



NEWSLETTER

2009 TMGA Officers

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McLennan County



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Second Vice President
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Aransas County



Secretary
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Dallas County



Treasurer
Homer Babbitt
Parker County



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.

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dove1johnson@gmail.com
Somervell County



Newsletter Editor
Donna Hagar
dmthagar@gmail.com
Somervell County



From Our President

Gardening in the summer can be a real challenge in Texas. The hot dry conditions we face this time of year can suck the motivation from our being. It is a time of year for maintaining. We water, we mow, we weed and we water. The dog days consume us. We find ourselves wishing our lives away. The joy of gardening is gone. But all it takes is a small blessing to awaken the passion of gardening in us.

For me an awakening took place a couple of weeks ago even before the arrival of August. A cycle of hundred degree days was broken and we were blessed with rains. As Susan and I enjoyed our morning coffee on the front porch we felt a north east breeze and heard the teasing fall sound of rustling leaves in the pecan trees. A look to crystal blue skies affirmed that moment of fall in the air.

Though that moment was fleeting it awakened in me the passion to garden. As soon as a dry ground permitted I was in the vegetable garden tilling. The thoughts of a fall garden filled my head and the mid 90 degree temperature went unnoticed. The joy of gardening had returned.

This joy we share is special. It brings us peace and contentment through out our lives. As master gardeners we have a unique opportunity to awaken a joy in a child that will last a lifetime. Lets make sure that the children of today get to feel that peace and contentment. I urge each of you to get involved and pass your joy of gardening to a child. Become a small blessing for a child.

A special thanks to each of you.

Doug

Table of Contents

TMGA News & Events	Page 2-3
EarthKind™ News	Pages 3
Conference	Pages 4
Special Events & Opportunities	Page 5-6
County Upcoming Events	Pages 7
News from Around the State	Pages 7

TMGA News and Events

Introducing The Slate of Officers for 2010

Below is the slate of Officers for 2010 as presented by the Nominating Committee at the August 1st. Directors meeting. At the December Directors meeting we will be voting on the officers for 2010. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor at that time.

You may review the resumes for these nominees on the TMGA Website or [click here](#).

President
Lonnie Mathew



1st Vice President
Homer Babbitt



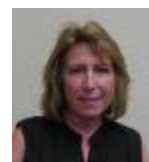
2nd Vice President
Doris Rogers



Treasurer
Chris Oefinger



Secretary
Diane Bush



Newsletter Changes

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 TMGA website. Each email will also include a safe-unsubscribe option.

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.

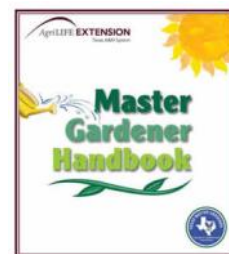
To sign up directly, click [Sign Up Here](#) to access the subscription form. This is a secure, double opt-in form. Once you fill out the form, you will be automatically and immediately sent an email which you must click to complete the registration process. Please check your spam or junk folder if you do not see the email immediately. You will not receive the newsletters until you have completed this double opt-in procedure. Your county may also submit an email roster of your entire MG organization to tmga.news@gmail.com. Include at least first and last name and email address of all MG's and your county. If your county would like to put a subscription form on your own website, please contact me and I can send you the HTML code.

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.



TMGA News and Events Continued

EarthKind® News for August

Earth-Kind® Rose Committee Report to TMGA Directors

This committee began in 2007 to assist in carrying out one of the goals in the TMGA 5-Year Plan developed in that year. Goal #4 of the 5 Year Plan was “Establish an Earth-Kind Rose Research/Demonstration Garden in each county in Texas”. In the beginning an ambitious plan of action was established by the committee to guide its efforts to increase participation of Texas Master Gardeners in the Earth-Kind research project. An immediate need was seen to improve communication among the groups involved in research, and that became a major focus of the committee.

Through the three years the committee has been in existence, the Earth-Kind program has expanded, and the committee has adapted to handle some additional duties. Earth-Kind rose research is now being conducted in a number of additional states with some international connections being developed as well. Future plans call for testing of perennials, shrubs, vegetables and herbs.

In general the original plan of action has been followed and is on track with the activities for 2009. This report indicates the current areas of work:

- 56 local Master Gardener Organizations in Texas are in some way involved with rose research—8 have completed their 3 year trial period, 39 are currently tending a trial garden, and 9 are in the planning or planting stage.
- A national Earth-Kind data collection system and universal reporting forms have been established for the Master Gardener trial gardens. These have been distributed electronically. Johnson County will be the data collection coordination center for Dr. Steve George. All test sites are requested to complete the final evaluation documents and send those to Johnson County when their 3 year trial period has ended. Monthly data will be retained at each test site.
- A complete list of Master Gardener trial and demonstration gardens is now available.
- Associations participating in trial gardens have a point of contact and receive information as needed.
- There is a regular article in the TMGA Newsletter to keep members up-to-date about activities involving the Earth-Kind program.
- A website has been developed and, when approved by Texas *AgriLIFE* Extension, will be available to serve as an information center for all things involving Earth-Kind roses and eventually perennials, shrubs, vegetables and herbs.

Johnson County continues to host booths and represent Earth-Kind roses at various Master Gardener events. Any association wishing to establish a trial garden should contact Johnson County Master Gardeners at leach@ticnet.com.

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>



Annual Conference Information



2010 TEXAS MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

The 2010 Texas Master Gardener Association Convention Committee is dedicated to bringing you an excellent convention and is now concentrating on completing the web site www.2010TMGAconference.org so that each of you will be able to easily obtain the information that you need to decide which events you wish to attend, register easily and also learn of interesting things to visit in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex either before or after the convention, if your time will permit.

The Dallas County Master Gardener Association is excited to be the host for this important event and has lined up a schedule that we hope will please and satisfy each of you. What we want most is for every Texas Master Gardener who can to attend this convention. It is the first time that a Texas Master Gardener Association convention has been held in a highly populated urban area and that fact has been

taken into account by the planning committee. This corner of North East Texas has many attractions and we will do our best to help our visitors take advantage of this opportunity.

The following is a brief sketch of the schedule. The Convention will begin on Thursday, April 8 with Workshops and Tours. There will be a Welcoming Event for all attendees. There will also be a ticketed Fajita Buffet for Thursday evening.

On Friday, April 9, the day's events will begin with a Continental Breakfast Buffet. There will be Education sessions in the morning and the afternoon with a break for lunch. There will be a Junior Master Gardener Awards Lunch on Friday. There will also be a Dinner that evening with Master Gardener Specialist Awards, Entertainment and a Silent Auction.

On Saturday, April 10, will be the Texas Master Gardener Association Awards Brunch and that will be followed by a selection of Tours.

As you can see, the schedule is full. The Committee will be posting a detailed listing of Tours, Events, Speakers, Education Sessions and Options on the web site in August. www.2010TMGAconference.org. Any questions in the meantime can be addressed to our e-mail address as follows: TMGA2010@hotmail.com

2011 State Conference

Co-Hosted by Lake Granbury & Somervell County Master Gardeners



Hi! I want to let you know that things are hopping as committees meet to discuss all sorts of great ideas for the 2011 Texas State Master Gardeners Conference to be held in Glen Rose, Texas, April 27-29. Along with the Lake Granbury Master Gardeners, Somervell County Master Gardeners are moving forward to provide you with the best conference ever! Both groups are working hard to see that each and every person who attends goes away with a feeling of having learned something new and a feeling of accomplishment. Not only will there be outstanding speakers and workshops, but you will be able to find plenty to do away from the Expo Center such as tours. Granbury and Glen Rose abound with unique and varied places to visit. Since your writer lives in Glen Rose, I want to invite you to visit just three of its many attractions: Fossil Rim Wildlife Center located 4 miles west of Glen Rose where a tour bus will take you through a 1700-acre wildlife park; Barnard's Mill - an 1860's grist mill and adjoining art museum that houses paintings by local artist Robert Summers along with art works of the Miers Foundation and artist Amy Miers Jackson; if you are interested in old buildings then a must-see in Glen Rose are the many old petrified wood structures. Next month my Granbury colleague will share some Granbury attractions that you will want to put on your list to visit. Until then . . . Happy Trails!



Special Events & Opportunities



Foods for Health

The Vegetable & Fruit Improvement Center is hosting a conference on August 21, 2009 at the Omni Hotel-Downtown Austin on *Consumers to Farm: Changing Patterns in the Fruit and Vegetable Industry*. This one-day meeting hosted by the Vegetable and Fruit Improvement Center, a

part of Texas A&M University, is not only directed toward scientists and educators but consumers are also welcome to participate. [Click here for more information](#), or to register, please visit <http://vfic.tamu.edu/2009vficconference/home.htm> Registration deadline August 7, 2009

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/southerngarden/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.



October 11-14, 2011 2011 International Master Gardener Conference

West Virginia University Extension Service and the West Virginia Master Gardener Association invite you to join us at the 2011 International Master Gardener Conference, October 11 -14 in Charleston, West Virginia.

Come and join us in sharing gardening information,

history and Appalachian culture. The International Master Gardener Conference will be held at the Charleston Convention Center October 11-14, 2011 when fall brings cool nights and colorful mountain scenery. The event will provide opportunities to learn gardening techniques that will help increase biodiversity, control exotic weeds, make the most of native plants in the landscape and improve gardening methods. Pre and post tours will help you discover the splendor of the Appalachian Mountains and the beauty and history of West Virginia.

[Information](#)

Special Events & Opportunities Continued



**The City of
Farmers
Branch &
Chambersville
Tree Farms**

**CELEBRATES ROSES AT
ROSEDANGO 2009**

FARMERS BRANCH, TX (May, 2009) – The City of Farmers Branch and Chambersville Tree Farms announce a weekend celebration of roses at the second annual RoseDango to be held **October 17 and 18** in the cities of McKinney, Chambersville and Farmers Branch, Texas. RoseDango features guest speakers Marilyn Wellan and Stephen Scanniello, this year's Great Rosarians of the World (GROW) honorees, as well as Mike Shoup author and owner of the Antique Rose Emporium and Dennis Jones, President of the Fort Worth Rose Society.

Actively involved in local, national and international rose societies, Mr. Scanniello, author and current president of the Heritage Rose Foundation and Ms. Wellan, past president of the American Rose Society, have been honored for their work promoting the love of roses and bridging the gap between two major approaches in the hobby, Modern Roses and Old Garden Roses. Mike Shoup, a Texas Rose Rustler, has long promoted the preservation and use of Old Garden Roses. As the former Rose Gardener at the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens, Dennis Jones has cared for over 2,000 roses and promotes an earth-friendly approach to rose gardening.

This year's RoseDango celebration provides rosarians and rose enthusiasts the opportunity to exchange information and see firsthand the rose gardens in Farmers Branch and Chambersville Heritage Rose

Garden. The weekend will kick-off Saturday with presentations at the McKinney Performing Arts Theater, followed by tours of the Chambersville Heritage Rose Garden. On Sunday the event will move south to Farmers Branch and will feature garden tours, a rose pruning clinic by Mike Shoup and much more. The event concludes with the Dallas Rose Society's Fall Rose Show at the Farmers Branch Senior Center. The show will be open to the public from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

This is an excellent opportunity for Master Gardeners to see what is thought to be the largest environmental horticulture research in the country. The National Earth-Kind Trial Rose Garden in Farmers Branch is the only garden to evaluate all 100 cultivars under consideration for future Earth-Kind designation on a national level. Under the direction of Dr. Steven George this project has included many volunteer hours including those of Master Gardeners. Also include in the Farmers Branch tour is an Earth-Kind demonstration garden that exhibits the use of perennials and annals with the roses.

The Chambersville Heritage Rose garden is a study garden of the Heritage Rose Foundation and has been designated by the Heritage Rose Committee of the World Federation of Rose Societies as an important world collection of historical roses. The garden features over 300 different varieties of rare and unusual China, Tea, Noisette and Hybrid Musk roses growing in a natural meadow setting utilizing the Earth-Kind method of growing.

Visit www.rosedango.com for more information

Contact: Pam Smith - 972.919.2625 -

pam.smith@farmersbranch.info

Carol Edwards - 214.250.3023 -

events@chambersvilletreefarms.com

The Masters of Gardening - Dallas Arboretum.

Be our guest. Saturday, November 7, 2009 9 am- 5 pm

214-515-6540 or education@dallasarboretum.org

For more information, visit <http://www.dallasarboretum.org/Learn/MasterGardeners.htm>

August Directors Meeting

For anyone who missed the August Directors meeting, you can listen to a recording of the event on Centra.

Follow this link to sign in. <http://webconference.tamus.edu/main/tce/index.jhtml?default=true>

If you have not signed up for Centra before, follow the instructions on the TMGA Website here.

<http://grovesite.com/page.asp?o=mg&s=mga&p=279388>. Search for Texas MG and click 8/1/09.

Photos from the meeting can be seen here. [See photos](#)

County Upcoming Events

[August County Events](#) – For more details, visit the TMGA Website, [click here](#).

- August 3, 2009 - Kaufman County Master Gardener Meeting Educational Program on Texas Native and Adapted plants
- August 10, 2009 – Somervell County Master Gardeners Community Horticultural Education Program - Butterfly Gardening with Polly Parmer
- August 11, 2009 - Harris County Master Gardener Association - Green Thumb Gardening Series Landscape Maintenance
- August 15, 2009 - ARANSAS/SAN PATRICIO MASTER GARDENERS- "Healthy Garden Habits and Unseen Critters to Know"
- August 17, 2009 - Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2- Open Garden Day - tour the working and demonstration gardens
- August 18, 2009 - Aransas/San Patricio Master Gardeners - Creating a Pocket Prairie Garden
- August 19, 2009 - Harris County Master Gardeners - Master Gardener Lecture Series "Bonsai for Beginners."
- August 22, 2009 - Travis County Master Gardeners- Fall Vegetable Gardening-
- August 22 and 27, 2009 - Texas Discovery Gardens Tropical Butterfly Docent Training II
- September, 2009 - The Collin County Master Gardener Association is preparing for their 6th Annual Fall Fundraiser: Bulbs for North Texas Landscapes.

News from Around the State



Lake Granbury Master Gardeners - An August view of a Master Gardener's vine trellis with blooming Coral Vine, Mexican Vine, Hyacinth Bean Vine, Cypress Vine and Purple Passion Vine.

Submitted by Nancy Hancock



Somervell County & Lake Granbury Master Gardeners 2011 Conference Committee Meeting

On July 7, members of Somervell County Master Gardeners and Lake Granbury Master Gardeners began monthly planning sessions, working towards the 2011 Texas Master Gardener State Conference. The conference will be held at the

Expo Center in Glen Rose, on April 27-29, 2011. Doug Richards and Donna Hagar, conference co-chairs, came dressed in attention getting attire to emphasize thinking outside the box to make this a unique and special conference. The goal for this con-

ference is to bring over 1000 Texas Master Gardeners together for 3 days of educational sessions, tours, workshops and shopping.

Several committees have already made progress.

The Publicity committee is well on it's way to developing a logo for the conference. The Accommodations committee has been working with both Glen Rose and Granbury CVB's. The Vendor/Sponsor committee already has over 20 potential vendors. The Reception committee is close to securing a location for the first night reception. The Workshop committee has held a trial workshop, with another scheduled in the upcoming weeks.

This is will definitely be a conference that Master Gardeners, as well as the entire community, will never forget. It will be one of the most exciting and unique Texas Master Gardener Conferences ever held.