**President’s Message**

Greetings,

We are well into the New Year! Time flies!

Trees need trimming, roses need pruning, even though mine is blooming. The poor flora is so confused by our weather. I am hoping for that really good freeze, soon, please, Mother Nature.

Plants need to be started for the Plant sale in April. If anyone needs any 4” pots please give me a call I can fix you up! Also flats. Mark your calendars for the 30th of April.

Thank you all for your help with our goal setting meeting, I think we have some good ideas and visions for the future of our group.

Thanks for all your hard work,

Bernadette

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

**DID YOU KNOW…**

[**http://www.texasgardener.com/newsletters/061025/default.htm**](http://www.texasgardener.com/newsletters/061025/default.htm)

**Milkweed**

**-sap from milkweed was used by pioneers as a cure for warts**

**-The dried-out, empty seed pods were used to decorate Christmas trees by the early pioneers.**

**The American Indians used the fluffy parachute of the seed to insulate moccasins, helping them to keep their feet warm.**

**During World War II, school children from Wisconsin collected 283,000 bags of milkweed fluff for use in military life jackets.**

**Monarch butterflies use milkweed as a self defense for survival. As caterpillars grow, they eat milkweed leaves. These leaves contain toxins and poisonous chemicals. The toxins do not harm the caterpillar; however they do make the caterpillar poisonous to most predators. Because it eats milkweed leaves as a caterpillar, the monarch butterfly is also poisonous.**

**It is used as an indicator of ground-level ozone air pollution.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6  workday |
| 7 | 8 | 9  Master Gardener Meeting 1pm | 10  workday | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 |  |  |  |  |  |

**February 2016**