



Sharecropper



Tarrant County Master Gardener Association

July 2014

July
2014

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"George W. Bush Library Grounds Tour"

By Claire Alford, Activities Chair



What great weather for the president George W. Bush Library Grounds Tour which occurred on Thursday, May 22. The grounds are open to visitors without paying to go into the museum.

The Library Grounds are a 15-acre park, designed with forebays and bioswales. A forebay is an artificial pool of water in front of a larger body of water. Bioswales are landscape elements designed to remove silt and pollution from surface runoff water.

Water from the paved service area and the building is filtered before it is released into the bioswales. The water is discharged into the forebay, where large limestone blocks temporarily detain the water, slowing down its velocity and allowing sediments to settle out. Their under ground cistern holds 250,000 gallons of water.

One of the most widespread ecologies on the site is the tall-and short-grass Prairie, composed of Big Bluestem, Little Bluestem, Indian Grass, and Switchgrass among many other grass species. The persistent prairie species cover both gentle and steep slopes, and are accented by seasonal wildflowers such as Horsemint, Coneflowers, Daisies, and Indian Blanket. After the establishment period, this native plant community will require no irrigation. Designed for something to bloom year round.

The nearly nine acres of lawn at the Bush Center are a mixture of short prairie grasses, making them considerably more sustainable than typical commercial lawns. The native mix—which includes Buffalo Grass, Blue Grama, Texas Grama, Poverty Dropseed and Curly Mesquite—is drought tolerant, needs limited mowing, and requires minimal fertilization. With the change in our Metroplex's' watering we may all want to look into this native grass variety.



TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

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

(Continued on page 2)

“George W. Bush Library Grounds Tour”— continued



You can purchase the **Habiturf** mixture at

<http://www.wildflower.org/howto/show.php?id=11/>

or

Douglass King Co. <http://www.dkseeds.com/our-products/kings-native-grass-and-wildlife-mixes>

For more information on the landscape visit:

<http://www.bushcenter.org/bush-center/building-and-landscape-design>

scroll down to the **fact sheet section**. You will find garden sections listing the native plants used in that section. As well as the Texas Rose Garden, designed to resemble the White House Rose Garden.

Also, SMU Perkins theological Seminary has a community garden. It is a requirement for their seniors to learn how to start and maintain a community garden.





**Patsy Miller,
TCMGA President**

“The June meeting is our Garage Sale where we find that one gardener’s excess is another gardener’s must-have.”



President’s Message

Hello Master Gardeners,

Thank you for another fun Garage Sale and silent auction. Hopefully, you found something you couldn’t live without and also learned about the work of our project teams, Bokashi composting and sharpening your garden tools.

Rocky Deutscher is in charge of our projects and in coming weeks, she will be telling us about some of the lesser-known groups and how we might help. Some of them may be close to you and would be a convenient place to volunteer.

Speaking of volunteers, in Master Gardeners we have them in all guises. You may have seen the thank you note from Hospitality Chair Lisann Cundall for the work of her committee who come early and stay late after the meetings. Beginning with the July meeting, we will return to our coffee-only format, but they will still be there early to set up and clean.

The Ways and Means Committee and Swap Table Committee also has dedicated volunteers who devote hours before the meeting fulfilling orders and at the meeting setting up and arranging the logo items, special sale items, raffle and garage sale. Swap table volunteers set up your donations of plants, seeds and magazines.

While a lot of work is involved, it is a great way to meet other MGs and see how the organization works – and you earn hours! Remember, that the Resource Connection has asked us to clean the tables before we leave. That is a way we all can help.

One volunteer job is coming to an end. For several years, Lance Jepson has headed a team that has included Pat Higgins, Linda Hawkins, LaVonne Nowlin, Charlie Shiner, Char McMorro, Nancy Curl, Joann Hahn, Hester Schwarzer, Bill Vandever and Nan Garvin who provided special training to TCU dietetic students. They taught soil composition and soil nutrition,

water collection, vegetables, herbs, propagation, composting, raised beds, fruit trees and more which provided skills and knowledge not learned in the students’ typical classroom studies. TCU is now partnering with Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine which does not allow time for this MG-sponsored rotation. These folks love to teach and serve and I know they will be finding other ways to help.

Thanks to all of you who volunteered to supervise the plantings at the Resource Connection, giving up part of your week-end. The RC provides us many free “extras” and so the organization tries to meet a need when the RC staff asks.

We have heard from the Texas Home and Garden folks and they want Master Gardeners to provide most of the speakers on the main stage at the August 16-17 show. I have provided them with some topic ideas and will be contacting speakers to complete a schedule. We will also need volunteers for our booth. It is a great way to publicize the work of Master Gardeners and the public appreciates the information we offer.

We will begin planning for the 2015 Regional Conference. The one-topic, all-day conference seemed to be a winner and we are looking for topic ideas. Some suggestions include: Everything You Wanted to Know About Citrus Trees, Everything You Wanted to Know About Vegetable Gardening, Everything You Wanted to Know About Legumes.

What’s your topic idea that would be appealing not only to other Master Gardeners, but the public as well?

Appreciate all that you do. It takes everyone to make us the number one Master Gardener association in Texas!

**Patsy Miller
TCMGA President**

TCMGA General Meeting— June 2014

Patsy Miller, president, called the June 5 meeting to order at 10:04 am.

There are 203 members present making a quorum (15 %) for the business meeting.

Patsy had our visitors stand and introduce themselves.

The minutes of the May meeting were published in the June newsletter. With no corrections, the minutes were approved as published.

Executive Board

Programs: Marianne Levine, 1st vice president. July Speaker will be Garrett Harrier “Trouble Shooting Trees” Two Breakout Sessions today – 10:45 am Bokashi Composting by Marianne Levine and 11:00 am Tool Sharpening by Dave Wilson – both in the Oak Room

Holiday Luncheon – Woman’s Club of FW, December 4

Ways & Means: Marilyn Satterfield Garage Sale is open from 10:30 to 12:30.

Steve Chaney: This is Steve’s 10th year and he thanked everyone for all the work they had done since he has been County Agent.

On June 7 and June 8, he would like MGs help at the Resource Connection to supervise laborers that will be doing planting at the RC. They will start at 8:30 am, meeting at the 1100 Building.

Starr Krottinger, Treasurer

For Month ending May 31, 2014

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Beginning Balance on May 1, 2014: | \$43,463.45 |
| Checks, transfer and adjustments | \$4,870.96 |
| Deposits | <u>\$2,715.49</u> |
| Ending Balance on May 31, 2014 | \$41,307.98 |

There were no questions. The treasurer’s report is filed.

Continued on next page

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee – Linda Hawkins, Chairperson, announced she needed MGs that would want to be a part of the committee. The committee consists of a Chair and 4 members. The committee will be voted on at the July Meeting. Jackie Peel, Linda Winn, Dorothy Hildebrand, Grace Nash and Bill Vandever volunteered. Linda said if anyone else wanted to volunteer see her after the meeting.

Announcements

- Reminder that the state conference is Sept 25-27 in Odessa. Go to the state web site tmg.org and information is on home page.
- The garage sale will open at the close of this meeting. Can also visit the project booths and participate in their silent auctions.
- The winner of the quilt raffle was Peggy Harwood.
- Forgotten items – There was a table by Hospitality of items MGs had left at previous meetings. Please check it out.
- Dorothy Hildebrand has logo items that had been ordered.
- Dick Oliver had a mystery plant to ID for a prize.

Unfinished Business – none

New Business – none

The business meeting adjourned at 10:19 AM.

**Submitted by
Theresa Kay Thomas,
Secretary**

Gardening Tips & Tidbits

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Water Conservation

The lawn

and garden are a great place to practice water efficiency. Use them as a clean slate to stimulate creativity in your choice of colorful, drought tolerant plants, shrubs and trees.

Watering Tips

- Water deeply and infrequently, about one inch every 5-7 days.
- Water early in the morning to reduce evaporation.
- Watch for signs of thirst in your lawn and water only when needed.
- Water slowly for better absorption. With clay soils, turn off the sprinkler when runoff occurs. Wait 20 minutes for water to absorb into ground. Dig a test hole to see how deeply it absorbed. Repeat steps until the water penetrates six inches deep.
- Never water on windy days.
- Consider using drip irrigation in flower and vegetable gardens for greater water efficiency.
- Discover the beauty and benefits of mulch. Mulch helps your soil retain water around plants. Apply at least two inches around shrubs, trees, plants and vegetable gardens, several times a year.
- Eliminate unwanted weeds which drink water intended for plants.
- Install a rain sensor to prevent water waste.
- Keep grass blades longer in the summer. This will shade the soil and provide better water retention.



Source: Ft. Worth Water Department Website

You Know You're a Master Gardener When:



You'd rather go to a nursery to shop than a clothes store.

July 2014 Program

Gareth Harrier holds an undergraduate degree in international studies with a minor in horticulture and a Master's degree in arboriculture from Texas A&M. After completing his Master's in December 2004, he began working for Bartlett Tree Experts in Dallas where he worked his way up from plant health care technician to Arborist Representative. He has been an ISA Certified Arborist since 2005 and has been OSA Board Certified Master Arborist since 2011. Gareth is a certified Texas Oak Wilt Specialist. He is vice-president of the Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council and board member of the City of Irving Tree Advisory Board and Camp Bowie District beautification committee. Bartlett has 'adopted' several trees around the city of Fort Worth-the live oak behind BRIT, the Ruth Carter Stevenson heritage live oak in the courtyard at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History and a triple trunked live oak along the Chisolm Trail Tollway at Vickery and Hulen. Gareth also helps manage several local research projects under the direction of the Barletta Tree Research lab in Charlotte, NC.

His topic for the July meeting is 'Common Pests and Diseases of North Texas Trees'. We look forward to his talk and anticipating a good Q &A session.

Marianne Levine
1st Vice President



Happy Birthday!
July 2014

| | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Debbie Rasmussen |
| 4 | Tally Scott, Julie Brown |
| 5 | Don Graves, Linda Stuard |
| 6 | Barbara Finholt, Char McMorro, Nancy West(I) |
| 7 | Flora Dalegowski |
| 10 | Rebecca Danvers, Pat Engel |
| 13 | Virginia Wright (I) |
| 18 | Doris Hill |
| 19 | Joyce Hallbauer |
| 20 | Peggy Falconer |
| 22 | Catherine Vollmer |
| 23 | Bev Nelson |
| 24 | Tammy Edwards |
| 27 | Theresa Kay Thomas |
| 28 | Diane Geiser |
| 30 | Sally Simpson, Susan Thorton (I) |
| 31 | June Gernhauser |

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

Doris Hill,
(817) 337-8484 or email
artanddorishill@verizon.net

Directory/Membership Updates

We will start collecting Membership dues at the August monthly meeting. Dues are \$20. If you are over 80 years of age, the dues are \$10. You can pay in cash or by check made out to TCMGA. Dues must be paid by Oct 31, 2014.

Please note that some TCMGA members will owe an additional \$10 for an update to their Background Investigation. This update is required every three years. You will be notified by e-mail if you require a Background update. If you have questions, please call Steve Purdy.

Steve Purdy
Membership

TCMGA PROJECTS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Tarrant County Master Gardeners have wonderful opportunities to share their expertise and enthusiasm and to satisfy certification requirements through the projects that have been approved for volunteer hours.

The Projects Committee, chaired by Rocky Deutscher, met in late January to “brainstorm” how the committee and the Master Gardener Association could assist each group. It was determined that a visit would be made to each project with an early summer completion date targeted.

Committee members would gather general information including work days, numbers of volunteers, funding source, etc. Significant components of the gardens, plans for the future and challenges that the leaders are encountering were also addressed. Inquiries concerning the educational opportunities afforded the general public and the volunteers were an essential part of each visit.

The committee has just recently concluded this “fact finding” phase. A sincere thank you to the project leaders and volunteers – what a loyal and conscientious group you are! The next step will be to submit recommendations on how the organization can best assist the projects.

Additional information and reports will be shared through “The Sharecropper.”



WORM CASTINGS

There are a few bags of worm castings remaining, **ONLY \$25.**

Contact Marilyn Satterfield 817-914-6676 or fitchfield@yahoo.com

MEMORIAL BRICK

**Order your Memorial Brick for
the Community Demonstration
Garden now!**

Order form can be located at
tarrantmg.org



Tarrant County Master Gardener Association

2014 Monthly Meeting Program

July

3

Gareth Harrier

"Trouble Shooting Trees"

August

7

Dr. David Morgan

"Viticulture"

September

4

David Leedy

"The Arum Plant Family"

October

2

John Snowden

"Native Ornamental Grasses
for Urban Landscaping"

November

6

Dr. David Hopman

"From Proven Winner to
Pleistocene Rewilding"

December

4

Holiday Luncheon

Upcoming Events

See TCMGA Volunteer Opportunities page for Project scheduling and contact information .

Notable July Events

- July 3 —TCMGA Monthly Meeting
- July 4 —Independence Day
- July 5 —BRIT Farmers Market
- July 9 —Guided Tour of FW Botanic Garden Perennial Garden
- July 10 —Guided Tour of FW Botanic Garden Trial Garden
- July 30 —Hunt County Master Gardeners CEU Event
-

Get fresh with the BRIT Farmers Market.

July - October, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The 2014 BRIT First Saturday Farmers Market is in full swing and we've still got four more months to go! Come out and join us the first Saturday of each month now through October and take home fresh, seasonal, locally grown produce, and locally produced artisanal food items including jams and jellies, baked goods, honey, grass fed beef, sweets, pickles, cage free eggs, and much more. Meet the people who produce your food, listen to some great music and enjoy this fresh approach to shopping local.



Hunt County Master Gardeners

are putting on a CEU event on July 30 from 9-4 in Commerce, Texas. The event will be in the Ben E. Keith room, 2248 Liveoak Street, Commerce, TX 75428. Limit of 100 people. The CEU will include two hours of firewise landscape training, a garden craft, lunch, and two hours of hands on how to fix your irrigation system. The last 30 minutes or so will be a contest to see who has the most outrageous Master Gardener story. We will also view a video on the growing problem of garden gnomes. Cost is \$20! To reserve your spot, call (903) 455-9885, then mail your payment to Hunt County Master Gardeners, c/o AgriLife Extension, 2217 Washington Street, Greenville, Texas 75402. Payment must reach us by July 25th to participate. Make sure you call first to see if there is still room before sending payment.



The conference will be hosted by the
Permian Basin Master Gardeners
on September 25-27, 2014,
at the MCM Grandé Hotel and FUNdome,
Odessa.

Inviting all gardeners!!!
2014 Southern Region
Master Gardener Conference



October 21 - 24, 2014
Crowne Plaza Hotel
Baton Rouge, LA

Sponsored by:
East Baton Rouge Master Gardener Association
LSU AgCenter, Louisiana Master Gardener Program

For information and registration go to....
www.SouthernRegionMGConf2014.com

Early registration ends July 15



TCMGA Volunteer Opportunities

| Project Code & Name | Work Days/Times | Project Manager | Phone |
|--|---|--|------------------------------|
| 301 BRIT Activities | Call Chairman | Kay Yount | 817-292-7690 |
| 302 BG Perennial Garden | Wed. 8:30 am—11:30 am | Cindy Woelke | 817-366-4436 |
| 302 BG Backyard Vegetable Garden | Fri. 8 am—11 am | Nancy Curl | 817-319-1795 |
| 302 BG Trial Garden | Thurs. 7:30 am– 10:30 am | Susan Miller semiller@sbcglobal.net | 817-261-1420 |
| 303 Community and Demo Garden Chair Project Leads | Bill Vandever, bvandever@charter.net | | 817-244-1580 |
| Community Garden, Tuesdays | | | |
| Barn Beds | Charlotte Berck, caberck@dot11net. | | 817-426-6417 |
| Compost & Rainwater Harvesting | | | |
| Community Vegetable Beds | Pat Higgins, ragdollpath@sbcglobal.net | | 817-946-6278 |
| Demonstration and Enabling Beds | Frank Durda, fdurda@hotmail.com | | 817-292-2270 |
| Education | Nancy Curl, nl_curl@yahoo.com | | 817-319-1795 |
| Education – TCU | Lance Jepson ljepson@aol.com & Pat Higgins | 817-557-6122 | 817-946-6278 |
| Enabling Garden | Frank Durda, fdurda@hotmail.com | | 817-292-2270 |
| Greenhouse/Propagation | Pat Lovejoy, palovejoy@att.net | | 817-447-7924 |
| Herb Garden, Tuesdays | Rita Hottel, rnhottel@att.net | | 817-929-6847 |
| Hospitality (Cook-outs) | Beverly Beazley, babeazley@tx.rr.com | | 817-483-7080 |
| Orchard | Char McMorro, charlenemcmorrow@sbcglobal.net | | 817-228-4548 |
| Perennial Garden | Ginger Bason & Joann Hahn, gbasonbowden@gmail.com, joannhahn@att.net | | 817-307-8530/817-923-9250 |
| Plant Sales | Sue Kelley and Peggy Harwood sandrkelley@sbcglobal.net, peggyjwh@gmail.com | 817-233-7118 | 817-821-4988 |
| Potting Shed | Pat Lovejoy, palovejoy@att.net | | 817-447-7924 |
| Rain Barrel Construction | Claudia Teague, cteague@flash.net | | 817-444-2247 |
| Rose Garden, Tuesdays | Nan Garvin, garbre@hotmail.com | | 817-477-2867 |
| 304 Thistle Hill | 1 st , 3 rd Weds. 8 am | Sue Fair | 817-266-2514 |
| 304 Union Gospel Mission | Mon. 9 am | Gay Larson | 817-441-6560 |
| 304 Teen Challenge | Wed. 9 am | Debbie Bollinger | 817-498-1508 |
| 304 Common Ground NRH Community Garden | Wed. & Sat 8:30 am-12 n | Dianne Spradling Sandra Totty | 817-431-4666 817-281-7877 |
| 304 Six Stones/City of Bedford Community Garden- | | Annette Lee | 214-803-2219 |
| 304 The Samaritan House | Tues. 8 am-11 am | John Pinkerton | 682-433-2529 |
| 304 JPS Meditation Garden | 2nd & 4th Fri. 9 am | Bernice Ramsbottom | 817-485-6631 |
| 203 Grapevine Botanic Garden Docents | Call Chairman | Rachel Clark, Co-Chair Paula Wilbanks, Co-Chair | 817-488-0035 817-481-4398 |
| <u>Environmental Projects:</u> | | | |
| 305 Composting Demo | 1st Sat., Veterans Pk, Arlington | LaVonne Nowlin | 817-581-1850 |
| 305 FW Library at Hulen St. | 2nd Thurs 9 am | Bill Hall/ Theresa Thomas | 817-737-9890 817-485-6789 |
| 305 SW Sub-Courthouse | 2 nd Sat., last Wed. 9 am | Gailon Hardin | 817-475-0923 |
| 305 Veterans Park-Wildscape | Wed. 9 am-12 noon | Molly Hollar | 817-319-6924 |
| | 1st Sat., 9 am-12 noon | | |
| 305 Bob Jones Nature Center | 3rd Wed. 9 am | Nancy Searl | 817-542-3190 |
| <u>School Gardens:</u> | | | |
| 306 Alice Carlson OLE | Mon. & Thurs. 8:30 am | Sharon Chastain | 817-926-2575 |
| 306 Fitzgerald OLE | Mon 9 am | Leeann Rosenthal | 817-237-7180 |
| 306 Heritage School OLE | Mon. 8-10 am | Pam Braak & Harold Annis | 817-488-5665 817-481-6242 |
| 306 Durham Intermediate School | Wed 9am | Bea Wilson | 817-401-2179 |

Important Websites!

Our local TCMGA website:

<http://www.tarrantmg.org/>

State MG Website and TMG news:

<http://www.txmg.org>

Our RC Demo Garden Website:

[http://www.localharvest.org/
member/M27123](http://www.localharvest.org/member/M27123)

Native Plant Society of Texas

<http://npsot.org>

Aggie Horticulture:

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu>

Earthkind:

[http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/
earthkind](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind)

Texas Superstars:

<http://texassuperstar.com>

Fort Worth Botanic Garden:

<http://fwbg.org>

Wildscape:

<http://thewildscape.org>

Botanical Research Institute of Texas: <http://www.brit.org>

Educational programs of Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation in order to participate in any of our meetings are encouraged to contact our office at 817.884.1945 for assis-



2014 Executive Committee

President: Patsy Miller pjmiller24@sbcglobal.net

1st Vice President (Programs): Marianne Levine
alevine47@charter.net

2nd Vice President (Ways & Means): Marilyn Satterfield
fitchfield@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Starr Krottinger starr99@flash.net

Secretary: Theresa Thomas kayleetl@sbcglobal.net

2014 Advisory Committees

Acknowledgements: Pat Lovejoy palovejoy@att.net

Activities: Claire Alford caagardner@aol.com

Audit: Lance Jepson ljepson@aol.com

Awards, State: Eleanor Tuck etuck@sbcglobal.net

Awards, TCMGA: Lena Goff lgoff15@aol.com

Bulb Sale: Jeanie Browning browning4043@sbcglobal.net

Bulletin Board: Linda Winn winnclan@aol.com
Gus Guthrie kayleetl@sbcglobal.net

eblast: Dorothy Launius the tcmgaeblast@gmail.com

Education: Nancy Curl nl_curl@yahoo.com

Garden Conservatory/Open Days: Ginger Bason
gbasonbowden@gmail.com

Garden Resource: Dave Wilson ldwilson98@yahoo.com

Grant Writer: Jennifer McSpadden jenndfw@hotmail.com

Gardens, Community: Diane Spradling dianne@spradling.org

Historian: Sue Sappington sappington@uta.edu

Home & Garden Shows: Billie Hammack blhammack@ag.tamu.edu

Hospitality: Lizann Cundall Zann59@verizon.net

Intern Coordinator: Judy Ratzlaff judy.ratzlaff@yahoo.com

Members at Large: Alan Winter alan5024@att.net

Membership: Steve Purdy spurdy06@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter: Jackie Heidinger jackieheidinger@verizon.net

Nominations: Linda Hawkins lindamhawkins@gmail.com

Parliamentarian: Hester Schwarzer wakeleyd@charter.net

Photography: Lena Goff lgoff15@aol.com

Plant Sale: Sue Kelley sandrkelley@sbcglobal.net
Peggy Harwood peggyjwh@gmail.com

Projects Coordinator: Rocky Deutscher Rdeutscher.1@charter.net

Raffle: Betty Story betystory@hotmail.com

Rose Sale: Theresa Vanderpool Tv.comml@gmail.com

Scholarship: Bill Hall 817-657-9890

Speakers Bureau: Theresa Thomas kayleetl@sbcglobal.net

State Directors: Patsy Miller pjmiller24@sbcglobal.net
Bill Vandever bvandever@sbcglobal.net

State Director Alternates: Eleanor Tuck etuck@sbcglobal.net
JoAnn Hahn joannhahn@att.net

Sunshine: Doris Hill artanddorishill@verizon.net

TCMGA Garden at RC Bill Vandever bvandever@charter.net

Head Timekeeper: Carol Lally lallyca@sbcglobal.net