

Tarrant County Master Gardener Association

June 2008

Mission Statement

To provide horticultural and environmental research based information and techniques. To volunteer in area horticulture projects.

ATTRACTING BIRDS

Birds add an auditory dimension to the garden. It is not uncommon that gardeners and bird lovers are often the same people. Some things you need to attract birds are food, water, shelter, and places for rearing their young.

FOOD

If you have pest insects in your landscape that is a plus. Birds also want fruit, berries, and nuts. The eating habits of birds are not all the same. The high-energy mainstays of any bird feeding program are a source of grains and seeds. Also necessary is grit. Birds have no teeth, and rely on fine particles of grit in the gizzards to grind up hard seeds. Commercial grit or coarse sand can be used.

- Suet is the tastiest, least expensive, and most readily available source of animal fats for birds. It is popular with nearly all birds in winter, especially when mixed with seeds and tidbits. Suet begins to melt at about 70 degrees F and quickly turns rancid and should only be used in winter.
- Wild birdseed bought at the pet center usually will meet the needs providing it includes sunflower seeds. If you buy the cheapest birdseed in the store you will just get filler and the birds will leave it. Avoid birdseeds that contain Milo and wheat. These foods are a waste of money.
- If the birdseed is millet, this will attract doves and sparrows, but not songbirds.
- Black oil sunflower (versus gray-striped sunflower) seeds is perhaps the most universal food for birds - cardinals, doves, finches, jays, and sparrows all love it.

FEEDERS

Bird feeders are okay at ground level if you do not have feline predators in the neighborhood. Birds like a "staging" tree near the bird feeders. They land in the tree, check for safety, and

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Breaking News!! Tarrant County Master Gardeners took home a record breaking eight out of eight award categories from Texas Master Gardener Conference.

FROM AROUND THE CORNER



President's Notepad

Wow, it is so good to be home. If you didn't know I've been gone for a few weeks. But I'm back now and ready to enjoy all things and people Texas.

As I looked through the proof copy of this newsletter, I am reminded of what a great group we are. We work so hard year round that we won an award in every category at the State Convention. We share our knowledge, time, seeds, plants, tools and even money to help our community, our projects, each others gardens, and people half a world away. Congratulations to all State Award winners and to Mary Margaret Hallick who received a very special award.

Now that the Nominating Committee has been elected they are hard at work selecting qualified officers for next year. Having served on this committee in the past, I can tell you that it is not a job that is taken lightly. The members each rely on their own knowledge of other members and seek out knowledge of members they do not know. The members meet and discuss the suggested officers and come up with a list they believe will make talented leaders for our organization. If they ask you to consider a position as an officer, please think about it and take it as a compliment that you were asked to be a part of leading us next year.

I am truly proud to be called a Tarrant County Master Gardener. Thanks to everyone for so graciously giving of yourself. You make this organization great.

—Tammy Edwards



June 5, 2008 Monthly Program

Over and over I hear members say that there is never enough time at the monthly meetings to visit with all our MG friends. I TOTALLY AGREE! So, this month we have a special treat – the June 'social' as we have come to call it. Thanks to the City of Grapevine's Horticulturist Lisa Adams Grove, we are ALL welcome to 'socialize' at the Grapevine Botanical Garden in Grapevine on June 1.

See page 5 for directions to the garden and directions on where to park. It is critical that we only park in the designated lot.

THE MEETING AGENDA FOLLOWS:

- 9:30-10:00 am Arrive, park and socialize.
- 10:00-11:00 a.m. Demonstrations in the Garden
(Meet at the Pavilion to start.)
- 11:00-11:30 a.m. Business Meeting
(Pavilion and surrounding area)
- 11:30-12:15 p.m. Guided tours thru the Garden.

Lisa Adams Grove will give a demonstration on how to assemble a container garden with both ornamentals and herbs. The results will be our raffle prizes for the day! Our own Marilyn Sallee will show us how to use common "recyclables" in plant propagation. At the end of the guided tours, you are free to enjoy the Garden and visit with your MG friends as long as you wish to stay. It is a beautiful garden, and I plan to bring my camera and notebook and catch up with some old friends!

----- Bonus ----- Afterward, visit a nearby MG Garden – see page 5. Thanks!

— Susan Stanek, 1st VP Programs

Tarrant County Master Gardener Meeting Minutes May 1, 2008

Program: "Landscaping with Native Plants" and "Native Plants and Xeriscaping" by Justin Allison. In President Tammy Edwards' absence, 1st VP Susan Stanek called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. A total of 171 Master Gardeners and Interns were in attendance. A quorum of Certified Master Gardeners was declared.

Minutes: The minutes of the April 3, 2008 meeting omitted the following: "President Edwards declared the nominations for Nominating Committee are closed." The minutes for the April 3, 2008 meeting were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report:

Total Income:	\$ 7,733.45
Total Expenses:	-6,110.21
Checking Acct:	11,348.96
Savings Acct.:	<u>18,828.07</u>
Total Assets:	\$31,177.03

Treasurer's Report was filed for audit.

Treasurer Carl Trehus will be filing income taxes for 2007. He also reported that he has available tax receipt forms for persons donating larger value items to our Raffle Table and Silent Auction.

Old Business:

Scholarships are in the 2008 Budget ("Specialist or Advanced Training"). Currently only Tarrant County Master Gardeners may apply for the Scholarships for partial reimbursement for "Specialist or Advanced Training." Last month a motion was made and seconded to allow persons enrolled in horticulture related classes who are not Tarrant County Master Gardeners to apply for Scholarships. A voice vote approved the change.

Nominating Committee – Certified members were given ballots for the five candidates for Nominating Committee (Ginger Bason, Sharon Chastain, Marietta Kane, Charlie Shiner, Susan Stanek). Certified members were instructed to choose four of the five for the committee. The results of the vote will be announced following lunch.

Announcements

Colleyville Garden Club Promenade – Sunday, May

4, 11 AM to 4 PM Raffle Funds go to the Projects that apply for the funds.

TCMGA Events:

May 21 Field Trip to Austin, full, but there is a waiting list.

June 11 Field Trip to view water features. Lunches may be ordered from Kay Gunn for \$7.

June 5th TCMGA Meeting – will be at the Grapevine Botanical Garden. Maps at sign-in table. Members may bring their lunch or plan to eat at one of many eateries in Grapevine.

July 3 TCMGA Meeting – Garage Sale and Silent Auction (garden related items, only) and Speaker at usual location, Resource Connection.

Steve Chaney's Announcements

State Convention Awards

2nd Place: Education, Speakers Bureau

3rd Place: Newsletter

2nd Place: Project, Community/Demonstration Garden

3rd Place: Publication, *My Garden Book of Flowers*

2nd Place: Graphics, Butterflies, Their Habitat, Needs and Characteristics

2nd Place: Mass media, Alice Carlson Applied Learning Center

2nd Place: Individual Master Gardener of the Year, Ginger Bason

1st Place: Tarrant County Master Gardeners Association

International Humanitarian Award: Mary Margaret Halleck

Carl Linneaus Award: Doug Welsh

Car Pooling is encouraged to further being good stewards of the land.

Phone desk needs sign-ups.

Mayfest, Waterama, Pizza Ranch sign-up or call office.

AgriLife Extension is the new name for the extension service, a part of the Texas A & M system.

Business meeting suspended at 11:40 AM, until the ballots for Nominating Committee have been counted. Resumed at 12:10 PM. 127 ballots were submitted. The four selected were: Ginger Bason, Sharon Chastain, Charlie Shiner, Susan Stanek. Ben Oefinger is the Chair.

—Submitted by Secretary Joyce Quam

LEADERSHIP

President—Tammy Edwards
tammy.edwards@gmail.com

1st VPresident—Susan Stanek
slstanek@charter.net

2nd VPresident—Bill Hall

Secretary—Joyce Quam
jarquam@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer—Carl Trehus
c.trehus@gte.net

Sharecropper Editor—
Derald Freeman
grreatideas@sbcglobal.net

Sharecropper Submissions—
Judy Butler
jubutl@aol.com

Activities—Kay Gunn
kaygunn2138@sbcglobal.net

Birthdays/Sunshine—LaVonne
Nowlin lavonnen@sbcglobal.net

Directory changes and
Membership—Sue Ellen Schlitzer
s.schlitzer@sbcglobal.net

Steve Chaney
s-chaney@tamu.edu

TCMGA Web site
<http://www.tcmga.org>

TCMGA office 817-884-1944

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then fly down to the feeder. The tree should not have any hiding spots near the ground where cats can hide and wait. Otherwise you need to raise the feeder on a pole. Squirrels can shinny up anything that is climbable to get into the bird feed. A feeder hanging in a tree is no problem for squirrels. Try feeders placed at different levels and hung in different ways. You will discover which is the most attractive to the birds and most used. Seeds that fall to the ground beneath the feeder soon create a miniature forest of unwanted vegetation. Apply a pre-emergent herbicide to that area. It will not affect the birds and will control the see growth as it starts to emerge. Birds depend on you for feed and water during the winter more than in the summer when food is more plentiful.

WATER

A reliable source of fresh water is an essential ingredient in attracting birds. You may not have a pond in the landscape but one or two birdbaths are a treasure to your feathered friends. Birdbaths should be hosed off and refilled often in all seasons and checked daily during hot weather. Never add chemicals to control algae, insects or to prevent freezing.



PLANTS THAT ATTRACT

Using native and well adapted plants attract a variety of wildlife. Plant flowers, shrubs, and trees that bear fruit and berries. Most all of the hollies have berries in the fall. If you plant tomatoes birds will have a feast. Plant a variety of shrubs that bear fruit at different times during the late summer and fall.

Pyracantha (*Pyracantha coccinea*) berries are generally eaten by only the local birds during the middle of winter when all other tastier fruits have disappeared.

- **Trees:** Holly 'Nellie R. Stevens', American Holly, and Dogwood.
- **Shrubs:** Pyracantha, Holly ('Nellie R. Stevens,' or Burford), Cherry laurel, and Viburnum.
- **Perennials and annuals:** Salvia (*Salvia farinacea*, *Salvia leucantha*, *Salvia greggii*), Sunflower, and Zinnia.
- **Vines:** Boston ivy, Trumpet vine, and Virginia creeper.

With these plants in your garden, you will surely attract a large variety of birds that bring you many hours of bird-watching joy.

—by Derald Freeman

Directions to Grapevine Botanical Garden 411 Ball St., Grapevine, 76051

THE MEETING AGENDA FOLLOWS:

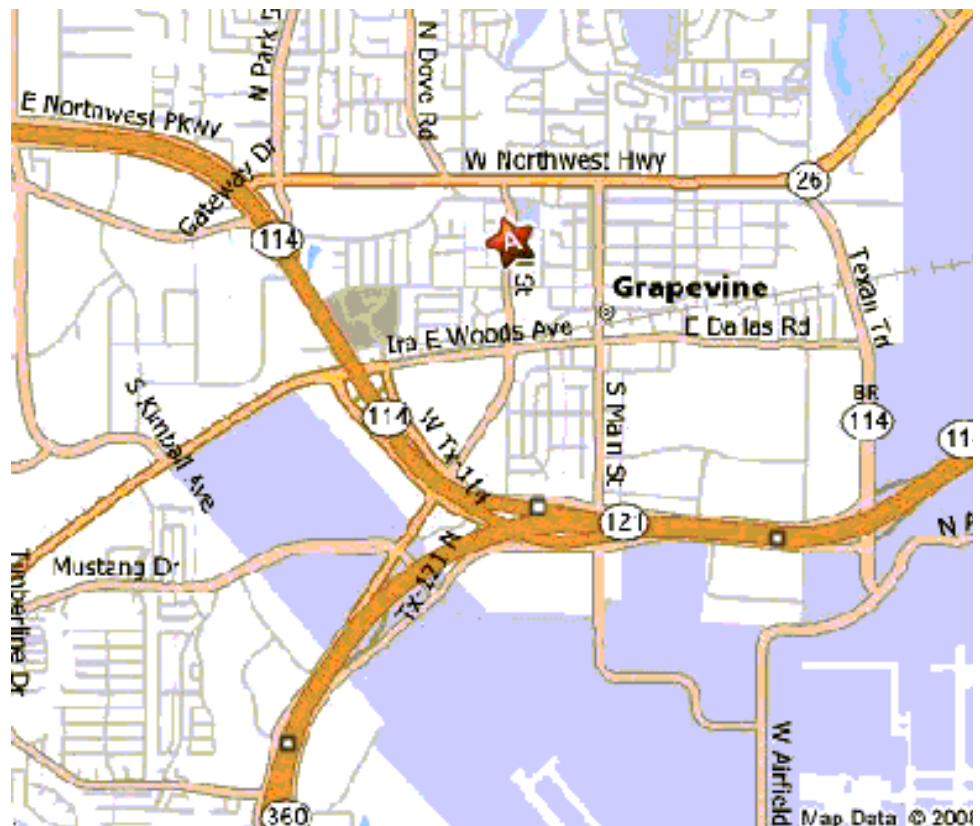
- | | | |
|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| 9:30-10:00 am | Arrive, park and socialize. | |
| 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. | Demonstrations in the Garden | (Meet at the Pavilion to start.) |
| 11:00 -11:30 a.m. | Business Meeting | (Pavilion and surrounding area) |
| 11:30 – 12:15 p.m. | Guided tours thru the Garden. | |
| ----- Bonus ----- | Visit Toni Moorehead's garden nearby. 2313 Brookcrest Ln, GV, 76051 | |

At the end of the guided tours, you are free to enjoy the Garden and visit with your MG friends as long as you wish to stay. Cold bottled water will be plentiful for all MGs. You may want to bring a small folding lawn chair if you need to sit and prefer a chair.

Note: This is a monthly MG meeting and we are a large group. Please do not invite any friends or family, but do bring them to the Garden at another time to enjoy it. Thanks!

WHERE TO PARK – VERY IMPORTANT!!!!!!!

- There will be several MGs in orange safety vests directing you into the correct parking lot. Please look for them. They will be on your right, as you are driving on William D. Tate / Ball Street.
- Do not park in the very small Botanical Garden parking lot in front of the Garden. It is reserved for another event at this same time.
- Do not park in the very small parking lot on the right beyond the Garden. It is for those going to the very small children's playground near the Garden and not for use for Garden visitors.



Please observe these requests and help us be good guests.

Questions – call Susan Stanek at 817-637-3291.

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Directions to Grapevine Botanical Garden

From 121/360 going North

Exit William D. Tate and follow thru two stop lights and over Highway 114. Continue past Ira A. Woods Ave/E. Dallas Ave. (At this point, William D. Tate becomes Ball Street). You will find the parking on your right, just prior to the Botanical Garden itself. Look for MGS in lime green vests to guide you into parking.

From 114 going East or West

Exit William D. Tate and go north (left going east, right going west) and follow thru two stop lights and over Highway 114. Continue past Ira A. Woods Ave/E. Dallas Ave. (At this point, William D. Tate becomes Ball Street). You will find the parking on your right, just prior to the Botanical Garden itself. Look for MGs in lime green vests to guide you into parking.

Directions to Toni Moorehead's from Botanical Garden

1. Start out going NORTH (right) on BALL ST. 0.2 mi
2. Turn LEFT onto W NORTHWEST HWY/ TX-114 BR. 0.9 mi
3. Turn RIGHT onto N PARK BLVD. 1.0 mi
4. Turn LEFT onto DOVE RD. 0.7 mi
5. Turn RIGHT onto SILVERCREST LN. 1.0 mi
6. Turn RIGHT onto KIMBALL RD. 0.1 mi
7. Turn LEFT onto LAKEVIEW DR. 0.1 mi
8. Turn RIGHT onto BROOKCREST LN. 0.0 mi
9. End at 2313 Brookcrest Ln. Grapevine, TX 76051-4677

Estimated Time: 10 minutes

Estimated Distance: 3.97 miles

You are welcome to bring your lunch and picnic at Toni's.

(If you turn right on Northwest Highway there is a Sonic on the right a few blocks.

Then turn around back to the left and continue as above.)

Call Toni if you get lost – 972-754-9849.

THANK YOU TO THE MEMBERSHIP

As I write this, we are halfway through the Intern Telephone Training and have arrived **SUCCESSFULLY**. The success is due in a large part to the help that many of you have given. Your willingness to come to the office to help with the phones is immensely helpful in several ways. First, it allows the Intern Mentor/Trainer to finish a sentence! Most importantly you provide a model and example for the Intern to observe and thereby learn.



There are times, I'm sure, you've wondered why you were there as the Interns were ready to "take" a desk and really start their phone training in earnest. Again, you served as additional support to the Mentoring person as they can't be in all places at once. Let us not forget that we are there also to assist the other members of the Staff to complete some of their tasks; i.e., mass mailings or other tasks. So with your being there, you can be invaluable to the entire Extension staff. The real bonus is getting to know some of our newest members-to-be.

Please remember that your being there is a tremendous support to the overall positive learning experience of our newest Master Gardeners. They and I THANK YOU.

—Eleanor Tuck

TEXAS MASTER GARDENER CONFERENCE

Tarrant County Master Gardeners took home a record breaking eight out of eight award categories from the Master Gardener Conference in Conroe, Texas on April 24-26, 2008. No other group has ever won awards in every category.

The Awards were so heavy that Steve Chaney had to bring them to the monthly meeting in a wheel-barrow.

- 1st Place Association
- 2nd Place Individual – Ginger Bason
- 2nd Place Education – Speaker's Bureau
- 2nd Place Project – Community / Demonstration Garden
- 2nd Place Graphic – Butterflies – Their Habitat, Needs & Characteristics
- 2nd Place Mass Media – Public Access TV Show: Alice Carlson Applied Learning Center
- 3rd Place Publication – My Garden Book of Flowers
- 3rd Place Newsletter – The Sharecropper

The photo shows some of the Master Gardeners who attended the conference. Photos are provided by Gay Larson and commentary by Marilyn Sallee.



Texas Master Gardeners State Board Meeting

The Texas State Master Gardener board meeting was held in Conroe on April 24, 2008.

The highlight of the conference is the Awards Banquet and, appropriately, the first order of business was an awards report presented by the State Chairperson, Ginger Bason. Ginger said that there was a significant increase in the number of counties participating. This was attributed to the new simplified awards submission forms. Also, she said that the judges were very impressed with the quality of the work being done by Texas Master Gardeners. Ginger ended by stating that all judges had returned the score sheets, they have been tallied and were ready for presentation on Friday night.

Doug Richards announced that a new Webmaster for the state, Dove Johnson, will be taking over. During this transition, he requested that Master Gardener Associations keep sending in news of their organizations.

State president Gary Wylie was very pleased that MG Associations throughout the state were working to implement the 5 year plan in their area. Chairpersons for each of the programs are: George Ammerham-Gauadalupe Cnty., Membership Outreach; Gary Wylie-Johnson Cnty., Earthkind Roses; Pam Daniel-Dallas Cnty., Rainwater Harvesting; Neil Cochran-Ellis Cnty, Junior Master Gardeners; Bunny Williams-Dallas Cnty., Mentoring (for incoming MGs); and Marie Sobo-Victoria, Wildflowers.

Dr. Doug Welsh, the coordinator for the Texas Master Gardener program, introduced Jayla Fry, who as of May 1st became an Extension Assistant and TMGA Coordinator. Jayla has served as the program coordinator for the Horticulture Technician Training program at the Bryan Federal Prison. For the past 3 years she has taught every chapter in the TMGA handbook, coordinated landscape installation and maintenance for the 26 acre-prison campus, operated two 2,800 square foot greenhouses

and coordinated bedding plant production therein, and managed a half-acre vegetable garden with produce utilized by the prison food services.

A new budget was presented, discussed, and approved.

The board voted to give \$500.00 to the Horticulture area for the 4H Roundup. This Roundup involves about 6000 youngsters from around the state. We have had 3 students from 4H enter the horticulture field at A&M.

Gary announced that Specialist classes for the year are on the state website. This year there will be only one JMG class (June 11-14 in Georgetown) and a new Vegetable Specialist class will be held in Williamson County October 16 and 17. The 2009 Conference will be held in Harrison County (Marshall) on April 23-25.

www.texasmastergardener.com

—Submitted by JoAnn Hahn

MG Garage Sale July 3rd

Heads up to round up those unused garden-related items and dust 'em off, clean 'em up, and no – don't price them this year! Our wonderful Raffle Committee will handle the pricing this year – all ya gotta do is bring your 'valuables'.

As an added incentive (like ya need more incentive to 'share' your unwanted items), tax donation receipts will be available!

Note: if you have a Silent Auction item (valued at \$25 or higher), please contact Sandra Johnson. 'Good stuff' only

Remember – donating to a garage sale is just another form of recycling!

TCMGA SCHOLARSHIPS

Have you taken any of the Specialist Programs offered by the Extension Service, i.e., Propagation, Entomology, EarthKind, etc.? Have you completed the minimum number of hours required to obtain Certification in your new found training? Were you recognized at the 2008 State MG meeting as a Specialist? If so, you may be eligible under this year's budget for a scholarship reimbursement from Tarrant County Master Gardeners of one-half of the Registration Fee for that particular Specialist Program. The ground rules for reimbursement are:

1. You must have been a Certified Tarrant County Master Gardener with at least one year in the Association when you took the training and
2. you were one of the first two Master Gardeners to sign up for the Specialist class. Also, you must have taken the class as a Tarrant County Master Gardener not as a

Master Gardener from another County. If you qualify for this year's reimbursement, please contact Judy Butler for a Scholarship Reimbursement Form. Then complete the form, have Steve Chaney sign it, and return it to Judy Butler for submittal to the Treasurer.

Also, the Texas Master Gardener Association makes a reimbursement available for completion of a Specialist Program and its follow-up requirements. The forms for this reimbursement are available on the Texas Master Gardener website. The form should be signed by Steve Chaney and mailed to the address on the form.

For further information on the Tarrant County MG scholarships, please contact the Scholarship Committee (Judy Butler and/or Eleanor Tuck).

VICTORY BOXES

When I was in Turkey last October, I learned a hand on your heart means a thanks that is heartfelt, from the bottom of one's heart so to speak. I am honored to help our country. It is with heartfelt thanks that every month some of you bring things to send, or take a Victory Box to send off, or come and let me know how much you appreciate what I am doing. It all helps me to keep the goodwill going. We've sent Victory Boxes to over 70 different soldiers. Each of them works with many others. What joy they feel when they open the Victory Boxes, sort through them, read the letters and make plans how they will be distributed. They love to know they are not forgotten and we are helping them to do their job last month I asked for canned foods for LCDR Alexander Harper, who was called to active duty with the Naval re-

serves to a very dangerous area along the Pakistan/Afghanistan border. Alexander and his team noticed the starving children/people and wanted to help feed them. Isn't that just so American?

Together, we sent LCDR Harper Victory Boxes of food and 86 Victory Gardening Totes. It is a small start but it is a start! LCDR Harper said they will go to a school in a small village that meets on a plateau. There is no school house, they just meet out in the open.

So on we go planting seeds! We'll never know when one of these children will one day be in a position to show an American good will! Thanks again to all of YOU!

499 Victory Gardening Totes were mailed between November 2007 and April 2008. Over 14,800 Victory Boxes have been mailed.

THE SPEAKER'S BUREAU SPEAKS VOLUMES



One arm of the Master Gardener organization that is often overlooked for their contributions is the Speaker's Bureau. They speak volumes to masses of people and yet are rarely heard from in our own group. I

know, because I went on many of these engagements myself. These speakers address groups at garden clubs, service organizations (i.e. Kiwanis Club, Lions Club), churches, schools, and other public oriented groups. These people check out equipment from the Extension Office to use on the speaking engagements. On some days all three setup are checked out and none are available for other speakers.

Year	Speakers	Contacts	Speaking Engagements	Topics
2006	29	3755	154	158
2007	25	2441	141	45
2008 (½ yr)	10	1190	54	21

The PowerPoint setup that they use consists of a laptop computer, projector, and roll case.

We currently own three setups which are all checked out and even Steve's laptop computer is loaned out on some occasions. One member has even bought her own setup. Another member also gave a talk to a garden club and had to use his own laptop and have the ladies gather around the laptop. There is definitely a need for two more PowerPoint setups.



The impact of the Speaker's Bureau can be seen in the statistics. The 2008 totals are for ½ year and we have not even entered into the heavy part of the season.

On April 17 Steve Chaney asked the Executive Board to purchase a 4th set of equipment for the Speaker's Bureau for approximately \$1500. The Executive Board agreed and will ask the membership for approval for this purchase. The purchase of a 5th setup will be included in the next budget.

In the past the honorarium that was paid to the speakers went into the Education Fund. The Executive Board voted for the honorarium to pass through to the speakers to help the speakers with travel expenses.

--by Steve Chaney

AWARDS

THANK YOU to all of the MGs that helped with the award process. It takes the whole association to make the winning possible. Many hours went into gathering the information, writing the submissions, entering them and keeping our fingers crossed. Eight wins in eight categories is a huge accomplishment and TCMGA should be PROUD!!!

—Ginger Bason

CROSSTIMBERS MASTER NATURALIST

They are now taking applications for the Fall 2008 class..

Information and an application is available at www.ctmn.org or contact Ginger Bason

gbason@hotmail or 817 8387321.

EVENTS IN JUNE

June 14, Saturday, FLAG DAY

On June 14, Americans celebrate American the flag, known as the "Stars and Stripes" or "Old Glory". The first American flag was approved by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. In 1818, after 5 more states joined the Union, Congress passed legislation fixing the number of stripes at 13 and requiring that the number of stars equal the number of states. The first unofficial national flag, called the Grand Union or Continental Colors, was raised at the behest of Gen. George Washington outside Boston, Mass.



June 15, third Sunday in June, FATHER'S DAY

Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, organized the first Father's Day celebration on June 19, 1910 with the mayor of Spokane and the governor of Washington State officially supporting the event. In 1972 President Richard Nixon signed into law a permanent U.S. Father's Day to be observed on the third Sunday

of June. Only days before Father's Day an estimated 53% of Americans do not know what they will buy for the holiday. If they are like last year's consumers, 60% will buy cards, while the most popular gifts will be apparel (41%), dinner (38%), sporting goods (22%), home improvement merchandise (18%), electronics (17%), and garden tools (12%). Americans spend more than \$1 billion each year to buy a staggering 100 million ties. That's roughly one tie for every male over the age of 20 in the United States.



June 21, Saturday, SUMMER BEGINS

At the solstices the sun reaches its greatest distance above or below the celestial equator. At the time of summer solstice, about June 22, the sun is directly overhead at noon at the Tropic of Cancer. The longest day and shortest night of the year occur in the Northern Hemisphere, thus marking the beginning of summer.



—the editor

POSTER AWARD

We received one more award
2nd Place Poster – Union Gospel Mission



NEW PROJECT

Project: Thistle Hill--come join us in our newest class: **dumpster diving**.

A seasoned MG volunteer at Thistle Hill has a story to tell - if you can figure out who he is, he will tell you the whole story! If you can't identify him, we'll tell you next month in the Sharecropper!

Can you guess???????

—Emily and Eleanor

DONATED PLANTS



The Trial Garden is seeking donated plants from local nurseries for "trial". Depending on the size of the plant, we request 5-9 plants per bed. In return, the Botanic Garden promises a plaque to indicate the nursery's donation so that visitors to the Trial Garden can know where to find the plant.



Caption: It-rt. Susan Miller, Candy Umberson, Mimi Mancuso, Pat Henshaw, Karen Kologe, Judy Jackson, Emily Beyette, Claire Alford, and Nan Garvin prepare to plant Redenta's plants last fall.



Caption: It-rt. Susan Miller, Candy Umberson, Mimi Mancuso, Pat Henshaw, Karen Kologe, Judy Jackson, Emily Beyette, Claire Alford, and Nan Garvin prepare to plant Redenta's plants last fall.

Also, the donors will be listed on the "Best Performing Perennials" list. We feel that this arrangement will benefit both the Trial Garden and the nurseries who participate. So far, we have received plants from Redenta's Garden Shops last fall and from Stegall's Nursery & Plant Farm this spring. We appreciate their enthusiastic support for the Trial Garden!

—Susan Miller

FIELD TRIP GARDEN WATER FEATURES

Wednesday, June 11

At the March MG meeting you heard about planning and building water features for your garden. Now on Wednesday, June 11, you will get to see some outstanding examples as we tour three private gardens and a public garden with beautiful ponds and other water features and hear the background and planning for each.

We will have box lunches at the last stop and should be finished by 1:00 to 1:30. Box lunches will cost \$ 7.00 each, and we will take orders at the May and June MG meetings.

You have your choice of two different locations to meet that morning:

9:00 - Leaving the Resource Connection parking lot by Building 2300

9:15 - Leaving the Hobby Lobby parking lot south of the intersection of I-20 and Cooper

If you have questions, contact Barbara Durnan, 817-924-1527, or Joyce Colegrove, 817-236-7070.

SAVING THINGS

I have a habit of writing or editing articles and leaving out periods at the end of a sentence. Tammy caught some of these in the last newsletter while doing the proofreading. My response was "I am saving those periods for a rainy day. You just never know when you might need them later on."



My mother would never throw away a piece of clothing without first cutting off the buttons and putting them into a big jar. She had hundreds of buttons. My grandmother did that but also cut squares out of the garments that eventually became a quilt. There were dozens of those quilts around her house.

I began to think about how this could relate to gardening. I am not talking about saving things that go into the attic and remain there for five years. Those items need to go into a garage sale. I am thinking about garden tools that were replaced with something new, pots from plants you purchased, the mower you replaced because you bought one with an electric starter, the soaker hose that you hate, and washed gallon milk jugs, etc. Why not create a corner in the garage or shed designated just for these items. They need to be in good working condition and cleaned up, but instead of throwing them away, wait for the next raffle at the MG meeting and bring them along. You will be helping someone else and also recycling these items.

--editor

WATER CONSERVATION THINKING GREEN

WHEN TO WATER

Water early in the morning.
Avoid watering in the afternoon.



HOW MUCH TO WATER

Wet the soil to a depth of four to six inches. Use a soil probe or screwdriver to determine the depth the water actually reaches. One to one and a half inches of water every five to seven days should be adequate. Make sure to figure in rainfall received each week.

HOW TO WATER

A sprinkler that releases large drops of water close to the ground instead of a fine mist will save water. To determine how much water your sprinkler applies:

1. Space out three to five cans at different intervals from the sprinkler.
2. Run the sprinkler for 30 minutes.
3. Measure the water in the cans.
4. Multiply the inches by two for one hour.

Adjust sprinkler to deliver one to one and a half inches of water per irrigation event. If runoff occurs before irrigation time has expired adjust irrigation time to reduce runoff losses.

—Emily Ward

What We Do	Gallons Used
Flushing a toilet	6
Taking a bath with tub full	30
Taking an 8 minute shower	20
Shaving with water running	15
Brushing teeth with water running	5
Washing hands/face with running water	2
Running faucet until water cool to drink	1
Cleaning vegetables with water running	3
Dishwasher on full cycle	16
Wash dishes by hand w/water running	30
Washing clothes full cycle top level	60

Volunteer Opportunities Removed

Four volunteer opportunities have been deleted. These are the FW Nature Center, Texas Smartscape Demo, Branson School project, and the Oakhurst School project. If you have any questions you can contact the following:
Judy Ratzlaff at ohayojr@peoplepc.com or
Steve Chaney at s-chaney@tamu.edu



SHARECROPPER WINS STATE AWARD
Thanks to the efforts of many people who sent in articles and to a lot of time and effort the TCMGA wins the Sharecropper Award for the first time.



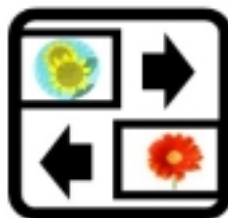
Birthdays for this month

- 6-1 Tillie Ransom
- 6-2 Carol Turner and Carol Tipton
- 6-3 Ginger Bason
- 6-7 Marlys Karsh
- 6-8 Janice Newbrand and Bill Harris
- 6-9 Penny McCook
- 6-10 Nancy Jarrett
- 6-11 Phil Welch
- 6-12 Debbie Vedro
- 6-14 Mary Matl
- 6-15 Joyce Hammill
- 6-18 Vera Beck
- 6-22 Faye Dale
- 6-28 Donna Morris and Camille Thomason
- 6-29 Sharon Duquemin
- 6-30 Loma Mathews.

—by LaVonne Nowlin
lavonnen@sbcglobal.net

Gardening Resources Exchange

Thanks to all the MG's for sharing their individual bounties of materials, plants, seeds and tools with the other members. We have been surprised and grateful for all the wonderful things that were brought to the Resource Exchange and adopted by others.



Invariably by the end of the meeting everything has been "picked up" by one of our members, many who have never grown a particular plant, or used a particular resource. What a great way the educate ourselves and provide interesting plants and materials for our collective gardens.

—Dave Wilson

Volunteer Opportunities for TCMGA

<u>Project Code & Name</u>	<u>Work Days/Times</u>	<u>Project Manager</u>	<u>Phone</u>
301 BRIT Activities	Call chairman	Kay Yount	817-292-7690
311 BG Perennial Garden	8:30 a.m., Weds.	Cindy Woelke	817-421-4201
312 BG Trial Garden	Tues. 8:30-11:30 a.m.	Susan Miller	817-261-1420
313 BG Cottage Garden	Call chairman	Diane Clark	817-249-2760
321 Thistle Hill	1 st , 3 rd Weds. 9:30 a.m.	Emily Ward	817-281-5925
322 Union Gospel Mission	First Mon.-Warm Place 9 a.m., 2nd-4th Mon. - Reg. Schedule	Gay Larson	817-441-6560
323 Grapevine Botanic Garden	Call coordinator	Shari Stanfield	817-685-9990
326 Teen Challenge	Every Wed. 9 a.m.	Debbie Bollinger	817-498-1508
328 Community Garden	(Contact project leaders below)		
Barn beds:	Charlotte Berck, wrberck@peoplepc.com		817-426-6417
Compost:	Charles Shiner, mcshiner@sbcglobal.net		817-488-6123
Enabling beds:	Tom Scott, trutexen@aol.com		940-433-2601
Greenhouse:	Nancy Curl, nl_curl@yahoo.com		817-319-1795
Herb Garden:	Rita Hottel, aescom@charter.net		817-295-2883
Mowing/Edging:	Jerry Sorenson, jerryasorenson@charter.net		817-427-9009
Orchard and Berry	Renee Beckum jrbeckum@sbcglobal.net		214-914-6597
Perennial beds: (developing)	Joann Hahn, joannhahn@att.net		817-923-9250
	Ginger Bason, gbason@hotmail.com		817-838-7321
Roses:	Karen Kologe, kpk@charter.net		817-924-6449
TCU students:	Pat Higgins, Ragdollpatb@sbcglobal.net		817-294-2414
401 Composting Demo	1 st Sat.	Don Graves	817-465-1667
	2 nd Sat.	Charlie Shiner	817-448-6123
403 FW Library at Hulen St.	4 th Thurs, 8:30 a.m.	Evaline Woodrey	817-295-4683
	3 rd Sat, 8:30 a.m.		
404 SW Sub-Courthouse	2 nd Sat, last Wed.	Gailon Hardin	817-475-0923
405 Liberty Garden	Call chairman	Wendi Carlucci	817-488-5640
	2nd Tues, 8-11 a.m.		
406 Veterans Park-Wildscape	1st Sat, 9-12	Mary McCoy	817-561-0598
	Tues 9-12		
<u>School Gardens</u>			
601 Alice Carlson	Mon/Thurs 8:30 a.m.	Sharon Chastain	817-926-2575
604 Fitzgerald	Wed. 3:15 p.m.	Leeann Rosenthal	817-237-7180
611 Children's Garden	Wed. 9-11:30 a.m.	Mary McCoy	817-561-0598

Tarrant County Master Gardener Association
200 Taylor St., Suite 500
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-7308

Calendar of Upcoming Events

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|------------------|---|
| June 5 | TCMGA Meeting – will be at the Grapevine Botanical Garden |
| June 7 | North Texas Daylily Show @ FWBG |
| June 11 | Field Trip on Garden Water Features |
| Jun 18-20 | Southern Regional MG Conference—Oklahoma City |
| July 3 | TCMGA Meeting – Garage Sale and Silent Auction |
| Aug 23 | Yardsmart Seminar @FWBG |
| Sept 9 | MG Intern Orientation Day @ our office |
| Sept 17-19 | MG Greenhouse Specialist Training @ College Station |
| Sept 26-28 | Ft. Worth H&G Show |
| Oct 7, 9, 14, 16 | Landscape School 7-9 @ our office |
| Oct 8 | MG Intern Interviews |
| Oct 9 | Water Garden Society of FW - Talk on Plant material |
| Oct 10 | JMG Advisory Board Meeting |
| Oct 11 | Fit Future Kids Fest @ Will Rogers |
| Oct 11 | Plant Sale @ FWBG |
| Oct 25-26 | Japanese Garden Festival @ FWBG |



Steve Chaney—For up-to-the-minute
More state news: www.tcmga.org



TCMGA news visit: www.tcmga.org
texasmastergardeners.com