

MG WOOD WORKS

Edited by: Sylvia Johnson



2018, Issue 2 March/June

Inside this issue:

| President cont. New Emeritus Associ- | <u>2</u> <u>3</u> |
|--|----------------------|
| Wildscape at MNP | <u>4</u> |
| Inside and Outside the Picket Fence | <u>5</u> |
| Did you Know? | <u>6</u> |
| March Madness | <u>7</u> |

Spring Color 9

The Winter Garden 10

Texas Gardener Mag. 11

Welcome Class of 11 2018

2018 WCMGA <u>12</u> Officers

Online w/ WCMGA 12

STER GORD



President Reggie Askins: Plants need Feet...



Landscape architect Dan Franklin of Atlanta shares this garden wisdom,

"One of the beauties of any garden is that for plants to have feet and be moved around until you get just the right look."

This quote is so true of my garden. It seems I am always planning changes, things to add, thin, and relocate. To me that is what makes gardening fun, but my husband would greatly disagree." Don't move that again", he chants. Change is a fact of life, and this is true for our association. New

plants to try, techniques to learn, and friendships to be made are our common ground. Our big change at the top is the loss of our supportive county agent. But we are like the trees that anchor our landscape, strong and firmly rooted. We will survive. However, more responsibility will fall on your executive board. One of which is approving associates seeking specialist training. Education and sharing that horticultural knowledge is a major goal of TXMG. I am always thrilled to receive emails requesting training especially in areas of need in our association. We also have been blessed with a fund set aside ear marked for education which is available for those of us desiring some reimbursement of expenses. To help us fairly distribute these funds, thanks to Kathi Ladewig, Ellen Atkins and your board, scholarship guidelines have been formed. These scholarships are available to all members in good standing desiring specialist training in areas of need for our club.

(cont. page 2)

VP Melodee Eishen: WCMG Programs for 2018

May: We are trying to schedule a tour of a "Shade Garden". I know there are many gardeners out there that have a lot of shade and sometimes feel very limited in what they can plant and grow. Perhaps this will be the inspiration you need to transform your shaded space into that spectacular

secret garden.

June: TBA.

Note from the Editor:

Due to some unforeseen circumstances in my world, the regular March/April and May/June issues of "MG Woodworks" have been rolled into one.

Thank you for your understanding,

Sylvia

President Article Cont.

Please if you see a course you are interested in check with me ASAP. Most of the time, I can only approve two associates from our county. A good reference for future courses is our state website, txmsg.org. Also keep in mind they sometimes close registration two weeks before class start to order supplies. If you are not receiving the monthly newsletter from this site, there is a link to sign up.

A sincere thank you to Mike Ferguson and Gwen Fleishman for completing our audit. Thanks also to our new state directors, Gail Mullinax and Charlotte Kettlewell, who have come back sharing great ideas from their first directors meeting. Congratulations to Pat Johnson, for her twenty years of service with Junior MG and annual science days. Pat has now joined the ranks of emeritus.

Also just recently Pam Riley has requested and been approved for emeritus. It has been a joy to present both these talented ladies a plaque honoring their many years of service. I have submitted Master Gardener bios listing some of their many contributions they have made for our association.

Congrats to all for our Association awards presented at our April convention. We took home two third place awards. The class of 2017 won project with their succulent garden and we all contributed towards our Outstanding Association win.

May will bring more kudos as we prepare to honor our class of 2018 interns. Mark your calendars for May 1, we will hold a graduation luncheon feast at St Dunstan's Church, Mineola. They have been a great class, and we need to have a big turn out to welcome them officially into our family. Also, scheduled for May 21, 22 and 23 we will be hosting our annual Wood County science days for our third graders at Governor Hogg Park. If you would like to help with this fun event, please contact me as soon as possible.

I will close with this garden trivia. Did you know there are horticulturist therapists?

Just like therapy pets, they work with people to bring peace and calm to their lives and a sense of purpose. http://www.ahta.org



Click to return to index

Carol Hollen: Crape Myrtle Scale Treatment

This is the three step process, from Clint, for treating Crape Myrtle Scale.

- 1. Wash with tree with soapy water and a soft brush.
- 2. Spray with Malathion—3 oz. per gallon of water.
- 3. Drench roots with Imidacloprid.

Don't forget to wear protective gear when using chemicals!



https://agrilife.or

Pat Johnson, Emeritus



Pat received her twenty year service from Clint Perkins at our December 2017 meeting. She transferred to WCMG from Hopkins County. At that time five counties came together to receive training from some of our most noted horticulturists. Her service to Wood County was in a variety of ways. Pat was part of the team that helped design the gardens at the Quitman Library. You could also count on her to represent WCMG at our fall festivals. Her great joy was working with Linda Avant at Yantis Middle School with junior master gardeners.

Click to return to index

Pam Riley, Emeritus



Pam Riley is a certified Texas Master Gardener, Wood County and has been a very active member from January 2007 until present at which time she is unable to continue to fulfill the hours of recertification requirements due to her health.

During her years of service, she provided over 1,000 hours of volunteer service each year. She has always exceeded the required hours of education and volunteer each year. Pam was the trainee coordinator for the 2008 trainee class and served on many committees. She has Specialist training in EarthKind and Rainwater Harvesting.

Right out of class, Pam's passion became creating an Arboretum in Quitman on 21 deserted acres that had belonged to the state but had been deeded to the city of Quitman. She was able to acquire a 99 year lease and later acquired, with a lease, the historical Stinson house sitting on the same property. Pam created the Friends of the Arboretum in order to fund, restore and create the Arboretum.

In recognition of her service, Pam was voted by membership as Wood County Master Gardener of the Year for 2008. She received 1st place in medium size association individual Master Gardener Award from Texas Master Gardeners in 2008.

Pam is an exemplary Master Gardener giving selflessly of her time and sharing her knowledge.

Linda Timmons: Wildscape at MNP

The Aging of a Garden

You know how life really changes about every 10 years. What a person can do easily at 55 is more difficult at 65. Gardens and the people that enjoy them change, too. The Wildscape is about 12 years old now and some things are changing.

The first years of the garden were exciting and busy. Lots of dreaming, planning and planting. The decision was made for the garden to be a Wildscape. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Wildscape program is designed to encourage the establishment of wildlife habitats for birds, insects, reptiles and even small mammals. Since wildlife does best with plants they have adapted to, native plants are encouraged in the Wildscapes.



The Wildscape committee researched to find the best native plants for Wood County. We're right on the dividing line between the Post Oak Savannah with lots of hardwoods and wild flowers and the Piney Woods with its pines and shade loving plants. They planted oaks, maples, hollies, sassafras, cherry laurels and Mexican plum, all native to the Post Oak Savannah. They added long-leaf pine and wax myrtles native to the East Texas Piney Woods.

The Wildscape workers determined where to put in beds and paths. They prepared the soil, landscaped and added hardscape and buildings and the rain water storage tank. They added signage and seating and a watering system.





The establishment of a Wildscape was successful. In just the last 12 months we have seen lots of varieties of butterflies and moths, bumblebees, honey bees, hummingbirds, quail, mockingbirds, rabbits, mice and one Canadian Goose.



Our challenge now is to maintain and build on the great base we have. We have been pruning, weeding and repairing but there are also areas that need to be renovated. We have an area beside the main sidewalk to the north that needs to be renewed. It has traditionally been planted in annuals had have a limited season of appeal. We have recently added rock seating at one end of the area. The goal is to transform this area into a showcase of perennial natives that have year around interest. The Wildscape garden is continually changing, just like those of us that care for it.

Click to return to index

Jan Whitlock: QUITMAN ARBORETUM AND BOTANICAL GARDEN



INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE PICKET FENCE

Things were warm and cozy on the evening of February 14th as the Friends of the Arboretum hosted a Valentine Dinner. The house was full of guests, and the weather cooperated for those of us who were serving. In addition to being a wonderful Mother, Wife, Grandmother and Gardener, Gwen Fleischman is an incredible dishwasher and should receive some merit award for most time spent at the sink that evening.

January and February saw the kickoff of a new educational series, Nature U. This program has been developed and chaired by Lin Grado, our own "Garden Guru". Her enthusiasm has spread to many of our friends and fellow gardeners. Holly Ross of "Hollyberry Herb Farm" in Canton, was the first guest speaker, presenting a program on Organic Gardening. Just about the time you think you have heard it all and know a lot, here comes someone with a new spin on a very popular subject.

The second class in this series was on tree identification and was presented by Daniel Duncum of the Texas Forest Service. Questions asked by those attending were things I have wondered about (tap roots, the spread of the lateral root system beyond the drip line, many different names for the same tree as the locations differ) etc. There are so many trees occupying the 23 acres that comprise the Quitman Arboretum. Some which we identified and discussed were expected for our location, a few were complete surprises. One of our goals is to have proper tree identification for those who come out to walk the nature trails. Now there is an interesting project for a Master Gardener who may be trying to earn some hours. Please feel free to join us as we explore a new subject each month.

We have just completed another successful Spring Plant Sale. Thank you for coming out and supporting us. Hog damaged gardens, and a slowly aging historic house have added to our "to do" lists. Hog fencing, replacement plants, reworking the beds, keeping weathered siding in good repair and a myriad of other tasks are constantly draining the bank account as we entertain the neighbors and sell plants to raise funds. So many new and older Master Gardeners have been a part of this ongoing project. I would just like to take a moment to thank each and everyone of you. The forest behind the house would have encroached once again if it had not been for your constant care and hard work.

We have installed a keyhole garden. Located on the north side of the George Bridge, this addition to the Quitman Arboretum will provide a long lasting educational experience for our visitors. Deena Taylor and Lin Grado partnered to make this plan a reality. Please come out and visit to see the results of many hands and hours of construction and planting.

Inside the picket fence the house is being spruced up for a luncheon this week. Our party planners/house cleaners will be entertaining a local garden club's Spring Luncheon. This group has supported the Stinson House and Arboretum for many years and we look forward to serving them lunch once again.

As gardeners, you may be interested in making a trek to the back of Hogg Park to view the hog damaged beds and see which plants were hardy enough to fend off the attacks from these hairy pests.

With proper hog fencing installed, we shall shout "here we go again", and begin the reconstruction process. Needless to say, "many hands make light work". Only time will tell how light this work will be and how many hands will be involved. No invitation or experience is necessary. Bring your gloves, and get ready to visit with old friends with a common cause.

Not quite sure where you fit into this project puzzle? Take a look at our web page or our Facebook postings. We have enlisted a high powered and extremely competent PR person, disguised as Elizabeth Neuens, who has taken our postings and communications to the next level. As you all well know, any project is a joint effort of those who are committed to a goal and enjoy what they are doing. That would best describe the Friends of the Arboretum and the Wood County Master Gardeners. https://www.facebook.com/quitman.arboretum

I have missed not seeing my Master Gardner friends and family. Hope you are all doing well and enjoying the delightful spring weather we have had (minus the high winds on Lake Fork).

Click to return to index

Sylvia Johnson: What is a Texas Master Gardener? Part II



https://mastergardener.tamu.edu

Master Gardener Associations

Unless you have been through the training program, recertification classes, specialty classes, observed the Associates at work or know a current Texas Master Gardener, you may not appreciate the extensive and in-depth knowledge and work ethics that are combined in our program. These are our Association's guidelines.

The idea of a Master Gardener Association may confuse some Master Gardeners. Some feel that since they are working for Extension, it is Extension's role to provide the association. Others feel that an association would separate them from Extension. County Master Gardener Programs can be managed without an association, yet the strong desire exists among Master Gardeners to meet on a regular basis for purposes of education, fellowship and service. Master Gardeners are the ideal group to coordinate these regular meetings and an "association" is often a natural organizational result of these meetings.

Another primary reason for a Master Gardener Association is financial independence. A Master Gardener Program does not need a large amount to be effective. Generally, Extension is able to fund basic program needs, such as office space, telephone and copying. However, Extension often does not have the available funds needed for specific Master Gardener activities and support. In addition, Extension has specific policies regarding Extension agents soliciting and handling monies from community organizations, foundations or corporations.

Associations have more freedom to raise money needed through several means. Some examples might include: conducting plant sales, donating unsolicited money received from speaking engagements; or soliciting grant funds or sponsorships for projects. Funds generated or received by Master Gardener Associations provide support for educational projects, computer and office equipment for Master Gardeners and/or agents, horticultural libraries and resources, college scholarships, and educational and recreational activities for the Master Gardeners.

Texas AgriLife Extension Service will recognize and register Master Gardener Associations, which adhere to the following guidelines: the association consists of certified volunteers (Master Gardeners) who serve as representatives of Texas AgriLife Extension Service, thus affiliating closely with the local county Extension office a staff member of the local county Extension office serves as Advisor to the Association leadership.

Texas Master Gardener Title Defined

The title, Texas Master Gardener, is to be used only by individuals trained in the Texas Master Gardener program to assist Texas AgriLife Extension Service. A trainee must receive a minimum of 50 hours of instruction, pass an examination administered by Extension and volunteer a minimum of 50 hours of service to earn the title of "Texas Master Gardener." Once a trainee completes the instruction and examination phase, the individual gains the title of "Master Gardener Intern." From that point, the Intern has a maximum of one year to complete a minimum of 50 hours of volunteer service. Master Gardener trainees, Interns and Master Gardeners are encouraged to participate in local Master Gardener associations/groups and to attend State/Regional Master Gardener Conferences.

It is important to note that the State training and volunteer requirements are minimums. County Extension Agents have the authority to increase these requirements. Documentation requirements and validation of training and volunteer service hours are under the purview of the County Extension Agent or individual designated by the agent. Modifying Master Gardener Association by-laws regarding certification (or recertification) does not supersede State or County Master Gardener Program Guidelines.

As you read our newsletter and learn of all the educational seminars and classes we hold, garden projects we plan and execute, "specialist speakers" we share with the public in educational forums, the class room instruction we provide in County ISDs, the newspaper educational articles written by our Associates and the community outreach events we hold, as well as our web-site and Facebook pages, we hope you get an understanding of how great an asset you have available to you especially here in Wood County, Texas.

(Click to return to index)

Lin Grado: March Garden Madness

Sick of winter, east Texas gardeners experience some sort of March garden madness. Meteorological spring begins March 1st, and that seems to line up with East Texas weather. Even though there are frosts remaining, we will rarely have another bone-chilling cold spell. I know it's (almost) spring when saucer and star magnolia bloom in shades from dark pink to almost white. They are accompanied in my yard by blooms on crabapples and plums (peaches are too fickle for me, and I'm still looking for a spot to plant a Warren pear). Vines like the native crossvine decorate fences and arbors, while wisteria, the scourge of the south, strangles trees, houses, and slow-moving gardeners.

Spring shrubs are the stars of March garden madness. Azaleas are a signature plant to much of east Texas, overlapping the final blooms of camellias. Viburnums such as the snowball bush and the native rusty blackhaw pop their clusters of white flowers for the bees to find. Bridal wreath spirea will line its branches with small white 'bouquets', while mock oranges show their sometimes-fragrant dogwood-like blooms. (To ensure the mock orange you buy will be fragrant, try to buy while in bloom.) The rarely-planted magnolia relative called the banana shrub will start to open its small yellow blooms that carry the fragrance of ripe bananas. Look for a specimen of this shrub inside the picket fence at the Quitman Arboretum.

As a gardener, my March madness consists of all of the spring chores that await me. All those perennials that I left standing over the winter need to be cut back. If they were diseased, I remove them from the beds; otherwise I chop the stems into small pieces and drop in the bed, knowing they will be covered with a much more attractive mulch. If I've piled up mulch to protect a tender perennial, I pull all that mulch off the plant's crown. Any leaves that are piled up also need to be pulled away from the perennials; I consider them my first layer of mulch so I leave the leaves in the beds.

Oh, and weeding! I am lucky in that my yard is a woodlands, so weeds are few and far between. At the Quitman Arboretum, we are not that lucky – the beds are growing wonderful stands of henbit, a low-growing weed with purple flowers, and its cousin, purple deadnettle. If our beds were intact, we would have reduced these annual weeds with another dose of Preen in late fall or early winter. Dandelions have taken root where the hogs dug up the lawn; my grandfather would have pulled these for our spring salads or made wine from the blooms. Other spring weeds include chickweed, creeping buttercup, and wild geranium, which I keep expecting to be something I should keep (spoiler alert: it's not).

March is also time to start your warm-season vegetable garden. Spend March getting your beds ready by weeding and adding soil improvements rather than planting your warm-season vegetables. Not only is another frost likely, but also the soil temperatures are probably too low for good growth. Local wisdom says to wait till after Easter, and I tend to agree. I have limited sun in my yard, and my sandy soil is full of root-knot nematodes, so I do limited vegetable gardening. This year we're exploring some techniques for vegetable gardening at the Quitman Arboretum – we will once again plant some straw bale gardens, and for the first time we'll be building a keyhole garden inside the fence to the north of the George Bridge.



Texas sundrops blooms from spring through summer in full sun

The 'Final Four' in my March garden madness are four perennials for spring blooms. For shade, I recommend Texas Gold columbine, with its bluish-green scalloped leaves and bright yellow flowers with spurs a cowboy would envy. Texas gold retains a low rosette of leaves over the winter, providing some much-needed color. Another shade-lover is a ground cover called ajuga or bugle weed. Its leaves can be green, maroon, purple, or even variegated, but its flowers are generally blue-violet, on a six-inch tall stalk. Ajuga needs well-draining soil and prefers protection from hot sun. It is an aggressive grower that will cover a flowerbed if conditions are right.

For those sunnier spots, consider the native called Texas sundrops or Texas primrose. This evergreen low-growing plant with lemon yellow flowers is one of the longest-flowering perennials in our east Texas gardens. It will bloom on and off from spring through summer. You can see this plant at both the Quitman Library gardens and the waterwise bed at the Quitman Arboretum. The final plant I'd like you to consider growing in your sunny garden is yarrow, another evergreen with very ferny foliage. A long-time performer at the Quitman Library gardens, 'Royal Tapestry' yarrow blooms in various shades of pinks starting in March.

I hope I've convinced you that even if you're not a basketball fan, you can certainly enjoy some March madness in your east Texas gardens.



'Royal Tapestry' yarrow at the Quitman library



Low-growing ajuga has pretty spires of blue-violet blooms



Texas gold columbine sports long spurs at the back of the bloom

Lin Grado: Spring color for your east Texas gardens

April is the prettiest month in an east Texas garden - at least it's my favorite month in my own garden. Early in the month the last of my early spring bulbs provide effortless color - Spanish bluebells (which I've planted in blue, pink, and white) and purple oxalis. As they start to fade, other bulbs add their blooms to the garden.



My two favorite April bulbs are amaryllis and lilies – those same blooms we enjoy for Christmas and Easter. If you plant your potted amaryllis and Easter lilies in your garden once we're past the last freeze, they should return and bloom each April. There are other lilies that do well in east Texas – Asiatic lilies and their cross with Easter lilies called 'LA Hybrids'. Check when you buy your bulbs to see that they're the right varieties so you're not disappointed.

Some of the older homes in the area have magenta flower spikes in the front yard – these are Byzantine gladiolus. Still more homes proudly display the blooms of bearded iris, tall and

short. Among the first to bloom is the white cemetery iris, which I've even seen in the highway 80 median strip. The tall spiky leaves set off the pearlescent blooms no matter where they're blooming. The best place to get these plants is from a friend – that way you'll have both the blooms and the memory of your friendship.

April also begins the bloom time of some wonderful perennials such as homestead purple verbena. This low-growing plant makes a great border or will happily fill a well-drained sunny bed. There are other Texas-tough verbenas in different shades, such as pink princess and blue princess, a Texas Superstar® plant. If you need some height in a bed,

'Henry Duelberg' salvia thrives in the same conditions, with blue blooms that start in April and continue through the year.

While azaleas steal the show for early April color, there are many other shrubs that peak now, such as snowball viburnum and oak leaf hydrangea, both of which have big white clusters of blooms. There is a variegated weigela at the Quitman Arboretum & Botanical Gardens that has green and chartreuse leaves and deep pink, almost red flowers. Its beauty is often missed by visitors to the garden as it's on the back of the bed with the birdcage – you can see it from the hiking trail.



weigela

Some spring blooms also produce fragrance for the garden, and we have several at the Aboretum for you to enjoy. The aptly-named banana shrub fills the air with a ripe banana scent, while mock orange can provide a light citrus fragrance. The Henry's Garnet sweetspire that's in the bed by the pergola will soon be covered with drooping, white, fragrant blooms. Some of the roses that remain in the beds are also fragrant. I won't tell you which ones; you'll have to smell

for yourself.



banana shrub

At home, I have a citrus tree that doesn't produce flavorful fruit (it's mostly used as a root stock for grafting), but my one small tree perfumes the whole yard and reminds me of spring in Florida. I have also planted Virginia sweetshrub, with exotic-looking red or white flowers with their own indescribable sweet fruity smell – I detect hints of pineapple, melon, and strawberry.



oak leaf

My final shout out to spring color is not to blooms but rather to the new growth on many trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants. Some Japan shades of chartreuse to deep red, and provide a great contrast in the gar-

nese maples leaf out in shades of chartreuse to deep red, and provide a great contrast in the garden. I have one in a pot that I've placed by an oak leaf hydrangea, and the contrast in leaf form,



hosta

texture, and color is quite attractive. Some of the Japanese spirea form small mounds of brightly-colored foliage such as 'Goldmound' before they put on their pretty pink blooms – as an added bonus, they'll have colorful fall foliage as well. The Autumn fern has new fronds of coppery-red that contrast with its evergreen foliage that holds through the winter. Finally many hosta have dramatic spring leaves of blue, green, chartreuse, and gold; I find they do best in my sugar sand if I keep them in pots or containers. I planted an old wheelbarrow with different hosta and they look great each April.

(Click to return to index)

This article was submitted for the March/April edition which was not published. However, it contains so much good information I felt it deserved a place in this issue. After all, it is never too early or too late to plan a garden! sj

Lin Grado: The Winter Garden

As winter weather settles in and the gardens are put to bed, a gardener's thoughts turn to next year. Next year, I'll try vegetables in containers. Next year, I'll plant a shade garden. Next year, my garden will look better in winter. Start now, and your garden will look better next winter.

Winter gardens can admittedly look somewhat sparse. Annuals have died or been pulled; perennials have succumbed to multiple freezes; deciduous shrubs and trees are nothing but bare branches. But with some fine-tuning, the winter garden can have form, structure, and color when the landscape is barren.



Florida sunshine anise provides a bright spot in a dull winter garden.

Plantings of evergreen shrubs, vines, and perennials provide year-round garden interest once they're established. Some of our most-beloved east Texas shrubs are evergreen – hollies, camellias, and many azaleas. Add garden staples like boxwood and loropetalum

for a pleasing winter landscape. If you're more adventurous, look for uncommon evergreen shrubs. My favorites include winter honeysuckle (with blue-green leaves and sweet-smelling blooms from December through March); leatherleaf mahonia (with spiky leaves reminiscent of holly and yellow winter blooms); and distylium (with dark green glossy leaves and small red flowers). And evergreen doesn't necessarily mean green. Loropetalum has deep burgundy foliage that can be left natural or sheared into a hedge; Florida anise has varieties with gold or variegated leaves; and pineapple guava's foliage is a pleasing olive green backed with gray.

Two native vines are standouts during our winters: coral honeysuckle and cross vine. On a trellis or fence, these can provide a backdrop to other garden treasures much in the way that shrubs can.



Don't overlook evergreen perennials in your beds for winter. Evergreen perennials that do well in east Texas gardens include cast iron plants, with deep green, spear-shaped leaves; and hellebores, with palmate leaves and winter flowers. Several evergreen ferns thrive in east Texas, such as autumn fern, holly fern, and the native Christmas fern, and will add both texture and color to the winter land-scape.

Crape myrtle- The beautiful bark of 'Natchez' crape myrtle is a winter highlight

Evergreens aren't the only way to provide winter interest in a garden. Once a tree or shrub has dropped its leaves, its bark takes center stage, whether by color or texture. I believe there

is nothing more beautiful than the taupe and cinnamon bark on the trunk of a Natchez crape myrtle (it's the reason I bought one); other varieties have attractive bark as well. Similarly, river birches have amazing exfoliating bark, as do oak leaf hydrangeas. There's a group

of Japanese maples called coral bark maples with bark that turns a vivid coral to scarlet in the winter. The young stems of Virginia sweetspire 'Henry's garnet' are a stunning maroon in winter. Be mindful in the placement of these plants – the red stems can be lost in front of a red brick wall.

There's one other garden element to provide winter interest: garden art. A bottle tree sparkles year-round. Statuary that is

Place statuary like this birdbath in front of evergreen foliage.

lost in the summer months can steal the show in the winter. Showcase the beauty of a birdbath or a statue by positioning it in front of an evergreen shrub or a clump of cast iron plant. Your winter focal point will be complete!

If you're designing a new bed, it's fairly straightforward to plan for winter interest – for example, include evergreens as a backdrop to your border, or in the center of your bed. In an existing bed, use this time of year to determine where you need some winter focus. Consider replacing some of your Southern wood ferns with autumn or holly ferns, or interspersing your hosta with hellebore. Replace that rose of Sharon with a loropetalum. These small changes will make winter more interesting in your east Texas garden.

(Click to return to index)

Gayle Mullinax: Texas Gardener Magazine

Remember to turn your Texas Gardener magazine subscriptions in to Gayle Mullinax. She will be available at the Extension Office on Tuesday mornings and at the monthly WCMGA meeting. If you have problems or questions, please contact me.

Thanks!

http://www.texasgardener.com





The WCMG Associates send our congratulations to the graduates of 2018 and welcome them to our organization.







Click to return to index

All clip-art



2018 WCMG Officers

President - Reggie Askins

Vice-President - Melodee Eishen

Secretary - Phil Young

Treasurer - Tracey Snow Murphy

Photo by: Elizabeth Neuens

(Click to return to index)

Online with WCMGA

- —"MG Wood Works" Newsletter: mgnewsletter@hotmail.com You are all invited to submit your thoughts, lessons, new suggestions or perceptions to this newsletter. You are permitted to count time writing articles as volunteer hours. Unless otherwise annotated, all photos in this publication were taken by the author of the article in which they appear. If you have questions please contact the editor: **Sylvia Johnson**
- **–Website** at http://txmg.org/woodcounty up-to-the-minute news and scheduled events, back issues of the newsletter and seasonal videos. Any new content for the web-site can be sent to **Keith Zimmerman**.
- -Facebook, https://www.facebook.com/Wood-County-Master-Gardeners-Inc-205733709448425/?fref=ts

Facebook Group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1534107646899295/

- **–CEU**—ON LINE: http://txmg.org -look to side of page, click on Training, click on Training Opportunities, click Earth-Kind Training for Master Gardeners, almost to bottom of page you will find Directions. There are 12 subjects, click on arrow in front of subject for video then click on survey or test.
- **–Sunshine:** Know of a member who needs a get well, warm thought or sympathy card? Contact **Laurie Fisher**. She will insure one is sent from the Association.
- **—Reporter:** To ensure an Associate gets praise/a pat on the back from the community or our Association, send a message to **Lynn Arron-Speer.** The official media contact reporter.
- **–Volunteer Hours:** http://texas.volunteersystem.org Just click on the link and you will see where to enter your password. Before logging in, right click on the page and save to favorites or bookmark or Create Shortcut to you desktop. Thanks for entering your hours. If you need help contact **Peggy Rogers**.
- -Contact info for Associates, you can find all E-mail address and/or contact information on the Membership Roster sent to you by WCMG E-mail or on the Member Roster on the Volunteer Hours Website site above.

Interested in becoming a Master Gardener and contributing to your county?

If so, call the Wood County AgriLife Extension office for more information.

AgriLife Extension Service 618 South Main Street Quitman,

Wood County TX 75783-0968

Phone: 903-763-2924

