

# Root-Teller

April 2005

Volume 10, Issue 4

**Wanted:** Plants for DCMGA Fundraiser & Plant Sale



**A Publication of Denton County Master Gardener Association.**

**Comments & Suggestions:** Please call Pam McClimon with your comments and suggestions. Photos, phone numbers and email addresses printed in this publication are only for use by DCMGA members.



## Happy Birthday

- 4/01 Evelyn McMillan (04) & Shari Prince (04)
- 4/06 Maxine Moore (01)
- 4/07 Lisa Stiles (05)
- 4/10 Ruth Bain (93) & Linda Krimm (01)
- 4/11 Karen Phillips (03)
- 4/22 Judy Guthrie (05)
- 4/28 Shery Montgomery (01)



## Prepare Now for Fall Plant Sale

Since DCMGA was unable to hold a Garden Tour and Plant Sale this spring, a Fall Fundraiser and Plant Sale is being planned. While you are busy with spring garden cleanup and plant thinning, keep us in mind. Arrangements have been made to "baby-sit" your plant donations through our long, hot summer months.

For DCMGA members living north of Lake Lewisville, Gene Gumfory (2005intern) has agreed to give tender, loving care to your donations. Gene lives in Sanger and he may be contacted at (940)367-0221 or [genegumfory@earthlink.net](mailto:genegumfory@earthlink.net). Contact Gene to be sure he is at home before delivering any plants.

If you live south of Lake Lewisville, LISDOLA will be accepting and housing your donated plants. Two large beds have been created directly behind Steve Spurger's office. One bed is a combination of local soil and dyno-dirt and the second is all mulch. If you are dropping off already potted plant donations, (which is preferable), they can simply be placed in the mulch bed and covered with mulch. If you have bare root plants, they can be planted in the bed with the soil/dyno-dirt combination and we will replot them at a later date. If neither of these two locations are convenient, but you have lots of potted plants to donate, contact Karen Archambault, (972) 874-8005 ([kladba@comcast.net](mailto:kladba@comcast.net)) and she will make arrangements to accommodate you.

## April Monthly Meeting



The DCMGA's monthly meeting, Wednesday, April 13, **10:00 am**, will be hosted by Dotty Woodson, Tarrant County Extension Horticulturist, at her greenhouse, as she discusses growing orchids. Dotty has won numerous awards for her innovative programs designed for both children and adults. She sees the power of green in the urban landscape and encourages others to make the most of their gardens and homes. Dr. Steve George, an admiring colleague, has called Dotty "the fastest redhead on wheels!"

Directions to Dotty's greenhouse at 5608 Boat Club Road:

Take Interstate 35 W south and exit west onto Loop 820. Follow Loop 820 west to the Azle Road exit and turn right onto Azle Road. At the next light, turn right onto Boat Club Road and drive one mile. Turn right on Ten Mile Bridge Road (the greenhouse driveway is on Ten Mile Bridge Road due to traffic on Boat Club Road). Her greenhouse is on the southeast corner of Boat Club Road and Ten Mile Bridge Road.

## Garden Fashion

Each year our association sells Master Gardener logo wearing apparel. Order forms are available at the extension office and may also be printed from the Roto-Teller. We are selling hats, denim shirts, T-shirts, sweatshirts and fleece vests. A completed order form along with your check payable to DCMGA must be at the extension office no later than April 15.



**Thank You, Tina!**

A special thank you goes to Tina Litherland for crocheting and donating the beautiful afghan that DCMGA raffled off at last month's meeting. According to Karen Archambault, Second Vice-president and Chairman of Ways and Means Committee, DCMGA received \$21 from the raffle. Sandy Hiatte was the lucky winner.

## Special Mentor/Intern Event Planned

Diane Land, DCMGA member, has invited the interns of 2005 and their mentors to spend a special day touring both her gardens and those of her neighbor, Marie Caillet. According to Celia Cohen, Mentor Coordinator, the group will meet at Diane's home at 9:30 am on Wednesday, April 20. After viewing Diane's beautiful gardens, the group will then visit the famous iris gardens of Marie Caillet. Marie is expert on growing irises and her gardens are world famous.



Lunch will be "brown-bag," with lemonade and water provided. Diane will visit the last day of the intern classes to provide directions to her house.

## Youth Fair Judging

Ten DCMG's participated in the horticulture division of the Denton County Youth Fair, March 23-25. They set up a display, then registered and judged entries, as well as answered questions from participants and visitors. The judges were Annell Burns, Connie Johnson, and Adele Petty. Others participating were Judy Brough, Judy Cobb, Judy Guthrie, Marie Harris, Andrea Hawk, Larry Swenson, and Gene Gumfory. Maurine LeBeau was the project manager. This is the second year the DCMGA has helped with this youth program, which is 4-H sponsored.

## It's Red Bud Time!

Denton's Red Bud Festival will be Saturday, April 9 at the Courthouse on the Square. DCMGA will have a booth from 10: AM -3:00 PM If you want to volunteer to help, contact Selena Schindler.

# Updates



## **the dirt 2005 Conference Update**

It's down to the wire now! I'm pleased to report all these little fires we have been putting out have been manageable. Please consider volunteering if you haven't already. Don't know what to do? Come to one of the two volunteer training meetings 9:30 AM, April 4, or 7:00 PM, April 18, both at the Doral. We'll provide an overview of the conference, a tour of the Doral and give you a chance to see where your talents can be put to use. Of course, all you scheduled volunteers are encouraged to attend. Please let Peggy or Donna know which date you're planning to attend.

I'd like to thank our sponsors for the conference. Hope you can too. They are Bunker Plastics, Argyle Acres, Calloway's Nursery, DeBerry Funeral Home, Dennis' Farm Store, Four Seasons Nursery, Sonic, Lantana Gardens, Lawn Land, Oak Grove United Methodist Church, and several of your friends in the Denton County Master Gardeners Association: Mary J. McKinley, Rob and Mary Morrow, Linda and Lyle Williams, and Doug and Donna Wolfe.



### **Gift Basket to be Ruffled**

This beautiful gift basket will be raffled at the 2005 State Advanced Training Conference. The drawing will be held during lunch on Saturday. Tickets are \$5 each or 3/\$10. DCMGs may purchase tickets at the extension office or at the April monthly meeting.

The basket contains:

- 1) \$50 gift certification from Old House Gardens
- 2) 20 plant markers
- 3) one pair of mud gloves
- 4) long handle bulb planter
- 5) "Bulbs for Warm Climates", by Thad M. Howard
- 6) "Garden Bulbs for the South", by Scott Ogden

## **Master Gardener Successfully "Transplanted"**

For those of us who know Phil Weatherby (98), past Program Chairman and 2003 Garden Tour Homeowner, some may already know that she and husband, Yale, have moved to Mexico. They are getting settled in their new house, enjoying the mild weather and, of course, volunteering in a number of areas. They feel DCMGA was one of their closest associations and very much appreciated all the help when it came time to move. They

would love to hear from all the DCMGs. Contact Donna Wolfe or Linda Williams for information on their addresses and email contact.

### **Wild about Wildflowers?**

Find the best viewing spots by calling TX Dot's 24-hour "Wildflower Hotline" (800) 452-9292 (open from early April through late June) or at [www.dot.state.tx.us](http://www.dot.state.tx.us).

### **Never enough plants...!**

Always room for something new in your garden? Then check out two up-coming local plant sales:

Saturday, April 9 Spring Plant Sale at Ft. Worth Botanical Gardens

Saturday, June 4 Texas Discovery Gardens Plant Sale

### **Caladium Bulb Sale "Rained Out"**

Unfortunately, there will be no sale of Caladium bulbs this year. Due to the number and severity of hurricanes in Florida last year, the crop has been mostly destroyed, resulting in a substantial increase in price. Since this has been such a popular fundraiser, we will try again next year.

## **Training Opportunities**



### **"Suggestions for Advanced Training Classes"**

If you have any SPECIFIC ideas for advanced training classes, please contact Jim and Carol Appleby, Advanced Training Class Chairpersons.

### **Free Master Composter Class!**

Free classes for Master Composter Certification are being offered by the Town of Flower Mound. The classes will be held Thursday, April 14 (6pm-9pm), Friday, April 15 (6pm-9pm), and Saturday, April 16 (8:30am-4:30pm). All three classes must be attended and additional hours must be completed in order to obtain the Master Composter Certification through the State.

Free composting tools, shepherd style compost bins, books, T-shirts and refreshments will be provided to all who attend. Pre-registration is required. Contact Ernie Goucher/KFMB Coordinator, 972-874-6333, [ernie.goucher@flower-mound.com](mailto:ernie.goucher@flower-mound.com).

## **"Floral Design Workshops"**

The Benz School of Floral Design has set dates for Master Gardener Workshops through December, 2005. Each workshop is held twice, once on Saturday and repeated on Sunday. The classes are six hours, and include lunch and two floral designs to take home.

The dates are: April 9/10, June 11/12, August 6/7, October 8/9, and December 3/4

For more information, contact [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/benz](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/benz)

## **Kaufman County MG Spring Garden Seminar**

A Spring Garden Seminar will be presented by the Kaufman County Master Gardeners on Saturday, April 9, from 8:30 AM -12:00 PM. Speakers will be Dr. Michael Merchant, speaking on insect identification and pest control methods, and Maggie McNeely, presenting the "The Evolution of Classical Design." There will also be a plant sale, silent auction raffle and door prizes. Admission will be a donation to the Kaufman County MGs. Call the extension office at (972) 563-0233 to register and get directions.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**



### **North Denton Branch Library**

Thursday, March 31, was the last workday for the North Denton Branch Library xeriscape garden project until after the state conference. A sign will be placed in the garden noting that this is a DCMGA project.

*Carol Fitch, Project Manager*



### **The Speakers Bureau**

The Speakers Bureau had a busy, successful month in March! I would like to thank all the DCMGs who took time to put together presentations and visit local groups on behalf of the DCMGA.

March 1, Susan Musgrave, assisted by Andrea Hawk, "How to Manage Garden Soils/Soil Enhancements, Canyon Oaks HOA, Argyle

March 4, Debbie Hipp, "Attracting Wild Birds to Your Landscape", Dallas Home and Garden Show

March 4, Carolyn Tinner, Janie Farler, Judy Cobb, Sue Chellew, Amy Marcotte "Topiary Workshop", Dallas Home and Garden Show

March 6, Rica Potenz, "Native Texas Gardening", Dallas Home and Garden Show

March 14, Rodney Sowalskie, "The Three Keys to Successful Gardening", The Colony Early Childhood PTA, The Colony

March 22, Karen Archambault, "Xeriscaping", Flower Mound Public Library, Flower Mound

The Speakers Bureau is pleased to add Susan Musgrave and Rodney Sowalskie to our group. We are always looking for new members! If you have an interest in joining us, but are not sure if you are ready yet, why not accompany one of us to a presentation?

Our next presentation will be on Wednesday, April 6 at the Denton County Senior Citizen Center. Maurine LeBeau will be discussing "Texas Hardy Perennials."

*Annell Burns, Project Manager*

## **LISDOLA**

A simple thank you is not enough to all of you, especially our 2005 interns, who have tirelessly toiled at LISDOLA over the past two months. We trimmed all of the roses in the rose garden, created two potting/growing beds for anticipated plant donations, weeded, shoveled, raked, tilled, and cleaned up the beds and thinned some of the plants. The enthusiasm of the 2005 interns caused me to fill up with tears! They insisted on two additional work days that had not been officially scheduled. We still have two more official workdays on the calendar; Monday, April 25 and Monday, May 23. There is still lots of weeding and mulching that needs to be done and we will be needing help with the care and watering of the donated plants that will be housed there over the summer months. Rica Potenz and I both want to give a special thanks to our 2005 interns.

*Karen Archambault, CO-project Manager*

## **Habitat for Humanity**

Denton County Habitat for Humanity is at work on four homes this spring, and DCMGA volunteers will have an opportunity to work on landscaping them for service hours. We don't have definite work dates yet, but we will be landscaping two in Sanger in mid to late April and two in Denton approximately two weeks later. If you would like to work on these projects, watch for an email when we have exact dates. If you have plants to donate, contact me.

*Nancy Franke, Project Manager*

## **Argyle Acres**

It's April and that means it's time for the irises to bloom in grand profusion. For the last two years, DCMGA members have served as docents for the Open House at Argyle Acres Iris Farm, held for two weeks in mid-April. Volunteers have guided countless visitors through the paths of multiple colors and hues of glorious irises. This year will be no exception. John has given us the OK to work on this project since the outreach potential is tremendous. Last year we greeted people from all over the state of Texas, as well as surrounding states, while discussing the different iris varieties and commiserating with lots of folks about gardening in general.

Joe and Donna Spears will be conducting a training class on April 5 at 4:00 PM on location, identifying various types of irises, blooming times, planting techniques, and general information on the species. The Open House will be held from Saturday, April 9 through Sunday, April 24, from noon to 5:00 PM each day. Volunteers for shifts are especially needed on the weekends and on Tuesdays (our interns are in class), but we could use some veterans on just about any day. If you are interested in volunteering to receive training hours (for the training session on April 5) or service hours please contact me (you may have to leave a message and I will get back to you).

*Kaye Gross, Project Manager*

## **Highland Village Elementary School**

The Highland Village Elementary Outdoor Classroom is looking awesome! Thanks to a team of DCMG interns, we were able to mulch the whole area in two days. We have trimmed and cleaned up the area and added stepping stones throughout the beds to invite the students into the planting areas for a closer look. We also added large tree trunks as additional sitting areas and for aesthetics. The raised vegetable beds are clean and ready for the kindergarten classes to plant strawberries and vegetable seeds. The fifth graders plan to plant bookmarks which have seeds imbedded into the bookmark paper. Join us on Friday, April 1 and Friday, April 15 (both days at 8:30 AM) for work days, when we will add more stepping stones around the veggie beds, plant ground cover, label all plants and start both a sensory garden and butterfly garden. Future plans include a weather station, new entrance arbor, bird houses, and more plantings.

*Jill Peak, Project Manager*

## **Upper Trinity Regional Water District**

A special workday for the 2005 intern class was held last month. We toured the gardens; then met and decided on bed color for four sites in the gardens. The Lewisville Smartscape Event, featuring the gardens, will be held on April 9 and DCMGs will be docents. The gardens will also be part of the tours offered at the 2005 Advanced Training Conference and work has been completed on a brochure about the gardens, to be used at both upcoming events.



*Linda Williams, Project Manager*

### **Children's Community Garden**

The Children's Community Garden began its 2005 season on Thursday, March 23, with four preschoolers, several parents and even two grandparents! The garden is looking colorful and cheerful with a bright yellow sign (created by Andrea Hawk), a decorated trellis tunnel, a bunny garden and twirling pinwheels. Susan Musgrave and Maurine LeBeau graciously donated many mature strawberry plants, so we look forward to a good crop of strawberries, vegetables, and flowers. Come by and visit us Thursday and Saturday mornings at 9:00 AM at Bowling Green Park. We'll be the ones having fun!

*Marie Harris, Project Manager*



## **Minutes**



### **DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING**

**President Carolyn Tinner** called the DCMGA Board of Directors meeting to order at 9:06 am. Those in attendance were Karen Archambault, Annie Brackin, Annell Burns, Celia Cohen, John Cooper, Peggy Durrett, Sandy Hiatte, Linda Krimm, Pam McClimon, Susan Musgrave, Carolyn Tinner, Linda Williams, Donna Wolfe, and Mary Morrow.

**Mary Morrow**, Secretary, sent the minutes to members via email and the minutes were accepted as printed. Carolyn made a suggestion that the minutes be submitted by email to those in attendance prior to publishing on the website. All agreed.

**Linda Williams**, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's report. The ending balance as of February 28 was \$25,347.25, which includes \$15,279.11 for the 2005 Conference. The report was accepted. Dues for 135 DCMGs were sent to the state while the \$10 annual fee was paid by only 118 DCMGAs. Discussion followed on setting a deadline for dues to be paid each year.

**Sandy Hiatte**, First Vice President, reviewed the new Project Initiation Form and asked that any changes or suggestions be sent to her. She will be introducing the form to the new class at the next Project Day, March 22.

**Pam McClimon**, Newsletter Editor, asked about feedback regarding the Roto-Teller moving to the website. It was discussed whether or not mailings should be made to all the membership or just to those without email. It was decided to continue sending the newsletter to only those who do not have email.

Carolyn Tinner asked who is in charge of setting up the AV equipment for the monthly meetings. It was decided to have the Program Chairman make sure the equipment is in place and working prior to the meetings.

**John Cooper** reviewed for Board approval a new project to take place in the fall. It would be similar to the DISD Redbud Days but take place in the LISD, which includes 25-30 schools. Trees would be donated by DCWSC and most likely be native trees and given to all third graders. Susan Musgrave volunteered to be Project Manager.

**Karen Archambault**, Second Vice President, advised there are no caladium bulbs available at a reasonable price. Selena Schindler will be coordination the Redbud Days Festival at the Denton Courthouse on the Square. DCMGA will have a booth at the 2005 Conference. A deadline of April 15 was set for ordering DCMGA shirts and other apparel. Reminders and order forms will be in both the Roto-Teller and at the next two General Meetings. Karen gave an update on the Fall Plant Sale. Plants will be kept at LISDOLA, where they will set up a bed and water the plants donated until the sale.

**Linda Krimm** provided a list of possible invitees to the 2005 Conference reception. Sixteen guests will be invited by the DCMGA and Sandy and Mary will handle the invitations.

**Peggy Durrett**, 2005 Conference Program Chairman, advised there are 355 hotel registrants. She gave an overall update on the Conference and reminded everyone of the dates of volunteer training and remaining meetings before the Conference.

**Annell Burns**, Speakers Bureau Chairman, advised we had three presentations for the Dallas Home and Garden Show (Debbie Hipp on birds, Janie Farler and Judy Cobb on topiary, and Rica Potenz on native plants). She advised all presentations include a brief history of DCMGA and how to become a MG.

Carolyn requested an annual review of the By-laws, which will be coordinated by Annie Brackin.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.

 **Datebook** 

**Apr. 1 at 8:30am** - Highland Village Elementary Outdoor Classroom workday

**Apr. 4 at 9:30am** - Volunteer training meeting, Guadalupe Room, Doral Hotel and Golf Club

**Apr. 4** - Conference Committee meeting, following volunteer training meeting, Guadalupe Room, Doral Hotel and Golf Club

**Apr. 5 at 4pm** - Training Class for Argyle Acres

**Apr. 6 at 9:30am** - Bagging of the seedlings for Children's Arbor Day. If you need more information, please contact Carolyn Gold

**Apr. 7 & 8** - Distribution of redbuds to the 3rd graders for Children's Arbor Day. If you need more information, please contact Carolyn Gold

**Apr. 9 thru Apr. 24, noon to 5pm** - Open House at Argyle Acres

**Apr. 9** - Redbud Festival, Courthouse on the Square

**Apr. 9** - Lewisville Smartscape Event at Upper Trinity Regional Water District

**Apr. 9** - Spring Plant Sale at Ft. Worth Botanical Gardens

**Apr. 9 at 8:30am -12pm** - Kaufman County Master Gardeners Spring Garden Seminar

**Apr. 9 or 10** - The Benz School of Floral Design Master Gardener Workshops

**Apr. 13 at 10:00am** - DCMGA Monthly meeting, Dotty Woodson, Orchids

**Apr. 14 at 6pm to 9pm**  
**Apr. 15 at 6pm to 9pm**  
**&**  
**Apr. 16 at 8:30am to 4:30pm**

Free classes for Master Composter Certification are being offered by the Town of Flower Mound. All three classes must be attended and additional hours must be completed in order to obtain the Master Composter Certification through the State.

**Apr. 15 at 8:30am** - Highland Village Elementary Outdoor Classroom workday

**Apr. 18 at 9:30am** - Conference Committee meeting, Health Department conference room (same building as Extension Office)

**Apr. 18 at 7:00pm** - Volunteer training meeting, Guadalupe Room, Doral Hotel and Golf Club

**Apr. 20 at 9am** - Bayless Selby House Workday

**Apr. 20 at 9:30am** - Special Mentor/Intern Event. Diane Land, DCMGA member, has invited the interns of 2005 and their mentors to spend a special day touring both her gardens and those of her neighbor, Marie Caillet.

**Apr. 23 at 10am to 2 pm** - Town of Flower Mound is planning an Environmental Fair. They have a lot of activities planned and will be showing off their new Tree Farm and an

outdoor learning trail.

**Apr. 25 at 9:15am** - LISDOLA workday

**Apr. 26 at 9am** - Adding Red Buds to goodie bags, Extension Office

### **May 2005**

**May 5-8** - 2005 TMG Advanced Training Seminar, Doral Tesoro Hotel and Golf Club

**May 14, 10:00am - 4:00pm**, and **May 15, 1:00pm - 5:00pm** - Hood County Garden Tour  
On Saturday and Sunday the Hood County Master Gardeners will host a Garden Tour. The tour will feature several Master Gardeners' homes and will provide educational displays on drip irrigation and rainwater harvesting. Save the date; more information will be coming soon

**May 18 at 9am** - Bayless Selby House Workday

**May 23 at 9:15am** - LISDOLA workday

### **June 2005**

**Jun. 4** - Texas Discovery Gardens Plant Sale

**Jun. 8** - DCMGA monthly meeting, Trinity Turf at Pilot Point

**Jun.11 or 12** - The Benz School of Floral Design Master Gardener Workshops

**Jun. 21 & 22** and again on **Jun. 28 & 29** - A two-day "Specialist in Oak Wilt" training session will be offered at Tenroc Ranch in Salado

### **July 2005**

**Jul. 13** - DCMGA monthly meeting, Nancy Collins and Owen Yost, Backyard Habitats

**Jul. 24-27** - 2005 International Master Gardener Conference in Saskatoon, Canada

### **August 2005**

**Aug. 6 or 7** - The Benz School of Floral Design Master Gardener Workshops

### **October 2005**

**Oct. 8 or 9** - The Benz School of Floral Design Master Gardener Workshops

### **December 2005**

**Dec. 3 or 4** - The Benz School of Floral Design Master Gardener Workshops

**The End**

