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**The next SCMG Association meeting is
Thursday, August 4, 2022
At 11:30 AM at
Tyler Rose Center**

MG Grapevine Staff
Mary Jo Madden, Editor

MG Grapevine Contributors:

Greg Grant, Debby Watkins, Henry Burch, Belinda Kromer, Elizabeth Waldrop, Katy Barone, Lynn McGinnis, Paul Wick, Debbie Taylor, Sherri Matthews, Mary Hamlin, Lucy Morgan, Andie Rathbone

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Garden Winks

Hot, HOT and HOTTER! That was June! Now we look at the forecast for July and it is more of the same! That makes for challenging gardening especially for those who are heat intolerant. Mornings are pretty bearable in the gardens but do require hydration and a break to cool off. Take care in this heat.

Our yards and flowers are showing signs of 'drought' stress but with every shower, most will bounce back. Greg had a great continuing education session on 'Water'. Most of us are guilty of over watering and that stresses our plants as much as the heat and can result in disease and even death of plants. Use the suggested watering guides and pray for rain!

June was a month for teaching and learning. Elizabeth Waldrop did an awesome job on her 'Summer Stars' workshop. Great attendance! Door prizes were donated by Overton's Erin Smith. The workshop team worked hard to make it perfect! Thanks to all who worked and those who attended!

Have you heard the scuttle about the newest education project the SCMGA took on this year, the Nature Detective Camp? As an organization, we are so blessed with incredible talent in all areas including working with our community children. A team came together and created a 4-day camp that inspired, taught and entertained youth in our community. The Glass Rec Center was the perfect location and facilitated the week with complete support of the program. A variety of ages from 6 years old to 12 years old enjoyed learning events, nature scavenger hikes, making bird nests, insect hotels, simple bird feeders and so much more. They learned methods for collecting insect samples and looking at them under a microscope. They made posters illustrating habitat needs for different animals in nature. Bird beak exercises taught how different types of bird beaks manipulate, eat their food and other life needs, like gathering supplies for nests. Pollinator activities wrapped the week. Snacks were a daily activity too and one camper even ate her first ever Moon Pie! It was an outstanding week with outstanding leaders and campers! Thanks to all the Master Gardeners who participated in any way from donating scholarships and snacks to teaching and assisting during the week. You are the reason this organization is so great!

We have another first coming up at the end of July. SCMGA will have a weekly 3-minute segment on CBS19. It will be on Thursdays at noon beginning July 28th. Andie Rathbone has taken on the responsibility of mapping out the weekly 'TV Star' from our group. Enjoy those segments and celebrate another opportunity for us to educate and spread the word to our community about our program, gardening needs and our community events.

July is the only month that we **do not** have a monthly membership meeting. Enjoy your 4th of July weekend! Thank you all for what you do for SCMGA and this great community!



Belinda Kromer

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Q&A Greg Grant

Q: *My oak trees still look very bad after the 2021 freeze. Will they ever recover?*

A: Probably not. If they have recovered by now, they aren't going to without a multitude of falling limbs and ugliness. Have a certified arborist remove them. The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Smith County maintains a list of certified arborists in Smith County, or you can look them up on the International Society of Arboriculture-Texas Chapter website at isatexas.com.

Q: *It's so hot and dry! Should I be watering my lawn and garden every day?*

A: No. Everyday watering is wasteful and leads to increased chances of fungal and bacterial diseases including leaf spot, root rot, and periwinkle blight. During June, July, and August only, established lawns, annual flower beds, and vegetable gardens need one inch of water (in a single application) per week (minus rainfall); perennials, azaleas, and Japanese maples need one inch every two weeks; and shade trees, Asian jasmine, liriopse, roses, and most other shrubs need irrigation once a month. Try not to water periwinkles (vinca) at all or you will have to deal with dreaded aerial phytophthora (periwinkle blight) which is very difficult to control. I wrote a newspaper column on it for those that want more details on dealing with it.

Q: *My vegetable garden looks terrible. What did I do wrong? Should I give up?*

A: Certainly not. Not only should all cool season vegetables like broccoli, cabbage, lettuce, and other greens be dying naturally now, even warm season crops like eggplant, sweet peppers, and tomatoes often die or succumb to in-

sects and disease during our summer heat. As long as you have irrigation and remove any infested existing ones, July is time to start with new eggplant, pepper, and tomato transplants along with seeding new cucumbers, pumpkins, and squash from seed.

Q: *My young baldcypress trees are turning brown. Are they dying?*

A: No, but you need to soak them with water (at least a one-inch application, two hours with a sprinkler, or a drip hose all night long) once a month (or once a week if newly planted) to keep them alive during this drought. Baldcypress can lose all their needles in a drought and still be alive but best not to chance it. Put a three-inch layer of organic mulch (hay, pine straw, or grass clippings) around them to help them along as well.

Q: *My post oak just turned completely brown. What's wrong with it? I need it as it shades all my azaleas. My sprinkler runs three times a week so surely it can't be dry.*

A: It's not dry. It's DEAD! When plants die from drought, they die slowly. When they die from root or crown rot, they die very quickly. Post oaks are upland, dry loving trees and three times a week irrigation will kill them. They need irrigation once a month (minus rainfall) during June, July, and August only. Azaleas on the other hand require irrigation once every two weeks during those same months. Best to replace it with a bottomland tree that tolerates more moisture such as Shumard red oak or red maple.

Calendar Committee

The 2023 calendar is going to be wonderful. Thanks to everyone for all the pictures you have sent. I have received all the articles and they have been sent to Scherel Carver to do all the computer magic. We are on track to have the calendar ready for sale by September 1. We will need to set up people to deliver to businesses that want to sell it and I will discuss this at the September membership meeting. Thank you to everyone that has helped on the committee and with pictures.



Sherri Matthews

REPORTS FROM THE GARDENS

Heritage Rose Garden

Wow, it is hot! We really appreciate our volunteers who show up ready to do whatever needs to be done and never complain about anything, even the heat! We recently had a potluck luncheon and had the opportunity to visit and eat good food and enjoy the companionship of our fellow volunteers without having to pull any weeds. It was awesome! This month we'd like to salute our regular volunteers (we can't do July fireworks in the garden as the city wouldn't approve). Some come every week without fail and we couldn't do without them! So, we want to recognize and acknowledge the efforts of the following in alphabetical order: **Lyn Benson, Judi Braman, John Craddock, Navye Cummings, Tommie Grinnell, Lenka Johnson, Mary Jo Madden, Susan Seale, Heather Stephens, Redessa Weaver, and Tricia Wiggs.** We treasure the times that **Jack Quisenberry** is able to stop by as we learn so much from him. And we are excited that **Linda Gurasich**, our transferee from Hays Co, is going to join us in the garden.

Debby Watkins & Henry Burch



Loosestrife looking great in the heat!

Shade Garden

The Shade Garden crew was busy in June. Early in the month we planted four *Carex* varieties under the watchful eye and tutelage of agent emeritus, **Keith Hansen**. The planting will serve both as a plant trial and educational opportunity for the public to demonstrate their use as a perennial ground cover. Caladiums were planted near the fountain and Eastern Sugar Maples added to replace trees removed in the spring. Tea scale made its appearance in quite a few of the camellias. Though June is late in the game to address the problem, we decided to treat with a systemic soil drench. We also cut back *C. sasanqua* suckers coming up from root stock of grafted *C. japonicas*. Otherwise, we are trying to stay on top of the weeds, mainly pesky chamber bitters, and keep the garden adequately hydrated. Our summer theme song comes from the old Bee Gees hit, "Staying Alive!" On a final note, the Shade Garden team would like to thank the new interns for their reliability, hard work and cheery dispositions. The Shade Garden is a sprawling space to maintain and you have certainly lightened our load!

Katy Barone



“Above and Beyond Master Gardener Spotlight”– SCMGA – July 2022

“Nature Detective Camp TEAM” is how you spell awesome teaming! Katy Barone led the team and designed a program that is truly something our SCMGA can be proud of for 2022. This was a new project dreamed up by **Katy Barone** and **Elizabeth Waldrop** to allow our Master Gardeners the opportunity to work with and teach our future generation gardeners! Using Junior Master Gardener Curriculum as a guide, the camp was designed to be a 5 - day camp that had to be reduced to 4 days at the last minute due to unexpected closure of the facility for a holiday. Volunteer Master Gardeners signed up to teach and assist. They worked hard together to make this an experience we definitely want to repeat and make a tradition! Outstanding leadership and team teaching by the following: **Katy Barone, Denise Rasco and Belinda Kromer** (1st day – Nature Habitats), **Dale and Becky Wade** (2nd Day – Birds), **Terri Gerber and Janie Fowler** (3rd Day – Insects) and finally, **Elizabeth Waldrop and Chris Cochran** (4th Day- Pollinators). There were creative activities, experiments, nature hikes and scavenger hunts to fill the morning camp events. For each day **Navye Cummings** and **Sara Emry-Arthur** were the dynamic duo in charge of signing in our campers and then assisting every day with the camp events and activities and making sure our campers were picked up safely by their parents at the end of each day. Delicious snacks donated by **Lynn McGinnis** and her husband were enjoyed daily! Each set of teachers was off the chart in creativity, entertainment and variety of methods to teach. The team worked every day to make this week one to remember! The Campers were so exceptional and so bright. I am not completely sure who enjoyed it most, the campers or the team of Master Gardeners! **Thank you all for going “Above and Beyond” in a week filled with hours of planning, preparation and learning fun!** You rocked it!

And to quote a camper, “This was the ‘funist’ school ever!” Another camper said “I am coming back next year and the next year”.

Belinda Kromer

*Pretty please send me some of your
bulb stories!
We really want to publish them to promote our
Annual From Bulbs to Blooms Conference and Sale.
Need them by August 1st
Lynn McGinnis
lynnmac@suddenlink.net*



EXTRA EXTRA READ ALL ABOUT IT!!!!

Newspaper articles for June:

Tyler Morning Telegraph (Sundays only)

July 3 – “Fireworks in the Garden” – Marinda Arney
 July 10 – “My Gardening Journal” – Laurie Graham
 July 17 – “Budding & Grafting” – Liz Langford
 July 24 – “Dog Days of Summer” – Elizabeth Waldrop
 July 31 – “The Night the Japanese Bombed My Garden” – Doc Fletcher

Tyler Morning Telegraph under Lifestyles at <https://www.tylerpaper.com>.

Lindale News & Times (Thursdays only)*

July 7 – “Fireworks in the Garden” – Marinda Arney
 July 14 – “Basil” – Jim Powell
 July 21 – “Dog Days of Summer” – Elizabeth Waldrop
 July 28 – “Protecting Your Landscape from Fire” – SCMG

You can read the Lindale News & Times online for free at <https://www.lindalenewsandtimes.com/current-edition>.

**Note: Please remember the Lindale News & Times is a small local newspaper with lots of hometown flavor, so if there's an important community issue or the 4H is having a livestock show or even if a large corporation buys a full page ad, we get bumped that edition. They do try to use all the articles we send, however the date might be different.*

You guys are doing a great job on your articles, I love reading each and every one of them and our readers do too! Remember to stay hydrated and try to stay cool when you're out in your gardens! Happy Hot Summer!
 Keep up the great work!

Lynn McGinnis



Need VMS instructions for entering your hours? Mary Hamlin put together a great document with step by step instructions, and you can find it in the members section of our web site. Here's the link: [Members – Resources \(txmg.org\)](https://www.txmg.org/members-resources)

REPORT FROM BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING June 16, 2022



The June 2022 Board of Directors Meeting was held in person at the Cotton Belt Classroom. Items discussed included the following:

- The sending of \$4000 in horticultural student scholarships to SFA.
- The update of our Bylaws with new language regarding inclusion and discrimination.
- Additional modifications needed to our Bylaws and Policies & Procedures.
- Progress of the Home Garden Tour planning committee.
- Progress on the planning of weekly TV spots by MGs
- Upcoming VIP tours of the TBG
- The possibility of changing the time of our monthly membership meeting.

Mary Jo Madden, Past President/Parliamentarian

From Our Historian

There's a lot going on with SCMG. The home Tour group is busy gearing up for next May. Six homes have been selected for the tour. Lots of hard work there. The class at the Glass Center was a big success. The gardens are always busy and very beautiful.

Field Day is June 30 at the north fields and we hope a big crowd comes.

A group separated and loaded the crinum's in the greenhouse into Greg's truck to be planted at Greg's bulb farm.

Lucy Morgan



Greenhouse Update

Greg and I will meet soon to discuss greenhouse usage for next year. A meeting time hasn't been set yet as Greg is a busy man. We will know more about what direction the greenhouse is going after that meeting.

Cleanup at the greenhouse will not take place until the greenhouse starts up again. It will still be extremely hot in greenhouse in September so whatever planting that is done in there will probably be put off until temps drop a few degrees.

Debbie Taylor

Programming Committee Report

First Tuesday in the Garden series is only two months away. Here is a first look at the programs. In September, Navye Cummings will talk about winter greens. In October, Anne Pattullo will speak on "Not all bulbs are daffodils". Then in November, Andie Rathbone will speak on "Bundle up your garden". More details on this next month.

Paul Wick

VMS Update

We are continuing to have non-delivery issues with VMS emails. We put out an eBlast every Friday and a Grapevine every last week of the month, so if you don't get one or both, please let Mary Hamlin (mhamlin@flash.net) know because we're trying to keep pressure on the developer to get this fixed. And we really do need to know if you don't get an issue, and whether it was in your spam folder or complete non-delivery. We have a ZOOM meeting with state on the 5th of July, and we're trying to keep the pressure on the developer to figure out how to fix this.

Mary Hamlin

SCMG ON TV

SCMGA is partnering with CBS Channel 19 here in Tyler to do a weekly Gardening spot on Channel 19's noontime news broadcast. These spots will cover seasonal topics (planting vegetable gardens, pruning crape myrtles, dividing perennials, etc.) as well as promoting our own events like Master Gardeners at the Library, First Tuesday in the Garden and the bulb sale.

We have put together a tentative 52-week calendar and will be putting together media training for later on this month. The first spot will air on July 28 with Elizabeth Waldrop talking about her Dog Days workshop.



I'd like to thank everyone who has volunteered to be on TV, write scripts for the spots, and to help shoot remote video. This is a huge commitment for our organization, but will be a great way for us to gain recognition in the community, to educate the public and to promote our events.

If you would like to participate in this project, please contact Andie Rathbone at andie.rathbone.66@gmail.com

Congratulations to all of our members who have fulfilled their volunteer and continuing education hours requirements for 2022!

Anderson, Dana
Arney, Marinda A
Atchley, Betty
Bateman, Hazel
Bean, Gail Gholson
Benson, Lyn R
Braman, Judi
Browder, Betsy
Burch, Henry W
Burns, Janet
Cantrell, Mary
Carver, Scherel
Cochran, Chris
Collen, Harvey
Conejo, Betty
Craddock, John M
Czehowski, Shawn
Damkroger, Jolana
Dugan, Sandra
Fletcher, David K.
Fowler, Janie

Fowler, Martha S
Gary, David
Gerber, Daniel L
Gerber, Terri
Graham, Laurie R
Hamlin, Mary
Haynes, Trudy
Huntsberger, Colleen
Johnson, Lenka
Kerr, Brooks
Kromer, Belinda
Lestor, Diane
Madden, Mary Jo
Matthews, Sherri L
McBrayer, Teresa
McCown, Mary Beth
Moch, Jan L
Morgan, Lucinda D
Munn, Linda S
Osborn, Stephanie
Pattullo, Anne E

Rasco, Denise J
Rathbone, Andrea H
Reiland, Craig
Reiland, Sharon L.
Sargent, Linda
Sawyer, Ginger
Sewell, Lynette
Siegel, Cynthia
Stephens, Heather
Strong, Brenda
Swindell, Cathy
Teffeller, Marketta D
Wade, Becky
Waldrop, Elizabeth
Watkins, Debby
Wick, Paul
Wiggs, Tricia

Class 28 need 18 Volunteer & 6 CE
All others need 24 Volunteer & 9 CE

Social Media

We're entered the summer doldrums very early this year. The heat has just been awful as has the lack of rain. It's scary to think that we have two more months of this until we can reasonably expect some relief.

This weather has also negatively affected a lot of my sources for Facebook posts as it just doesn't make a whole lot of sense to be posting about planting or undertaking big outside projects in this heat. I am thanking Belinda Kromer & Katy Barone for the great photos of our Nature Detective Camp at the Glass Recreation Center which were great posts all last week.

If any of you have indoor gardening projects what we can make into posts, please send them my way. And as always, I'm always looking for new jokes for our Friday Funnies.

The Top Three Facebook posts for May were:



May 20
Reached 4514 people



May 16
Reached 5776 people



May 10
Reached 9443 people

Andie Rathbone
andie.rathbone.66@gmail.com

Need Help with VMS?

If you are struggling with getting your Volunteer and Continuing Education hours into VMS, we are here to help you! We have Help Desk volunteers in the office almost every day, and they can work with you to get those hours entered, using our second computer. So call us or take a look at the SignUp Genius schedule and plan to come by when we are there. We are in the new office space—Room 117.

See below for the link to the SignUp:

HELP DESK UPDATE

Some volunteers are finding that manning the Help Desk is not as scary as they thought. In fact, they enjoyed their shifts and have signed up for more! Every shift is an opportunity to learn and to teach, which helps achieve the mission of Master Gardeners.

Consider signing on as a specialist, if working in the office isn't your thing. We would love to have you as a resource!

Right now, we are getting lots of inquiries about lawn issues, ornamental shrub problems, mulching and composting.

And we are in a climate-controlled environment



MaryJo

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054da5ae2aaaf94-helpdesk1>

Education Dispatch

June was a busy month for Education. We had our first fundraising Workshop that was open to the community and other MG associations. There was good attendance. I had a great time presenting Super Stars information and discussing how those amazing plants can be used in the garden and landscape. Plus, we shared some common garden hints and tips from questions we get consistently from calls and emails. But the best thing was I learned so much from the attendees. Everyone had so many tidbits of information and advice to share. I had no idea that deer hate Irish Spring soap. I learn something every day!

I am very grateful to everyone who helped put this workshop together, especially **Belinda Kromer, Maury Hudson and Janice Smith** who lent their time, ideas, and hard work to plan and organize the workshops. I would also like to thank **Terri Gerber, Lyn Benson and Sara Emry-Arthur** who helped us with registration and getting our finances in order. **Lynn McGinnis, Chris Cochran, and Terri** again who helped us get the word out. It takes a village to do projects this large and we could not have had a better team.

We also had the Kids Workshop at Glass called Nature Detective. It was great. The kids were fantastic, and the lessons were fun, not only to teach but to learn along with the kids. We really hope this is the beginning of a SCMG youth education program. Anyone who is interested in working with youth, please let Katy, Belinda or me, know. We really want to grow in this area.

Special thanks to **Katy Barone** for being our fearless leader. **Belinda, Terri, Becky and Dale Wade, Janie Fowler, Chris Cochran, and Denise Rasco** for teaching, **Sara Emry-Arthur and Navye Cummings** for being our kid wranglers and all-around helping hands. Plus, a huge thank you to **Lynn McGinnis** for the snacks and drinks. Lastly, but just as important, is thank you to everyone who donated scholarships to the program. All the children attended for free because of generous donations from our MGs. I know it meant a lot to the kids and their families to have such a cool educational experience at no cost to them.

Please remember that our second summer fundraising workshop is on July 29th. We are presenting Dog Days, Surviving the Heat strategies for garden and gardener. We will talk not just about heat and drought, a timely subject right now, but also how to prepare for a winter harvest and plant propagation to take you into spring and next summer.

I would also like to hear from anyone who has a request for educational opportunities for next year, not just Workshops, but short demos, things we could post on You Tube, talks we could give, whatever you want to learn, I want to hear about. Please email me at sevencrows87@hotmail.com or text me at 903 805 0768 with your thoughts.

Elizabeth Waldrop




More photos from Nature Detective!



July 2022

Smith County Master Gardeners

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Shade Garden workday 8:30 AM
3	4 	5 HRG/IDEA Garden Work- day 8:30 AM	6 Shade Garden workday 8:30	7	8	9
10	11	12 HRG/IDEA Garden Work- day 8:30 AM Tech Team Meeting	13 Shade Garden workday 8:30	14	15	16 Shade Garden workday 8:30 AM
17	18	19 HRG/IDEA Garden Work- day 8:30 AM	20 Shade Garden workday 8:30	21 SCMG BOD Classroom 10:00	22	23
24	25 <i>Grapevine deadline</i>	26 HRG/IDEA Garden Work- day 8:30 AM	27 Shade Garden workday 8:30	28	29	30
31						