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SCMG Association Meeting  
January 4th  
at 11:30 AM  
at the Rose Garden Center

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## SCMG Association Meeting January 4th 11:30 AM at the Rose Garden Center

The January meeting will be on Thursday January 4th at 11:30 at the Rose Garden Center.



Henry Burch and Pat Welch will be collecting 2018 dues, so please plan on paying your dues that day and kick the year off with assisting Henry & Pat.

Jean Smith will conduct a training session on the new system for Master Gardeners to report their hours. (See below)

*Wayne Elliott*

## Volunteer Hours Reports

Have you filed all of your 2017 hours reports? If not, now is the time for you to submit those reports! Thanks



*Pat Welch*

## Susan Stone Sez....



Well, this is it! I'm really going this time. The last two years have been busy, sometimes stressful, but always very rewarding. I've worked with some great people, and if I try to thank everyone, I'm sure I'll miss someone. But I have to mention a few: Pat Welch, who helped me with just about everything; Linda Sargent and Jean Smith, who were willing to tackle new technology for the group; the great teams who managed the Spring Flower Market, Home Garden Tour, AgriWorld, and From Bulbs to Blooms; the Board of Directors who never failed to offer wise leadership; and of course, a special thank you to all the members who are the backbone of this incredible organization. Finally, thanks to Greg Grant for his leadership and stability after our 2016 odyssey! (As far as I know, I'm the only MG president to ever work with 4 different Ag Agents.)

Here's looking forward to a great 2018 with fertile soil and plenty of water and sunshine! Hope to see you all at the January 4 meeting at the Rose Garden Center.  
*Susan Stone*, President

## Volunteer Management System

Several years ago, the Texas Master Gardener Association implemented an online Volunteer Management System for recording of MG volunteer hours. This past year the Board of Directors have been testing the program and we are now ready to roll it out to the SCMG. Please plan to attend the January 4 meeting to learn how the Volunteer Management System works and how you get signed up for it. Jean Smith will walk you through the process and show you everything about the new system. All Master Gardeners will be required to use the system to report volunteer hours. This program will also be the base for MG emails, where you can find the Grapevine, updated photo albums and other information pertaining to the SCMG. The Volunteer Management System will streamline our organization and make the reporting of volunteer hours easier and more efficient.

## Our Gardening Heritage

By Greg Grant

You may have noticed something different in the Heritage Rose Garden. We expanded the bed along the sidewalk leading up to the heart of the garden and replaced the Japanese maiden grass (*Miscanthus sinensis*) with 'Marie Pavie' polyantha roses. 'Marie Pavie' is a very fragrant cluster-flowered antique rose introduced in 1888. It has been one of Dr William C. Welch's favorites since he first saw it at the famed Huntington Botanic Gardens years ago.

Polyantha roses are dwarf, ever-blooming, cluster-flowered roses that mostly descend from crosses between the Japanese multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*) and the China rose (*Rosa chinensis*). The multiflora rose gives the plants their characteristic clusters of small flowers and the China rose their ever-blooming trait. Polyantha roses are very adapted to the South and became the parents of floribunda roses. As a matter of fact, I once coined the phrase "Polly wants all the tea in China" to teach gardeners that the three classes of roses most adapted to Texas and the South were polyanthas, teas, and Chinas. In rural cemeteries not plagued with "perpetual care," all three classes can be found still surviving with limited input.

Several polyantha roses have been designated Earth-Kind™ roses by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, including 'Cecile Brunner,' 'La Marne,' and 'Marie

Daly,' a pink sport of 'Marie Pavie' that I discovered and introduced. All three of these Earth-Kind™ polyantha roses can be found in our Heritage Rose Garden at the Tyler Rose Garden.

In addition to being tough and easy to grow, 'Marie Pavie' is also one of the most fragrant roses in the garden with what is known as a "free on the air" fragrance, as opposed to a heavy rose fragrance that stays put in the flower like old European roses possess.

Next on the agenda in the Heritage Rose Garden will be a collection of tea roses in an area previously occupied by San Augustine grass. Unfortunately most of our rose beds are now being shaded out by the large 'Muskogee' hybrid crape myrtles along the back fence. There are many tough roses but unfortunately no shade tolerant roses.

You might also notice a limited amount of companion floral color in the beds. This is because we seeded old-fashioned re-seeding annuals that won't bloom until the spring. Then the garden will be awash in color with old-fashioned petunias, larkspur, and peony poppies which will plant themselves each year just as they did in our ancestors' gardens. Don't worry. I promise it will be pretty. Stay tuned for more! -Greg



## Officers for year 2018

The roster below will be installed as the new association officers at the January 4th meeting.

President - Wayne Elliott  
 Vice President - Janie Fowler  
 Secretary - Sherri Matthews  
 Treasurer - Henry Burch  
 Assistant Treasurer - Pat Welch  
 Historians - Betty Atchley & Jan Moch  
 Parliamentarian - Susan Stone  
 Director at Large - Ann Kelly  
 Director at Large - Mimi Hershey  
 State Director 1 year term - Jean Smith  
 State Director 2 year term - Linda Munn  
 Alt. State Director 1 year term - Cathy Swindell  
 Alt. State Director 2 year term - Debby Watkins

## 2018 Master Gardener Class Schedule

### For January 2018

January 4: *Orientation/MG Projects/MG History/Botany* (w/Keith Hansen). Extension Office

January 11: *Water/Soils/Fertility/Composting*. Extension Office

January 18: *Trees* (w/Daniel Duncum)/*Fruit Production/Vegetable Production*. Extension Office

January 24: Dr. Kevin Ong, Extension Plant Pathologist - *Plant Diseases*. Overton at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center 9:00 am-4:00 pm

New this year, there is only one class per week.

All classes will begin at 9:00 AM and end at 4:00 PM.

Classes will be in Room 116A at the Extension Office, unless they are held at Overton, as noted.

The complete schedule is posted on the SCMG website, on the Members page.





The Texas Master Gardener Association, together with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services is hosting the 2018 Annual Conference April 4-6, 2018 in College Station, Texas. It will be a FULL three days, beginning first thing on the 4th and going until the end of the day on the 6th! For more information go to: [2018tmgaconference.com](http://2018tmgaconference.com)

Many of our members will be attending the Texas Master Gardeners Conference in College Station on April 4-6. That conflicts with our April Spring Awards luncheon. We will be moving the awards luncheon to Wednesday April 11 at 11:30 AM at the Rose Room. *Wayne Elliott*

### Specialist Training

Did you know that SCMG offers partial reimbursement for Master Gardeners to attend one of the several specialist certification programs offered by the Extension Service? Check out Policy 3015 "Financial Aid Assistance" online to review guidelines and requirements. Upcoming courses include Junior Master Gardeners, Plant Health & Diagnostics, Vegetables, and Greenhouse Management. Additional courses will be offered throughout the year. This is an excellent way to further your education and give back to the organization at the same time.

#### Master Gardener Vegetable Specialist

The Vegetable Specialist program is designed to train and certify Master Gardeners to become part of a state corps of volunteer experts and educators.

Training is scheduled for February 14, 15 & 16, 2018 at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Dallas County, 10056 Marsh Lane, Dallas, TX.

Cost is \$235. Deadline is January 26, 2018.

Questions—Contact—Stephen Hudkins at [Stephen.hudkins@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Stephen.hudkins@ag.tamu.edu)

#### JMG Specialist Training

REGISTRATION is NOW OPEN for the 2018 JMG National Leader Training, taking place February 27th – March 1st! at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX

This 3-day National Leader Training Conference will equip you with everything you need to effectively lead groups of Junior Master Gardeners through successful garden-based learning projects AND empower you to host JMG Training Workshops and support other teachers/leaders in your community!

Training will emphasize supporting JMG programming at schools, after school programs and community-based clubs. Program sustainability through community collaborations & partnerships will be addressed and specific program resources, marketing materials, and support items will be provided.

To register or get more info, go to: <http://JMGkids.us/2018NLT>

#### Bluebird Season Kickoff

The [Bluebird Season Kickoff](#) moves to the 4th Saturday in February the 24th. Go to [Registration](#) for details.

The event will be in Bryan at the Brazos County Expo Center.

#### 2018 MG Calendar



The calendar will continue to be available through March 2018 at the following businesses: Blue Moon Garden, Breedlove Nursery, Cycle of Seasons, Dory's Garden, Fleming Farm and Ranch, Hand Nursery, Harris Nursery, Harris Nursery Garden Station, Hughes Plant Farm, In the Wind, Potpourri House, Rainer's Nursery, Roquemore's Hardware, Rose Garden Store, Senter's Nursery, Southland Feed, Steele's Feed & Seed, and Tyler Public Library.

Calendars are \$7.00 each. The calendars can also be purchased by mail for \$10.00 each from the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office, 1517 W Front St, Suite 116, Tyler, TX 75702.



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## Looking Ahead...



### Master Gardeners at the Library

At Tyler's Public Library. Free and open to the public.

Each lecture begins at 11:30 AM.

The schedule for 2018 is as follows:

January 12—Dee Bishop, *Make no Mistake. Gardening Mistakes, What Not to Do!*

February 9—Greg Grant, *Texas Tough! History of Texas Superstar Plant Program*

March 9—Wayne Elliott, *Raised Bed Gardening on a Hillside*

April 13—Adie Rathbone, *Pass-Along Plants*

May 11—Debby Watkins, *Sex in the Garden—All About Propagation*

### Landscape Design School Series XXV, Course IV February 26-27, 2018

The George Bush Presidential Library at Texas A & M University will be the site of Landscape Design School IV, February 26-27, 2018. The Schools are sponsored by Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. & the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A & M University. For more info, go to:

<https://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southerngarden/>

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### SPRING LANDSCAPE & GARDEN TOUR

Join the Smith County Environmental Education Horticulture Committee on Tuesday, March 27, from 9-12 as we tour the beautiful and prestigious Azalea District garden of Guy and Joan Pyron.

The tour will be led by Smith County Horticulture Agent, Greg Grant, and former Smith County Horticulture Agent, Keith Hansen, and will focus on outstanding landscape plants for East Texas gardens.

Cost: \$15.00

Contact: (903) 590-2980 for more information.

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**Smith County Master Gardener Association**  
**1517 West Front St., Suite 116**  
**Tyler, TX 75702**

Photo by Greg Grant