
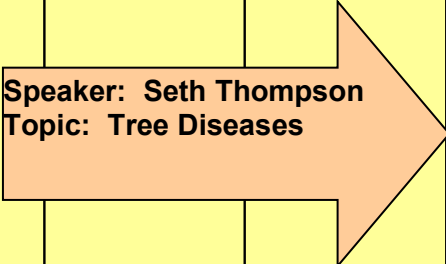





## NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4 WORKDAY Burger Wed  8:45AM Herb Study Group	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day  11:00 Monthly MG Meeting 12:00 New Class Mentor Training	12	13	14
			15	16	17	18 WORKDAY  9:00AM Board of Directors
22	23	24	25	26  THANKSGIVING	27	28
29	30					



## **THANKSGIVING IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER**

Mel Myers, President

Fall is a busy time of year for the Bell County Master Gardeners!! Among the many things going on is the finalizing of our preparations for the new class which begins in January. Diane Calderwood and her committee have done an excellent job getting all the pieces in place. Thank You!!! They have everything set up for orientation on December 2, and for the new class to start on January 6. We have twenty-four prospective interns and a waiting list of three more. Final preparations for the few remaining items are under way.

Since we are coming up to the end of the year, several changes are necessary so we do not interfere with the holidays. The regular meeting on November 11 will be held as scheduled. This year is different because Veterans Day falls on Wednesday and all county offices will be closed. We have arranged to get a key so we will have access to the building. The only difference is that you are asked to enter through the exterior door entering the meeting room. This way we are not likely to have someone wandering around the building, not knowing the offices are closed. The board meetings are rescheduled for November 17 and December 16. Please remember that all board meetings are open for the membership and members are encouraged to attend. They start at 9:00.

This year Bell County is sponsoring the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Cowboy Christmas Ball. This event will benefit the Bell County Youth Fair Livestock Show and Rodeo Scholarship Fund. It will be held on Saturday, December 12 at 7:00 P.M. Please contact the extension office if you have any questions.

Finally, I would like to share some lessons I have learned at the Temple Community Garden. I have met several new friends at the gardens. Since the coordinator is a retired doctor, he has obviously talked several of his colleagues to also join the "gardens". I find it interesting that all of them not only grow vegetables but also flowers in the gardens. I love it and assure you that I will have flowers growing in my garden this spring. We should constantly remind ourselves that we should have fun and see the beauty in our gardening. Have a great Thanksgiving and be safe.

## **Greenhouse**

Submitted by Karla Tomaka & the Greenhouse Crew

This coming Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, is Burger Wednesday. There will be actual burgers at Burger Wednesday! We have a grill and will be cooking them up. Projects for the day include newspaper folding for the new demonstration garden and continued work on the 30-inch setback (bring wheelbarrows and shovels for this one).

If you can bring drinks, desserts, or a side dish, please contact Karla at [kstomaka@aol.com](mailto:kstomaka@aol.com)

## **Update on 2010 Class**

Submitted by New Class Co-Chairs:

Diane Calderwood & Fran Sheppard

Our next class is rapidly approaching! We added a couple more interesting students so our enrollment is now closed at 24. Our orientation is scheduled for Wednesday, December 2, 2009 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. The new class schedule is now on the website. We have some new classes this year so check it out! You can access the schedule from the Master Gardener main page. Click on "Master Gardener Intern Page" which is in the dark green box on the left-hand side to find the schedule and other class information. You may also notice that our homework is now on-line (thanks Werner Hahn). This will save us paper and copying time. The students will be able to print the homework from this site.

Please welcome any new faces that you see wandering the halls! We are looking forward to an excellent class of 2010!



## **Wanted: Plants for New Class Graduation**

Submitted by Diane Calderwood,  
New Class Co-Chair

If there are any super propagators out there who need a winter project.....we are in need of 60 small plants (4" pots) to include in our New Class Graduation gifts. Graduation happens next year on May 19th, 2010. If you would be interested in taking on all or just a portion of this project, please contact Diane Calderwood, [dcalder@hot.rr.com](mailto:dcalder@hot.rr.com); 771-1218. Thanks!

**NEW CLASS MENTORS SIGN UP AT THE  
NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING!  
TRAINING SESSION TO FOLLOW MEETING**

Submitted by Suzanne Boyer

If you have decided to help as a mentor during the new class lectures starting in January, please sign up at the November general meeting. Sign up will be for each individual class for the following jobs:

1. Two TRADITIONAL mentors who will do the same mentor tasks done in previous years.  
**TRAINING FOR THIS JOB WILL FOLLOW THE NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING.**
2. Two REFRESHMENT Mentors who will coordinate with each other and bring refreshments.
3. One VIDEO Mentor. Not all the classes will be videotaped, but we need one or two people to videotape the new classes and/or copy the videos onto DVDs. **We can train you if you have not done this before. If you can videotape, please contact me right away! (780-2463)**

IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND THE MEETING, EMAIL ME AT [suzboyer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:suzboyer@sbcglobal.net) AND LET ME KNOW YOU ARE INTERESTED.

**Herb Study Group**

Submitted by Kim Pringle

Beverly Wickersham facilitated the meeting with a fill-in-the-blank and true/false quiz on Calendula. A member of the sunflower family, calendula (also known as pot marigold and potherb) is a cool-season annual and seeds should be planted in the fall for yellow to orange flowers throughout the winter and spring. The leaves and flowers are edible and calendula is used for a wide variety of medical conditions. Often used as a companion plant to tomatoes, its most common insect problem is aphids and can be readily treated with insecticidal soap or insecticide

As a bonus, Beverly also discussed the fascinating cactus Saguaro, "The Monarch of the Sonoran Desert". Gail Christian and Linda Young reported on the presentation to the Killeen Lions Club.

**2009 UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Need to set Friday date with Margaret Pryffe - Travis Middle School - herb identification and bookmarks

November 4 - Herb Study - Need facilitator and program topic.

**2009 UPCOMING EVENTS:** (Continued)

November 17 - Tuesday - Sun City Garden Club, 1:00-2:00, "Cooking with Herbs" PowerPoint and herb ID

November 18 - Wednesday - Milam County Master Gardeners, 10:00-12:00 pm, "Cooking with Herbs" PowerPoint and herb ID.

**Herb Study Group**

Submitted by Terrie Hahn

November's herb meeting (remember it's the FIRST wednesday at 9 a.m. at the Extension Center - social time beginning at 8:45) will be about soups with herbs. It will be getting cold, so let's get out our soup recipes that have our favorite herbs in them. I'll bring a couple of soups to sample. You can either bring a soup with you or a recipe (with some copies) for your favorite soup. Each of us will tell the group which herbs they use for their recipe. Since it's Potluck Wednesday, we could always share the leftover soup with the rest of the MG's for lunch. Let Karla know if you're making enough to share.

Also, when I was in San Francisco recently, I brought back a beautiful herb bouquet to show. So if anyone has one they like or have made, maybe you could bring it along so we can get ideas. And we could look in the demonstration beds to see if there are any interesting specimens to take home to make our own. (Kim adds that the bouquets make nice holiday hostess gifts.)

Even if you don't have time to make soup, please come and enjoy samples of what others bring in! Yummy! Yummy!

**Fall 2010 Garden Tour**

Submitted by Sidney VanLoh

The Board of Directors is actively seeking Bell County Master Gardeners to serve on the Fall 2010 Garden Tour planning committee. If you are interested in being part of the planning committee, please send an email to Sidney VanLoh at [vanloh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:vanloh@sbcglobal.net). We also need to identify gardens for the tour. If you are willing to place your garden on the fall tour, please send me an email. The Fall Garden Tour will be in late September or early October of 2010. Exact dates and gardens used will be determined by the planning committee.

**Updated Master Gardener Handbook**  
Submitted by The New Class Committee

The Master Gardener Handbook has been revised and updated for our 2010 class. Several chapters have expanded text and all chapters have new print and graphics.

If you are interested in ordering the insert text ONLY for the new books, please contact Diane Calderwood, [dcalder@hot.rr.com](mailto:dcalder@hot.rr.com). The cost is \$28 and your check should be made payable to BCMGA and sent to Jan Anderson or given to Diane.

**PUT ON YOUR CHRISTMAS BOOTS!!**  
Submitted by Dian Calderwood

The 1st Annual Cowboy Christmas Ball to benefit the Bell County Youth Fair Livestock Show and Rodeo Scholarship Fund is coming up on Saturday, December 12th. We would love to see 2 tables of Bell County Master Gardeners at the event!

Please contact MaryAnn Everett [pma4514@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pma4514@sbcglobal.net) if you and your honey are interested in joining the fun. Or, contact Diane Calderwood [dcalder@hot.rr.com](mailto:dcalder@hot.rr.com) if you would like to join the "Cowgirls" table. Both tables are \$50/seat for reserved seating.

More information about the event is available at the Extension office.

Hope to see y'all there!

**BCMGA's Annual Christmas Party**  
Submitted by The Christmas Party Committee

The Master Gardener annual Christmas party is coming up soon, December 10. As you know an important, as well as fun, part of the party is the silent auction. In order for it to be a success, we need everyone's help with items for it. They do not have to be garden themed. Christmas decorations, jellies and jams, all sorts of things are fun to have for bidding. It would be great if everyone could contribute at least one item that they have bought, made, or gotten contributed by a business they frequent.

To make the job of the Christmas party committee easier, we would really like to have your contributions before the party rather than the night of it so we can arrange the displays attractively. Feel free to bring them to the November meeting. Any member of the party committee will be glad to accept and store your donation for you. Committee members are: Janelle Burson, Edie Campbell, Jane Capen, Beverly Chenoweth, Jann Dworsky, Mary Ann Everett, Carol Holcombe, Charlotte Johnson, Suzanne Judd, Ann Lesmeister, Pat Maskunas, Ilene Miller, Robin Pohl, Carol Rowald, and Kathy White.

If you get a donation from a business that wants to use it as a tax write off, or if you do, attached below is a tax form you can clip, fill out and give them, or fill out and use. Forms will also be available at the November meeting.

Thanks so much to everyone. Hope to see you at the party.



**Bell County Master Gardeners Association**  
Is a non profit 501c-3 organization,  
Dedicated to Educational Outreach

Item \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Purchased Value \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you so much for your donation to our non profit organization in support of Educational out reach to the citizens of Bell County. For more information, see our website: [Bell-tx.tamu.edu](http://Bell-tx.tamu.edu)**



**A New Love of Lantana**  
Submitted by Jane Capen

Before this summer, I had at best a love/hate relationship with lantana. I had one patch of it in my garden, the gold variety, and while I could appreciate its hardiness, I tired of the way it overran the garden path and its neighboring plants. Furthermore, I thought it smelled bad and I always feared finding a snake within its thick growth.

This summer, however, brought a change of heart. With the heat feeling more unpleasant and oppressive than ever before, I essentially gave up most weeding and pruning, watered enough to keep most things alive and hoped for the best. Some things died. My Duchess du Brabant bit the dust, as did a couple other roses. Phlox acted too tired to grow; even the coneflowers seemed to sigh and barely hold on. The lantana, however, flourished, and as the summer wore on I developed a greater appreciation for it. As always, I wanted to know more about it.

Lantana belongs to the family Verbenaceae, which contains over 150 members. It is native to the tropics of the Americas, but has spread widely. In parts of Australia, Africa, and southeast Asia lantana is considered a highly troublesome, invasive weed. Slightly hairy and prickly with a strong odor if rubbed, its flowers form in umbrel like groups and are seen in a wide variety of colors. Native lantanas form seeds that are eaten by birds, but which may be toxic to humans, pets and livestock. Deer do not like it. For those interested in xeric gardening, or who have problems with deer, this plant is a winner. I am adding more lantana to my garden, so far a light yellow, a pink and yellow, and a beautiful, rich red. While I will have to trim back the brown stems in the winter, it is a small price to pay for a plant so undemanding and robust in summer's heat. Now if I could just get over the fear of finding a snake in its foliage.

**BELL COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**

Are sponsored by the

**TEXAS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION of  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**

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