



**Aransas/San Patricio
Master Gardener Association**

October 2008

2008 Officers

President: Nan Jackson
1st VP: Ruth Thompson
2nd VP: Marilyn Vaughan
Secretary: Sharon Watkins
Treasurer: Sarah Shugart

Extension Agent:
Amy Freeman
Extension Office Manager:
Ernie Edmundson
Secretary: Thea Edmundson

Website:
<http://aransas-tx.tamu.edu>

**Seeking Serious
Plant Lovers**

Texas Master Gardeners are a team of volunteer horticulture educators who are under the auspices of:



Green Acres is our award winning demonstration garden located at 611 E. Mimosa, Rockport, Texas. The gardens showcase plants and landscape schemes suitable for the Coastal Bend. For help with plant problems, or for class information, please call (361) 790-0103, or email aransas-tx@tamu.edu

Editors

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The President's Corner



It amazes me that we escaped certain destruction for a third time weeks ago. We were inconvenienced while literally millions of others have had their lives turned upside down. We should pause and reflect on our good luck.

The Nomination Committee has announced their slate of officers for 2009. The nominations are: President - Marilyn Vaughan, 1st VP - Sandy Stanley, 2nd VP - Ellen Reisinger, Secretary - Susan Lopez, and Treasurer - Beth Wilson. We will vote on the officers at the October meeting. Thanks to the Nominating Committee members - Ellen Reisinger, Richard Snyder, and Beth Wilson, for their efforts.

The Fall Plant Sale was a great success. The diversity of the propagated plants was awesome! A large number of members took part in providing plants for the sale, which will result in a great final effort for fund raising this year for our organization. Many interns also showed up to assist with the sale. Kudos go to Vicki Coble and the Propagation Committee for their diligence and expertise. Thanks to all of you!

Nan Jackson

October Brown Bag

Tuesday, October 21 Noon-1:00pm
"Be EarthKind to Your Landscape"
Presented by Marilee Bell

Aransas County Library, 701 E. Mimosa, Rockport

October 10 & 22
Green Acres
Garden Day
8-11am

Thursday, October 2

MG Field Trip to
South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center
Meet at Green Acres at 9 am to caravan

Happy Birthday !

Mary Ann Geer, 1st
Todd Cutting, 3rd
Jennifer Thomas 14th
Gail Bergan 14th
Shirley Windhorst, 15th
Lonnie Matthew, 17th
L'Ella Andrews, 18th
Patricia Baugh, 22nd
Ruth Hoese, 26th
Jean Dyer, 27th
Drew Jacobs, 30th

In Area Newspapers this month watch for...

Fall Fertilizing - Richard Snyder
Fall & Winter Vegetables - Todd Cutting
Growing Olives in South Texas - Susan Lopez
Winterizing Citrus Trees - Jennifer Thomas

Educational programs of Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Our Mission: *Improving the lives of people, businesses, and communities across Texas and beyond through high-quality, relevant education.*

Coordinated Education and Marketing Assistance Program

This new series of articles will focus on the Coordinated Education and Marketing Assistance Program (CEMAP). CEMAP is an industry - university cooperative program in which university and industry leaders partner in the identification of superior landscape plants for Texas and their subsequent promotion in the market place. The stated purposes of the CEMAP are to "provide highly effective marketing assistance to growers and retailers, particularly during slower periods of the nursery year" and to "ensure that consumers utilize the very best and most environmentally responsible plant materials, products and horticultural techniques." To date, the program has concentrated on the plant materials and marketing portion of the objectives.

The decision as to which plants are highlighted in CEMAP marketing campaigns is made by the CEMAP Executive Board. Advisory input is received from the statewide CEMAP Advisory Board which is composed of TAMU horticulturists, nursery professionals, growers, seed company representatives, county horticulturists, arboretum and botanical garden representatives, horticultural writers, and landscape designers.

The Executive Board's decision as to which plants should be highlighted is primarily based upon observations made at replicated plots and demonstration trials across the state. In some cases, recommendations made by university horticulturists in other southern states are also considered. Another important factor considered when selecting plants for educational and marketing campaigns is whether sufficient numbers of plants can be produced to meet the increased consumer demand generated by CEMAP efforts.

Recommendation of a plant through CEMAP means that the variety has been subjected to statewide testing and been found to be meritorious. These plants are hardy, tolerating the hot dry summers characteristic of most parts of the state. They are disease and insect tolerant, providing

beauty with minimal care and minimal reliance on chemical pest control. These plants are designated as "Texas Superstars," and they must display the symbol below on a tag or label at the point of sale.

Victoria Perennial or Garden Phlox

Phlox paniculata 'Victoria'

Hardy perennial with showy clusters of magenta pink blossoms. Lighter green foliage, more open growth habit than 'John Fanick.' Tolerates heat, drought and powdery mildew.

Exposure:

Full sun

Size: Height 3 feet tall, 2 feet wide

Bloom Time:

Summer



John Fanick Perennial or Garden Phlox

Phlox paniculata 'John Fanick'

Named after outstanding San Antonio nurseryman and true gentleman. Hardy perennial with showy clusters of light pink blossoms with darker pink throats. Compact growth habit; dark green foliage. Tolerates heat, drought and powdery mildew.

Exposure: Full sun



Size:
Height 3 feet tall, 2 feet wide
Bloom Time:
Summer

For More Information:
<http://texassuperstar.com/>



2008 Master Gardener Fall Plant Sale



Photos contributed by Cyndi Kuhn



2008 Master Gardener Class Schedule

Wed. Oct. 1 st 1:30-5:00	Tree Planting, Palm Planting & Maintenance **Texas A&M Research & Extension Center 10345 State Hwy. 44, Corpus Christi	Paul Johnson, Regional Forester, Texas Forest Service
Oct. 7 th 1:30-5:00 or Nueces- 8 th	Habitat Gardening – Attracting Birds & Butterflies Native Plants	Ernie Edmundson, Aransas/San Patricio Master Gardener
Oct. 14 th 1:30-5:00 or Nueces- 15 th	Turf I (irrigation & its fertilization, weeds, aeration) Turf II (common problems-pests & diseases, Q&A)	Michael Potter, Nueces EA-Horticulture
Oct. 21 st 1:30-5:00 Nueces- 22 nd @STBGNC	Earth Kind Gardening Rainwater Harvesting	Marianne Hagg, Nueces MG, Earth Kind Specialist Barbara McSpadden, MG Rainwater Harvesting Specialist
Wed. Oct. 29 th 1:30-5:00	Home Vegetable Gardening **First Methodist Church, 801 E. Main, Rockport	Tom LeRoy, Montgomery Co. EA-Horticulture
Nov. 4 th 1:30-5:00 Nueces-5 th	Junior Master Gardeners	Nueces Master Gardeners Stephanie & Gary Martin
Nov. 11 th 1:30-5:00 Nueces-12 th	Citrus and Fruits Composting / Worm Composting	Dr. John Fucik, Retired Horticulture Professor Nueces Master Gardener
Tues. Nov. 18 th 1:30-5:00	Landscape Design and Xeriscape/MG Program **CC Museum of Science & History, 1900 N. Chaparral Street, CC - Lecture Hall	Dr. Carol Brouwer, Harris County Extension Agent-Horticulture
Dec. 2 nd 1:30-5:00	Aransas –Tropicals Overview-MG Phone Desk & Common Homeowner Questions MG Post Test & surveys	Darlene Gooris, Aransas/San Patricio Master Gardener Aransas Co. EA

Around the State

Rediscover antique roses & learn pruning techniques at South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, October 4

Rose enthusiasts may discover the pleasure of growing antique roses as the Corpus Christi Rose Society teaches which of these old favorites do the best in our challenging climate, from 10 am to noon, Saturday, October 4. Participants are invited to bring clippers and gloves for a hands-on workshop immediately following the seminar on how to selectively prune all types of roses. Workshop fee is \$6, \$3.50 for members. Call for reservations at 361-852-2100.

Moonlight in the Gardens at South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center October 11th

This casual evening fundraiser by the light of the silvery moon is Saturday, October 11, beginning at 7 pm on South Texas Gardens & Nature Center grounds, 8545 S. Staples St. Under a nearly full moon, guests will enjoy multiple food and music venues, special garden lighting effects, star and moon-gazing with telescopes, and a *Starlight Silent Auction*, which will include *Flamingo Fandango* winning costumed flamingos, orchids, bromeliads and more! Tickets are \$50 members, \$60 non-members. **Tickets which also include an exclusive 6-7 pm SUNSET HOST PARTY are \$75 each.** Sponsor opportunities are available from \$5000 to \$150. For more information, call 361-852-2100.

Herb Day at the Botanical Gardens & Nature Center is Saturday, October 18!

Seminars will be presented on the hour, from 9 am through 1 pm, in the Visitors Center, 8545 S. Staples Street. Master Gardener Linda Collins and other members of the *Rockport Herb & Rose Study Group*, will lecture on various herb topics, featuring an 11 a.m. cooking demonstration by *Cheryl's on the Bay*. General Admission Only. No class fees, members free! Please call for seminar reservations at 361/852-2100.

Earth Kind Gardening and New Composting Alternatives Seminar offered at South Texas Botanical Gardens, October 25

This seminar, from 10 am to noon, Saturday, October 25, will feature Master Gardener and *EarthKind* Gardening specialist Bob Becquet. Seminar fee is \$6, \$3.50 members, and includes Gardens & Nature Center admission. For reservations, call 361-852-2100.

Fall Junior Master Gardener Series At South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center

In partnership with Texas AgriLife Extension Service, the South Texas Botanical Gardens continues its new Junior Master Gardener (JMG) program this fall. For children ages seven through 12, the six Saturday afternoon sessions are from 1 to 3 p.m., September 27, October 4, 18, 25, November 1 and 8.

The JMG course is an international youth gardening program operated nationwide through the Extension network. Taught by trained Nueces County Master Gardeners, JMG promotes "Growing Good Kids" by igniting a passion for learning, success and service through a unique gardening education. Unlike former children's vegetable gardening classes, the JMG course focus is broader covering environment, soil and water segments, science process skills, taking measurements, observation and problem solving.

Putting Plumeria to Bed! at South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, November 15

The Plumeria Society of South Texas will show plumeria enthusiasts how to get their plants ready for winter's potential cold snaps. Gardens & Nature Center Plumeria curator Frank Eicholz will explain the whys, whens, wheres and hows of plumeria hibernation dormancy from 10 to noon. Class fee is \$6, \$3.50 members and includes general admission. For reservations, call 361-852-2100.

October 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8:30 Propagation 9-10 am Mini Plant Sale 1:30-5pm MG Class - Trees District Center	2 MG Field Trip, meet at GA at 9 am to caravan to South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center	3	4 MG Booth at Farmer's Market
5	6	7 9am MG Meeting 1:30-5pm MG Class - Habitats, Natives Earth Kind Class Begins	8 8:30 Propagation 9-10 am Mini Plant Sale 10:30am Supplements Program @ Library	9	10 8-11am Green Acres Garden Day 10:30 am Landscape Committee, GA	11
12	13	14 1:30-5pm MG Class - Turf	15 8:30 Propagation 9-10 am Mini Plant Sale	16	17	18 MG Booth at Farmer's Market
19	20	21 12-1pm BBL 1:30 Board Mtg. 1:30-5pm MG Class - Earth Kind Gardening & Rainwater Harvesting	22 8:30 Propagation 9-10 am Mini Plant Sale 8-11am Green Acres Garden Day	23	24	25 9am-noon Seminar - Trees Paul Johnson, TX Forest Service, Library
26	27	28	29 8:30 Propagation 9-10 am Mini Plant Sale 1:30-5pm MG Class - Home Vegetable	30	31	Nov.1