



# MG Grapevine



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

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## Wayne's Word



Fall is a unique season for gardeners in East Texas. After a long summer when the sun has blasted everything we get relief. The days grow shorter, the temperatures moderate, especially the early morning temperatures and most importantly we get rain. We have experienced all of that this year in early September. What a blessing the rain and cooler temperatures have been.

This was a difficult summer for me as I could not get out early to start in the garden. I am just now getting to do some of the pruning, cleaning up, mulching, and moving a few plants that were unhappy where they were located. If they insist on still being unhappy, I consider them grumpy and permanently move them to a neighbor's yard or to the compost pile. Don't like grumpy things. The "dirt therapy" has been good for me and I am less grumpy than I was just weeks ago.

Fall is also unique with colors that we only see at this time of year. It is a season where we have encore azaleas, rain lilies and other flowers that are in full bloom mixed with the faded yet golden

blooms on hydrangeas and other flowers. Now all we need to do is wait for the leaves to turn. We are still weeks from that miracle. But with that miracle we also get to rake leaves and add those to our compost piles. What a great time to be a Master Gardener and enjoy all of the above.

This is also a busy season as the SCMG Nomination committee has been calling and preparing for 2019. The committee is doing due diligence on the slate and I urge each of you to consider answering the call to duty.

Fall is also a busy time of the year as the East Texas State Fair has come and gone. Laurie and her hard working folks have just presented a great "Secret Garden" with Mr. McGregor (Laura Fields made a life size Mr. McGregor that you have to see) and Peter Rabbit as the theme. If you have not visited the "Secret Garden" this year there should still be time.

Last call for volunteers to man the "Award Winning Bulbs to Blooms" conference and sale. As Susan says, it's time for "all hands on deck". Please volunteer to make this the biggest and best conference we have had.

Be safe out there and again what a great time to be a SCMG.

Wayne Elliott, President

**Go to page 2 for more from Wayne.**

**The October monthly meeting will be on Thursday, October 4th at 11:30 at the Rose Garden Center.** Mr. Rick Williams, a volunteer for the Dallas Arboretum Speakers Bureau will present a photographic program on "Trees at Dallas Arboretum".

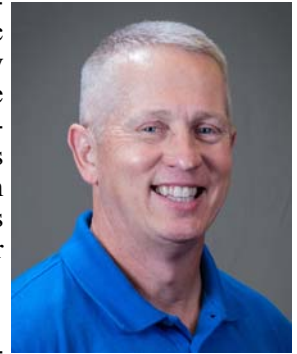
Mr. Williams is a graduate of Texas A&M. He is a Vietnam veteran. In 2007 he began volunteering at the Dallas Arboretum. In 2016, he became the chairman of the Dallas Arboretum's Volunteer Advisory Board.

Look forward to his presentation and seeing all of you there!

Janie Fowler

## Rules of Rustling

I was recently asked about my protocols for “rustling,” rescuing, or saving plants. According to Mr. Webster and friends, rustling involves “moving, bringing, or getting by energetic action” or “to steal livestock.” To the uninitiated, it may sound like a bit of a rogue activity with rough edged participants running rough shod over the landscape singing “gnome on the range.” But it actually involves more of a cultural and horticultural treasure hunt with scholarly overtones. When searching for long lost heirloom plants that got away from the herd, it’s very important to be aware of both garden and social ethics. After all, gardeners look best in situ, not in the county jail. So to avoid any troubles, take this list of rustling commandments and commit them to memory. Never trespass on private property. I’m not sure about other states, but in Texas folks will shoot you in the aster!



1. Find the owner and ask permission to propagate the plant. Always offer to exchange money, other plants, or your first born if need be.
2. Only take cuttings, never the entire plant. Plants that have survived for years on a site have earned the right to be there. They are a living part of history. They may also mark the location of houses, flower beds, or property lines for future owners or historians so leave them alone! Only if a dozer is imminent to destroy the site should a plant be completely removed, with the owner’s permission of course.
3. Always tidy up the parent plant by removing volunteer woody plants and other weeds growing with it, pruning out the dead wood, fertilizing it, and mulching it if you can. Everybody and everything needs a hand at some point in time.
4. Write down the name of the owner and the location of the plant for future reference.

Take pictures to document the plant and the site!

Since knowing its true name is often impossible, give the plant a study name like “Scottsville Gallica” rose “Beauty Operator” iris that can be passed around with it. I like to use names that designate the person or place they came from.

—Greg

### Wayne’s Word continued from page 1

1) Interns are asked to bring their Intern Logbooks to the meeting on Thursday Oct 4th. Wayne would like to check your logbook. There are 4 interns that have not worked AgriWorld and need to get those hours in. Teardown is on October 12st. Plan to help so you can get your hours. Some of the interns have not signed up for the "Award Winning Bulbs to Blooms" conference and sale. Please do so immediately.

2) I had a phone call from an irritated lady. It seems she suspects a SCMG of digging up iris and a gardenia (that she had been hauling water to) from her property off Rhones Quarter. Please remember that we always get permission before we dig up plants.

Thanks—Wayne

The Board of Directors met September 21, 2018.

The following action items were discussed:

#### Projects

2019 Calendar sales are underway.

AgriWorld is in full swing with Mr. MacGregor’s Garden.

Work on Bulbs to Blooms is ongoing. The trees and shrubs pre-sale was successful and Greg is continuing to dig bulbs at his farm.

#### Policy Changes

Membership Policy will be clarified to state that nominations for Lifetime Members must be initiated by another SCMG member.

Policy on Reporting Volunteer and Continuing Education Hours will be changed to reflect appropriate recording of travel time.

#### Bylaws Changes

The Board agreed to propose the following changes to the Bylaws:

Clarification of term limitations for State Directors and Alternate State Directors.

Addition of the Publicity/Communications Coordinator to the Board of Directors as a permanent, voting member.



## 2019 Calendar

The 2019 calendar is now available for sale. It is all about roses and includes some amazing pictures of roses and other flowers you can grow. Each month a different rose is featured including its history. These roses were selected because many are Eathkind and they are all easy care. The calendar also includes an article about the Heritage Garden, a short history of roses, and a great article about growing and using herbs. These make wonderful gifts so plan to buy several. They are only \$7.00 each again this year.

Sherri Matthews



### Bulbs to Blooms

Once again it's time for SCMG's annual fall bulb sale. The "Award Winning" *From Bulbs to Blooms* Conference and Sale is scheduled for Saturday, October 13, at Harvey Hall. Registration begins at 8:30.

Guest speaker this year is Keith Kridler, Master Gardener, bulb farmer, daffodil expert, and blue bird enthusiast from Mt. Pleasant, Texas. Keith will talk about "Proven Spring

Bulbs for Texas". Following Keith, our very own noted horticulturist, Greg Grant, will discuss "Earth-Kind Fall Bulbs". Greg's presentation will cover fall bulbs and their uses in the landscape with particular attention to bulbs featured during the sale.

Last year's sale was a big success and this one is looking to be as well. We'll have a great array of door prizes; vendor booths featuring local businesses and artisans; a silent auction offering a special rare, hot pink spider lily; a nice selection of trees and shrubs; and of course, an outstanding selection of hardy bulbs for the southern garden. You can also purchase a 2019 Calendar or one of Greg's books (proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund).

A few ground rules to remember:

If you are an intern this year, you need to record volunteer hours for the bulb sale. If you've not signed up to work, contact Ann Smith.

If you purchased a tree or shrub during the pre-sale, please pick up your order on Friday, October 12, between 2 and 4 pm. Trees or shrubs not picked up Friday, will be added to sale merchandise on Saturday.

The Bulb Sale will start at 11:30 am. Master Gardeners will be notified from the podium when they may begin to participate in the sale (usually no later than 12:30 pm).

Master Gardeners are eligible for door prizes, but may not bid during the silent auction.

The list of bulbs, trees and shrubs available for sale will be posted on our website at <https://txmg.org/smith/coming-events/>.

A lot of effort has gone into making this year's conference and sale a success. Please plan on joining us!

## The Texas Fruit Conference

October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

Location: **The City of New Braunfels Civic Convention Center, 375 S. Castell Avenue, New Braunfels, Texas.**

While oriented toward small acreage and commercial production of perennial orchard crops, the Texas Fruit Conference is open to anyone who wants to know more about fruit growing in Texas. The 2018 educational program will cover a range of fruit production and marketing topics.

Regular online registration is \$75/person. On-site registration on Oct. 15th is \$85/person.

Conference Registration Site: <http://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/>

### Henderson County Master Gardener Association Hosts Neil Sperry

HCMGA, is thrilled to host Mr. Neil Sperry for their fall conference this year. "Facts and Fantasies of Texas Gardening, An Evening with Neil Sperry" will be held on Thursday, October 4, 2018 at the Athens Country Club, from 6 – 8 pm. Tickets are \$50 each, including dinner. A table can be reserved with the purchase of eight tickets. **A limited number of tickets are available and they are expected to sell out early.** The tickets will be sold only online at a safe and secure website: <https://hendersonmg.ejoinme.org/fallconference>, and assistance is available from a Master Gardener, if needed, for online ticket purchases. A receipt will be emailed immediately after purchase.

For more information, please contact:

Henderson County Master Gardeners Association  
903-675-6130

Email: [hendersonCMGA@gmail.com](mailto:hendersonCMGA@gmail.com)

### 300 Years of Plants on the Move in Texas

October 5 & 6, 2018

A SGHS State Ambassadors Program in Nacogdoches, Texas, *300 Years of Plants on the Move in Texas*, will join with SFAU Gardens and Friends of Historic Nacogdoches, Inc. to celebrate Texas' Tricentennial in gardening with tours, lectures, and a reception.

Lectures will cover a broad sweep of gardening history in Texas beginning with the Spanish era through to modern introductions. Speakers include Greg Grant, David Creech, Jeff Abt, and will feature keynote speaker, Bill Welch.

The event will be held Fredonia Hotel and Convention Center.





### AgriWorld

Finishing touches were put on "Our Secret Garden" in AgriWorld this morning (September 20th) and it is ready for the fair opening in the morning. The committee did a fantastic job in every way: cleaning, painting, laying flooring, making posters, decorating and showcasing their projects. I could go on and on but it is so worth seeing with Mr. McGregor and his beautiful garden, Peter Rabbit and his sisters, composting/mulch display, straw bale gardening, wagon wheel herb garden, pollinator display, education table and posters and newly painted garden house next to a gorgeous tree where Peter makes his home! Please come by and take a look before the fair ends on Sunday, Sept. 30! A huge thanks to everyone who helped make it come together! Thank you, *Laurie Graham*

### First Tuesday in the Garden

Join us at Noon on the Patio in the IDEA Garden the First Tuesday in October, and November for our Fall Gardening series of programs. Seating is limited, so you may want to bring a lawn chair. The lectures run about 30 to 40 minutes, followed by a question and answer session.

All lectures begin at Noon - Oct. 2 - "Bulb Basics and 'Bulbs to Blooms' Preview" with Anne Pattullo

Nov. 6 - "Container Gardens for Winter & Christmas" with Susan Nelson



**For more events and more details - go to—**<http://txmg.org/smith/coming-events/>



SCMGA members and a spouse attend Landscape Design School Course I Series XXVI in College Station on September 24-25, 2018.

In front from L-R: Valerie Swords, Steve Farrell, Debby Watkins, Delane Sykes, Heather Stephens, Susan Craddock (spouse), John Craddock. In rear from L-R: Liz Langford, Terri Gerber.

Debby, Delane, Heather, and Valerie have completed all four modules in the School and are done.