



Mission Statement

To support and assist Texas Cooperative Extension by providing the community with information on horticultural practices consistent with Texas Cooperative Extension recommendations.



President's Notepad

A neighborhood gardening friend told me that when she started gardening she was innocent of the gardening cults and could not decide which to join. I was puzzled by this but continued to listen and ask a few questions trying to figure out what she was talking about. No, I could not just come right out and ask her since Master Gardeners know everything about gardening. Finally I understood. She could not decide if she was a flower person, a tree person, a natives person (purest or mostly), a turf person, a rock garden person, organic (again purest or mostly), rose person, annuals or perennials or both, food crops, and don't forget herbs, which presents another problem - which way to say the word. Also did she fit in with the shade group or the sun group?? Which cult should she pay dues to and join??? How was I to answer????

I remember reading somewhere that the true gardener loves all plants, despises none but may ignore some or leave some out. My best answer at the time was just join them all!!! You will learn something valuable from all of the "cults" and they can learn from you. The more I learn the more I realize I don't know. One answer brings to mind numerous questions. Often I get reminded of something I knew but had forgotten and that information is hopefully remembered this time. Maybe that is how some of us get "over involved" and "overwhelmed" but we learn a lot, meet a lot of GREAT gardeners and have a lot of fun! Come on out and join us.

—Ginger Bason



September 7th Monthly TCMGA Program

As many of you know, several of our school projects have received monetary assistance through grants awarded by the Rainwater Foundation. What you may not know is that the REAL Schools Initiative, a division of the Rainwater Foundation, helps support 32 school gardens throughout Fort Worth, involving an estimated 17,000 students. Hands-on gardening experiences as well as an integrated arts and sciences curriculum are incorporated in the garden/outdoor laboratories. Stories of the history, goals and influence of REAL Schools in Ft. Worth will be provided in our first hour session by **Stacey Hodge**, Program Director/ REAL Schools Initiative and **Eric Vanderbeck**, Resource Coordinator/ REAL Schools Initiative.

Our afternoon session will provide us with step-by-step instructions for building rainwater collection systems for both gardening and drinking – We're taking a leap of faith that it will indeed rain sometime in the near future, and when it does, we'll be ready to save every drop!

- 9:00 Sign-In, coffee and socializing
- 10:00 **Stacey Hodge and Eric Vanderbeck** "REAL Schools Initiative - What's Happening in School Gardens Throughout Fort Worth"
- 11:00 Business meeting, lunch, socializing
- 12:00 **Eric Vanderbeck** "Rainwater Collection", capturing for garden and landscape or drinking water, including where to get all supplies, and followed by a demonstration of creating a rain barrel for water capture.

--Joy Lease



Tarrant County Master Gardener Association Meeting Minutes - August 3, 2006

Meeting called to order by Ginger Bason, President, at 11AM, Resource Connection.

July **Minutes** were approved as published in the “**Sharecropper**.”

Treasurer's Report – Rita Hottel summarized the July Treasurer's Report.

Statement posted on bulletin board and copies available.

Rita requested that those who are involved with Special Projects please send expenses in ASAP. She has forms to fill out for these. Ginger Bason asked that those who have used donation (raffle) money please turn in for reimbursement.

Announcements (Ginger Bason):

Ginger reminded members about the Mystery Plant.

Sept. 19th – Northeast Tarrant County Garden Tour – will feature 4 gardens.

Oct. 12th – Bus trip to Tyler Rose Garden and Blue Moon Nursery. Leave 8AM from FWBG, and return 6PM. Sign up/pay today or at Sept. meeting.

Reminder that only 3 months are left this volunteer year; please turn in volunteer hours.

There are 2 sign up slots for answering the phone lines at the Extension Office. Only those two persons are to receive **phone** volunteer hours during that time period. If working phones all day, please sign up for the two shifts.

TCMGA received a Certificate of Appreciation from the City of Southlake for help with their Swing into Spring Garden Tour event.

Attendance – 151.

Home and Garden Show on August 18-20, at Ft. Worth Convention Center.

Request that anyone not receiving emails, please contact Kathy Howard and she will notify you with news and info.

Announcements (Steve Chaney):

Requested help on August 12, 10AM – 2 PM, at the African American Health Expo, LaGran Plaza, for Plant People Demonstrations.

August 26th - Yard Smart Seminar at FWBG, 9AM – 3PM.

Little Hands on the Farm at the State Fair coming up soon.

Reported on the status of the extension office relocation.

Ginger Bason reported she has maps available today for the new office location.

Edith Pewitt reported many requests for Speaker's Bureau and the need for more speakers.

Meeting adjourned 11:25AM.

—Minutes taken by Rachel Clark for Joyce Quam

MG Directory Updates

E-mail changes:

Joyce Hallbauer - halltcmg@sbcglobal.net
Joy Perry - chasperryjoy@sbcglobal.net
Carla Pickens - carla@keepinstep.com
Benita Reese - jimbenitareese@sbcglobal.net

Send updates to Pat Lovejoy
E-mail patlovejoy@att.net.

RAFFLE THANKS

Last month we took in \$164.00 from the raffle sales. All of this money goes to our projects. Thank you so much and keep bringing items to raffle. The raffle is a great way to turn those "gifts you really didn't want" into cash for our projects.



See you in September, Barb and Joyce

--by Joyce Colegrove

FALL FERTILIZER SALES

If anyone wants to purchase fertilizer for fall application, it can still be ordered by contacting Jim Nelson.



The last date for accepting orders is August 24. Delivery will be at the September 7 MG meeting. Orders placed by e-mail or phone may be paid for at the September MG meeting.

The fertilizer is 28-0-0 (50% slow release) and the price is \$13.00 per 50 pound bag.

nelsonj2@swbell.net
817 688 2842 or 817 467 2304.

NOMINEES

The Nominating Committee submits the following as our nominees for TCMGA in 2007.

President	Ginger Bason
1st Vice President	Joy Lease
2nd Vice President	Jim Nelson
Secretary	Joyce Quam
Treasurer	Tammy Edwards

Nominating Committee: JoAnn Hahn (Chair), Judy Butler, Tammy Edwards, Ben Oefinger, and Susan Stanek

Newsletter Articles

Master Gardeners are welcome to submit newsletter articles for consideration. Submit articles by the 7th of the month to...

tammy.edwards@ gmail.com or
derald@grreatideas.com.

—by Tammy Edwards

Caladium Performance Feedback Wanted

We will appreciate any comments, good or bad, about your experience with the performance of Caladium Bulbs you purchased from TCMGA last spring.



We will use this feedback to make necessary changes in the variety, timing or supplier before the TCMGA Bulb offering next spring.

Good, bad or indifferent we look forward to your evaluation.

Please send comments to
nelsonj2@swbell.net.

Volunteer Opportunities for TCMGA

Project Code & Name		Work Days/Times	Project Manager	Phone
301	BRIT Activities	Call chairman	Kay Yount	817-292-7690
311	Perennial Garden	7:30 a.m., Weds.	Patsy Johnson	817-292-5358
312	Trial Garden Maintenance	1 st , 3 rd Tues.	JoAnn Hahn	817-923-9250
312	Trial Garden Data	2 nd & 4 th Tues.	JoAnn Hahn	817-923-9250
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	Every Mon. 9 a.m.	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.	Donna Turner	817-473-8253
325	Weston Gardens Docent	Call chairman	Rose Marie Mercado	817-923-9555
326	Teen Challenge	Every Wed. 9 a.m.	Debbie Bollinger	817-498-1508
327	Gardening with Dotty	Last Tuesday monthly	Dotty Woodson	817-884-1296
401	Composting Demo	1 st Sat.	Don Graves	817-465-1667
		2 nd Sat.	Charlie Shiner	817-548-7117
402	FW Nature Center	Call chairman	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	817-457-4703
405	Liberty Garden	Call chairman	Wendi Carlucci	817-488-5640
		2 nd Tues, 8-11 a.m.		
406	Veterans Park-Wildscape	Tues 8-11 a.m.	Devanie Fergus	817-861-1932
		1 st Sat. 8-11 a.m.		
408	TX Smartscape Demo	Call chairman	Michael Warren	817-531-6765
612	Henrietta Creek Orchard	1 st Mon. or 3 rd Wed.	Sue Short	817-439-3202

School Gardens

601	Alice Carlson	Mon/Thurs 8:30 a.m.	Sharon Chastain	817-926-2575
602	Branson	Call chairman	Glenda Page	817-447-8348
603	Brewer	Call chairman	Joyce Hallbauer	817-367-3582
604	Fitzgerald	Wed. 3:15 p.m.	Leeann Rosenthal	817-237-7180
605	Oakhurst	Call chairman	Margaret Hare	817-763-5054
606	South Davis	2 nd & 4 th Thurs 9 am	Mary McCoy	817-561-0598
611	Children's Garden	Call chairman	Dolores Geisel	817-446-4536

2006 RECOGNITION AND AWARDS NOMINEE CRITERIA

It's that time of year again to honor our hard-working members with special awards! Many of our members have gone the "extra mile" and we'd like for YOU to select the honorees. The categories are listed below:

Every recipient must be:

- *A member in good standing*
- *Attend monthly meetings and events*
- *See a need, come forth and become actively involved*

Master Gardener of the Year _____

- Someone who exhibits the "Mark of Excellence"
- Demonstrates honor
- Leadership in more than one (1) Association area
- Someone who has made a positive impact

Master Gardener of the Decade _____

Someone who has been a MG member at least 4 years

- A member whose presence grows stronger each year
- Their efforts make a difference
- Someone who supports and continually strengthens the Association
- Is always there when called upon

Volunteer of the Year _____

Contribute numerous hours of "hands on" volunteer service in the community

Extra Mile Award _____

People who went over and above and behind the scene.

Special Merit Award _____

People who have given much several years in a row.

Education/Educator Award _____

Workshops, docent for several areas, etc

INTERNS: PLEASE COMPLETE ONLY THE TWO NOMINEES BELOW:**Intern of the Year** _____

A member of the Intern class who has become actively involved and who has gone "beyond the norm".

Intern Special Award _____

Interns who went over the required hours, always willing to do extras, very helpful to others and high goals set for themselves.

Please bring your completed form to the Master Gardener meetings in September through November, or mail to:

Devanie Fergus, 2314 Panorama Court, Arlington, Texas 76016
817-861-1932 devanieferg@sbcglobal.net

What to do in September

September is a time when summer is reluctant to give way to fall. A mixture of undecided summer and fall days calls for the watering and weeding.

Compost:

Start a new compost pile to receive the leaves of fall. Water and turn the compost piles.

Disease:

Spray Roses. Spray roses at regular intervals for blackspot and mildew control and fertilize. Water often as fall blooms occur.

Fertilizing:

Research has proven that fall feeding is very beneficial on lawns and plants. Root systems and future flower buds continue to develop in winter. Apply a 4-1-2 ratio with pre-emergent herbicides by mid-month to help lawns get through winter and off to a good growing start in spring. If you see iron chlorosis (yellowed leaves with dark green veins on the newest growth), treat with iron/sulfur. This will probably be your last chance to correct it for this year.

Insects:

Watch for scale insects. Many of the eggs hatch at this time and the young crawlers are never more vulnerable than at this stage. Malathion or Orthene gives good control. Be sure to read labels and follow instructions.

Scale often appears on gardenias, camellias, hollies, euonymus, azaleas, ligustrums, houseplants, etc.

Maintenance:

Clean established garden beds and replenish mulch materials where needed. Remove faded annuals and cut back perennials that have finished flowering.

Mulch:

Mulch areas that are showing bare ground. This helps retain soil moisture and protects roots.

Planting:

Prepare beds to plant your spring bulbs. Work in humus and insure good drainage. Select bulbs to be planted in October and November. Plant Marigold, fall asters, sedums, ornamental grasses and Salvia. Plant chrysanthemums. Be sure the plants have a good root system to support blooms.

Pruning:

Do not prune or cut back spring flowering trees and shrubs as you will be removing potential spring blooms.

Water:

Many flowering trees and shrubs have developed flower buds for next year's blooms, and lack of water causes poor blooms.

—by Derald Freeman

October Plant Swap

At our October 5th Master Gardeners meeting, we will have a “friendship plant swap” instead of our regular raffle, and we’d love to have *total participation*. We’d like to have each member be involved, have fun, and take away a wonderful memory.

Each member is asked to bring ONE plant to swap. All others will go to the Free Plants table. The “swapping” plant should be a desirable one in very good condition – one any member would be glad to receive. The plant’s container is unimportant; the emphasis is on the plant! The plant should be accompanied by two things: a tag stating the plant variety, cultural requirements (light,

hardiness, the moisture requirements, annual or perennial); and provenance (history of the plant) – where it came from, even legends and lore (carefully label the hemlock!).

A number will be assigned to each plant and its corresponding number placed in the drawing box. Each participant will draw a number during the lunch break and, after our speaker has completed the second hour, will pick up the assigned plant from the raffle table. Once all plants have been picked up, the swapping will begin. Trade, swap, beg, borrow, but no stealing or we’ll have to ask our resident judge, “Bennie O”, to intervene!

TCMGA Fall 2006 Activities

September 19 - Northeast Tarrant County Garden Tour

Tour four beautiful home gardens recently featured on public tours. Receive details and pre-purchase box lunches at September MG meeting.

October 12 -Bus Trip to Tyler Rose Garden & Blue Moon Nursery. Cost is \$27 for bus ride and lunch. Sign up & pay at Aug/Sept/Oct MG meetings. You can drive your own vehicle. Detail maps and schedules will be provided at the October MG Meeting.

8:00 AM Bus leaves FW Botanic Garden
1st Stop Tyler Rose Garden
2nd Stop Lunch at Potpourri House
3rd Stop Blue Moon Nursery
6:00 PM Bus arrives FW Botanic Garden

Questions? Contact Susan Stanek or Jolene Hetrick.

LITTLE HANDS ON THE FARM

The summer is almost over, thankfully, and it is time for us to think about the Texas State Fair, aka, from the Master Gardeners' perspective, Little Hands on the Farm.

We have the privilege of working Opening Day, Friday, September 29th as for the past four years. We carpool so you don't have to worry about Dallas traffic! The more of you to sign up, the more breaks we can have. Working all day, you would have plenty of time to roam the Fair. (We are provided free entry to the Fair).

For those of you who are new to this event: it is an interactive and educational experience on

(LHOF continued)

the farm for young children. In each barn there are instructional/educational materials for the children and their parents. (The children must be accompanied by a responsible adult).

The accolades we have received are well deserved by those of you who have worked LHOF. Come and share fresh, new compliments for volunteering THIS year. See ya at the fair?? ET

Contact Betty Floyd:

817-516-8616 bfloyd@prodigy.net

or Eleanor Tuck:

817-244-1772 etuck@sbcglobal.net

 Happy Birthday,
Master Gardeners!

Birthdays for this month

9-1 Claire Alford, Donna Haggerty
9-2 Von Craig
9-3 Jim Potter
9-5 Jannis Ghaddar
9-6 Bettie Cline
9-9 Sheri Stanfield
9-10 Maurine Wood
9-12 Allison Sonnenberg, Judy Sargent
9-15 Rachel Clark
9-17 Mary Nell Hubbard
9-20 Cyndi Cason
9-21 Sara Lenzion
9-22 L. J. Williams
9-24 Garrett Tucker, Mercy Guerrero
9-30 Sally Porter, Marjie Nelson

Email change to lavonne@ev1.net

—by LaVonne Nowlin

Tarrant County Master Gardener Association
401 East Eighth Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-5504



Calendar of Upcoming Events

8/18 - 8/20	H&G Show at Fort Worth Convention Center
8/26	Yardsmart Seminar at FWBG
9/12	First day of the Fall 06 MG Intern Class
9/23	FWBG Iris and Daylily Sale
10/4 - 10/6	Earth-kind Advanced Specialist Training in Odessa
10/5	Orientation for Spring 07 MG Intern Class
10/10 -10/19	Annual Landscape Design School
10/12	TCMGA Bus Trip to Tyler: Rose garden, lunch and nursery
10/14	FWBG Fall Plant Sale
10/21	Grapevine's Butterfly Flutterby
12/14	TCMGA Holiday Celebration
01/09/07	Graduation for Fall 05 MG Interns
01/12	Arlington House & Organic Gardening Show
01/16	First day of Spring 07 MG Intern Class
01/16	Graduation for Spring 06 MG Interns
01/26 - 01/28	H&G show at Fort Worth Convention Center
02/23 - 02/25	Neil Sperry H&G Show

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