

Fall 2012 MG Class Becomes Certified

Now I can be dangerous,” newly certified Master Gardener **Michele Erker** said smiling. “I can avail myself to opportunities to get smarter! It will be interesting to see where I can grow.”

Brandon Pruitt said he will use much of what he learned in class working with the City of Huntsville’s Department of Forestry and Horticulture. He also looks forward to volunteering at the greenhouses at the Huntsville Botanical Garden.

Michele and Brandon were among 14 members of the Fall 2012 TriCounty Master Gardener Class at graduation on Oct. 29, 2013. Seventeen Interns qualified for certification. More than 50 new graduates, veteran Master Gardeners and family members attended the fall-themed event held at the Lamb of God Lutheran Church on County Line Road. Master Gardener volunteers brought corn stalks, pumpkins and gourds, stuffed blackbirds and scarecrows, and dried flowers to decorate the dining room and entrance way.

Handing out the certificates and new badges were Regional Extension Agent **Ken Creel** and Master Gardener Class Coordinator **Alice Lawler**.

Graduates that night included **Michele, Brandon, Carla Batchelor, Nancy Butler, Kit Fry, Becky McFall, Herschel McFarlen, Acacia Moore, Wendy Payne, Deborah Reed, Ronald Roberts, Patricia Sturdy, Kathleen Tetzlaff** and **Tracy Winkler**. Graduates who could not attend were **Jenny Bowen, Lisa Hawn** and **Amelia Pizzi**.

TriCounty Master Gardener Class Graduation Committee members who oversaw the event were committee Chairs **Kimberly Huffstetler**

and **Sharon Windham**, from Madison County; Limestone County members **Patricia Frey, Joni Gruber** and **Donna McMillan**; Madison County members **Andria Cummings, Mary Howe, Alice Lawler, Barbara Locke, Brenda Myers, Barbara Smith** and **Ann Tippie**; and Morgan County MGA President **Ann Stewart Vaughn**.



Shown are 14 members of the Fall 2012 Master Gardener Class who attended graduation Oct. 29, 2013. At left is Regional Extension Agent Ken Creel and, at right, front, is Class Coordinator Alice Lawler.

Story and photos by **Andria Cummings**
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TriCounty Master Gardener Web site
www.aces.edu/counties/Limestone/TriCounty/