



<http://scmg.tamu.edu>

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April 2021



**The next  
SCMG Association meeting is  
Thursday April 1, 2021  
At 11:30 AM**

MG Grapevine Staff  
Martin Davis, Editor

MG Grapevine Contributors:  
Greg Grant, Mary Jo Madden, Debby Watkins, Belinda Kromer, and Susan Stone.

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## Mary Jo Madden's comments

When you were a kid, did you watch Ed Sullivan on Sunday nights? That's where I first saw Elvis - my dad got me out of bed to come look, as our bedtime back then was 8:30. And of course, The Beatles! But the segment that comes to mind most frequently these days is the guy who keeps all the plates spinning. And I'm that guy.



Monthly meeting - The Zoom link is a plate. the agenda is another - the old business, the new business. Find a photo of a flag to use for the Pledge. The Board of Directors meeting agenda, Zoom link. Keeping up with hours. Writing this column. Volunteering in the garden. Writing letters. Answering emails. Wish I had paid more attention to how he kept them all going!

Maybe related to other Texas Master Gardener Associations, SCMGA is relatively large. But when you look at the number of programs and projects we have going on, it's a different picture. Our organization is small, only 130 Active members. There are many volunteer opportunities to choose from, and wonderful people to work along side of in each of them. With the weather improv-

ing, the gardens are beckoning! We just had an absolutely marvelous Master Gardeners at The Library presentation by Elizabeth Waldrop! Think about the Speakers Bureau - we will help you with the tech part of your presentation! The Bulb Sale folks have already started - and that event isn't until October. The Calendar crew will be getting together any day now. And the Greenhouse is covered and ready to start experimenting, thanks to Mim Hershey stepping up. We are looking for assistance with the new VMS system, which starts April 1st. And we want to put together an event celebrating the dedication of the new Tyler Botanical Garden - maybe you are the person to help develop that! Find your niche! I am looking forward to seeing everyone become more involved, more active! My dog Archie and I are both fully vaccinated - and so are a lot of others in our high-risk Master Gardener group. We are all volunteers, and together we can share the load and accomplish our mission. See you in the garden! Or at a meeting! Or on Zoom



*Mary Jo Madden, President*

## April Awards Meeting



We want to have a wonderful Awards Meeting on April 1st! It won't be the luncheon that we've had in the past, but we can have a picnic! We will safely assemble in a covered outdoor area at the Glass Recreation Center, 501 W. 32nd Street, Tyler at our normal meeting time of 11:30. **Go to page 2 for details.**



### Turfgrass 101 for East Texas

By Greg Grant



#### Types of grass available:

St. Augustine (Coarse texture, shade or sun, vegetative only, prone to chinch bugs, brown patch, take-all-root-rot, and grubs, medium fertility, high mowing height)

Bermudagrass (Fine texture, sun only, vegetative or seed, high fertility, low mowing height)

Centipede grass (Medium texture, sun or part shade, vegetative or difficult seed, low fertility, medium mowing height)

Zoysia (Fine texture, sun or part shade, vegetative only, medium fertility, medium mowing height with a sharp mower, slow growing, more expensive)

Perennial ryegrass (Fine texture, sun or part shade, seed only, low mowing height, cool season annual for winter overseeding only, expensive)

Annual ryegrass (Coarse texture, sun or part shade, seed only, high mowing height, cool season annual for winter overseeding or erosion control, cheap)

Mow frequently, never removing more than 1/3 of the leaf blade.

Use 3:1:2 ratio fertilizer, such as 15-5-10 or 28-3-12 (premium lawn fertilizers are better but more expensive as they contain slow release forms of nitrogen). Do not use "weed and feed" fertilizers.

#### Fertilizer applications:

Centipede (fertilize once per year in spring)

St. Augustine and zoysia (fertilize twice per year in spring and fall)

Bermuda (fertilize three times per year in spring, summer, and fall)

#### Mowing heights:

Bermuda (low, 1 inch for hybrid, 2 inches for common)

Centipede and zoysia (medium, 2-3 inches)

St. Augustine (high, 3-4 inches)

#### Irrigation:

Most lawns are watered too frequently leading to increased diseases like brown patch, dollar spot, and gray leaf spot. Sprinkler systems are best kept on manual and run once each week (1 inch at a time, less rainfall) during the months of June, July, and August. That's only 12 times a year total. Sprinklers should not run during the fall, winter, or spring.

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Please wear a face mask. Social distancing will be respected. Hand sanitizer will be provided.

Please sign up below so we can get a count for tables and chairs.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054DA5AE2AAAF94-april>

For the April meeting - Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96345399134?pwd=UWkzYndJaGhUV2pXUGZjREltekwwQT09>

## REPORT FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MARCH 18, 2021

The following items were discussed:

Report received for 2021 Financial Audit.

Policies and Procedures Manual will be updated.

130 members have paid dues for 2021.

Greenhouse Project has new coordinator – Mimi Hershey.

VMS System Replacement goes live April 1, 2021. Training will be forthcoming on how to use it after Administrators receive training.

Plans for a Tyler Botanical Garden Dedication are hopefully in the works.

Hours Requirements for 2021

New Intern Class – State minimum of 50 volunteer hours completed by March 31, 2022

Certified Master Gardeners – Return to 24 volunteer hours and 9 continuing education hours.

Newly Certified Class 27 will need 18 volunteer hours and 6 continuing education hours. All will need to be completed by December 31, 2021.

*Debby Watkins*



### TYLER BOTANICAL GARDEN DEDICATION

We want to plan a very scaled-down Tyler Botanical Garden dedication for later this year, probably in the Fall.

*Mary Jo Madden*



### SCMG HELP DESK

Once again, the MG Help Desk is open on-site at the AgriLife Office. We need trained volunteers to work any shift, Monday through Friday, 9 to noon, or 1 to 4. If you'd like to work, but haven't been through training, let us know and we'll schedule training for you. This is an easy way to get your volunteer hours. And here's a secret: if you ask Greg a question and he winds up giving a mini lecture about it (the better part of an hour) - you can count it as 1 CE. For more information, email Susan Stone at [slstone11@gmail.com](mailto:slstone11@gmail.com) or call/text at 903-952-7506.

*Susan Stone*



### 2021 MASTER GARDENERS AT THE LIBRARY

11:30 PM - 1:00 PM - VIA ZOOM

For Zoom Link go to "Upcoming Events" at <https://txmg.org/smith/>  
Or Events at <https://www.facebook.com/SmithCountyMasterGardeners>



### LECTURES & DATES

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| March 19 | "Fairies in the Garden (Pollinators and Herbs)" Smith County Master Gardener Elizabeth Waldrop will talk about how to attract beneficial bugs to your garden by growing "useful plants;" a simple strategy that will enliven your garden, charm your taste buds, and improve the environment. |
| April 16 | "Fixin' to Garden in Texas" Smith County Master Gardener Andie Rathbone will talk about how to "bloom where you're planted" when you move to East Texas from other parts of the country or even from other parts of Texas.  |
| May 21   | "The Hole Truth: The Woodpeckers of East Texas" Greg Grant, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Horticulture Agent for Smith County will talk about why these birds are so important to our lives and to our landscapes.   |

The Members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, Veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife, The Texas A&M University System, US Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.





May 18- 19, 2021

Texas Master Gardener Virtual Conference

<https://txmg.org/2021-virtual-conference>

INTERNATIONAL  
MASTER  
GARDENER  
CONFERENCE



**REGISTRATION OPENS APRIL 5 2021**

<https://www.internationalmastergardener.com/>



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





# APRIL 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 SCMG Meeting Glass Rec. Center 11:30 AM	2	3 Shade Garden Workday 8 AM
Happy Easter! 	5	6 Garden Work Day 9:00 AM	7 Shade Garden Workday 9:00AM	8	9	10
11	12	13 Garden Work Day 9:00 AM	14 Shade Garden Workday 9:00AM	15 Bd. Of Director's Meeting 10:00AM	16 MG at the Library 11:30AM	17 Shade Garden Workday 8 AM
18	19	20 Garden Work Day 9:00 AM	21 Shade Garden Workday 9:00AM	22 	23 <i>MG Grapevine deadline</i>	24
25	26	27 Garden Work Day 9:00 AM	28 Shade Garden Workday 9:00AM	29	30	

## Smith County Master Gardeners