

MG Wood Works



November/December 2011



Mineola Nature Preserve: A Wood County Master Gardener Project



2011 MG Officers

Connie Amsden	President
Jim Willis	Vice President
Karen Anderson	Treasurer
Becky Watts	Secretary

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Vision

To be the premier 21st Century outreach and continuing education organization in Texas responding to the needs of the people.

Edited by:

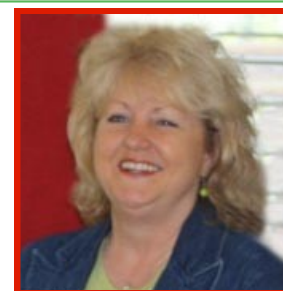
Sylvia Johnson

Mission

To improve the lives of people, business and communities across Texas and Beyond through high quality, relevant Education

President 's Corner

Connie Amsden



"Every gardener knows that under the cloak of winter lies a miracle ... a seed waiting to sprout, a bulb opening to the light, a bud straining to unfurl. And the anticipation nurtures our dream."

~ Barbara Winkler

As the year comes to a close it is time to reflect on the past and dream of the future. 2011 was a year of changes and challenges. The most difficult was the extreme weather conditions beginning with unusually cold temperatures and snowfalls then ending with record setting heat and drought. Nature has suffered extreme shock and in some cases this may be non-recoverable. We can always hope that our landscape will handle the stress and awaken recovered in spring. Let's all be ever optimistic.

As you sit by the warm fire peering out at the cold winter and expecting snowfall, think about this: each one of those snowflakes will be different. Each is unique, just like you. You are each an individual who is different from everyone else. The success of WCMG is due to all the individual talents and skills. Just like building a snowman, it takes each and every snowflake working together to be a success. Every member is needed and an integral part of our association for it to become the success that it is. Thank you to every member and a special thank you to Clint Perkins, our leader and advisor.

Winter is the time for comfort - it is the time for home."

- Edith Sitwell

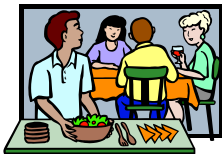
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At the November meeting we will elect the officers for 2012. Please plan to attend and cast your vote. Thank you for a job well done to the Nominating Committee: Jerry Watts, Nancy Weaver, Andrea Hawk and Ruth Allen. In October they presented the slate of nominations for 2012 officers as follows:

**President – Peggy Rogers
Secretary – Joan Morgan**

**Vice President – Jerry Watts
Treasurer – Karen Anderson**

Mark your calendar to come represent WCMG on December 9 for the 2011 interpretation presentation at the Commissioner's Court in the Wood County Court House. We work hard and should be proud of all our contributions to the community. Be sure to submit your volunteer hours to Ellen Atkins by December 5.



Hope to see you at our Christmas Social Dec 15.

What is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace. ~Agnes M. Pahro



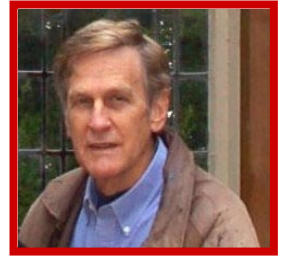
**Happy
Holidays!**



GOODBYE...It has truly been an honor and privilege to be your President for 2010 and 2011. It is with humble heart that I say a sincere thank you. I have enjoyed serving you and have learned much about you and our association. After 3 years as an officer, I look forward to working with you in a new capacity in 2012 as I reflect on the past and dream of the future. Thank you, Connie Amsden

**Wishing You and Yours Happy Holidays,
Connie Amsden
President**

November and December Meetings:



By: Jim Willis, VP

At the November meeting we'll have the Plant & Book Exchange. If you have any gardening books you're ready to pass along to others bring those to the meeting.

Also if you have any plants that are actually still alive (after the summer's heat) that you'd like to share this is the meeting to do that. We'll also have the Annual Business Meeting and vote on our officers for 2012.



In December we'll have the Association Awards Presentation and Christmas Social. Watch for more details on this later!





Clint Perkins' Gardening Corner

email wood-tx@tamu.edu

Want to get a head start on spring by starting your own plants from seed but don't own, a greenhouse? The solution is a cold frame: a bottomless box with a lid which admits light.

The recommended workable size of a cold frame is three by six feet, 15 inches high in back and nine inches high in front.

The slope of the lid will capture maximum sunlight and allow for rain runoff.

The base can be made out of wood, brick or foam insulating builders board.

The top can be made out of a window sash, a storm window, or polyethylene film in a simple frame.

It should be hinged in back to allow for venting.



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The best site is a southern exposure that is protected, receives plenty of sunlight and has good drainage. It is helpful to have water source close by.

Temperature and moisture are the two most important management factors.

The temperature should be kept around 75 degrees and can be monitored by placing a thermometer inside.

Heat can quickly rise to over 100 degrees on a sunny day but can be easily managed by raising the lid for ventilation.

Water the seed flats when the soil begins to dry.

Sounds like a lot of work? It really is not. Cold frames have been used for centuries, and using them to get an early start on the growing season can be very rewarding.

Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

Wood County TX AgriLife Extension Service

618 South Main Street

Quitman, TX 75783-0968

Phone: 903-763-2924, Fax: 903-763-2092

Wood County Extension Agent

Clint Perkins

Email: ctperkins@ag.tamu.edu



Tips and Tricks

By: Sylvia Johnson

You will find a new feature in this issue. I have added the ability to “click and follow a web link”.

First: Make sure your internet provider is open. (Internet Explorer, Foxfire, etc.) You must be on-line.

Second: Position your cursor over the underlined part of the **blue hyper link words**. Wait a few seconds then hold down the “Ctrl” key and while still holding that key down left click your mouse. In a few seconds, Eureka! You are taken to the internet site referenced. This will open in a new window.

Third: To return to “Wood Works” just close the internet window you “jumped” to.

I hope you like this new feature. It will let me put you in touch with more in-depth information on certain articles. Don’t worry, all original articles are still the “norm”.

Please let me know how you like this new feature!





By: Joan Morgan

Well, finally the weather has changed, at least in temperature range, and we are having cool nights and not so warm days. Fall is everywhere with happy holidays in our future weeks so it is time to consider how we counteract the dry, dry weather of the summer and continuing in the fall. The Wildscape is bursting with blooms from lantana, daylily, Turk's cap and other lovely flowers. We are enjoying the butterflies and hummingbirds which are enjoying the flowers.

Most of the area has been protected with bark mulch, which will help with moisture retention in and near the beds.

We will soon lay Oklahoma flagstone in the areas around the beds so that visitors can more easily walk among them to view and enjoy the plants.

We have about 150 gallons of water in the rainwater container retrieved from the small rains received. We will lay a drip system to the lower beds, that will use this water, in the near future. It is amazing how not much rain at all will begin to fill the container. We can see how useful this system will be in our watering at the Wildscape. Karen Anderson's husband provided a flexible tube to be attached to the container's water valve, to measure the water level, so, we send our thanks to him.

On September 27th at the Wildscape, several of the Wildscape folks

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served lunch to the Ag Farm Tour group, which has become an annual event for us. We served barbeque provided by Split Rail in Mineola.

Unless we get some much needed rain in the near future, our fall planting will be limited to seeds for spring wildflowers. We have several mature trees that are managing fairly well with the low moisture level but others that require additional water, so we are continuing with our watering schedule.

We at the Wildscape want to wish all of you a great fall and Holiday season.



Sensory Garden at MNP Pavilion



Karen's Garden at MNP



Beautiful Blooms at the Quitman Library Garden

**By: Becky
Watts**

You may have noticed the beautiful native plant, *Aster oblongifolius* - "Prairie Aster" blooming in the west bed as you've driven past the Quitman Public Library. This late-blooming herbaceous perennial likes sun/part shade and is easy to propagate from division in the fall or spring. It's a lovely 'old-fashioned' plant, Texas-tough and kin to the passed-along variety that your grandmother may have treasured in her garden. It attracts birds, bees and butterflies. It is deer resistant. It also makes a nice cut-flower.



Quitman Library Announcement

Linda Cowan has volunteered to be the new project lead for the Quitman Library Gardens. You may remember her from last year's Master Gardener class. She's enthusiastic about this new responsibility and will need like-minded volunteers to be part of her team. If you're interested in helping plan and execute the next life-phase of the library gardens, send her an e-mail.

Her e-mail address is: ladypeanut1255@yahoo.com.



By: Jan Whitlock

The Quitman Arboretum and Botanical Gardens have survived a long, hot and very dry summer season. Thanks to the watering efforts of Don Gallier and Pam Riley on the weekends, and the rest of the "yard crew" on Wednesdays, the majority of the plants have survived and continue to thrive.

A lily bed has been added and should provide seasonal interest from early spring through the fall.

The hardscape work has been completed on the Children's Sensory Garden. Pavers have been laid in the shape of a flower and a large fountain has been installed in the center to highlight this newest addition. Planting on this project will begin as soon as weather permits.

The rose beds and the perennial gardens are in full bloom with that special burst of color one sees in the fall. Work continues on the areas around the Stinson House. Plans are being made for an heirloom vegetable garden that will be planted directly off the back porch.

We apologize for any inconvenience that the cancellation of the fall plant sale may have created. We look forward to the spring sale and hope to see you all there.



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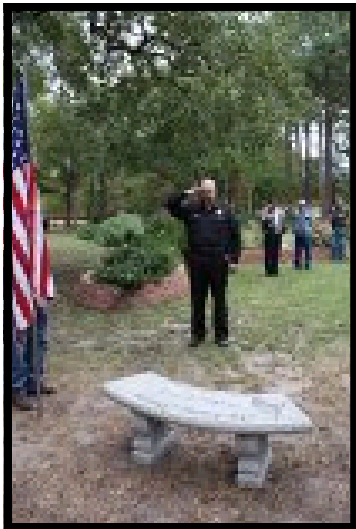
Quitman Arboretum

Dedication Ceremony at Quitman Arboretum was held on September 14, 2011 to honor:

Sgt. Joshua D. Powell



The Bench was presented by the Quitman Chamber of Commerce and Friends of the Arboretum.



It will be an honor to take care of this bench as it sets among the roses and flower beds tended by the Wood County Master Gardeners.

Plant of the Month: Summer Bulbs

By: Karen Anderson



With the summers we have had in Texas the last couple of years, bulbs may be your best choice for some color in your garden as they can survive dry hot weather. The perfect time to plant bulbs in East Texas is usually October, but since most bulbs like a soil temperature above 60 to bloom, planting in November or early December after the soil cools might work better. Just be sure to get them in the ground before the first freeze. Plant the bulbs in a location that receives plenty of sun from January thru early May.

PURCHASING BULBS – Healthy bulbs should feel heavy. Most bulbs are covered by a thin, dry tunic which helps maintain moisture. If the bulb feels light, it's dried out from too much heat or being held in storage too long. Bulbs cannot be rehydrated-so don't buy light weight ones. Bulbs vary in size, depending on the cultivar, so look for the term "Top Size" on the package or in the catalog. Generally the bigger the bulb, the better the flowers in the spring.

PLANTING DEPTH- The rule of thumb is to plant a bulb at a depth equal to three times the bulb's height. However, you can adjust the depth to your type of soil. For heavy soil plant a little more shallow, in sandy soil, plant a little deeper.

PLANTING METHODS- Bulbs look best when planted en masse and are good for naturalizing. If you are mixing bulbs into existing flower beds try the "stab and plant" method. Be sure the soil is loose and easy to work. Use a sturdy trowel to stab into the soil, pull it back to open a hole, drop in the bulb (with pointed tip up) and pull out the trowel. Lightly tamp the soil over the bulb and you are finished. Another good method is to use Bulb Planters that you step on, or push by hand, to lift out a plug of soil. Drop the bulb in the resulting hole then cover and tamp. This is a good method to use between established plants.

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Trench planting is a good method for setting lots of bulbs in a formal pattern at the same depth. This will give you a large mass of one color or one species. If you want an informal clump and the soil is loose you may also use a power drill fitted with an auger bit. This should go quicker and be easier on your hands. Press the bulb into the soil so the basal plate (flat bottom area) makes good contact with the soil. Be gentle when refilling the hole, don't smash your bulbs or knock them out of line. With some bulbs it is hard to tell which end is up so scatter them, push them into the soil and they will find the right way to grow.

FERTILIZE- If you want perennial bulbs to come back year after year they need a little feed to get them off to a good start. No matter which planting method you use work in some fertilizer (Bone Meal) or spread a thin layer of soil over the fertilizer before planting. If the bulb sets directly on the fertilizer it can burn or damage the bulb.

WATERING- Soak the planted area to settle the pockets of air and the soil around the bulbs. Most bulbs like moist soil to help establish their roots and during the blooming season. But they will rot if they are wet while dormant.

WINTER PROTECTION- Fluctuating temps can be hard on tender new roots so mulch the plantings with straw, wood chips or compost to keep an even temperature. If you have a problem with squirrels or raccoons, lay a piece of hardware cloth over the area until the ground freezes or until spring. You can leave the mulch in place as the bulbs come up or pull it away depending on your preference

SPRING CARE- As spring arrives and your bulbs start poking through the soil, sprinkle granular bulb food over the area using a 10-15-5 or 9-9-6.

Let the bulbs ripen. Pick some of your flowers for arrangements to be enjoyed in your home. Remove spent flower heads to prevent the bulb wasting energy producing seeds. Leave as much of the foliage as possible to feed the bulb. Once the leaves turn yellow and come away with a gentle tug,

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you can remove them without harming the bulb. Just don't pull too hard, you could dislodge the bulb and tear the roots.

Keep 'Em Dry- Almost all spring flowering bulbs like to rest in warm dry soil. Once the foliage dies down, don't water bulb beds. It could cause the resting bulbs to rot.

Plant More Bulbs- Take a digital photo of the bulb beds in full bloom to help you know which spots are full and which could use some more color. This will give you a record of the flower colors and to help you choose more cultivars for future plantings. The picture will make it less likely to dig into the wrong spot and ruin bulbs already planted.

BULBS RECOMMENDED FOR EAST TEXAS:

- Ψ **Jonquil — Naturalize — first to bloom in late February**
- Ψ **Campernelle — Grows in clumps — blooms in late February**
- Ψ **“Grand Primo” Daffodil — good multiplier — blooms beginning late February**
- Ψ **Snowflake — good multiplier — blooms early March**
- Ψ **Grape Hyacinth — good for naturalizing and rock gardens — blooms mid-March**
- Ψ **“Golden Dawn” Daffodil — good multiplier — blooms mid-March to early April**
- Ψ **“Lady Jane” Tulip — best planted en masse — blooms late March**
- Ψ **“Tinka” Tulip — best planted en masse — blooms late March**
- Ψ **“Byzantine Gladiolus”— forms large magenta clumps — blooms mid-April**



Picture from Karen's home garden

Humorous Mishaps.....by Lynn AronSpeer

Lettuce Ponder...

Mrs. K. was not raised in the 'Easterliness' of East Texas. She was more from the 'Dallasy' area without really experiencing "soil." As we all now know, "soil" is an entity all in itself. "Soil" can produce magic or devastation.

When Mrs. K. bought a little house on a little lake and found herself a very nice husband, they mutually decided to embrace "soil." Mr. K. noted they had enough acreage for a real stab at self sustenance. They didn't have enough acreage for livestock but perhaps enough for poultry. Mr. and Mrs. K.'s poultry dalliance is a story for another time--another harsher chapter compared to their initial brush here with veggies.

Their lettuce was a successful crop and one day Mrs. K. noted it was reaching for the sun, moon and stars—and in a hurry, too. She carefully pored over her gardening books and learned her lettuce was beginning to 'bolt.' Further reading gleaned the following: the seeds would soon be available for harvesting. What a triumph--and all in their first year of real gardening. Mrs. K.'s heart swelled with pride for them both. They were becoming real farmers. True, one couldn't freeze or can lettuce but she could ensure next year's crop by saving the seeds and freezing them.



Her favorite garden book, *Let Us Garden*, suggested placing a paper bag over the bolted end and hanging the stalk upside down in a cool, dry place. What fun would that be? It would be much more interesting to watch the process up close. Mr. K. had built Mrs. K a beautiful work table in her spacious country kitchen and that would be a lovely stage for the magic of the seed collection .

Mrs. K. repaired to her garden and evaluated the bolting stalk. It looked very vibrant and even appeared to be covered with the black tiny seeds similar to the ones she'd planted initially. Circle of lettuce life seemed to

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be taking place right here in their garden. Perfect. She deftly cut the tallest stalk and carefully walked it back into her kitchen where she placed it carefully on several joined sheets of paper toweling. She was quite proud of herself for thinking of this since now she'd be able to see and collect the seeds easier with the white towels contrasting with the black tiny seeds.

Mr. and Mrs. K. enjoyed a quiet evening, the height of which was watching *Antique Road Show* where Mrs. K. spotted a dressing table similar to one she'd enjoyed as a girl. They lamented at the price it would've now fetched but agreed their tiny house could not accommodate such a space vampire.

The following day was Saturday and Mrs. K. hurried to the kitchen to see if any of the tiny black seeds had dried and fallen off the lettuce stalk. If not, she was prepared to brush them off gently, perhaps with a feather duster? Would that be sanitary? Certainly not. While pondering a more suitable instrument, Mrs. K. bent over the now limp stalk to glimpse the seed harvest. Mrs. K. was very surprised to discover the tiny black seeds were nowhere to be seen. Her seeds might have all fallen off and vanished or become desiccated in the warm kitchen. Could they have discolored overnight and become difficult to spot? Perhaps her idea had been ill advised. Perhaps she should have followed the suggestion of the paper bag for some odd reason. Obviously, another snoop into the gardening book was needed. After all, she hadn't read *all* the directions—only skimmed them and stopped with the change in plan from hanging the paper bag. Hmmm. Hadn't there been something in there about silica gel or powdered milk in the bottom of the bag to keep the seeds from molding or germinating prematurely?

Mrs. K. picked up her favorite garden book and sought the section on bolting lettuce and seed collection. Yes, here was the section on the silica to prevent condensation and possible deterioration of the seeds. Nothing about the seeds disappearing though... With a sigh, Mrs. K. determined to read the article carefully from the beginning. What had gone amiss? She read:

"Cut off the stalks once they flower and then form a fuzzy head similar to a dandelion. Take the stalks indoors or into an outdoor area that is protected from wind and breezes."

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Just a second—what was this about a ‘fuzzy head similar to a dandelion?’ She stepped to the table to check her stalk. There was no fuzzy head. However, there had been tiny black seeds all over the stalk, hadn’t there? Perhaps her lettuce was a trifle different? Had she harvested it too soon? What if there were a few remaining seeds inside the leaves? She carefully parted one after another and, yes, there was more than one but it seemed to be slipping down the belly of the leaf. Wait! Was it moving? Was it really a seed? It was nearly invisible to the naked eye. She reached into a nearby drawer and plucked out a small magnifying glass and peered closely at the black seed. No! It was a horrid bug! There must be lettuce bugs all over her pristine kitchen! Why hadn’t she read the lettuce information more closely? Was this gardening?



No! And this is was only a skirmish! Mr. and Mrs. K. must tame and overcome the garden. She would pick up a copy of *The Art of War*. It was on!

Planting guidelines for fall lettuce per the MG Handbook:

Time: 10-14 weeks before first fall freeze date

Days: 40-80 days to be ready for harvest. Type dependent

Fall Season: 21 days of harvesting



Vine Ripened Tomatoes in November?

By Jerry and Becky Watts



Can you imagine vine-ripened tomatoes in November? After a bountiful early summer harvest, we planted a fall garden including beloved tomatoes. We're craving those delicious thick sliced tomatoes on homemade bread with gobs of real mayonnaise and bacon for breakfast, fresh tomato salad and salsa, homemade tomato soup, and of course the lovely sight of ripening tomatoes standing at attention along the kitchen counter. You may think we're crazy, subjecting mere seedlings to hundred degree temperatures; you've got to be an optimist to be a gardener! We know you must be wondering if there'll be time yet to ripen, won't it be cold in November? How can tomatoes be expected to ripen with forty degree nights? Well, it just might be working! We started twenty eight 'Jet Star' tomatoes from seed in July and put them out in August. So far, we have tomatoes the size of tennis balls! Hopefully, the long range forecast for a warm fall/early winter will come to pass. And maybe, the lore passed on by other Master Gardeners will help - you've heard variations - "my uncle's next door neighbor's third cousin says this weather only happens once in a life-time and if you want tomatoes, get them in ground before the deer start rutting!" So with a bit of lore and luck, we hope to enjoy the fruit of our labor; the big ones are about two weeks from red. They'll get picked sooner if there's a threat of a hard freeze!

***Note: Photos were taken on
20 October 2011 by the Watts.***



Imperial Silk Moth: *Eacles imperialis*

By: Petra Jones



One night as I was walking my doggie I saw something hanging down from the railing by the steps to the backyard. But even with the light on I could not tell what it was. It did not look dangerous , so I touched it thinking it was a dead leaf. To my surprise it was velvety and so soft and suddenly it moved and then unfolded. What a pretty sight it



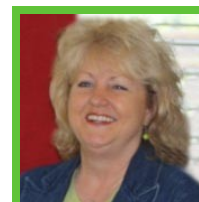
was and I rushed in for my camera. Here you see what it was, a large moth, as big as my palm. A lovely sight and a nice surprise before retiring to bed.

These moths live on trees and are not considered pests for a garden or yard.

Is it a hummingbird? No it's a sphinx moth!

by SeEtta (South Central)

by: Connie Amsden



As we relaxed on our patio each morning and evening we saw this unusual flying creature. It was quite fascinating as it hummed around and feasted on our Esperanza. Our first thought was that it was a different breed of hummingbird. Then we realized it was similar to a hummingbird and similar to a moth. We were intrigued to find out its name. Our research on <http://birdsandbloomsblog.com> solved the mystery! It was a sphinx moth, aka hummingbird moth. The article, see title above, stated the moth is frequently mistaken as a hummingbird , thus the alias. Now we can enjoy our sunrise and sunsets while watching this busy little moth. Nature truly is a constant teacher. The larval stage of the sphinx moth are the tomato and tobacco hornworm. The larva of this moth is considered a pest.



Oh, Those Pesky Volunteer Hours!



By: Ellen Atkins

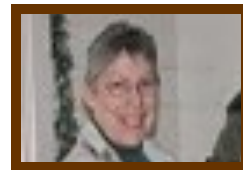
Yes, you do need to consistently turn in the hours you earn by continuing your educational units (CEU) and volunteering your time. Our valuable extension agent, Clint Perkins, needs this information. He uses it in a number of ways, not the least of which is the mock check he presents the Wood County Commissioner's Court evidencing the great value of the Master Gardener Volunteers. It's our best opportunity to "toot our own horn"! So when reporting your volunteer time, remember these points:

- **The monthly MG Association meetings are usually equivalent to 1 CEU. If you attend the meeting, you receive credit for the CEU, but you may not count drive time to and from the meeting.**
- **Volunteer hours are gained anytime you perform a service for any Master Gardener activity. Drive time to and from the project is added to the time reported. Please round these times to the half-hour.**
- **Monthly meetings can get tricky. Usually there is no service time counted during the meeting since most of the meeting time is taken by the invited speaker. However, if you attend a planning meeting of an MG project, then you count the time in the project meeting and the drive time.**
- **Using the form provided to you each month speeds the transfer from your form to the master spreadsheet (and hopefully lessens the number of mistakes made in the transfer). It also helps you retain a personal record of the hours you have turned in, in case something happens to our spreadsheets.**
- **Turning in your hours on a monthly basis is simply a courtesy to the person keeping the records. The transfer of data usually takes about 2 hours monthly, unless there are several months of past service included. Although past months' data takes more time to transfer, it is valuable to us and needs to be turned in.**

**THE BOTTOM LINE? TURN IN ALL YOUR HOURS BY
DECEMBER 5.**

MEMBER BIOGRAPHY

THE JOURNEY TO A HORTICULTURAL LIFE - TO BECOME A MASTER GARDENER



NAME: Linda Avant

LOCATION: Alba, Texas

FAMILY: Husband Charlie

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT/RETIREMENT AND ANY BACKGROUND YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE:

I grew up in Kaufman County and was very active in 4-H until I got too old. I worked in banks while getting my teaching certification. After teaching in the Garland district we moved to Lake Fork when Charlie retired in 1991. Then after 20 years of teaching I retired from the Yantis district in 2004.

WHEN AND WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO JOIN THE MASTER GARDENERS:

In 2007 after replacing plants and not being very successful, I wanted to garden "Smarter not Harder"

CHILDHOOD PLANT EXPERIENCES WITH GARDENS:

Growing up we had a large garden and canned or froze the produce. There was very little purchased vegetables.

GARDEN MENTORS:

My mother was my mentor. She was the gardener in my family. I learned by watching her and doing what she told me even though at the time it wasn't much fun for a teenager.

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MEMBER BIOGRAPHY

CURRENT GARDEN INTERESTS/GOALS/DREAMS:

I have always loved roses however this year's drought has played havoc with mine.

Vegetables gardening is very satisfying and I want to learn more about heirloom varieties. Also Texas Tuff stuff would be very beneficial after our past summer. However, I feel that we need to pass on our gardening skills to the next generations. I like most of today's technology but there is something wonderful about getting your hands dirty. I feel that kids need that experience also, rather than learning about gardening from the computer.

FAVORITE GARDEN/ARBORETUM/LOCATION:

My favorite arboretum is the Gov Hogg Park and Arboretum in Quitman of course. It is unbelievable what has transpired in just 4 years. I also like the Antique Rose Emporium in Independence and the Ladybird Wildflower Center in Austin.

FAVORITE PLANTS/SHRUBS/TREES;

Plants - Zinnias, columbines, iris, spider lily

Shrubs – gardenia, old roses (old blush my favorite)

Trees – Post Oaks, redbuds, dogwoods, cedars

FAVORITE BENEFICIAL CRITTERS:

Earthworms

OTHER Hobbies:

Fishing and camping

Pictures You Would Like To Share: **None Submitted**

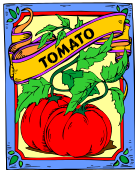
One Way to Garden Water-Wise

**Submitted by: Judy Dooley, TxMG
EarthKind Specialist**



All of us are dealing with the impact of a long, hot, dry summer on our landscapes. Now is a perfect time to take inventory of what survived, what did not and why. The cooler days of fall are a perfect time to replace the plants that were lost with varieties that did survive the onslaught of our past summer. Garden centers frequently have reduced prices on their nursery stock at this time of year but be careful when purchasing these plants and be aware that some of the root systems may be beyond salvaging.

As an avid water-wise gardener I would like to encourage you to think about reducing the irrigated area of your landscape each season. Judy suggests the following web-site: <http://www.penick.net/digging/?p=13698>



Seeds for Life thru Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

Also by: Judy

The objective of this project is to provide seed to the needy by donating unopened, commercially packaged seeds to humanitarian organizations in the USA. In the Spring the seeds are donated to Urban Harvest for various community and school gardening programs. Local garden clubs share knowledge of how to plant, cultivate, and harvest seeds; teach methods to improve soils using good environmental and conservation principles. Their website is www.urbanharvest.org

Our WCMG Association is a current member of the Tyler Area Council of Garden Clubs. Each year I ask for donations of any unopened, commercially packaged seeds to send to this project. Expiration dates of the seeds is unimportant as long as the package is unopened. Please bring your contributions of these seeds to the Oct, Nov or Dec meeting so that I may forward them to Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

**Start Spreading
the News!**



**Wood County Master Gardeners
2012 Spring Conference**

**TODAY'S GARDEN - TOMORROW'S
FOOD**



Sat. March 10, 2012

**8:00 am until 12:00
pm**

**Seminars, Vendors,
Raffle, Door Prizes,
Bake Sale, Music**

Mineola Civic Center

**Wood County Master Gardener Projects
2011**

Project	Chair	Email
Quitman Arboretum & Botanical Garden	Pam Riley	pam_riley2003@yahoo.com
Junior Master Gardeners	Linda Avant	linavant@peoplescom.net
Quitman Special Ed Greenhouse	Fran McKinney Clyde McKinney	mckfran@gmail.com mckclyde@gmail.com
Quitman Library	Becky Watts	jbwatts@escapees.com
Mineola Nature Preserve Wildscape	Joan Morgan	cdmorgan@peoplescom.net
Mineola Nature Preserve Sensory Garden	Peggy Rogers	peggyrogersc21@gmail.com
Hawkins Helping Hands	Lucy Germany	lgermany@etex.net
Winnsboro Morgan Mercy Mission	Jerrie Sutphin Sandra Patrick	granfarm@peoplescom.net sppat57@suddenlink.net
Winnsboro Depot	Jerrie Sutphin	granfarm@peoplescom.net
Winnsboro Library	Jerrie Sutphin Sandra Patrick	granfarm@peoplescom.net sppat57@suddenlink.net
Wood Co. Airport Landscape	Connie Amsden	amsdextx@yahoo.com
WCMG Tip Book with Recipes	Linda Timmons	lindtmms@aol.com
WCMG Training Class	Gail Newman	travlinnewman@aol.com
Spring Conference	Ellen Atkins	ellen.atkins@hotmail.com
WCMG Library	Anita Baker	ldandanita@hughes.net
Historian	Peggy Rogers	peggyrogersc21@gmail.com
Newsletter	Sylvia Johnson	mgnewsletter@hotmail.com
WCMG Website	Linda Timmons	lindtmms@aol.com
Website Email	Ruth Allen	ruth_allen1@msn.com
Membership Roster	Connie Amsden	amsdextx@yahoo.com
Facebook	Peggy Rogers	peggyrogersc21@gmail.com
Sunshine	Sandra Patrick	sppat57@suddenlink.net
Email Communicator	Peggy Rogers	peggyrogersc21@gmail.com
Festival Coordinator	Willie Kay Paredez	jwkpared@peoplescom.net
Volunteer Hours Coordinator (Hrs/CEUs)	Ellen Atkins	ellen.atkins@hotmail.com

November 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 WCMG Monthly Meeting & Elections 	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 WCMG Budget Req. due 	29	30			

December 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Assn. Awards Nominations due by noon	2	3
4	5 Final 2011 Volunteer Hours due 	6 Training New Class Info. Meeting	7	8	9  Commissioner's Court Check Presentation	10
11	12	13	14	15 Christmas Social 	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

New WCMG class starts January 3, 2012 !

STOP THE PRESS! LAST MINUTE NEWS!



New WCMG class starts January 3, 2012 !

Class dates: Tuesdays

January 3rd — April 21st

Questions? Gail Newman, WCMG Training Coordina-

Don't forget to watch for unusual containers that will hold bake sale items for the spring conference. Also, please be thinking about a door prize you can contribute to our conference. Again, think "outside the box" when you think about a door prize contribution. Homemade, Hand-crafted, Homegrown items, or donate your time for garden help to the winner. Contact Ellen Atkins or any member of the Spring Conference Committee.