

Contents

- 1 JMG Teacher Training
- 2 Gardener Shares
- 4 Volunteer Opportunity
- 4 Rainwater Harvesting Project
- 5 The President's Corner
- 6 Kid City at Berry Springs
- 7 Cook and Grow Camp
- 8 Officer Slate for 2011
- 10 Gardening Tips
- 11 ROTC Volunteers at Berry Springs
- 12 Georgetown Garden Club
- 13 Berry Springs Volunteers
- 14 Association Officers

JMG Teacher Training

Juanita James

In July we had a Junior Master Gardener Training Class for teachers. Attending were eleven very enthusiastic teachers who really appreciated everything they were taught. There were seven teachers from Round Rock, two from Hutto, one from Florence and one teacher who had just moved to Texas and was looking for a job.

The class started out with a welcome and introduction to JMG by Juanita James and an introduction to Extension by Bob Whitney. Then we all went outside for a get acquainted activity Fruit Toss lead by Patsy Bredahl. Then the fast pace began. In two and one-half days teachers completed classes in botany taught by Winola Van Artsdalen, Earthkind Land Management System taught by Joan Adams and Norma Beissner, a propagation workshop activity by Brenda McIndoo, basic soil taught by Bob Whitney and vermiculture and composting taught by Jeanne Barker, and that was just the first day.



The second day participants learned about the construction of raised beds taught by Patsy Bredahl, Square Foot Gardening taught by Hank Belopavlovich with a demonstration bed he had built which was great. Carey Thornell talked about fundraising, Wayne Rhoden presented a slide presentation on butterfly gardening and also talked about plant diseases. Natalie Vreeland gave the presentation, Health and Nutrition

from the Garden. If this wasn't enough, teachers also had fun with activities like Se-

cret Scents, Suck a Bug, and Know and Show Sombreros.

On the last day Brigid Mejia, 4-H educator, gave a brief description of 4-H. Margaret Seals and Wayne Rhoden taught a class on vegetables and herbs, and Jessica Woods gave a presentation about water conservation and a demonstration on rainwater harvesting. It was then time for the teachers to meet their mentors, and Wayne Rhoden gave a brief talk about expectations and mentorship. Next came the part everyone had all been waiting for – graduation and the presentation of certificates.

The teachers received a *Teacher Leader Guide* to help them get started with the JMG programs in their schools. They all seemed excited about the program.



Gardener Shares

Tommi Young

I have bales of hay from last year that my spoiled horse won't eat. However, it's perfect for protecting fall plants from the winter frost. If anyone wants several "flakes", I'd be happy to share until the hay is gone.

Along with the horses, I can't escape the manure. I have 3 piles and turn them occasionally. If anyone wants to bring a truck or some garbage bags and load up, please do. We have a tractor with a bucket scoop for easy loading into a truckbed.

Our house is totally on a Rain Water Harvesting System that we built ourselves. It has features that were talked about in the Rain Water Harvesting Class. If anyone would like to see our system, they are welcome to schedule a time with us to see what we have. Or they can look at the following link where we won an award from TWDB in the summer of 2008. http://www.twdb.state.tx.us/iwt/rainwater/raincatcher/archived/summer_2008.asp

(Contact Tommi at Tommi@Larrison.us)

Volunteer Opportunity!

Patty Hoenigman

Walt Krueger is a walking encyclopedia of garden knowledge. It falls out of his mouth like watermelon seeds at a summer picnic. So it's only natural that he would join a church that has a huge amount of land so that he could transform it into fabulous gardens! He's about half way done designing the grounds at St. Richard's Church in Round Rock, with loads more that will be created in coming years.

We gather to volunteer there on Saturday mornings beginning at 7:30, or whenever you arrive! The Earth Kind roses in the Memorial Garden always need dead heading, Janet White and Jane Williamson head up the Children's Garden which has become the most charming garden full of little plots to teach the children about plants used for making pizzas, plants that attract butterflies and a vegetable garden. Plus there are always special projects Walt has in mind.

If you're interested in swinging by on a Saturday to lend a hand, I'd be happy to give you directions and answer any questions you might have. Contact me at patty@thetaxcenter.us. Bring your pruning shears and a pair of gloves.

Rain Water Harvesting Demonstration Project

Susan Blackledge

Over the years, Berry Springs Park has offered Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists a place to learn and use their skills. There are many opportunities to learn about pecan tree care, pond beautification and maintenance, native plants, and to work with the community to enhance a public park and preserve. Now, a new demonstration project is being added through the efforts of Master Gardeners Ed Myatt, Walter Hoke, and Park Staff, Mark Pettigrew and Susan Blackledge.

A Rainwater Demonstration Project is being added to the kiosk (information booth) at the entrance to the park. This system is designed to provide water for the 560 square foot flower garden in front of the kiosk and also a smaller flagpole bed. This system, when complete, will provide approximately 2400 gallon annually from the rainwater collected off the roof of the kiosk. This water is sufficient to meet the water requirements for this flower bed. When this system is completed there will



Rain barrel installation at Berry Springs

be a savings of water as well as labor required to haul the water to these flowers. As soon as the rain barrel installation was complete it rained 3 inches, and since then it has been filled three additional times this summer.

Thank you to all the Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists who continue to help make Berry Springs Park one of the best parks in Williamson County.



Master Naturalists Ben Marrou & Wib Sutherland

Newsletter Submissions

Thank you to those Master Gardeners who submitted articles, pictures, and ideas for this newsletter issue. If you would like to contribute to the *Williamson County Master Gardener Journal*, please send your submissions to Jane Williamson at jawilliamson516@yahoo.com by the 25th of the month. As you garden, volunteer and learn, take a moment to share with other gardeners.

The President's Corner

Winola Van Artsdalen

Without a doubt, the excitement for the month of August was the new Master Gardener's class. There are 37 eager students joining our ranks! The orientation, a new event, was August 10th, a week before the actual beginning of classes. This session was not mandatory, but all except two students who were out of town, came and wholeheartedly joined in the activities. Booths were set with displays and Master Gardeners to tell them about volunteer service activities in those areas. The students then turned in their three favorite activities and were assigned mentors accordingly.

August 17th the classes began in earnest with the first class being an overview of Texas Master Gardeners and a well-received class on botany and Earkthkind Landscaping. JoAnne Dieterich has done an excellent job in all phases of preparation for this class, and we are grateful for all her hard work. Come join us and get to know these enthusiastic students!

The class schedule for remaining classes follows:

Tuesday Sep 07/10 12:00pm - 5:00pm	Soils	AgriLife Extension
Tuesday Sep 14/10 12:30pm - 5:00pm	Propagation	AgriLife Extension
Tuesday Sep 21/10 12:00pm - 5:00p	Vegetables	AgriLife Extension
Tuesday Sep 28/10 12:00pm - 5:00pm	Perennials	AgriLife Extension
Tuesday Oct 05/10 12:00pm - 5:00pm	Tree care/oak wilt	AgriLife Extension
Tuesday Oct 12/10 12:30pm - 5:00pm	Fruit and Nuts	AgriLife Extension
Tuesday Oct 19/10 12:30pm - 5:00pm	Entomology	AgriLife Extension
Tuesday Oct 26/10 12:00pm - 5:00pm	Native plants and herbs	AgriLife Extension
Tuesday Nov 02/10 12:30pm - 5:00pm	Turf grasses	Ag-Ext Training room unavailable due to election.
Tuesday Nov 09/10 12:30pm - 5:00pm	Taxonomy and JMG	AgriLife Extension
Tuesday Nov 16/10 12:00pm - 5:00pm	Landscape Design	AgriLife Extension



up

Kid City, Day of Fun at Berry Springs

Wib Sutherland, Master Naturalist

Susan Blackledge, Master Gardener, and Mark Pettigrew of Berry Springs Park and Preserve hosted an environmental learning field trip on July 16th for the Kid City Organization. An enthusiastic gathering of 5th graders were divided into three groups of 15 with one group going with Claire Hall, MG and Terry Hall to the Historical Compound where the donkeys Poco & JJ reside. The donkeys were fed carrots. At the John Berry Family Cemetery, the kids learned of the history of John Berry, the namesake of Berry Springs. The second group went to the atlatl range to learn about this ancient hunting device for throwing spears great distances. They amazed themselves with how far and accurate they could throw a spear. The third group joined Master Naturalists Lennie and Wib Sutherland and Winnie Bowen to learn about the nesting habits of birds and how they go about building their nests. They observed a collection of bird nests found in the park. Each of the kids built nests of materials found in the park. Berry Springs Park and Preserve is available for all kinds of outdoor activities including picnicking, camping, fishing, a 5K run and other outdoor activities. The groups rotated each half hour for a fun filled and informative morning.



Lennie Sutherland teaching about birds' nests

Cook and Grow Camp

Patsy Bredahl

There has been a multitude of youth activities at Discovery United Methodist Church of Hutto this summer. Besides the usual Vacation Bible School, the Church has held five other camps. I was so pleased when our Church outreach coordinator contacted Brigid Mejia, 4-H Agent, about the Cook and Grow Camp involving 4-H, Master Gardeners and Maggie from the Extension Center.

The camp ran from 9:30 am -12:00 pm, July 12-July 15. I believe that I am speaking for everyone - kids and grown-ups alike. It was a great learning experience and went extremely well! Best of all, it was fun!

We had a group of 32 kids from first through fifth grades. Amazingly, the big difference in ages was not a problem. The older kids just pitched in and helped the younger ones. Every day we had several Master Gardeners from the JMG Committee helping. What a great group of Master Gardeners! I would mention them by name, but I am afraid I might leave someone out.

Lowe's and Bonnie Plants donated over a hundred herbs to the cause. That's another wonderful story. It's good to get to know your local businesses! The kids had fun planting the herbs in the JMG garden.

The first three days of the camp were spent doing JMG activities. Some of the things the children did were making "Know and Show Sombrero's", (always a favorite), Plant People, drippers to attract birds and various other activities from the JMG Teacher Leader Guide.

The fourth day, July 15 was the Iron Chef Day led by Maggie from the Extension Center and her Crew. Brigid and the Master Gardeners also assisted the children. We also had two youth volunteers, a 7th grader and a 9th grader who were a great help. (Great kids too even if I am bragging since they are my grandsons!) The children were divided into groups with an assortment of ingredients for a desert, a vegetable dish or a main dish. Some of the dishes required cooking. The kids had to put together their own recipes. When they finished, each group had to name their dish, and the team leader had to talk about how it was made. Then everyone had the opportunity to sample each dish. So many little hands involved in the food preparation! They were clean little hands though as we made a big event out of the hand washing before they could begin. Every dish was quite yummy! Some pretty interesting names for the recipes too!

It's such fun working with kids. Their enthusiasm really makes your day. The more we can teach them about gardening, health and nutrition, the environment, social skills, and just being good citizens, the better their future will be.

Thanks to Brigid, Maggie and all the Master Gardeners who helped, the Cook and Grow Camp was a great success.

Many thanks for the Church members who donated items for the camp not to mention the space. Special thanks to the Church members who served refreshments to the kids.



Officer Slate Presented for 2011

Grace Bryce

The Nominating Committee, Grace Bryce (Chairperson), John Papich, Ingrid Langdon, Clyde Adley and Rick Robbins, has been busy putting together a slate of officers for the 2011 year for WCMGA. These candidates are qualified for their executive positions and are members in good standing. We also feel that these officers will be able to work well together for the greatest good of WCMGA.

This information will be sent out by email and announced at the October Monthly Master Gardener Meeting on October 11, 2010 as directed by the By-Laws and Standing Rules. At that time, nominations will be open from the floor. Before nominating anyone, you must check with them first and have them agree to serve, if elected. They must also be a member in good standing. If there are no nominations at the October Monthly Meeting, nominations will close and the officers will be elected by acclamation. If any nominations are made from the floor at the October Monthly Meeting, there will be an election at the November Monthly Meeting to determine the officers for 2011, as stated in the By-Laws and Standing Rules. If there are any additional nominations or for more information, please contact Grace Bryce at: bryce.grace84@gmail.com

Here is the slate we are presenting:

Janet Church - President

I've been a lifelong gardener starting with my mothers' vegetable and flower gardens in St. Louis and then my own in Houston, Elgin, Round Rock and now Hutto. I believe the Master Gardener organization is a good way to meet other gardeners and bring our knowledge to the community. I trained under the Travis County Master Gardener Association because there wasn't one in Williamson County and no hope of getting one for several years. I was one of the founding members of WCMGA. I've been President of the Native Plant Society for the past two years and Plant Sale Coordinator for the last three. Since I was a Facilities Project Manager at Dell for ten years, I feel that I bring strong coordination skills to this position and emphasize that everyone in this organization has a skill set that we can leverage to grow the organization and have fun doing it.



Ed Myatt - Vice President

I have been in Georgetown for 4 years, single and work as a Mechanical Engineer for ExxonMobil. Graduated from the second Master Gardener Class and became a Master Naturalist last year in the Highland Lakes area. I have a background in building, project management and organization. I believe that each of us should give more back to the community than we receive.



Janet White - Treasurer



I have several experiences in my background that would help qualify me to serve as treasurer for WCMG. My education from the University of Texas at Austin was in the field of Dietetics and Nutrition. With this degree I worked in several institutions as head of food service which always involved extensive food inventories and balancing the inventory with food cost. Some years later I served as office manager and bookkeeper for a franchise of 9 restaurants. In this position I was responsible for the monthly accounting of inventories, bank accounts, payables, receivables and payroll. I have also done bookkeeping for a children's retail shop in Austin. Years later as a Realtor I was responsible to my clients and to myself (my business) for the accounting of the client's financial commitments in purchasing or selling their house and for the financial commitment to myself in managing my own finances in this sales industry.

Linda Zazula - Secretary



I am confident that my professional and volunteer experience will qualify me to be the Secretary of the WCMG. My education is in medicine, I have been Clinic Nurse Manager, Specialty Clinic Nurse Manager and Medical Supply Manager for an eight clinic location medical practice. As a volunteer I have been a board member of the Black Hills Symphony as the secretary, PTO president, Kennel Club secretary, Church Board member, SID Board Member and presently I am on the WCMG Board as the Fund Raising Chairperson, Social Chairperson of our Home Owners association, as well as a member of my churches Alter Guild and Church Women's Group. My hobbies are gardening, reading, showing dogs, cooking and travel.

Gardening Tips

Marlyn Hooper

Our first cool spell of the season - can you believe it is 99 degrees??? Well, after 107, 99 does feel cool. Yes, it is still hot, but it is time to start getting ready for our up-coming cooler weather. But, in the meantime, just remember to water, water, water.

Preserve basil leaves by mixing them in a blender with a small amount of water. Fill ice cube trays with the mixture. Once they freeze, put them in freezer bags. This way you will have basil to use in your favorite Italian dishes all winter long.

If you haven't already done so, draw a plan of your property showing existing trees and shrubs in relation to your house. Make notes throughout the year indicating those areas that receive full sun, shade or a mix of sun and shade. This will help you to choose the right plant for the right place.

A good pruning may help flowers to give you a second show in the fall. Plant bluebonnet and other spring wildflowers. They germinate in early fall, develop good root systems, and then grow rapidly, and bloom in spring when the weather warms.

Check the thickness of mulch in your planting beds. It decomposes quickly in warm, humid weather and may be too thin to discourage weeds. Add enough to make it about 2 inches thick.

Continue to add compost to your flower beds. Work new compost in, getting your soil ready for new plants this fall. Just remember this Chinese Proverb, "*He who plants a garden, plants happiness.*"

Monthly Meetings

Williamson County Master Gardeners hold monthly meetings at the Williamson County Extension Office, 3151 SE Innerloop Road, Suite A, Georgetown on the second Monday of each month at 6:30pm. Master Gardeners and the public are welcome to attend.

ROTC Volunteers at Berry Springs

Tommi Young



On Thursday morning, August 12, 48 cadets from Georgetown High School's Junior Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), "Eagle Company", gathered at the beautiful Berry Springs Park and Preserve to help Susan Blackledge (MG), Mark Pettigrew, and Chris Homeier, her wonderful staff, with three park beautification projects. The ROTC curriculum emphasizes citizenship and leadership development, and one of the ways students demonstrate those qualities is through community service. Their goal is 30 hours each year. The volunteers were led by three student leaders: April Moss, Command Master Chief; Josh Paslowski, Commanding Officer; and Capri Alcalá, Operations Officer.

Divided into three groups with rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows and some guidance and direction from their instructors, the cadets went to work. One project was to spread mulch along the prairie service road to make it drivable during rainy weather. The road looked great (and smelled good too!) once completed. The second project was picking up those thousands of pesky rocks in the Historical Compound, home of Poco & JJ, resident donkeys. The rocks picked up were then used in various places – the cadets used some of the rocks to build a "patio" under a lean-to used by the donkeys who had trampled the area into a muddy mess, and the rest were relocated to the Youth Bike, dirt trail. Valerie Clark (MG,MN) and Tommi Young, MG intern worked with park staff and youth group to finish all projects in a record time, under three hours.

It was a great morning, a little warm, but the troops all had a great attitude, there were smiles all around, and now the park is a little nicer for all to enjoy! (I tried to make my back yard their next community service project, but no one took the bait!)

Creative Tea Party Celebrates Georgetown Garden Club's 70th Year!

Patty Hoenigman, MG & GGC President

The Georgetown Garden Club is celebrating 70 years in the community this year by having a tea party at the Community Center on October 15th at 2:00 and you're all invited!!

What's fun about this tea party is we're involving the whole community. We've reinvented Grandma's tea party to kick it up a notch! Shopkeepers on the square and various other organizations have signed up to decorate a table using Georgetown's history and Gardening as the main themes. Natalie Vreeland is doing the Mad Hatter, Avery Ranch is doing a golf course (that's a garden, right?) and Sweet Serendipity is decorating for fall teaming up with the Antique Mall who will provide tea cups and plates, along with many others! Each table will be unique and Mary Martha Denham will be making her locally famous tea party confections for everyone to enjoy. We just want to get the word out to the community to put ourselves on the map. This club is one of Georgetown's best kept secrets!

There's no charge to come! Just let us know you'll be there so we'll have a spot for you! RSVP to Dorothy Barnes at 863-8833.

The Community Center is in San Gabriel Park. Go in the park entrance off Austin Avenue, just north of the square and it's about half a mile up on the left.

Georgetown Garden Club Programs/Events for 2010-11

We meet the first Thursday of the month at 1:30 at the Parks and Recreation Community Room, 1101 N. College St. We're all about gardening and floral design and our Flower Show and Horticulture Show in May is not to be missed!! For further information visit www.georgetowngardenclub.org or call Sylvia Mertink at (512) 746-2076. Dues are \$15 per year.

9/2/10 BUTTERFLY GARDENING, Wayne Rhoden, Master Gardener

10/7/10 CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW IN LONDON, Marlene Gillman, Master Gardener

10/15/10 GGC 70th ANNIVERSARY TEA, Community Center, San Gabriel Park, 2PM

11/4/10 CORSAGE WORKSHOP followed by CACTUS, SUCCULENTS & AGAVES, Jeff Pavlat, President of Austin Cactus & Succulent Society

12/2/10 CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON followed by DECORATING HOME WITH FLOWERS & GREENERY FOR CHRISTMAS, Dolores Rumpf, Flower Show Judge

1/6/11 SQUARE FOOT GARDENING, Hank Belopavlovich, Master Gardener & GGC member

TBA VALENTINE'S PARTY AT G'TOWN REHAB AND NURSING FACILITY

2/3/11 ANTIQUE ROSES, Judy Barrett, Editor of *Homegrown* Magazine and Author

3/3/11 FLORAL DESIGNS AND FLOWER ARRANGING, Jean Stewart, Floral Designer and Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judge

4/7/11 FLOWER SHOW DESIGNS, Harriet Houston, Flower Show Judge

5/11/11 ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION, Comm Ctr & Sunken Garden, San Gabriel Park

5/11/11 FLOWER SHOW, Community Center, San Gabriel Park

5/5/11 MAKING YOUR OWN CONTAINERS, Jo Colonna, Flower Show Judge and GGC member

Volunteers Make a Difference at Berry Springs



Williamson County Master Gardener Officers for 2010

Officers:

Winola Van Artsdalen, President	jimwin@verizon.net	(512) 863-4923
Ed Myatt, Vice-president	emyatt@dexcopolymers.com	(512) 869-4293
Jeanne Barker, Secretary	jubarker@yahoo.com	(512) 608-1296
Sandra Lawrence, Treasurer	swlawrence@austin.rr.com	(512) 351-9678
Wayne Rhoden, Immediate Past President	mgardener@suddenlink	(512) 869-8016

Standing Committees/Chairpersons:

Programs/Education	Paul Lawrence	pwlawrence@austin.rr.com	(512) 351-9678
Communications	Clyde Adley	cadley+mg@gmail.com	
Membership/Volunteer Opportunities	John Papich	texasjayp@hotmail.com	(512) 863-4098
Awards	Norma Beissner	norma@beissner.org	(512) 535-6584
Class Training/Facilitation	JoAnne Dieterich	crdieterich@yahoo.com	(512) 778-6690
JMG Coordinator	Juanita James	jjames20@sbcglobal.net	(512) 341-7116
Fund Raising	Linda Zazula	lszazula@gmail.com	(512) 240-5139
Greenhouse Manager	Brenda McIndoo	airedale98@gmail.com	(512) 868-9212

