

W2011 MG Class Overcomes Obstacles Shrugs off snow, tornadoes and keeps on going

The 27 Interns who became certified Master Gardeners on May 8, 2012, make up the first class in the past 10 years to have 100 percent of those who started on Day 1 to graduate. And they had their share of obstacles.

The syllabus used to become a Master Gardener covers many topics in horticulture. Mother Nature apparently wanted to teach the Winter 2011 class a thing or two about weather. A snow storm here in the deep South canceled one class, the April 27 tornadoes canceled the April 28 class.

Fellow Intern Laura Schubring's home was hit by a tornado, and many of her trees were destroyed. Fellow Interns turned out two

weeks later to help her plant a vegetable garden.

This class had every reason to become one, and they savored their graduation day as one.



Graduating Interns are: **Pam Clark, Lydia Diener, Shari Duke, Donna McMillan**

and **Laura Schubring** from Limestone County; **Sarah Evans, Barbara Locke, Sun Scannell and Barbara Smith** from Morgan County; and **Sara Feldmeier, Gloria Guay, Karen Hoff, Ortive Hoff, Owen Hofer, Beth Joa, Suzane Lai, Ray Lewis, Shelly Miller, Sherry Miller, Margaret Moring, Jill Nohrstedt, Susan Pope, Larry Sexton, Judy Swafford,**



Master Gardener volunteers created a Spring-themed atmosphere for the dinner and graduation ceremony May 8, 2012, at the Lamb of God Lutheran Church on County Line Road.

Paula Wheeler, Deborah Youngs and John Youngs from Madison County.

Volunteers on this Tri-County Graduation Committee are: Chairwoman **Kimberly Huffstetler**, and members **Andria Cum-**

mings, Patricia Frey, Bonnie Gardner, Joni Gruber, Mary Howe, Alice Lawler, Donna McMillan, Brenda Myers, Sandra Pape, Mary Ann Robinson and Sharon Windham.



The Winter 2011 Master Gardener class received their certification during graduation May 8, 2012. Here are 23 who could make the event. At right, middle and front row, are Regional Extension Agent Ken Creel and Class Coordinator Alice Lawler.

Story and photos by **Andria Cummings**, tricountymastergardener@gmail.com

TriCounty Master Gardener Web site, www.aces.edu/counties/Limestone/TriCounty/