

BCMGA

August General Meeting and Education Program



Members having a chat before the meeting.

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Sherry Oermann and Rachel Glass giving a great presentation on the keeping of bees.

August 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Work Day Burger Wednesday	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 General Mem- bership Mtg & Continuing Educa- tion 9:30 - Noon at Harris Center	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Work Day	19 Community Out- reach Seminar 6-8 at the Learning	20	21
22	23	24	25 BOD meeting at 9 am in Learning Center	26	27	28
29	30	31	1 Work Day			

To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.

–Audrey Hepburn

**Remember to record volunteer service
hours and education hours each month.**

**To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, please continue to practice
social distancing and wear a mask where appropriate.**

President's Corner

Glenn Melton



I would like to take a moment to thank all our members for attending the monthly general membership meetings now that everything has returned to normal. I think everyone agrees that it is great to be able to socialize and participate in activities once again. And the Harris Community Center is a great facility with an incredibly supportive staff.

As agreed upon at last month's general membership meeting, we have scheduled a Fall Plant Sale set for Oct 2nd at the Extension Grounds. Now we need our members to volunteer to help get the event off the ground. We need help in identifying sources for plants, as well as what plants we intend to make available. Cashiers are needed as well as customer service reps and assistants to help customers get purchases to their vehicles. These are just a few of the positions required. Barbara can give you a complete listing of duties and responsibilities so please do not wait too long to volunteer to ensure you get the job you prefer.

The annual Christmas Party/Meeting is scheduled for December 2nd at the Harris Community Center and the committee is scheduled to meet at the Harris Center at 8:30am on August 11th , just before the General Membership Meeting starts. Please contact Ilene Miller if you would like to participate or assist in organizing this annual event.

Remember that Burger Wednesday is back, and we had exceptionally good participation last month.

Work is progressing on the landscape bed in front of the Extension Office, and we are asking everyone to help us finish this job as soon as possible. Work usually begins about 08:30 and ends around 11:00 before it gets too hot to work. Members can work on this project on any Wednesday so please join us on Burger Wednesday for a little work and a burger.

Glenn

Herbal Studies Program

The following words mostly came from Kim Pringle back in 2018 when she was summarizing our group for the VMS of that time:

“The Herbal Study Program is to educate BCMGA members and other persons interested in knowing more about all herbs: participants periodically volunteer to lead the group on one or more topics; service the two herb demonstration beds on the Texas AgriLife Extension Service Office grounds; and coordinate program requests through the BCMGA Speakers Bureau. The study meetings are designed to be manageable around first-Wednesday landscape and grounds work as well as Burger Wednesday activities.

“Attendees participate by one or more of the following, or something similar for each herb to be studied: 1. conduct approved research on the herb and report one finding about growing conditions or uses, etc. 2. if growing the herb, describing one's personal experience, perhaps augmenting with photos and specimen samples. 3. use the herb in a project, for instance bring a recipe that includes the herb and/or a sample for others to taste.

“Two recommended books for growing herbs in Central Texas are **Southern Herb Growing** by Madelyn Hill and Gwen Barclay and **Herbs for Texas** by Howard Garrett.”

As you're already aware, we're resuming our monthly meetings on the first Wednesdays, starting on August 4th, promptly at 9:00 a.m. in the Texas AgriLife Extension Office classroom. We'll examine *bamboo* and then on September 1st we will continue the topic with a presentation by the Bamboo Guru himself, Kinder Chambers, of the Texas Bamboo Society, who will also answer our by then more educated questions.

For October 6th our own Herbal Forum volunteers who offer presentations throughout Bell County for the BCMGA Speakers Bureau will talk on the herbs that grow best in Central Texas. Learning how to plant and care for the herbs we'll have bought at our Fall Plant Sale the previous Saturday, October 2nd, will guide us to a thriving season ahead!

On record keeping: if you are 'merely' attending, you are earning Education Hours, from 9:00 to 11:00 or however long the session lasts, in 15-minute increments, rounding up fractional amounts. If you're leading the session, you're earning Service Hours instead for that same time period plus you get to include time travelling to and from the Classroom, as well as the mileage.

See you August 4th and all the first Wednesdays ever thereafter!

Jane Leatherman Van Praag, Chair

In the garden



Flowering Barrel Cacti

Gary Slanga



Ornamental Peppers

Flowering Elephant Plant

Julian Hancock

Fall Plant Sale

Vegetable Growers Wanted!

The BCMGA will hold a fall plant sale on October 2nd at the Extension facility. We have recently been purchasing the vegetable plants that we sold. We have always been limited to what was available from the grower. For the sale this past spring, we grew some plants and purchased some. For the fall plant sale, we would like to focus on growing vegetable plants for sale as our primary source. I would like for us to focus on growing the varieties that are on the aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu site that are known to do well in Bell County. The only Texas Superstar vegetable appropriate for planting this time of year is Green Magic broccoli, so I want to make sure we have that too. The plants that can be transplanted in October include:

Asian Greens, Broccoli, Brussels sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Collards, Kale, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, Mustard Greens, Spinach, and Swiss Chard.

Each of these have multiple varieties on the [aggie-horticulture](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu) site, so we should be able to offer at least two or three of each. I plan to hold a seed starting session on August 18th, starting at 09:00 at the learning center. I will teach a dense seed starting technique at that session. We will meet again on September 1st with your seedlings to up-pot them into 4" pots. That will give 4 weeks of growing time to get plants that should be at their prime for the sale. Look at the list of recommended varieties and if there are any personal favorites, let me know.

If you are interested in helping with this project, email me at docwas@me.com.

Wayne Schirner

Herbicides

An Article on herbicides submitted by Charles Newsom

If you are a licensed applicator, you are aware of the many regulations that apply to herbicide use. The beginning of each label contains personal protective equipment, pants, shirt, gloves, eye protections, respirator, and any special requirements. Another section covers first aid if the product gets on your skin, is inhaled, gets in your eyes, or if you swallow it. Disposal of the container is found here also. Triple rinse the container and puncture it so it cannot be reused. Dispose of the container as directed. Carefully read and comply with all the requirements listed and keep a record of the application.

There are a few organic herbicides. Acetic acid, clove oil, cinnamon oil, d-limonene and sodium chloride. These products can be found by searching organic herbicides on line. Being organic does not mean they are any less toxic to plants or that they deserve any less care in handling or application. There are literally hundreds of inorganic herbicides. They can be primarily grouped into pre emergence and post emergence. If you have a plant that is annual, the germination of that plant can be prevented by the timely application of a pre emergence product. Be sure you do not plan to plant in the area where the product has been applied. The product may also have soil activity of more than a year or plants that cannot be planted next year. Be sure to read the label carefully and follow the directions for application.

Post emergent herbicides have been customized to address specific plants. If you want a non selective product to clear a fence row, there is a product for that. If the target weed is a sedge, there is a product for sedges. If the target is a grass there is a product. There are several products for woody plants and vines. Again read and follow the label carefully and apply as directed. Using a greater concentration is not more effective, just more costly. Do not mix more product that you plan to use.

A final comment. You may not need a license to purchase the product, but treat every herbicide carefully. Drift onto your neighbors plants can be serious. I have had instances where a neighbor applied 2-4-D and it drifted over a half mile onto my tomatoes. Some plants--grapes, vegetables, ornamentals, fruit crops and cotton for instance-- are very sensitive. When you are finished with the product, dispose of the container and any unused product properly. Also herbicides may reside in hay, grass, compost, and manure as a residual with bad results if they are used on desirable plants. I applied Chaparral (Dow AgroSciences) this year. Chaparral has an 18 month restriction on hay, manure and grass for potatoes, beans, lettuce, tomatoes, etc. The hay can only be used on the farm/ranch where it was produced.

Charles Newsom

August Community Outreach Seminar

Hummingbirds & Butterflies in Your Garden

By Juan Anaya, Master Gardener



“I am Juan Anaya from McGregor Tx. I have spent most of my life in the great outdoors. My parents taught me early to hunt, fish, gardening, and respect for nature. In 1979 I began a career climbing high lines first with Texas Power and Light and then Southwest Bell . This would span 30 plus years.

After retirement I became a master gardener in 2018 and a master naturalist the following year. My love of photography piqued my interest in hummingbirds probably back in the mid-1980s.

They are still a challenge. But I’ll keep trying to get that perfect shot.”

Help Needed / Announcements



I am still taking orders for our BCMGA merchandise. I need a minimum order of 25 for the T-shirts order since these are screen printed. I currently have 10 orders and I need 15 more orders. I only have 1 order for the sweatshirts and I would need 24 more orders. The other items that are embroidered do not require a minimum order.

Screen printed items - T-shirts, aprons, & sweatshirts - these are royal blue with white screen printed logo
Embroidered items - mesh caps, visors, tote bag - these are royal blue with white embroidered logo.

The men's and women's denim shirts are a chambray with colored embroidered logo.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sylvia Maedgen

254-624-6171

Help Needed / Announcements

Communications

Please send photos of your garden with a note about your photos to TeriMMarceau@gmail.com or to [Bell.mg@agnet.tamu.edu](mailto:bell.mg@agnet.tamu.edu) and Teri will post them on Facebook.

If you know of someone in our organization who is ill, scheduled to have surgery, or has lost a loved one (including fur babies) please email Teri Marceau at bell.mg@agnet.tamu.edu, or our correspondence secretary, Debbi Harris, at dcharris99@yahoo.com.

An appropriate card will be sent.

Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, August 18th, at 9 a.m.**

Please submit your agenda items to Sylvia Maedgen, Recording Secretary, by **Wednesday, August 11th.**

Grounds Workdays

Karen Colwick and Paul Carter

List of individual tasks are posted on the gate each week. Gate code is 2019 and extra tools may be found on back of the wood shed.



In the event of rain, there will be no work day.

Refreshment Committee General Membership Meeting

A minimum of 7 volunteers are needed for each meeting.



Directors

Communications	Teri Marceau	2020-2022
Facilities	Paul Carter, Dave Slaughter & Karen Colwick	2019-2022
Membership	Sherry Oermann	2020-2022
KMCCG	Dave Slaughter	2021-2021
Outreach	Crystal Mears & Rebekah Lackey	2021-2022
New Class	Gary Slanga / Gail Koontz	2019-2022
Projects	Wayne Schirner & Stacye Parry	2020-2022
Youth	Janice Smith	2020-2022

Executive Board

President	Glenn Melton	2019-2022
1 st Vice President	Jan Upchurch	2020-2022
2 nd Vice President	Bill Walker	2019-2022
Recording Secretary	Sylvia Maedgen	2020-2022
Treasurer	Barbara Ishikawa	2020-2022

AgriLife Agent Lyle Zoeller

Texas Master Gardener website

<https://txmg.org>

Bell County Master Gardener website

<https://txmg.org/bell/>

Texas Master Gardener Volunteer Management System

<https://vms.texasmg.org/>

BCMGA Webmaster: Rachel Glass - glass.rachel@gmail.com

Please send your updates for the BCMG website to Rachel.

Editor: Julian Hancock & Julie Reid

Please submit articles with photos not to exceed 300 words and without photos not to exceed 500 words as Word documents. Photos should be sent separately in a folder through a link using OneDrive, Dropbox, or Google Photos. **Photos must be in the JPEG format.** Do not text your photos. *(If texting is preferred, please let me know in advance.)*

Email your documents and pictures to Julian at julianhancock61@gmail.com.

*Please do not send PDF documents.
I will send them back to you!*

Check out BCMGA Facebook page! Go to

<https://www.facebook.com/BCMGA>



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