

Over the Garden Gate



www.txmg.org/wichita

Volume X, No 5, May, 2018

Local Events

May 1, 5:30pm: The Wichita County Master Gardener Association meets at Rolling Meadows, 3006 McNeil, in the Media Center upstairs.

May 12, 8am—noon: Master Gardeners at the Farmers Market—Plants for North Texas. We will have lists of plants that do well in our area. **If any MGs have seeds or plants to donate to our give away, please let Marilyn know.**

May 17, 5:30pm: The Burkburnett Garden Club meets at First Bank, in their Community Room. Michelle Howard will bring a program on Plants That Attract Pollinators.

Most of us are currently heavily involved in the spring planting season. It is a very busy time of year; however, I hope you will make time next Tuesday, May 1, 2018, to attend our monthly Master Gardener meeting. One of the issues we need to discuss is possible future fundraising projects. Let us do some brainstorming on this subject. I hope each of you can attend our meeting, and I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

Jeff Smith

President, Wichita County Master Gardeners



Here is my arrangement that won the advanced division of the Benson Iris Society show on April 14. Photo & comments by Mary Rhoads.

Enter your volunteer (15) & Training (6) hours in the MG volunteer management system <https://texas.volunteersystem.org/>

Association Contacts: Jeff Smith, President, 806-259-2751; Mary Rhoads, Vice-president, 940-704-5606; Michelle Howard, Secretary, 940-689-9184; Ernie Putthoff, Treasurer, 940-592-5463.

State Directors: Mary Barry and Grant Barry; alternates: Becky Trammell and Dennis Dohrer.

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Top: Gaillardia, Pinks (dianthus?), Red Yarrow. Photos by Sandy Ledy.

Center & Bottom left: Pass along iris plants. Photos by Becky Trammell.

Bottom right: Blue pincushion flowers in patio pots. Photo by Sandy Ledy.

Spring!



The Peace Rose

“Lo How the Rose E’re Blooming”

Jeff Blacklock

Our time, as time has been throughout history, is marked by violence, discord, and strife. However, one does not have to go far to seek and find a place of peace, a place of refuge...your garden. A bed of flowers can bring joy, serenity, and peace and nothing is more vibrant, more fragrant or more breath taking than a garden filled with roses. One rose has remained special to me and brings many happy memories as clippings from our 30-season bush have dressed our table or have been given away as tokens of friendship and love.



On my 13th birthday I was introduced to this special rose, the Peace rose, as a gift from one of my mom’s dear friends and classmates. I remember planting the bush in front of our house not realizing the magnificent blooms which would spring from the deep dark green foliage. The red yellow orange buds would be transformed to large fragrant yellow flowers with tinges of pink and red tinting the petal edges. The flowers were perfectly shaped and as large as my hand. The rose bush flourished and bloomed as I cared for it until we moved when I was 19. This was my introduction to the Peace rose.

The Peace rose, *Rosa 'Madame A. Meilland'*, originated during tumultuous times as grumblings of WWII swept across Europe. In 1935, a French rose breeder, Francis Meilland, chose 50 promising seedlings from his beds in Lyon, France. One seedling was tagged 3-35-40 and over a 4-year period was cultivated and given an enthusiastic “yes” from professional rose growers and friends. As Hitler invaded France, Meilland smuggled budwood to America in a diplomatic bag.

The Meilland family did not know whether any of the budwood had survived the trip to America. Their agent in America grew the budwood in his trial gardens as he had other growers testing the new rose across all US climatic zones. The rose grew well and on April 29, 1945, the new rose was launched from Pasadena, CA. This day was significant as Berlin fell, and the truce was signed. The rose’s name emerged as a simple statement was read, “We are persuaded that this greatest new rose of our time should be named for the world’s greatest desire: ‘PEACE’.” On the day the war with Japan ended the Peace rose also received the All American Award for roses.

Although our world still yearns for peace, I cannot help but ponder how this beautiful flower grown across the continents symbolizes the hope that one day there will be peace. This strong resilient rose has stayed the test of time and has parented many of our modern day roses. The beauty of this first spring Peace rose was captured by the picture taken from my current rose bed. I smile as I consider the ancestral journey this rose took to find its place in my garden. And as this rose blooms may peace reign supreme in all our lives.



Source: <https://www.gerbera.org/gardening-magazine/the-gardener-index/june-2005/peace-rose/>



(Eastern) Tiger Swallowtail
on Redbud Tree. Photo &
comment by Mary Rhoads.

Garden Critters

Enjoying a higher popula-
tion of hummingbirds
this year. Photo & com-
ment by Jill Miller.





Critter Plants

Flowers produced from seeding with Butterfly-Humming Bird seed mix . Photos & comment by Sandy Ledy.



Notre Dame



JMG kids are hunting for bugs. They had a great time!
Photos & comments by Marilyn Putthoff.

