



# The Guadalupe Gardener



March 2009

A monthly publication of the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners in cooperation with the Texas *AgriLIFE* Extension, Guadalupe County



## Gardening Conundrums by Bob Grafe, President

Kale, collards and kohlrabi are all looking for good homes ... in your gardens. No, not just in the vegetable garden. All three can make for very interesting additions to your ornamental beds as well.

And, all three can tolerate the Central Texas manic-depressive swings in temperatures, are easy to grow and are usually quite forgiving. Now is a good time to plant all three—ideally from transplants.

For a conversation starter, your maturing kohlrabi plants will win the competition among the three hands-down. Kohlrabi has been described as anything from the vegetable world's answer to a sea urchin to something directly from outer-space. They are fast-growing with edible leaves and a crisp bulbous base stem that is tender and mild tasting and may be eaten either raw or gently cooked.

For gardening fun this spring, try some kohlrabi in your gardens. To bring back memories of your grandparent's gardens, try planting kale and collards. And, to just expand your gardening knowledge, try all three!

Hope to see you all at the next Guadalupe County Master Gardener Association meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

## March 19 Meeting

Program: 7:00 PM

Conservation Subdivision Design  
presented by Mark Maldonado

Landscape design, when applied to subdivision planning, should consider the best way to conserve the natural resources on the site while maintaining ecological habitats. This includes preserving mature trees, ponds, brooks, rock outcroppings, good soil, turf and other interesting variations in the terrain.

Refreshments: 7:45-8:00

Served by Bonnie DeCamp, Gillian Siemens, Pat Schultze and anyone else who wants to bring treats!



Business Meeting: 8:00

### In This Issue:

Page 2: February Meeting Review

Page 3 & 4: Gardening Events

Page 5 & 6: Volunteer and Educational  
Opportunities

Page 7: March Calendar

# February Meeting Review

## Welcome Newly Certified Master Gardeners

President Bob Grafe presents Master Gardener certificates to Ralph Albright, Elaine McIntyre, and Leroy Delventhal. Also certifying, but not shown, was Robert Frederick, Jr.



Ralph Albright



Elaine McIntyre



Leroy Delventhal



## New Guadalupe Gardener Publisher

It was a difficult decision but one I needed to make. After five years of producing the *Guadalupe Gardener* I am "retiring" from the position of publisher/editor. It has been a real joy and a wonderful creative outlet; seems it has become my identity with most of you. I appreciate all that you have done to make my task easier. Thank you for allowing me to serve the Association doing something I really love.

I'm happy to announce Elaine McIntyre (see picture above) will be taking over the duty of publishing the newsletter. Elaine was a member of Class 20 and received her full certification at the February meeting. Please support her as we transition the production to her.

Marilyn

# Gardening Events

## Native Plant Society of Texas Guadalupe County Chapter



**Meeting Date – March 10, 2009**

**Location: Guadalupe County Annex,  
1101 Elbel Road, Schertz**

**Directions:** for people driving to Schertz, take Hwy. 78, turn onto FM 3009 and go to the first traffic light. Turn left onto Elbel Road and the Guadalupe County Annex is the first building on the right. The entry door will be on the side of the building facing FM 3009.

**6:30 pm Plant and seed exchange, get to know one another**

**7:00 pm Program - Mark Peterson, Conservation Planner, SAWS, will present “Appropriate Flowering Trees for South Central Texas”**

**Program followed by short business meeting.**

## Eleventh Annual Hill Country Lawn and Garden Show

Sponsored by the Highland Lakes Master Gardeners Assn. in conjunction with ...  
Burnet Co. AgriLife Extension Service



**Saturday, March 28  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Burnet Community Center  
401 E. Jackson St., Burnet, TX

No Charge for Admission

Vendors feature only lawn and garden products, such as herbs, native plants, vegetable plants, bedding plants as well as the latest in equipment and garden decorations.

There will be informative speakers and demonstrations as well as children’s activities.

<http://hillcountrylgshow.com/default.aspx>

## March 28 & 29, 2009 10 am - 5 pm



This family friendly event includes a great variety of musical entertainment, guest speakers, children's activities, more than a 1000 items of plants, crafts, and unique items.

2220 Barton Springs Rd., Austin, TX  
512-477-8672

Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids (ages 3-12).

<http://www.zilker.org/about/events/ZGF2009/zgf.html>

## Antique Rose Emporium

### Container Gardening Demonstration

03/21/2009

**Location: San Antonio Display Gardens**

Cindy Lawrey will offer two free demonstrations about container gardening at 11:00 and 2:00. Free potting soil will be available. Call to reserve your spot!

03/29/2009

### Iris Seminar

**Location: San Antonio Display Gardens**

Free seminar featuring JoNelle Zagar, iris expert, at 1:00. Call to reserve your spot!

# Spring Plant Sales

GREAT way to encourage kids who need the support of the community

Floresville ISD Alternative School  
3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Spring Plant Sale



Tues-Fri /March 17<sup>th</sup>-March 20<sup>th</sup>  
10am to 6pm.

335 Alternative Lane, Floresville, TX - "Look for the Green Houses"

The administrator in charge of these kids has taught them how to propagate plants, grow them, pot them up and how to market them. They had some beautiful hanging baskets, native plants etc. at the Wilson Co. Gardening Day. He teaches them how to go out in the community and work on their community service.

## Aransas/San Patricio Master Gardener Association Spring Plant Sale

March 14

MG Green Acres Demonstration Gardens  
611 E. Mimosa, Rockport, TX  
361-790-0103

Clara Mae Marcotte says, "I've been to both and enjoyed them (and spent money.)"



140 City Park Rd  
Boerne, TX 78006  
Ph.: 830-249-4616



### Natural Landscape Design Workshop March 21, 2009

**Time:** 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

**Location:** Cibolo Nature Center Auditorium and Park

**Judit Green**, TPWD urban biologist, will focus on using native and adapted plants in her 3-hour landscape design program. It will offer design, installation, and maintenance tips, as well as ideas about plants to incorporate in your design, especially with "deer in the garden" challenges. Then, we will tour CNC's new and established native landscape to see some of these plants in the ground. Go home with a list of drought-tolerant plants that are attractive to humans, butterflies and birds, many of which will be for sale at the **April 4<sup>th</sup> Mostly Native Plant Sale at the Kendall County Fairground in Boerne!** This workshop will be a great start for a new design in your garden.

CNC Members \$15/person; non-members \$20/person.

Limit: 30. Pre-registration required. Call 830-249-4616.

### Habitat For Birds Part 2: Managing for Game Birds and Song Birds

March 28, 2009

**Time:** 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Location:** Cibolo Nature Center Auditorium and Park

**Rufus Stephens**, Texas Parks and Wildlife biologist, will begin with a talk on how different habitat types provide food, cover and space for specific birds. Program also will include presentation and use of new Kendall County Bird Checklist for easy record keeping. We will also spend time outside examining native plants important to wildlife.

Cost: Members \$15 per person; non-members \$20 per person.

Limited to 30. Pre-registration required. Call 830-249-4616.

# Volunteer Opportunities

**Seguin Chamber of Commerce, Showcase Seguin "Spring into Green" - March 12 from 6 to 9 p.m. & March 13 from 1 to 8 p.m.** Help needed to work the information booth, answer questions and talk with people. Also need Master Gardeners who would like to do mini-seminars of about 15 to 20 minutes on gardening topics. No power point needed, just being able to talk & maybe demonstrate. If you want to try out a new presentation or want to get experience speaking in front of a group, this would be perfect. Contact **Linda Bruno**, [jlbruno@gvec.net](mailto:jlbruno@gvec.net) or 210-363-8380.

**Landscape Workday, March 21 from 8 a.m. to noon.** This is a great opportunity to mingle with other members & also help make the AgriLife Extension Building really shine. For details, contact **Liz Romero** at 830-372-3106 or [lromero16@satx.rr.com](mailto:lromero16@satx.rr.com)

**Weinert Elementary - Denise Jeffers** needs help with some school activities. Contact her at [bjdj2135@aol.com](mailto:bjdj2135@aol.com)

**Earth Day, Seguin, Saturday, April 25 - Betty Hughes** is working on the schedule & will have more information shortly. However, if you want to help work the information booth, please let her know now at 830-401-4066 or [ehughes5@satx.rr.com](mailto:ehughes5@satx.rr.com)

**Master Gardener Phone Line & Library, Monday from 9 to noon at the AgriLife Extension Building.** Volunteers needed to run copies for our various events, package seeds & answer phones. Contact **Betty Hughes** at 830-401-4066 or [ehughes5@satx.rr.com](mailto:ehughes5@satx.rr.com) to find out what days she needs people.

**SEEDS NEEDED** - We still need seeds for our events. Just drop them by the Extension Office, labeled with the name (common name & Latin if you know it) & the year they were harvested. If there is a specific color, mention that too. No Mountain Laurel, please. If it is rare or an heirloom, add that to the description.

# Education Opportunities

**San Antonio Garden Center Plant Sale SATURDAY, MARCH 14 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.** 3310 N. New Braunfels in San Antonio, corner of New Braunfels & Funston, near the S.A. Botanical Center. The San Antonio Garden Center will be filled with new and unique bedding plants, hanging baskets, daylilies, herbs, roses, cacti, succulents, native plants and perennials. There is also a "donation" area where our gardening members contribute often rare and unusual plants from their own yards and gardens. Shop early for best selection. The plant sale is the San Antonio Garden Center's main fundraising event of the year. For more information call us at **210-824-9981** or check out our website at [www.sanantoniogardencenters.org](http://www.sanantoniogardencenters.org).

**Kerrville, Texas Rainwater Catchment Assoc. 1<sup>st</sup> Statewide Conference, March 20 - 21.** March 20, activities are from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. with a tour of several rainwater catchment projects in the Boerne area. March 21, the program will concentrate on the actual construction of a number of collection systems ranging from a simple rain barrel to rain garden, bog garden, a collection system for wildlife or livestock, a bird bath, drip irrigation system and an in-home system. These demonstrations will begin at 9 a.m. A trade show featuring a number of commercial exhibits and suppliers of rainwater collection equipment will be a major part of the two-day event.

There are fees to attend. For more information go to [www.texrca.org](http://www.texrca.org) or contact Bill Kniffen at 325-396-4787 or [b-kniffen@tamu.edu](mailto:b-kniffen@tamu.edu)

**Paul's Desert, 200 Schertz Pkwy, Schertz, 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Open House, March 22 from 12:00 to dark.** Specializing in Cacti & Succulents. More information at [www.paulsdesert.com](http://www.paulsdesert.com) or call 210-658-7561 to RSVP for the open house.

**And a Website you might find interesting,** <http://www.simplegiftsfarm.com/> . This site belongs to Doug Green, a Canadian with thirty years in the nursery business and even though he is in Canada, he still has some great things to offer on his website.

### Looking for an Artist!

The Chism Company, a commercial awning company located in San Antonio, has donated a 3' x 6' banner for our use. It is a lovely deep forest green in a Sunbrella fabric, hemmed and with grommets for hanging. Right now it is still a blank canvas and needs the GCMG name and logo painted onto the fabric. It will be available at the next membership meeting to look at in case one of our talented artists is interested.



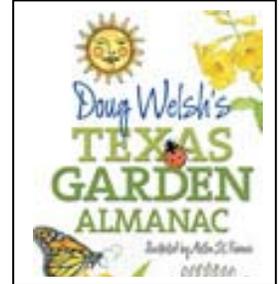
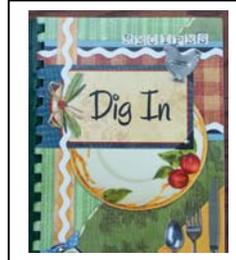
### You mean I finally stumped you guys??

No one recognized the February Mystery Master Gardener, so the prize gift certificate goes to her – our own Ann Odvody.

We still have “Dig In” cookbooks and Dr. Doug Welsh’s “Texas Garden Almanac” available for sale.

Go to our office in the AgriLife Extension Building on Mondays or Garden Delights, 1499 East Court St., Tuesday – Saturday to buy copies.

**Both make excellent gifts!**



### Report Your Hours

Send your first quarter volunteer and education hours to Dale Odvody at the end of March.



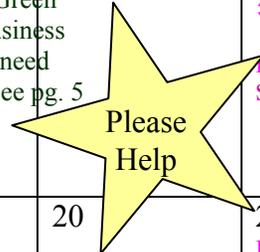
You may e-mail to: [odvodyd@swbell.net](mailto:odvodyd@swbell.net) or mail your form to him at 4715 FM 2538, Marion, TX 78124





# March 2009 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Master Gardener office / library open every Monday	3	4	5	6	7 KWED Radio 1580 AM Lawn & Garden Show 9:05 a.m.
8	9	10	11	12 Spring into Green Chamber Business Showcase – need volunteers, see pg. 5	13	14 KWED Radio 1580 AM Lawn & Garden Show 9:05 a.m.
15	16	17 	18	19 Board mtg. 5:30 Monthly mtg. 7:00	20	21 KWED Radio 1580 AM Lawn & Garden Show 9:05 a.m. <b>Landscape Workday @ Ag. Bldg 8:00 - noon</b>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 KWED Radio 1580 AM Lawn & Garden Show 9:05 a.m.
29	31					



## Important! KWED Lawn & Garden Show Needs Your Help

- March 14th - We need two Master Gardeners who love to talk about insects--the good, the bad and the ugly!
- March 21st - We need two Master Gardeners who love to talk about lawn and ground covers--they don't have to be experts ... they just need to look like them!

Master Gardeners who have an interest in helping out on these two dates (or other dates for that matter!) to call Bob Grafe on my cell phone at 830-743-3399 or email me at [alaskagrafe@yahoo.com](mailto:alaskagrafe@yahoo.com).

### GCMG Officers & Board of Directors

Bob Grafe	President
Linda Bruno	President-Elect
Doug Biggs	Vice President
Pat Schultze	Secretary
Betty Hughes	Treasurer
Janet Grafe	Education Coordinator
Peggy Jones	Publication Coordinator
Clara Mae Marcotte	Volunteer Coordinator

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Randee Malmsten	Web Master
Travis Franke	<i>AgriLIFE</i> Agent Master Gardener Coordinator

### Next Meeting

**Thursday, March 19, 2009**

**Meeting Time – 7:00**

***AgriLIFE* Extension Building  
210 E. Live Oak, Seguin, TX**

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Marcia Richardson, Reporter

Linda Belz, Photographer  
Marilyn Moltz,  
The Wandering Gardener



### Wilson County Gardening Day

It was a cold and windy day, but Peggy Jones, Betty Hughes, Pat Schultze and Kathy Carroll had great fun. They distributed information, “sold” seeds for a donation [which brought in \$52.50!], and sold our cookbooks and an apron adding another \$62.00 to our treasury.

**GREAT JOB, LADIES**



**Guadalupe County Master Gardeners, Inc.**  
**210 East Live Oak St.**  
**Seguin, TX 78155**

<http://www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org>

<http://guadalupe-tx.tamu.edu/Newsletters.cfm>

<http://www.texasmastergardeners.org>