



2009 TMGA Officers

President
Doug Quicksall
McLennan County



First Vice President
Lynn McKillop
Ft. Bend County



Second Vice President
Lonnie Matthew
Aransas County



Secretary
Brenda Cunningham
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.

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



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



From Our President

This morning I awoke to a winter wonderland in Central Texas. The ground was painted in white. The lingering leaves on the trees sparkled in the glow of daybreak sunlight. My step outside was greeted with a bite of the cold from the heavy early morning frost and a scent of burning wood drifted in the air. Even a brisk stroll out to the road for the morning paper could not quiet my thoughts. Then suddenly it came to me, the holiday season is here. Wow! What happened to 2009?

This year has certainly skipped by so fast. It seems like only a day or so ago we were planning for a new year. And now, it is all about closing out the old one. With that I want each of you to know how special it has been serve this organization as president. Each of you has made this year a wonderful memory for me.

There have been so many wonderful people to work with. And you have done so much.

This last week I received a letter from Edward G. Smith the Director of Texas AgriLife Extension Service. This letter came as a result of all you have done. Mr. Smith's letter informed me that Texas AgriLife Extension Service is honoring the Texas Master Gardener Association with the Extension Partnership Award. We will be receiving one of four Partnership Awards conferred this next January.

See "Message From Our President" [page 2](#)

****Directors Meeting****

Next Meeting December 5, 2009
11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Horticulture/Forest Science Bldg #1506 Parking lot #74 off Olsen St.

Table of Contents

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

TMGA News

Earth-Kind® News Carefree Beauty



Since **Carefree Beauty** is planted in all Earth-Kind® research gardens in Texas and around the nation as the standard against which the others are rated, it seems worthwhile to study this cultivar in some depth.

One of the best of the Carefree shrub roses developed by Dr. Griffith Buck at Iowa State University to withstand the cold and long winters of the Midwest, Carefree Beauty has also proven to be an excellent choice for Texas gardens challenged by hot, dry summers. It was named 2006 Earth-Kind® Rose of the Year. Introduced in 1977, the result of Dr. Buck's breeding efforts has the scientific name BUCbi. It is a cross between an unnamed seedling derived from Applejack, Dean Collins, Queen Elizabeth, Independence and Improved Lafayette as the seed parent and pollen parent Prairie Princess.

Carefree Beauty is a medium size Shrub rose with an upright, vase like shape which grows well in USDA zone 4b and warmer. In colder climates, where growing seasons are short, the rose reaches 3 to 4 feet in height, but in Texas will easily grow to 5 feet. Foliage is dark olive green and grows vigorously. Plants furiously produce successive flushes of fragrant pink blossoms from spring until frost. The large flowers open flat with a few irregular, loose petals at the center and an occasional white stripe running through

them. They come singly or in clusters of 4 or 5 on a single stem. They make poor cut flowers as they rapidly drop their petals to make way for more blooms. This quick drop of old flowers is one of the things making them an outstanding landscape plant. The large orange hips, produced from nearly every flower, should be picked early for optimum culinary use. They will be crisp and slightly sour. If left on the plant, they add lovely winter interest. It is notable that this rose seems to tolerate highly saline irrigation water as long as there is abundant organic matter in the soil. Drip irrigation should be used so the water does not come into direct contact with foliage.

The rich color of the blooms makes it a natural choice for uses in groupings of 3 to 5 plants in locations to which you want the viewer's eye to be drawn. It is equally effective in a mixed border, cottage or rose garden. It will work as a low maintenance hedge or on its own as a specimen plant. Its showy and fragrant flowers attract butterflies and provide color from spring until frost.

This rose was known in Texas for several years as "Katy Road Pink" after it was "found" on Katy Road in Houston by Dr. and Mrs. Stahl in the early 1980's. It was through a plant exchange with Conard Pyle Nurseries in 2001 that The Antique Rose Emporium discovered the very popular Katy Road Pink was actually Dr. Griffith Buck's Carefree Beauty.

Continued from page 1 "Message From Our President"

The Extension Partnership Award was established to recognize and thank organizations, agencies, and other institutions, in either the private or public sector, that have shown outstanding dedication in working with AgriLife Extension to better serve the people of Texas. With over 75,000 Extension volunteers throughout Texas this award is truly something we can be proud of.



This recognition of the TMGA is a result of what we accomplish at the local master gardener association level. So as President of the TMGA let me thank each of our local master gardener associations for making all of this possible.

I came into this office with apprehension and because of you I leave this office full of joy and pride in serving you.

Thank you. Merry Christmas!

Doug

TMGA News continued

Nominating Committee

By Fran Amuny, Nominating Committee Chair

At the December 5th 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 the presented slate of nominees at <http://tmganewsletter.org/aug09/Resumes.pdf>

Nominations are:

President - Lonnie Mathew, Aransas/San Patricio MG,
1st Vice President, Homer Babbitt Parker Co. MG,
2nd Vice President, Doris Rogers, Amarillo Area MG,
Treasurer, Chris Oefinger, Cypress Baisn, MG and
Secretary, Diane Bush, Angelina Co. MG.



2009 Awards Program

The AWARDS HANDBOOK and all submission forms for 2009 entries are posted on the Awards website, www.tmgaawards.com. Please note the deadline for 2009 Awards submissions is midnight

**** Monday, January 11, 2010****

See page 2 of the Handbook for details

The judging will continue to be done by out of state judges and plaques presented at the state conference. Now is the time to get those entries ready and reservations made for the conference in 2010!!

By Ginger Bason Awards Committee Chair

Special Events & Opportunities

Centra Web Design

On Wednesday, December 9, at 10:30 a.m., I plan to host a Centra session for Master Gardeners and County Agents who are interested in Web Design and current University policy requirements for web sites. The session should last approximately 1 hour.

We'll discuss:

- * Brief overview of Good Web Design and how that fits into policy
- * University SAPs regarding web page accessibility
- * TAC 202 - specifically the information on web sites
- * Resources for web design and accessibility
- * question and answer session as time permits

To register, please go to AgriLife Extension Centra page (<http://webconference.tamus.edu/main/tce/>) and login with your account (or register if you have not created a Centra account before). Search for the event titled "Extension Horticulture Web Design and Policy" or look for it on 9th of December. Make sure that you have the Centra client installed on your system before the event date. You can download it once you have logged in with your Centra account. If you would like to submit in advance any questions or if you have trouble with registering, please let me know. [Martin Anderson](mailto:Martin.Anderson@texasaam.edu)



The Texas Organic Farmers & Gardeners will hold its annual conference: "Texas Conference on Organic Crop Production"

"All Things Local", **January 29 & 30, 2010**, at the Embassy Suites, San Marcos, TX. Speakers and events will be posted to the Web site, (TOFGA.org) as soon as they are finalized. Submitted by Walter Daude

Ellis County Master Gardeners

10th Annual Lawn & Garden Expo, March 27, 2010

The Ellis County Master Gardeners will be holding it's 10th annual Lawn & Garden Expo, on Saturday, March 27, 2010, from 9-5pm at the Waxahachie Civic Center. Our keynote speaker is author and renowned radio talk show host Neil Sperry. For further information, please call 972.825.5175 or visit our website: www.ecmga.com.



Annual Conference Information



TEXAS MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION 2010 CONFERENCE

The Dallas County Master Gardener Association wants to remind all Texas Master Gardeners that the 2010 Conference is just around the proverbial corner. For those of you who have not been following the monthly press releases, Dallas County Master Gardener Association is the host and we announce that the venue for the April 8-11, 2010, Conference is the Las Colinas Omni Mandalay Hotel at 221 East Las Colinas Blvd, Irving, TX 75039. This hotel was chosen because of its excellent conference and room facilities and convenient location. Please consult the www.2010TMGAconference.org web site to make conference and room reservations.



The list of tours available during the conference has now been finalized. There are five tours set up for Thursday, April 8. They are Tour I-Dallas Arboretum and White Rock Lake Demon-

stration Garden; Tour II-Earth-Kind®/WaterWise Demonstration Garden at Joe Field County Offices; Tour III-Dr. Steve George, Earth-Kind® Landscaping; Tour IV-self guided tour of private gardens in Irving, Coppell and Farmers Branch and Tour V-Texas Discovery Gardens, new Sammons Butterfly House and Lake Cliff Park Demonstration Garden.



On Saturday, April 10, a different list of five tours is available. Tour VI- Historic Downtown Dallas and the Arts District; Tour VII-Guided Tour of the Swiss Avenue Historic District, East Dallas private gardens

and R.E. Lee Elementary School Community Garden; Tour VIII Self Guided Tour of Dallas Arboretum and Texas Discovery Gardens; Tour IX-Rockwall County Master Gardener's Discovery Garden, private gardens and San Martin Winery and Tour X-Texas Buckeye Trail and the Trinity River Audubon Center located in the Great Trinity Forest.

Consult the website at www.2010TMGAconference.org for the exact times and prices as each tour offers different departure times, transportation modes, entrance fee consideration and meal possibilities which would be too lengthy to list here.

The list of speakers and classes for the conference is also being finalized and will soon be posted on the web site in detail. A few of the featured speakers will be Dr. Steve Huddleston on WaterWise Plants, Dr. Steven George on Earth-Kind® Roses, Nancy Wilten on Orchids, Steven Chamblee on Texas Tough Plants, Steve Houser on trees and Mariana Greene Garden Editor of Dallas Morning News. In the next press release, we will mention the featured speakers and classes at length.



The Dallas County Master Gardener Association, as host of the 2010 TMGA conference has created a list of sponsorship levels that offers a very interesting group of incentives to prospective sponsors. We invite you to consult the web site for the detailed explanation of each level and the advantages therein offered. The information received at the 2010 TMGA conference will be disseminated throughout the state by Master Gardeners returning to their home counties.

If you have questions, please consult the web site at www.2010TMGAconference.org or e-mail TMGA2010@hotmail.com. The Committee will do its best to assist you.

Annual Conference Information Continued



Texas Master Gardeners 2011 State Conference

2011 Texas Master Gardener State Conference April 27-29, 2011 Somervell County Expo Center in Glen Rose, TX Co-hosted by Somervell County and Lake Granbury Master Gardeners



Glen Rose is so named because of the abundance of wild roses that were once prominent in and around the Paluxy River Valley and hills of Somervell County. Today, our little town sits in an attractive "glen" but something is missing.

A group of local businessmen and concerned citizens, also known as the Somervell County Networking Group, have teamed up to, among other civic activities, beautify Glen Rose. To that end, Project 2010 Rosebush was born. The goal of the Project 2010 Rosebush is to plant 2,010 Earth-Kind® Rose bushes in and around Glen Rose and Somervell County as a means of beautification and bringing back roses that were once abundant in our area. What a vision to have every entrance to the city lined with roses by the end of 2010! While not the native wild roses that once dotted the hills of Somervell County, Earth-Kind® Roses are a perfect choice for the landscape for both businesses and homeowners because of their high level of performance and ease of care.

Project 2010 Rosebush is a joint effort by the Somervell County/Glen Rose Chamber of Commerce and Somervell County Master Gardeners. The Glen Rose Chamber of Commerce is coordinating the ordering and delivery of the roses. The Somervell County Master Gardeners are offering their expertise and experience to local businesses and homeowners on selection, planting and care of the roses.

The Somervell County Master Gardeners have already made progress by planting 24 KnockOut rosebushes along the parking lot fence line for the new River Walk at Heritage Park in downtown Glen Rose. The first order for the community has been placed with over 170 rosebushes ordered. The response and excitement in the community continues to grow.

Project 2010 Rosebush compliments another exciting event, as the Somervell County Master Gardeners and Lake Granbury Master Gardeners will be co-hosting the state Texas Master Gardener Conference in Glen Rose in April of 2011. What better way to show off our beautiful community to the many Master Gardeners who will be descending on Glen Rose in 18 months!

Visit www.2011tmgconference.org for more information



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 Interna-

tional 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](#)

County Upcoming Events

To preserve space in the newsletter, below is a list of MG events throughout Texas. If you'd like more information, please visit the TMGA Website: [December County Events](#) –

- December 5, 2009 - Fort Bend Master Gardeners - Saturday with the Master Gardeners
- December 8, 2009 - Guadalupe County Native Plant Society Christmas Potluck Supper.
- December 15, 2009 - Aransas/San Patricio Master Gardeners - "What is a Master Naturalist?"

News from Around the State

Lake Granbury Master Gardeners

The Publicity Committee for the 2011 State Conference, consisting of Somervell County Master Gardeners Sandi Stringer and Shirley Smith, along with Lake Granbury Master Gardeners Hazel Blaschke and Dianne Allen enjoy a coffee break at a recent meeting at Hazel Blaschke's home in Granbury.

Submitted by Nancy Hancock



Kaufman County Master Gardeners



9 Kaufman County residents have completed the first phase to become credentialed as Master Gardeners. They have successfully completed an intensive 80 hours

of training in horticulture through the Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service. The 9 interns will be performing 50 hours of volunteer service through Texas AgriLIFE extension projects in 2010 to complete their credentialing. Pictured bottom row left to right: Janis Barnett, Bonnie Hoover, Lisa Nalls, Rebecca Morrow; top row left to right: Judy McAfee, Judy Barton, Ginger Davis, Karen Sanders. Not pictured is Theresa Sullivan.

Kaufman County Master Gardeners are part of the Texas AgriLIFE extension service. KCMGA offers scheduled educational programs, and monthly meetings, with educational programs, which are open to the public at no charge. Please call the Texas AgriLIFE extension office for more information at 972 932 9069 or check the events section on our website at

www.kcmastergardeners.org



The Greenhouse Specialist Training was provided by the Tarrant County Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service and was held in Ft Worth. The three day program included classroom

training as well as hands on work bending pipes for a hoop style greenhouse and a tour of the Ft Worth Arboretum Greenhouse. Master Gardeners will use the training to erect and maintain a greenhouse at the South Campus Garden Learning Center [SW corner of intersection of HWY 148 and 1388 in Kaufman]. Master Gardeners will also be available to provide programs on greenhouse construction and management for area groups and clubs and to answer individual inquiries. Please contact the Kaufman County Master Gardeners to schedule a speaker on Greenhouses, Rain Water Harvesting, Earth-Kind® Roses, Square Foot Gardening or any other horticultural topic. 972 932 9069.

Attached picture left to right: Wanda Dietel, Marvin Dietel, Hildegard Smith, Lynn Ackerman, Missy Baker and Nancy Bowman.

The Texas Master Gardener Association of Texas activities are coordinated by AgriLife Extension. Texas Master Gardener Association programs serve all people regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin.

Disclaimer: Information given is for educational purposes only. References to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the AgriLife Extension or the TMGA is implied.