

# Over the Garden Gate



[www.txmg.org/wichita](http://www.txmg.org/wichita)

Volume X, No 12, December, 2018

I hope each of you have had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Now the Christmas season and the New Year is upon us. Let me remind you that our December meeting is not for business but a Christmas party. We will be meeting on our usual meeting night, the first Tuesday of December (December 4) at 6:00 PM at Rolling Meadows. This extra time will allow you to bring your covered dish for the pot-luck meal. Remember also that we will be taking up money to buy gifts for those at the Women's Refuge. Feel free to bring your spouse or date and join us for this party.

Let me remind you about your Master Gardener hours. Your hours must be completed and entered onto the computer system on or before December 31, 2018. The minimum hours to retain certification is 15 volunteer hours and 6 training hours (CEU's). You will need to send David Graf and/or me a letter or e-mail if you cannot complete your hours before the end of the year and your reason for non-completion if you wish to be considered for an extension. Per our by-laws, the request must be made prior to the beginning of the new year and the Executive Committee and the Agent decide whether an extension is to be granted. If an extension is granted, the hours for that year as well as for the next year must be completed in the next year.

Also, if you have not paid your Master Gardener dues of \$15.00, you may pay them now; however, they must be paid by the end of January, 2019. See our treasurer (Ernie Putthoff currently, or Dennis Dohrer after January 1) for paying your dues.

For those of you wanting to attend the 2019 Texas State Master Gardener conference, registration opens December 1, 2018, with early registration continuing through February 28, 2019, according to their website. The dates for the conference are April 25-27, 2019 in Victoria, Texas.

For those of you wanting to attend the 2019 International Master Gardener conference, registration is to open in late November, 2018, according to their website. This conference is to be held June 16-21, 2019 in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

Let me take this opportunity to thank each one of you for the privilege of serving as your president this year. This has been a great year, and I look forward to even bigger things for our association in the coming year. Thank you for your support, and I encourage you to lend our incoming president, Mary Rhoads, as much support as you have to me.

See you at the Christmas party, December 4!

Sincerely,

Jeff Smith, President

## Local Events

**December 4, 6 pm:** The Wichita County Master Gardener Association meets at Rolling Meadows, 3006 McNeil, in the Media Center upstairs. Bring a covered dish for our Christmas Party.

The Burkburnett Garden Club does NOT meet in December.



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.

**WCMG Webpage:** Beth Turlington, administrator

**Newsletter & Facebook:** Gail Elmore, editor/admin

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# Traveling Gardener



**Top Left:** Trees along the road in North Carolina. **Right:** Bonsai at the Arboretum In Asheville, NC. Even those trees change color! **Bottom:** Colorful trees in Asheville North Carolina—red maples. Photos & comments by Mary Rhoads.





The kids performed skits to show the proper way to plant a tree. Then it was out to the garden to pick the radish crop. I don't think radishes are among their favorites.  
Photos & comments by Marilyn Putthoff.

# Notre Dame

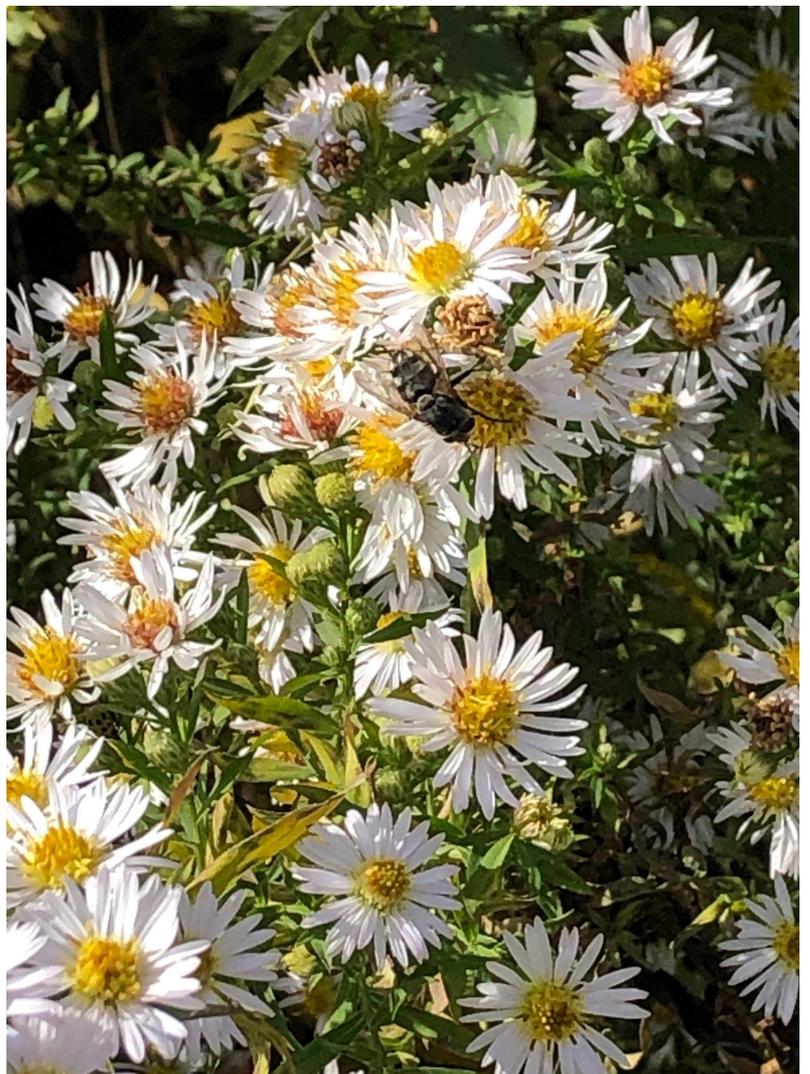




**Left:** The Gregg's mistflower is a butterfly magnet! Photo & comment by Michelle Howard

# Garden Critters!

**Right:** Bees in fall asters.  
Photo & comment by Mary Rhoads





# Plants & Flowers!

**Top Left:** After sulking all summer, the Mexican bush sage is the star of the autumn show. Photo & comments by Michelle Howard.

**Bottom Left & Right:** Fall asters. Photo & comment by Mary Rhoads.





# Fall!

**Top Left:** Fall color—Virginia creeper in ash tree (tree is yellow, vine is red). Pardon the sack of leaves. **Right:** Fall color along the creek at the back of my pasture.

**Bottom Left:** Cedar elm with color display. The pvc piping carries runoff in my gutters to the trees. Photos & comments by Mary Rhoads

**Bottom Right:** First frost on the prairie. Photo & comment by Sandy Ledy.

