



Horticultural Society of Middle Tennessee

AT CHEEKWOOD ESTATE & GARDENS

FALL 2020



From our President Carla Nelson

What a year! By now, I'd hoped (and fully expected!) that we'd have met in-person at our fall membership meeting and we'd be planning to attend Sparkling Settings and Martinis and Mistletoe. I'd hoped to visit each Garden Club to personally thank you for your support and membership in HSMT. Please know that even though I can't be there in person, I very much appreciate each of you and thank you for your willingness to adjust to our ever-changing plans!

We'll continue to offer Doorstep Dinners which has proven to be a very delicious and popular fundraiser. Thank you for continuing to support it!

Soon you should receive our Annual Paton letter. Every contribution no matter the amount is greatly appreciated, especially this year when all of our events had to be cancelled.

Finally, even though Sparkling Settings has been cancelled, we hope that you will send pictures of your personal holiday settings for a special Sparkling Settings newsletter. Details can be found on our website, www.hsmtn.org.

I look forward to the day when we can all come together for a membership meeting or fun event. Until then, please be safe and stay in touch.

Best,
Carla

FALL Y'ALL



On her website, Judy Wright shares what she has learned from the beautiful Italian women in her family who understood the best way to bring people together was around the dinner table. Growing fruits and vegetables in the backyard, raising chickens, cooking, knitting, sewing, and loving on children, that is the legacy they left behind. Thank you to Judy for sharing the informative article on Sweet Potatoes!

Learn more www.judyschickens.org



Sweet potato plants are typically grown from slips as opposed to seeds. The slips are created from baby vines that sprout on stored sweet potatoes. If you gently detach the vines and place them in a jar with a little water, they will send out roots and start to leaf. Those little plants are called slips. On commercial farms, slips are planted in late spring or early summer. Sweet potatoes are tropical plants and love the heat of summer.



I have a fascination for farm machines that get a job done in simple, efficient ways. This sweet potato planter is ingenious. As the tractor moves forward, farmers in the red trailer feed sweet potato slips into a device that drops them in the ground, covers them with dirt, and gives them a sip of water from the yellow tank.

Judy's favorite quick dinner —

Sheet Pan Supper: Italian Sausage, Peppers, Onions, & Potatoes.

Mix the potato core from the spiralizer and the slinky-like potatoes with olive oil, garlic pepper, and salt, and roast them in a 425° oven.

visit her web page for recipes



Member spotlight

Doris Weakley,
Tyne Meade Garden Club



A Passion for Gardening -

I'm a dirt gardener and love it. As a kid, before I started school, I would follow my grandmother in the many gardens she planted; flower gardens, vegetable gardens, herb gardens, and potted house plants. One thing that I do, in keeping a tradition going from my grandmother is; **If it grows in the garden, it goes on the table.** She always picked blooms from her garden, put them in a canning jar and then placed them on the table. This, I love to do with my blooms.

I learned from my grandmother the old fashion way of gardening before it was named Organic Gardening. Later, I majored in Biology at University, where I was introduced to Botanical Names of Plants.

I have made a garden everywhere I have lived, but where I live now is the most extensive garden I have ever developed. I live on a 200x200 level acre. The garden has shade and sun areas with paths leading to and through the many garden rooms, along with statues, fun artifacts and garden benches.

I grow a lot of Native Plants, Exotics and favorite plants my grandmother grew. These plants I call Grand Mother Plants. I have plants that I have moved with me from garden to garden from her garden.



A favorite is the Peony, roots of these date back to plants she got starts of from her Mother and an old fashion phlox.

This phlox was lost in the trade until it came back as 'Richard Poor'. I love to propagate plants and share these with family and friends. Some favorite plants in my garden are Iris, phlox, Dahlias, cone flowers, Virginia Blue Bells, Hellabore, Hydrangeas, mums, Canna, Hostas and reseeding plants. My goal is to have something blooming, or of color in the garden all 4 seasons.

My new favorite area is a Garden House, called Dodi's She Shed, where I keep garden collectibles (my husband calls it an Antique Gardening Shop), but I also, keep gardening supplies there too. It is a relaxing place to hang out in the garden.





To date, one of my proudest gardening achievements is developing a youth gardening program through Davidson County Master Gardeners. JR Gardeners Camp was developed to give youth a foundation in all aspects of gardening. I coordinated the camp for 15 years.

NPT Volunteer Gardener filmed my garden this summer and to reach the segment, it runs for 9 minutes and is the first viewing. Google: Volunteer Gardener episode 2907 TV Show
Produced by Nashville Public Television,

Volunteer Gardener features local experts who share gardening tips, upcoming garden events, recipes, visits to private gardens, and more. It airs on NPT Thursday nights at 7:30 and Sunday mornings at 9:30.





More pictures from Doris Weekly's Garden

<https://volunteergardener.org>





Garden Club Spotlight

Seed and Weed celebrated its 50th anniversary this past September with a tea for all members at the home of Alva Wilk.

There were 7 members from the original group still living or still a part of the Seed and Weed Garden Club: Melba Blevins, Frances Bryan, Edith Johnston, Betty Lentz, Mary McLaughlin, Shirley Stansell, and Alva Wilk.

Eleven of the **Seed and Weed** garden club members met this summer at incoming President, Sheila Akin's pool area-social distancing with masks. Co-Hosted with Pat Malone, outgoing President, they had a **real meeting** and boxed lunches. Everyone enjoyed being together in the midst of this pandemic!



SUPPORT US

Become a patron
of the
Horticultural
Society of Middle
Tennessee

*Thank
you!*

[DONATE HERE](#)

Please see Patrons letter on Page 9

In this past year of social and financial challenges, we ask for your help. Each year, we are honored and sincerely grateful for all the support given us, but this year the need is greater than ever. Since 1931, The Horticultural Society of Middle Tennessee, one of Nashville's oldest non-profit organizations, still maintains its founding principles.

- a clearing house to coordinate the horticultural interests of garden clubs
- collect and diffuse information on all topics relating to the culture and care of plants
- encourage the conservation of trees, native plants and birds
- promote widespread interest in the beautification and landscaping of public and private grounds
- foster civic improvements
- stimulate cultural interests garden

In 1960, The Horticultural Society was one of three founding entities of Cheekwood, and continues to maintain these principles today. We are asking you to contribute to The Horticultural Society so that our organization can fulfill its purpose of landscaping and beautifying public and private spaces. This year, we were honored to make a financial donation to support numerous horticultural activities as well as special plantings at Cheekwood. This would not have been possible without the generosity of donors like you.

Please help us continue this tradition. We continue to stay in contact with our members despite cancellations and postponement of in-person gatherings such as our Special Events, membership meetings and the Community Flower Show organized by incredible HSMT clubs. Through newsletters and information on our website www.HSMTN.org, you can learn more about our organization as well as find event registration and horticultural information.

You can also make your donation safely on this site by clicking the Donate Button on the Contact/Donate page. In addition, we urge you to participate in one of our "at home" events such as the very popular Doorstep Dinners.

On behalf of everyone in The Horticultural Society, we thank you for your financial support of HSMT and its goal of connecting people with clubs, organizations and events, providing research-based quality information to the public, and sharing all things horticulture in the community especially at Cheekwood.

We certainly look forward to resuming our numerous activities and seeing you very soon!

Susan Edwards
Patron Chair

Dixie Powell
Patron Chair

Carla Nelson
HSMT President



Doorstep Dinners -fundraising reimaged

As unforeseen postponements of HSMT's 2020 fundraisers became a reality and the advent of staying at home became a norm, the idea of DOORSTEP Dinners was born. By partnering with caterer Danielle Kates who prepares and delivers gourmet dinners (to your doorstep), HSMT has offered 4 opportunities for members to order, generously allowing our organization to maintain a flow of donations that would not have been realized due to the cancellations of our scheduled events.

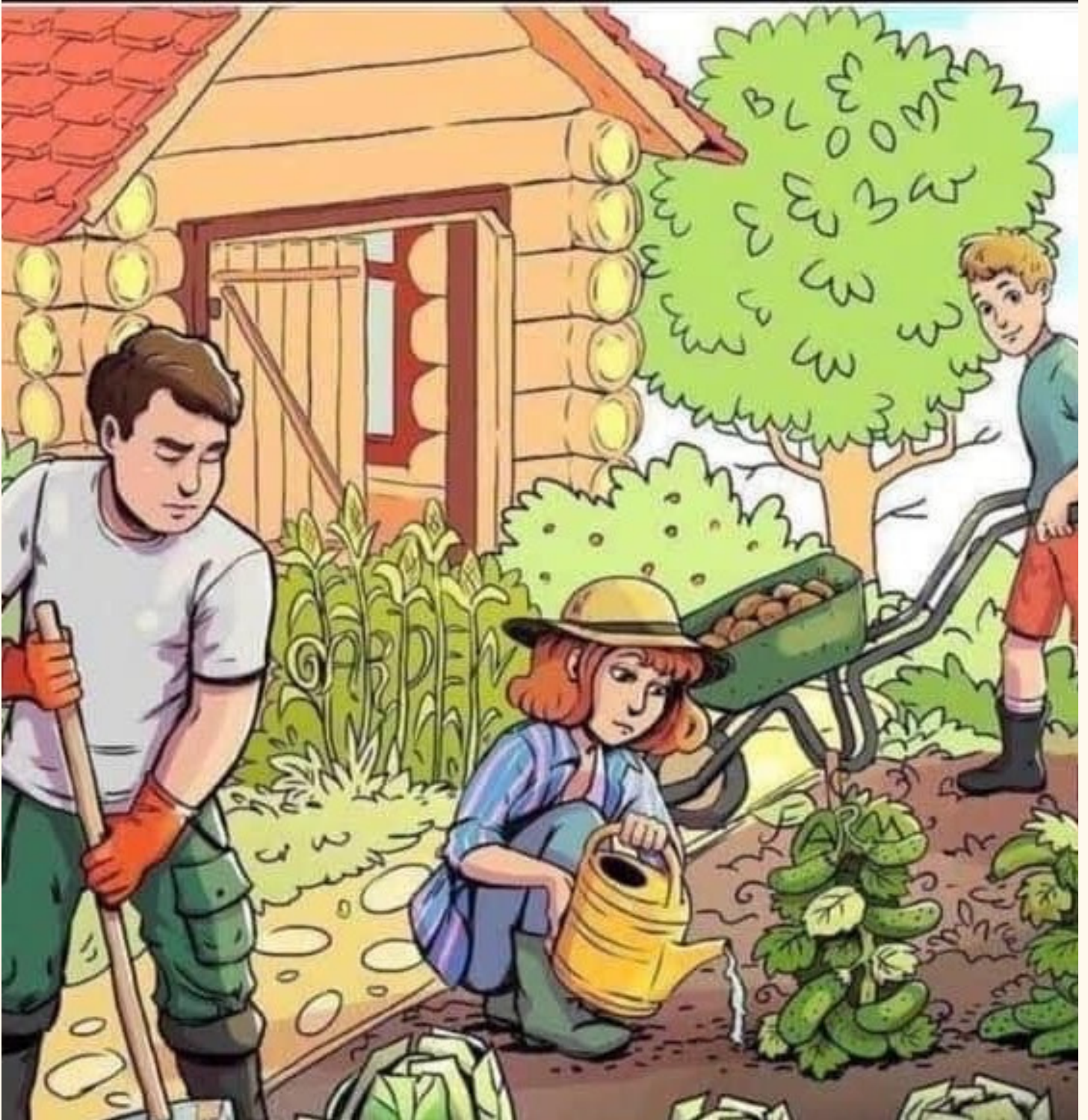
Watch for the email notice of another DOORSTEP dinner scheduled for December. Think about a cozy meal at home during the holidays . Several new additions to the opportunity will make this dinner a MUST.



The upcoming Cheekwood Book is scheduled for delivery in March, 2021 Here is the editor's final version of the section on HSMT.

The Horticultural Society of Middle Tennessee (HSMT), a volunteer-based organization composed of more than fifty garden clubs, is a distinguished contributor to the advancement of Cheekwood. As part of Cheekwood's founding, HSMT dedicated both financial contributions and thousands of volunteer hours in order to realize the institution as a center for the study and education of horticulture. Today, HSMT still plays an active role through a variety of fundraising events, including Sparkling Settings and Martinis and Mistletoe.

Fun & Games



There are 3 Hidden words in this picture. Can you find them?



HSMT & Cheekwood Calendar

July 18 - January 10

Chihuly Exhibition

Postponed - TBD

Ladies Night Out

November-December

HSMT Patron Donations Campaign

December 7, 2020

Sparkling Settings

November 20, 2020-
January 10, 2021

Nutcracker Marche in the Mansion

November 20, 2020-
January 10, 2021

Holiday LIGHTS

Volunteers Needed!

WE NEED YOU!!!

Are you a talented writer? Or have computer skills? Maybe you enjoy chairing events, serving on committees, meeting with and speaking to groups, working on mailings or helping in the office when needed. No matter what talents you have or what you enjoy doing, HSMT needs you!

- Update and Upload materials to the HSMT website as needed, Computer skills are very helpful
- Write articles and event information for the website and digital newsletters
- Produce digital newsletters using the HSMT template. Computer skills are very helpful
- Outreach and speaking engagements
- Help with mailings
- Work on the HSMT Directory
- Help at the HSMT office when available
- Chair an event or serve on the committee



WE WANT YOU!

Here are just a few projects where we need your talents and abilities. If you don't see the right one for you, we'd love to hear your ideas! HSMT is only as strong as its members and volunteers. You make a difference.

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**