



FEBRUARY 2021

NEWSLETTER



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Vicky Draper

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Cathy Lamb

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Norma Moore

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<http://www.pcmg-tn.org/>

Webmaster

Stacey Clark

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President's Message

Dear Gardeners,

Hopefully we only have a few more weeks until spring! Until then we will continue to meet via Zoom. We will be meeting on Monday, February 15 at 6:00 pm.

Please plan to join us as we welcome Dr. Ludwig from the University of Tennessee. She will be speaking about the Tennessee Smart Yards program. Also, our own Pat O'Mara has a short program planned on seed sowing. I think you will enjoy and benefit from both programs. Please remember to only open the Zoom message from Wayne.

I received an email from John Allen today that the Putnam County Fair will proceed, beginning on July 29 unless there is a significant Covid outbreak. This will be the last fair at this location after 65 years. So, let's start thinking about our part in this farewell.

Also, please send your dues to Pat O'Mara. If you have already done so, thank you.

Keep blooming,
Vicky Draper

Local Extension Office to be Tree Seedling Distribution Site

The UT Extension Office in Cookeville has been selected as a distribution site for the 2021 Tennessee Tree Day, March 20, 2021. The goal of Tennessee Tree Day is to plant indigenous trees throughout the state (residential, commercial, and undeveloped land) in order to replace trees lost to development, repair degraded streams, improve water quality, restore health to terrestrial and aquatic riparian habitats, increase habitat and forage for wildlife and pollinators, reduce air pollution, improve community aesthetics and enhance Tennessee's magnificent tree canopy.



Tree seedlings cost about \$2 each. The website includes details about available trees as well as planting instructions.

Last day to order is March 7.

For more information about Tennessee Tree Day, visit their website by clicking the logo:



Tulip Poplar

PCMG members may also volunteer to help with distribution on March 19 (8:00 AM to 4:00 PM) and March 20 (9:00 AM to 1 PM). More information about volunteering will be forthcoming.

Gardening Resource

The Farmer's Almanac is a great resource for gardening. Here is a free growing guide for fruits, vegetables, herbs, and flowers:



vegetables, herbs, and flowers:

[Farmer's Almanac Growing Guide](#)



2021 Home Garden Variety Trials

Become a citizen scientist by participating in the 2021 UT Garden Variety Trials. This important project provides comparison data about common garden crops. Plant types include old favorites, new heirloom options, herbs, and edible flowers. A complete list of paired varieties can be found on the [Home Garden Vegetable Garden](#) website.

The website also includes reports from previous years as well as a wealth of gardening resources and information that, even if you do not participate, are helpful.

Deadline for sign up is March 15 but it's first come, first served so don't delay.



Continuing Education Opportunities & 2022 Intern Class Schedule

The 2021 virtual intern classes began February 2.

All classes will be recorded and can count towards your continuing education hours. Links will be sent out to PCMG via Wayne Key.

Springtime Planting Video:



PCMG YouTube Channel:

Videos of past Zoom meetings and garden tours can be found on our YouTube channel. For members who have had trouble logging into the monthly Zoom meetings, a copy of the meeting will be posted on the channel. If you watch it there, it will count as your having attended the meeting. The name of the channel is **Putnamco MG** and here is the direct link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpFlz2go3GeT-UE90jE_a3g

UT Extension programs:

Friday Focus sessions from around the state are available for continuing education credit.

January 29th- Live with home fruit in Murfreesboro AND MGs in Florida

March 26th- Live with botanic gardens in Nashville and MGs in Alabama

May 7th, 14th, 21st, and May 28th- Hit the Trail with us for a whole month of TN State Park spotlight tours

July 23rd- Turf and Cut flowers

September 24th- Arboretums and MGs in TN and OH

November 19th- Plants of the season tour

Sign up for TEMG Friday Focus sessions:

<https://forms.gle/u7Eube3METEBY249A>

If you want to catch up on any of the **2020 Friday Focus Zoom sessions**, they are on a YouTube playlist. Click the image at right to access:



Meet MG Stacey Clark

Stacey was born in Chicago, graduated from high school in Kennett, Missouri and spent her adult life in Wisconsin. She moved to Tennessee permanently 10 years ago. Inspired by her mother, who couldn't keep her hands out of the soil, Stacey started planting vegetable gardens shortly after she married and started a family. Her reasons were twofold: they needed the food and she always liked the fresh taste versus that found in the grocery store.

A new member of the PCMGs, Stacey loves flowers and hopes to learn more about cut flowers and perennials. In the past, her approach has been haphazard so she hopes to gain some garden planning tips from our seasoned members. Stacey loves to hike. She is in the process of certifying as a TN state naturalist so she can combine her love of hiking with helping out in the state parks. Not just a land-lover, Stacey learned to scuba dive last year and is eager to explore the vegetation at the bottom of the ocean!

Take the PCMG survey

Next Virtual PCMG Meeting

Monday, February 15 at 6:00 PM. Remember that your invitation to the meeting will come from Wayne Key and no one else. If you haven't attended a meeting yet then it's time you did! Logging in is easy.

Have something to share through the newsletter? Send pictures, stories, and events to: pcmgnewsletter@gmail.com

PCMG 2021 Dues are DUE!

If you haven't done it yet, please send your \$10 annual dues to Pat O'Mara at 1175 Park Drive, Cookeville, TN 38501.

**PUTNAM COUNTY MASTER GARDENER
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 18, 2021**

Due to the COVID-19, the meeting is still being held virtually. Vicky Draper, President, called the meeting to order. There were 23 members participating in the meeting.

Vicky introduced Wayne Key who went over the 2021 Master Gardener classes. As to date, there are five participants signed up for the virtual classes. Registration for classes continued until Friday, January 22. The classes will begin at 9:00a.m. and last until 11:00a.m. The classes will be presented by UT. Natalie Bumgarner will be the moderator. Vicky stated the speakers will be tremendous and will be from across our State. Once the classes start, Natalie will share a link and our members can watch the meetings at our leisure. Volunteer hours can be counted for watching these videos.

Vicky thanked everyone who joined the December meeting. She appreciated everyone dressing up for the meeting. A good time was enjoyed by all.

Vicky called on Norma Moore, Secretary. She stated no minutes were recorded for the December meeting. Pat O'Mara, Treasurer, gave her report. She requested that since we cannot meet in person that members should send their \$10.00 dues to her home address.

Cathy Lamb, Vice-President went over 2021 projects. Since we cannot meet our projects have been scaled down. Those projects which the Executive Committee felt that we could still do by wearing mask and socially distancing are as follows: 1. Four sides of the Extension Office, 2. Farmers Market, 3. Depot, 4. Green House (Maintenance), 5. Putnam County Fair. Jan Tollett suggested that we add transplanting of the fairground plants once we have a new location. Claudia Williams suggested the new Algood Farmers Market as a project. The Club could provide the same resources as for the Cookeville Farmers Market. She will check to see if there is an area that we could plant vegetation and maintain once planted.

Vicky informed the members there would be no plant sale this year. Because many members receive their volunteer hours from working on this project, there was concern about getting hours. Vicky told members she plans on having several field trips which would count as hours. Also, she stressed that UT would work with members in helping them to get hours by allowing them to count participation in virtual meetings as work hours. Another way to get hours is UT will be presenting Thursday and Friday video sessions.

Wayne Key gave a report on the sale of the Fairgrounds. He stated that Michele met with Randy Porter, County Mayor, and he did not have any new news about when the Fairground will sale. They are hoping that the Extension Office can remain where it is. If

that happens, the Master Gardeners could possibly move the Green House and purchase a building to house our supplies next to their Offices. This would be the ideal scenario.

Wayne and Vicky stated that the Tennessee Department of Environment and Soil Conservation will be selling tree seedlings in March to plant. There will be a nominal fee for each tree. Persons interested can call the Soil Conservation for more information. Also, if members want volunteer hours, members can contact the Department to volunteer to help in the distribution of the trees.

There was no Old Business to report.

New Business:

Pat O'Mara requested that dues of \$10 be mailed to her.

Wayne will be in his office all day Tuesday 19th. He reminded members that have not already picked-up awards, name tags, etc. can do so on this date.

Vicky told members that she is excited about this year. It will be strange not to be able to have our regular inside meetings, but she plans on having outside meetings as soon as possible.

Fran Hutchinson was the lucky winner of the drawing for the Lowe's gift card.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectively Submitted,

Norma Moore