



Sharecropper

Tarrant County Master Gardener Association

Mission Statement

To provide horticultural and environmental research based information and techniques. To volunteer in area horticulture projects.



JULY 2009 IN THIS ISSUE

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Articles welcome and encouraged.
Send submissions to
tmgmarilyn@gmail.com

Earth-Kind® Landscaping

by Steve George and Doug Welsh, Extension Horticulturists



The Earth-Kind® Environmental Landscape Management System was created by horticultural specialists, agents, volunteers, and industry representatives of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. It is the fastest-growing university program of its kind in the nation. To protect the educational focus, use, and integrity of the term and program, the term, *Earth-Kind®*, is federally registered as a trademark of the Texas AgriLife

Extension Service, The Texas A&M University System.

County Extension Agents and Master Gardeners lead the effort to educate the public in Earth-Kind® landscaping. Online educational modules, educational competitions, publications, and most important, evaluation instruments/quizzes can be found at the website, earth-kind.tamu.edu.

The evaluations and quizzes help AgriLife Extension answer the question, "so what?" – so you have all these educational programs, demonstration gardens, and volunteers, are they making an impact on the public in terms of knowledge gained, adoption of recommended practices, and economic savings to the clientele? These measurements and outcomes are then reported to both the State of Texas and the Federal government to justify continued funding of AgriLife Extension.

Your involvement, as Master Gardeners, contributes significantly to Extension's ability to teach the masses in the art and science of Earth-Kind® landscaping.

(Earth-Kind Continued on page 12)



Doug Welsh

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

The August TCMGA meeting will be on the second Thursday, August 13 2009 at Resource Connection.

MGs in ACTION

June Social Meeting at Thistle Hill Project

Speakers at the June Social Meeting:
Watson Arnold, MD & Mary Edholm

Photos by Nancy Curl



TCMGA at the Azle Garden Tour

some as garden owners
some as photographers
some as tourists
some as guides



Photos by Nancy Curl

LEADERSHIP

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s-chaney@tamu.edu

TCMGA Web site
<http://www.tcmga.org>
TCMGA office 817-884-1944

Project Profile: Union Gospel Mission

by Gay Larson, Project Chair

Location: 1321 East Lancaster, Fort Worth

At the southeast edge of downtown Fort Worth



Each Monday morning since 1997 Tarrant County Master Gardeners and Interns have gardened at Union Gospel Mission in a transitional neighborhood on the verge of revitalization. More than 300 men, women and children live in this homeless shelter.

There are approximately 18 flower beds and one vegetable garden designed and maintained by the Tarrant County Master Gardeners for 13 years, volunteering a yearly average of 1,500 hours. Residents and other volunteers work along with the master gardeners for 210 hours a year.

In 2008 we dedicated more time to education for the residents; Pat Higgins and Nancy Curl now head up the educational team. With their lead, master gardeners have given numerous classes on garden-related topics for the residents. Classes included making a terrarium, propagation of plants, and container gardening, and a drip irrigation class for the men residents. A perennial class for the residents featured 13 favorite perennials. Last fall we gathered grapevines and taught the ladies how to make grapevine wreaths for their doors. We even held a class on how to make a gingerbread house for the women and children at Christmas time. In the spring, we hosted a rose garden tea party with cake and punch and a provided PowerPoint on roses that are featured in the UGM rose garden.

There have been numerous gardening classes for the children using the My Garden Book of Flowers and My Garden Book of Vegetables coloring book series written and illustrated by master gardeners. During a class about okra, the children harvested the okra that was planted in the vegetable garden and then feasted on fried okra! We grew loofah gourds and learned to make loofah soap. After providing a lesson about gourds and how the soap was made each child was given some to wrap and present to their mom's for Valentine's Day along with a handmade card. The latest class included planting potatoes in buckets and planting onions. We hope to harvest them and feast on a wonderful potato salad!

Our newest endeavor is to beautify an area between the men and woman's building with groundcover and a large planting of nandinas, Mary Nell hollies and Japanese maples. This area was built with sandstones that create a leisurely walkway to a restful bench for the residents.

Each workday there is a horticulture lesson for the master gardeners and residents with refreshments.

Workdays: Mondays
8 a.m. during the summer
9 a.m. in fall and spring
10 a.m. during the winter

Contact: Gay Larson
817-441-6560
gaylarson@juno.com





President's Message

July 2009

I would be totally remiss if I did not start by giving a gigantic 'thank you' to 1st VP Eleanor Tuck for organizing the delightful June Social at Thistle Hill.

It was a fun relaxed time with a bit of education and a lot of socializing. Also kudos to Emily Ward and Laura Hunter and crew for hosting us all at their beautiful MG project!

So now one thought as the weather turns from the wonderful extended spring we've had to the warmer- make that hotter – temperatures in our grand state. I have recently had my thinking turned around on plant selection for my own home landscape. It's not really a decision of what will make it through the winter here, but what will make it through the summer. The summers are really tougher on our landscape and individual plants than the winter. We bring in tender plants for the winter but what about the summer? It's either live or roast to death if you can't stand the heat. Last year, I could not put enough water on some plants – it was purely the heat stress, not as much the lack of water. So, perhaps a different thought in your future plant selections? I know that this idea has turned my thinking around!



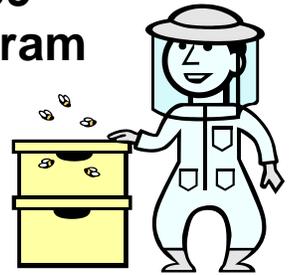
And with that, may I join the chorus and exhort you to not only individually be a good steward of water when irrigating, but to encourage others. As MGs, we have an appreciation and a knowledge that many others do not. Please share liberally as you have the opportunity with friends, neighbors, and be bold – even businesses in your community. Speak up kindly and take a moment to educate. Any water you save from waste is a gift to us all!

See you on July 2nd – dress cool and brave the heat!

— Susan Stanek, President

July 2, 2009 Monthly Program

**Janet Rowe
Bee-Charmer**



Thanks to Mary and Watson for sharing the histories of flowers, herbs and vegetables in such an historical setting as Thistle Hill. Special thanks to Emily for arranging the setting; to Taddie for parking; to Linda for the wonderfully cold water.

We will return to the Resource Connection for our July 2nd Meeting with yet another Master Gardener speaker! JANET ROWE also known as the Bee-charmer is from Rockwall County where she and her husband base their beekeeping business. In addition to being a third generation beekeeper, Janet has multiple certifications including Licensed Structural Pest Control Operator specializing in live honeybee capture and relocation.

9:30 AM Gather and greet
10:00 AM Beekeeping 101: to cover all you need to know about honeybees
11: AM Business Meeting
12: Noon FAQ about Bees—more helpful hints for handling the telephone calls when our TCMGA phone rings—"help, I have a swarm of bees around my front door/ mailbox/car, etc, etc."



Looking forward to seeing you ALL there. ET

**Next Month's August Meeting
SECOND Thursday
August 13th
GARAGE SALE**

TCMGA Meeting Minutes June 4, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by President Susan Stanek at Thistle Hill.

The minutes of the May meeting were approved as published in the Sharecropper.

The Treasurer's Report was presented with the following information:

Checking Account Balance:	\$ 5,554.06
Money Market Account Balance:	<u>\$ 20,715.04</u>
Total Checking/Savings:	<u>\$ 26,269.10</u>

A note was added to the Report indicating the profits from the plant sale were to be split among 14 TCMGA Projects. Total amount was \$1,902.60 or \$146.35 for each project.

Special Guest: Dana Tarter, Director of AgriLife Extension Office in Ft. Worth was recognized.

Nominating Committee:

Tammy Edwards, standing in for Nominating Committee Chair, Joyce Quam, announced the following members had been put forth as potential members of the Nominating Committee. An election will be held at the July meeting to elect four of these members.

Earl Alexander
LaVonne Nowlin
Dick Oliver
Steve Purdy
Judy Ratzlaff
Eleanor Tuck
Emily Ward
Lucurtis Williams

A call was made for additional nominations from the floor and none were received. Therefore, nominations for the Nominating Committee were closed with the unanimous approval of the membership.

Members were reminded that the August meeting would be held a week later than usual on the second Thursday of August. The annual TCMGA garage sale will also be held at the August 13th meeting.

Submitted by Judy Butler
for Secretary Dottie Bucy.

SuperStar MG Profile **BILL VANDEVER** **+500 Hours Superstar 2008**



Bill Vandever
In His Own Words

Ok, ok. As a young lad growing up on a farm in Erath County, one of my favorite chores was helping my mother plant and cultivate our vegetable garden. As farmers we depended on our garden for a majority of our vegetables, and in some cases all we had to eat. Guess what – we never starved.

As years have passed and my mother has been gone for some 40 years, I still have a deep love for vegetable gardening and today still use many of the techniques she taught me, not only the how-to, but also the love that goes into planting each seed and harvesting the fruits of my labor.

I became a Master Gardener in 2006 and have not slowed down. I enjoy every aspect of the organization and am proud to be a small part of it. Friendships abound and new friendships are formed with each new class of newbies. It has been a pleasure to volunteer as an intern Advisor for the past two years and I hope to continue in whatever capacity Steve will let me.

It is the dedicated Master Gardeners, such as Bill, who inspire us all and make this organization the outstanding chapter it is. Watch for future profiles of our SuperStar Master Gardeners in coming months.

A HISTORY OF THE TARRANT COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS COMMUNITY/ DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

Excerpts from the June 3rd Open House
by Krystal L. James

Brief History of the Resource Connection:

Oct. 1992 the Governor appointed an Alternative Use Task Force to study possible land use; they unanimously selected Texas Youth Commission Special Needs Treatment Center and Resource Connection-collaboration of public/private governmental and non-profit agencies. The group went to County Judge, Tom Vandergriff and asked if the County would be interested in purchasing the facility to house this 'shopping mall of employment, health, education and human services'. Commissioners Court agreed and here we are, 15 years later, a Mecca for public/private collaboration, cross-agency cooperation and service integration.

Because the Resource Connection is in the business of collaboration, it is only fitting that we would embrace partnering with the Tarrant County Master Gardeners Association in the creation of a Community Garden. We, as a County, always look for ways to benefit our community. Initially, the vision for the Community Garden was to offer RC tenant agency employees a stress relieving activity – gardening! And to Plant a Row for the Hungry.



Speakers at the Open House.

Photo by Nancy Curl

History of Tarrant County Master Gardener Community / Demonstration Garden

The Tarrant County Community / Demonstration Garden at the Resource Connection began as a collaborative project between the Tarrant County Resource Connection and Tarrant County Master Gardeners. After many conversations between Judy Ketchum, director of the RC, Steve Chaney, TC Extension Agent, Ginger Bason, TCMGA 2006 President and the TCMGA Advisory Board, it started as a way for the clients of the RC and their families to have gardens.

In November 2006, Judy Ketchum allotted approximately two acres of land for the TCMGA to begin the garden. Initial projects included building raised beds for planting vegetables by members of the community and as demonstration beds by Master Gardeners. MG Jim Nelson supervised the building of these beds.

Further improvements over the years:

- ☼ The red barn was donated by an MG and moved to the garden.
- ☼ Chain link fencing was installed around an acre of the garden.
- ☼ A rain-water harvesting system with tanks collect water from rooftops.
- ☼ Re-built greenhouse was donated by a Fort Worth elementary school.
- ☼ Additional areas of the garden were developed, including an herb garden, perennial garden, orchard, native and Texas Superstar beds, three hoop houses, Earth-Kind® rose garden, Griffith Buck rose garden, composting area and additional raised vegetable beds.

In 2007, a collaboration between TCU and TCMGA drew Community Nursing and Nutrition students to develop the garden and learn about gardening. The students planted Earth-Kind® Roses on a berm outside the fence and built a flagstone walk around the rose garden. In the fall of 2007, the Community Gardener Program began under the guidance of MG Pat Higgins in collaboration with TCU professors Dr. Lyn Dart and Dr. Pam Frable. Master Gardeners taught garden classes on soil, fertilizer, compost, mulch, rainwater harvesting, container gardening, entomology, native plants, vegetable gardening, trees-diseases, pruning, propagation, Earth-Kind®

roses, invasive plants, annuals and perennials. Along with the classes the students spent time in the garden with hands on training. At the end of the gardening training, the students earned Community Gardener certificates. The TCMGA received the Dietitian Association Special Projects of the year award in May 2009 for this project.

The 2008 MG Intern class designed and built an Enabling Garden for the physically challenged, under the supervision of MG Tom Scott and the collaboration of Texas A & M professor Dr. Joe Novak. A portion of the funding came from a grant from Chesapeake Energy.

In March 2009 TCMGA held a plant sale to help fund community garden projects and educate the public. 🌱 Under the WIC program, MG Jim Nelson grew herbs for low-income families. 🌱 The propagation team has been growing plants for a variety of projects including herbs for an herb class, plants for students from Oakhurst ES, plants for the plant sale and beds at the garden, vegetables for the upcoming class, and plants for Little Hands on the Farm at the Texas State Fair.

Current Projects

🌱 An arbor for the orchard will feature espaliers of apple trees, blueberry bushes and grape vines. 🌱 A Children's Garden will feature a butterfly-shaped butterfly garden, dinosaur topiary, water feature, and pergola. 🌱 Drip irrigation for the raised vegetable beds will allow for better water use and healthier plants.

Educational Classes

April 2009 - MGs hosted tours for members of two garden clubs providing historical and horticultural information about the garden.

May 2009 - MGs hosted approximately 100 4th graders from Oakhurst ES, and provided education about rainwater run-off and plant propagation.

Educational classes began in April 2009. Topics include drip irrigation, hypertufa pots, herb gardening, propagating tunicate bulbs, making a cement leaf, and fall vegetable gardening. A variety of propagation classes are planned for the future. All classes are open to Master Gardeners, residents at the RC, and to the general public.

The TCMGA Garden will host approximately 20 students from Rosemont ES in June as part of the FtW Summer Day Camp program.

A series of classes will continue through July and in the fall and late winter with topics that correlate to gardening interests for different seasons.

Future Plans for the Garden

Build 'holding bins' for gardening materials including mulch, compost and sand. These 'bins' will be constructed out of cement blocks and large enough to hold 3+ yards of material each.

Build shade structures— a pergola over the deck of the barn, and a pavilion to be used as an outdoor classroom. The funding of this project would be through grants and donations.

Build a commercial-size greenhouse in collaboration with the RC and other TC agencies, as an educational training facility for employment skills in horticulture and provide plant material for TC facilities and future plant sales.

Develop a small tree farm to demonstrate appropriate trees for North Central Texas, and pruning and care of trees in the home landscape.

Develop a native grassland area to showcase the beauty of native grasses, their use as drought tolerant and environmentally friendly plants in home and commercial landscapes.



Visitors tour the Community/Demonstration Garden

Photo by Nancy Curl

JULY 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			<p>1</p> <p>8a Veterans Park 9a Teen Challenge 9a BG Perennial 9a BG Children's 9:30a Thistle Hill 3:15p Fitzgerald Ladies / Garden</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:30a Alice Carlson 10a TCMGA MEETING</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:30a CG Veggie</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9a Veterans Park Class- Wildscape Composting Demo</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8a Union Gospel 8:30a Alice Carlson</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8a Randolmill Pk Greenhouse 8a Liberty Garden 8:30a BG Trial 8:30a CG Veggie 9a BG Cottage</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8a Veterans Park 9a Teen Challenge 9a BG Perennial 9a BG Children's 3:15p Fitzgerald</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30a Alice Carlson</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:30a CG Veggie</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8am-Wildscape 9am SW Crthse Composting Demo Demo Garden Class-Veggies Garden w/ Pros Water Gardens</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8a Union Gospel 8:30a Alice Carlson</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8a Randolmill Pk Greenhouse 8:30a BG Trial 8:30a CG Veggie 9a BG Cottage</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8a Veterans Park 9a Teen Challenge 9a BG Perennial 9a BG Children's 9a Hulen 9:30a Thistle Hill 3:15p Fitzgerald</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:30a Alice Carlson TCMGA Board MG Specialist Rainwater Harvest Kaufman</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:30a CG Veggie</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10a Hulen Library</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8a Union Gospel 8:30a Alice Carlson</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8a Randolmill Pk Greenhouse 8:30a BG Trial 8:30a CG Veggie 9a BG Cottage Organic GC</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8a Veterans Park 9a Teen Challenge 9a BG Perennial 9a BG Children's 9:30a Thistle Hill 3:15p Fitzgerald</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30a Alice Carlson 10a Hulen*</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:30a CG Veggie</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8a Union Gospel 8:30a Alice Carlson</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8a Randolmill Pk Greenhouse 8:30a BG Trial 8:30a CG Veggie 9a BG Cottage</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8a Veterans Park 9a Teen Challenge 9a BG Perennial 9a BG Children's 9am SW Crthse 9:30a Thistle Hill 3:15p Fitzgerald</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:30a Alice Carlson</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:30a CG Veggie</p>	

UP-COMING EVENTS

NOTE: for this month's events, see back cover

Aug. 1 Wildscape class—Native Perennials

Aug. 5 Ladies of the Garden 7 pm

Aug. 8 Gardening with the Pros—Cancelled

Aug 13 **TCMGA MEETING—GARAGE SALE**

Aug 14-16 TNLA Landscapers Show—Dallas

Aug. 26-Dec. 9—MG Training Class thru TCU Wed. 5-7 pm plus Saturday field trips. This is a regular MG certification class open to the public, with all requirements and benefits of Master Gardener training. More info in next issue.

Aug 29-30 Ft W Orchid Society Sale, FWBG

Sept. 2 Ladies of the Garden 7 pm

Sept 3 **TCMGA MEETING**

Sept. 11-13 FWBG Art in the Garden

Sept 11-12 MG Specialist Training—Rainwater Harvesting Conroe

Sept. 12 Wildscape class—Cross Timbers Preservation

Sept 15-19 MG Specialist Training Entomology Austin

Sept. 17-19 MG Specialist Greenhouse Management—Tarrant Co. Fort Worth

Sept. 19 Iris & Daylily Sale FWBG

Sept. 23 TCMGA Field Trip Cedar Hill Area

Sept. 28-Oct. 2—Entomology Specialist, Conroe TX

Oct. 1 **TCMGA MEETING**

Oct. 3 Wildscape class Saving Water & Money by Dottie Woodson

Oct. 7 Ladies of the Garden 7 pm

Oct. 10 FWBG Fall Plant Sale

Oct. 11 Garden Conservancy Flower Tour

Oct. 14 TCMGA Field Trip Granbury

Oct. 16-17 MG Specialist Training Vegetable Gardens Georgetown

Oct. 24-26 FWBG Fall Festival Japanese Garden

Nov. 4 Ladies of the Garden 7 pm

Nov. 5 **TCMGA MEETING**

Nov. 7 Wildscape class—No Child Left Inside

Dec. 2 Ladies of the Garden 7 pm

Dec. 5 FWBG Birds' Christmas Tree

Dec. 5 Wildscape Class—Working with Children

April 8-10, 2010 Texas Master Gardeners State Conference hosted by Dallas MGs

<http://www.2010tmgconference.org>

Your Event Here—send info of an event or class of interest to Master Gardeners to tmgmarilyn@gmail.com

Announcements/Going On

Project Workdays — contact the Project Chair - see page 11 for details

Field Trips—TCMGA Field Trip Chair is Kay Gunn. See schedule page 10 of this issue.

FWBG Events— See calendar at the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens for more information.

State, Regional & International MG Conferences, MG Specialist Training—See State MG website for more information: <http://www.texasmastergardeners.com/>

Gardening with the Pros—This gardening series has been cancelled. There will be no further classes this year.

Wildscape Classes—each first Saturday at 9 am at the Molly Hollar Wildscape in Veteran's Park, Arlington. Also Composting demo/class.

BRIT (Botanical Research Center of Texas) phone 817-257-7132 or 817-871-7682

Composting Classes—2nd Saturday of each month 9-11 am 703 NW Green Oaks Blvd., Arlington 817-459-6778

NCNPSOT—native plant meeting at Ft W Botanic Garden 7 pm. See topic at their website

Free Organic Classes—1st Wednesday every month Ladies of the Garden, 5208 Hidden Oaks Lane, Arlington 817-572-0148

Note: This list of items of interest to MGs may not be automatically approved for hours. Please confirm approval with Steve Chaney.

Below are clickable links in the electronic version. Another reason to get this via email.

For more information and breaking news:

See our local TCMGA website

<http://www.tcmga.org/>

State MG Website and TMG news:

<http://www.texasmastergardeners.com>

Keep up to date on news from around the state and training opportunities

Our RC Demo Garden Website:

<http://www.localharvest.org/member/M27123>

Committee Profile: **PHOTOGRAPHY COMMITTEE**

The photography committee's responsibilities are to collect and catalog photos of gardening, horticulture, and related events, to provide publicity in the area on these events, and to have photos taken of events and projects for Tarrant County Master Gardeners. It's been a busy two months cataloging photos for the MG organization.

I want to thank Nancy Curl and Warren Tingley for taking photos at the last Christmas party. Nancy has also been very busy snapping photos at the Community Garden and other events this year of which many have been uploaded to her Snapfish web site. I have created a photo viewing page for many of these photos.

You can visit <http://www.greatideas.com/pictures.html> to look at thumbnails of these photos and see enlarged views of your favorites. The site includes instructions to download any of these photos to your computer. You can participate and have your photos up there also by contributing your digital photos to me in a size not larger than 800 x 600 resolution. Many more photos will be added to this site as weeks go by. It is fun and free. You will be rewarded by making the trip to this site.

— Derald Freeman



Preparing for CG Open House

Photo by Nancy Curl



Get in on the fun and join us FALL FIELD TRIPS

September 23 The September 23rd field trip has been changed. Instead of Decatur, we will go to Cedar Hill to see some wonderful residential gardens and a great nursery. Plans are not yet finalized, so stay tuned!

October 14 – Granbury - An opportunity to see three outstanding private gardens belonging to Hood County Master Gardeners. Lots of variety, ranging from a five acre country garden to a tropical garden on the shores of Lake Granbury. Then enjoy lunch on your own, and shopping, on the square in Granbury.

Enabling Beds Shine

Just to let you know the TCMGA CG Enabling Beds were shining stars on June 4th afternoon.

Chesapeake Energy sent out a photographer and writer to "get the scoop" on what part their company played in building the Enabling Beds.

CE had set up a photo-op with Commissioner Brooks and Judi Ketchum at the garden. Jeanie Browning, Penny Sambell, Claudia Teague, Sandra Landry and Tom Scott were able to be in attendance to provide the Commissioner and Judi with information about how the project was developed, what part CE played in it and an explanation of the plants currently planted.

(Ed. Note: see Nancy's photos left and on page 7)

Jeanette the Enabling Bed lead and Lance the project build lead were unable to attend, but their contributions were invaluable to this project.

Photos from this event are on the Snap Fish site. See Photography Committee article.

— Nancy Curl

Every Drop Counts!



Photos by Sue Ellen Schlitzer

On June 1st through 3rd the Texas AgriLife Extension Service in Hood County, the Lake Granbury Master Gardeners and their agent Marty Vahlenkamp hosted Rainwater Harvesting Specialist Training. This training included lectures on the benefits of rainwater harvesting for alleviating and mitigating pressures on our watersheds, benefits to wildlife and the practicalities of using rainwater as a primary source of water – not just for use in the garden.

Hands-on elements of the course included demonstrations of how to design and build a rain garden, demonstration of the collection system and drip irrigation at an Extension/ Master Gardener demonstration site, activities to be used in children's education, along with making wildlife waterers and rain barrels that participants could take home for themselves or for use as a demonstration.

Trainees were also treated to a field trip to the gorgeous home gardens of one of Hood County's master gardeners and the extensive, yet highly practical, rainwater harvesting system that was installed to support these gardens.

Four of your fellow Tarrant County Master Gardeners attended – Sue Ellen Schlitzer, already a certified Rainwater Harvesting Specialist, decided to bone up on her skills and joined her husband Ron Schlitzer, also in attendance were Warren Tingley and Kate Kilmurray. They were treated to wonderful hospitality by the Granbury Master Gardeners, including some fantastic home cooking! If you have not had an opportunity to visit Granbury they strongly encourage you to head on over and check out the town, lake and the wonderful demonstration garden the Master Gardeners have built behind the extension buildings at 1410 West Pearl Street.

In order to finish their certification the trainees must now complete 12 hours of volunteer service relating to rainwater harvesting, so if you or someone you know (perhaps one of your projects or community groups) would like help with an aspect of rainwater harvesting please let them know, or contact one of the previously certified Rainwater Harvesting Specialists (their details are found on page 9 of your membership directory).

— Kate Kilmurray



Photos by Sue Ellen Schlitzer

(Earth-Kind Continued from page 1)

Thank you for all you do in spreading the consistent message described below:

The Earth-Kind® landscaping program uses research-proven techniques to provide maximum garden and landscape beauty and enjoyment while preserving and protecting the environment. Earth-Kind® landscaping combines the best principles of organic and traditional gardening and landscaping to create a horticultural system based on real-world effectiveness and environmental responsibility. The Earth-Kind® landscaping program encourages:

- * Water conservation
- * Landscaping for energy conservation
- * Reduction of fertilizer and pesticide use
- * Reduction of yard wastes entering land-fills

Individuals can use Earth-Kind® landscaping principles to create beautiful, easy-care landscapes, as well as vegetable gardens and fruit plants, while conserving and protecting natural resources and the environment.

Earth-Kind® landscaping incorporates seven basic principles:

- * Planning and design
- * Practical turf areas
- * Appropriate plant selection
- * Soil improvement
- * Efficient irrigation and rainwater catchment
- * Effective use of mulches
- * Appropriate maintenance

By implementing the first six principles of Earth-Kind® landscaping, landscape and garden maintenance can be reduced significantly. Working together, homeowners, businesses, and communities can help create a healthy, beautiful, and sustainable environment for the future.

Visit the website at:
earthkind.tamu.edu/



TCMGA in the News

A note about TCMGA from the Samaritan House newsletter:

“Recently the Tarrant County Master Gardeners, with Carolyn Critz, Gay Larson and Patricia Baughman, have adopted us. They will tend the gardens and lend inspiration and advice to all the gardeners. We are lucky to have so much knowledge and information at our fingertips. We know that the Master Gardeners will help bring our gardening program to a new level.”



Photo by Sue Ellen Schlitzer

Intern Class Note:

Steve gave a presentation to the Intern Class of Master Composters. After the class, Steve helped turn a compost pile at the Compost Outpost at the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens (as shown in the photo). The class was May 2 & 9. Charlie Shiner was also a presenter. The program was sponsored by the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens, City of Fort Worth and Texas AgriLife Extension.

— Sue Ellen Schlitzer



WHAT AM I???

This plant has made the usual rounds. Anyone have a clue as to what it is? Note the “lantern” flower. Send best guess to Marilyn Sallee or Susan Stanek.

Out and About

Congratulations were given to 12 **Alice Carlson Applied Learning Center** students who successfully completed **Junior Master Gardener** requirements of the Golden Ray Series. MG's **Christina Onstott, Janice Richardson and Melinda Massey**, provided instruction and guidance with this new national curriculum, which, in addition to gardening, teaches leadership, citizenship and volunteerism. Good job!! .

🌸 **Gailon Hardin** has asked us to announce that summer hours for volunteering at the **Southwest Sub-Courthouse** have been changed to 9 a.m. 🌸 Good news for MG's in and around Colleyville, and even better news for students attending **Heritage Elementary School**. MG **Jackie Peel** has been working diligently in the school's **Outdoor Learning Center** to provide learning and enjoyment to teachers, students, families and the local community, with emphasis on native plants, a sensory garden, food crops and wildlife habitats. Jackie is confident that this garden will soon be approved as an official Master Gardener project, and invites MG volunteers to come work each Monday, 8:00 – 10:00 Give Jackie a call for directions 🌸 You know how, sometimes, you just have to move the furniture or finally throw away those tired 70's knick-knacks? Well, that happens in gardens, as well. The herbs finally "played out" in a bed at the **Alice Carlson OLE**, and the bed has been redesigned as a sedum garden anchored by three Texas palms. With planting completed, MG **Jack Gerloff** and Intern **Ron Schlitzer**, provided the "muscle and level eyes" necessary to install the brick edging around the bed, while **Sharon Chastain** and **Karen Kologe** provided "gentle encouragement and support". 🌸 Well, folks, vacation time is here. If you're going away, be safe, have fun and return with memories to share of new experiences, beautiful gardens and wonderful friendships! And get ready for the August 13th Meeting's **GARAGE SALE**.

- by Joy Lease

Happy Birthday, Master Gardeners!

- 1 Talley Scott
- 2 Don Graves, Linda Stuard
- 3 Barbara Finholt
- 16 Emily Reynolds
- 18 Doris Hill
- 19 Joyce Hallbauer
- 20 Peggy Falconer, Hope McClendon (I)
- 26 Laverne Henry
- 27 Ron Schlitzer (I), Theresa Kay Thomas (I)
- 29 Carol Gayle (I)

If your birthday is this month and you don't see it, please contact Joy Lease, (817) 795-5133 or email jlease@prodigy.net — Joy Lease

Directory Updates

Please note the following directory updates :

Baughman, Patricia – patriciabaughman@att.net
 Kane, Marietta – marietakane1@verizon.net
 Mills, Susanne – mills.susanne@att.net
 Morris, Donna – zip code is 76126-4992
 Short, Sue – zip code is 76262-8392.

Report any changes or corrections to Sue Ellen Schlitzer at s.schlitzer@sbcglobal.net , or 817-294-1329

MG Garage Sale August 13th—SECOND Thursday

Heads up to round up those unused garden-related items and dust 'em off, clean 'em up, and no – don't price them this year! Our wonderful Raffle Committee will handle the pricing this year – all ya gotta do is bring your 'valuables'. As an added incentive (like ya need more incentive to 'share' your unwanted items), tax donation receipts will be available!

Note: if you have a Silent Auction item (valued at \$25 or higher), please contact Sandra Johnson.

'Good stuff' only.

Remember – donating to a garage sale is just another form of recycling!

Volunteer Opportunities for TCMGA

Project Code & Name	Work Days/Times	Project Manager	Phone
301 BRIT Activities	Call chairman	Kay Yount	817-292-7690
311 BG Perennial Garden	Wed. 9:00 a.m.	Cindy Woelke	817-366-4436
312 BG Trial Garden	Tues. 8:30-11:30 a.m.	Susan Miller	817-261-1420
313 BG Cottage Garden	Tues. 9-11:30 a.m.	Janet Riley	817-732-7837
321 Thistle Hill	1 st , 3 rd Weds. 9:30 a.m.	Emily Ward	817-281-5925
322 Union Gospel Mission	Mon. 8 a.m.	Gay Larson	817-441-6560
323 Grapevine Botanic Garden	Call coordinator	Shari Stanfield	817-685-9990
326 Teen Challenge	Wed. 9 a.m.	Debbie Bollinger	817-498-1508
328 Community Garden	(Contact area coordinators below)		
Project Co-chairs:	Pat Higgins, Nancy Curl and Tom Scott		
	817-946-6278 817-319-1795 817-427-9009		
Barn beds:	Charlotte Berck, wrberck@peoplepc.com		817-426-6417
Compost:	position open		
Education:	Nancy Curl, nl_curl@yahoo.com		817-319-1795
Enabling beds:	Jeanette Berggren, jberggren@sbcglobal.net		817-249-6815
Greenhouse:	Tom Scott, trutexen@aol.com - Tuesdays		940-433-2601
Herb Garden:	Rita Hottel, aescom@charter.net - Wednesdays		817-295-2883
Mowing/Edging:	Tom Scott, trutexen@aol.com - Tuesdays		940-433-2601
Orchard and Berry	Renee Beckum jrbeckum@sbcglobal.net		214-914-6597
Perennial beds: (developing)	Joann Hahn, joannhahn@att.net		817-923-9250
	Ginger Bason, gbason@hotmail.com		817-838-7321
Propagation	Claire Alford, Joy Lease, and Donna Morris		
Roses:	Karen Kologe, kpk@charter.net - Fridays		817-924-6449
TCU students & Vegetable garden	Pat Higgins, Ragdollpatb@sbcglobal.net Tues, & Fri. 8:30 a.m.		817-946-6278
401 Composting Demo	1 st Sat. 2 nd Sat.	Don Graves Charlie Shiner	817-465-1667 817-488-6123
403 FW Library at Hulen St.	3rd Wed. 9:00 a.m. 3 rd Sat, 10:00 a.m.	Devanie Fergus Evaline Woodrey	817-861-1932 817-295-4683
404 SW Sub-Courthouse	2 nd Sat, last Wed. 9 a.m.	Gailon Hardin	817-475-0923
405 Liberty Garden	Call chairman 2nd Tues, 8-11 a.m.	Wendi Carlucci	817-488-5640
406 Veterans Park-Wildscape	Tues. 8-11 am Randolmill Pk. Greenhouse Wed. 8-11 p.m. 2nd Sat, 8-11 a.m.	Nancy Swan	817-535-9991
<u>School Gardens</u>			
601 Alice Carlson	Mon/& Thurs 8:30 a.m.	Sharon Chastain	817-926-2575
604 Fitzgerald	Wed. 3:15 p.m.	Leeann Rosenthal	817-237-7180
611 BG-Children's Garden	Wed. 9-11:30 a.m.	Mary McCoy	817-561-0598



**Hypertufa Pot Making
taught by
Susanne Mills - May 6th**

Photos by Nancy Curl



**Classes at the
RC Community
Gardens**



**Tunicate Bulb Division
taught by
Claire Alford June 5th**

Photos by Nancy Curl



**Herb Growing
taught by
Rita Hottel - May 20th**



Tarrant County Master Gardener Association
200 Taylor St., Suite 500
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-7308



Calendar of This Month's Events



- June 29-30 Vegetable Garden Specialist, Glen Rose
- June 30 Texas Watershed Steward, Granbury
- July 1 Ladies of the Garden 7 pm
- July 2 **TCMGA MEETING**
- July 2 FWBG Concerts in the Garden
- July 10-11 Jr. MG Mini Camp, Brownwood TX
- July 11 Wildscape class—Soil Critters by Ann Mayo
- July 11 Fall Vegetable Garden Class at Demo Garden
- July 11 Gardening with the Pros —Cancelled
- July 31– Aug. 1—Vegetable Garden Specialist Training
Rosenberg, TX (outside Houston)

Steve Chaney—For up-to-the-minute
TCMGA news visit: www.tcmga.org



More state news:
www.texasmastergardeners.com