



Black Swallowtail caterpillar

Photo by

Bob Cox



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

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I wish all a very Happy and Prosperous New Year in 2017. As you make your New Year's resolution, I hope that you include volunteering some of your time to our many projects we have in progress.

We are starting off the New Year with a big bang: a new master gardener evening class in Schertz, planning the John Lewicki SuperStar Trail at Gutierrez Park, helping Dale with construction at the San Antonio Stock Show and Rodeo, completing the community garden grant improvements, preparing for our March 18th plant sale and Earth Day ... just to name a few projects.

One of my goals, as President, is to expand our approved project list (within MG guidelines) to meet the needs of all of our master gardeners, and to mark those projects already approved with signage, recognizing the hard work that our volunteers do in that community. Should you have a garden project dear to your heart that is not on the GCMG approved project list, then I invite you to complete an Approved Project Application for Board consideration. This application can be found on VMS.

I close with this quote by DeAnn Hollis: "The heart of a volunteer is never measured in size, but in the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others."

Sincerely,

Cynthia Lyssy

February Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 16th
Time: 6:15 p.m. Social
 7:00 p.m. Phytonutrient Gardening by Joe Urbach. Free seeds will be given away (more info. on page 2)

Future Meetings

March 16, 2017– The Gretchens from the Gretchen Bee Ranch in Seguin

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



We'd love to see you on Facebook! The Guadalupe County Master Gardeners Group is growing and you too can be a part of it. Share your photos, ask questions, and learn new things all while visiting with fellow gardeners in this friendly and helpful environment.

Facebook is also a great resource for hearing about or announcing upcoming events. We can all use a reminder of when classes, events, volunteer opportunities, and seminars are happening and where. You can also get your inquiries answered while planning your calendars. Spring is a busy time for you and your gardens, why not take advantage of this free and informative asset.

So join today! Once you're on Facebook, just type in "Guadalupe County Master Gardeners" and the Group will show up. Go to the group and request to join, you're guaranteed to be approved right away. Still need help joining? Just give me a call at (830) 379-7203 or e-mail me at adrippel@gmail.com and I'd be happy to walk you through the procedure to join the group or even how to sign up for Facebook, all questions are welcome.

April Rippel

Class 27

February Meeting topic

Date and Time: Thursday, February 16th at 7:00 p.m.

Speaker: Joe Urbach, a Hays County Master Gardener who has written several books on gardening.

Topic: "**Phytonutrient Gardening**". Sure, you know how nutritious raising your own food is, but Joe takes you back to how that happened, how certain varieties are more nutritious than others and how that came to be. A fascinating history of some of the foods we eat, how to get the most nutrition from them, and which to eat for certain health conditions.

Further information: Check out his blog at www.gardeningaustin.com/blog



January 2017 Meeting

Shade Plants
By
Liz Romero



All photos by Marvin "T" Taylor

Congratulations

Class 28

At the January 2017 meeting, Class 28 graduated!

There were 13 members of the class that met the requirements for graduation.

And 8 of those met the requirements for certification.

Once again, congratulations

For all your hard work

And welcome.



Epcot Kissimmee, Florida

Would you like to take an aerial flight over Mt. Everest, the Eifel Tower or above animals grazing in the Serengeti? Would you like to drive a test car at high speeds? Or perhaps you would like to visit 11 countries in one day and visit with their citizens, see their culture, eat their food and purchase some of their goods? You can do all of this and much more in one day at Epcot, Walt Disney World in Florida. Epcot is one of four theme parks in the Disney park system located in central Florida. It offers something to do for those of all ages. You can stay a day and be entertained from morning to night.

This park is well designed, well run, has very friendly and helpful staff and has beautiful venues and grounds. It is easy to just sit and look and the buildings of the countries, watch the birds on the lake which all is built around or try to name the many plants you see in the park.

If you plan to go to more than one of the parks, plan on a full day at each park, start early, and know which venue or ride you want to do most as some are very popular. This is a place you can let your inner child out and just have fun!

The Wandering Gardener
Marilyn Moltz



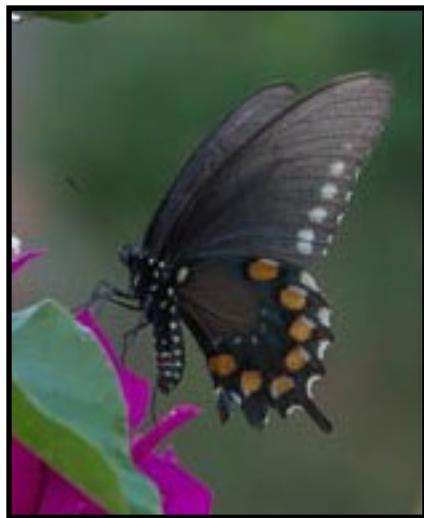
Catepillars eating Milkweed

Photos by Bob Cox



Catepillars eating Milkweed

Photos by Bob Cox



These caterpillars will transform into Black Swallowtail
(*Papilio polygenes*) butterflies.

Fruit Tree Seminar

January 14, 2017

April Rippel

Class 27

It was a rainy, cool morning last Saturday when I set out for the “Fruit Tree Seminar” at Milberger’s Nursery in San Antonio, but by the time the class started the rain had dried up and everyone was ready for David Rodriguez to teach us all about fruit trees. David is the Bexar County Texas A&M Extension Agent-Horticulturist and very knowledgeable as to what trees do well in this area.

David emphasized that apple and peach trees, although popular, are “high” input trees, they need lots of maintenance. Whereas Fig, pear, persimmon, and plum trees are “low” input. A large variety of trees were discussed and attendees asked interesting and helpful questions that were answered with excellent explanations.

As an added bonus, David also covered growing grapes, blackberries, strawberries, and nut trees. Personally, I have a special interest in blackberries as I’ve already got some growing on my back fence. I was delighted to learn that these berries are a “low input” plant that are a pleasure to grow and enjoy. My next purchase will be a “Natchez” blackberry plant which is a Texas Super Star, is thorn less, and will need trellises to climb on. Sounds like a fun project!

If you’re interested in fruit trees, I highly recommend this seminar when it is offered again. It was free and Milberger’s provided a delightful amphitheater setting that was comfortable and surrounded with beautiful greenery. For more information visit: <http://www.milbergernursery.com/>



La Vernia Garden Club Meeting

Bob Cox

On Thursday, January 5, 2017 I spoke to approximately 30 people attending a monthly meeting of the LaVernia Garden Club.

The meeting was conducted in a lovely home of one of the garden club members. The GCMG projector was used to project an image on a sheet hung over a large screen television set. The audience was spread across two large rooms. The presenter spoke with most of the attendees sitting behind him as the projector's image could not be "zoomed" enough for him to move further back in the setting. This created some hearing problems for some attendees and required the presenter to be constantly turning around to ensure that all present could hear.

Three GC Master Gardeners were present. One worked with officers of the LaVernia Garden Club to arrange the presentation.



Bob Cox



Iris Seale, Bob Cox and Kay Cover

Veteran's Visual Art Exhibit

At the January membership meeting, our Master Gardeners, Mary Styblo and Liz Romero, shared information about the Seguin Art League's recent awarding of a GVEC grant, thus contributing the success to shared grant writing efforts from John Lewicki and Cynthia Lyssy. This grant has allowed the Seguin Art League to purchase the much needed display equipment.

Mary and Liz also shared information on the Seguin Art League's upcoming Veterans' Visual Art Exhibit to be held March 6-9. The art exhibit will be displayed at the American Legion Post 245, located at 618 E. Kingsbury Street, Seguin.

Our veteran Master Gardeners are invited to participate in this year's "Veterans' Visual Art Exhibit." Attached is an information flyer along with an application form to submit an entry. (See next page.) There is no fee for entries.

All are encouraged to visit the art exhibit. For more information, please contact Mary Styblo or Liz Romero. You can also visit www.seguinartleague.com.

2017 Lunch & Learn Seguin

Monday, February 27th Marvin Borth's topic is Small Area & Container Gardening

Wednesday April 5th Gail Johnson's topic is Practical Fruit for the Home

Growing fruit as part of your landscape and keeping it simple. Sizing production to your space & family size and selecting types based on practical considerations

Monday June 7th Jim Johnson's topic is Seed Propagation for the Fall Garden

Monday August 14th Cindy Martin's topic is Stump the Master Gardener

Are you a little competitive? Like a challenge in a laid back environment? This is a chance to review your knowledge on a wide variety of gardening topics and collaborate with friends to "Stump the Master Gardener"

Wednesday October 4th Bob Cox's topic is Garden Photography FUNdamentals

SEGUIN

Art
LEAGUE

PRESENTS

VETERANS' VISUAL ART EXHIBIT

All exhibit pieces are created by Veterans in Guadalupe & adjacent counties...open to the public and free to everyone!

March 6-9

Opening Reception

will be on Tuesday

March 7th at 6:00 p.m.

Closing Ceremony

will be on Wednesday

at 6:00 p.m.

Open to the public on Tuesday, March 7th
and Wednesday, March 8th from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Deadline for entry forms: February 27, 2017. Available online at SeguinArtLeague.com.

For any questions please contact Liz Rutherford at (830) 371-3106.

Sponsored by Seguin Art League, American Legion Post 245,
family and friends, "Power Up" grant from GFG.



**SEGUIN ART LEAGUE Prospectus
VETERANS' VISUAL ART EXHIBIT**

March 6- 9, 2017

CALL FOR ENTRIES

RULES

1. Open to all veterans in Guadalupe and adjacent counties.
2. All media accepted. Maximum of 3 artworks per artist. Exhibit is limited to 300 artworks.
3. Artwork must be ready for display. Frames/canvases must be appropriately wired. Outside frame dimensions cannot exceed 36" in any direction. Sculpture cannot exceed 50 pounds.
4. Insurance coverage is the responsibility of the artist. All artwork will be handled with all possible care.

ENTRY FEES, FORMS, DATES

No fee for entries.

Deadline for entry form is February 22, 2017. (This allows time for labels to be printed)

Mail to: Seguin Art League, Box 445, Seguin, TX 78156.

Artwork may be delivered to the American Legion Post 245, 618 E. Kingsbury Street, Seguin, TX on **Monday, March 6, between 12 noon- 2 pm.**

Artwork may be picked up on **Thursday, March 9 between 12 noon-2 pm.**

Exhibit hours for the public are 1 pm- 8 pm, March 7- 8.

OPENING RECEPTION: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 6 pm.

CLOSING CEREMONY: Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 6 pm.

-----cut here-----

Seguin Art League: 2017 "Veterans' Visual Art Exhibit" Entry Form

By entering this event, you agree that SAL can use your artwork to promote this event and future art shows.

Initials _____

Print Clearly:

Name _____

Branch of Service _____

Address _____

Phone _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail _____

Title

Medium

Price

#1. _____

#2. _____

#3 _____

Seguin Art League allows sales between the buyer and artist. Do you want your contact info given out? _____
For any questions, please contact Liz Romero at (830) 372-3106. Entry forms also available at seguinartleague.com.
Sponsored by Seguin Art League, American Legion Post 245 family and a generous "Power Up" grant from GVEC.

Do you have trouble obtaining your 6 Continuing Education Hours every year for recertification?

Save the date, Friday, February 17, 2017 from 8AM to 4:30 PM to earn 6 CEUs.

This year the Comal County Master Gardeners are presenting the Spring Gardening Seminar on Texas Heirloom and Superstars. The \$55 registration fee includes lunch, snacks, door prizes, handouts and vendors

Registration usually sells out quickly, so if you are interested, register as soon as possible. See the flyer on the next page for registration details. See the website for more information to include Seminar Schedule & Speakers. <http://txmg.org/comal/event/seminar/>

Speakers

Greg Grant is an award-winning horticulturist, writer, conservationist, and seventh generation Texan from Arcadia, Texas

Florence Oxley holds a Ph.D. in Aquatic Resources, a M.S. degree in Biology and a B.S. degree in Biology, all from Texas State University

David Rodriguez is a County Agent for Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Horticulture for Bexar County and has a B.S in Horticulture and a M.S. in Horticulture from Texas A&M University

Cameron Campbell is the Landscape Project Manager of the new \$16.7 million expansion at the San Antonio Botanical Gardens and is a Landscape Architect employed by Ten Eyck Landscape Architects in Austin, Texas

Spring Youth Garden Educator Training

Date: Saturday, February 4th

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Location: Phil Hardberger Park

West Urban Ecology Center
8400 NW Military Highway
San Antonio, TX 78231

Fee: \$20 includes training and lunch

This training is designed for teachers, educators, and volunteers in support of youth gardening in the classroom and community. Breakout sessions will be conducted with different garden topics to choose from, and a starter garden kit will be distributed to youth gardens that are ready for planting. (Plant material is given per school/institution.)

Participants are encouraged to register early, as walk-ins will not be accepted. Register online at agriliferegister.tamu.edu. For more information, email Ruby Zavala at ruby.zavala@tamu.edu. Sponsored by BGMG



Spring 2017 Gardening Seminar
TEXAS HEIRLOOMS AND SUPERSTARS

TEXAS A&M
AGRILIFE
EXTENSION



Friday, February 17, 2017, at McKenna Events Center

Check-in is 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.; Seminar is 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

801 W. San Antonio Street, New Braunfels

\$55 Registration Fee Includes Lunch, Snacks, Door Prizes, Handouts and Vendors

Complete and Mail this Registration Form with your Registration Fee to:

Print

Comal Master Gardeners Association, ATTENTION SEMINAR, 325 Resource Dr., New Braunfels, TX 78132

Print

Date _____ Make Check Payable to **Comal Master Gardeners**—\$55, Check Number _____

Name _____ E-mail Address _____

Street Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Telephone (Home and Cell) _____

Are you a Master Gardener? Yes No If so, where? _____

Lunch Options (check one) Turkey Ham Vegetarian

6 CEUs for Certified Master Gardeners; No Refunds after February 1

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information or veteran status. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas cooperating. Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation in order to participate in meetings are encouraged to contact the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service office at 830-620-3440 five days prior to the event so that appropriate arrangements can be made. The information given herein is for educational purposes only. References to commercial products or trade names do not discriminate or imply endorsement intended by the Extension Service.



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Street Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Telephone (Home and Cell) _____

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Continuing Education Events February 2017

Wednesday, February 1st - Alamo Orchid Society meeting at the Lions Field, San Antonio, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. -free

Friday, February 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th – Certified Arborist Preparation Course at the San Antonio Botanical Garden, 9:00a a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 4th- Pond Building 101 at the Water Garden Gems, 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. – free

Thursday, February 9th and Friday February 10th – Master Gardener Home Fruit Specialist Training South Texas in Gonzalez Texas, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 pm - \$185

Thursday, February 9th – San Antonio Bonsai Society Meeting at Lion's Field San Antonio 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.- free

Saturday, February 11th – Rose Care and Pruning at the San Antonio Botanical Gardens, 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.-free

Tuesday, February 14th – Why Vines? At the Native Plant Society of Texas, Guadalupe County, Marion, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.-free

Thursday, February 16th - Phytonutrient Gardening at Guadalupe County Master Gardener meeting, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.- free

Saturday, February 18th – Pruning Workshop at the San Antonio Botanical Garden, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., \$30

Saturday, February 18th – The Art and Science of Pruning at the Shades of Green Nursery in San Antonio, 9:45 a.m., free

Wednesday, February 22nd – Creating Fairy Gardens at the San Antonio Botanical Garden, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., \$20

Wednesday, February 22nd - Growing Daylilies in Comal County at the New Braunfels Library, 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., free

Thursday, February 23rd - Butterfly Babies Lunch and Learn at the San Antonio Botanical Garden, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., \$15

Saturday, February 25th - Gardening in South Texas at the San Antonio Botanical Garden, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., \$20

Saturday, February 25th - Early Garden and Soil Prep at the Shades of Green Nursery in San Antonio, 9:45 a.m., free

Saturday, February 25th- Spring Symposium, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, 8:00 a.m., \$55

Join us for the February meeting

Monday, February 13, 2017

7:00 p.m.

San Antonio Garden Center

3310 North New Braunfels

San Antonio, Texas

PROGRAM: “Pruning Roses ~ for Beautiful Blooms”

Why do we prune? Pruning is one of the most important practices in growing beautiful roses. Pruning is the way that the rose bush gets a “face lift” – a renewal. With rare exception, blooms are produced on new growth. Pruning promotes new growth; thus produces blooms. The life of the bush is extended by new basal canes, which replace the older, non-productive canes. One of the main goals of pruning is to “open the bush”, allowing for air circulation which helps reduce mildew, blackspot, spider mites and other unwelcome guests in our gardens.

When do we prune? Roses are pruned twice each year – once in the Spring and again in the Fall. The Spring pruning is typically done during the last two weeks of February and is quite severe, generally removing as much as one-half of the bush. The Fall pruning, during the first two weeks of September, is not so severe, removing only about one-third of the bush.

Since February is “pruning month”, our program will deal with pruning. Consulting Rosarians **Meg Ware** and **Murray Warner** will provide a “hands-on” demonstration of proper pruning techniques and show you how to prune the different types of roses (hybrid teas, grandifloras, floribundas, shrubs, OGRs, miniatures and mini florals). Some basic principles apply to all types of roses; however, some require special considerations.

You don't want to miss this important demonstration.

Please mark your calendar and plan to be there.....

PRUNING ROSES AT BOTANICAL GARDENS

We are set to prune the roses at the Botanical Gardens on February 15th, 9:00 – 12:00. Most of the roses at the Botanical were removed in 2015 and replaced with Earth Kind type roses which will require less maintenance. However, they will need to be given their annual pruning. We will do this as a “hands-on pruning clinic”, inviting others to come and participate. We will provide instructions and demonstration, then invite them to help with the work to be done.

This is a very large undertaking. The more hands and pruners we have, the easier it is to finish. Bring heavy leather gloves and sharp hand-pruning shears, and comfortable work clothes.

Plan to be with us on Feb 15th for the Pruning Party!

March plant sale

Our March plant sale is just around the corner and it's time to think about what vegetable or ornamental plants you're going to raise for the sale! This is our biggest fund raiser for the year. It is scheduled for Sat. March 18 with March 25 as the rain date. This is a great way to earn volunteer hours on your schedule and at your own pace. Pots and soil will be available at the Agrilife building (MG storage shed) or and the Community Garden in Schertz. Some seeds will be available at the Jan meeting. Bring your seed starting questions to the Jan meeting and plan to pick up the supplies you need to get started (if you haven't done so already). Keep in mind also that our Earth Day plant sale is Sat. April 29. Our focus will be on ornamentals, as it is too late in the season for vegetable plants. So, if you've got extra plants you can start propagating or dividing for that sale also.

Thanks,

Cyndy Winkelman

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.

Every Tuesday and Friday are work days at the **Guadalupe County Community Garden**. Check with Ann Odvody odvodyd@swbell.net 210-994-9664 for start hour and access at other times.

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

KWED Master Gardener Lawn and Garden Show is always looking for volunteers. Contact Janet Gafe at 830-639-4199 or e-mail to 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.



Guadalupe Chapter Presents
Why Vines?

When Sir Oliver Smith moved to San Antonio from Southern California he learned what many of us do: you can't grow that here. Bemused and defied, he became a Master Gardener, Naturalist and Pruner; worked with experts at the Schultze House Gardens, Botanical Gardens, Native Plant and Herb societies; served as Xeriscape Contest Chairman for Bexar County; was Master Gardener of the year in 2000; and transformed a rocky half-acre of St Augustine into a wildscape paradise. Today he will bring his hard-won expertise to both inform and inspire us.

**Tuesday February 14, 2017, 7:00 PM
St John's Lutheran Church, FM 465, Marion, TX**
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 our website at: <http://npsot.org/wp/guadalupe/>

Landscape Design School Series XXV, Course II,

February 27-28, 2017

LOCATION: George Bush Presidential Library and Museum, College Station, TX

The George Bush Presidential Library at Texas A & M University will be the site of Landscape Design School II, February 27-28, 2017. The Schools are sponsored by Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. & the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A & M University. This course is popular with Texas Master Gardeners and can now be utilized by them for continuing education credit. Texas Garden Club Inc. and Texas A & M have sponsored this series from the 1960s onward.

Mrs. Diane Perez of Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. and Dr. William C. Welch, Texas AgriLife Extension Service announce the second in the current series which is offered in four separate schools, approximately six months apart, each with 10 hours of instruction, in the Bryan-College Station area. These courses offer an opportunity to learn from professional landscape architects and horticulturists about how successful landscapes are designed.

At the end of the first day's program participants are invited to a complimentary wine and cheese reception hosted by Stewart Thompson of Martha's Bloomers Garden Center, Navasota. There will be an optional dinner opportunity after the reception.

Master Gardeners who complete a course and pass the test may apply to their MG Chapter to receive 12 hours of credit toward their requirements for continuing education. **Texas Garden Club** members who successfully pass the examination for all four courses are eligible to become nationally accredited Landscape Design Consultants. **Texas Certified Nursery Professionals** who pass the course may apply this to their requirement for recertification with the Texas Nursery and Landscape Association (TNLA)

Registration for the course will be \$135.00 if paid by December 1, 2016 (two lunches are included) After December 1 till January 31, 2017 the fee is \$145.00. To register after February 1, 2017, the amount is \$165.00. – make check payable to Landscape Design School. The optional reference book, good for all four courses, is Stewards of the Land. It may be purchased for an additional \$40.00 by February 5, 2017. The book will be reserved for participants to pick up the first morning of the course. The text is a reference for all four courses, although not required for graduation. The lectures will not be taken directly from the text. It is just another viewpoint of the material being presented. For additional details please refer to the Registration Form.

Registration materials and questions:

Mail to: Michele Wehrheim, Registrar
1218 Haines Drive
College Station, TX 77840
(313) 649-1067

Registration form may be obtained from:
aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southerngarden/

Questions: EMAIL Michele Wehrheim: texaslandscapedesignschool@gmail.com

***We will be communicating hotel information, event information and other last minute items by email. (If you do not have an email, we will mail it to you)

Master Gardener Home Fruit Specialist-Southern Texas

Date: February 9 and 10, 2017

The Gonzales Master Gardeners are excited to host the first Master Gardener Home Fruit Specialist – Southern Texas training program. Since the climate in Texas is so diverse, this program will focus on fruit in the Southern half of the state. Chaired by Monte Nesbitt, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Specialist, the course will offer an intensive training with a broad overview of fruit growing in Texas. The Gonzales Master Gardeners have made special arrangements for accommodations for participants traveling from out of town.

Course Description: The Home Fruit Specialist-- Southern Texas will prepare master gardeners to assist homeowners in selection, culture and protection in many of the fruits commonly grown in southern Texas landscapes. The course does not deal with production of fruits in commercial orchards. For the Southern Texas version of this course, emphasis will be placed on the horticulture, training and pest management for these fruits commonly planted in home orchards or landscapes that lie in USDA Hardiness Zones 8B and higher (warmer). This area includes all of the Gulf Coast, the Lower Rio Grande Valley and extends north to Travis County in the center of the state, Val Verde County in the west and Angelina County in the east. The course will address culture varieties, disease and insect problems, training and pruning for stone fruits (peaches and plums), blackberries, strawberries, grapes, pecans, pome fruits (apples, pears), figs, pomegranates, blueberries and citrus. Basic fruit tree/vine propagation will also be taught. Participants should come away from this course with working knowledge of the climatic and pest challenges associated with the various fruit crops studied and appropriate variety selection, planting and management practices conducive to successful production.

The course will be taught over two weekdays (Thursday and Friday) and includes 16 hours of classroom instruction. Course Fee: \$185. Master Gardener specialists who successfully complete their volunteer service component and become certified as Specialists are eligible for a \$50 rebate of the course fee through the Texas Master Gardener Association. Your course fee includes all course materials, lunch on both days and dinner Thursday night. Accommodations: The Gonzales Master Gardeners have made special arrangements with two local hotels: The La Quinta in Gonzales (located on Highway 183) is offering a special room rate of \$64 per night (plus taxes) for a standard room (two queens or a king) with a hot breakfast included. Visit their website for more details. The Dilworth Inn in downtown Gonzales is offering a 10% discount off standard room rates. Room rates vary by room. A continental breakfast is included. Visit their website for more details. Gonzales also offers several Bed and Breakfast Inns. Consider two local favorites: St James Inn and Belle Oaks Inn. Contact these facilities directly for more information. Registration: Registration deadline for the course will be January 3, 2017. Participation will be limited to 35 participants. Please limit applications to 3 participants per Master Gardener Association. (Additional spaces may be available shortly before the application deadline).

For additional information, call the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension - Gonzales County Office or Master Gardener Gail Johnson (830) 491-1996 or Jacky DuCote (713) 824-2558

**Wilson County Garden Day
has grown!**

It is now **South Texas
& Home, Garden,
Environmental
SHOW**

SAVE THE DATE!

Sat.-Sun., March 11 & 12

Floresville Event Center

600 Hwy 97 E

SPONSORS

Wilson County News

Floresville Chamber of Commerce

KLUP, 930 AM radio

Milberger's Gardening South Texas

San Antonio River Authority

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Gardening Volunteers of South Texas

**Master Gardeners in Guadalupe, Comal,
Bexar, and Gonzales Counties**

November, December and the 2016 Annual Volunteer Recognition Program

November 2016

37 volunteers met eligibility for the November Volunteer Recognition Program. Winner of a \$20 gift certificate to Maldonado's was Virginia Biggs.

November Volunteer Recognition Program					
	LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME		LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME
1	Benfield	Regina	2	Miller	Mary
2	Bennett	Kathy	2	Odvody	Ann
3	Biggs	Virginia	2	Odvody	Dale
4	Bowe	Mary	3	Pape	Kathy
5	Bradbury	Dixie	2	Patterson	Karen
6	Burton	Rodney	2	Preston	Jerilyn
7	Carroll	Kathy	2	Richardson	Elizabeth
8	Cover	Kay	2	Rippel	April
9	Darrough	Kim	2	Romero	Liz
10	Dylla	Laura	2	Schultze	Pat
11	Foss	Sandra	3	Seale	Iris
12	Friesenhahn	Joyce	3	Shanafelt	Joanne
13	Henry	Beth	3	Styblo	Mary
14	Heuerman	Barbara	3	Suchan	Carol
15	Hughes	Elizabeth (Betty)	3	Turner	Pam
16	Jones	Peggy	3	Wilson	Jennifer
17	Kjolhede	KJ	3	Winkelman	Cynthia
18	Knobles	Janice	3	Wise	Donna
19	Micheli	Hughlene			

December 2016

23 volunteers met eligibility for the December Volunteer Recognition Program. Winner of the drawing and a \$20 gift certificate to Maldonado's was Randee Malmstem.

December Volunteer Recognition Program					
	LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME		LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME
1	Bennett	Kathy	1 3	Miller	Mary
2	Bowe	Mary	1 4	Odvody	Ann
3	Burton	Rodney	1 5	Odvody	Dale
4	Cover	Kay	1 6	Patterson	Karen
5	Cox	Robert (Bob)	1 7	Preston	Jerilyn
6	Darrough	Kim	1 8	Richardson	Elizabeth
7	Friesenhahn	Joyce	1 9	Rippel	April
8	Heuerman	Barbara	2 0	Schultze	Pat
9	Jones	Peggy	2 1	Seale	Iris
10	Knobles	Janice	2 2	Tremaine Black	Sandy
11	Malmsten	Randee	2 3	Winkelman	Cynthia
12	Martin	Cindy			

2016 Annual Drawing

All names entered in each monthly drawing are entered into the annual grand prize drawing. The 2016 Annual Winner of \$150 gift certificate to Maldonado's was Rodney Burton. Rodney qualified in the February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November and December drawings. Thank you for your service, Rodney!

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 28 February 2017** to be eligible for the March

REMINDER

If anyone needs a card from the organization for an illness or loss of a family member, contact: Janice Jadwin, Secretary, [210-848-3634](tel:210-848-3634), or e-mail jmjadwin@yahoo.com

Newsletter Staff

Editor - Mary Miller
Photographer - Marvin "T" Taylor
Distribution - Doug Biggs
Proof Readers- Bob Teweles & Cynthia Lyssy
Wandering Gardener - Marilyn Moltz
IT Guru -Greg Miller

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.

Members in Service

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 - Kim Darrough

Historian - Sandy Foss

2017 County Fair - Position open

Spring 2017 Class Coordinator in Schertz - Cynthia Lyssy

Christmas Tree Decorating - Betty Hughes

Newsletter Editor - Mary Miller

Web Master - Bob Teweles



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Guadalupe County Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension <http://guadalupe.agrilife.org/> 830-379-1972

Texas Master Gardeners <http://www.txmg.org>

GCMG Officers & Board of Directors

Cynthia Lyssy - President

Marvin Borth-Past President

Kay McElveen -President Elect

Cyndy Winkelman-Vice President

Janice Jadwin -Secretary

Kat Taylor-Treasurer

Peggy Jones -Publication Chairman

Cindy Waechter -Membership Chair

Travis Franke -AgriLIFE Agent

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Mary Miller, Editor marymcmmiller@gmail.com