



The Guadalupe Gardener

FEBRUARY 2011



A monthly publication of the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners in cooperation with the Texas AgriLIFE Extension, Guadalupe County



Words from George

I am always amazed with the great job by our local Master Gardeners. Last year ended on several high notes. Class 22 had 30 students graduate on December 1st followed by a superb Christmas party on December 10th. January started with a lot of activity even though at the time the temperature was colder than we were used too. January 20th set a new record in meeting attendance. We had 86 people in attendance. The avocado program proved to be a great draw.

In recent years we abstained from entering the Texas Master Gardener Awards program. But, if we don't toot our own horn who will? I am happy to report we have 4 entries in the contest for awards this year. These awards are for 2010, but will be judged and the results will be presented at the annual Texas Master Gardener Conference the last week of April. The applications are in the following categories: Newsletter (The Guadalupe Gardener), Project (Springs Hills Landscape), Mass-Media (KWED Lawn and Garden Show), and Education (a joint venture application for the Central Texas Conference program held in Schertz on October 9th). We joined with Travis County Master Gardeners in the Education application. Comal County was also a sponsor for the conference, but they entered another educational event and therefore could not be a part of the joint venture application.

There will be upcoming events during the month of February mentioned elsewhere in this issue, but I want to draw special attention to February 26th at the Schertz Community Garden. We have a great speaker line up from AgriLife

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FEBRUARY MEETING

February 17, 2011

Benefits of Eating Fruits & Vegetables - Patty Glenn Leander, nutritionist and writer for Texas Gardener, will discuss why we should include more fruit and vegetables in our diet.

Marika Bordes, Lynn Pfullmann, Merv & Cecelia Cook, and Don Hilbert have graciously agreed to provide refreshments with Betty Hughes bringing the ice and drinks.

Don't forget to bring your plants for the plant exchange table.

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Association News

January Meeting Program

Bill Schneider, the avocado expert from Devine, was our speaker at the January membership meeting. This meeting established a new attendance record with eighty six attendees signed in. A number of visitors were present and they voiced many questions to our speaker. Bill used an informal approach to his presentation. After a brief introduction, he invited questions from the audience and then responded to those questions.

He stressed of the three distinct horticultural races of avocados - West Indian, Guatemalan and Mexican. The Mexican race is the most cold tolerant and best suited for our climate; however, the Mexican race avocado is not salt tolerant, and therefore needs to be grafted onto a more salt tolerant race.

There are many so-called varieties of Mexican race, most have derived from seedling trees in home plantings across South Texas. Bill spoke of three of these - Opal, Wilma and Pryor - all named from the sources where they were obtained.

The Mexican race avocados are generally smaller than the other two races. They vary in color from green to purple to black and have very thin skin. The Mexican race or hybrids of Mexican-Guatemalan race grown in California are usually found in the grocery store. The leaves of the West Indian and Guatemalan races are poisonous while the leaves of the Mexican race avocado can be used as an herb in prepared foods. The leaves of the Mexican race have a distinct odor of anise (licorice).

Propagation of avocados presents somewhat of a problem. Planting from an avocado seed provides no guarantee of what will be forthcoming. Grafting is the best assurance of success and is usually performed with a cold tolerant race grafted onto a salt tolerant race. The graft should be placed as close to the seed as possible to assure the graft is below ground level. Mound up soil around the trunk if necessary to assure if the plant is frozen to the ground, the desired graft will regenerate rather than have a plant from undesired rootstock.

Pollination of avocados can also present a problem. They have both male and female organs, but they do not function together. Of two types (A or B) the female flowers open and then close before the male flowers open. Brushing the flowers in the morning and then using that brush in the afternoon will help in pollination. Under South Texas conditions, however, there is sufficient overlap between the phases of a flower type that pollination and fruit set are rarely a problem.

Planting or setting-out an avocado plant should occur in the spring to allow some growth before winter sets in. Plant in full sun and well-drained soil for best results. Morning sun is best with some shading from the afternoon sun. Locating the planting site on the south or southeast side of a building offers the best protection from cold temperatures. Avocado trees can grow to forty feet or more in height. They should be planted no less than fifteen feet apart and no closer than seven feet of a building.

Watering should occur periodically as needed with increments of fertilization with ammonium sulfate (21-0-0) at a rate of about one-half cup per month, from February to September, increasing to one cup per month the second year, and finally to two cups per month the third year. Apply one to two cups of ammonium sulfate per inch of trunk diameter after the third year every fourth month starting in February.

Pruning is not necessary, but freeze-damaged wood needs to be removed. Severe winters may result in significant freeze-back. Some protection can be provided with coverings and providing a heat source if available.

Bill talked about some of the differences in varieties of Mexican race avocados. How they look and produce were areas of discussion as well as how to tell if they are ripe. He ended his discussion with information about the Fall Festival held in Devine the first Saturday in November of each year. An avocado cook-off and seed spitting contest is featured.

For more information, Bill can be contacted by phone at 830-663-2492 or by e-mail at bill_schneider@att.net

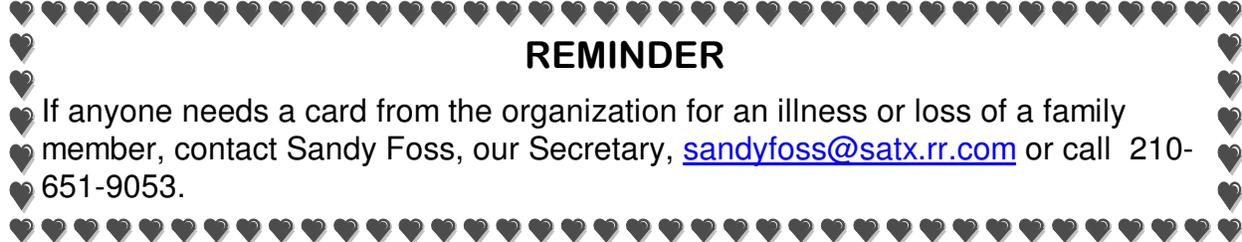
HOURS - Y'all done good

Dale reported total hours for 2010 so far are 10525.5, compared to 9616 hours in 2009 and 8413 hours in 2008. Keep up the good work for 2011 and don't forget to report your hours **TIMELY** to Dale.

Update on the Schertz Community Garden

Ann Odvody says we have been delivering produce to the RACAP (Randolph Area Christian Assistance Program) food bank since last Spring. We have sent green beans, blackeye peas, bok choy, collard greens, radishes, tomatoes, squash, lettuce, broccoli and spinach. Planning to plant onion sets, snow peas, potatoes and carrots this week.

We are back at work on Tuesday mornings. That's weather permitting of course. If the morning temperature is in the 30's, it is just too cold! There are beds to be built and a lot of work to be done before we start spring planting. Questions about other work days or what you can do to help? Please email jlbruno@gvec.net



REMINDER

If anyone needs a card from the organization for an illness or loss of a family member, contact Sandy Foss, our Secretary, sandyfoss@satx.rr.com or call 210-651-9053.

January meeting refreshments were provided by Pat Schultze, Doug & Virginia Biggs, Sandy Foss, Bob Teweles, and Paula Theroux (Rhode Island MG living here from January to May), and, as always, Betty Hughes with the crushed ice and drinks. Doug Biggs won the \$27 raffle which he donated back to the association. Sandy Foss won the \$10 Garden Center gift certificate.

The Seguin Green Team

There is very little to do at City Hall and Central Park so we will probably not meet during February. After that, there will be a need to prune frozen growth, etc.

Hughlene Micheli

TMGA Director's Meeting - College Station - February 19, 2011

We'll look forward to a report from George Ammermann and our representatives: Deedy Wright and Gail Johnson and their alternates, Pat Schultze and Jim Johnson.

NEWLY CERTIFIED MASTER GARDENERS



George Ammermann presents certificates, membership cards and name tags to new Master Gardeners Debbie Lowe (left) and Jackie Flores (right).



Members in Service

Texas Master Gardener Board of Directors

Two Year Term -Gail Johnson; Jim Johnson, Alternate
One Year Term - Deedy Wright; Pat Schultze, Alternate

Project Evaluation Committee

Gillian Siemens, Barbara Gettig, Janice Knobles

Membership Outreach Committee - Merv Cook

Speakers Bureau - Clara Mae Marcotte

Schertz Community Garden Operating Committee

Linda Bruno, Holly Bustamante

Master Gardener Office/Library - Betty Hughes

AgriLife Building Workday - Liz Romero

2011 Guadalupe County Fair - Peggy Love

New Member Support - Bob Teweles

Hours Reporting - Dale & Ann Odvody

Notification - Dale Odvody & Beth Zies

Refreshment Coordinator - Ryla Cottingham

Class 23 Coordinator - Jose Antonio Contreras

Newsletter Editor - Elaine McIntyre

Web Master - Randee Malmsten

FUTURE PROGRAMS

Mar 17 - Composting - Andy Chidster, employee of "The Natural Gardeners, Inc.", manufacturers of Lady Bug products

Apr 21 - Pollinators - Monta Zengerle, Master Naturalist and member of the Guadalupe Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas

May 19 - Master Gardener Program Changes - George Ammermann. Review and discuss what needs to be done for meeting changes

June 16 - Summer Social

Jul 21 - Citrus Greening - Penny Glawe, Fellow Master Gardener will provide information about a disease devastating citrus trees in Florida and the eastern United States

(Continued from page 1 Words)

Extension District 10 in Uvalde, starting with Dr. Troxclair on bugs, Dr. Black on what's killing your plants and wrapping up with Dr. Stein who will show you how to plant and prune your fruit trees. We will start at 9:00 a.m. in the County Building Courtroom and move out to the Garden as the day warms up for some hands on demonstrations. Admission price is a donation for the RACAP food bank. Watch your email for more detail.



Texas Master Gardener Annual Convention will be held in Glen Rose the last week of April. If you have not gotten your registration for the event, please do so soon. The hotels are rapidly filling up, so don't hesitate or you may be too late. The hosts for the conference are trying to have 1,000 people in attendance. There will be a prize for the county with the highest percentage of members in attendance. We have either been there or at least in the running, so now that there will be a contest, let's win it.



Subscribe or Renew and Add to the GCMG Treasury

To all of you **Texas Gardener** subscribers (or those of you thinking about subscribing), **Texas Gardener** has invited the GCMG to join their Fundraising Program. For each subscription that goes through us (and yes that includes renewals), the GCMG will be able to keep 25% in its treasury. Instead of sending your renewal notice and payment to **Texas Gardener**, make your check payable to GCMG and send it with your mailing address to 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin, Tx, 78155. Give us your phone number too in case we have any questions and mark the envelope **Texas Gardener** subscription. The GCMG will send the subscription on to the **Texas Gardener** for processing. Rates are as follows: 1 year - \$24.95; 2 year - \$42.95; 3 year - \$53.95. Add an extra \$8 on the one year renewal for the Annual Calendar. You don't have to be a Master Gardener to participate, so if you have friends that subscribe, tell them about the Fundraising Program. Any questions? Email jlbruno@gvec.net

Looking for something good to read? Try "The Earth Moved, On the Remarkable Achievements of Earthworms" by Amy Stewart. Who would have thought a book about earthworms could be so interesting.

Submitted by Dale Odvody

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Now that all the holidays are over with and you're packing away Christmas decorations and you have that urge to clean out the garage or shed, think of us! If you have any empty plastic plant pots, bring them to the nursery to recycle before throwing them away! Any size container accepted. Let's all think green in the new year and do our part to recycle.

Information provided by
Travis Burns
Burns Nursery & Landscape
210-649-4377

MEMBERS AT WORK



Your board hard at work. These people meet for a good two hours each month, in addition to the regular meeting. They do all the creating, planning, and behind the scenes work that makes the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners Association a reality. Be sure to thank them the next time you see them.

Don't miss the **KWED Gardening Show on Feb 12 th** - or any other time for that matter. But on February 12th, **Peggy Jones will be talking about roses.** Happy Valentines Day is coming up. Rose pruning time is almost here. Call Peggy and ask your rose questions.

Speakers Bureau. Spring looks like it is going to be busy. So far MGs are giving a talk in February and four in March. Speakers: please let me know how many listeners are in each group, your subject, and when and where the talk is given. Membership: if you belong to a club that needs speakers, please contact me, Clara Mae Marcotte at rcm.marcotte@gmail.com We have speakers on FireWise, plant propagation, Oak Wilt, rainwater harvesting, greenhouse management, composting, Citrus Greening, entomology, vegetables, wildflowers, and floral arranging.

San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo - Construction Phase

Our first day at the SA Stock Show and Rodeo went well. Joe Bruno, Jose Antonio Contreras, Dave Love, and I were there representing GCMG with an equal number from BCMG and the Bexar Co. Agrilife Extension Service. A little later in the morning three other volunteers (including Betty Hughes and Esther Pinter) came in to clean the kitchen and feed us. After loading supplies and then unloading the trailers and trucks, the real construction starts. The 60' X 20' "hoop Greenhouse" needs to be reconstructed so we can build the booths inside it. We also have a stage and a two tiered deck and several 4' X 8' beds for the childrens' garden. Lots of work for this dedicated crew.

Information provided by Dale Odvody

Pilot Program for Online Volunteer Reporting System

By: Travis Franke, CEA-AG/NR

In the near future you will be receiving an e-mail from UC Davis in California asking for you to register for an online volunteer reporting system. We have been asked by Jayla Fry, the state Master Gardener coordinator, to pilot this program and we have agreed to do this. This program, once set up, will allow you to enter your educational hours and volunteer hours directly online. Hopefully, if we take advantage of this, we can take a little pressure off of our volunteer who keeps track of our hours now.

You will receive an e-mail letting you know you have been added to the system. They will give you a link to go to. You will have to click "forgot your password" to get into the system. From there you can click on edit your profile and put your own password in. Be sure to book mark the site so you can get to it easily.

Thank you in advance for helping us test this system and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call. This program will work only if you are willing to use it. I look forward to seeing all the good things that you do once the system is up and running.

MEMBER NEWS





February - The Month of Valentines and Roses

The last 2 weeks of February and even into early March is the time to clean up and invigorate roses. This encourages them to bring us beautiful spring blooms.

Prepare: Clean and sharpen your bypass pruners. Find your loppers and small hand saw. Don't forget your gloves and hat. Fill a small spray bottle with a diluted bleach solution to use to clean your pruners between bushes. This prevents spreading any disease. I also use a scrubbee to help clean the blades. Use a handy plastic tote to put all your gear in. Also use a large tarp. I spread the tarp out on the ground near where I am working to throw all my debris onto. I move it from bush to bush as I work my way around the yard. Clean up is so much easier. The last item you may need is a short stool to sit on to save on the back pain.

Review: Consider each rose. Is it a hybrid tea rose, a floribunda? What about the old garden roses, shrubs and climbers? Even miniatures. Each type of rose requires some clean up to bring on the blooms but just not the same technique.

Pruning Hybrid Teas and Grandifloras: Stand back and take a look at your rose bush. See what needs to be removed. Sit on your stool so you are at eye level with your bush. Start by pruning out the dead and diseased canes down to bud union. This is where the saw and loppers come in handy. Cut out any crossover canes that rub on each other, small twiggy canes and any canes growing to the inside of the bush.

When cutting primary canes, cuts should be made at a 45 degree slant, about one fourth inch above a dormant bud eye, which is preferably facing to the outside of the bush. Leave 4 or 6 primary canes cut to about 18 inches tall. Remove all the leaves and clean up the debris around the bush.

Pruning Floribundas: Start with the same basics as above, but these roses do not need to be pruned as severely. The plan is to remove about one-third of the bush. Open up the bush, to promote air circulation. Plenty of air circulation helps reduce mildew and blackspot.

Pruning Old Garden Roses and Shrubs: These roses do not require severe pruning, but again cut out the dead and diseased wood. Prune, shape and trim back about a third of the bush to encourage blooms.

Pruning Miniatures: Prune miniatures to about half their ultimate summer height. Leave up to six strong new canes. The more canes the fuller it will be.

Pruning Climbers: Climbers bloom solely on old wood. At this time just remove any dead or damaged canes. After the blooming cycle is the time to prune.

Spraying: Now that you have pruned your roses, it is time to spray your roses and take preventative measures to prevent blackspot and other diseases. Spray with a neem oil product like Green Light or Rose Defense. Also I recommend spraying liquid seaweed every 2 weeks. Use 2 Tbsp per gallon of water and add a drop of liquid dish detergent to help it adhere. Liquid seaweed builds up the sugar levels in plants and helps toughen them up to prevent spider mites. Great to use on your tomatoes too.

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Feeding:

Liquid: Every two weeks, one gallon per bush (miniatures one quart). Use something like Peters 20-20-20, Miracle Gro 18-6-12, or Medina Hasta Gro 6-12-6. Depending on the number of roses you have, you can mix in a 5 or 10 gallon container or a 32 gallon garbage can, then distribute to each bush. In your liquid mixture, I recommend adding some enhancements like fish emulsion, liquid seaweed, liquid horticultural molasses, Epsom Salts and a chelated iron. These additives will really bring out the green in leaves and bright, deep colors in the blooms (1-2 Tbs per gallon).

Granular: If you do not want to liquid feed every two weeks, an excellent alternative is to put down a generous application of dry, granular lawn food or rose food. Spread 1-2 cups around the bush and lightly work it into the soil. (Miniatures get ½ -1 cup.) Water it in well. Some dry organic supplements may be added, such as Gardenville Rose Food, Rose Glo, RoseTone or bloodmeal, to enhance the effectiveness of feeding. This single application will last 4-6 weeks. (Please no Weed and Feed—it kills roses).

Mulching and Composting: Keep 2-3 inches of mulch around your plants. Try using a composted mulch and/or a manure based compost. On a side note, I was very impressed with the Cotton Burr compost Mark Fanick introduced at the fruit tree planting at the Schertz Community Garden last fall. I plan to test it on my roses this spring.

Don't forget to water your roses.

Peggy Jones
Guadalupe County Master Gardener &
San Antonio Rose Society member



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Earth Day - April 30th

Earth Day Coordinator needed, April 30th all day event in Seguin. This is Saturday after the State Conference. GCMG will have three designated booth spaces to set up various educational activities. The Coordinator(s) will put together the volunteer schedule, make sure all items needed for booth set up are ready & monitor set up and tear down. This can be a two person job. Volunteers to man the booths & help with all the work are always available. Interested? Contact Linda Bruno, jlbruno@gvec.net

San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo

We are still in the construction phase and will be until Feb 1. Feb 2 is the inspection day. You don't have to sign up for the construction or tear-down, Feb 21 - 23. Just show up with a smile on your face and a willingness to work.

If you want to work in the Master Gardener booth or as a Docent, for the Feb 3 – Feb 20 - Rodeo **ON-LINE VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FOR RODEO IS AVAILABLE** at <https://agrilifevents.tamu.edu/registration/index.cfm> Key word is pavillion. If you have any questions about registering online, or if the internet decides it doesn't want to work for you and you still want to register, contact Margie Noonan at (210)467-6575 or (210)394-6458, mnoonan@aq.tamu.edu

If you are going to work the MG booth, or as a Docent, or in the children's programs, in February, when you take exit 579 and go to the bottom of the hill at the light. Instead of turning right to go to the ATT Center, turn left at the light, if it is green, and about a half a block down Houston and there will be a double wide driveway on the right. Turn in there into the **SAWS** parking lot and there will be an entrance to a lighted parking lot on the left. There will be a sign on the shed pointing the way to the Texas Experience Shuttle Bus. The van normally leaves the parking lot on the hour and half hour. Of course if traffic is heavy, it leaves when it can get there. The van will not take children who are required to sit in a child protection seat.

Please wear your name badge , if you have one. If you have a Guadalupe County Master Gardener shirt, jacket, or hat, wear that too. Let's let the folks around there we are a presence in support of the Master Gardener Program. There will be a sign-up sheet for interested visitors to the booth to get additional information about our next MG class to be held in Cibolo, Aug 24 - Dec 7, 2011. They sign-up and Jose Contreras will contact them. A bit of advice, watch the weather and dress accordingly. Layered clothing during cold spells works best, especially if you are working the early and late shifts. In the morning, it may be cold when you start, yes the heaters are working, but when they open the double wide 12' high doors, it gets breezy in a hurry; but when the sun gets high in the sky, it gets warmer in the metal building. The opposite holds true on the evening shift. At 5:00 p.m., it may be warm in the building, but by 10:00 p.m., on a Friday night, it can get quite cold.

AgriLife Extension Building Workdays

There will be a workday on the Wildflower area on February 19th at 9 a.m. and one on the Earthkind Rose Garden on March 19th at 9 a.m.

Contact Liz Romero , lromero16@satx.rr.com or call 830-372-3106 if you have any questions.

KWED Lawn & Garden Show

Anyone with a topic/speaker idea for the KWED Lawn & Garden Show broadcast heard live every Saturday morning should call Bob Grafe at 830-743-3399 or Janet Grafe at 830-305-1446. Just maybe, the person calling "is" the speaker with a great gardening topic that needs to be shared with our local radio listening audience. The Lawn & Garden Show is a great way to share gardening expertise with the public while building up both Master Gardener education and service hours. We'd love to hear about any potential gardening show topic/speaker.

Volunteer Committee Chairman Needed

Maintains list of all volunteer projects & contacts coordinators or chairmen to determine whether volunteers are needed. Keeps membership informed of those needs. Follow up after activities are completed to get after action reports. Contact Linda Bruno at jlbruno@gvec.net if interested.

More Volunteer Opportunities

Monday, from 9 to noon, except for federal holidays, the Master Gardener office is open at the Extension Building on 210 East Live Oak. Remember that Betty needs you to package seeds for our activities. Email Betty Hughes, ehughes5@satx.rr.com for more information.

Gloria Saenz has volunteered to keep our MG scrapbook. If anyone has articles or photos about MGs or MG events, please send them to Gloria, saenz2252@sbcglobal.net. It's difficult to keep a scrapbook with no contributions or information!!!!

The Master Gardener Association is a ***volunteer organization.***
We need **YOU** to help with our projects.

GARDENING EVENTS

TMGA Annual Conference, Glen Rose Texas April 27-29, 2011

2011 TMGA Conference REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!! The convention is in Glen Rose outside of Fort Worth, April 27-29. Cost is \$155. Sponsors are hoping for 1000 participants.

If you are planning to go to the state convention, get your hotel reservation as soon as possible as accommodations will be tight. . If you aren't or you haven't yet signed up to attend, better do it now before the workshop you want is full. Go to <http://2011tmgaconference.org/> for information on education sessions, tours, and workshops. Register early to get the best choice of education sessions, tours and workshops!

Green Spaces Alliance Farm and Range Forum: Conserving our Rural Heritage, Uvalde Apr 1-2, 2011

The 2011 Farm and Range Forum will be held in Uvalde and will include a ranch visit and dinner social Friday evening and a full day of seminars on Saturday. Topics will include habitat and riparian area management, income diversification, legislative updates, weather modification, rural building conservation and much more.

For more information contact Susan Hughes at susan@greensatx.org or 210-222-8430 ext. 301.

MORE GARDENING EVENTS

Feb 25-27 (Fri-Sun) Home and Garden Show at the Alamodome:

Mar 11 (Friday) 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Fresh Air Friday at Main Plaza sponsored by Alamo Area Council of Governments Natural Resources and San Antonio Office of Environmental Policy. This is an information only event—no sales will be held.

Apr 9 (Saturday) 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. Encino Park Home and Garden Show: Spring garden and water conservation information will be available as well as plants for sale.

The Wandering Gardener

Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest

Big Pine, California. Have you ever planned a day trip to some place that sounded interesting and the trip turned out to be a lot more than you thought it would be? We had one of those trips in early October. We were traveling down US 395 in eastern California and had seen a sign leading up into the mountains for Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest and decided to visit there while we were camping in the area. The small pamphlet we found on the area stated that these were ancient pine forests found nowhere else in the US and that you could see for miles on a clear day. We began our day on a brisk sunny morning, the mountain tops surrounding the valley were slightly dusted with snow from last night's showers. There were a few clouds left on the mountain, but we felt sure that they would clear away by the time we reached the top. We began our trip at 3700 ft elevation and by the time we wound up and around the mountains and reached 8000 ft elevation the weather quickly changed. We had snow and freezing temperatures, along with fog. The higher we got the heavier the snowfall and the thicker the snow pack and the road was covered in ice. Even with our 4 wheel drive vehicle, we knew we would not be able to make it all the way to the 12 mile dirt trail which was at 11,000 ft elevation. We gave up the idea of reaching the top at about 9300 ft elevation; however we encountered some of the most beautiful sights I have ever seen. The bristlecone pines are very hardy trees. Some as old as 5000 years and they survive on less than 12 inches of precipitation per year (most of that being in the form of snow). They have gnarled trunks, bare tops and bodies that have been twisted by the wind over many years. With the snow cover they stood dark among the white. The ground shrubs (I am sorry but I have no names to give them) became works of art as they are covered in snow and ice.

This forest lies on the California/Nevada border (95 miles west of Las Vegas) high in the White Mountains. The road up to the forest is usually open from mid-May to mid-November. I would suggest a visit in July to be able to hike and drive thru the entire forest. We hope some day to go back and see the pines in the sunlight.

Marilyn Moltz is *The Wandering Gardener*



EDUCATION - CLASSES - SEMINARS

Tree Care Classes

Jan 21 - Feb 25 (Fridays) 12:30 p.m. - 4 p.m.

San Antonio Botanical Garden

This 21-hour course was designed to help prepare professional arborists to take the ISA Certified Arborist examination. Nonprofessionals are also welcome to attend the entire course or sessions to gain a better understanding of the benefits of trees and develop their tree ID and tree care skills. Students receive continuing education credits. More information at <http://www.sabot.org/?nd=adults>

Preparing For the Spring Vegetable Garden

Feb 5, 2011 (Saturday), 11:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m.

Earth-Kind® Landscape Series at the San Antonio Botanical Garden Educational Room. Download flier at: http://www.sabot.org/ama/orig/Earthkind_Series_Spring_Veg_Garden.pdf

Guadalupe County (Schertz/Seguin) Chapter Native Plant Society of Texas

At the Guadalupe County (Schertz/Seguin) Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas meeting on Tuesday, February 8, 2011, Cinde Thomas-Jimenez, Environmental Education Administrator of the Guadalupe Blanco River Authority, will describe flow through the Guadalupe River system using a physical model.

The Society meets on the second Tuesday at The Library, 500 Bulldog, Marion. There is a plant exchange and "getting to know you" at 6.30 p.m. followed by the program at 7 p.m. We welcome all visitors.

Fruit Tree Seminar

Feb 12 (Saturday) 2-4 p.m.

Schulz Nursery: 100 West Huebinger Street, Marion, TX 78124

Come and learn about selecting, planting and maintaining fruit trees for the Urban Landscape. Horticulturist David Rodriguez will guide you to your best orchard ever from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. For directions see <http://schulznursery.com/>

Spring Vegetable Seminar

Feb 16 (Wednesday), 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Earth-Kind Landscape Series at the Texas AgriLife Extension Service Conference Room, Bexar County. Come and learn about selecting, planting and maintaining vegetables in your backyard garden. Horticulturist David Rodriguez will guide you to a successful garden this spring. Cost is FREE. For more information, please call 210-467-6575.

Fruit Tree Seminar

Feb 17 (Thursday) 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Texas AgriLife Extension Service Conference Room - Bexar County - San Antonio

Come hear Mark Fannick explain how to select, plant, prune and maintain fruit trees in our area. 2 CEUs.

Pruning and Q@A Gardening Seminar

Earth-Kind Educational Program:

Feb 19 (Saturday) , 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Schulz Nursery: 3700 Broadway, San Antonio TX 78209. <http://schulznursery.com/>

Why should you prune your plants? How should you prune your plants? Have general gardening questions? Come visit with David Rodriguez. Don't hesitate to bring plenty of questions and garden samples. Cost is FREE. 2 CEUs. For more information, please call 210-804-0600

Rose Pruning Class

Sat, Feb. 19th 9 a.m. -12.p.m.

The San Antonio Rose Society will be pruning the roses at the San Antonio Botanical Gardens. Come learn how to properly prune roses. Bring your gloves and pruners.

Designing Herbal Landscapes

Feb 19, (Saturday) 9 am - noon

San Antonio Botanical Garden

Learn how to design beautiful, fragrant and useful herbs into your existing landscapes or new herbal spaces. Herbalist and designer Diane Lewis will discuss history, design basics and planning, the roles different herbs play in the landscape, how to select the right herbs for specific spaces, compatible hard-scape elements such as paths and boulders, and theme gardens. You will design your herb garden on graph paper and take a short tour of the herb gardens and other notable garden spaces at the San Antonio Botanical Garden. Fee: \$41. A \$5 supply fee payable to the instructor covers materials, herbal snacks & beverage and recipes. To register, visit www.communityed.neisd.net

Spring Vegetable Seminar

Feb 20 (Sunday) 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Cooper's Garden Place, 87 Coopers Ln, Floresville, TX 78114-5144

(830) 393-8847 <http://www.coopersgardenplace.com/>

Come and learn about selecting, planting and maintaining vegetables in your backyard garden. Horticulturist David Rodriguez of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service will guide you to a successful garden this spring. Cost is FREE. For more information, please call 210-467-6575. 2 CEUs

Landscape Design Study Course II, Series XXII

Feb. 21-22 (Monday & Tuesday)

Christ United Methodist Church, 4201 State Hwy 6, College Station, TX 77845

These lectures will be of interest to Garden Club members, Master Gardeners, nurserymen and others who are interested in furthering their knowledge of landscape design. They have been attended by many Master Gardeners in the past. It is an opportunity for more in-depth training in landscape design than is normally included in the Master Gardener curriculum. Each course is typically approved by local Master Gardener chapters to qualify for 12 hours of continuing education toward maintaining certification for Master Gardeners. Further information may be found in the near future at <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu>

Spring Vegetable Seminar

Feb 26 (Saturday) 11:00 a.m to 1:00 p.m.

Fanick's Garden Center, 1025 Holmgreen Road, San Antonio, TX 78220-3407

<http://www.fanicknursery.com/>

Come and learn about selecting, planting and maintaining vegetables in your backyard garden. David Rodriguez will guide you to a successful garden this spring. Cost is FREE. For more information, please call (210) 648-1303. 2 CEU's.

Internet Classes

Earthkind classes are available at <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/training/>

AgriLife is now charging \$10 to take the Tomato 101 class found at <https://agrilifeevents.tamu.edu/events/details.cfm?id=641> but it is well worth it.

You may not take over 3 credits a calendar year.

Master Gardener Specialist Training Update

For more information see listings on the TMGA website <http://txmg.org/for-members/specialist-training-2010/>

February 2011



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 ● New Moon	4	5 KWED Radio 1580 AM Lawn & Garden Show 9:05 a.m.
6	7 Master Gardener Office/Library Open 8:30-NOON	8	9	10 GCMG BOARD Meeting	11	12 KWED Radio 1580 AM Lawn & Garden Show 9:05 a.m.
13	14 Master Gardener Office/Library Open 8:30-NOON Happy Valentines Day	15	16	17 GCMG Meeting 7 PM	18 ○ Full Moon	19 KWED Radio 1580 AM Lawn & Garden Show 9:05 a.m.
20	21 Master Gardener Office/Library Open 8:30-NOON Presidents Day	22	23 Newsletter Deadline	24	25	26 KWED Radio 1580 AM Lawn & Garden Show 9:05 a.m.
27	28 Master Gardener Office/Library Open 8:30-NOON					



**Guadalupe County Master Gardeners, Inc.
210 East Live Oak St.
Seguin, TX 78155**

Guadalupe County Master Gardeners <http://www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org> 830-379-1972 Ext 210
Guadalupe County AgriLIFE Extension <http://www.guadalupe-tx.tamu.edu/> 830-379-1972
Texas Master Gardeners <http://www.txmg.org>

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Travis Franke	AgriLIFE Agent
	Master Gardener Coordinator

February Meeting Thursday, February 17, 2011 Time – 7 P.M.

*AgriLife Extension Building
210 E. Live Oak, Seguin, Tx*

Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination by the Master Gardeners is implied, and no endorsement by the Master Gardeners is implied. Educational programs conducted by the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners serve people of all ages, regardless of socioeconomic level, color, sex, religion, handicap, or national origin.

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