



## **WIREGRASS MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION**

### **ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM**

**(Revised December 2016)**

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All nominations for awards listed below, unless otherwise stated, should be completed and submitted to the chairperson of the Awards Committee no later than December 31 of the award year. Awards will be presented at the WMGA annual meeting in February.

#### **THE WMGA OUTSTANDING SERVICE AND DEDICATION AWARD**

The WMGA Outstanding Service and Dedication Award is presented to an individual for “Outstanding service, leadership, and dedication in providing superior educational programs to Master Gardeners, including teaching Master Gardener classes, speaking at conferences, and other support and special service to Master Gardeners.”

This award is intended to honor non-Master Gardeners that have contributed to the Master Gardener Program in an outstanding way, but on occasion may be given to a Master Gardener.

A typed resume, minimum one page, must be submitted addressing all the points for consideration, detailing the activities of the nominee.

The WMGA Awards Committee will review and choose the most qualified candidate for this award and may be submitted to AMGA by the WMGA Executive Committee for consideration for the *Gary Murray Outstanding Service and Dedication Award*.

#### **THE WMGA MASTER GARDENER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Each member can nominate a Master Gardener for this award.

The WMGA Awards Committee will review and choose the most qualified candidate for this award and may be submitted to AMGA by the WMGA Executive Committee for consideration for the *Mary Lou McNabb Alabama Master Gardener of the Year*.

A detailed resume' must be prepared addressing all the points listed below for consideration. A typed resume' detailing the activities of the nominee.

#### **Minimum qualifications:**

- Current regular membership in the Wiregrass Master Gardeners
- 100 hours per year are required in volunteer service. Documentation, preferably in the Alabama Master Gardener Volunteer Service Report Book or on-line, will be helpful.

**Areas to be considered:**

- Leadership in a local project; multiple projects will enhance nominee's resume'.
- Attendance at local and/or state association meetings.
- Service as an officer in local and/or state associations.
- Giving programs to the public about Master Gardeners or on one of the areas covered in training.
- Furthering the image of the Master Gardener Program.
- Involvement in volunteer service activities which are supportive of the mission and purpose of the Alabama Master Gardener Program.

**THE SANDY DENT LIFETIME HOURS AWARD**

The WMGA Volunteer Hours Coordinator will submit to the WMGA Board of Directors for confirmation the name of the active WMGA Member, who based on the ACES Volunteer Hours On-Line Report has reported the most volunteer hours since they completed the Master Gardener Class and became a certified Master Gardener before the local MG Extension Agent submits the name to AMGA for consideration for the *Jean Lee Lifetime Hours Award*.

Previous Lifetime Hours Award recipients are ineligible for future Lifetime Hours Awards. However, each recipient of the award will be given a Lifetime Membership in WMGA.

The winner for the Sandy Dent Lifetime Hours Award will be submitted to AMGA for consideration for the *Jean Lee Lifetime Hours Award*.

**TOP HOURS OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The WMGA Volunteer Hours Coordinator will provide the local MG Extension Agent the name of the regular member that has reported the most volunteer hours for the year to the WMGA Board of Directors for confirmation who will then submit that name to AMGA for consideration for the *AMGA Top Hours of the Year Award*. (This award will be presented in January of the following year after all hours have been posted on-line in the Alabama Master Gardener Volunteer Service Record.)

**INTERN OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Presented to the person who, within the calendar year of completing the MG Course:

- Has been "Certified" as a Master Gardener by the MG Extension Agent
- Has Joined the Wiregrass Master Gardener Association
- Has completed the most MG volunteer hours of any Intern during the year of completing the MG Course as verified by the WMGA Volunteer Hours Coordinator

**SPECIAL PROJECTS AWARD**

For developing a new and unique project or for revamping a recurring project that meets most if not all of the following objectives and purpose of the Master Gardener Program, as determined by the WMGA Board of Directors

**Objectives and Purpose:**

1. To enhance and supplement the consumer horticulture programs in extension, teaching, and the research afforded by the Alabama Cooperative Extension.
2. To extend the Master Gardeners' knowledge of and interests in horticulture and related activities.
3. To disseminate information on horticultural practices and techniques in accordance with standards approved by the Alabama Cooperative Extensions System.
4. To provide opportunities for its members to meet and associate with others with similar horticultural interests and to teach those who would like to have those interests.

**THE CHRISTIE THOMLEY AWARD**

Nominees should be members that have worked diligently in seeding and/or propagation to support WMGA activities including the plant sale, schools and community projects. The nominee should actively teach seeding and propagation techniques to WMGA members and/or the community at large.

**THE NANCY DEAN PLANT SALE AWARD**

This award is intended to honor any person, Master Gardener or non-Master Gardener, that provides outstanding service, displays leadership qualities and is dedicated to ensuring the success of the WMGA plant sale. This person's contributions may be very visible, or may be someone that works quietly "behind the scene."

**PRESIDENT'S EXCELLENCE AWARD**

This award will be presented annually to an active member of WMGA, who in the opinion of the WMGA President has continuously throughout the year and unselfishly given of their time and talent to WMGA, setting an example for all Master Gardeners to follow in support of Wiregrass Master Gardener's goals and objectives for the past year.

This award may be given to someone who has been selected for one of the awards above.

**WAYNE VANLANDINGHAM AWARD**

This award will be presented to a deserving person registered to attend an upcoming Master Gardener Course and recommended by the local Master Gardener Coordinator (ACES) to the WMGA Board of Directors for a scholarship to defray to cost of the Master Gardener Course.

**CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION**

To be awarded anytime during the year to an individual, other than a Master Gardener, that has supported WMGA in any of its approved projects. Any member may submit a nomination in writing to the President, WMGA, outlining the individual's contribution to an approved project to include the time frame in which the nominee performed said support.