

Heartland Horticulture

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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
U Extension
Master Gardener

News for Missouri Master Gardeners

News From Around the State

MGs of the Ozarks Present Scholarship to C of O Student

By Sandra Reames, Master Gardener

“The Master Gardeners of the Ozarks” worked hard during their annual summer garden tour to raise the monies for a deserving horticulture student.



This year Tomas Ovington, a sophomore at College of the Ozarks was presented a \$1000.00 check to help in continuing his education. Tomas is studying Horticulture and after he graduates, he wants to further his studies in sustainable agriculture, in other words going to remote areas of the world and

teaching others how to sustain themselves through their own agriculture.

Going into remote and foreign areas of the world would not be unusual for Tomas or his four sisters, who have all traveled with their missionary parents.

The prime goal of the Master Gardener is to teach and further education about horticultural to both to the general public and to special students such as Tomas. Tomas is pictured center and, others in the photo are a small group of the “Master Gardeners of the Ozarks”, serving Stone and Taney Counties.

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SAVE THE DATE:

- **March 3 - Master Gardener Spring Seminar, Kansas City**
- **March 20-21 - Water Seminar, St. Louis**



Master Gardener Hotline in Greene County Helps Over 2,000 Residents, Improves Volunteer Training in 2011

By Patrick Byers, Horticulture Specialist

The horticulture hotline operated by the Master Gardeners of Greene County Hotline had a successful 2011 season according to Patrick Byers, horticulture specialist with University of Missouri Extension.

Trained volunteers staff the Hotline office at the Botanical Center from March 1 to October 31, and telephone and email inquiries are addressed during the remainder of the year.

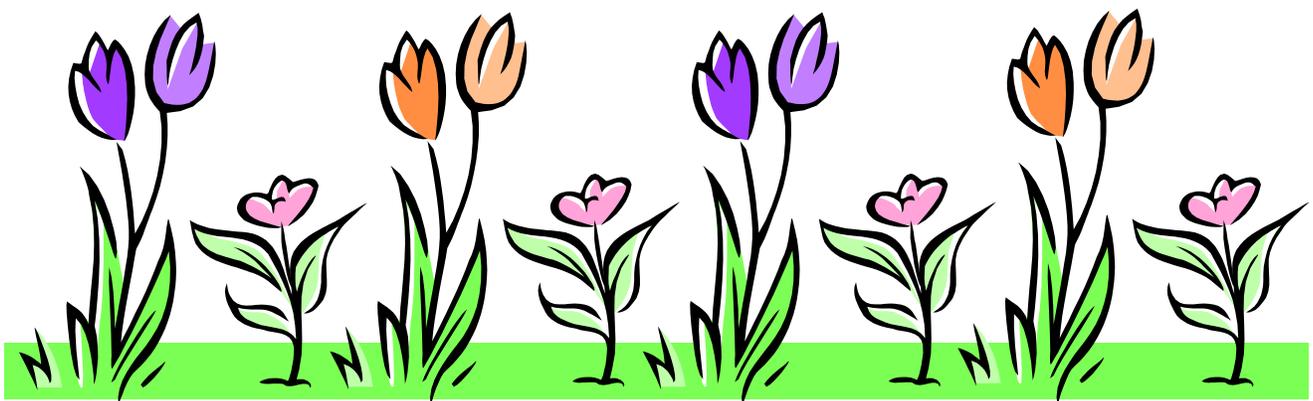
“This valuable service enhances the educational efforts of the Greene County Extension office by providing research based information to the public,” said Byers.

By all measures, the 2011 Hotline was outstanding. The 53 Hotline volunteers addressed over 2,000 inquiries from the public over the past 12 months according to Byers.

Lisa Bakerink, current Hotline coordinator, initiated a monthly newsletter this year to build community among the volunteers.

Bakerink and Byers also developed a series of monthly training workshops for Hotline volunteers, with an emphasis on developing diagnostic skills, proper handling of samples, computer search skills, and effective communication skills with the public.

The Hotline was also recently recognized by being designated the representative of the Botanical Center with the Sentinel Plant Network (<http://publicgardens.org/content/sentinel-plant-network>), a USDA sponsored collaboration between the American Public Gardens Association (APGA) and the National Plant Diagnostic Network (NPDN) that focuses on identification of high consequence pests and diseases.



Upcoming Events

“Lessons Learned in the Garden”, MGs of Greater Kansas City Spring Seminar

By Terry Blair Michel, Master Gardener of Greater Kansas City

In March each year since 2001, the Master Gardeners of Greater Kansas City have hosted their annual Spring Seminar just in time for the planting season. The 2012 Seminar, “Lessons Learned in the Garden”, will take place partially in the new UMKC Student Union, a gold LEED-certified building, and partially at Linda Hall Library.

Much of what will happen the day of the seminar outside of the various class sessions, will be made possible by a partnership between the Master Gardeners and the UMKC Garden Collective, a student-led organization chartered under the UMKC Student Government Association and the UMKC Sustainability Team, an ad hoc group of faculty, staff and students with the goal of moving sustainability forward on the campus. The Garden Collective will give a discussion at the start of Saturday’s sessions about their project garden.

The UMKC Garden Collective, made up of 10 or so students at any one time, along with Kaye Johnson, Sustainability Team member who assists the Collective, was started in December 2008, by Jessica Farmer and Sean McClain, and the group planted their first garden in spring 2009 on the south lawn of the Education Building. Each year as student gardeners get ready to graduate, new students are recruited and trained in the care of the garden. This year’s president, James W. Mitchell, is continuing the legacy with partnerships from the Greek Organizations on campus, the Student Government, Urban Planning Students and Environmental Studies Student Association.

With a kick-off luncheon in March, students take home seeds to start plants. The organically grown garden has been a great success, often involving neighbors in the area who now watch, water, weed, and help plant the garden. Working under the motto, “Take what you need, give the rest away,” the students share their healthy bounty with those neighbors, local food banks, and anyone who needs food. The group has even run ads on Craigslist to give away food to those who need it. The collective has received assistance in the form of advice and tilling of the garden from the Kansas City Community Gardens.

Some of the produce and herbs from the garden also ends up in meals served by Sodexo, the UMKC dining services catering company, who will be providing lunch for the Spring Seminar. All materials used for the lunch will be recyclable. Unused food will be composted to enrich the garden soil next spring and summer.

The Saturday seminar classes at the Student Union are divided into three sections (Sciences, History, and Natural Resources) and a day-long advanced training, “Branching Out with Trees” led by Hank Stelzer, Associate Professor at MU and State Forestry Extension Specialist. The session will include a variety of forestry topics including planting, care, first-aid, pruning techniques, and current pest threats. There will also be a walking tour of Linda Hall Arboretum’s Champion Trees with a discussion of Right Tree, Right Place.

Other topics at the Student Union will include: “Wicked Plants: You Only Eat Them Once!” with Sue Waltemath; “Tool Time for Gardeners” (taking proper care of tools) with Sy Nyhart; “Extreme Plant Makeovers” (how to care for plants in our extreme weather conditions) with Christopher Starbuck, MU Associate Professor; “Colonial Herbs-Past and Present” (how herbs were used then—much different from today), with Becki Bardin; “Natives Go Uptown” (our native plants and new hybrids of them), with Jan Vinyard, professional landscaper and former owner of Longview Gardens; “Structure – A Tour of Gardens

Near and Far” (developing the bones of your garden), with Kristopher Dabner, owner of The Greensman landscaping company; “Wild Parties in Our Gardens” (how to live with and keep out wildlife), with Mary Wood, Master Gardener Emeritus; and “Urban Gardening: Spotlight on Ivanhoe” panel discussion with Sherri Harvel from Get Growing Team, Dina Newman from Healthy Kids Initiative’s Advocate for Change, and Terry White, Master Gardener Chairman for the Ivanhoe Community Garden discussing how KC Community Gardens, Cultivate KC, and Lincoln University Extension have come together for a two year campaign to promote the growing of food in city neighborhoods.

The Linda Hall Library, the second venue for the Spring Seminar, is the world’s foremost independent research library devoted to science, engineering and technology. Opened in 1946, the library was funded by a \$6 million-dollar grant by Herbert and Linda Hall, with the stipulation that it be named after Linda and be “a free public library for the use of the people of Kansas City and the public in general” (from the Halls’ wills.) Initially housed in the Halls’ Georgian mansion until 1956, when the current building was finished, the library houses collections of journals and other serial publications, including monographs, conference proceedings, indexes and abstracts, documents, technical reports, and other reference materials to support the journal collection.

In the 1960’s an annex to the library was built on the site of the Halls’ home to house additional materials, plus provide an auditorium and an exhibition room. Many architectural elements from the home were incorporated into the new building. Of particular interest for the Spring Seminar will be the Rare Book Room, which houses collections of botanical scientific illustrations. During the Seminar, Nancy Green, Head of Digital Projects at the Library, will present “Women Advancing Science Through Illustration”(scientific illustrations by women artists), and Bruce Bradley, Librarian for History of Science, will present “Plants in Print, From Gutenberg to Modern Times” (an extensive look at rare botanical prints in the past 600 years).

Also part of the Linda Hall Library is the extensive arboretum which was begun in the early 1900’s when the Halls began landscaping the property around their new home. Fourteen acres surrounding the Library are home to over 450 trees representing some 58 genera and 165 species, including beds of viburnums, tree peonies and Missouri native woodland plants. Scott Reiter, Grounds Keeper for the library since 1986, will present two programs in and around the Arboretum: “Tree Peonies-Treasures of the Emperor” (a look at the extensive and beautiful collection of tree peonies) and “A Year in the Arboretum” (an overview of the collection in the gardens and the arboretum building with discussions of the rare and unusual trees included in the collection).

Seminar classes taking place Linda Hall Library include an advanced training class on Friday evening from 5:30 – 8:30 pm that is open to the public as well as Master Gardeners but with limited enrollment. The class “Solving the Mystery of Organic Gardening” with Cary Rivard, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, K-State Research and Extension Center, will cover such topics as crop rotation, using cover crops, transplant propagation, and weed and disease management. Seating is limited for both advanced training sessions.

Join the Master Gardeners of Greater Kansas City for “Lessons Learned in the Garden, March 3, 2012. Registration and more information will be available by early January on the Master Gardeners’ website: www.mggkc.org, or by calling the MU Extension at 816-252-5051. Register in January for the early bird rate! Deadline for registration is February 24, 2012. The Master Gardeners of Greater Kansas City is a program of the University of Missouri Extension service which is an Equal Opportunity/ADA Institution.

Seminar on Water and Related Issues to be held March 20 - 21, 2012

By Elaine Fix, Master Gardener

Water! Everyone needs to know more about water – its problems and promise. The Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri is sponsoring a two-day seminar on “The Living Earth – Water and Related Issues” on Tuesday, March 20 and Wednesday, March 21 in St. Louis . It will be held at National Garden Club Headquarters, 4401 Magnolia Boulevard , St. Louis 63110 from 9 am to 4:30 pm both days. Everyone is welcome! These courses can be used for educational credit for Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists. The cost is \$50.00, including lunch both days.

Three outstanding instructors will teach eight segments including Aquatic Plants and Animals, Wetlands, Watershed, Youth Programs, Effective Citizenship and Sustainability. The text used is Living in the Environment by G. Tyler Miller (any edition, best prices are on-line). A field trip to Forest Park and an Open Book Exam complete the program. Instructors Barbara Addelson, Marilyn Chryst and Lydia Toth plan to incorporate interactive activities to enhance learning opportunities. Contact Sue Reed , 636-220-4143 or smrzt@earthlink.net, for information and registration. Deadline to register is March 1, 2012.

Plant of Merit - *Acer miyabei* 'Morton' State Street

By Chris Nejelski, Coordinator, Plants of Merit Program, Missouri Botanical Garden



The Morton Miyabe Maple, selected in 1988 from the collections of The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Illinois, is an outstanding maple known for its durability, adaptability, and multiple seasons of interest. Five-lobed leaves are medium green, turning to yellow in fall. Thick foliage makes this a good shade tree.

An excellent small, specimen shade tree for lawns and residential areas. Also useful as a street tree.

- 2011 recipient of the Woody Ornamental Plant of the Year award, Wisconsin Nursery Association.

Common Name: miyabe maple

Zone: 4 to 8

Plant Type: Tree

Family: Sapindaceae

Missouri Native: No

Native Range: None

Height: 30 to 40 feet

Spread: 30 to 40 feet

Bloom Time: April **Bloom Data**

Bloom Color: Greenish yellow

Sun: Full sun to part shade

Water: Medium

Maintenance: Low

