

Tarrant County Master Gardener Association

September 2007

Mission Statement

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

IVY: THE FORGOTTEN PLANT

IVY is often noticed and appreciated for serving its purpose as a ground cover or trellis climber and then forgotten. Ivy deserves a lot more respect that it gets. It was often used in ancient Roman and Greek times as a symbol of love in weddings. Royalty wore it as a garland to represent their royal position. Citizens used it in their homes as a symbol of status.

Some ivy plants do not fair the weather well in North Texas climate. The Boston, English, and Persian ivies are much more cold tolerant and are also of the evergreen variety. Other types may require protection during a cold night.

At the end of this article is a list of which plants do well in homes and tropical vs. cold hardy choices.

Algerian Ivy (*Hedera canariensis*) requires shade and is classified as a ground cover. This will do well as a potted house plant or outdoors in part sun to deep shade. The leaves can grow to 6 or 8 inches in size. It is evergreen. Algerian ivy (also known as Canary Island ivy and North African ivy) is a clinging vine closely related to English ivy. It is most commonly used as a ground cover in warm climates, where the lush leaves steal the show underneath trees or growing up their trunks. Old vines can become quite woody.



Algerian Ivy

Arrowhead Ivy (*Syngonium podophyllum*). This plant originated from Central America. The Arrowhead vine has large arrow shaped leaves and are variegated with dark and light stripes. It is a popular tropical houseplant.

(Continued on page 4)



ENGLISH IVY

IN THIS ISSUE

IVY: The Forgotten Plant	1,4,5
President's Notepad	2
Monthly Program	2
Minutes	3
Texas Master Gardener 2006 Annual Report	6-7
Get in the Swing of It	7
September Garden Tips	8-9
Texas Master Gardener Director's Meeting	10
Fall Blooms	10
Events in September	11
Web Site New Features	12
Nominating Committee Report	12
Plant a Tree, Offset Pollution	12
Victory Boxes	13
Announcements	14-15
Volunteer Opportunities	16
Upcoming Events	Back

Give your birds a ride as they come to visit your feeder. See it on page 7.

FROM AROUND THE CORNER



President's Notepad

Garden Conservancy WHY?????

"Since 1995 the TGC (Garden Conservancy) Open Days Program has unlocked the gates to hundreds of America's very best gardens." The first gardens were opened in 1995 with inspiration from England's National Gardens Scheme (common name: Yellow Book). The mission of GC is simply to preserve America's exceptional gardens for education and enjoyment. Where can we learn more about gardening than in a garden?? Where can we be more inspired than in a garden???? Founded in 1989 GC is considered the leader in national garden preservation. Gardens benefiting from GC assistance number in the 100s. There are 16 GC Projects across America, from East to West, North to South; one, Peckewood Garden is located in Hempstead, TX. The Open Days Program Chairman lives in Austin, TX and Texas is the first state to have a state coordinator. Thus, our state benefits in many ways from GC. The TCMGA Open Days in 2005 was a huge success. Over 2500 people toured the gardens and were educated about good gardening practices. Over 125 MGs volunteered to make the event a success. This year on Oct 14 from 10 AM-4 PM gates to gardens in Tarrant County will again open and the success depends on us. Please tell everyone, pick up posters, and place them in locations for everyone to see, mail or pass out postcards telling about the tour and volunteer to work in a garden the day of the tour (posters & postcards available at September meeting.)

More information and tickets call 1-888-842-2442

www.gardenconservancy.org



September 6, 2007 Monthly Program

"The Nature Conservancy is a leading conservation organization working around the world to protect ecologically important lands and waters for nature and people." Its mission is ". . . to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive." Our guest speaker in September will be **David Bezanson**, Northeast Texas Program Manager for The Nature Conservancy and co-author of "*Conservation Priorities for Texas: A Guide to Ten Threatened Areas in the Lone Star State.*" Texas is one of the most biologically diverse states in the nation, and David, working with others on TNC staff, has devoted his career to the conservation of more than 950,000 of its acres, including 35 preserves and 70 conservation projects. He is an expert on 120 plant communities in the state, keeps track of how they are protected publicly or privately, and is involved with the next generation's attempts to preserve our way of life. So, come to learn, come to be inspired, come to find out what we can do to help.

- 9:30 Sign-in, coffee
- 10:00 The Nature Conservancy of Texas – **David Bezanson**
- 11:00 Business meeting meet, greet, eat
- 12:00 Continuation of morning's topic, Q&A – **David Bezanson**

See you in September!

— Joy Lease

Tarrant County Master Gardener Meeting Minutes August 2, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Ginger Bason at 11:30 a.m. at the Resource Connection. 178 members were in attendance.

Minutes of the previous meeting (July 5, 2007) were approved as published in the Sharecropper

Treasurer, Tammy Edwards announced that dues for 2008 are payable now and are due by October 31, 2007.

Tammy reported the following for July 1 to July 31, 2007:

Income	\$ 177.00
Expenses	\$ 2,086.09
Checking balance	\$ 3,492.61
3 CDs totaling	\$15,000.00

Bird Feeder: We will have a Silent Auction at the September meeting for the "Porch Swing Bird Feeder" lovingly built and donated by our own Frank Durda.

New Logo: Several people sent in suggestions for the new logo. The Executive Board used a combination of Nan Garvin and Derald Freeman's, so Nan and Derald received checks for \$25.00 each.

Coloring Book: Gay Larson and others at the Union Gospel Mission Project developed a gardening coloring book for the children at the mission. Gay has generously allowed TCMGA to make copies of the coloring book for our use at garden shows and tours with TCMGA recognized on the cover. The Executive Board approved \$50.00 (Steve Chaney matched another \$50.00) to print 200 copies. The Board asked the membership to approve spending another \$300.00 to print 600 more copies.

The recommendation was approved by a show of hands.

Announcements:

Texas Agrilife Extension Service: Steve Chaney announced this new name for the Extension Service.

We are pleased that Edith Pewitt is well and with us today.

Bill Vandever thanks members for their cards and healing thoughts for his wife who is recovering from surgery.

Master Naturalist registration deadline: is August 19, 2007.

Power Point morning class is full with waiting list. PM class still has openings.

Juvenile Detention Center, led by Mike Warren, needs people to rotate Mondays 4-5 PM to work with the youth there.

Little Hands on the Farm: Betty Floyd has the sign-up today.

Intern Class orientation September 11 at MG office. All classes are also open to certified Master Gardeners.

Garden Conservancy Tour of 6 gardens: October 14, 2007. Volunteers are still needed. Go to www.gardenconservancy.org for tickets and info.

Community Demonstration Garden at the Resource Connection has grown beautifully under Jim Nelson's leadership. We now have leaders for each section of the garden. As time, funding, and volunteers allow, more areas will be developed. More information will be in the Sharecropper and on the website.

—Submitted by Joyce Quam, Secretary

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
grrreatideas@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 817-884-1944

(Continued from page 1)

Boston Ivy (*Parthenocissus tricuspidata*) is also known as Japanese creeper, Boston ivy, Grape ivy, or Japanese ivy. It commonly clings by disk-like suckers on the tips of tendrils and can be used to cover walls and fences. It makes a great ground cover. It has a woody vine. Once attached it is difficult to remove. It likes sun or part shade.



Boston Ivy

English Ivy (*Hedera helix*) is a popular ground cover for shaded Texas gardens. See the photo on page 1. It is classified as a climber and an evergreen on a woody vine with dark green leaves and palmate lobes. Juvenile foliage has 5 lobes while adult leaves are ovate. It is available in many forms including variegated green and white foliage. The leaf size also varies considerably. It is evergreen. Since they are vines, English ivy lends itself quite well to training into topiaries of various shapes. It is good for shade to part-sun areas of the yard.



Grape Ivy

Grape Ivy (*Cissus rhombifolia*) has an appropriate common name because it is a member of the grape family, *Vitaceae*, and also resembles some of the other ornamental vines which bear the name ivy. It has vine-like habit with tendrils that allow it to climb. It takes part shade to full sun and is evergreen.

Philodendron Ivy (*Philodendron scandens oxycardium*) is heart shaped, glossy, and the dark green leaves are 4" long and 3" wide on trailing green stems. Requires Low to medium light and very little care. It is one of the most versatile and easy to grow houseplants available and is often used in hanging baskets and on a trellis.



Philodendron Ivy

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Pothos Ivy (*Epipremnum aureum*) 'Marble Queen' has variegated heart-shaped leaves which attach to a climbing stem; cream to yellow variegation; may be trained on a pole or allowed to trail. It is slow growing and evergreen and is a low trailing plant usually not over 18" tall, but vines can grow to 10 feet in length. It is one of the easiest plants to grow. There are four varieties of this plant readily available; Pothos Gold, Pothos Marble Queen, Jade Pothos and the new...



Pothos Ivy

Neon Pothos. Be sure to provide adequate drainage to avoid root rot. This plant has low water needs. It is an attractive plant for pot plant, hanging basket, or "totem-pole" use.

Swedish Ivy (*Plectranthus australis*) is a creeping plant with crenate leaf margins, fast growing; spike flowers and with dark green glossy leaves. It likes part sun to part shade. Swedish Ivy requires some direct, but filtered sunlight. It is evergreen and good for hanging and trailing ground cover.



Swedish Ivy

Poison Ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*) in its various forms is by far the most troublesome plant encountered by homeowners in the Texas landscape. Sensitive individuals, however, must exercise extreme caution if they live in an environment where poison ivy may be present. Some Poison Ivy leaves are smooth and some are toothed so that identification is not always dependable. Washing in strong soap and water, or scrubbing off affected areas with rubbing alcohol may remove much of the sap from the hands, but care must be exercised to avoid spreading the affected areas.



Poison Sumac (*Toxicodendron vernix*) is the least of our worries in central Texas. It's not found here since it is a water loving swamp tree plant.

Poison Oak . The identification of poison ivy or poison oak is simple. Three leaflets growing in a group attached to a common stem will be your warning that it is probably poison ivy or poison oak.

Plants That Do Well Under Average Home Conditions

- Grape Ivy
- English Ivy
- Heartleaf Philodendron
- Devils Toy Pothusby

—Derald Freeman

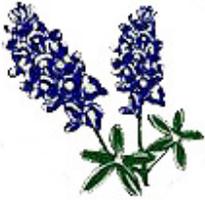
WINTER-HARDY IVIES

- Algerian Ivy aka Canary Ivy or Madeira Ivy.
- Boston Ivy
- Persian Ivy

TROPICAL IVIES

- Arrowhead Ivy
- Pothos or Devil's Ivy
- Grape Ivy
- Heartleaf Ivy
- Swedish Ivy

Texas Master Gardener 2006 Annual Report



In 2006, Texas Master Gardeners contributed more volunteer hours than ever before. Their activities, projects, and expertise significantly multiply the educational outreach of Texas Cooperative Extension.

Through 115 County Master Gardener programs, 1,075 individuals were trained to become Texas Master Gardener Interns. To gain certification, each Intern must contribute a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer service. In 2006, the corps of Texas Master Gardeners and Interns totaled 5,038. They provided 395,422 hours of volunteer time to Extension educational projects. This volunteer service, equivalent to 195 full-time employees, increases the human capacity of Extension by 15 percent. The economic value of this service translates to a \$7.2 million benefit to the State of Texas.

Texas Master Gardeners

- answer over 4,500 homeowner telephone calls each month that are received by County Extension offices throughout Texas regarding landscape and garden topics
- present over 4,800 presentations each year to over 50,000 thousand Texans through garden clubs, civic group, and community organizations

- publish and broadcast hundreds of news columns, radio shows, and television segments annually through local mass media outlets
- provide expertise and guidance to nearly 500 elementary school gardening programs
- design, install, and maintain over 125 demonstration gardens for the public to view and learn environmentally-sound plant materials and garden practices
- design and maintain 31 Internet websites that are visited each year by thousands of Texans in search of the best gardening information available in their communities

These efforts expand Extension's capacity to meet the increasing demand for horticultural and environmental information. Texas Master Gardeners have truly become Extension's "first responders" for gardening advice.

Through dedicated leadership of County Extension Agents and Master Gardeners, the Texas Master Gardener program continues to be the largest Master Gardener program in the United States.

Reprinted from

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/mastergd/2006mgreport.html>



GET IN THE SWING OF IT

What we have is actually a bird feeder that looks like a miniature yard swing. It is a little over two feet tall with the stand and about the same width.

The Master Gardeners seem to always try to get enough money for just one more project or scholarship and it was thought that this donation of mine might bring in more by auctioning it off. So look for a probable silent auction at the September meeting. The swing will be on display at the August meeting.

I like to work with wood and build things that people can use. When I saw the article in the February-March 2006 issue of "Birds and Blooms" I thought it was an ideal project. I have found out that when you retire you lose all your free time so it has taken three months just to make the pieces. I paid no attention to how many parts there were. The normal birdhouses and feeders I build for our raffle are the same few pieces all the time. This was different. The fact that most of the pieces fit into a large baggie should have alerted me but it did not.

The swing has 45 pieces. I did not realize that until I started to assemble it. The assembly brought back memories any parent surely has of opening a box on Christmas Eve to set up that special toy for son or daughter and reading the words... "**Some assembly required**"...the three most terrifying words in the English language.

—Frank Durda





September Garden Tips

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

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

September brings the southern garden a sigh of relief. It heralds transition with the official arrival of autumn and a return of cooler and wetter weather. Despite the lingering heat, September is one of the better times of the year to be gardening, especially for planting landscape plants.

Fall is a good time to test your soil, especially to determine the pH, which tells you the acidity of the soil. You will also learn the correct fertilizer blend to apply for the best growth during the fall growing season.

Examine your flower, ground cover and shrub beds for unwanted volunteers - seedlings of invasive shrubs and trees, green briar, sedges and other unwanted weeds. If they are already well established, soak the ground to make them easier to pull. A pair of pliers may also help get woody plants out of the ground.

Check the soil below trees, shrubs and prepared beds with your fingers or a moisture meter to make sure the root ball and soil are getting enough water. The soil should be moist but not soaking wet. Just because it is hot doesn't automatically mean the soil is dry 3 or 4 inches deep. Check it out that deep to be sure. Don't allow plants with green fruit or berries to suffer from lack of moisture. Hollies will frequently drop their fruit under drought conditions. Some vegetables such as cucumbers or eggplants also become bitter if under watered during peak growing times.



Keep container plants well watered and fertilized for the best fall show. Soak the root ball by placing the pot in a container of water for 15-30

minutes until well moistened. Proper care will keep them lush and attractive through fall.

Prune out dead or diseased wood from trees and shrubs. Hold off on major pruning until mid-winter. Pruning now may stimulate tender new growth prior to frost.

LAWNS

Lawns need special care this month. Especially after our heavy spring rains, the sudden change to August heat may have damaged roots. Keep lawns evenly moist with one inch of water once a week.

September is the time to apply lawn fertilizer. Fall fertilized lawns are healthier and better equipped to make it through the winter and resume growth next spring.

If you had weeds last spring, they would have been cool-season weeds that germinated last fall. A pre-emergence herbicide (weed preventer) applied this month will help reduce the weeds next spring (unless they are perennials like dandelions). Avoid pre-emergent herbicide applications on newly planted or weakened grass or in dense shade. Carefully follow label rates of application, since applying more than is called for can damage your lawn.



The hot, dry weather encourages chinch bugs that make St. Augustine look drought-stricken. Lawns that suffered dieback from drought, chinch bugs or disease can be safely sodded in

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

September. It's too late to try to establish Bermuda or Centipede from seed, but ryegrass and tall fescue can be sown toward the end of the month.

FLOWERS

Remove weak, unproductive growth and old seed heads from crape myrtles and roses the first week of September to stimulate new growth and a final burst of fall color. Don't take off much, no more than a quarter of the growth. Make a light application of fertilizer, and watch for black spot disease that can be a problem. Continue a disease spray schedule on roses as blackspot and mildew can be extremely damaging in September and October.



Sow spring wildflower seed now; these can be purchased or seeds you gathered yourself from dried seedheads earlier this year. Soils should be lightly cultivated prior to planting. Con-

sider bluebonnet, Indian paintbrush, coneflower, fire-wheel, black-eyed Susan, evening primrose and other native flowers. For more reliable, uniform seed germination of our State flower, purchase acid-treated bluebonnet seed. This treatment pits the seed coat, allowing nearly 100% germination in one to two weeks.

Divide spring flowering perennials such as iris, daisy, gaillardia, rudbeckias, cannas, day-lilies, violets, lirioppe ajuga and other perennials. Move to new areas or share with friends and neighbors.



Create new perennial flowerbeds, and dig, divide, and replant those overcrowded perennials. Spread a liberal amount of organic matter evenly over the area and mix into the soil at

least 6 to 8 inches deep. Space divisions at least 1 foot apart in all directions so root competition will not be a problem for several years.

Prepare the beds for spring-flowering bulbs as soon as possible. It's important to cultivate the soil and add generous amounts of organic matter to improve water drainage. Purchase spring blooming bulbs as soon as they become available in the garden centers, or mail order special varieties. Plant bulbs by loosening the soil and make a hole with a trowel or bulb planter. Don't mash the bulb into the soil or you may damage the basal plate (bottom of the bulb), causing it to rot. Bulbs will rot without proper drainage.

VEGETABLES

In early September, plant lettuce and mustard. Late in the month plant snap bush beans, Lima bush beans, beets, onion seed. Any time in September plant broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, collards, cucumber, parsley, English peas, Southern peas, radish, spinach, turnips greens and turnip roots.

—by Marilyn Sallee

Texas Master Gardener Director's Meeting

TMGA meeting was held Aug. 4 at A&M. TCMGA directors and alternates attended. A five year plan for the TCMGA was discussed and approved. A copy of the plan will be posted on the bulletin board at the Sept. TCMGA meeting and is on the state web-site. Tarrant County has already met most of the suggestions.

A \$500.00 donation to the Bill and Diane Welch Horticultural Scholarship Fund at A&M was given in memory of Diane who passed away in the Spring.

Dave Whiting introduced his web-site as a tool for educators. It has the largest database of plant info and pictures and will present a plant of the week based on the zip code you enter. The site also includes a bug identification section.

Dr. Doug Welsh, A&M professor and extension horticulturist and State wide coordinator for TMG is the author of a new book (to be released in the fall). The book "*Doug Welsh's Texas Garden Almanac*" is a practical, information packet month to month guide for gardeners. We are trying to arrange for Dr. Welsh to be at our December meeting with his book to sell and sign.

Nominations were made for 2008 state officers to be elected in December.

Check the state web-site for information.

MGs should go to www.davesgarden.com/edu for maximum use.

Fall Blooms

East Texas gardeners can enjoy beautiful flowering plants throughout the fall. An abundance of fall blooming annuals and perennials are available.

Chrysanthemums are probably the most popular selection for early fall color. Garden mums can be grown as annuals or perennials. Cut back faded blooms for continuous color.

Marigolds are often overlooked but do very well during the season. Spider mite problems are greatly reduced when they are planted in late summer or early fall. Other annuals appropriate for the fall garden include pansies, dianthus, violas, ornamental cabbage, snapdragons and dusty miller. If the winter is fairly mild, many fall plantings will provide a vigorous display of blooms in early spring.



Perennials will provide color this fall and for many seasons to come. Autumn asters (lavender) are an excellent choice for a border. Goldenrod makes a lovely companion plant. Other plants to consider are hardy ageratum, Mexican bush sage (*Salvia leucantha*) and sedum 'Autumn Joy'.

—by Derald Freeman

EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER

September 3, 2007 - Labor Day is the first Monday in September

It is a holiday honoring working men and woman and is celebrated in the US, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Originally Labor Day was a day where blue collar workers showed support for organized labor. Today it is simply a day of rest for anyone who works. In 1882, the first Labor Day Parade was held in New York to show support for the holiday. There were 20,000 participants. In 1887, Oregon became the first state to make Labor Day a holiday. In 1894, President Grover Cleveland made Labor Day a federal holiday in the US.



September 9, 2007 - Grandparents Day is Sunday, Sunday after Labor Day

About 70 million grandparents live in the United States, according to estimates, and that number will continue to grow as baby boomers age. About 67 percent of Americans aged 45 and older are grandparents. The average age of first-time grandparents is about 48. According to Hallmark more than 2 million Grandparents Day cards are given annually.



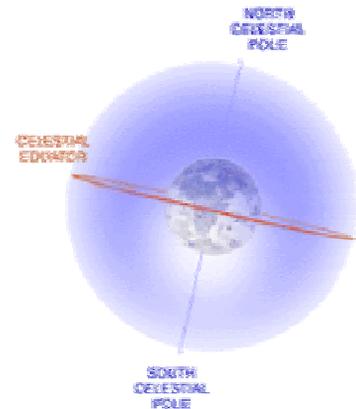
September 13 - Rosh Hashanah (Jewish), Thursday

September 17, 2007 - Citizenship Day/ Constitution Day is Monday. Constitution Day recognizes the ratification of the United States Constitution that was signed in 1787. Before this law was enacted, the holiday was known as "Citizenship Day". The bill's purpose was to recognize everyone who had become a United States citizen the previous year. It has since been expanded as a general celebration of citizenship.



September 22 - Yom Kippur (Jewish), Saturday

September 23 - Autumn equinox, Sunday. In the language of science, an equinox is either of two points on the celestial sphere where the ecliptic and the celestial equator intersect. For the rest of us, it's one of two times a year when the sun crosses the equator, and the day and night are of approximately equal length.



—by Derald Freeman

WEB SITE NEW FEATURES

There are 2 new features on the website that may be of interest to you. The first is a page listing current and future educational opportunities. The links will take you to program descriptions and registration instructions. By request we will reinstate a discontinued feature for "Pass Along Plants" – those plants members wish to share but cannot be easily transported to the monthly meeting. On this page will also be plant sale announcements of interest to Master Gardeners – most of them from MG supported projects.

Both of these new features can be accessed from the MEMBER HOT KEY button on the first page. Please submit any items for each of these new pages to your webmaster at cbarnard@abacinc.com.

TCMGA now has a **Flickr** account for posting pictures that makes them easier for members to view from their browser. So – if you are a project leader of any of the TCMGA supported projects, send a picture of your project to share with the membership – and you may even inspire some additional volunteers!

—Carolyn Barnard

<http://www.tcmga.org>

Report of Nominating Committee

The nominating committee is very happy to present the following nominees:



President: Tammy Edwards
 1st Vice President (Program): Susan Stanek
 2nd Vice President (Ways and Means): Bill Hall
 Secretary: Joyce Quam, Second Term
 Treasurer: Carl Trehus

Elections will be held at the October meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at that time.

Respectfully submitted,
 Edith Pewitt, Chairman
 Mary Benavides
 Rita Hottel
 Bob Ross
 Marilyn Sallee

Plant a Tree, Offset Pollution

As a Master Gardener, I consider myself a Steward of the Earth so I've been searching for a way to offset my carbon footprints. I finally found a solution right here in the USA.

The U. S. Forest Service has instigated a new program known as the Carbon Capital Fund where consumers can "offset" their carbon emissions by investing in projects in national forests to plant trees and improve water quality, increase wildlife habitat and help restore public lands damaged by natural disasters. For every \$6 donated, one metric ton of carbon dioxide emissions can be offset. The Forest Service has identified several reforestation projects including ones in the Custer National Forest in Montana and South Dakota and another in Idaho's Payette National forest. All you need to do is go to www.carboncapitalfund.org and you can offset your own carbon emissions by purchasing carbon credits. Check it out.

—Judy Butler

Victory Boxes for gardening!

Tarrant County Master Gardener's will pack and ship Victory Boxes containing children's items for gardening to send to military personal in Iraq and Afghanistan for distribution helping Our Soldiers Teach Children to Garden in Iraq and Afghanistan.

For example, Major Leland Suttee, USMC Commander of Civil Affairs, in Ramadi, Iraq would like to have as many as 200 Victory Boxes when school starts in September. He will then start working with the teachers in the schools to build school gardens. We also have six other military contacts who want Gardening Victory Boxes.

Please bring something (new or used) to put in a Gardening Victory Box: Most of the children and adults who will receive a Gardening Victory Box can use anything – so feel free to include other things besides gardening items if you have extra space! We're suggesting these items listed below as an example.

Please write "GARDENING" on the outside of the box – on the same side as the Victory Box number.

To get your VICTORY BOXES to fill, call Mary Margaret Halleck at (817) 251-1201, call Mary McCoy at (817) 561-0598, email Margaret at :

halleck@mac.com

or visit this website.

www.victoryboxes.com

Thank you for you patriotism and your support! I can't thank you all enough!



For a child

- Gardening book for Kids (pictures)
- Coloring book of butterflies and insects
- Kids watering can, fork, spade, and shovel
- Markers, soap, nailbrush and towel
- Seeds (see below)
- Snacks, T-shirt, socks, sandals
- Plastic sunglasses, hair bands, barrette
- Band aids, Kleenex, sun visor, baseball cap
- Kids gardening gloves/apron

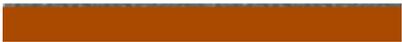
For an adult

- Gardening book (pictures)
- Notebook pen/pencils, String, manicure kit
- Gardening tools
- Soap, nailbrush and towel
- Seeds (see below)
- Snacks, T-shirt, socks, sandals
- Plastic sunglasses, hair bands, barrette
- Band aids, Kleenex, sun visor, baseball cap
- Gloves/apron

Suggested seeds: Lettuce, tomato, okra, eggplant, onions, lentils.



RAFFLE



Due to the generous support of every one, the raffle raised \$212 at the August meeting.

Please remember to bring your items. We truly appreciate everything you bring, the tickets you purchase & your joy of winning.

A big thank you to the Community Gardens, Union Gospel Mission, the Children's Garden, the Trial Garden, the Perennial Garden, Teen Challenge, Alice Carlson OLE, Fitzgerald OLE & Oakhurst OLE. They will each be receiving \$111 for their projects from the June Silent Auction & Garage Sale.

Thanks to everyone again for making this such a successful event.

—Your Raffle Committee

Community Demonstration Garden

The following are the "go to people" for the areas of the Community Demonstration Garden indicated:

Mowing/Edging: Larry Matl, larrymarymatl@charter.net, 817-293-2114

Barn beds: Charlotte Berck, wrberck@peoplepc.com, 817-426-6417

TCU students: Pat Higgins, Ragdoll-patb@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 (in development): Joann Hahn 817-923-9250 & Ginger Bason gbason@hotmail.com, 817-838-7321

—Submitted by Ginger Bason

Native Plant Sale for Wildscape



When: Saturday, September 29th, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Where: Greenhouse at Randol Mill Park (NOT at Veterans Park)

Address: 1901 W. Randol Mill Road, Arlington

Proceeds go to Wildscape.

Details to be announced at the meeting.

FALL FERTILIZER SALE

Fertilizer for fall application will be available for purchase and pickup at the September 6 Master Gardener meeting.



The fertilizer analysis is 28-0-0 with 50% slow release. It is sold in 50 pound bags. The current estimated price is \$12 per 50 pound bag.

—Jim Nelson

COLORING BOOK

Union Gospel Mission, a project for Tarrant County Master Gardener Association, felt a need to educate the children living at the mission. Because of the Texas Master Gardeners emphasis on education, Bill Hall, a volunteer at the mission, came up with the idea of a coloring book for the mission children. He enlisted Nancy Curl, intern, to coordinate the wording and layout of the coloring book and Carolyn Critz volunteered to do artwork.

After many hours of work, a copy of the coloring book was presented to the Executive Board and then to entire membership asking for funds to print 600 copies to be used to distribute at Home and Garden shows, to be used in Junior Master Gardener programs or other TCMGA projects that involve children.

The plan is to have a series of coloring books: Good bug, Bad bug, Trees of Texas, Vegetables, and one on composting. Gay Larson, Union Gospel Mission project coordinator, is very proud of the dedicated and talented TCMGA volunteers.

The coloring book will be used for the enjoyment and gardening knowledge of the children at the mission many times a year by the TCMGA volunteers.

— Gay Larson



Birthdays for this month

9-1	Claire Alford
9-3	Jim Potter
9-5	Deirdre Pope
9-6	Kate Kilmurray
9-9	Shari Stanfield
9-10	Maurine Wood
9-11	Sandra Keath
9-12	Judy Sargent and Allison Sonnenberg
9-15	Rachel Clark
9-17	Elizabeth Snider and Mary Nell Hubbard
9-20	Vicki Moore
9-21	Sara Landzion
9-22	L. J. Williams
9-24	Mercy Guerrero, Garrett Tucker and Jack Matthews
9-30	Sally Porter and Marjie Nelson

—by LaVonne Nowlin

DIRECTORY CHANGES

By Carl Trehus (c.trehus@gte.net)

Address Correction:

Susie Earnest, 250 Pennsylvania, Apt 115 (not Apt. 15)

Address Changes:

Moira Brunken, 7204 Belle Meade Dr.

Jim Beeler, 300 Huguley Blvd. Apt. 210, Burleson, TX 76028-7525, beeler300@charter.net

Claudia Cimma, 1608 Virginia Place, Fort Worth, 76107, Phone & Email remain the same

Email Change:

JoAnn Perdue joannperdue1@att.net

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	817-472-7264
		Barbara Gates	817-465-6656
326 Teen Challenge	Every Wed. 9 a.m.	Debbie Bollinger	817-498-1508
328 Community Garden	Tues & Fri 8-11 am	Jim Nelson	817-688-2842
401 Composting Demo	1 st Sat.	Don Graves	817-465-1667
	2 nd Sat.	Charlie Shiner	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	Wendi Carlucci	817-488-5640
	2nd Tues, 8-11 a.m.		
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

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
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

09/11	S-08 MG Intern Class Orientation
09/14 - 09/16	FW H&G Show
09/21	Little Hands on the Farm planting day
09/26 - 09/28	Earth-Kind Specialist Training in Odessa
10/02 - 11/27	MG Level II Classes
10/10	MG Intern Class Interviews
10/14	Garden Conservancy Tour
10/18	Earth-Kind Rose Symposium @ FWBG
10/24 - 10/25	MG Greenhouse Specialist Training



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