



# Sharecropper

## Tarrant County Master Gardener Association

### Mission Statement

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



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Articles welcome  
and encouraged.

Send submissions to  
tmgmarilyn@gmail.com

### Tarrant County Master Gardeners SWEEPS UP At the Texas Master Gardeners Conference Winning Awards in ALL POSSIBLE Categories!!



We thought we did good last year when we took prizes in all the main award categories. But we did even better this year by taking awards in all main categories AND the poster and display.

Way to Go TCMGA!

Now we need to get started thinking about what we can do now for next year's award entries.

One Happy Agent

- Poster: 1st Place "Ft Worth Botanic Garden Perennial Garden Project"
- Display: 1st Place "The Urban Community"
- Publication: 2nd Place "Fort Worth Botanic Gardens Perennial Garden"
- Graphics: 2nd Place "Texas Water Management"
- Media: 1st Place "Above the Lawn"
- Education: 3rd Place "Community Gardener Certification Program"
- Project: 3rd Place "Thistle Hill Children's Sensory Garden"
- Newsletter: 3rd Place "The Sharecropper"
- Individual: 3rd Place—Marilyn Sallee
- Association: 3rd Place—Tarrant County Master Gardeners Association



Photo by Steve Chaney

Some of the many people whose hard work throughout 2008 earned us all those awards. A BIG Thank You! to all who helped.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE:

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

# MGs in ACTION

Interns putting in new structure at the Community Garden



Photos by Nancy Curl

Volunteers at SW Subcourthouse Project  
Roxanna Francis, Ron Schlitzer, Rocky Deutscher



Photos by Sue Ellen Schlitzer

Marilyn teaches Garden Photography



Cathy learns Garden Photography



Photos by Gay Larson



Photos by Nancy Curl



Classes in the Greenhouse  
At the Resource Connection Community Gardens

## LEADERSHIP

President: Susan Stanek  
slstanek@verizon.net

1<sup>st</sup> VPresident: Eleanor Tuck  
etuck@sbcglobal.net

2<sup>nd</sup> VPresident: Bill Hall

Secretary: Dottie Bucy  
dbucy2@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Carl Trehus  
c.trehus@gte.net

Newsletter Editor: Marilyn Sallee  
tmgmarilyn@gmail.com

Website: Kate Kilmurray  
webmaster@tcmga.org

Activities: Kay Gunn  
kaygunn2138@sbcglobal.net

Birthdays/Sunshine: Joy Lease  
jlease@prodigy.net

Directory: Sue Ellen Schlitzer  
s.schlitzer@sbcglobal.net

Hospitality: Johnna Reed  
rlreed@sbcglobal.net

Bulletin Board: Donna Turner  
dturnerx@flash.net

Historian: Debbie Bollinger  
dbollinger@sbcglobal.net

Acknowledgements: Pat Lovejoy  
patlovejoy@att.net

Garden Resource: Dave Wilson  
ldwilson98@yahoo.com

Photo/Publicity: Derald Freeman  
ggreatideas@sbcglobal.net

Raffle: Sandra Johnson  
Sjohnson1220@hotmail.com

Advisor: Steve Chaney  
s-chaney@tamu.edu

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

## Project Profile: Alice Carlson Applied Learning Center Outdoor Learning Environment

by Sharon Chastain

Location: 3372 W McPherson Ave. Fort Worth

Corner of Stadium and McPherson, just north of the TCU campus.



Step through a gateway shaped like an old fashioned school house and enter a school garden where dragonflies flit through cattails and butterflies swoop over native grasses. On a typical school day, you may see students from Alice Carlson Applied Learning Center reading stories under the trees or searching for butterflies and geckos. In 1997, this idyllic refuge was a cracked and weedy tennis court. Today the space is a model of what can happen when a coalition of Master Gardeners, teachers, administrators, parents, neighborhood groups, and businesses work together to create a garden that serves not only the school but also the community.

The Alice Carlson Outdoor Learning Environment (OLE) was designed as a natural garden representing Texas ecosystems including woodlands, desert, dripping springs, bog and prairie. Utilizing primarily native plants, the garden both conserves water and provides important wildlife habitat. The arroyo which diagonally bisects the garden carries surface water to the bog and is also one of the most beautiful features of the garden. Alice Carlson won the first place Project Award at the 2004 MG state meeting.

Numerous water features in the OLE attract wildlife and provide inspiration to students. Near the pondless waterfall students can sit on stone benches to read and write in journals. A boardwalk allows students to traverse the area designated as "The Bog." This area features a passive rainwater collection basin, a shallow pond teeming with gambusia, and a zone planted with containerized bog plants. The bog and the pond are both fed from harvested rainwater delivered at timed intervals.

Construction of the school's new gymnasium was the impetus for constructing a rainwater harvesting system. Rain from the gym roof travels through gutters and is collected in a 5,000 gallon above-ground cistern. The cistern delivers rainwater to the bog and pond via another pipeline. Changes in elevation from school to cistern to bog allow the entire system to function entirely by gravity flow. We have many exciting projects planned for the spring and invite anyone interested to join us.

Workdays every Monday and Thursday 8:30 a.m.  
Contact Sharon Chastain, 817-926-2575.



## President's Message

June 2009

So you want to apply for a grant or award for your TCMGA project? Here's what you need to do....

**Step One** – Inform the Executive Board of the planned grant or award request. The TCMGA Secretary maintains a log of all grants and awards applied for and by whom. The purpose of this is to ensure that we do not have two projects competing for the same grant. The first one that registers with the Secretary, is the one that is submitted.

**Step Two** – After drafting the application, forward an electronic copy (if possible) to the Executive Board for review. The Board reviews specifically for proper usage of the TCMGA name and any other entities named in the document.

**Step Three** – Submit the application and we will all hold our breaths with you!

**Step Four** - Inform the Executive Board as soon as it is determined that the grant or award has been granted or not.

**Clarification** – if TCMGA is not named in a grant or award application that you are working on for a TCMGA project, then this process does not apply. For example, the project chair at Alice Carleson may assist the school in writing a grant application, but the only named entity in the application is the school. Any award or grant received would be granted to the school. No funds would pass through TCMGA. Again, those situations are not within the scope of the above protocol.

**Note** – this process also applies to any Intern Class projects that choose to raise outside funds.

If anyone has any questions, please contact one of your Executive Board members.

See you on June 4<sup>th</sup> at Thistle Hill for our social. It's a beautiful historic home, a jewel for our city and the garden restoration our association has done is something special to see. Whether you've seen it once or many times, it is always worthy of another visit!

- Susan Stanek

## June 2009 Monthly Program Meeting at Thistle Hill



The June meeting is traditionally our "Social Meeting"—less formal and in another setting. This year we will meet at Thistle Hill—parking information will be announced later.

The gathering is as usual at 9:30 with our first speaker at 10:00 a.m. inside the Home. Our presenter is one of our own longtime Master Gardeners. Mary Edholm will be speaking on Shakespeare's Flowers, a presentation first designed to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Woman's Shakespeare Club of Fort Worth.

In the out of doors, we can enjoy Watson Arnold, MD, class of 2008, sharing with us his knowledge of the History of Vegetables. During Watson's career as a pediatric nephrologist at nearby Cook Children's Hospital, he decided to return to college to achieve his PhD in history and now teaches History of Medicine at T.C.U. Born in Waco, Watson has been spending part of his retirement time refurbishing an old family ranch where he has been grafting pecan and fruit trees. He became interested in the topic of vegetables when reviewing a book on the subject—there is also a chapter on Marijuana, but he declines to discuss that with us!!

Please plan to explore the whole garden areas as some of our MGs have been working very hard for many years there in the restoration of the original gardens as much as possible. Laura Hunter has worked there since the 90s and subsequently has gotten Emily Ward integrated into the program.

**Bring your snack lunch.**  
We will have water for you.

See ya all soon, ET

## TCMGA Meeting Minutes May 7, 2009

The program was presented by Maggie Ross McNeely – “Moon Glow Plants”.

President Stanek called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. with 186 members in attendance.

The April Minutes were approved as published in the Sharecropper.

### General Announcements

Taddie Hamilton, Chairperson for the Plant Sale, thanked all those who helped with the Sale and announced that a profit of \$7,505.97 was realized. The funds will be divided 75% to the Community Garden and 25% to the other MG projects.

Tom Scott announced that the Community Garden received a Special Projects Award from the Fort Worth Diabetic Association.

Nancy Curl announced the grand opening of the Community Garden will be May 27, and that there will be more classes offered at the garden.

### Committee Announcements

Treasurer Carl Trehus gave the Treasurer's Report. The gross amount collected from the Plant Sale was \$13,951. Assets as of April 30 were:

Checking account balance:	\$ 6,571.49
Money Market Account:	20,697.13
Total Assets	\$27,368.62

Joyce Quam, Nominating Committee Chairman, announced that the nominees for the Nominating Committee will be introduced, including any nominations from the floor, at the June General meeting. At that time the nominations will be closed. The nominees will be voted on at the July General meeting.

Tammy Edwards, past president 2008, announced that at the State Conference in Marshall, our organization won an award in every category.

President Stanek made the following announcements:

- The June General Meeting will be our annual social held at Thistle Hill.
- The August General Meeting will be August 13, the second Thursday of the month, because

the gym is not available to us on the first Thursday.

- After today's meeting the Membership Directory will be available by mail from Sue Ellen Schlitzer. A second copy can be purchased for \$2.00.
- Only two persons are to sign up for office telephone duty on any shift.
- Bill Hall and Eleanor Tuck were thanked for their efforts in organizing the vendor tables at today's meeting.
- There will be a garden tour Saturday, May 9, in Azle featuring the homes of Tom Scott and Tammy Edwards.
- On May 13 there will be a MG field trip to member gardens in Azle.
- Cathy Sabin has asked for members willing to host exchange students from England.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dottie Bucy

### **Feast or Famine Telephones crowded or empty**



Please read the notation above the web site telephone schedule: it asks that we have two people sign up for the phone per 4 hour shift, but we have several days in May with three per shift!! And some days with none at all there.

I realize that we have been drafting some of you to go in and fill empty spots, but now we seem to be a bit over full. Please check the schedule to see if you could plan your calendar a bit differently--of course, if you are going to delete yourself, please check with the other sign-ins to be sure we still have coverage!  
Thanks, ET

**SuperStar MG Profile**  
**GAILON HARDIN**  
**+500 Hours Superstar 2008**



**Gailon Hardin**

Not much, short and sweet--like me.

Raised in Amarillo, graduated High School in 1961. I later graduated from Texas Wesleyan College. Retired as an accountant in 1999. Began a new career in conservation and giving back to the community. Joined Native Plant Society 1996, Master Composter 1998, Master Naturalist 1999, Master Gardener 2000.

Reason for becoming a Master Gardener : I was so excited about getting involved with the Southwest Sub-courthouse as a MG project. Projects like the sub-courthouse and the SW Regional Library get homeowners, commercial entities and Master Gardeners to see the beauty of natives and their benefit to the environment.

My one-acre property is planted entirely with natives and is watered three or four times a year. This is not my hobby, it's my passion and my responsibility to conserve water for my grandchildren.

I have three dogs, all named after Texas native plants — Chile pequine, Sumac, Lanceolata.

I also have three children that are not named after Texas native plants.

I attend many conferences each year on conservation. The last one: Fourteenth Annual Water Conference and Xeriscape Conference, Albuquerque, NM, February 2009.

Learned the following:

- 💧 Two billion people now live in water-stressed regions.
- 💧 In 2050, humans will need 80% more water just to be fed.
- 💧 Two-thirds of the world's population lack proper sanitation due to water shortages.
- 💧 In Africa, 2,000 square kilometers is becoming desert every day.
- 💧 Half of the world's hospital beds are occupied by people with water-borne disease.
- 💧 Every eight seconds a child dies of water-born disease.
- 💧 One of California's aquifers has been so heavily drilled, the aquifer is not only dry, but has collapsed and will never hold underground water again.
- 💧 North America will have 36 states suffering water shortages within the next five years.
- 💧 Arizona has been out of water for years.
- 💧 Lake Superior, world's largest freshwater lake, dropped to lowest level in 80 years.
- 💧 Lake Powell, the western backup water supply, has lost 60%.
- 💧 The west is the driest it has been in 500 years.
- 💧 Texas will be out of water in 2050.

[Editor's Note: Though she doesn't mention it, Gailon is currently President at the State level of the Native Plant Society of Texas..]

.....  
 It is the dedicated Master Gardeners, such as Gailon, 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.  
 .....



### Committee Profile **Hospitality**

Each month the members of the Hospitality Team arrive early to the monthly Master Gardener meetings to make sure the coffee is made, the tables are in place, food is on the tables ready to eat, and then clean up when it's over. It takes several people to make all this happen. Susan Houston, Linda Winn, Natalie Carter, Demetria Larremore and Nancy Jarrett are faithful Hospitality Team volunteers. Behind the scenes help is Ginger Bason who brings the coffee cups each month while Dave Wilson provides the ice. But the majority of the help comes from everyone who signs up to bring food each month and those who bring a dish to each meeting, whether they sign up or not.

Over the last several months we have had more than the average number in attendance and we have the need for more food and more hospitality volunteers. If you would like to volunteer on the Hospitality Team, please talk to me. You do get hours for volunteering. The job description is simple if you enjoy meeting new people and like to entertain. If you have a new recipe to try or just have some extra time and would like to help, please consider providing a dish for the lunch. It pretty much takes everyone's help to make the lunch a success. You can contact me at [rreed@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rreed@sbcglobal.net).

— Johnna Reed

### Committee Profile **Bulletin Board**

The past several months have been delightfully busy with plant sales, garden tours, and various classes and presentations in Tarrant and surrounding counties. The bulletin board at our own TCMGA monthly meetings can serve as a great source of information about many of these activities. I enjoy gathering information from various websites, newspapers and newsletters, and I would like to hear more often from other MG members with information you may have about garden related activities in the North Texas area. Please let me know about events and activities that individuals in our membership might want to be involved with or attend and I'll be glad to type an announcement for the bulletin board. (You may contact me at 817-473-8253 or [ddturner@flash.net](mailto:ddturner@flash.net).) Or if you have a flyer or poster, feel free to bring it and post it.

The purpose of our bulletin board is not only to provide information about events and activities, but also to serve as a place for members and MG projects to offer and request plant materials. You are invited to post information about pass-along plants, materials or equipment you have available to give away, and about plants or items that you or a project may be in need of.

— Donna Turner



# JUNE 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 8a Union Gospel 8:30a Alice Carlson	2 8:30a BG Trial 8:30a CG Veggie 9a BG Cottage	3 9a Teen Challenge 9a BG Perennial 9a BG Children's 9a Veterans Park 9:30a Thistle Hill 3:15p Fitzgerald Ladies / Garden	4 8:30a Alice Carlson 10a TCMGA MEETING	5 8:30a CG Veggie Propagate Bulbs Demo Graden	6 9a Veterans Park Class- Wildscape Composting Demo
7	8 8a Union Gospel 8:30a Alice Carlson	9 8a Liberty Garden 8:30a BG Trial 8:30a CG Veggie 9a BG Cottage	10 9a Teen Challenge 9a BG Perennial 9a BG Children's 9a Veterans Park BRIT brown bag 3:15p Fitzgerald	11 8:30a Alice Carlson Cement Leaf Demo Garden	12 8:30a CG Veggie	13 8a SW Crthse Composting Demo  Garden with Pros Propagation
14	15 8a Union Gospel 8:30a Alice Carlson	16 8:30a BG Trial 8:30a CG Veggie 9a BG Cottage	17 9a Teen Challenge 9a BG Perennial 9a BG Children's 9a Veterans Park 9a Hulen 9:30a Thistle Hill 3:15p Fitzgerald MG Specialist	18 8:30a Alice Carlson TCMGA Board Regional MG Conf-Oklahoma	19 8:30a CG Veggie Regional MG Conf-Oklahoma	20 10a Hulen Regional MG Conf-Oklahoma
21 Regional MG Conf-Oklahoma	22 8a Union Gospel 8:30a Alice Carlson	23 8:30a BG Trial 8:30a CG Veggie 9a BG Cottage Rosemont Kids Demo Garden Organic GC - Veggies	24 8a SW Crthse 9a Teen Challenge 9a BG Perennial 9a BG Children's 9a Veterans Park 9:30a Thistle Hill 3:15p Fitzgerald	25 8:30a Alice Carlson 10a Hulen*	26 8:30a CG Veggie	27
28	29 8a Union Gospel 8:30a Alice Carlson	30 8:30a BG Trial 8:30a CG Veggie 9a BG Cottage				



## UP-COMING EVENTS

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

- July 1 Ladies of the Garden 7 pm
- July 2 **TCMGA MEETING**
- July 2 FWBG Concerts in the Garden
- July 11 Wildscape class—Soil Critters
- July 11 Fall Vegetable Garden Class at Demo Garden
- July 11 Gardening with the Pros—Water Gardens
- July 16-18 MG Specialist Training—Rainwater Harvesting Kaufman
- Aug. 1 Wildscape class—Native Perennials
- Aug. 5 Ladies of the Garden 7 pm
- Aug. 8 Gardening with the Pros—Herbs
- Aug 13 **TCMGA MEETING**
- Aug 14-16 TNLA Landscapers Show—Dallas
- 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—Post Oak Preservation
- Sept. 12 Gardening with the Pros—Vegetable Gardens
- 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 Decatur Area
- 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. 10 Gardening with the Pros—Perennial Fall Color
- 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
- Nov. 14 Gardening with the Pros—Composting
- Dec. 2 Ladies of the Garden 7 pm
- Dec. 5 FWBG Birds' Christmas Tree
- Dec. 5 Wildscape Class—Working with Children

## 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 9 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**—Homeowner Education classes offered by Agri-Life Extension on the second Saturday of each month. Cost \$10 each. For more info or sign up with Clair-essa Reyes, Extension Secretary.

**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

**Your Event Here**—if you know of an event or class of interest to Master Gardeners, send the information to [tmgmarilyn@gmail.com](mailto:tmgmarilyn@gmail.com)

For more information and breaking news  
announcements any time,  
**See TCMGA website**  
**<http://www.tcmga.org/>**

Note: This is a list of items of interest to MGs. Items on this list outside the MG program may not be automatically approved for hours. Please confirm approval with Steve Chaney on these events.

# FIELD TRIPS



Get in on the fun  
and join us

## UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS



*Photos by Susan Stanek*

### Maken's Gardens

The field trip to Northeast Tarrant County was a huge success and a great learning experience. Over sixty Master Gardeners gathered to tour Michael Maken's personal ten acre garden featuring many hardscape structures designed for leisure, shelter, cooking and casual dining. As the owner of Walkabout Landscapes, he is a master of design with rock work and water features. As he said when he spoke at our April meeting, the design comes first, and the plant choices just naturally follow. With the use of mostly native and adapted plants, along with roses, azaleas and a few annuals, the result is absolutely beautiful.

The three gardens that followed were all designed by Michael. His artistry with rock, stone columns and elevation changes is evident in each. They are all very different, each designed for a different use or lifestyle, yet equally lovely. Everyone picked up design ideas that can be incorporated into our own gardens.

We have Barbara Finholt to thank for making all the arrangements.



### FALL

**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.

### TCMGA Nominating Committee Needs Committee Members

Names are now being accepted for persons willing to be on the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee's task is to create the slate of officers for the Executive Board for 2010. This committee consists of the Chair, who was appointed by the TCMGA Executive Board, and four other Certified Members "in good standing" who are voted in by the Certified membership. The Executive Board has appointed Joyce Quam as the Chair.

Now we need people willing to serve on the Nominating Committee.

Nominating Committee members must have been certified for one year or more to qualify. Please send via mail or email your nominations for the Nominating Committee to Joyce Quam. The deadline for names is June 4, at the Membership Meeting. The membership will meet the candidates for the committee on June 4 and then elect four persons at the July 2 Membership Meeting.

— Joyce Quam

## Texas Master Gardener Directors' Meeting

The first Texas Master Gardener directors' meeting for the year was held on Friday April 24 at the 2009 conference. Tarrant County members attending the meeting were: Susan Stanek and Tammy Edwards as directors, Jo Ann Hahn as an alternate, Ginger Bason for the state awards committee, and Eleanor Tuck and Emily Ward as guests.

Recurring agenda items were taken care of first. Minutes from the December 2008 directors' meeting were approved. Homer Babbit, state treasurer, reported that we had income of \$11,446.01 and expenses of \$3,894.01; leaving a bank balance of \$32,111.89. Homer also had a handout of the budget balances through April 21, 2009. Visitors and new directors were welcomed.

President, Doug Quicksall, introduced the state committee chairpersons.

### Standing Committees:

Audit – Doug Richards, Hood Co.  
Awards – Ginger Bason, Tarrant Co.  
Newsletter - Donna Hagar; Somervell Co.  
Website – Dove Johnson, Somervell Co.  
Nominating - Fran Amuny, Jefferson Co.  
Outreach - George Ammermann, Guadalupe Co.  
Special Tax Advisory – Wayne Rhoden, Williamson Co.

### Special Committees:

Earth-Kind Roses – Joan Leach, Johnson Co.  
Mentoring – Bunny Williams, Dallas Co.  
Paint Texas with Wildflowers – Maria Sobczak, Victoria Co.  
Rainwater Harvesting – Pam Daniel, Ellis Co.

Jayla Fry, our state coordinator, announced that the new Master Gardener handbooks are available. If you want one go through Steve so that you can get a discount. The handbook has new information on plant disease and weeds. The biggest change is chapter 3 has all of the Earth-Kind information and contains

the Earth-Kind evaluation forms. The forms will be used to show the impact we are having on the community – how much knowledge is gained from presentations and the intent to implement change.

Bunny Williams from Dallas County gave an update on the 2010 conference. The conference will be held April 8 – 10 at the Omni Mandalay Hotel in Irving. All conference sessions and meals will be at the hotel. You can start booking your rooms now for next year. The website is: <http://www.2010tmgaconference.org>

The Directors heard two proposals for the 2011 conference. Lou Kellogg from Bexar County, San Antonio area, suggested that they would try to hold the cost down by holding the conference in one of three conference centers close into town but not the downtown area. Doug Richards from Hood County, Granbury area, and Donna Hagar from Somervell County, Glen Rose area, proposed that the two counties co-host the 2011 conference at the Somervell County Expo Center. They showed samples of hotels and B&Bs in the Glen Rose/Granbury. Both counties had good things to offer.

Doug Quicksall asked that only the directors from each county vote. Ballots were collected and the meeting was adjourned so that members could go to the Friday night banquet. The results were announced at during the banquet; the 2011 state conference will be in Glen Rose.

In case you haven't heard, we won an award (either first, second, or third place) in every category; that includes the exhibits. It seems we get better every year. Way to go TCMGA!!!! If you didn't make it to the conference, we missed you.

— Tammy Edwards

**Mark Your Calendar**  
**Texas Master Gardeners Conferences**  
**2010 TMG Conference**  
**April 8-10, 2010 Dallas, TX**

**2011 TMG Conference**  
**Glen Rose/Granbury**

## Demonstration Garden Report

Just a note to update our members on what has been happening at the TCMGA Community Demonstration Garden at the Resource Connection!

We hosted our first requested tour of the garden by the Everman Garden Club in April, followed by a tour from the Past Presidents Garden Club. It was great fun to show off all areas of our TCMGA Garden that are the result of many, many hours contributed by many Tarrant County Master Gardeners. If you are a member of a local garden club and you would like to schedule a tour, just let us know!

A series of classes for spring and summer have begun. The classes are designed to be "hands on" or "make and take."

The ***How to install Drip Irrigation*** class in April was attended by almost 30 people who gave rave reviews!

Participants made their own "trough planters" in the class ***How to Make a Hypertufa Pot*** and in another class learned how to enhance their home gardens and cooking in the class ***Developing an Herb Garden***.

The Propagation Team, Claire Alvord, Donna Morris, and Joy Lease are busy planning a monthly series of propagation classes. Come join them and learn about ***Propagation of Tunicate Bulbs*** in June.

Look for these classes and more at the TCMGA Community Garden in this newsletter. All classes are open to TCMGA members and to the general public. Some of the classes have a small fee for materials. All classes are eligible for CEU's.

In addition to educational classes we will be a part of a summer day camp for the Tarrant County Parks and Rec. Department. On June 23 and June 30 - 9:30 -11:00 we will host approximately 30 students from Rosemont ES, grades 4 – 6. They will provide community service to the garden and learn about gardening and gardening related activities. Volunteers are needed!

Everyone is invited to the **Open House and Tour** on Wednesday, May 27 at 10:30 – 11:00. Come and see what is new in the garden and how everything is growing. Local dignitaries and the media have been invited.

Our goal is to make every member proud of our TCMGA Community Demonstration Garden. You are invited to the garden to volunteer your time or just enjoy everything it has to offer, including a beautiful view of the city skyline!

— Pat Higgins, Tom Scott, and Nancy Curl  
Co-Chairs of the TCMGA Community Demonstration Garden at Resource Connection, Circle Drive, Fort Worth

=====

### TCMGA Community Demonstration Garden Open House & Tour Wednesday, May 27 – 10:00 – 11:30

Join local dignitaries and fellow Tarrant County Master Gardeners at the TCMGA Garden for an Open House and Tour. Come and see how the garden has grown and matured.

### Propagation of Tunicate Bulbs Friday, June 5 – 9:00 – 11:00

Claire Alford, Donna Morris, Joy Lease and the rest of the TCMGA Propagation Specialists will teach you how to propagate tunicate bulbs. Imagine if you only have one heirloom bulb or you just spent \$18 on one bulb and being able to plant eight plants from that one bulb! This is a hands-on class. Materials Fee: \$15, Class limit: 20

### How to Make a Cement Leaf Thursday, June 11 – 8:30 – 10:00

Pat Higgins, TCMG will teach you how to make a cement leaf for your garden. This is a make & take class. Materials Fee: \$15 Class limit: 25

### Rosemont ES kids at the Garden Tuesday, June 23 & 30 9:30 – 11:00

Elementary students grades 4th – 6th will come to the garden to learn about gardening in a hands-on setting.

For more info: Nancy Curl [nl\\_curl@yahoo.com](mailto:nl_curl@yahoo.com)

## Out and About

Wow! April and May brought turbulent weather and a whirlwind of activities for MGs. In driving forces, from plant sale to plant sale, field trips to nurseries, projects to home gardens, spring is the greatest time of the year for gardeners. And, there's lots of building going on.

🌱 **Jim Nelson** and a crew of parents, carpenters and Master Gardeners are in the process of building a much needed storage shed at the **Alice Carlson OLE**. 🌱 **Renee Beckum** is leading MG volunteers in building a grape arbor at the **Community Garden**. 🌱 Want to learn how to espalier fruit trees? Renee and **Pat Higgins** are demonstrating this training technique on the apple trees at the **CG**. 🌱 Master Gardener volunteers at **Union Gospel Mission** had some great photography training by **Marilyn Sallee**. These folks will, in turn, lead a photography class for kids at the **UGM**, using the MG donated cameras . 🌱

While out and about, a local nurseryman\* volunteered the following tidbits: Having trouble with cutworms on tomato plants? Stick a toothpick in the soil next to the trunk of the plant. The culprit can't bite through it! Worms in your corn? Using an ear dropper, put 3-4 drops of mineral oil in the ear, just as the silk is developing. Worms won't eat it.

(\*Jim Stegall, a great friend of MGs, is always ready with sage advice.)

Have snippets of info from your project or committee? Get it printed in "Out and About". Send or call it to Joy Lease.

- by Joy Lease

## Directory Updates

Please note the following updates in your membership directory:

**Matl, Larry** - larrymarymatl@att.net

**Matl, Mary** - larrymarymatl@att.net

Report any changes or corrections to Sue Ellen Schlitzer at [s.schlitzer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:s.schlitzer@sbcglobal.net) or 817-294-1329

## Happy Birthday, Master Gardeners!

### June Birthdays

- 1 Tillie Ransom
- 2 Carol Turner, Carol Tipton
- 3 Ginger Bason
- 7 Marlys Karsh
- 8 Janice Newbrand
- 9 Penny McCook
- 10 Nancy Jarrett
- 11 Phil Welch
- 12 Debbie Vedro
- 14 Mary Matl
- 15 Joyce Hammill
- 18 Vera Beck, Janet Robey (I)
- 22 Faye Dale
- 28 Donna Morris, Camille Thomason
- 29 Sharon Duquemin
- 30 Carolyn Mercer, Loma Matthews

If your birthday is in this month and you don't see your name and date of birth, it's because we don't have it. Please contact Joy Lease, (817) 795-5133 or email [jlease@prodigy.net](mailto:jlease@prodigy.net) for changes.

— Joy Lease

## Landscape Design Class Report

Nine Tarrant County Master Gardeners attended the two-day Landscape Design Study Course at A&M in February. We enjoyed the wide range of expertise among the speakers. We particularly enjoyed Mary Palmer Dargan, ASLA of Dargan Landscape Architects, Atlanta, GA. She spoke on "Timeless Landscape Design". She and her husband Hugh designed Thistle Hill Landscape Restoration Guidelines in 1993. We took her pictures of the gardens as they look today. We also enjoyed dinner at Martha's Bloomers and met many new gardening friends.

Those attending were: Kate Kilmurray, Susan Dimaline, Elizabeth Snider, Mary & Larry Matl, Claudia Teague, Claudia Cimma, Laura Hunter and Emily Ward. Try to attend these lectures, they are excellent.

-- Emily Ward

## Volunteer Opportunities for TCMGA

<b>Project Code &amp; Name</b>	<b>Work Days/Times</b>	<b>Project Manager</b>	<b>Phone</b>
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 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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:	<b>Pat Higgins, Nancy Curl and Tom Scott</b>		
	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, Ragdollpat@sbcglobal.net		817-946-6278
401 Composting Demo	1 <sup>st</sup> Sat. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat.	Don Graves Charlie Shiner	817-465-1667 817-488-6123
403 FW Library at Hulen St.	3rd Wed. 9:00 a.m. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sat, 10:00 a.m.	Devanie Fergus Evaline Woodrey	817-861-1932 817-295-4683
404 SW Sub-Courthouse	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat, last Wed.	Gailon Hardin	817-475-0923
405 Liberty Garden	Call chairman	Wendi Carlucci	817-488-5640
	2nd Tues, 8-11 a.m.		
406 Veterans Park-Wildscape	Wed. 9-12 p.m. 1st Sat, 9-12 p.m.	Nancy Swan	817-535-9991
<b><u>School Gardens</u></b>			
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

# Master Gardener Conferences

Photos by Nancy Curtl



2009 International Master Gardeners Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada

2009 Texas Master Gardeners Conference, Marshall, Texas



Photos by Marilyn Sallee

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



## Calendar of This Month's Events



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| June 3 Ladies of the Garden 7 pm   |   |
| June 4 <b>TCMGA MEETING</b>  |   |
| June 5 Propagate Tunicate Bulbs<br>at the RC Demonstration Garden          | June 18-21—Regional MG Conf.<br>Oklahoma City, OK       |
| June 5-7 FWBG Concerts in the Garden                                       | June 19-21 FWBG Concerts in the Garden                  |
| June 6 Wildscape class—Wildscape Your Yard                                 | June 23 Rosemont Kids<br>at the RC Demonstration Garden |
| June 10 BRIT Brown Bag—Trinity River                                       | June 23 Organic Garden Club “Veggies”<br>FWBG 7 pm      |
| June 11 Make Cement Leaf for your Garden<br>at the RC Demonstration Garden | June 26-28 FWBG Concerts in the Garden                  |
| June 12-14 FWBG Concerts in the Garden                                     | June 30 Rosemont Kids<br>at the RC Demonstration Garden |
| June 13 Gardening with the Pros<br>Propagation                             |   |
| June 17-19 MG Specialist Training<br>Rainwater Harvesting Menard, TX       |   |

Steve Chaney—For up-to-the-minute  
TCMGA news visit: [www.tcmga.org](http://www.tcmga.org)



More state news:  
[www.texasmastergardeners.com](http://www.texasmastergardeners.com)