

Tarrant County Master Gardener Association

November 2007

Mission Statement

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

History of Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Day is a joyous family festival celebrated with lots of enthusiasm in the US, Canada and several other countries. In the USA the Thanksgiving Day Festival commemorates the feast held by the Pilgrim colonists and members of the Wampanoag people at Plymouth in 1621. On this day people expressed gratitude and gave thanks to dear ones for their love & support.

The early settlers of Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts were particularly thankful for Squanto, the Native American who taught them how to catch eel, grow corn and who served as an interpreter for them (Squanto had learned English as a slave in Europe). It is said that without Squanto's help the settlers might not have survived in the new world.

These settlers (who later came to be called the "Pilgrims") set apart a day to celebrate at Plymouth immediately after their first harvest, in 1621. Indian chiefs Massassoit, Squanto and Samoset joined in the celebration with ninety of their men in the three-day event.

Celebrations

Long before Europeans settled in North America, Western Europeans observed Harvest Home festivals to celebrate the successful completion of gathering the season's crops. In the British Isles, Lammas Day (Loaf Mass Day), observed on August 1, was often held to celebrate a good wheat harvest. If the wheat crop was disappointing, the holiday was usually canceled.

During the American Revolution (1775-1783) the Continental Congress proclaimed a national day of thanksgiving follow-



(Continued on page 4)



IN THIS ISSUE

History of Thanksgiving	1,4,5
President's Notepad	2
Monthly Program	2
Minutes	3
Astilbe	6
TCU Demonstration Garden	7
Things to do in November	8-9
Thank You from the Fullers	10
Events in November	11
Announcements	12-14
Volunteer Opportunities	15
Upcoming Events	Back

November is a busy, busy month.

Do you know the history of Thanksgiving Day?

Did you know that a turkey receives a pardon every year by the President?

Read pages 1,4, and 5 then page 11 to learn all about it.

FROM AROUND THE CORNER



President's Notepad

I admit it, I watch a lot of gardening shows on TV and have been hearing and seeing a lot about green building and sustainable landscaping. After doing some surfing on the Internet, this seems to be a very hot topic in the landscape and building business. What is it all about???

There are several groups involved, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and Sustainable Site Initiative are groups that are involved in the worldwide green movement. These groups hope to improve our world using landscaping and building practices that are environmentally friendly. Makes sense to me.

By using the green products and methods in the right places, the plan is to improve air quality, save water, lower energy use, and regulate climate all of which will improve the quality of life around the world. These things can happen one building and/or landscape at a time and we can all do some of the things needed in our own homes and landscapes: water collection, ceiling fans, plant selection etc. If we could all start over many new products available are environmentally friendly in construction from the ground up.

This isn't a new idea, many references in history tell of gardens used for healing of mind, body and their ability to clean the air and water. Rooftop garden are one of the sources of climate control and better air quality in large cities and this type garden was in vogue many years ago.

One interesting bit of information is the increase of humidity in areas where swimming pool installation has increased. Did you ever think how a pool could change the climate in your yard even if it is in your neighbors' yard?? Some places to start your info search: www.enn.com and www.sustainablesites.org.
—Ginger Bason



November 1, 2007 Monthly Program

Walking down the drive to fetch my daily paper early this morning, I was struck with the crisp, coolness of our first hint of autumn. It made me giggle from the inside out and do a little dance. (I was feeling pretty safe – it was still dark out and I doubted that the neighbors were watching.) Later, I was at the Extension office, meeting other MG's, all happy, relieved to finally have our delicious, Texas October, a favorite for most of us as it offers perfect weather to be outside in our gardens. To add a special exclamation mark to the season, **Ruth Kinler** of Redentas Gardens will be introducing **Scott Rodriguez**, landscape designer for Redentas as our featured speaker for our November meeting.

Redentas, with its fundamental insistence on organic gardening, is a necessary spot to shop for all of us. Both **Ruth** and **Scott** have many years of successful, gardening experience and will be available throughout the day to give us tips and assistance with gardening questions.

9:30-10:00 Sign in, coffee
10:00-11:00 Scott Rodriguez, "Creating Garden Rooms"
11:00-12:00 Business meeting, lunch
12:00-1:00 Scott Rodriguez, "Designing with Color and Whimsy"

See you November 1st for this wonderful presentation.

REMINDER!! Don't forget to make your reservations for our holiday luncheon, scheduled for December 6th at Texas Star in Euless. Tickets, at \$20 per person, will be on sale at the meeting.

— Joy Lease

Tarrant County Master Gardener Meeting Minutes October 4, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Ginger Bason at 11:15 a.m. at the Resource Connection. There were 160 in attendance.

The minutes of the previous meeting on September 2007 were approved as published in the Sharecropper.

The treasurer's report was given as follows:

Total amount in checking	\$ 4,190.73
Savings	\$ 2,570.54
Three CDs totaling	\$15,905.93.

It was requested that any changes (more/less) in budgets for Committees for the next year be given to Tammy Edwards, treasurer as soon as possible.

Election of officers for 2008 was held. All nominees were unanimously elected. They are as follows:

Tammy Edwards,	President
Susan Stanek,	1 st Vice President
Bill Hall,	2 nd Vice President
Carl Trehus,	Treasurer
Joyce Quam,	Secretary

The membership authorized the expenditure of no more than \$100 to purchase five additional signs for the Garden Conservancy Open Days Program in Ft. Worth.

Awards will be presented at the December Holiday luncheon.

Master Gardeners were reminded that for re-certifying purposes, the only total number of hours volunteered will be used. Interns have a different criteria to meet, i.e., CEUs, Environmental, etc.

The following announcements were made:

- A Field Trip has been planned to two gardens in NW Tarrant County on October 23rd.
- Dues must be paid by midnight, October 31st. If they are not received by that time, the member will not have their name included in the Membership Directory.
- Hood County will be hosting a Water Wise Gardening Program on Saturday, Oct. 27.
- A program on Winterizing Gardens will be held on October 30th at 9 a.m. at the Trial Garden in the Botanic Garden.
- TCMGA Surveys were handed out for help with future planning.
- A Texas Cooperative Extension Service survey was handed out by Steve Chaney.
- Victory Boxes: The local Garden Council is helping with the Garden Victory Boxes. Members are busy making garden bags and aprons. There will be work day on November 7th to help make more bags and aprons. This effort will count as volunteer hours. Mary Margaret Halleck should be contacted for more information.

—Submitted by: Judy Butler for
Secretary Joyce Quam

LEADERSHIP

President—Ginger Bason
gbason@hotmail.com

1st VPresident—Joy Lease
jlease@prodigy.net

2nd VPresident—Jim Nelson
nelsonj2@swbell.net

Secretary—Joyce Quam
dqum5@juno.com

Treasurer—Tammy Edwards
tammy.edwards@gmail.com

Sharecropper—Derald Freeman
grreatideas@sbcglobal.net

Submissions to Sharecropper—
tammy.edwards@gmail.com

Activities—Susan Stanek
slstanek@charter.net

Birthdays/Sunshine—LaVonne
Nowlin lavonnen@sbcglobal.net

Directory changes and
Membership—Carl Trehus
c.trehus@gte.net

Steve Chaney
s-chaney@tamu.edu

TCMGA Web site
<http://www.tcmga.org>

TCMGA office 817-884-1944

(Continued from page 1)

ing the American victory at the Battle of Saratoga in 1777. President George Washington proclaimed another day of thanksgiving in 1789 in honor of the ratification of the Constitution of the United States. In 1817 New York State adopted Thanksgiving Day as an annual custom, and many other states soon did the same. Most of the state celebrations were held in November, but not always on the same day.

The traditional Thanksgiving parade probably started with President Lincoln proclaiming it an official day. The full-dress parade is a way to display the country's military strength and discipline. The main aim of such parades is to lift the spirits of the spectators, provide them with wholesome entertainment. In the present day, parades are accompanied with musical shows and celebrities.

In 1939 President Franklin Roosevelt shifted the day of Thanksgiving from the last Thursday in November to one week earlier. Retail merchants had petitioned the president to make the change to allow for an extra week of shopping between Thanksgiving and Christmas.



Pilgrim traditions:

What foods topped the table at the first harvest feast? Historians aren't completely certain about the full bounty, but it's safe to say the pilgrims weren't gobbling up pumpkin pie or

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

playing with their mashed potatoes. It is certain the colonists of 1621 had venison, wild fowl and corn. These people beheld a wilderness of game animals that included: deer, moose, elk, rabbits and squirrels when they arrived in this country. Food teemed from the eastern shores, and fruits, such as mulberries, cherries, grapes and walnuts were there for the taking. The Indians introduced lima beans, peppers, pumpkins, squash, sweet potatoes and corn into the settler's diet of cabbage, parsnips and herbs. Corn was the crucial vegetable, which could be roasted, boiled, made into pudding and bread. Indians taught the settlers to grow beans up cornstalks, thereby saving precious land and space. These vegetables, harvested and cooked together, made a popular dish of succotash.



It was a joyous festival, held in the field along the north bank of Town Brook. The Indians entertained with some of their dances. There was target shooting with bows and arrows and firearms. For 3 days the festivities went on, with the Pilgrims and their guests gorging themselves on venison cooked on a spit over a blazing open fire, roast fowl, herbs, corn and bread.

When we think of proper table manners at the Thanksgiving meal, many orderly images come to mind. Dinnerware was hard to come by. Sometimes spoons were carved out of wood. No dainty cleanliness for these early folks. Without many forks or spoons, the fingers were the tools of choice.

There were 256 million turkeys raised in the U.S. in 2005, 624 million pounds of cranberries, 1.6 billion pounds of sweet potatoes, and 998 million pounds of pumpkins. Thanksgiving football goes back to 1876, when the Intercollegiate Football Association held its championship on Thanksgiving Day.



To work off Thanksgiving dinner, the Friday after Thanksgiving is known as The Biggest Shopping Day of the Year. (You were expecting Exercise Day?) Retail stores re-open and jockey to attract the millions of people enjoying their day off with "blow-out" sales and early Christmas specials. This time is so important for U.S. retailers that during the Great Depression, President Franklin Roosevelt tried to move Thanksgiving Day back a week to supply consumers with more shopping time before Christmas. That didn't work.

Feasting with family is an integral and most delightful part of Thanksgiving Day celebrations. Each family adds its own special touch to the holiday. Still, the main message of the holiday is Thanksgiving, a moment to gather with family and friends in the busy turning of life - just to give thanks for what we have and who we are - AMERICANS!

--Derald Freeman

ASTILBE —by Pat Durda

Location, Location, Location. Real estate agents often recommend the importance of location for a home or business. The same is true for many plants. Many plants recommended for the Tarrant County area need sun, will tolerate drought (once established), and enjoy the summer heat.

ASTILBE is different. It requires protection from the hot summer sun and needs moisture.

This shade garden perennial boasts fernlike foliage and showy plume flowers that bloom in June and July. Colors include white, pink, red and purple.

Astilbe (also called False Spirea) can be used as a 6-inch groundcover. Common varieties grow to 18-24 inches and taller varieties may reach five feet for your shade garden background.

Astilbe should also be planted in a good soil that is rich in organic matter and must be kept reasonably moist.

This plant is a heavy feeder and needs periodic applications of 5-10-5 fertilizers throughout

the summer. They can be divided every 3-4 years and last year's growth should be removed before the new spring growth.

When Steve Chaney overheard me professing my ignorance of this plant, he "suggested" this writing assignment. I dutifully stopped by the nursery and bought a small Astilbe to plant. Wish me luck!

Varieties: *Astilbe x arendsii*, *a. biternata*, *a. chinensis*, *a. crispa*, *a. japonica*, *a. simplicifolia*, and *a. thunbergii*



DETAILS AND HABITS OF ASTILBE

Common Name:	False Spirea, Feather Flower, Astilbe
Botanical Name:	Astilbe
Type:	Perennial
Soil Preference:	This plant tolerates occasional wetness and will grow in moist soils but prefers a soil that is well-drained or loamy. The pH preference of this plant is slightly acidic to neutral (7.0)
Light Needs:	Full shade to part sun
Attributes:	Attracts butterflies, cut flowers, dried flowers
Pests:	Aphids, Japanese beetles, red spider mites, slugs and snails
Diseases	Bacterial blight, powdery mildew, leaf spot and wilt
Care:	Cut back the dead foliage in spring and dead-head blooms after flowering. Propagation is from division and can be done in the fall or spring. Fertilize with Plant-tone approximately April 1st, May 20th, July 4th, & October 30th. Or, fertilize with slow-releasing Osmocote every 3-4 months. Keep granular fertilizers off foliage and away from stems and trunks. Use 1/2 the recommended rate of fertilizer for new plantings.

TCU Students at the Community/Demonstration Garden

Have you ever been asked or given a project or task that has never been done in the organization before? You do not know how to go about it, what the end result should be, or the goal? Yeah, probably everyone has found himself or herself in this position. When I was asked to head up the TCU student project at the community/demo garden, I thought; sure, I can do that. After all, I had helped supervise the senior nursing and nutritionist students in the spring when they had come to the garden to work. They helped build a berm, planted rose bushes on it and laid a flagstone walk around it. They moved rock and undesirable soil from the area for the Enabling Garden and planted numerous plants. Little did I know what lay ahead for the fall students coming to the garden.

After a meeting with Dr. Lyn Dart and Dr. Pam Frable, the professors for nutritionist students and the Community nursing senior students, I learned the students had to quickly be taught everything about gardening. TCU had received a grant titled Community Gardening for Active Citizenship for the Nursing and nutritionist students to work with a community building a garden. After learning to garden, the students were to go to Nash Elementary School, build a garden and teach the children the benefits of gardening for good health. At a time when we are so health conscious and we all know we need to be fighting obesity in our children, these students would have an opportunity to teach the children about good nutrition and healthy eating. And I had accepted the responsibility to get the ball rolling and teach these young adults about gardening. Oh, me, oh my. I began thinking of all they would need to learn in four days that would include hands on training. They needed to learn about amending soil, composting, building beds, watering, selecting plants, vegetable gardening and the list goes on.

I began to think about how Jim Nelson and I

were going to accomplish this, then realized we didn't have to do all the teaching. We have trained specialist in our organization that could do a super job teaching the students. I prepared a curriculum for the students and began calling the specialists to be the speakers. I didn't get excuses from any of them why they couldn't but instead they checked their calendars and said yes they would be there. For this reason and all the wonderful things they taught the students, I want to thank: Steve Chaney, Charlie Shiner, Jim Nelson, Charlotte Berck, Susanne Mills, Clair Alford, Eleanor Tuck, Marilyn Sallee, Ginger Bason, Bill Vandever, Barbara Munn, Frank and Pat Durda and Dotty Woodson. Also thanks to Jo Poppelreiter for assisting in the classes. Classes taught by these knowledgeable people included: garden design, soils, watering, mulching, fertilization, composting, rainwater harvesting and water conservation, container gardening, propagation, perennial and native plants, vegetable gardening, and entomology.

The three groups of students have finished their training in the classroom and their hands on training in the Community/Demo garden building raised beds, composting, planting, propagating plants for the garden at Nash Elementary and numerous other gardening chores. They have been planning methods and topics to teach the young students at Nash. They have a place to put the garden and have been busy designing and making plans for building raised beds, starting a compost pile, installing a rainwater harvesting system and just having fun.

It has been a pleasure to work with these young people. They have so much energy and are willing to do anything asked of them. They will be presented certificates at the November meeting for their hard work. Who knows? We may have some future Master Gardeners in the making.

—Pat Higgins



November Garden Tips

By the Tarrant County Master Gardener Association, Texas Cooperative Extension Office.

Phone 817-884-1944 for answers to any gardening question



Fall is Planting Time – your last chance to get perennials in the ground so their roots will reach deep while the rest of the plant is dormant. Perennials planted in the fall can burst with new growth first thing in the spring, so you gain almost a full year's growth. Roots continue to grow through the winter, so these plants will be more ready when the stresses of summer arrive.

Plant & Transplant:

Plant trees and shrubs: Late November through February is the ideal time to plant and transplant trees, shrubs and perennials during their dormant, non-growing period. Before planting any tree or shrub, become aware of how the plant grows and its potential size and growth habits. Dig and divide established perennials to thin or move. Give some clumps to friends or neighbors to share. Pull out the pruning shears when transplanting bare-rooted woody plants. Cut the tops back at least one-third to one-half, to compensate for the roots lost when digging the plant.

Don't forget the interest plants with berries can add to the winter landscape. All kinds of Hollies, Pyracantha, Nandina and Beautyberry create bright, winter interest.

Don't Prune: Don't get in a hurry to prune established woody plants. Late December through February is usually the best time to prune them - even later into March for crape myrtles.

Tender plants: If you have favorite tender plants you'd like to include in your garden next year, then carefully dig them out of the flower bed, plant them in a well-drained potting mix, and keep in a bright, humid room.

They may look terrible during the winter, but if they survive, you can replant them in the garden as soon as the soil begins to warm. Or take cuttings and root them in a well-drained potting mix.

Flowers: Plant pansies, violas, calendulas, flowering kale, snapdragons, stock, dianthus, sweet alyssum and larkspur for early spring color. It is best to use started plants at this time. Select short, stocky plants with good green color. Pansies should be planted in rich, moist soil in sun or light shade. Feed them with a balanced fertilizer or blood meal. Control pill bugs, slugs and snails with commercial snail bait. They love pansies.

Also plant Ajuga, Butterfly Weed, Candytuft, Cornflower, Dianthus, Daisy, Indian Blanket, Penstemon, Petunia, Obedient Plant. Sow seeds now of Poppies, bachelor's button, sweet peas and other winter annuals. Continue planting spring flowering wildflowers in early November: bluebonnets, Drummond phlox, rudbeckia and coreopsis can still be sown. You will be rewarded next spring.

Bulbs: Plant spring-flowering bulbs if you haven't already done so. Dutch hyacinth, Dutch iris, Tulips, crocus and late flowering daffodil bulbs need at least 6 weeks of pre-chilling in the refrigerator (with no vegetables or fruits in the same section to give off gasses that will kill the flower bud). Best to plant by late November. Work fertilizer into the soil. Plant bulbs at recommended depths.

Vegetables: Early: Carrot, Chard, Mustard, and Turnip. All Month: Lettuce, Radish, and Spinach.

(Continued on page 9)

Plant Annual ryegrass and perennial ryegrass to cover bare soil areas if needed, or over seed over existing lawn grass for a winter green lawn.

Diseases: Spray peach and plum trees this month to protect for peach leaf curl and bacterial stem canker. Use copper-based fungicide. Remove any fallen fruit from beneath fruit trees to eliminate a major source of infestations for next year.

Things to do in November.

Keep watering: Evergreen plants frequently suffer from lack of moisture during those occasional winter dry periods that occur in Texas. Adequate soil moisture provides the best protection you can give your plants against winter cold injury. Water everything well before a freeze, but avoid over watering. Protect your lawn from excessive winter damage by providing irrigation during dry periods.



Lawn Care: As the grass slows down in growth, keep it mowed at the same height. A mulching mower makes raking leaves obsolete or use grass catcher as a mulch catcher. Collect the grass clippings along with the fallen leaves for an excellent mix as mulch or in the compost pile.

Mulch: Now is a good time to mulch flowerbeds and shrubs. Two to three inches of bark or pine straw will help to prevent the stress of alternate freezing and thawing during cold winter months.

Composting: Choose a hidden area of the garden and begin collecting grass clippings, leaves, spent flowers vegetable plants, and vegetable trimmings from the kitchen. Add an occasional thin layer of soil and water to keep the pile damp but not soggy. Turn on a regular basis, and watch it change into rich, organic

goodness for your garden. Composting all those leaves this month will pay off in the spring.

For the Birds: Provide attractive food, water and shelter to encourage our feathered friends in the garden. Place bird-feeding stations in protected areas, yet visible from your window. Put out your hummingbird feeder.

Care of Tools: Drain the gasoline from power tools and run the engine until fuel in the system is used. Clean, repair and oil garden tools and equipment. A coat of linseed oil on wooden handles will help preserve the wood. Sharpen cutting tools, weeders and shovels.

Christmas Plants: Christmas poinsettias will soon be available. Don't be misled by stories - they are not poisonous. However, some individuals may be allergic to certain plants including the poinsettia. Prolong the life of holiday-season gift plants by providing proper care: Check the bottom drainage, don't over water, keep out of drafts from heating vents and opening doorways. Fertilizer is seldom needed the first few months.



Want to start cuttings of your favorite Christmas cactus? As soon as it has finished blooming, select a cutting with 4 or 5 joints, break or cut it off, and insert the basal end into a pot of moderately moist soil. Place it in a brightly lit area. The cuttings should be rooted within 3 to 4 weeks

—by Marilyn Sallee

Thank you from Mary Fuller's daughters

The Master Gardener organization contributes a book to the MG library when a member passes away. This time individual members organized and contributed the bench at the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens. The family did not know who the individuals were and thought this letter would be a way to express their gratitude.

The Thank you letter from Mary Fuller's daughters is below.

"To all the Master Gardeners who contributed to the memorial bench in memory of our mother, Mary R. Fuller, at the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens and for the beautifully illustrated book "Trees and Shrubs" that was gifted in her honor, her daughters want to express our deep appreciation and gratitude for the wonderful kindness that her friends who shared her insatiable passion for gardening have expressed with their generous gifts in her memory. The bench has been installed under a large tree near the entrance of the Children's Garden and we hope everyone will use and enjoy it. We're confident that she would be humbled and honored to know that she is remembered in this way. "Where flowers bloom so does hope."

Kathryn ("Kitt") Fuller
Dana Strittmatter
Margaret Fuller
Mary Willa Fuller



EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

November 4, 2007 - Daylight Saving Time ends. Beginning in 2007, Daylight Savings Time will end the first Sunday in November at 2 a.m. and on March 8, 2008 groggy Americans will turn their clocks forward one hour, marking the beginning of Daylight Saving Time (DST). Arizona (with the exception of the Navajo Nation) and Hawaii and the territories of Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa are the only places in the U.S. that do not observe DST but instead stay on "standard time" all year long.

November 6, 2007 - **Election Day** is the Tuesday on or after November 2 or the first Tuesday after the 1st of November.

November 11, 2007 - **Veterans' Day** is Sunday (except from 1971 to 1977, inclusive, when it was celebrated on the fourth Monday in October; formerly known as Armistice).



November 12, 2007 - **Veterans' Day (Federal Observed)** is Monday. World War I officially ended on June 28, 1919, with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles. November 11 officially became a holiday in the United States in 1926, and a national holiday 12 years later. On June 1, 1954, the name was changed to Veterans Day to honor all U.S. veterans. In 1968, new legislation changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. It soon became apparent, however, that November 11 was a date of historic significance to many Americans. Therefore, in 1978 Congress returned the observance to its traditional date.



November 22, 2007 - Thanksgiving Day is the fourth Thursday. The first American Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1621, to commemorate the harvest reaped by the Plymouth Colony after a harsh winter. In that year Governor William Bradford proclaimed a day of thanksgiving. The colonists celebrated it as a traditional English harvest feast, to which they invited the local Wampanoag Indians. Days of thanksgiving were celebrated throughout the colonies after fall harvests. George Washington was the first president to declare the holiday, in 1789.

In 1939, 1940, and 1941 Franklin D. Roosevelt, seeking to lengthen the Christmas shopping season, proclaimed Thanksgiving the third Thursday in November. Controversy followed, and in 1941 Congress decreeing that Thanksgiving should fall on the fourth Thursday of November, where it remains.

Each year the President of the United States pardons a turkey before Thanksgiving at a White House ceremony. The tradition's origin is uncertain.

In 2006, President Bush gave two turkeys named Flyer and Fryer a last-minute reprieve. The two hailed from Mon-



SOURCE: MORGUEFILE.COM

nett, Missouri. For the fourth time, the American public was allowed to vote for the turkeys' names on the White House web site. 2005's turkeys were named Marshmallow and Yam; 2004's were named Biscuit and Gravy; and 2003's were Stars and Stripes.

—by Derald Freeman

MAJ Suttee receives Victory Boxes

Won't MAJ Suttee, the Ramadiian school children, and teachers be surprised to learn of the generosity of the Tarrant County Master Gardeners and the Fort Worth Garden Council, when they open the Victory Boxes in late November containing 200 gardening totes for the children?

Or, perhaps it will be the Marines who will have the pleasure in delivering these to the school.

Either way, we still have a few things to do to make this happen. We need coloring books, crayons, gardening tools and gardening gloves to fill the bags.

(Some Wal-marts have cute children's gardening tools and coloring books for about .94 cents. or try a dollar store.)

PLEASE bring what you can to the next meeting!!! If you can't perhaps, you could throw some change in the donation can.

We need fabric and people who will help at the home of Devanie Fergus on November 7th and 8th. We will start each day at 9 AM. We

need people who can cut fabric, iron and sew. We also need portable sewing machines, irons, and ironing boards.

It will be fun... if you want to bring a sack lunch we'll stay through lunch.

I have made arrangements with Barbara Baker, President of The Garden Club Council of Fort Worth (which we as MG's all belong to) to attend their meeting at 10 AM on Wednesday Nov 14th. Actually, that day will be a flower show. At the end of the flower show (around 11 am), we will have lots of tables, and we will pack all 200 Victory Gardening Bags. WE CAN DO THIS!!!

Thanks so very much!

Mary Margaret Halleck
817-251-1201
Devanie Fergus
817-861-1932

To all Little Hands on the Farm Volunteers

Once again, Tarrant County Master Gardeners were stars and described by LHOF Staff and by multiple parents as "Awesome Volunteers." Year after year, we have shown the State Fair officials that Volunteers do a superior job in educating children and their parents with facts and fun. Of course, the warmth and genuine caring our MGs exude makes everyone want to return each year—and most do!

Word is spreading, however, and many families were coming through for the first time while other parents tell us their child insists upon returning year after year. One family told me this

was their 6th year—that is how long LHOF has been operating!!.

ALL of the comment card were extremely positive with many parents acknowledging the fact we are there giving our time and energies for their children's benefit. When I told some waiting parents that many, many of our MGs had driven in the traffic for three hours to come and volunteer: they were incredulous. And I am still in awe at the dedication to your commitment which each of you demonstrated.

THANK YOU - Eleanor Tuck

TEXAS INVASIVES CLASS

Okay, now we have our ducks in a row. Here are the details about the class. To officially register for the Texas Invasives class, you have to fill out the forms on the State's website. The classes are also now posted there.

HOW TO REGISTER

Go to the State website http://www.texasinvasives.org/Citizen_Science/become.html and follow instructions. There are two forms to download, fill out and send back: "Being an Invader" & "Volunteer Interest Form". Please return them to the Contact person below.

CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED to 30. Register Early.

Glen Rose Info:

Somervell Training Center, Thursday, November 29. The site is located just outside of Glen Rose Texas and has high speed internet connectivity. This is a beautiful old Ranch site that was purchased by TXU when the Nuclear Power Plant was built and is now used as a training facility.

Contact: Gary Hines of Rio Brazos Master Naturalists at Gary.Hinds@luminant.com

Fort Worth Info:

Tarrant County Extension Office, Friday, November 30.

The New Extension Office is located in downtown Ft. Worth, 200 Taylor Street. Click here for a map. The new office has well-lit classrooms and a lunch room for our use during class. Contact: Marilyn Sallee of Cross Timbers Master Naturalists at txnativeplants@yahoo.com

Since we have a limited number of slots and more than 40 people have inquired in the last two days, it will be first 30 to return their paperwork will be in the class. Feel free to apply for the Glen Rose class if you are in south Ft. Worth, or available on Thursday.

Payment of \$10 for the cost of lunch and snacks will be collected at the class. Please bring cash.

Once you have read "Being an Invader", if you have any further questions feel free to email me.

Hope to see you all in class.

Marilyn Sallee
Cross Timbers Invaders Coordinator

RAFFLE

Our November Meeting will be the last opportunity to fund our projects through the raffle.

The awards will be announced at the December Meeting.

So, gather up your gardening goodies and Christmas extras for the last raffle of the year.

Thank you and Happy Holidays.

—Joyce Colegrove

Sunshine Reminder

Anyone who knows of a concern, illness, and/or death, of a members immediate family, please email me so I can send a card from the Master Gardener Association. Oftentimes we get so busy that our good intentions are overlooked and the person that needs to be remembered is not. Our intention is to recognize any and/or everyone who is part of our organization. Also, if anyone's birthday is incorrect, please let me know.

—by LaVonne Nowlin

MG Meeting Vendor Tables

Vendor tables for Master Gardeners wishing to offer their products for sale to other Master Gardeners will be available for the November 1 MG meeting. Contact Jim Nelson at 817 688 2842 or nelsonj2@swbell.net to reserve the table. The cost is \$10 is per table.

—by Jim Nelson

DON'T FORGET—2008 MEMBERSHIP DUES are due by October

Composting Tip

Put the peels, coffee grounds and food scrap from the kitchen into the freezer until you are ready to add them to the compost bin. Not only does your kitchen smell better but the scraps decompose faster.

—by Carl Trehus



Birthdays for this month

- 11-1 Marilyn Sallee
- 11-4 Tammye Kuntz
- 11-5 Sharon Clark and Dorothea Theus
- 11-6 Dick Oliver
- 11-7 Ben Oefinger, Bobbie Hooker Wilson, and Jane Dunkelberg
- 11-8 Katie Kowierschke
- 11-11 Vicki Morton
- 11-15 Hester Schwarzer
- 11-16 Carol Norfleet
- 11-21 Barbara Lina and Louis DeSantis
- 11-22 LaVonne Nowlin, Warren Tingley, and Pam Jewell
- 11-24 Marilyn Laviolette
- 11-29 Jim Nelson
- 11-30 Janet Riley.

—by LaVonne Nowlin

Directory Changes

Email Change:

JoAnn Hahn joannah@att.net

Master Gardener Hours

Click this link and follow the instructions on the page to review a summary of your volunteer hours.

http://www.tcmga.org/time_summary.htm

—by Jim Nelson

Volunteer Opportunities for TCMGA

<u>Project Code & Name</u>	<u>Work Days/Times</u>	<u>Project Manager</u>	<u>Phone</u>
301 BRIT Activities	Call chairman	Kay Yount	817-292-7690
311 Perennial Garden	8:30 a.m., Weds.	Patsy Johnson	817-292-5358
312 Trial Garden	Tues. 8:30-11:30 a.m.	Susan Miller	817-261-1420
313 BG Cottage Garden	Call chairman	Diane Clark	817-249-2760
321 Thistle Hill	1 st , 3 rd Weds. 9:30 a.m.	Emily Ward	817-281-5925
322 Union Gospel Mission	First Mon.-Warm Place 9 a.m., 2nd-4th Mon. - Reg. Schedule	Gay Larson	817-441-6560
323 Grapevine Botanic Garden	Call coordinator	Shari Stanfield	817-685-9990
324 Mansfield Main St. Project	3 rd Wed. 9 a.m.	Gayle van Leeuwen Barbara Gates	817-472-7264 817-465-6656
326 Teen Challenge	Every Wed. 9 a.m.	Debbie Bollinger	817-498-1508
328 Community Garden	Contact project leaders below		
Mowing/Edging:	Larry Matl, larrymarymatl@charter.net		817-293-2114
Barn beds:	Charlotte Berck, wrberck@peoplepc.com		817-426-6417
TCU students:	Pat Higgins, Ragdollpatb@sbcglobal.net		817- 294-2414
WIC herb program:	Jim Nelson, nelsonj2@swbell.net		817-467-2304
Compost:	Charles Shiner, mcshiner@sbcglobal.net		817-548-7117
Roses:	Karen Kologe, KPK@charter.net		817-924-6449
Perennial beds: (developing)	Joann Hahn, johahn@charter.net Ginger Bason, gbason@hotmail.com		817-923-9250 817-838-7321
Herb Garden:	Rita Hottel, aescom@charter.net		817-295-2883
401 Composting Demo	1 st Sat. 2 nd Sat.	Don Graves Charlie Shiner	817-465-1667 817-548-7117
402 FW Nature Center	Thurs. & Sat 9-12 p.m.	Leeann Rosenthal	817-237-7180
403 FW Library at Hulen St.	4 th Thurs, 8:30 a.m.	Evaline Woodrey	817-295-4683
404 SW Sub-Courthouse	2 nd Sat, last Wed.	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	1st Sat, 9-12 Tues 9-12 p.m.	Mary McCoy	817-561-0598
408 TX Smartscape Demo	Call chairman	Michael Warren	817-531-6765
<u>School Gardens</u>			
601 Alice Carlson	Mon/Thurs 8:30 a.m.	Sharon Chastain	817-926-2575
602 Branson	Call chairman	Glenda Page	817-447-8348
604 Fitzgerald	Wed. 3:15 p.m.	Leeann Rosenthal	817-237-7180
605 Oakhurst	Call chairman	Carl Trehus	817-481-3435
611 Children's Garden	Wed. 9-11:30 a.m.	Mary McCoy	817-561-0598

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

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Nov 2-3, 2007	Master Composter Class
Jan 10, 2008	Sprint Intern Class begins
Jan 8	Fall 2006 Intern graduation
Jan 15	Spring 2007 Intern graduation
Jan 19	Neil Sperry Landscape School
Feb 1-3	Fort Worth Home & Garden Show
Feb 29—Mar 2	Neil Sperry Home & Garden Show

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

