



Sharecropper



Tarrant County Master Gardener Association

January 2015

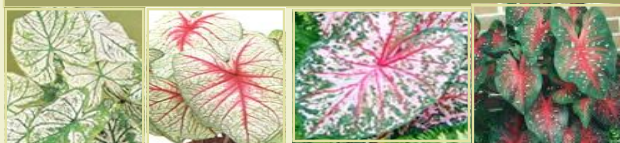
**January
2015**

Inside this issue:

2014 Highlights	1
2014 Awards	2
President's Message	3
TCMGA Meeting Minutes	4
Gardening Tips & Tidbits	6
Announcements	8
Education Opportunities	10
Upcoming Events	11

2014 Highlights

February 2014 Caladium Sale



**February
Regional
Tomato Conference**
A great success!

June Garage Sale



Tarrant County Master Gardener Association
Field Trip
April 24, 2014



Saturday, April 12, 9am - 3pm

Tarrant County Master Gardener
2014 Plant Sale



"George W. Bush Library July
Grounds Tour"



**Vendor
Day- May 1 -**

September Bulb and Fertilizer Sale

Tarrant County Master Gardener Fall Bulb Sale
2014



Hortipalooza '14!

OCTOBER 25, 2014

Northeast Tarrant 5 Garden Tour

Wonderful weather for learning about hardscapes, Framing and those wonderful fall bloomers.



Permian Basin Master Gardeners
on September 25-27, 2014



TCMGA

2014
FALL TREE AND SHRUB
PLANT SALE

November



**October Tyler
Rose Field Trip**

REMEMBER!

**TCMGA
January
Meeting Moved to
Wednesday
January 7, 2015**

**TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION**

If you have an idea or would like
to contribute to the newsletter,
please contact Jackie Heidinger
jackieheidinger@verizon.net

2014 TCMGA AWARDS

School Projects

Alice Carlson OLE	Julie Taber
Durham OLE	Henry Cole
Fitzgerald OLE	Richard Kurth
Heritage OLE	Rob Porter

Environmental Projects

SW Sub-Courthouse	Julie Taber
Veteran's Park Wildscape	Beverly Crawford
Bob Jones Natural Center	Marilyn Johnson
SW Hulen Library	Char McMorro
Ft. Worth Nature Center	Dianne Hughes

Community Gardens

Demonstration Garden at Resource Connection

Overall	Pat Lovejoy
Herb Garden	Carol Vance
Orchard	Barry Smith
Greenhouse	Claire Alford

Other Public Community Gardens

Common Ground NRH	Dick Pafford
6 Stones/City of Bedford	Bob Lundin

Other Community Gardens

JPS Meditation Garden	Joan McRay
Teen Challenge	Mike Warren
Samaritan House	Otto Witt
Thistle Hill	Cindy Wakeley
Union Gospel Mission	Lori Grandclair-Diaz

Fort Worth Botanic Gardens

Perennial Garden	Paula Billman
Trial Garden	Otto Witt
Backyard Vegetable Garden	Andy Crapper and Margaret Shuping

BRIT

BRIT	Gus Guthrie
------	-------------

Extra Mile and Gardener of the Year

**2014 Master Gardener
of the Year
Patsy Miller**



Master Gardener Extra Mile
Educator of the Year

Otto Witt
Mike Warren

Interns

Extra Mile Intern
Intern of the Year

Glen Dickerson
Adele Claeson

Special Recognition Awards

Special Recognition

Bill Vandever
Bill Hall

Special Merit Award

Judy Ratzlaff—"Intern Mom"

Special Merit Award

Jackie Heidinger—Sharecropper

Most Hours Worked

Sher Dunaway -1,887 hours

*"Mr. Ed" Award
(most telephone hours)*

Barry Smith

Outstanding MG support

Veronica Cabral and
Billie Hammack

UGM Fundraiser

Gay Larson—2015 Journal was
dedicated to Kim Freeman

500+ Hours

Sher Dunaway	Harold Annis	Eleanor Tuck
Starr Krottinger	Patsy Miller	Dick Pafford
Taddie Hamilton	Sue Kelley	Ginger Bason
Nancy Curl	Theresa Thomas	Steve Purdy
Judy Ratzlaff	Bill Vandever	James Nelson
Otto Witt	Gus Guthrie	Bill Hall
Betty Story	Linda Hawkins	



**Marilyn Satterfield,
TCMGA President**

President's Message

Hello Master Gardeners,

A new year and a new season ahead! This is a good time to be thinking about setting goals for this coming year.

Let's think about what we would like to accomplish in our personal lives and together as an association.

We are the biggest and best Master Gardener Association in the state, so let's do bigger and better things in 2015!

Each one of you is a valuable member with unique talents and gifts that we need you to share, so we can grow and learn from each other; and then use it for the betterment of our communities.

There are many opportunities throughout the year to get involved. So do something that you haven't done before, volunteer at the Home and Garden Show, volunteer to speak at your church or grandchild's school, answer the phones at the office (yes, the phones, they won't bite!), or volunteer at one of our many projects you haven't been to yet and make some new friends.

Also, the biggest and best associations go to the State Conferences, so let's all go in April this year!.

So, I challenge you to think bigger, set higher goals and let's make 2015 the best year yet!

**Marilyn Satterfield
TCMGA President**



TCMGA General Meeting— December 2014

Patsy Miller called the meeting to order at 12.22 PM.

Member Richard Kurth gave the invocation.

Patsy introduced the following people – Steve Chaney, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service horticultural agent; Billie Hammack, administrative assistant for commercial and horticultural agents; Veronica Cabral, extension administrative assistant; and member emeritus Ed Vaughan.

The November minutes – there were no corrections; minutes approved as published.

Executive Board

Programs: Marianne Levine, 1st vice president, January meeting date is changed to Wednesday January 7, 2015.

Steve Chaney Report:

Please turn in all Master Gardener hours.

Treasurer: Starr Krottinger, Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance as of November 1, 2014	\$35,965.02
Expenditures	\$ 4,591.41
Deposits	<u>\$ 4,858.52</u>
Ending Balance as of November 30, 2014	\$36,232.13
There were no questions, and the treasurer's report was filed.	

Continued on next page

Committee Reports

Awards Committee: Lena Goff, Chair; Sue Kelley, Debby Haberly, Marilyn Satterfield presented the following awards:

- Big Cheese – Steve Chaney
- Special Recognition – Bill Vandever and Bill Hall
- Special Merit – Jackie Heidinger for Sharecropper
- Special Merit – Judy Ratzlaff – Intern “Mom”
- Most Hours Worked Sher Dunaway – 1887 hours
- “Mr. Ed” Award – most telephone hours worked – Barry Smith
- Outstanding MG support – Veronica Cabral & Billie Hammack
- Project Nomination Awards
 - Demonstration Garden at the Resource Connection
 - Community Garden (overall) – Pat Lovejoy
 - Community Garden (Herb Garden) – Carol Vance
 - Community Garden (Orchard) – Barry Smith
 - Community Garden (Greenhouse) – Claire Alford
 - Other Public Community Gardens
 - Grapevine Botanical Gardens Docents – Sara Stover
 - Common Ground NRH Community Garden – Dick Pafford
 - 6 Stones/City of Bedford – Bob Lundin
 - JPS Meditation Garden – Joan McRay
 - Teen Challenge – Mike Warren
 - Samaritan House – Otto Witt
 - Thistle Hill – Cindy Wakeley
 - Union Gospel Mission – Lori Grandclair-Diaz
 - Fort Worth Botanic Garden
 - Perennial Garden – Paula Billman
 - Trial Garden – Otto Witt
 - Backyard Vegetable Garden - Andy Crapper & Margaret Shuping
 - BRIT – Gus Guthrie
- School Projects
 - Alice Carlson OLE – Julie Taber
 - Durham Elementary – Henry Cole
 - Heritage School Ole – Rob Porter
 - Fitzgerald OLE – Richard Kurth
- Environmental Projects
 - SW Sub-Courthouse - Julie Taber
 - Veteran’s Park Wildscape – Beverly Crawford
 - Bob Jones Natural Center – Marilyn Johnson
 - SW Hulen Library – Char McMorrow
 - Fort Worth Nature Center – Dianne Hughes

Announcements

Announcements:

Cindy Woelke – hip surgery

Nan Garvin – seriously ill

Steve Purdy – surgery

LaVonne Nowlin, 2015 Sunshine Chairperson has sent them cards. Contact her if you know of ill members or deaths in immediate family.

- 500+ hours - Sher Dunaway, Harold Annis, Eleanor Tuck, Starr Krottinger, Patsy Miller, Dick Pafford, Taddie Hamilton, Sue Kelley, Ginger Bason, Nancy Curl, Theresa Thomas, Steve Purdy, Judy Ratzlaff, Bill Vandever, James Nelson, Otto Witt, Gus Guthrie, Bill Hall, Betty Story, Linda Hawkins

• Intern Awards

- Intern Extra Mile – Glen Dickerson
- Intern of the Year – Adele Claeson

• Master Gardener Awards

- Educator of the Year – Mike Warren
- Extra Mile Award – Otto Witt
- Master Gardener of the Year – Patsy Miller

Union Gospel Mission Fundraiser – Gay Larson – Garden Journal is dedicated to Kim Freeman.

Installation of 2015 Officers - Hester Schwarz was installing officer.

- President—Marilyn Satterfield
- 1st Vice President—Marianne Levine
- 2nd Vice President—Cecil Ray
- Treasurer—Starr Krottinger
- Secretary—Theresa Thomas

2015 President, Marilyn Satterfield, thanked the outgoing officers and welcomed the 2015 officers. Special thank you for Marianne Levine for coordinating the luncheon and to the Awards Committee.

Unfinished Business – none.

New Business – none.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.

**Respectfully Submitted by:
Theresa Kay Thomas, Secretary.**

Nora's Notions

Which Side of the Fence?

By Nora Coalson

Years ago I heard Luciano Pavarotti's voice coach tell a story about the late, great tenor. Pavarotti could not decide what he wanted to be, a singer or a teacher. His coach's response was simple: "It doesn't matter which side of the fence you chose, Luciano. But chose you must. Straddling the fence will get you mediocrity."

Master Gardening instruction has left me, and probably some of you, with a similar conundrum. Each fact-filled lecture left me enthused and determined to embrace and incorporate the concepts into my own landscape. I raced to Herrmann's to buy Red yucca and Texas Gold Columbine after the native plant talk. Dotty Woodson's lectures on water conservation and drip irrigation propelled me around the yard searching for station valves so I could convert some of my yard to this water-saving genie. I dutifully dug into my rock-filled back yard for the soil to send off for testing.

Sorting through conflicting ideas (and ideals) made my frame of mind somewhat schizophrenic. The landscaping practices in the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens are at odds with those of the Molly Hollar Wildscape. Removing most of my grass to conserve water puts me at odds with my neighbors. And the thought of pulling out a perfectly healthy *Nandina domestica* because it is considered invasive is at odds with my "live and let live" philosophy of life.

My efforts this year have incorporated much trial and many errors. Drought-tolerant Red yuccas flirt with pansies in my front beds, though planting three yuccas in a clump on either side of my front walkway might have been ill-conceived. My Texas Gold columbine appears to be a midget variety which does not flower. The drip irrigation trial resulted in a net increase in my water use and billing. And the soil testing left me scratching my head over the slightly acidic result for my back yard, but slightly alkaline front. Huh?

As the year ends and I've had the opportunity to visit gardening sites around the county, the true gift of Master Gardening instruction has become more apparent. Those gifts include exposure to a vast body of horticultural knowledge, researched data bases for answering questions, introduction to local plant vendors offering discounts, and trips to nearby public and private gardens. For me the most gracious gift of all has been the opportunity to rub elbows with my fellow Master Gardeners. It is that collective and vast warm-blooded body of knowledge that keeps me engaged and wanting to learn more.

Which side of the fence am I going to stand on? Will I wholeheartedly embrace drought-tolerant landscaping, eschewing the beauty of my much-loved annual pansies and impatiens? Or will I take the easy way out and not change a thing in my yard, indulging in some water-hogging beauties and sneaking in an extra watering while confessing my sins to the priest (who pre-

sumably won't tell on me to the water board).

Listening to the talk at monthly meetings has given me a third alternative. Unlike Luciano, I am going to straddle the fence a while longer. Gardening is a new role for me. I have much more to learn before my "side" becomes clear. A recent trip to the Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge has me leaning over to the water-as-little-as-possible side. To fully embrace that, however, I would have to get my annual 'fix' at the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens or Dallas Arboretum. Maybe that drip irrigation can help with my fence-straddling ways.

If educating the public is our stated goal, then educating myself must precede that. A myriad of opportunities are offered monthly. Every conversation with a fellow Master Gardener yields a new nugget. There are so many possible fences to straddle in this endeavor that I think even Luciano Pavarotti would have had difficulty making a choice. But he would sing all the way through the process, as will I.



About Nora

Nora is a 2014 TCMGA Intern. You will see more articles from Nora under "Nora's Notions" in the coming year. Her articles are both entertaining and educational. We are very pleased to have her as a Media Committee member!



School Planting Guide

By Pam Braak and Harold Annis

Some general suggestions:

- Each garden is different depending on the people involved and the interests of the students and teachers – make it a place for learning and discovery.
- The primary goal for a school garden is for students to grow plants from start to finish
- Involve as many students, teachers and volunteers as possible.

Steps for developing a school garden

- Find a group of volunteers for both building the garden and maintaining it long term.
- Look for funding from the PTA, local garden clubs and outside sources.
- Select a site that:
 - Gets at least **6 hours** of sun per day
 - Is close to the classrooms
 - Has a water source at the site
 - Is well drained
 - Is away from encroaching grass and weeds
- Remove all grass and weeds
- Amend the soil
- Install irrigation, preferably automatic
- Mulch
- Maintain the garden on a regular basis

Start small

Adjacent is a spring planting guide. All these dates have a range of a couple of weeks either side based on the long range weather forecast. Only plants that can be harvested before school is out are included. So sorry, no tomatoes, peppers or corn.

Average Last Freeze date for the DFW area: March 16

Average First Freeze date for the DFW area: November 21

	Vegetable		Plant Dates		Days to Harvest	Harvest Length	Kill Temp
			After	Before			
JANUARY							
	Onions (plants)	plant	6-Jan	6-Mar	80 - 120	May - June	25°
FEBRUARY							
	Beets	seed	3-Feb	17-Feb	50 - 60	April - May	25°
	Broccoli	plant	3-Feb	17-Feb	60 - 80	April - May	25°
	Cabbage	plant	3-Feb	17-Feb	60 - 90	April - May	25°
	Swiss Chard	seed	3-Feb	3-Mar	45 - 55	April - May	25°
	Collard (Kale)	seed	3-Feb	3-Mar	45 - 55	April - May	25°
	Lettuce, all varieties	seed	3-Feb	31-Mar	40 - 80	April - May	28°
	Potato, Irish	potato piece	3-Feb	17-Feb	75 - 100	May	32°
	Radish	seed	3-Feb	14-Apr	25 - 40	Mar - May	28°
	Spinach	seed	20-Jan	10-Mar	40 - 60	Mar - May	25°
	Turnip	seed	3-Feb	3-Mar	30 - 60	Mar - May	25°
MARCH							
	Beans, Snap, Bush	seed	17-Mar	14-Apr	45 - 60	May - June	32°
	Cucumber	seed	17-Mar	28-Apr	50 - 70	May - June	32°
	Lettuce, all varieties	seed	3-Feb	31-Mar	40 - 80	April - May	28°
	Mustard	seed	17-Mar	28-Apr	30 - 40	April - May	25°
	Radish	seed	3-Feb	14-Apr	25 - 40	Mar - May	28°
	Spinach	seed	20-Jan	10-Mar	40 - 60	Mar - May	25°
APRIL							
	Beans - Snap & Bush	seed	17-Mar	14-Apr	45 - 60	May	32°
	Lettuce, all varieties	seed	3-Feb	31-Mar	40 - 80	May	28°
	Mustard	seed	17-Mar	28-Apr	30 - 40	May	25°
	Radish	seed	3-Feb	14-Apr	25 - 40	May	28°
MAY							
	Nothing						

January 2015 Program

Our speaker for January will be Randy Weston of Weston Gardens, his topic will be "Lawn Alternatives".

Marianne Levine
Program Chair

JANUARY TCMGA MEETING MOVED!

New meeting date is now
Wednesday, January 7, 2015
At
Resource Connection

- 1 Concha Jones
- 2 Linda Winn
- 7 Barbara Weidler, Kathy Glen, Joe McCreary
- 9 Jerry Tuttle
- 10 Barbara Durnan
- 11 Nancy Hudson
- 12 Sandy Flory
- 13 Paula Wilbanks
- 15 Sally Harris
- 18 Dave Wilson
- 19 Maurine Lewis
- 20 Demetra Larramore, Marilyn Cox, Starr Krottinger
- 21 Nancy Dozier, Marsha Thompson
- 22 Betty Floyd, Eleanor Tuck
- 23 Sharon Schide
- 24 Linda Kittson
- 26 Janine Mann
- 27 Glenda Page
- 29 Liz Moyer
- 31 Dolores Geisel

Happy Birthday!
January 2015

If your birthday is this month and you don't see it, please contact

LaVonne Nowlin
(817) 581-1850 or email
lavonnen@sbcglobal.net.

A buy, sell and swap column in the Sharecropper



Have I Got A Deal For You!

Now Master Gardeners will be able to buy, sell or swap garden/yard-related items with other members. Simply fill out the online form at <https://www.formstack.com/forms/?1848401-Xn4twek0Da>

Sale Item must be property of MG or immediate family and worth a minimum value of \$10 and a maximum value of \$500.

FROM THE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:

In this holiday season what better gift could you give your fellow Master Gardener than to share your knowledge during a CEU event. What a delight it was to select a class and glean information from Glenn, Ginger, Debbie, Sandy, Jeanie, and Steve.



Nan Garvin

September 26, 1938 – December 14, 2014

Nan joined TCMGA in 2007 and was project leader for the Rose Garden at the Resource Garden and a member of the Fort Worth Rose Society. She will be missed by all her knew her.

MEMORIAL BRICK

Order your Memorial Brick for the Community Demonstration Garden now!

Order form can be found at tarrantmg.org

Newsletter Changes!

- TCMGA Project information is now located on the TCMGA website under the Projects tab.
- TCMGA Leadership information can be found on the TCMGA website:

Tarrantmg.org



Join the Ranks of Citizen Forester!

If you are interested in learning more about trees and are willing to volunteer to help care for and maintain the public trees in your town, then Citizen Forester is for you!

The Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council (CTUFC) is now accepting applications for the Citizen Forester 2015 training class. Participants will receive 30 combined hours of classroom instruction and “hands-on” field training. Training sessions will be held at various locations in Grapevine from 9 am to 4 pm on the following six Wednesdays: January 28th, February 25th, March 25th, April 8th, April 29th and May 20th. All classroom sessions, with the exception of March 25th, will take place at the Bessie Mitchell house in the Grapevine Botanic Gardens.

The Citizen Forester program presents a wonderful opportunity for individuals to become skilled at planting, pruning, and maintaining trees in an urban environment. Topics include identification of recommended native and adapted trees, proper hands-on planting and pruning experience, benefits of trees, tree risk assessment and other relevant urban forestry topics.

With the skills acquired through the program and through the guidance of parks and recreation professionals, Citizen Foresters are making lasting contributions to community forests throughout North Texas. In exchange for their training, Citizen Forester volunteers provide a minimum of 20 hours of community service to their local town, city or county towards projects that involve trees on public property. Since the program’s inception in 2006, Citizen Foresters have proven to be an invaluable resource to municipalities striving to stay abreast of public tree management. In a relatively short time period, these dedicated volunteers have provided thousands of volunteer hours towards:

- Planting trees
- Conducting tree inventories and assessments of local parks
- Maintaining the tree inventory of a municipal tree farm which is used for neighborhood tree planting programs
- Pruning trees growing in street medians and along major commercial corridors managed by park and recreation professionals
- Staffing educational outreach and tree give-away events
- Completing urban forestry filing and data entry projects
- Inspecting parade routes for low limbs overhanging the street.

Class schedule and application form can be found at tarrantmg.org

The training class is limited to 40 participants. There is a \$50 registration fee to help pay for related program expenses. The fee will be paid for by the Grapevine residents by the Grapevine Parks & Recreation Department. Participants are also responsible for out-of-pocket travel and lunch expenses. The application deadline is Thursday, January 15, 2015. Late registration is \$60. To view the application, and for information, go to ctu.fc.com or call Pat Fairchild at 817-846-4490 or Lisa Grove at 817-532-7343. Information will soon be provided on the Grapevine Parks & Recreation Facebook page as well as the website.

Irrigation Efficiency Specialist – Bexar County

March 23, 2015 @ 8:00 am - March 25, 2015 @ 5:00 pm

More info can be found at

<http://txmg.org/event/irrigation-efficiency-specialist-bexar-county/>





SPRING 2015 SEMINAR

WE  VEGETABLES!

**BY COMAL MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION AND
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION SERVICE**



**FEATURING TOMATOES*, KEYHOLE
GARDENS, AND NUTRITION**

February 21, 2015, 8:50 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
McKenna Events Center—New Braunfels, Texas
801 West San Antonio Street, Zip 78130

Website: <http://txmga.org/comal/events/seminar/>
Email: seminar@ComalMasterGardeners.org



State Conference

April 16, 2015 @ 8:00 am - April 17, 2015 @ 5:00 pm

2015 TEXAS MASTER GARDENER CONFERENCE

