



# The Guadalupe Gardener



June 2016

TEXAS A&M  
**AGRILIFE**  
Extension Service

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

## President's Message

### Return of the Fireflies



If anything can be said about all this rain, it is that the fireflies have returned. Fireflies are actually beetles that lay their eggs in the soil and emerge when spring rains come, but as you know in South Texas, the spring rains sometimes do not come. As luck will have it, firefly larvae can remain underground for several seasons before they emerge as adults. With a wet spring last year and a definite wet spring this year, the fireflies have returned for now and hopefully it will be a good breeding cycle for these curious beetles to supply us with more nightly entertainment next year.

Marvin Borth



## June Meeting

June 16th- 7 PM

Agrilife Building

**Social & Refreshments 6:30 PM**

**Program at 7 PM**

**Dr Tom Harris**

**Could I Actually Build a  
Greenhouse**

**Followed by Business Meeting**

**Don't forget your name tags and  
plants for plant exchange.**

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# Association News

## May Meeting Program Texas Cacti



Brian and Shirley Loflin presented the May GCMG educational program on Texas Cacti. Brian has a diverse background with a UT degree in botany and a professional life in advertising, publishing and photography. He and his wife Shirley present workshops and seminars of photography and lead nature tours. Sadly for GCMG's, the electronic system was malfunctioning and the presentation did not include his photographs. However many of his photographs are available on line. Two sites are: [www.loflin-images.com](http://www.loflin-images.com) and [www.thenatureconnection.com](http://www.thenatureconnection.com). Published books are Grasses of the Texas Hill Country and Texas Cacti. Soon to be available is Texas Wildflowers Vistas and Hidden Treasures. The books are filled with beautiful colored pictures and information and are available on Amazon.



Brian explained that cacti are native to the Americas. Cacti are succulents which are plants that contain water in the stem. They have all the normal structures - roots, leaves, stems, flowers, fruit and seeds.-although leaves may not be as discernible in cacti as other plants. Most, but not all, have spines. Cacti are popular because they are pretty, very diverse and easy to maintain - no mowing or fertilizer. There are about 150 species in Texas.

Big Bend is an excellent place to study and enjoy the diversity of cacti for Texans. Due to the 6 different vegetative areas in Texas, Texas has a wide variety of cacti species. Phoenix Botanical Gardens is also a true cacti habitat.

Kew Royal Botanic Gardens in London and Huntington Botanical Gardens in Pasadena are the world leaders in Cactus gardens.

For those interested in Cacti Brian recommends contacting the Cactus and Succulent Society or the Texas Native Plant Society.

Brian briefly reviewed the many shapes of cacti, the many critters that are attracted to them and provided some information about the structure of a succulent plant. He reminded everyone that Cactus are Federally protected plants.

Brian closed with "how to learn about cacti": the 3 P's: persistence, patience and perseverance.

Article by Sandy Foss. Photos by Marvin "T" Taylor

## TEXAS GARDENER FUNDRAISER

Our Treasury gets to keep 25% of your subscription or renewal when it is sent through GCMG

**May Meeting - Photos by Marvin "T" Taylor**



**May Meeting Raffle and Door Prize**

Cythia Lyssy won \$16 in the meeting raffle.  
Bob Cox won the \$10 Maldonados gift certificate door prize.

# Earth Day in Seguin 2016



Photos by  
**Marvin "T"  
Taylor**

**Continued on following page**

## Earth Day (continued)



Our participation in Earth Day in Seguin went well. Thank you to all volunteers. The children's Activities were outstanding. The Plant Sale for Earth Day grossed \$1023.75, mostly ornamentals. The Plant Sale in March grossed \$782, mostly vegetables. Out-of-pocket expenses were \$359.50, including \$75 for the Floral Certificate. Bob Teweles thanks everyone who brought plants, and reminded everyone it is not too early to start next years plants. The rain barrel raffle brought in \$150.

Information provided by **Cynthia Lyssy & Jim Johnson**.

## **Summer Social.**

July 30<sup>th</sup> at Nolte Island Park from 10-2.

Children's Activities and Adult Activities.

Serving hamburgers and hotdogs. We have solicited HEB for donations.

Please RSVP to Cynthia Lyssy [[\(210\) 275-3970](tel:2102753970) or email [cmlyssy@prodigy.net](mailto:cmlyssy@prodigy.net)] so we know how many family members will be attending.

## Big Red Barn

Summer is almost here and the Spring school tours at the Big Red Barn are finished! Twenty-one Master Gardener volunteers helped conduct tours of the garden at the Big Red Barn for the school tours. They talked about the garden and gardening to more than 2100 students during 24 days of tours. A big thank you to all who helped deal with the little rug rats – I mean students. Most of the students were a pleasure but there are always those who present a challenge, whether it be wandering attention or demanding attention. The weather also presented some challenges – I remember talking to a tour in the garden gazebo during a hail shower! Our Master Gardeners handled it all with grace and style.

The garden itself is looking good. We have had a bumper crop of various squash, especially courgette and zucchini, lots of onion, beets, beans, etc. We recently dug the potatoes and are looking forward to ripening tomatoes. Much of our harvest has been donated to the Christian Cupboard foodbank. As I volunteer there, I can tell you that it is much appreciated by the clients.

The butterfly garden and the herb garden are also doing well. They, especially the butterfly garden, are always a favorite of the students in the school tours. The flowers are beautiful and we had butterflies and bees for the later tours. It was still a little too cool during the early tours.

Our goal for the summer is to continue caring for the plantings and to plan for the fall. Our plans continue to include efforts to build up the quality of the soil by using defined beds and adding compost, etc. to it. We will keep you posted on our success.

Article and Photos submitted by **Kay McElveen**



## Schertz Parks Advisory Board Gets Briefed on Texas Superstars & Proposed Trail at Gutierrez

On 5-23-16, at the scheduled Parks Advisory Board meeting, Master Gardeners Bob Cox and John Lewicki briefed the Texas Superstar Program and The Proposed Trail of Texas Superstars at Gutierrez Xeriscape Park. Mr. Chuck Van Zandt, the Schertz Parks & Recreation Director, introduced the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners and explained he had invited them to inform the Advisory Board on Texas Superstars and the Trail Proposal at Gutierrez Park. John started the program by introducing Guadalupe County Master Gardener President-Elect Cynthia Lyssy and recognized her for bringing all the delicious cookies. Bob Cox started with the history of the Texas Superstar Program and highlighted Dr. Jerry Parsons and Dr. Moy' s significant contributions. Bob also explained the selection policy for the Superstars and how it takes 4-5 years of extensive field trials under minimal soil preparation, reasonable levels of water and no pesticide use to identify super-performing plants under Texas' tough growing conditions.

John discussed the 60 Superstars and pointed out that we had 17 of them already in Gutierrez and we had 4 more donated by Guadalupe County Master Gardeners. John recognized the volunteer organizations that have participated in making Gutierrez Park a successful demonstration park that includes a certified Butterfly Garden, A Monarch Waystation, and contains several native wildflower planting areas. He publicly thanked the Steele High School Key Club and Art Club, the Schertz-Cibolo Lions Club and the Clemens High School Leo's, the Guadalupe County Native Plant Society, the Guadalupe County Adult and Juvenile Probation Services and his fellow master gardeners. He also thanked Parks Director Chuck Van Zandt and Parks Superintendent Mike Trainor for all of their assistance. He explained that the proposed trail of Texas Superstars would use the existing pathways and planting areas and would start and end in the parking lot. He proposed the trail opening to coincide with the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Gutierrez Park dedication on April 19, 2018. He also explained that he would request his fellow master gardeners and Native Plant Society members to donate any of the Texas Superstars that they have or could share that are not currently in the park. He is developing a list of Texas Superstar plants that are needed on the proposed Trail and hopes to publish it soon.



*Master gardener John Lewicki briefing Schertz Parks Advisory Board. Note Cynthia Lyssy on right and cookies at bottom right*



*Bob Cox taking pictures at Schertz Parks Advisory Board Meeting*



*Gutierrez Xeriscape Park showing the proposed trail with stars indicating planting areas.*

Article and Photos by  
**Bob Cox** and  
**John Lewicki**

## *The Wandering Gardener*

*Marilyn Moltz*

### **Shangri LA Botanical Gardens, Orange, TX**

Every time we travel East on IH 10 and begin to near the Louisiana border, I begin to see the billboards for Shangri LA Gardens. I always wanted to stop and see them and finally did on a trip early in May. The gardens cover 252 acres and then there is a one hour Outpost tour you can take of Adams Bayou on an airboat. They only make one or two trips per day on the airboat and this day they were booked with school tours so we were not able to go there. We stayed about two hours just touring the gardens.

We were fortunate to see David Rogers Big Bugs traveling sculpture show. There were ten large wooden insect sculptures which I had not read or heard about before. They were placed all over the gardens. Have you every walked under a spider -it's quite interesting! We were too late in the season to see the azaleas and camellias but the day-lilies were in full bloom. There are many garden rooms to see, butterfly house, a pond with a bird blind where egrets were nesting and alligators were sunning, bottle trees and bushes, and much more.

I highly recommend this as a day trip or a stop on a longer trip. With the different plantings they have, there should be something colorful or educational to see any time of the year.



## Guadalupe County Master Gardeners Spur of the Moment Education Outreach in Action Program



L-R: Master Gardeners Bob and Janet Grafe and the Women's Organization Program Coordinator Michelle Fletcher.)

Guadalupe County Master Gardeners Bob and Janet Grafe received an urgent spur-of-the-moment call from the Women's Organization of the Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church in San Antonio asking if the Grafes could provide a 30-40 minute "gardening" program "in about 72 hours." The Grafes just happened to have a couple of short programs almost prepared in rough draft, one on "All About Herbs" and one on "Fall Gardening in Central Texas." As it turned out, Bexar County had to cancel out their scheduled speaker for the Women's Organization with short notice and suggested that the Women's Organization pull up the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners Association (GCMGA) website for contact info for a possible substitute gardening program. With a quick review of the GCMGA online Newsletter in hand, someone from the Women's Organization who was familiar with the KWED Lawn & Garden Show, made the contact. The

Grafe's did a nice luncheon presentation to a group of 25 members of the Women's Organization on May 1 ("May-Day"), and as they say "The rest is history." The group was very appreciative that the GCMGA could respond so quickly and they were very pleased with the two-part, herbs and Fall gardening program. The Grafes were invited to join the Gardening Club for lunch, they did, and report that it was "exceptionally good!"

Submitted by **Bob Grafe**

## GVEC Grant Update

We had a Phase I meeting about buying a 12 x 24 storage shed and probably will get it from Tuff Shed. It will be used to store large equipment and tools. The location has been staked out in the community garden. We will meet with vendors this week; and probably sign a contract within 2 weeks for on-site building of the shed. We will finish the interior of the shed (shelving, etc.). Phase I should be complete within 6 weeks.

Submitted by **Cynthia**

## Future Programs

- July 30 - Summer Social at Nolte Park
- August 18 - Flowering Trees by Deedy Wright
- September 15 - Aquaponics by Steve Sumrow
- October 20 - Bats by Judit Green
- November 17 - Guadalupe County Soils by John Watkins
- December 15 - Christmas Social
- January 19th - Shade Plants by Liz Romero

## Joyce Friesenhahn Wins May Volunteer Recognition Drawing

36 Certified Master Gardeners qualified for the May Volunteer Recognition Program Drawing. Congratulations to **Joyce Friesenhahn** who won a \$20 gift certificate to Maldonado Nursery.

Members Reporting 5 or More Volunteer Hours in April 2016

May Volunteer Recognition Program						
	LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME			LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME
1	Augustus	Lillian		19	Jones	Peggy
2	Bennett	Kathy		20	Kjohede	KJ
3	Biggs	Doug		21	Knobles	Janice
4	Biggs	Virginia		22	Lewicki	John
5	Bowe	Mary		23	Martin	Cindy
6	Briscoe	Joyce		24	McElveen	Kay
7	Burton	Rodney		25	Miller	Mary
8	Cottingham	Ryla		26	Odvody	Dale
9	Cover	Kay		27	Odvody	Ann
10	Cox	Robert (Bob)		28	Patterson	Karen
11	Darrough	Kim		29	Preston	Jerilyn
12	Dick	Lo-Rá		30	Schultze	Pat
13	Foss	Sandra		31	Seale	Iris
14	Friesenhahn	Joyce		32	Styblo	Mary
15	Grafe	"Compost" Bob		33	Suchan	Carol
16	Guiles	Toni		34	Teweles	Robert
17	Haecker	Gladys		35	Turner	Pam
18	Heuerman	Barbara		36	Watkins	John

All 36 also qualify for one entry into the \$150 Annual Recognition Drawing.

To qualify for the Monthly Volunteer Recognition Program drawing, Certified Guadalupe County Master Gardeners must report a minimum of 5 volunteer hours earned during the month in VMS by the last calendar day of the month. Hours earned for attendance at the monthly GCMG Membership Meeting are not included in the minimum 5 hours, except those earned for meeting setup. Board members do not participate in the Volunteer Recognition Program.

Don't forget to **earn and report your hours by 30 June 2016** to be eligible for the July Membership Drawing.

Submitted by **Cindy Waechter**

## April 2016 Volunteer Recognition Corner

- ◆ GCMG volunteers reported **855.60** volunteer hours
- ◆ **Mary Bowe, Kay Cover, Peggy Jones, KJ Kjolhede, John Lewicki, Kay McElveen, Ann Odvody, Dale Odvody, Iris Seale, Carol Suchan** reported 25 or more volunteer hours
- ◆ GCMG's reported 70.25 volunteer hours for conducting School Tours at the Red Barn. Thank you **Virginia Biggs, Cindy Curnel, Gladys Haecker, Beth Henry, Barbara Heuerman, Kay McElveen, Mary Miller, Karen Patterson and John Watkins** for your service
- ◆ GCMG's reported 76.25 volunteer hours related to the Earth Day Plant Sale. Thank you **Doug Biggs, Virginia Biggs, Joyce Briscoe, Ryla Cottingham, Joyce Friesenhahn, Gail Johnson, John Lewicki, Janet Magee, Liz Romero, Joanne Shanafelt, Mary Styblo, Robert Teweles, Pam Turner and Cynthia Winkelman**
- ◆ GCMG's reported 60.5 volunteer hours related to working the Earth Day Booth. Thank you **Marilyn Anderson, Lisa Foss, Judith Johnson, Eddie Johnston, Joyce Johnston, John Lewicki, Kay McElveen, Hughlene Micheli, Marla Miller, Kathy Pape, Jerilyn Preston, Mary Styblo, Carol Suchan, Pam Turner, Patricia Watkins and Dean Webb**
- ◆ Thank you **Kim Darrough, John Lewicki and Cindy Waechter** for working the Schertz Volunteer Fair
- ◆ **33 Master Gardeners** have met the volunteer and continuing education hours requirement for 2016

**KJ Kjolhede, John Lewicki, Ann Odvody, Dale Odvody, Iris Seale and Carol Suchan** have reported 100 or more volunteer hours in 2016

### Class 28

For more information contact **Kay McElveen** at [479-790-2933](tel:479-790-2933) or [hkaymcelveen@gmail.com](mailto:hkaymcelveen@gmail.com)

### Class 29

GCMG Class 29 will be held in Schertz on Tuesday evenings from January to May 2017. Contact person for this class is **Cynthia Lyssy** by text/call at [\(210\) 275-3970](tel:210-275-3970) or email [cmlyssy@prodigy.net](mailto:cmlyssy@prodigy.net)

### REMINDER

If anyone needs a card from the organization for an illness or loss of a family member, contact: Janice Jadwin, Secretary, 210-416-2477, or e-mail [jmjadwin@yahoo.com](mailto:jmjadwin@yahoo.com)

### Newsletter Staff

Editor - Elaine McIntyre  
Photographer - Marvin "T" Taylor  
Distribution - Doug Biggs  
Proof Reader - Bob Teweles  
Wandering Gardener - Marilyn Moltz

### GCMG Outreach

Virginia Biggs is GCMG's Outreach Chairman. If anyone knows of a GCMG who needs a meal, please let her know 830-560-1976.

## KWED Lawn & Garden Show Monthly Tip Vinegar as a Weed Killer

Everyone has weeds. Many have heard that you can use vinegar as an herbicide to get rid of them. Is it true you wonder? How do you use it? Yes, it is a fact that you can kill weeds with vinegar. That sounds great, doesn't it! People hate to spend money for a product to get rid of weeds, and vinegar is cheap. Many people would like to avoid chemical sprays, and vinegar is all natural. Sounds like the best of both worlds. Except..... there are **a few exceptions, limitations, & details, that you should know about** before you grab a bottle of vinegar off the shelf and seek revenge on those weeds.

- Vinegar won't move through the plant to **kill the root**, like some chemical sprays will do. The root may die anyway, depending on the variety of weed, and how mature it is. Young weeds may not have sufficient reserves to put out new growth. The older weeds that grow back would be weaker, and many should die with a repeat application of the vinegar weed killer.
- Some plants are **not as susceptible** to vinegar. A waxy coating or a "hairy" (fuzzy) surface may interfere with the absorption of the vinegar. This is the type that would suffer more by adding the soap to a vinegar weed killer recipe.
- Vinegar **applied to the soil as a full strength drench** could kill the root directly. This is not recommended, since roots from good plants could also be affected. Also, the effects on soil microorganisms is unclear. They might die, or move out of the area, or become inactive temporarily. This would reduce soil fertility.
- Vinegar would **lower the pH** of the soil, making it more acidic. This could be good if your soil is alkaline, not so good if it is already acidic. Yet, it is unlikely that the small amount used would cause much variation.
- **It is non-selective**, meaning it might kill everything it touches. This limits the usefulness of a vinegar weed killer, to the extent that you are able to control over-spray that would get on desirable plants.

Now for the "basic" organic weed killer recipe. Homemade Weed Killer: 1 GALLON VINEGAR, 2 CUPS EPSON SALT, 1/4 CUP DISH SOAP. Mix together then apply as a foliar spray on a warm-hot "dry" day.

Submitted by **Bob Grafe**

### LINDA WAITE

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Master Gardener Linda Waite of Class 23. Linda passed away on Mother's Day, 8 May. There will be a memorial service and luncheon at the Bracken United Methodist Church, 20377 FM 2252 (Nacogdoches), San Antonio (Phone [830-606-6717](tel:830-606-6717)), on June 4th from 11AM - 2PM, . Linda's daughter is at her mother's home most every day. Linda's phone number is [210-658-0352](tel:210-658-0352). The address is 5030 Oak Drive, Converse TX 78109. Linda was an enthusiastic member of the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners Association. Rest in peace, Linda.

## Guadalupe County Community Garden Happenings

Lots of exciting things happened in the Garden in April/May. We have lots of vegetables growing: peaches, potatoes, beets, onions, carrots, celery and more.

Our favorite mama killdeer bird returned to nest. Her first round produced 4 eggs and now she is back with another 4 eggs. No one bothers her and we have her area roped off so people won't disturb her. If you zoom in you can see the eggs.

We had a wonderful; surprise of receiving a \$20,000 grant from GVEC which was presented to us at the Garden and it was a thrill for me to handle a check that size and amount. Didn't want to give it up!! Ha. Ha. Thanks to all the master gardeners and all who came out to show their support. Now we can improve walkways and get a shed for our equipment. We are still overwhelmed by it all.

We dedicated a garden in honor Jon Elia, our Master Gardener friend who died last year. He was such a devoted volunteer and tireless worker who would do anything for us. His wife Debra, another dedicated master gardener volunteer. is pictured with the plaque that was put on his garden.

Also Save The Date - September 24th 2016 - Garden and Craft Fair. 9:30 to 2:30 PM



Article and pictures submitted by **Mary Bowe**



## A Texan's view of Oklahoma's "Green Country"

Hmmmm.....morning low of 46F, a high of 62F? Mid May and we're not in South Texas for sure! Brrrrr, a bit chilly for this Texas gal. Welcome to Muskogee, OK. Just a short 7 ½ hour drive and you're in "green country." A nice relief if you weren't quite ready for the 90+ degrees of Guadalupe County.

Every May, for the last 9 years, my husband and I move to NE Oklahoma for 6 weeks and what a thrill! Thunderstorms that reward with brilliant, blue skies.....clear, crisp days, and wonderfully cool, even chilly, days in the month of May. Wild strawberries and blackberries ripe for the picking, some years even mulberries – growing everywhere! Lush, green shrubbery, beautiful flowers, and the occasional surprise of ferns.....growing wild.....with no special care or watering! Wow!

Don't get me wrong, it's not for the faint of heart. We've had tornados as close as 3 miles away. They laugh at us as we head for the bunker to wait out the storm. One tornado on the ground 3 miles to the west, one tornado on the ground 3 miles to the south, one tornado on the ground 5 miles to the north, all at the same time! Yikes! Recorded history, as well as Indian folklore before that, tells us that Muskogee has never had a tornado touch down in this area. Why? The Native Americans say that an Indian "medicine" was put down on the land to protect this area from tornadoes. Modern science says it has something to do with the topography and the river here. For whatever reason, we have been blessed with nothing more than the normal, rather wild, thunderstorms. With thunder that seems to roll on forever and spectacular lightning shows, lots of nitrogen for the foliage here? I can't help but speculate.

It truly is a fabulous and refreshing view of vegetation gone wild with an abundance of flowers and cool weather veggies – what fun! I couldn't get away from gardening altogether though. As soon as we arrived, I started some microgreens, very yummy on our salads. We also put herbs in our flower boxes intermixed with the flowers, and of course we've been berry picking!

Hope you enjoy the photos and we look forward to seeing you all when we return in June!

Article and photos submitted by **April Rippel**, Class 27



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## Guadalupe County Master Gardeners Volunteer Opportunities

Every Monday the **MG office/library** is open from 8:30am-noon except for holidays. Volunteers are always needed. Contact Betty Hughes. 830-401-4066 or e-mail [ehughes5@satx.rr.com](mailto:ehughes5@satx.rr.com).

Every Tuesday and Friday are work days at the **Guadalupe County Community Garden**. Check with Ann Odvody ([odvodyd@swbell.net](mailto:odvodyd@swbell.net) 830-914-3593) for start hour and access at other times.

Every Friday 9 am is a workday in the gardens at the **Big Red Barn**. Check with Janice Knobles, 830-379-6193 or e-mail [jmknobles@yahoo.com](mailto:jmknobles@yahoo.com) for details.

**KWED Master Gardener Lawn and Garden Show** is always looking for volunteers. Contact Janet Grafe at 830-639-4199 or e-mail to [janetgrafe@hotmail.com](mailto:janetgrafe@hotmail.com).

For our meetings, we could use help with setting out chairs since we usually put out 80 chairs. That way we are not putting out chairs during the program. If a few people came 30 minutes early, that would help a lot. **Treva Hicks**.

## Volunteer Needed for Lunch and Learn in Seguin

A volunteer is needed to take care of Lunch & Learn on the Seguin side. If interested, talk to Toni Guiles ([trguiles@sbcglobal.net](mailto:trguiles@sbcglobal.net) 210-566-1777) or Treva Hicks (830-303-4712 [hicks1t@lycos.com](mailto:hicks1t@lycos.com)) about it.

## Leaders Needed - Contact President Marvin Borth

We need someone to step up and serve as:

Volunteer Chair

Education Chair

Texas Master Gardener Board of Directors

# GARDENING EVENTS

## 3rd Annual Arts & Crafts Fair

On Saturday, September 24, from 10am-3pm, the 3rd Annual Arts & Crafts Fair will be held at the Guadalupe County Community Garden at 1101 Elbel (behind the Tax Office) in Schertz. Please invite potential vendors to contact Mary Bowe (210-317-6202) or Terri Virost (210-659-3315). Tables are \$25. Besides vendor booths, there will be garden demonstrations, tours and raffles. Free Parking and Free Admissions.

## State Master Gardeners Conference

The 2017 Conference will be hosted by the TMGA aboard a cruise ship. The cruise would take place April 27-May 1, 2017, for four days, leaving out of Galveston with a stop in Cozumel

2018 Master Gardener State Conference will be held in College Station.

# EDUCATION - CLASSES - SEMINARS

**June 1, Wed, 6:30pm – 9:00pm. Alamo Orchid Society Meeting.** Lion's Field Adult & Senior Citizen Center, 2809 Broadway St, San Antonio. 1 CEU. The social starts at 6:30; the meeting starts at 7:00.

**June 2, Thursday, 6:30-8:30pm. Gardening 101.** Northside Learning Center, 6632 Bandera Rd, San Antonio. 2 CEUs. Fee: \$19. NISD class meets in Rm. C112. To register call: 210-397-8100. Gardening can be intimidating. Not all of us have a green thumb, and are unsure of how to get started. **Dr. Tom Harris** will teach you how to plan a garden, soil preparation, how to build raised beds, composting, fertilizing, watering, and harvesting the veggies (the best part).

**June 4, Saturday, 9:30-11am. Pond Building101.** Water Garden Gems, 3230 Bolton Rd Marion, . 1.5 CEUs. Free. Learn about the different water feature options to help you hone in on the one that you want: Koi Pond, Water Garden, Visual Waterfall, Pondless Waterfeature, Bog Garden, etc. Then, a review of critical aspects of the construction process so you know how to do it right the first time and create the feature you want. In depth information on the pump and filtration options, how to select and what is best for your specific pond as well as choice of fish and plants and how to avoid predators. Discussions around disappearing water features and bog filtration are included if that is of interest. The class can be tailored to provide information on what participants are most interested in working on. Instructor: **Shane Stefek**, President, Water Garden Gems

**June 4, Saturday, 10:00-11:30am. Butterfly Babies.** San Antonio Botanical Garden, 555 Funston Place, San Antonio. 1.5 CEUs. Fee: \$20 (\$18, members) + \$10 materials fee. Suitable for adults, or for adult-child pairs with children 8 or older. For more information call 210.536.1413. Butterfly babies - aka caterpillars - abound in the Garden if you know where to look! Discover what host plants are and why they are needed in your butterfly garden. Join **Dr. Cindy Klemmer** in an indoor presentation followed by a walk to discover butterfly babies in action throughout the Garden. Leave with a host plant - and a butterfly baby of your own! to take home.

**June 4, Saturday, 1-5pm. Advanced Aquaponics.** NISD class meets at San Antonio College Greenhouse, 310 W. Ashby, San Antonio. 4 CEUs. Fee: \$45. To register call: 210-397-8100. Please note: This class will be held at the San Antonio College greenhouse which is located directly across the street from the Temple Beth-El synagogue. Aquaponics is the gardening revolutionary combination of the best of aquaculture and hydroponics. This advanced hands-on class will observe the building process of an aquaponic system along with covering the basic principles of aquaponics, medium bed zone breakdown, and water testing. Throughout the build the instructor will go over aspects of float raft systems and hybrid systems which will include advantage and disadvantage systems. Instructor: **Steve Sumrow**

**June 9, Thursday, 8:30am-4pm. The Basics of Homemade Wine.** Gardens at Old Town Helotes, 15060 Antonio Drive, Helotes. **Dr. Larry A. Stein** and **Dr. Justin Scheiner** will present a history of wine making, and discuss how to grow grapes and other winemaking fruit, steps and equipment for starting, and a wine making demonstration. RSVP by calling Angel Torres, 210 631-0400. \$40 per person includes lunch; make check payable to Bexar County Master Gardeners 3355 Cherry Ridge, Suite 212, San Antonio, TX 78230.

**June 9, Thursday, 10:00am-Noon. Dealing With Drought in the Landscape Series -- Texas Tough Plants.** Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service-Travis County, 1600-B Smith Road, Austin. Fee: \$10/ seminar for early registration; \$15/seminar for late or on-site. Space is limited; register online early to reserve your seat by phone at (979) 845-2604. For further information, contact Sue Carrasco, (512) 854-9610. This seminar will help you learn ways to help your landscape and garden while conserving, preserving, and protecting our water resources. Are you looking for colorful, low-maintenance plants for your garden? Join us to learn about some terrific Texas native plants that can bring beauty and function to your garden while being well adapted to handle Texas' blazing summers, drought, and other weather extremes. In addition to being water-wise, native plants provide great benefits to pollinators and birds. **Meredith O'Reilly**, 4-H CAPITAL's gardening specialist and Texas Master Naturalist, will guide you in choosing the right natives for your yard and your garden.

**June 9, Thursday, 6:30-8:30pm. Gardening in Texas.** Northside Learning Center, 6632 Bandera Rd, San Antonio. 2 CEUs. Fee: \$18. NISD class meets in Rm. C106. To register call: 210-397-8100. If you've recently moved to the area, you're quickly going to find that all those plants you brought from 'back home' aren't going to grow here. Gardening in this area is like gardening in the desert. We will cover soils, plants, fertilizers, plant problems, composting, pruning, turf grass and Xeriscape. **Dr. Tom Harris** will also have his publications available at class.

**June 9, Thursday, 7:00pm – 8:30pm. San Antonio Bonsai Society Meeting.** Lion's Field Adult & Senior Citizen Center, 2809 Broadway at Mulberry, San Antonio. 1 CEU. Free. Meeting & Speaker open to non-members.

**June 11. Saturday, 8:00am – 4:30pm. Native Landscape Certification Program - Level 2, Planting Design with Native Plants.** Phil Hardberger Park, Urban Ecology Center, 8400 Northwest Military Highway, San Antonio. 7.5 CEUs. Registration fee: \$37/NPSOT members; \$52/non-members. Background information and online registration are available at: <http://npsot.org/wp/nlcp/> For more information or for mail in registration form, send a request to [nlcp@npsot.org](mailto:nlcp@npsot.org) or call Meg Inglis at 512-589-1316. Participants must have completed Level 1 in order to attend Level 2 or Level 3. Participants will learn to create landscape designs incorporating regional native plants; understand important considerations for creating a design; comprehend how to preserve the native plants in their landscape; and become familiar with 45 native Texas plants recommended for their landscape and 5 exotic, invasive plants to avoid. Each class includes a classroom session and an outdoor native plant knowledge walk. Completion Certificate provided at the end of the class. Competency Certificate issued upon passing an optional end-of-day test.

**June 11. Saturday, 9:30am – 11:00am. Texas Tough Roundtable Discussion Series: Xero Turf.** San Antonio Botanical Garden, 555 Funston Place, San Antonio. 1.5 CEUs. Fee: \$15 (\$13.50, members). For more information, contact [education@sabot.org](mailto:education@sabot.org) or call 210.536.1413. To register, go to <http://www.sabot.org/education/adult-classes/> Meet with gardening experts in these roundtable forums to discuss basic design principles and implementation techniques for drought-tolerant landscapes. There are varieties of turf grass that work best in San Antonio, with low-water requirements. Learn drought-tolerant turf grass options and which is best for your landscape.

**June 11. Saturday, 10:30am – 12:00pm. Summer Color with Texas SuperStars.** Milberger's Landscaping And Nursery, 3920 N Loop 1604 E, San Antonio. 1.5 CEUs. FREE. Earth-Kind Seminar. For more information call 210-497-3760. Learn what you can do to keep your garden beds blooming throughout the heat of the summer, how to attract butterflies and hummingbirds, and how to prepare your landscape for summer heat. Texas SuperStars™ are plants that are highly recommended by Texas

A&M AgriLife for South Texas and which can add dramatic color to your late summer landscape. Speaker: **David Rodriguez**, Horticulturist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service David will answer your specific questions about your gardening issues. Bring a notebook.

**June 14. Tuesday, 6:30pm – 8:00pm. Wildscapes for Small Animals.** John's Lutheran Church, FM 465, Marion. 1 CEU. Free. Native Plant Society of Texas Guadalupe County Chapter Meetings are open to the public. Visitors are welcome. There is a plant/seed exchange and greeting at 6:30 PM followed by the program at 7:00 PM. For more information, directions to St John's Lutheran Church, or membership applications see the website at: <http://npsot.org/wp/quadalupe/> Flowers and birds are the longed-for and obvious stars of any garden, but what about the mammals, reptiles and amphibians who are equally important to a healthy natural landscape? Learn how to attract and keep this quieter, less flashy, but still charming and essential population. Speaker: **Trent Teinert**, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Natural Resources Specialist for Guadalupe County. Trent has a B.S. and M.S. in Range and Wildlife Management from Texas A&M Kingsville. He has been with TPWD since 2011 and assumed responsibilities for Guadalupe County in 2015. He supervises the Neasloney Wildlife Management Area.

**Jun 16. Thursday, 1-3:30pm. Orange & Black is the New Black.** Texas AgriLife Extension Office, 3355 Cherry Ridge Dr., Suite 208. How Monarch butterfly mania struck San Antonio and what you can do to join the fun. **Monika Maeckle** will recap how San Antonio became the National Wildlife Federation's first and, to date, only Monarch Butterfly Champion City, what COSA is doing to promote Monarchs and other pollinators and how Master Gardeners can get in on the action. NOTE: There will be chocolate!

**June 17. Friday, 8:30am – 3:30pm. Tree Disease Identification & Mgmt: What You Need to Know.** Phil Hardberger Park (Urban Ecology Center), 8400 NW Military Hwy, San Antonio. 5 CEUs for MGs. RSVP by June 13th with registration fee of \$40 in advance or \$50 at the door; lunch included. Email Angel Torres or call 210 631-0400 for more information.

**June 18. Saturday, 9am – 12pm. Rainwater Harvesting Made Easy.** Texas A&M AgriLife Ext Svc 3355 Cherry Ridge, Suite 208 San Antonio. 3 CEUs. Reg fee is \$50 and includes your own rain barrel. (\$60 for couple, and only one rain barrel). RSVP early due to limited space of 20. Contact Angel Torres at 210 631-0400 by June 12. In times of drought we think about water conservation and availability. In this workshop, Master Gardeners will show you how easy it is to harvest FREE water and save money by collecting and storing rainwater. Instructors: Bexar County Master Gardeners **Lou Kellogg** and **Anna Vogler** who will demonstrate how to build and use your own system

**June 18. Saturday, 9am – 11am. Get Cultured!: Vermiculture and Composting for Civilized Gardens.** EcoCentro, 1802 N Main Ave, San Antonio. 2 CEUs. Free seminar presented by Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas. For more information and to register for this workshop, visit <https://www.greensatx.org/events/get-cultured-vermiculture-and-composting-for-civilized-gardens/> The Vermiculture and Composting Work(ing)shop is designed to help the community or home gardener learn techniques for starting a vermicomposting project, and get a feel for various types of composting systems. Trench composting, sheet mulching, three bin systems and others will be covered. By the end of the workshop participants will have a better idea about what type of composting system will work best for them. EcoCentro garden experts will share their knowledge of vermicomposting, making compost tea and basic, easy composting methods. Come prepared to engage in these hands-on, informative lessons that are sure to make your garden thrive!

**June 18. Saturday, 9am – 10am. San Antonio Botanical Garden Bird Walks.** 555 Funston Place, San Antonio. 1 CEU. Free with admission to SABOT; meet at the Carriage House at 8:45 AM. Ages 10+. No registration required. Call 207-3270 for details. Bird Walks are held every third Saturday of the month. Be sure to bring binoculars and the Birding Checklist. Enjoy birds in native habitats, and bask in the relaxing atmosphere found in the Garden during a morning bird walk led by experienced guides.

**June 25. Saturday, 10am – 11am. Monarch Butterfly: Pollinator Poster Child.** San Antonio Botanical Garden, 555 Funston Place, San Antonio. 1 CEU. Fee: \$15 (\$13.50, members). For more information, call 210.536.1413. Monarch butterflies have become symbols for pollinator advocacy and climate change throughout the continent in recent years. Why are we all so smitten with this magical creature? Join us for an overview of the amazing Monarch butterfly migration and life cycle, an update on their population status, President Obama's National Pollinator Strategy and its impact on San Antonio, the country's only Monarch Champion City. We'll also touch on how to create a successful pollinator garden and answer your questions on raising Monarchs and other butterflies.

**June 28. Tuesday, 6:30pm – 8:00pm. Growing Texas Native Plants from Seed.** Lion's Field Adult & Senior Citizen Center, 2809 Broadway, San Antonio. 1 CEU. Free. Native Plant Society of Texas-San Antonio (NPSOT) Chapter meeting begins at 6:30 pm with a Native plant/seed exchange & social time, followed by the Program at 7pm. For more information go to: [www.npsot.org/sanantonio](http://www.npsot.org/sanantonio). Chuck Janzow discusses proper seed collection, storage, and propagation for Texas native plants. Speaker: **Chuck Janzow**, a founding member of the NPSOT-Boerne Chapter, was a science teacher at Boerne High School for over thirty years and is a self-taught horticulturist. He collaborated on Jill Nokes' seminal work, *How to Grow Native Plants of Texas and the Southwest*. He and his wife Martha Barker can often be seen harvesting seeds from native plants in the Texas Hill Country. Chuck is not only a wonderful speaker but is very giving of his time in his efforts to save and propagate "Texas Native Plants."

**July 2. Saturday, 9:30am – 11:00am. Pond Building101.** Water Garden Gems, 3230 Bolton Rd Marion. 1.5 CEUs. Free. Learn about the different water feature options to help you hone in on the one that you want...Koi Pond, Water Garden, Visual Waterfall, Pondless Waterfeature, Bog Garden, etc. Then, a review of critical aspects of the construction process so you know how to do it right the first time and create the feature you want. In depth information on the pump and filtration options, how to select and what is best for your specific pond as well as choice of fish and plants and how to avoid predators. Discussions around disappearing water features and bog filtration are included if that is of interest. The class can be tailored to provide information on what participants are most interested in working on. Instructor: **Shane Stefek**, President, Water Garden Gems

**July 11, Monday, 12-1 pm. Container Gardening.** GCMG Lunch & Learn at the GVEC Community room 908 Curtiss Street, Schertz. Presented by Master Gardener **Marvin Borth**.

**Save the Date**  
**Friday, February 17, 2017**  
**Comal County Master Gardeners Spring 2017 Seminar**  
**Texas Heirlooms and Superstars**  
*The Beauty of Yesterday's Plants in Today's Gardens*

## Master Gardener Specialist Training

Growing Healthy Communities, Jun 15-17, 10345 State Hwy. 44, Corpus Christi, TX. 16 CEUs. Fee is \$50 by June 10. Call [979-845-2604](tel:979-845-2604)

Composter, June 22-24, Bexar County MGs, San Antonio

Junior Master Gardener-Youth Educator, July 27-29, Bexar County MGs, San Antonio

Earth-Kind, Aug 3-5, Fort Bend MGs, Rosenberg

Texas Superstar, Sep 20-22, Bexar County MGs, San Antonio

Master Volunteer Entomology, Sep 26-29, San Antonio

Vegetable Specialist, November 8-10, Bexar County MGs, San Antonio

For more information on specialist training, see listings on the TMGA website <http://txmg.org/training10/training5/specialist/>

## Webinars Available

Do you have a hard time obtaining Continuing Education hours. If so, this FREE Online Learning Webinar might be for you. For more information and how to connect to the webinar, visit:

<http://articles.extension.org/pages/73368>

June 3 - 2016 All Bugs Good and Bad Webinar Series: 1:00 pm CDT. Spotted Wing Drosophila

<https://learn.extension.org/events/2319>

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### Texas Master Gardener Board of Directors

Two Year Term - Dave Elder - Alternate - Marvin Borth  
One Year Term - Peggy Jones - Bob Teweles, Alternate

Membership Outreach Committee - Virginia Biggs

Speakers Bureau - Treva Hicks

Guadalupe Co. Community Garden - Dale & Ann Odvody

Master Gardener Office/Library - Betty Hughes

Refreshment Coordinator - Treva Hicks

Big Red Barn - Janice Knobles

Gutierrez Xeriscape Garden - John Lewicki & Kim Darrough

Historian - Sandy Foss

Earth Day - Cynthia Lyssey & Marvin Borth

2016 County Fair - Cindy Martin

Class 28 Coordinator - Cindy Martin & Kay McElveen

Spring 2017 Class Coordinator in Schertz - Cynthia Lyssy

Christmas Tree Decorating - Betty Hughes

Newsletter Editor - Elaine McIntyre

Web Master - Bob Teweles

# June 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Red Barn 9 AM GCCG Workday	4 KWED Radio 1580 AM Lawn & Garden Show 9:15 a.m.
	GCCG - Guadalupe County Community Garden					
5  ● NEW MOON	6 Master Gardener Office/Library\	7 GCCG Workday	8	9 <u>GCMG Board Meeting</u>	10 Red Barn GCCG Workday	11 KWED Radio Lawn & Garden Show
12	13 Master Gardener Office/Library\	14 GCCG Workday  <u>FLAG DAY</u>	15	16 <u>GCMG Meeting</u>	17 Red Barn GCCG Workday	18 KWED Radio Lawn & Garden Show
19  <b>Fathers Day</b>	20 Master Gardener Office/Library  Summer Solstice  O - Full Moon	21 GCCG Workday	22	23	24 Red Barn GCCG Workday	25 KWED Radio Lawn & Garden Show
26  <u>Newsletter Deadline</u>	27 Master Gardener Office/Library	28 GCCG Workday	29	30		



**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 Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension <http://www.guadalupe-tx.tamu.edu/> 830-379-1972  
Texas Master Gardeners <http://www.txmg.org>

### **GCMG Officers & Board of Directors**

Marvin Borth	President
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Cynthia Lyssey	President Elect
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Jim Johnson	Treasurer
Vacant	Education Chairman
Dave Elder	Publication Chairman
Vacant	Volunteer Chairman
Cindy Waechter	Membership Chair
Travis Franke	AgriLIFE Agent
	Master Gardener Coordinator

### **June Meeting**

**Thursday, June 16th, 2016 - 7 PM**

*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. The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife.

**Elaine McIntyre, Editor ([tindo@gvec.net](mailto:tindo@gvec.net))**