



2009 TMGA Officers

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Please submit information to include on the [TMGA Website](#) or in the TMGA monthly newsletter to the following Editors. Deadline for the newsletter is the 28th of each month.

Web Editor—[TMGA](#)
[Dove Johnson](#)
dove1johnson@gmail.com
Somervell County



Newsletter Editor
[Donna Hagar](#)
tmga.news@gmail.com
Somervell County



From Our President

Well we live in Texas. What else can I say?

Each year as the transition from spring to summer occurs I am amazed how quickly all this happens. This year has been no exception. June has brought exceedingly hot temperatures and dry weather. The only thing different that I have noticed is heat seems to be impacting the gardener before the garden. I have wilted! Now the vegetable garden, the flowerbeds and the yard have to deal not only with the excess heat and no rain but also a less attentive gardener.

It is time to adjust expectations on perfection a notch or two back. It is time for "survival gardening" in Texas. I recall Dr. Doug Welsh once referred to a lesser degree of maintenance due to reduced water availability. For me it is a bit more than just the wilted plants it is the wilted gardener as well.

For the well being of my mental and physical health my expectations are now in the "survival gardening" mode. Thank goodness I can retreat into an air conditioned home and dream of the coming fall.

I urge each of you to garden safely. Be attentive to signs of over exertion and dehydration.

The intensity of summer will end and joy will return to the garden.

See you at our next Directors' Meeting on August 1.

Doug

NEWS FLASH

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TMGA News and Events

Introducing— TMGA Nominating Committee



Hi, my name is **Frances Amuny** but since school I am referred to as Fran. I grew up in North Carolina from a family of Tobacco farmers. One of my fondest memories was sleeping at the tobacco barn and stoking the fires to cure the tobacco with my great uncle. I went to school in Florida and ended up at the UN. of Houston, met and married a Texan and settled in the Beaumont area. I have one daughter, two beautiful grandchildren, one of which will graduate from A&M this May. I have always had a garden of vegetables and flowers and some how things do not seem right unless I am digging in the dirt, although in the past 3 years I have been wiped out by two hurricanes. I became a MG in 1995 and became active at the State Level in 1997. I have served as secretary

under 3 past presidents and served in various committees. When I approach someone about serving on the board I feel that I know what I am talking about.

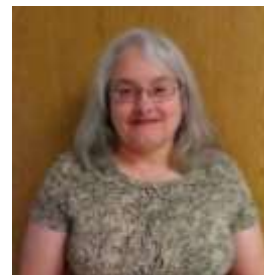
This year Susan, Doug and myself have the job of nominating new members for the board. I encourage those interested or even thinking that they might like to serve to contact one of us, It is such a rewarding experience with the best people.

Hello Master Gardeners!

My name is **Susan Jung** and I am excited to serve on the nominating committee for TMGA.

I became a certified master gardener with Travis County Master Gardeners Association in 2002 and a plant propagation specialist in 2004. I have served as vice president of volunteers for our association. Currently, I serve as one of the state director delegates from TCMGA and secretary of the Central Texas Master Gardeners Regional Conference committee. My day job? I am team leader for the Austin ISD Benefits Office. Some of my duties include serving on insurance steering committees and coordinating annual insurance open enrollment meetings for 12000 employees.

I encourage you to consider serving our association.



Hi, my name is ?????? ?????? I have always had a love of gardening. I must have inherited it from my family. Ever since I can remember, my parents always had a garden. Hold on a minute, I need to take back my statement about my love for gardening. I remember as a kid, it was a chore that my parents made me do. I remember how I hated all that weed pulling, hoeing and harvesting. But somewhere along the way, I think it was the summer after my 40th birthday that I fell in love with gardening. Yep, that was when I decided to stick with the family tradition and have my kids pull weeds, hoe and harvest. That worked better than grounding them.



After my retirement from Delta Air Lines/Delta Technology, my wife Maureen and I moved to a beautiful 20 acre plot in Granbury where we enjoy the scenic beauty of native grasses, wildflowers, trees, a creek, goats, donkeys and dogs. Oh, yes we have a few critters, coyotes, fire ants, snakes, skunks and grandkids (My son lives next door). Shortly after retiring I became a Lake Granbury Master Gardener. They promptly recruited me as their webmaster (they knew I wasn't a weed puller). I served 2 years as President and currently serve as Treasurer. I was also honored with the opportunity to be the TMGA webmaster, Newsletter editor, the TMGA Awards committee and the TMGA Nomination committee.

Guess who I am?

TMGA News and Events Continued

EarthKind® News for July

Northern Earth-Kind® Rose Trials



Carefree Beauty, called Buchi in the northern trials, serves as the control cultivar just as it does in the Texas trials. Already designated Earth-Kind® in the South it appears to be hardy in the North as well.

The Earth-Kind® Rose Trials that are identifying the absolute best roses for use in Texas gardens have now expanded to many other states. Dr. David C. Zlesak, University of Minnesota Extension Educator, is director of the Northern Earth-Kind® Rose Trials. Dr. Zlesak joined the faculty of the University of Minnesota in 2006 and decided that joining forces with research already being done in Texas was a better use of resources than developing a similar, but separate program to study roses that would survive in the much colder regions of the United States. With input from northern nursery professionals, rose societies and observation of area public rose gardens, a list of 20 cultivars was chosen for the initial trials. Criteria included ability to reliably withstand northern winters without protection, to rebloom during the growing season, and to be pest resistant. The criteria are similar to the Texas trials, but there are some differences. For example, because roses will encounter dieback in the cold climate, spring time pruning of dead limbs will be allowed.

There are eight Northern Earth-Kind® trial sites and one demonstration site. Three sites are in Minnesota, with one each in Iowa, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas and Texas. The site at Texas A&M Commerce is to determine how far south the roses will perform for possible inclusion in future trials here. Planting occurred in 2007 and 2008. By 2011, data should be complete with planned announcement of winners in 2012.

In addition to coordinating the Northern trial gardens, the University of Minnesota is contributing to the Earth-Kind® movement by surveying the Texas Earth-Kind® roses, the Southern Brigade roses and the Northern Earth-Kind® Trial roses for their tolerance to the fungus that causes blackspot. The lab work will be compared to actual trial results.

Results of Earth-Kind® research being done in the United States, Canada, Bermuda, India and New Zealand will help to identify the most adapted roses for their regions. These results will then be shared across regions to see how widespread the roses are adapted. This will help those who want to grow beautiful roses in their gardens with the least effort and expense. As well, it will assist rose breeders to use parents that transmit superior characteristics to breed new rose cultivars.

Joan Leach, Johnson County Master Gardener, leach@ticnet.com

TMGA Officer Nominations for 2010

The nominating committee is accepting resumes for officers for the year 2010. We encourage anyone interested in running for office to contact one of the Nominating committee members listed below if you have any questions. We will have a slate put together for the August meeting. Please give this some thought as it is such an honor to serve on this board. *Submitted by Fran Amuny*

Nominating Committee

Fran Amuny—Jefferson County—Chair, frannie1@swbell.net

Susan Jung—Travis County, susanjung@msn.com

Doug Richards—Hood County, dougrichards@gmail.com



TMGA News and Events Continued

The Sixth Edition of the
Texas Master Gardener Handbook
is now available!

New features include:

**Chapter 3 Earth-Kind Landscaping
Weeds and weed management
Updated plant lists**

Master Gardeners can purchase the latest edition through their Master Gardener Coordinators at a price of \$43.00. The 6th edition "Text Only" (no binder or tabs) can be purchased for \$28.00.

Master Gardeners, please contact your MG Coordinator to order this edition, publication number B-6217T.



Newsletter Changes in the Works

By Donna Hagar, Newsletter Editor

In order to better distribute the Newsletter and Special Announcements directly to the hands of the individual Master Gardeners, we are implementing the mass distribution system of Vertical Response. This is a free (to non-profits) email service that will allow for a large database, with subscribe and unsubscribe features.

This service account is with the TMGA organization and the database will be used ONLY for TMGA Newsletter and Special Announcements. We will also have a subscribe option placed in future newsletters and on the websites. Once the system is operational, each email will also include a safe-unsubscribe option.

As with all changes, this will be a transition process. It is my goal to have it ready to present and demonstrate at the August Directors meeting. Directors/Officers/CEA's. To expedite the transition, please submit an email roster of your MG organization to tmga.news@gmail.com. Include at least first and last name and email address of all MG's and Interns. Inclusion of address and phone numbers welcome, but not necessary.

I have also created a new email address for all future newsletter article submissions, tmga.news@gmail.com. Both this new email address and distribution system will make for very seamless transitions when the time comes to pass the newsletter torch.

If you have any questions regarding this new system, please email me at tmga.news@gmail.com.

To sign up directly, you may email your name (first and last, email address and county to tmga.news@gmail.com or click here to [Sign Up Here](#).

TEXAS MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION 2009 DIRECTORS MEETINGS SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 1st, College Station*, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Saturday, December 5th, College Station*, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM
*Horticulture/Forest Sci Bldg#1506 Parking lot #74 off Olsen St.

Specialist Training

Texas Master Gardener Vegetable Specialist Training



July 31 – August 1, 2009
Texas AgriLife Extension Office
and the Fort Bend County Master Gardeners
1402 Band Road, Suite 100 Rosenberg, TX 77471

Master Gardener Vegetable Specialist Training will include training by experts on the subject of all phases of vegetable growing such as soil prep, garden location and set up, cultural practices, plant growing, vegetables A-Z, insects and disease control and handling and harvesting vegetables. Fort Bend County is hosting the first part of the program, the in class training July 31 – August 1, 2009. The second part of the training is the commitment to complete 30 hours of volunteer service coordinated through your County Agent.

Course will be limited to 50 participants. Registration opens to Master Gardeners in all counties on July 1. Application and fees must be received at the Fort Bend County Extension Office by Friday July 17, 2009. Late registrations are accepted if seats are still available. No refunds are given for cancellations after 5:00 pm July 17, 2009.

Lodging is not included in the application fee. However, a block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn Express and La Quinta Inn (contact information attached). These rooms are available on a first come first serve basis. Additionally, contact information for other closely located hotels is included. For more information contact the Fort Bend County Extension Office at 281/342-3034 or the Fort Bend County Master Gardeners at 281/341-7068

[Registration Information](#)

September 28 – October 2, 2009 Master Volunteer Entomology Specialist Training

– Texas AgriLife Extension Service Montgomery County Office, Conroe, TX
Hosted by Dr. Paul R. Nester, Extension Program Specialist, Houston/Metro area, and the Montgomery County Master Gardeners.

Registration fee of \$300.00 includes collecting kit with lots of goodies; lectures; Extension bulletins; 3 lunches, 1 dinner, snacks & drinks. Transportation and lodging is on your own. Course is limited to 25 applicants; deadline is July 18, 2008

Contact Paul Nester at PNester@ag.tamu.edu or 281-855-5639 with any questions.

http://grovesite.com/GSLibrary/Downloads/download.ashx?file=sites/1569/14485/276310/2009%20MV%202009%20Ento%20Spec%20Training%20announcement%20_%20agenda.pdf



July 10-11 2009 Junior Master Gardeners Wildlife Gardener Mini Camp

Dig in to gardening for wildlife!
Identify local birds, mammals, insects, reptiles, and amphibians.
Investigate lifecycles and interre-

latedness of wildlife and plant life. Learn about habitat and constructing a wildlife garden. How to attract and happily co-exist with wildlife. And much MORE!!

Camp Camp Includes • Wildlife Gardener Golden Ray Series Certification, more than 12 Activities + Service Learning Activities + Life Skills/Career Exploration

Activities • Lodging • 3 Meals + Snacks • FUN! FUN!
FUN! Costs: \$70/youth & \$50/adult

For more information about camp, including what to bring, registration instructions, and directions, visit: <http://texas4h-ctr.tamu.edu>

**Or contact: Texas 4-H Conference Center
5600 FM 3021, Brownwood, TX 76801
325-784-5482**

For more information about JMG or the Wildlife Gardener Curriculum visit:

<http://www.jmgkids.us>

[Registration Form](#) and packet

Special Events

September 14-15- Extension Horticulture-Landscape Design Study Courses: Number III, Series XXI

225 Horticulture/Forestry Bldg.
2134 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-2134



The courses are held in College Station, TX., and are co-sponsored by Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. and Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A and M University. They have been attended by many Master Gardeners in the past. It is an opportunity for

more in-depth training in landscape design than we normally include in the Master Gardener curriculum. Each course has been approved to qualify for 12 hours of continuing education toward maintaining certification for Master Gardeners. Further information may be found at <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southern-garden/LDSept09/Flyer9,09.html>

This is the third course in a four-part series, although participants can begin with any of the four. The program is nationally accredited by the National Council of State Garden Clubs and offered at approximately six month intervals here in the Bryan-College Station area. An evaluation of public and private landscapes

is a popular part of this particular course. Each of the courses offers an “outside” lecture among the ten topics covered. This time, we are pleased to have Dr. Larry Stein of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. He will speak on “Fruit for Texas Gardens.” In addition, Dr. Neil G. Odenwald, retired Head of Landscape Architecture at Louisiana State University, will talk on “Color in the Landscape” and “Landscape Design Accessories

.” We are pleased to offer “scholarships” for Course III to County Extension Agents with horticulture and/or Master Gardener responsibilities. This amounts to the course paying the registration fee for qualified individuals. We hope that this will be useful as professional improvement for you as we all strive to improve our educational programs. Please fill out and return the registration form as soon as possible. Cost of the course will be \$100; cost of the textbook (good for 4 sessions) \$40.

Feel free to contact my office should you have questions (Tammy Landry, tlandry@ag.tamu.edu, 979-845-7342). Thanks for spreading the word about this program to your Master Gardeners and others who may be interested.



You Know you're A Master Gardener When:

10. You rejoice in rain...even after 10 straight days of it.
9. You have pride in how bad your hands look.
8. You have a decorative compost container on your kitchen counter.
7. You can give away plants easily, but compost is another thing.
6. Soil test results actually mean something.
5. IPM rules!
4. You'd rather go to a nursery to shop than a clothes store.
3. You look for gardens open to the public whenever you go on vacation.
2. Your non-gardening spouse is actually getting involved with your garden endeavors...digging ponds, building bird houses, watering, pruning, turning compost piles, planting...

And you definitely know your a Master Gardener when...

You are surrounded by terrific people who share your passion!

Created by [Audrey](#), Emmitsburg, Md.

MG Conference

International Master Gardener Conference



I am contacting you as co-chair of the 2011 International Master Gardener Conference which is being hosted by WVU Extension and the WVMGA. The conference will be in Charleston, West Virginia the week of October 10-14, 2011. Some information is now available on the 2011 web site; <http://imgc.ext.wvu.edu/> More will be added as we approach the conference date.

I am asking that you share this information and conference dates with your Master Gardeners.

Thanks, John W. Jett, Ph.D,

Extension Specialist-Consumer Horticulture

Texas Master Gardener 2010 Conference



The Dallas County Master Gardeners are very pleased to have arranged the Omni Mandalay Hotel at Las Colinas as our convention center hotel for the 2010 Texas Master Gardener State Conference on April 8-10, 2010. This full service, luxury

hotel will provide the ultimate in comfort and service to the attendees. The Omni Mandalay will welcome our convention by making a special rate of \$126 per room available to those who register by March 17, 2010.

This hotel is well known in North Texas for its state of the art meeting facilities. The 421 large guest rooms and suites provide the guests with every amenity. There is a full service day spa, lakeside swimming pool, multiple restaurants, fully equipped complementary fitness center and the public areas are decorated with art from Malaysia and Indonesia in keeping with the name of the venue.

The address of the Omni Mandalay is 221 East Las Colinas Blvd , Irving, TX, 75039. It is lo-

cated about 10 to 15 minutes from either DFW or Love Field for those flying in to the conference. For those coming by car, the hotel is located just off Highway 114.

The Dallas County Master Gardeners invite you to consult the Omni Mandalay website as follows for more information about the hotel and for room reservations: <http://www.omnihotels.com/FindAHotel/DallasMandalay/MeetingFacilities/TexasMasterGardenerAssociation4.aspx> .



Our TMGA committee has prepared a website with many details about the conference and invites you to consult the website for more information at www.2010TMGAconference.org Our e-mail address is TMGA2010@hotmail.com

We will be sending a monthly notice to the Newsletter to bring each of you up to date on the arrangements, speakers, programs, tours and other events that we are arranging to make this the best TMGA Convention ever held. We look forward to seeing each of you at the convention.



2011 TMGA Conference - April 27-29, 2011 Expo Center, Glen Rose

Co-Hosted by Somervell County Master Gardeners and Lake Granbury Master Gardeners

Mark your calendar for this special event.
Bring your boots and spurs for some unforgettable fun!



County Upcoming Events



July 11, 2009 Travis County Master Gardeners: Becoming a Garden Detective: Diagnosing Plant Problems
10am-Noon
Zilker Botanical Garden
Just when you think you've done everything right by your plants, one of them

starts to go downhill. One of the biggest challenges for gardeners is correctly diagnosing plant problems and finding effective, safe solutions. Is your plant dying because of an insect, environmental or disease problem? Join us to learn the causes of plant problems, the process for diagnosing plant problems, and preventive garden management techniques.

July 14, 2009 - Harris County Master Gardener Association - Green Thumb Gardening Series

Dr. Carol Brouwer, County Extension Agent for Horticulture will present "Landscape Design." These lectures are free and open to the public.

When: Tuesday, July 14, 2009, 6:30-9 pm

Where: Bass Pro Shops,
Highway 288 at the Sam Houston Tollway,
Pearland, TX 77047
For more information visit our website at:
<http://hcmgap2.tamu.edu>

July 15, 2009 - Harris County Master Gardener Association - Master Gardener Lecture Series

Donita Brannon, Horticulture Exhibits Manager of the Rainforest Pyramid at Moody Gardens will speak on "Recovering from Ike." She will discuss plants that survived the hurricane along with rebuilding and soil remediation of the gardens after the storm.

When: July 15, 2009, 10 a.m.
Where: The Meeting Room at Clear Lake Park (on the lakeside),
5001 NASA Road 1,
Seabrook, TX 77586.
For more information visit our website at:
<http://hcmgap2.tamu.edu>

July 18, 2009 -Concho Valley Master Gardeners- Rainwater Harvesting Workshop

Billy Kniffen, Water Resource Specialist, The Texas A and M System Allison Watkins, Tom Green County Horticulture Agent

Sat. July 18, 2009 8:45am until Noon

Tom Green County 4-H Center

3168 N. US HWY 67 (next to the Animal Shelter)

Captured rainwater can save large amounts of water both outside and inside the home. As Texas population grows, conserving water becomes more vital. Capturing rainwater is one tool in this process because of: The need to have enough high-quality water available now and in the future. Environmental and economic costs of providing water through municipal systems or wells Health concerns linked to the source

and treatment of water The relatively low cost of rainwater harvesting Rainwater's high quality
AGENDA: 8:45 - 9:15 Registration and visit Area Supply Vendors
9:15 – 10:30 Billy Kniffen: Rainwater Harvesting Benefits' and Installation
10:30 - 11:00 Q&A, Break, visit vendors
11:00 - 11:45 Allison Watkins: Earthkind Landscaping, Helping your water go further
11:45 - noon Q and A,
Door prize drawings (must be present to win) Workshop will be free to the public; we request that you RSVP so adequate amounts of publications can be made available. To RSVP or for more information contact Tom Green County AgriLife Extension Office: 325-659-6522

July 30, 2009 - Jefferson County Master Gardener -Shortcourse

Jefferson County Master Gardener Shortcourse will be held starting July 30, 9am until 4pm each weekday for two weeks

For more information, or to obtain an application for the class, call the AgriLife Extension office at 409 835 8461.



County Upcoming Events Continued

July 20, 2009 - Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2- Open Garden Day

You are invited to tour the working and demonstration gardens maintained by the Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2. Please come and visit our wonderful garden that includes an extensive vegetable garden, fruit orchard, perennials, roses, herb and cactus gardens and 2 working greenhouses. Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer your gardening questions during this free event. Children are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult at all

times. If you have any 1 gallon or smaller plastic plant pots and trays you would like to re-cycle, please bring them to Open Garden Day and the Master Gardeners will put them to good use.

When: Monday, July 20, 9-10:30 a.m.

Where: Genoa Friendship Garden,
1202 Genoa Red Bluff,
Houston, TX 77034

For more information visit our web site at:

<http://hcmgap2.tamu.edu>

Gloria Gibson



July 21, 2009 - ARANSAS/SAN PATRICIO MASTER GARDENERS - "Xeriscape Gardening with Native Plants" – Brown Bag – Rockport, TX

On Tuesday, July 21, 2009, Karen Ivey, Administrator, San Patricio Municipal Water District, will present the Brown Bag, "Xeriscape Gardening with Native Plants". Learn about colorful, easy care and drought tolerant native plants that rise to the challenges of the

South Texas climate.

The program will be presented 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM at the Aransas County Library, 711 E. Mimosa, Rockport, TX.

Enjoy this free Brown Bag hosted by the Aransas/San Patricio Master Gardeners and generous community sponsors. For more information call Texas AgriLife Extension Service – Aransas County Office at 361 790-0103.



Texas
Discovery
Gardens
at Fair Park

July 25 and 30, 2009 Texas Discovery Gardens Tropical Butterfly Docent Training I

TDG is opening one of the nation's largest tropical butterfly houses on September 12, 2009, and we will need docents 7 days a week year-round. The Tropical Butterfly Docent Train-

ings in July and August are a major focus for us this year. Choose one: Saturday, 7/25/09, 10am-noon or Thursday, 7/30/09, 6:30-8:30pm. * *Both Trainings I (July) and II (August) are required to be a Tropical Butterfly Docent.** Please RSVP to Blake Morgan, Programs and Volunteer Manager, at Volunteers@TexasDiscoveryGardens.org or at (214) 428-7476 x24.

July 28, 2009 – ARANSAS/SAN PATRICIO MASTER GARDENERS - JULY

Information and Registration Session for 2009 Master Gardener Class

Tuesday, July 28, 2009 there will be an information and registration session regarding the 2009 Master Gardener Class. The meeting will be held at 1:30 P.M. at Green Acres Demonstration Gardens, Texas AgriLife Extension – Aransas County Office, 611 East Mimosa, Rockport, TX.

At the Session, you will learn about the Master Gardener organization and its activities including the upcoming 2009 Master Gardener Class; then register for the 2009 class if you are interested. The 2009 class is limited to 20 people. Tuition is \$175 (\$50 refunded upon certification). Class starts August 11, 2009 and runs through December 1, 2009 on Tuesdays from 1:30-5:00 P.M. Most classes will be held at Aransas County Library, 701 E. Mimosa, Rockport, TX. For more information call Texas AgriLife Extension Service – Aransas County Office at 361 790-0103.

News from Around the State

Cypress Basin Texas Master Gardeners - Master Gardeners Will Lend a Hand

A special project to beautify downtown Pittsburg will begin Sunday at 8 a.m. along main street.

The plants and trees that are in the planters will be removed. The plants will be given to interested residents as they are being removed with the exception of plants that belong to specific businesses. Plants not claimed at the end will be discarded.

Cypress Basin Master Gardeners are donating their time and expertise to replant the planters lining the sidewalks and will take into consideration the amount

of sunlight and shade the planters receive during the day. Encore azaleas will be planted along the south side of the street and knockout roses will be placed along the north side of main street. The group will also plant azaleas at Pendergrass Park.

"This is a wonderful partnership for the main street planter project and a donation will be made to the Master Gardeners for their help," said Gus Gustafson, Main Street and Economic Development coordinator. pittsburggazette.com

By Dewayne Fant, President of Cypress Basin Texas Master Gardeners

Cypress Basin Texas Master Gardeners

Our group usually meets at the Titus County Extension Office. Two of our members, Susan Thompson and Shirley Hopkins, who live across from one another, hosted the June meeting at their homes/ gardens located on the shore of Lake Bob Sandlin in Titus County. Their gardens are outstanding. I have attached some photos that really don't do them justice as they are truly special. The meeting was at 6:00 PM on June 11.

Dewayne Fant, President CBMG



ARANSAS/SAN PATRICIO MASTER GARDENERS

Hosted Live Oak Learning Center Elementary School Field Trip at Green Acres Demonstrations Gardens

On May 18, 19 and 20 2009, over 200 elementary school children enjoyed a field trip to Green Acres demonstration gardens and a learning loop of fun activities about nature and gardening.



Lake Granbury Master Gardeners have participated in the dedication ceremonies of the two

so far this year by providing a notebook with pictures and growing information of plants, shrubs and trees that do well in this area. House number 45 was dedicated March 14 and house number 46 (shown above) was dedicated April 25. We wish the new home owners the best!

Submitted by Linda Lillard, LGMG

Hood County Habitat for Humanity homes completed

News from Around the State Continued



Cypress Basin Master Gardeners from Titus, Camp, Franklin and Morris Counties. The last couple of years CBMG has made a point of assisting the Mt Pleasant Safe-T Crisis Center in any way

we can. Safe-T is a safe haven for battered women and children seeking shelter in this area. For Christmas 2008 we held a toy/ food/ clothing drive for them and collected the goods at our annual Christmas party held at the county Extension Office. Participation was excellent and we collected several boxes of new clothing and toys, and non-perishable foods for to Safe-T. Hopefully



we put a few smiles on some faces that otherwise might not have had them. Our group also elected to make a small cash donation from association funds.

The last two years we have grown a vegetable garden with the produce grown going to Safe-T. This year the garden is located on the grounds of a manufacturing company in Mt Pleasant, Best Fender. We made the second harvest of this season on June 22
Dewayne Fant
President, Cypress Basin Master Gardeners



McLennan County Master Gardeners

Trailside Gardens

The newest and largest addition to the Carleen Bright Arboretum in Woodway is Trailside Gardens, developed by McLennan County Master Gardeners. MCMG member Anita Dawson and her husband, Jerry, made a significant financial contribution in memory of their fathers, James C. Webster and Aubrey T. Dawson, allowing development of the gardens to begin. To honor these gentlemen and the plants they loved, plantings include EarthKind roses and other water-wise and native plants.

Landscape architect Bernard Ott, who designed the original Arboretum Master Plan, came up with a schematic outline for the Trailside Gardens. MCMG members Jean Cunningham and Rachele Kemp designed a planting plan. Other contributions have come from the MCMG budget and private donations. A 1.3 mile trail system will eventually wind through Arboretum grounds, and the Trailside Gardens will be a showy and welcoming part of the trail, with benches, arbors, shade, and fragrance.



McLennan County Master Gardeners-McGregor Garden

As you enter the town of McGregor, Texas, there is an existing welcome sign and rather large corner lot. Jene Hering, a Master Gardener and long time resident of the city, has long had a vision that this corner could not only be an attractive asset to the city, but a place to showcase Texas hardy plants for the area. The garden now symbolizes the very spirit of our state and demonstrates species of plants that work well for most people in their landscape. The bed shape of a star catches the eye of people passing by the busy intersection.



As in most stars, the bed has 5 legs and a large center area. Lower growing plants are placed at the tip of each leg with native grasses in the middle and working into quality varieties of roses in the center. It was important to keep the top leg with low growing plants so as to not block the view of the McGregor sign.

A mixture of perennials was used so they will not need to be planted each year. The outside perimeter of the star is composed of pea gravel, which will provide an area where the public can walk right up to the garden to view the plants.
Thanks, Barbara

