



Indian Summer

Photo by

Peggy Jones



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



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HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA

Wishing you all a happy and safe 4th of July! See you at the meeting on Thursday, July 20th.

Cynthia Lyssy

Upcoming Meeting Speakers

Thursday, July 20th - The Moringa Tree - Joe Urbach will tell us all about the moringa tree which has been called the miracle tree because of its uniquely diverse array of nutritional, medicinal, and purifying properties. **EVERY PART** of the tree is usable!!! Joe will have trees for sale. Joe will also have books for sale about the Moringa tree, as well as some of his other books on gardening topics.

Thursday, August 17th - Brian and Shirley Loflin will speak to us on native grasses. He and his wife, Shirley, have published 3 books and will have them on sale after the talk. They will talk about the importance of grasses on the carbon and water cycles, their importance to wildlife, and their use in soil stabilization and land restoration.

Thursday, September 21st- Minette Marr from the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center will speak to us on seed collecting and seed banks. Minette is a plant conservationist and curates the herbarium and the seed bank at the Wildflower Center. This will be great information for all of us who got excited about seed collecting after watching the Seed movie.

Thursday, October 19th - Our own Jerry McNulty will speak to us on plant propagation in preparation of our March/April 2018 plant sales.

Seed News

Cynthia Winkelman

We were allowed to keep the movie that we showed at the May monthly meeting – *Seed the Untold Story*. It is available in our library for anyone who wishes to check it out.

The San Antonio Permaculture Society is starting a seed bank. It is still in the beginning stages. But I am happy to announce that Katie Deitsch will be updating us about it at our September meeting. Our speaker, Minette Marr from Lady Bird Wildflower Center, will be teaching us about seed saving

Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

- ◆ Every Monday the MG office/library is open from 8:30am-noon except for holidays. Volunteers are always needed. Contact Betty Hughes at 830-401-4066 or e-mail ehughes5@satx.rr.com.
- ◆ Join GCMG volunteers at the Veteran's Memorial Park in Marion every Monday from 8:00 am - 11:00 am. The park is located next to the Schulz Nursery parking lot. Contact Joyce Friesenhahn at 210-452-2404 or email omaannie2@gmail.com.
- ◆ Every Tuesday and Friday are work days at the Guadalupe County Community Garden. Check with Ann Odvody at odvodyd@swbell.net or 210-994-9664 for start hour and access at other times.
- ◆ Master Gardeners meet every first and third Thursday, and every second and fourth Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to around noon at the Gutierrez Xeriscape Park, 1231 Borgfeld Rd, Schertz for tree pruning, weeding, mulching, superstar plant bed creation, and general plant/park maintenance etc. Bring water, sun protection, gloves, tools, and a team attitude. Points of contact are: Kim Darrough @ kimdarr70855@yahoo.com or 314-799-3295; or Judy Stanley at jstanley20@satx.rr.com
- ◆ Every Friday at 9am is a workday in the gardens at the Big Red Barn. Check with Janice Knobles at 830-379-6193 or e-mail jmknobles@yahoo.com for details.
- ◆ If Saturdays are your thing, The KWED Master Gardener Lawn and Garden Show is always looking for volunteers. Contact Beth Zies at 830-379-7062 or e-mail to cactusmargarita@sbcglobal.net



Photo by
Marvin "T" Taylor



What an exciting month for The Guadalupe Master Gardeners Facebook group. We're now at 87 members and the photos being shared are amazing! With all the spring flowers, veggies, butterflies, and events it's hard to resist scrolling through all the posts.

Jerry McNulty continues to fascinate us with his wonderful flowers and harvested vegetables arranged in artful displays, he's a great photographer as well as an accomplished gardener. Peggy Jones shared her beautiful Indian summer photo, showing that color can be found in our gardens even without much rain! She also shared a picture of the Garden Camp at Rodriguez Elementary School this month, those are some lucky kids.

Cindy Waechter has a knack for finding timely and interesting articles. Keep them coming Cindy! Mary Miller always has lovely, flowery "Good Mornings" for us, and Stacey Kendall had a great follow-up photo of her Plumeria flourishing - a great find at the last MG Plant Sale. Another astounding photo was shared by Kim Tessanne of her Hoya Obovata in bloom, simply beautiful.

Kim Darrrough did a great job of reminding us of workers needed at the Gutierrez Park, then updated us of the work done on the wildflower beds at the gazebo there. Another hard worker, Carol Calentine, created a MG Lunch N Learn Group, I loved that, and then shared an old memory photo, awesome!

You too can share your photos, ideas, comments, questions, events, and articles with us on Facebook, it's very easy to join. All you need to do is log into Facebook and in the search box type "Guadalupe County Master Gardeners," the Group will show up, click on it and request to join, you're guaranteed to be approved. Still need help joining? Just give me a call at (830) 379-7203 or e-mail me at adrappel@gmail.com and I'd be happy to walk you through the procedure for joining the group or even how to create your new account for Facebook, all questions are welcome.

To all the members, keep those photos, questions, links, and advice coming. We all enjoy the posts. Thank you everyone for sharing!

April Rippel
Class 27

The Wandering Gardener

Marilyn Moltz

Saguaro Cactus, Arizona

In late May we took an unexpected trip to Tucson, Arizona to say our final goodbye to a dear friend. We were there about five days and one morning we found we had some free time away from family and friends. As our motel was only five miles from the Western Saguaro National Park and I had noticed that the cactus was blooming, we decided to go and drive thru the park. I have been to Tucson and visited this national park about ten times in my life and this was the first time I was there when the Saguaro cactus was in bloom.

The Saguaro cactus is our largest cactus and can only be found in the Sonoran Desert. It can be as tall as 40-60 feet in height and when fully hydrated, can weigh as much as 3200-4800 pounds. It is a tall pole with as many as 25 “arms”. This is a very slow growing cactus and may only be 2 inches tall after ten years. The cactus can live 150 to 200 years. The early years are started under other trees or bushes for protection. You might see as many as five clustered under a tree in several stages of development. They may grow close together at first. It is said that early settlers to the area would believe they were people standing in the desert when they first saw them and only realize it was just plants as they got close. The Saguaro have many uses. As they grow they are home to many birds that make nests in their arms or burrow a hole to live out of. Some birds of prey use them for a perch or “look out” for lizards or mice on the desert floor. Once they begin to bloom, they have many desert friends who like to come a share their flower nectar and patiently await the dropping of the seed pods to eat. After the cactus dies, the woody ribs are gathered and used for roofing material, to build gates and fences. You can even buy furniture made from the ribs.

If you happen to be in Tucson in late spring, and have a couple of hours, you should take the drive through either the east or west sections of Saguaro National Park.



Report from the Big Red Barn

Kay McElveen

Summer is definitely here and we are in the process of cleaning up the garden at the Big Red Barn. It's not glamorous work but it has to be done. The only things still producing at all are the tomatoes and corn. The good news is that despite some major problems due to what we are sure was someone spraying while the wind was blowing, we did have a nice crop of potatoes, beans, carrots, etc. Much of the produce was donated to the Christian Cupboard. Last week when we working in the garden Mr. Bartoskewitz from Texas Agriculture Education & Heritage (a.k.a Big Red Barn) came by to visit. He gave us a very nice thank you letter that the Christian Cupboard sent acknowledging the donations.

Summer means that there's not much we can grow. We have started some okra and southern peas but not much else. That being the case and as we have been fighting insects during the last growing seasons, we are solarizing much of the garden. We should complete getting the plastic down by the time this article is published. As you know the process takes 6 weeks, so other than keeping weeds out of the rest of the garden, there will not be much going on until it is time to get the garden ready for fall planting. I think that is called a vacation?? Have a great summer from all of the volunteers at the Big Red Barn



Class 29 Graduation



Class 29 Graduated



Class 29 Graduated and Certified



Class 29

Fruit Specialist



Ernestine Sykes receives her Fruit Specialist certificate

Summer Social



All photos taken by
Marvin "T" Taylor.



Summer Social



All photos taken by
Marvin "T" Taylor.



Member Flowers Photos!!



Photos by
Marvin "T" Taylor

Continuing Education Opportunities

- Saturday, July 1st** Pond Building 101, Water Garden Gems, Marion, 9:30-11:00 a.m. , Free
- Wednesday, July 5th** Alamo Orchid Society, San Antonio Garden Center, 6:30-9:00 p.m. , Free
- Saturday, July 8th** Landscape Design School, Garden Volunteers of South Texas, Aldaco's at Dominion, 8:30 a.m., \$30
- Monday, July 10th** Dark and Dry Plants for Shade, Lunch & Learn, Guadalupe County Annex Building Schertz, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. , Free
- Tuesday, July 13th** San Antonio Bonsai Society, Lions Field, San Antonio, 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. , Free
- Saturday, July 15th** Alamo Begonia Club Meeting, 1:30 p.m. -2:30 p.m. , contact [Sandy@
sandyjustice.com](mailto:Sandy@sandyjustice.com)
- Thursday, July 20th** The Moringa Tree - Guadalupe County Master Gardener meeting, Agrilife Building Seguin, 7:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m., Free
- Saturday July 22nd** Terrariums, Rainbow Gardens, Thousand Oaks, 2:00 p.m., \$55
- Tuesday, July 25th** Small Scale Restoration: A Case Study, Native Plant Society of San Antonio, Lions Field San Antonio, 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Free
- Wednesday, July 26th—Friday, July 28th** Jr. Master Gardener Adult Leader Training, Texas Agrilife Extension Building, San Antonio, All Day, \$100
- Saturday, July 29th** Parent and Me Fairy Garden, Rainbow Gardens, Thousand Oaks, 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m., \$55
- Monday, August 14th** Stump the Master Gardener, Lunch & Learn, Agrilife Building Seguin, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. , Free
- Wednesday, October 4th** Garden Photography FUNdamentals, Lunch & Learn, Agrilife Building Seguin, 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. , Free

Master Gardener Vegetable Specialist Training

Hosted & Conducted by Bexar County – San Antonio

This Master Gardener Vegetable Specialist Training was created as an intensive multi-day training that would empower certified Master Gardeners throughout the State with knowledge and skills required to effectively support and multiply Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service efforts in Earth-Kind® environmental educational programs in their counties.

When: October 17-19, 2017

Where: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
3355 Cherry Ridge, Suite 208
San Antonio, TX 78230

Time: 10/17 8:00am — 5:00pm
10/18 8:20am — 5:15pm; Dinner 6:30pm
10/19 9:00am — 12:00pm
(Field Day @ San Antonio Botanical Garden)

Registration Fee is \$200. This includes 2 lunches, 1 dinner, snacks, and other goodies.

Class space limited so register early.

Registration Deadline: Thursday October 5, 2017

To reserve your spot, contact Denise @ 210-631-0400
or dsperez@aq.tamu.edu

Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend class and need special accommodations or auxiliary aid, please contact the Bexar County Office at (210)631-0400 at least five (5) days prior to the date so appropriate arrangements can be made.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioner



Denise Bonds Wins June Volunteer Recognition Drawing

27 Certified Master Gardeners qualified for the June Volunteer Recognition Program Drawing. Congratulations to **Denise Bonds** who won a \$20 gift certificate to Maldonado's Nursery

June 2017 Volunteer Recognition Drawing			
Hours Reported 1-31 May 2017			
	Name		Name
1	Beaudoin, Liliana	15	Miller, Mary
2	Bennett, Kathy	16	Mullen, Mark
3	Biggs, Virginia	17	Odvody, Ann
4	Bonds, Denise	18	Odvody, Dale
5	Bowe, Mary	19	Patterson, Karen
6	Burris, Welta	20	Real, Debbie
7	Burton, Rodney	21	Rosas, Carmen
8	Cover, Kay	22	Seale, Iris
9	Darrough, Kim	23	Suchan, Carol
10	Foss, Sandra	24	Teweles, Robert
11	Friesenhahn, Joyce	25	Tremaine Black, Sandy
12	Heuerman, Barbara	26	Watkins, John
13	Knobles, Janice	27	Zies, Beth
14	Magee, Janet		

All 27 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 31 July 2017** to be eligible for the **August** Membership Drawing.

May 2017 Volunteer Recognition Corner

- ◆ GCMG volunteers reported **868.4** volunteer hours in May. Volunteers have reported almost **800** more hours in 2017 than in 2016. 85% of our membership have reported hours for 2017. Keep up the good work!
- ◆ **Liliana Beaudoin, Mary Bowe, Kim Darrough, Peggy Jones, Cynthia Lyssy, Connie Meade, William Nodine, Ann Odvody, Dale Odvody, Iris Seale and Carol Suchan** reported 25 or more volunteer hours in May 2017.
- ◆ **Liliana Beaudoin** joins Mary Bowe, Kim Darrough, Peggy Jones, Cynthia Lyssy, Kay McElveen, William Nodine, Ann Odvody, Dale Odvody, Iris Seale and Carol Suchan in the **2017 100 Volunteer Hour Club**. Thank you volunteers!
- ◆ **37 (33%)** Master Gardeners have met hours requirement for 2018 recertification
- ◆ Our approved gardens were full of Master Gardeners, too numerous to list, in May. We had volunteers in Schertz at the Guadalupe County Community Garden and Gutierrez Xeriscape Park, in Marion at the Veteran's Memorial Park, in LaVernia at the Polley Mansion and in Seguin at the Red Barn. Thanks to all the volunteers for keeping our approved gardens going!
- ◆ Several Master Gardeners also participated in Youth Activities during the month. We had volunteers in the Learn, Grow, Eat & Go Program at the Jefferson Elementary Garden in Seguin, volunteers at the LaVernia Primary School, Red Barn volunteers conducting school tours in the garden as well as volunteers participating in the Water Fairs at various schools. Thanks for your participation in our Youth Educational Activities.

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 Park - Kim Darrough

Historian - Sandy Foss

2017 County Fair - April Rippel

Fall 2017 Class Coordinator in Seguin - Kay McElveen

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 -*Agri*LIFE Agent

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Mary Miller, Editor marymcmiller@gmail.com