal, which I had not initially considered but do now.

Gotta love gardening! And of course, I'll do it all perfectly next time.

Continuing Education

Master Gardeners are reminded that each calendar year they need to complete (and report) a minimum of 20 hours of approved volunteer activities and 10 hours of continuing education in order to remain in good standing.

During the past year, the Continuing Education (CE) Committee has been designing and implementing a model for developing CE opportunities. This has involved initiating, publicizing, and coordinating an array of alternatives that provide Master Gardeners with different kinds of opportunities to fulfill their CE requirement. This year we have been piloting the program and refining it on the basis of participant experience. The goal is to have an easily understood system fully in place so that we can have an efficient, well-tested, and worthwhile program of activities available for you in early 2024. To enter your volunteer and CE hours, go to <https://fayette.ca.uky.edu/mg>

In the interim, the 2023 program has involved options organized into four categories: Extension Education, including Gardener's Toolbox classes (one CE credit for each class attended); Local Events and Programs (within Fayette County); Field Trips (outside Fayette County); and a specially Commissioned Lecture, "Education of a Gardener," by Janet Draper (Smithsonian Gardens Horticulturist) to be presented via Zoom at the Eastside Public Library on Nov. 4 from 1-3 p.m.

Our Committee is excited by the many options developed by individual members for this year as well as those planned for 2024. We have an extremely well-informed and creative group. There are many novel and currently relevant opportunities in store for you. As with any new system, there are glitches and a need for improvement on the basis of feedback. On behalf of our active committee, we look forward to receiving this feedback from you and hope that you gain many useful insights from the available options. We hope to make accumulating CE for Fayette County Extension Master Gardener requirements not merely a chore but a joy. Some of our events are listed below, hope to see you there.

Graham Rowles and Judy Worth (Co-Chairs, Continuing Education Committee)

Upcoming CE Events - look for email information and updates on events

Removal of Invasive Plants and Planting for Pollinators

September 23, 1-4 pm at Canewood Farm, Jessamine County 1:00-4:00 PM. presented by State Apiarist Dr. Tammy Horn Potter and Cathy Anderson (2 hours credit) RSVP by September 19 to Susan Daole: Daole@uky.edu

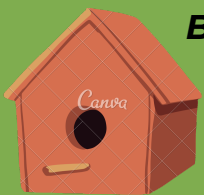
Customized Tour: Garden Design for Everyone: Native and Woody Plants

October 7, 10 to 11:30 am at Bernheim Forest, with optional lunch at Jim Beam Distillery Restaurant. Tour fees to be announced later (1.5 hours credit), RSVP by October 1 to Doris Settles: dorissettles@gmail.com
<https://bernheim.org/program-and-events/>



Building Birdhouses/Nesting Boxes and Winter Feeding for the Birds of Kentucky

October 17, 10:00 to 11:30 AM at Fayette County Cooperative Extension Building. Live demonstration by Laurie Thomas, UK Extension Forester. No registration fee (1 hour credit) RSVP by October 8 to Ken Johnson: kennethrjohnson12@gmail.com



Education of a Gardener

November 4, Eastside Public Library. 1:00-3:00p.m. Presented live on Zoom by Janet Draper, horticulturist at the Mary Livingston Ripley Garden located within the Smithsonian Gardens at the National Mall in Washington, DC. (2 hours credit) RSVP by November 1 to Susan Daole: Daole@uky.edu



Fayette County Master Garden Association Board Meeting**August 11, 2023** Draft Minutes**Present: Ann Henry, Judy Worth, Kay Fisher, Graham Rowles, Susan Miller, Susan McDaniel****Opening remarks:****Need to talk about treasurer transition.****Newsletter – “great issue”; Augusta Hosmer’s passing was brought up, which led to discussion of new business including deaths, illnesses and listening tours; plus updates to handbooks.****Newsletter: Monday, Aug. 14, is deadline;****Augusta was acknowledged as a big part of the new design;****Judy/Graham will do an article on Continuing education****Susan McDaniel to do an article on how to join the Facebook group.****A suggestion was made that we also include the link for reporting hours.****Treasurer’s Report:****Kay bought a roll of stamps; needs approval. Spent \$63 under budget of \$75.****Interest rates are going up.****Audit of books needs to be done. Ann needs to get a team together to do it.****Dues were received from 2 people. We are now at 69 members****CD rolled over; it’s a 6-month.****Kay is doing the accounting for state master garden conference so money will be coming in and then going out.****Current Balance: 17,270.44****Discussion about doing something individually for Augusta. Family requested donations be made to Live Like Roo in Rome, GA. Discussion continued with clarification that the annual in memoriam donation of \$75 is for all master gardeners who have passed in that year.****Board decided a newsletter article on Augusta will be written including the Live Like Roo information.****Nominating Committee****We need nominations for a Vice President and Treasurer.****Pam Dorrell was suggested based on an experience in finance.****Marilyn Gall suggested for vice president****Also, Susan Daole and Ken Johnson were mentioned.****CE Committee****Upcoming CE Offerings:****Aug. 24 – Cincinnati Zoo (6 hours), Aug. 25 – Black Soil Hamlets tour, Sept. 12-13 – State MG Conference, Oct. 7 – tour of Bernheim forest, Oct. 17 – Nesting Boxes, Nov. 4 – Commissioned lecture, Nov. 18 Native Plants (6 hours), Plus toolbox classes****Graham reported they have spent a lot of time creating a framework for Continuing Education with next year’s ready by this Christmas. To get credit, Each CE opportunity has a contact person who will send out a form that has to be filled out and returned to the coordinator. They can explain it all and introduce it at the annual meeting in January, with a corresponding article in the newsletter.****There was discussion about getting the word out better about the online listing of hours and the technology committee.****Judy has decided she won’t be continuing on the CE committee after this year. Graham will look at the committee for another co-chair.****Continuing Education committee does not have time to do the handbook. All members of the committee have worked very hard. Philosophy is we don’t have to do that much handholding or become ‘the enforcers.’ Jamie has been supportive and helpful to the CE committee.****Jamie said he thinks the office will need to reach out to the master gardeners re: CE hours.****By laws – next steps.****We need to have a reading with our membership. At the annual meeting. Susan McD would be introducing the bylaws.****Members have to have them 12 days before the meeting. Adding a caveat that “In order to have input, you need to respond before the meeting,” was suggested. There was discussion of how to present the bylaws and how to mitigate ‘issues’. A premeeting was suggested; suspended vote was suggested if there were challenges or holding a vote on the whole thing except any part that was under contention.**

Annual Meeting – date set for Jan. 28., 2024, as long as we can get the room.

Annual Picnic - Oct. 8, 3-6PM

Fried Chicken and water provided. Bring your own drink.

Alpha sides, salads, etc. will be mixed up from previous years.

Drinks will be BYOB, including alcohol if they wish, though the drive home was brought up.

Jamie can bring garbage bags and haul it away; Need someone to pick up the chicken and water; plates and utensils. Jamie thought there was plenty left over; someone needs to check.

Ann bringing a couple coolers of ice; tables will be outside on porch. “Dress for the weather.” Rain plan is that there is plenty of room up on the porch.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee was tasked with coming up with social chair or co-chairs to manage the annual meeting, picnic and any social opportunities offered alongside continuing education events. It was mentioned that it has been shown that master gardener groups that work best are those that meet monthly. There was discussion around how many times a year, starting quarterly, etc., and varying times of meeting to be sure those who are still working can be included. Needs to have a gardening component of some kind.

Next Meeting

Next Meeting – Friday, Nov. 10; 11 a.m., at Ann’s, 3488 Rabbit’s Foot Trail. Ann will send directions.

Topic: Listening meeting review and discussion for next steps; annual picnic; etc.

Meeting adjourned. Submitted by: Susan McDaniel

Fayette County Master Gardeners Association Board Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

May 16, 2023

Attending: Ann Henry, Susan Miller, Susan McDaniel, Judy Worth, Kay Fisher, Graham Rowles, Mary Miller

Review and Approve Minutes – Minutes from Feb. 10 2023, were approved.

Committee Reports

Treasurer –

Kay Fisher passed out budget materials. Quite a bit of activity with dues, garden expenses. Kay filed nonprofit paperwork. Some of the dues were carryovers from the previous year when we didn’t collect dues during Covid. Treasurer report was approved. Kay is submitting her resignation at the end of the year.

Newsletter

Deadline is this Friday for content. Mary and Susan are going to Suzann to talk about having her do layout or will work with new committee members on using a system called Canva, which allows more extensive editing and more sophisticated formatting

Nominating – no current report.

Continuing Education

Committee members have been working on an extensive list of possibilities and these are being sent out to members and will be included in the Newsletter.

Discussion of BYLAWS and Articles of Incorporation

Articles of Incorporation

No comments on Articles

Bylaws

Emeritus members usually apply with Jamie. We could make people honorary members – emeritus.

6.6 we are omitting “or members granted lifetime membership by the Board of Directors in recognition of their service.”

Re-number 6.7 through 6.9 to 6.8 through 6.10.

Add that we establish a procedure where only half of the officers are replaced in any one year.

In Section 9 we will add a description for Communications which has traditionally been called Newsletter. This will be 9.4 and the current 9.4 through 9.6 will be renumbered to 9.5 through 9.7.

Budget planning

Kay has been responsible for coming up with a budget which is approved by the Board. Funds have been sufficient to cover any expenses.

Meeting adjourned at 5:38.

Submitted by : Mary Miller, Secretary

