



### Updates from the December 3, 2007 Marion County Master Gardener meeting

- The Junior Master Gardener program will begin January 8, and then be held the first Tuesday of the month through June. It is preferred that a Master Gardener pick a lesson to teach on for each meeting. The time used to prepare the lesson and to teach it are volunteer hours. This is a great outreach to the youth in our community. I have ordered the "Tops and Bottoms" book that is mentioned in some lessons. Please let me know what month(s) you are interested in teaching or helping with as well as a lesson topic. You may take the lesson books home to plan from.
- Thank you to all that helped with the Butterfly Garden plots.
- There was some discussion about the Habitat for Humanity project from this last year to decide how the group felt if approached to help at a house in 2008. There were concerns about the organization of the Garden Demonstration day. The recommendation was to have one person in charge. Nothing was decided. If you were unable to attend the meeting but did help out in 2007, please send me your input.
- Marjorie Clark, Elizabeth Dean, Sherry Greene, Kate Holt, Tanya Hopf, Melissa Monesysmith, Teresa Rietveld, and Susan Wims were honored for achieving Master Gardener status. If you were not at the meeting, your certificate and name badge is at the office for you to pick up.
- We had Master Gardener aprons made up as gifts for those that volunteered in 2007. Kate, Launa, Nancy M., Melissa, Teresa, Julie, Sue, and Tanya, yours are at the office. If you submitted hours and are not on this list, someone took yours for you.
- The Knoxville Federated Garden Club's Garden Gala will be April 5.
- 2008 MG meeting dates will be March 3, June 2, Sept. 8, and Dec. 1. Nila and Mary Dee have committed to have their gardens available for garden tour too.
- Check out <http://www.forestry.iastate.edu/counties/marion.html> for a new county forestry link. There is a great tree ID key.
- There was a whopping 966 volunteer service hours submit in Marion County for 2007 to date. This is more than double the next highest year we have had. You are doing a Great job!

Let me know if you have any question or concerns and have a Merry Christmas if I don't see you before!

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