

The Blooming Bell

February 2019



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HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY





Photo by Marjorie Gillmeister



Children from Meridith Dunbar Early Childhood Academy are getting ready to enjoy the fruits of their labor. The children harvested the lettuce they planted last fall, washed, and prepared salads for them to eat.

February 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4 Bell Co. Youth Fair	5 Bell Co. Youth Fair	6 Work Day-8 am* Herb Study-Love Potions-9:30 am, Social-9 am Burger Wed.-10:30 am Bell Co. Youth Fair	7 Bell Co. Youth Fair	8	9
10	11	12	13 Work Day-8 am* General Mtg-10 am, Social-9:30 am	14 	15	16 Mother Earth News Fair, 9 am
17 Mother Earth News Fair, 9 am	18 	19	20 Work Day-8 am*	21 Gardening in Bell County-Planting Techniques- 6:30 pm	22	23 Home & Garden Show & Kids Zone
24 Home & Garden Show & Kids Zone	25 Blooming Bell deadline	26	27 Work Day-8 am* BOD Mtg-9 am	28		

Upcoming events:

- ♦ Herb Study-More salad herbs, Mar. 6, Belton, 9 am
- ♦ Mother Earth News Fair, Feb. 16-17, Bell County Expo
- ♦ Gardening Series-Spring Vegetable Garden, Mar. 21, Belton, 6:30 pm
- ♦ Spring Plant Sale, March 30, Belton
- ♦ Earth Day, Apr. 12, Fort Hood, 8 am
- ♦ Career Day, Apr. 26, 8 am, Douse Elementary, Killeen

* In the event of rain, there will be No Workday.

Remember to record volunteer service hours and education hours separately each month. You may include your travel time to meetings and work projects as service hours.

The President's Corner

Glenn Melton



Well, we are off to a good start this year. We have nineteen motivated and eager interns in this year's class, and all are doing very well. Several have already signed up for a demo bed and will soon start planning and planting their new garden plots. Got any extra seeds or plants? I'm sure they could use a few. Please give them a hand with any helpful advice or tips to help ensure their success.

I want to thank all of you who not only attended but assisted with set up and registration of the three conferences held in January. The BCMGA was well represented and some very useful and informative material was presented.

If you are looking for service and/or educational hours February has lots of opportunities:

- EXPO Center – County Youth Fair – First week in February
- EXPO Center – Mother Earth News Fair, February 16TH and 17TH
- BCMGA Monthly Gardening Seminar: Planting Techniques, February 21ST
- EXPO CENTER- Home and Garden Show, February 23RD and 24TH

We will have a booth at the Home and Garden Show and will also offer several classes. Please visit the Volunteer Management System to view and register for these and other events. Note: Go to the Mother Earth News Fair website to purchase \$25 weekend passes and save a lot of money.

As the weather gradually becomes warmer, the grounds will ramp up efforts to improve our overall landscape. Mulch will be delivered each Wednesday and spread throughout the area, weather permitting. We could always use a little extra help in getting this all in place.

And, as always, be sure to enter your service and/or educational hours in VMS. A good practice is to enter these hours immediately following the event. I think you will find that if your memory is anything like mine, this is a good habit to get into. Our next monthly general membership meeting is February 13th and I hope to see you all there. Thank you all so much for everything you do for our Association.



Wizzie's Wonderful World of Insects

Rover Ants

**Wizzie Brown,
Travis County AgriLife Extension
Entomologist**

Rover ants are tiny (~1/16" long) and brownish-black. They have 9 antennal segments which can differentiate them from many other ants, but you'll need a good hand lens or microscope to count antennal segments. The abdomen of rover ants is pudgy and the ants have a "humpbacked" appearance.



Colonies, or nests, are small and have a single queen. They are often seen outside nesting under or inside of flower pots, under stones or other landscaping material, or running up and down areas like patio furniture or the foundation of the home. If rover ants find their way indoors, they can be found usually in areas of moisture- kitchen, bathrooms, and near plumbing leaks.

Rover ants do tend honeydew-producing insects, so may be found on plants. If you discover them on a plant, you need to look for other insects such as aphids, mealybugs, or scale insects as that will be the true source of damage to the plant. The ants will protect the honeydew-producing insect from predators and parasites, but they do not cause direct harm to the plant.

Rover ants can be difficult to manage at times since they can be a bit persnickety about bait products. They do seem to take liquid baits

fairly well, but you may need to try several kinds of bait before finding one that will work best for your ants. Sprays should not be used to treat for rover ants since this can split the colony up and make the ants more difficult to manage.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512.854.9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com

This work is supported by Crops Protection and Pest Management Competitive Grants Program [grant no. 2017-70006-27188 /project accession no. 1013905] from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

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**TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION**

What's Been Happening...

Intern Orientation Class of 2019

Sylvia Maedgen

Photos by Sylvia Maedgen

The new class of Master Gardener interns met on January 9, for orientation. Nineteen students are enrolled for the 2019 Class. Information on each of the students is provided below.



Meredith Amenell

Lives in Temple and is a Physician Assistant. She got interested in gardening from her mom who is also in the intern class.



Cathy Askia

Lives in Harker Heights and is originally from Maryland. Her career was a Budget Analyst/ Artist and she got interested in gardening from her dad.



Virginia Bargas

Lives in Temple and is originally from LaGrange. Her career was in Nursing and Clinical Research. She grew up on a farm and her parents grew vegetables and flowers. She created her first garden in 2014.



Laura Bridges

Lives in Belton and is originally from Ohio. Her career was a paralegal/teacher. She got her interest in gardening from her parents.



Sandra Carney

Lives in Moffat and is originally from Savannah, GA. She has been a stay-at-home/home schooling mom of 4 for 18 years. She loves the outdoors, working in her garden, and growing their own food.



Ryian Coleman

Lives in Belton and originally from Dallas. His career is in banking. He got interested in gardening to learn how to grow his own vegetables for better health.



Tim Eutsler

Lives in Belton and is originally from Middletown, IN. His career is in irrigation. He grew up with gardening and he has also preserved food by canning all his life.



Sonya Gonnella

Lives in Temple and is originally from Michigan. She was a Master Gardener in the 90's in Michigan. Her career was in the military. Her interest in gardening started from a family friend whose father included them in his garden and canning.

What's Been Happening...

Intern Orientation Class of 2019

Photos by Sylvia Maedgen



Michael Halsig

Lives in Killeen and is originally from Anaheim, CA. He is retired from the U. S. Army. He got his interest in gardening from his family; his mother was a Master Gardener.



Angie Hernandez

Lives in the Killeen/Copperas Cove area and is originally from El Paso. Her career was in Human Resources. She became interested in gardening because she did not want to pay a landscaper.



Darla Lowe

Lives in Belton and is originally from Garland. She is a Physician. She has been interested in gardening since a child. She first became a Master Gardener in 2002.



Teri Marceau

Lives in Killeen and is originally from California. Her career was as an Escrow Officer. She got her interest in gardening from her mom and was previously a composter.



Patsy Mielnick

Lives in the Ratibor/Seaton area and is originally from New York City. Her career was a scientist in soils and plants. She likes rain water collection and native gardening and has been gardening for decades.



Candy Morgan

Lives in Temple now after being gone for 30 years and is originally from Johnstown, PA. Her career was in Radiology. She has always been interested in gardening.



Sherry Oermann

Lives in Troy and is originally from Denver, CO. Her career included being a stay-at-home mom, then a hospital Claims Examiner. Her family had vegetable and flower gardens. She is a beekeeper and has made award winning honey.



Barbara Richey

Lives in Belton. She is currently a teacher but will retire later this year. Her mom and dad got her interested in gardening.

What's Been Happening...

Intern Orientation Class of 2019

Photos by Sylvia Maedgen



Alfred Stall

Lives in Belton and is originally from Cuero. He is retired military and currently works as a carpenter at the VA. He got his interest in gardening from his dad.



Jan Stanfield

Lives in Morgan's Point Resort and is originally from Odessa. Her career was in teaching. She got interested in gardening from her family influence.



Maggie Taylor

Lives in Killeen and is originally from Sadler. Her career was in teaching Special Education; she is currently a Behavior Therapist. She became interested in gardening as her family had a nursery and a garden and she canned their produce.

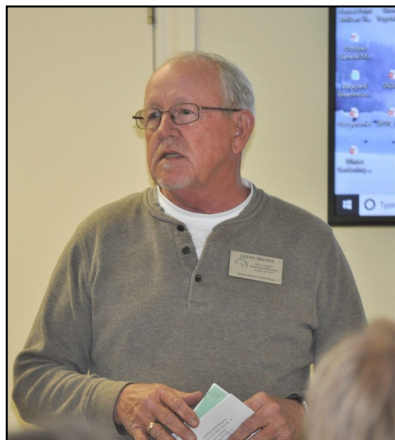


Class of 2019

Sylvia Maedgen

Photos by Sylvia Maedgen

The new interns were greeted by their personal mentors at the orientation and were given an overview by BCMGA President Glenn Melton, Gary Slanga, New Class Coordinator, and Lyle Zoeller, Bell County AgriLife Agent.



Glenn Melton, President



Gary Slanga, New Class Coordinator



Lyle Zoeller, AgriLife Agent

What's Been Happening...

January General Meeting

Photos by Randy Brown



Glenn Melton, BCMG President starts the new year at the January general meeting. We had a full house in attendance and were treated to a variety of foods during the social hour. Barbara Wright from Wright's Nursery provided the program on 'Year Round Interest in the Landscape'.



Several members received their Service Hour awards: 100 hours - Sandra Remson, Barbara Ishikawa, Betty Nejtek, Rose Harris, David Carpenter, Raymond Machovsky, and Bill Walker; and 200 hours - Peg Fleet. Vivian Rush received her 5-year membership pin.

 **congratulations**

Thank You 



What's Been Happening...

Meridith Dunbar Early Childhood Academy

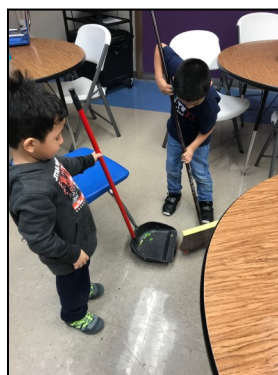
Photos by Marjorie Gillmeister

Seed Starting in Eggshell Pods vs. Newspaper Pots

Thirty-six 4-yr old children harvested, weighed the harvest of romaine lettuce and kale, washed, dried, and prepped salads to enjoy for an afternoon after their recess. The children also washed their dishes with soap and water, dried the dishes, cleaned up the kitchen room from sweeping the floor and wiping down all the tables. This project began on August 31, 2018, two classes of four year old children; Ms. Sanchez 18 students and Ms. Cadavid (bilingual) 18 students participated in seed starting romaine lettuce,

kale blue dwarf curled, and kale lacinato (Italian kale) in eggshell pods and newspaper pots. The first harvest took place on January 17, 2019. The children patiently tended to their seedlings and garden for 5 months. "Planting good seeds will reap a good harvest for all."

A special thank you to Janice Smith and Kelby Kosel for being supportive of this project and dedication in working with our youth.



What's Been Happening...

Meridith Dunbar Early Childhood Academy

Photos by Marjorie Gillmeister

Seed Starting in Eggshell Pods vs. Newspaper Pots

On January 14, 2019, 86 four-year-old children planted seeds in eggshell pods for the school's spring garden. A special thank you to our master gardeners and new class interns for making this experience so wonderful for our youth, Janice Smith, Kellie Hussmann & baby Everett, Gail Koontz, Jo Carlsen, Gail Garner, Kelby Kosel, and Jan Stanfield.



Montessori-Temple

On January 22, 2019, 59 students ages 2-9 years old seed started in eggshell pods for the school's spring garden. Two classes of students ages 3-9 planted seeds they saved earlier in 2018 from the Butterfly Garden. In about 6 weeks the students will transplant their seedlings into the butterfly garden to continue the Lifecycle of their saved seeds to provide habitat for the butterflies a second year. A special thank you to Barbara Ishikawa, Gail Garner, and new class intern Teri Marceau for working so patiently with the students.



Bonham Middle School-Temple

On January 28, 30 & February 1, Marjorie Gillmeister shared the Eggshell Gardening method with 16 students in 6th and 7th grade who are being counseled by this amazing woman, Nancy Rodriguez with Community in Schools. She wholeheartedly works with students who have been displaced, abused, and come from the lowest income families. Her goal is to learn how to garden so that she can build a garden club at Bonham someday to help the students grow a brighter future. She's off to a good start learning how to seed start in recyclable materials such as the eggshell, newspaper, and plastic water bottles.



What's Been Happening...

Making Paper Pots

Crystal Fisher

Photos by Gage Pots

On January 8th, 30 of our 4H kids attended a demo on "How to Make Paper Pots". For those interested in reviewing our steps, here's a video.

[How to Make Free Paper Pots for EZ Seed Starting, Transplanting & Potting Up - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JuDCTxv_WUI)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JuDCTxv_WUI

We used wrapping paper tubes and made a few adjustments. The first end that gets pressed under is held in place by the other folds. Or you could use a piece of tape to close the end. I've found that even a staple dissolves pretty quickly. Finish by overlapping by 3 other folds, one on top of the other progressing to the end fold.

It's an easy way to make your own individual seed pot... only for the cost of a newspaper. B&W newsprint is better than using the colored pages as many times color is printed on a different paper stock that is more slick. The B&W newsprint degrades much faster and better.

What an alert group. It makes you proud to be able to assist our future gardeners. They picked it up very quickly.

Thank you Gage Pots for being our photographer.



What's Been Happening...

Killeen Municipal Commissioner's Court Garden

Randy Brown

Photos by Randy Brown

Wintry maintenance day. Two 2019 interns joined us. We moved the tomato fence for 2019 and did lots of weeding. Our Association President worked hard as did the KMCCG Director. The group also conducted their monthly planning meeting at IHOP in Killeen.



On the Road Again...

Big Bend National Park

Sylvia Maedgen

Photos by Sylvia Maedgen

Another year of hiking in Big Bend National Park last month. Along some of the desert trails in Big Bend National Park and Big Bend Ranch State Park, I came across a few blooming flowers and an insect. This trip I only logged 96,635 steps in 3 days of hiking. The temperatures in the desert were in the upper 50's and sunny, perfect weather. The overall landscape was coming to life.



Member Spotlight...

Musings of a Buckwheater (Intern)

Laura Bridges

Wow, finally made it to a Master Gardener class! I've been waiting for years to be able to take it and have finally retired, so it's possible. It was the first thing on my list to do and January finally got here. Now I can get answers to so many hungry questions. There have been a few surprises though.

Hmmm, homework. That was some cause for consternation. Thought I was done with that kind of education. But I really haven't minded it that much. Reading the chapter and doing the assignment makes the upcoming presentation much more meaningful and I can't imagine getting much out of the instruction without the reading background. I would have been lost on the botany for sure. Appreciated the fun teaching, "Up through the xylem, down through the phloem", which I have been repeating in the yard as I work. My dogs think I'm strange.

Another surprise has been the outstanding quality of the presenters. What knowledge there is and what a privilege to be allowed to partake of it! When I think of the difficulty it would be to get this type of instruction - traveling distances to a center of learning and/or enrolling (and paying for) a university, this program is truly amazing. Looking at the upcoming topics are making my garden dreams multiply. Thank you to January's teachers Jayla Fry, Bob Gordon, Jerry Lewis and Sam Feagley.

The requirement for 50 volunteer hours scared me a bit. But if you know anything about learning, you know that you have to DO what you are learning for it to really stick. We get to DO, learn *and benefit our community*. And *there are so many and varied opportunities*. Win, win, win in my book.

It is amazing to me the knowledge of the interns and the Master Gardeners. I feel so lucky to get to surround myself with y'all. Just standing around the snack table or hallway

and hearing the conversations, the tidbits of knowledge fly. My other friends' eyes get glazed over when I start to talk about my soil, but here I have found my tribe. I'm sad each week when our class time ends.

The hospitality and welcoming of the Master Gardeners has been another unexpected pleasure. The in processing was so well organized that many organizations would benefit from a look at that process. It seems that all of the class procedures have been finely honed. I have never felt that any of my time was wasted. The food table was so bountiful too. What a welcome!

My mind is on fire when outside. Is that a holly or a boxwood - how are the leaves arranged? Let me get a slice of that soil and really look at it the horizons. What veggies do I want to give a try now that I know more about my soil? As a class reporter, I want to know what you want to hear about. I'd love to hear what you encounter in your volunteer time. Fellow buckwheaters, I hope your mind is on fire too!

MG interns Laura Bridges, Ryian Coleman and Tim Eutsler participate during Jayla Fry's presentation in January.

Photo by Elaine McSpedon

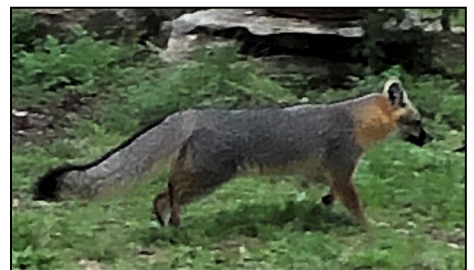


What's Happening In Your Yard?

Terrie Hahn

Photos by Terrie Hahn

Here are pictures of what's blooming in my yard: winter honeysuckle, anemones, gopher plant, purple hyacinth, primrose jasmine, shrimp plant, rosemary and one of our visitors.



Tidbits of Info...

Advanced Training Scholarships Available

Gail Koontz

Last year the Board of Directors approved \$2,500 in funds for Advanced Training Scholarships in 2019.



The purpose is to assist with the mission of The Bell County Master Gardener Association in providing high quality, research based horticultural education to the residents of Bell County and the state of Texas.

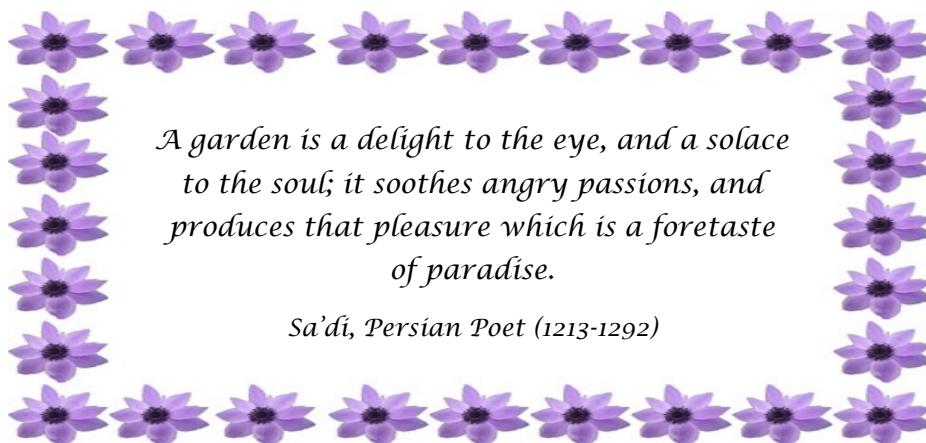
We currently have a number of active members who have received one or more specialist (now called advanced training) certifications. We continue to receive requests for speakers on various topics and requests from citizens for advice on horticultural issues. Advanced Training entails not only a commitment of time, but a significant financial commitment as well. Registration for the training ranges from \$130 to \$250. Additionally, travel, lodging (two or three nights), and meals are all costs incurred by the individual receiving the training.

Advanced Training Scholarships would provide reimbursement of the registration cost up to \$250 once the member has completed the 20 service hours to be certified. And this would be in addition to the \$50 currently reimbursed by Texas Master Gardener Association.

The following guidelines will apply:

- A committee will oversee the distribution of the funds and evaluation of the program.
- Member must be certified and active in Bell County Master Gardener Association.
- Members will complete a short application to include a statement describing how they will use the training to assist with the mission of the Association.
- Application will be submitted prior to attending the Advanced Training.
- The initial request for funds will be for the 2019 fiscal year as part of the 2019 budget.
- The scholarships will not be retro-active.
- At the end of 2019, the committee will evaluate the program and report to the Board of Directors.

If you are already attending a 2019 Advanced Training Class, you may still apply. Please see Gail Koontz, Treasurer, for an application.



*A garden is a delight to the eye, and a solace
to the soul; it soothes angry passions, and
produces that pleasure which is a foretaste
of paradise.*

Sa'di, Persian Poet (1213-1292)

Announcements...

Herb Study - Herbal Lotions and Potions

Kim Pringle

Please join the Herb Study on February 6, 2019, celebrating Valentine's Day, for a workshop from 9:00 to 11:00 am on "Herbal Lotions and Potions." Herb homework for this month is lavender, patchouli and witch hazel (amended from original schedule).

We will explore the language of flowers and herbs and visit several stations for simple, easy to make projects using herbs and essential oils. The estimated cost of the supplies is \$5.00 if you would like to join in the fun. To be certain to have enough supplies, please submit reservations by February 2 by emailing - kimberpringle@earthlink.net or text 254-421-2593. Proposed projects (subject to change) are a small wreath or tussie mussie, a Mood Boosting Herbal Spray, Loofah exfoliating soap (idea from Festival Hill), and an Herbal lotion bar (like Badger balms).

Finally, it is difficult to select herbal scents that are pleasing to everyone (Terrie did not like the lemon eucalyptus in my diffuser at the Herbal Tea which I really like!) so please bring an essential oil or blend to your liking and to perhaps share at the meeting. And if you have plant material in your garden that could be used in the small bouquets it would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact me with any questions and hope to see you at the February meeting.

24th Annual Herbal Forum - Round Top, Texas

March 15-16, 2019

"Make it a two-day getaway! Spend Friday and Saturday on Festival Hill. [Overnight accommodations](#) are available on campus. You'll have two days to visit the plant sale and gift shop, and even take in a leisurely stroll in the gardens. A *reservation-only* lunch is available on Friday. Herbal Forum Registrants are invited to attend the *reservation-only* Presenters' Dinner in the Victorian-style Menke House on Friday evening, followed by a presentation of the movie, "Tea with Mussolini," in the masterfully restored Edythe Bates Old Chapel lecture hall. After your complimentary breakfast on Saturday morning (yoga is available too), you'll feel refreshed and ready to enjoy the forum." Registration cost is \$80.

Herbal Forum Registration opens Monday, January 7, at 9:00 am.
(<http://www.festivalhill.org/calendar/details.php?id=3184>)

The famous **Plant Sale** and **"Thyme Well Spent" Gift Shop** are open to the public from 9-5 on Friday and 8-5 on Saturday. No registration is required to come to the plant and gift sale.

NOTE: Workshops are not being offered this year.

Tea
Our Herb for 2019



"Herb of Comfort and
Friendship"

Announcements...

Gardening in Central Texas - February 21, 2019

Carol Morisset

Planting Techniques is our next Bell County Gardening class presented by Bill Walker who is well known to all of us for his expertise in gardening. Topics to present are suggestions from our BCMG members and the public that have attended our evening classes and planting techniques has been recommended and is certainly pertinent as we all prepare for our spring planting season. Bill is currently our 2nd vice president of the Bell County Master Gardeners and has a wealth of horticulture knowledge. He is a frequent speaker, works with Holland Junior Master Garden project, makes home visits, participates in many BCMG projects, regularly attends education classes to increase his knowledge, and owns his own produce business.

Class is February 21, Thursday evening from 6:30 to 8 pm at the Bell County Texas Extension classroom located at 1605 N. Main in Belton. Classes are free but a \$5 donation is accepted. Seminars are limited to 45 participants, so early registration is recommended. Register at bellspeakers76513@gmail.com or if a BCMG on VMS. We will have prizes and snacks for everyone!!!

Upcoming Spring Plant Sale Workdays

Christy Reese

Be sure and check the VMS calendar for upcoming workdays at Wrights Nursery in Briggs, TX. Earn service hours for your work and travel time. Workdays may be on Thursdays and Fridays from approximately 9 am to 2 pm.

Special Thank You to Our "2nd Year" Youth Programs Sponsors

Eggshell Sponsor

Lynnette McCain & Dolly Kunz (BCMG Class of 2017) If you visit Salado, please do stop in and give thanks to Lynette & Dolly for supporting our youth programs by recycling, saving, and sanitizing 200+ eggs each week to share the eggshell gardening method with our youth, community, and BCMG new class interns.





McCain's Bakery & Cafe
Lynette's Church Street Bake Shoppe
Salado, TX 76571

**Lynette's
Church Street Bake Shoppe**

100 N Church
101 North Stagecoach Road
(North Bound I-35 feeder)

254-947-4006

www.lynetteschurchstreetbakeshoppe.com

Announcements...

February General Meeting

Kathy Love

The February General Meeting will present a program on handling extension office and help desk calls, emails, walk-ins and home/site visits. Examples of insect identification and management, tree and turf issues, etc., will also be discussed. Other issues include research techniques and tools and copywriters concerns.

Our refreshments will be hosted by Sylvia Maedgen, Debbi Harris, Glenn Melton, Wayne Schirner, and Bill Walker. Come at 9:30 for our social and enjoy the Valentine treats. The program will begin at 10:00 a.m. to be followed immediately thereafter by our business meeting.

The business meeting will include a vote to elect the 3 new director positions to the Board of Directors.

Board of Director's Meeting

The February Board of Director's Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 27th at 9 a.m. in the class/meeting room of the AgriLife Building. Please submit your agenda items to Janice Smith, Recording Secretary by Wednesday, February 20th.

Join Us!

Grounds Workdays

Johnny Jones and Tom Rennels

Here is the workday schedule for February.

February 6, 2019 8:00 a.m. Workday

February 13, 2019 8:00 a.m. Workday

February 20, 2019 8:00 a.m. Workday

February 27, 2019 8:00 a.m. Workday

In the event of rain, there will be No Workday.

Shhh...what's that sound?

Jane Van Praag

Why that roar is coming from another round of applause for the yummy provisions at the January General Meeting courtesy Karen Colwick, Kathleen Brown, Christy Reese, and Crystal Fisher.

February's General Meeting Refreshments will be prepared for us by Sylvia Maedgen, Glenn Melton, Wayne Schirner, Debbi Harris, and Bill Walker, for a Happy Valentines' Day, so let's applaud them too!

We still have vacancies on every refreshment committee for June and all the following months for 2019, so please sign up, either through VMS or by letting me know.

Thank you!

Jane, your friendly neighborhood
Refreshments Coordinator
jlvanpraag@sbcglobal.net



Upcoming Events

Upcoming Advanced Training

Feb. 8-9	Fruit & Nut Trees Advanced Training Gonzales - Cost \$185 Deadline to register - Jan. 18
Feb. 13-15	Vegetables Advanced Training Dallas - Cost \$235 Deadline to register - Jan. 15
Mar. 13-15	Tree Care Advanced Training Dallas - Cost \$175 Deadline to register - Feb. 15
Mar. 14-15	Turfgrass Advanced Training Conroe - Cost \$? Deadline to register - Feb. ?
Apr. 2-3	Budding & Grafting Advanced Training Brookshire—Cost \$225 Deadline to register - Mar. 15
May 16-18	Earth Kind® Advanced Training Athens - Cost \$250 Deadline to register - May 1
May 23-24	Turfgrass Advanced Training Conroe - Cost \$? Deadline to register - Apr. ?
Jun. 12-14	Tree Care Advanced Training Kerrville - Cost \$? Deadline to register - May ?
Aug. 13-15	Vegetables Advanced Training San Antonio - Cost \$? Deadline to register - Jul. ?
Oct. 17-19	Greenhouse Management Advanced Training Fort Worth - Cost \$? Deadline to register - Sep. ?
Ongoing	Earth-Kind On-Line Master Gardener Training modules Go to - https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/training/

Upcoming Extension Events

Jan. 15	From the Ground Up Waco Convention Center Cost \$45 Deadline to register - Jan. 9 (You can earn education hours) Register online at - https://agriferegister.tamu.edu/productListingDetails/2707
Jan. 15-16	Blackland Income Growth Conf. Waco Convention Center Cost \$25 (You can earn education hours)
Jan. 23	Bell County Irrigation Conf. Bell County Expo Center
Jan. 24	Professional Grounds Conf. Bell County Expo Center Cost \$60 Deadline to register - Jan. 17
Jan. 26	Bell County Crops Conf. Bell County Expo Center Cost \$25



Officers

President	Glenn Melton	2019-2020
First Vice President	Kathy Love	2018-2019
Second Vice President	Bill Walker	2019-2020
Recording Secretary	Janice Smith	2019-2020
Treasurer	Gail Koontz	2018-2019

Board of Directors

Communications	<i>Vacant</i>
Facilities	<i>Vacant</i>
KMCCG	Edie Campbell
Membership	Gail Christian
New Class	Gary Slanga
Outreach	Christy Reese & Carol Morisset
Projects	<i>Vacant</i>
Youth	Marjorie Gillmeister

AgriLife Agent Lyle Zoeller

Contributing Writers and Photographers:

Laura Bridges	Gail Koontz	Kim Pringle
Randy Brown	Kathy Love	Christy Reese
Wizzie Brown	Sylvia Maedgen	Tom Rennels
Crystal Fisher	Elaine McSpedon	Jane Van Praag
Marjorie Gillmeister	Glenn Melton	
Terrie Hahn	Carol Morisset	
Johnny Jones	Gage Potts	

Editor: Sylvia Maedgen

Please submit articles of less than 500 words for the Blooming Bell as Word documents. Photos should be sent separately in a folder through a link using OneDrive or Dropbox or in a zipped file. **Photos must be in the JPG format.** Also, do not text your photos. Email your documents and pictures to Sylvia Maedgen at:

txbikerchic7@gmail.com

Please do not send PDF documents.

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Bell County Master Gardener web site:

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