

Memphis Area Master Gardener Member Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Call to Order 6:09 PM

President Terry Merriweather called the Thursday July 17, 2025, meeting to order. The meeting was conducted in person at the Agricenter Amphitheater.

Speaker

Vice president Rick Clayton introduced Jim Crowder who spoke on "Gardening...with a little bit of science".

Business Meeting:

Approval of the June 13, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Membership approved the minutes of the June member meeting as published.

Treasurer's Report

No report.

Extension Report and Remarks

Dr Chris Cooper referred members to <http://mastergardener.tennessee.edu> for access to the newsletter and other activities throughout the state.

He also recognized the 2025 interns who were present. Dr Cooper and Ginny Fletcher of the Spring Fling Committee announced that Spring Fling 2026 will be held Saturday, March 28, 2026, in Wings C and D of the Agricenter.

Committee Reports

Membership: There are currently 349 active members.

Mary Wade Scholarship: Genie Ashworth introduced the recipients of the Mary Wade Scholarships for the 2025-2026 academic year. First year recipient, Braden Burdick, will attend University of Kentucky. Second year recipient, Jordan Kirby, will continue his studies at University of Tennessee, Martin.

Great Tomato Contest: Jamie Childers reminded membership that the contest will be held Saturday, July 19, 2025, at the Big Red Barn and encouraged participation.

Announcements

Terry Merriweather announced the members of the Nominating Committee for the 2026 slate of officers as follows: Lynn Chambers, Linda Pittman, Kandi Reilly, Mildred Saulsberry, Lora Thomas, Marilyn Trimble, and Debbie Hill (alternate).

Michele Yellin reminded members that the book club is active and welcomes all members to participate. Continuing education hours are earned for attending discussion of selected books with additional hours

available to presenters. The selection for October is Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer.

Terry Merriweather reminded members who have volunteered to provide food for the Intern Graduation reception to have items at the Dixon by 4 PM on Thursday, August 21.

Ginny Fletcher announced that members will receive an email on July 24-25 from Dr. Natalie Bumgarner containing a state-wide survey for Master Gardeners. Members who complete the survey will receive one service hour.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:26 p.m.
Paula Pilgrim, Recording Secretary