



# The Guadalupe Gardener



May 2012

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



## Moving Forward

With so many activities and agendas in the works, trying to organize and prioritize my days is like trying to herd cats.

I would be remiss in not giving credit to our current board members for their dedication and continuing vigilance in these first few months and particularly those who keep pulling me out of the mine fields.

We have an outstanding organization and too many times there are the worker bees who don't receive the proper recognition for their efforts. Just to name a few members, Betty Hughes, Liz Romero, Mary Bowe, Clara Mae Marcotte, Hughlene Micheli, Carol Mycue, Elaine McIntyre, Jim Johnson, Treva Hicks, Joe Bruno and Pat Schultze provide countless time and energy fostering the progress of this organization. Because of limited space here, I have not mentioned everyone who helps move and run this engine, but we know who you are and appreciate your efforts and time.

Thanks to the efforts of County Commissioner Jim Wolverton and his group and Project Chairman, Carol Mycue, the Guadalupe County Finance Building flower beds have come to fruition and look beautiful. Through the organized efforts of Gina Mullen, Lo-Ra Dick, the JMG Coordinator, and others, the Junior Master Gardener Program is moving forward and currently there are six programs targeted for the local area. Earlier in the year and with serious consideration of pursuing the JMG specialist program, I volunteered to attend a JMG workshop at the Extension Building, set up by Gina Mullen. In attendance were several ladies and myself and before the workshop was completed, I quickly realized, needless to say,

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## MAY MEETING May 17th, 2012

**May 17 - Using Herbs in Your Diet** - Mary Dunford, owner of Nature's Herb Farm, will talk about how herbs can best be used in our diet.

Don't forget to bring your plants for the plant exchange table and....

Don't forget your name tag!

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## APRIL MEETING PROGRAM



### Joe Wait Olives – *Olea Europaea*

Joe Wait started an olive orchard with about 600 trees in Seguin close to the airport.

Joe said that olives have been grown for over 8,000 years. 80% of the olives are produced in the Northern Mediterranean Basin (Greece, Turkey, and Spain). Olive oil is used for lamps, food, medicine, and cosmetics. Olive fruit is food, and the leaves can be used for tea.

It is important to select olive tree varieties that match the local weather and soil. Sandy Oaks Olive Orchard in Elmendorf is an excellent source of plants, etc., and can help you with your selection. Some of the trees that do well in this area are Arbequina and Leccino (for oil) and Maurino (oil or table).

You can start olive trees from cuttings. Olive trees need an alkaline soil with good drainage, need water, but not wet feet. Olive trees are a somewhat biennial crop. There is the dwarf size that is from 8-20 feet, and the standard size that is from 20-35 feet.

Best growth for olive trees is around 85 degrees, but maximum Texas temperatures are fine, as long as the trees get a sufficient amount of water. The trees do need a winter chill of under 40 degrees F. to set fruit buds. When cold weather is sustained under 10 degrees F, the trees will die back to ground.

Begin harvesting in October/November when the olive starts turning yellow, or when the juice of the olive turns a creamy color. Harvest black olives when they turn a dark purple. Olives can be picked by hand, with a tree shaker, or with a grape harvester. Processing needs to be done on the same day they are picked for retention of phenols.

To process the oil from olives, remove leaves, wash, and dry olives. Grind/crush whole olives into mash, then mix to break oil from water. Press the juice from the mash, and separate oil from water. Filter and bottle the oil, and store about 60 degrees F. Do not refrigerate the oil, and use within a two year time period.

NEVER eat an olive off the tree; olives need to be processed/cured to neutralize the acids. There are many approaches to curing the olives. One approach is to cure in water by changing water every day. Or can cure in a salt water solution by changing every several days. It typically takes one to two months at "room temperature" to finish the curing process.

Submitted by Pat Schultze

**The Guadalupe County Master Gardener Association**

Is a

**VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION**

# Association News



## SUMMER SOCIAL

You and a guest are invited  
To an Ice Cream Social for the  
Guadalupe County Master Gardeners,  
Of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service

Thursday, June 21, 2012, 6:30 PM

At the First Presbyterian Church

305 N. King Street, Seguin

Ice Cream and Beverages will be provided

There will be Games, Door Prizes and a Raffle

RSVP by June 16<sup>th</sup> to

Treva Hicks 830-303-4712

E mail: [hicks1t@lycos.com](mailto:hicks1t@lycos.com)



Treva will be assisted by Betty Hughes, Pat Schultze and Peggy Jones.

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my very limited creative arts and crafts skills that are required in working with these little folks in the JMG program was not going to be my specialist gig. I was all thumbs and at this point in my life, I do understand my limits but I can show the children how to play in the dirt and I will help promote and support this wonderful program.

We are still waiting for the background checks to be processed.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: FLEXIBLE PEOPLE NEVER GET BENT OUT OF SHAPE!

Bob Davis, President

## REFRESHMENTS

I want to thank Debbie Zielms, Karl Ikerd, Gail Kiehn, and Betty Hughes for bringing the wonderful refreshments for the meeting. I want to give a special thank you to Sandy Foss who made and sent in food even though she was unable to come herself.

May 17, 2012 the refreshments will be provided by Suzanne Brown, Jeri Doyle and Peggy Jones.

Thank you for volunteering to bring refreshments to the meeting.

Treva Hicks, Refreshments Coordinator

## SUPERIOR GARDENING INSTRUCTION FOR \$2.85 AN HOUR

Are you interested in learning more about gardening and sharing the information you learn with others? If this peaks your interest, consider enrolling in Guadalupe County Master Gardeners Class #24 starting in August 2012. Classes will be held from August through December in Seguin, Texas on Wednesdays from 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM. You will receive superior gardening instruction for as little as \$2.85 an hour, when you sign up for the Fall 2012 course. It's worth many times more, but that's all you have to pay when you sign up ... and make a commitment to

1. Take all the classes and successfully complete open-book, take-home tests, and
2. Volunteer 50 hours with Guadalupe County Master Gardeners over a 12-month period, and share what you learn with others.

For more in-depth information on the class and it's requirements, attend free informational meeting on **May 17 at 6:00 to 6:45 p.m.** at the Master Gardeners/AgriLife Extension Office on 210 E. Live Oak Street, Seguin, Texas. Following the informational meeting you will also be able to attend a **free lecture** at 7:00 p.m. on **Using Herbs in Your Diet** by Mary Dunford, Nature's Herb Farm.

As a student of Guadalupe County Master Gardeners Class #24, you will learn practical gardening techniques and values from faculty and staff of Texas A&M University and Texas AgriLife Extension, as well as from Certified Master Gardener Specialists. Topics planned for the Fall 2012 session are listed on the website <http://www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org>. That's a lot of gardening know-how. There is no other place in Guadalupe County where you can get so much for so little.

**Who:** You and people who garden and want to learn more

**What:** Guadalupe County Master Gardeners Class #24

**When:** August to December, 2012 - Wednesdays, 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

**Where:** First Presbyterian Church, 305 North King Street, Seguin, Texas

**How Much:** - \$190.00

**Why:** Because you love it and its affordability!

**Need information now?** email [elmerjose@gmail.com](mailto:elmerjose@gmail.com) or call 830-401-0800

## Sign up to Sponsor A Class 24 Student

Sponsors help students & offer encouragement in their journey to become a certified Master Gardener.

- Periodically call or email to encourage and help students become certified.
- Introduce students at membership meetings and stand with them to celebrate graduation and certification.

Sponsors need not be experts...but be willing to connect students to information and resources.

Optional: some sponsors and students attend field trips or volunteer together.

Any Master Gardener member - certified, intern or associate - may be a sponsor.

The best sponsor-student relationships are those

- where students and sponsors have similar interests\*,
- members recruit someone to join the class then sponsor them.

April 25<sup>th</sup>, the following Members will sponsor Class 24 students.

Linda Bruno, Dave Elder, Helen Griffith, Treva Hicks (for Patty & Larry White), Betty Hughes, John Sells, Mary Real, Randy Rye and Ellen Laubhan, Mary Stylbo, Terri Virost, and Cindy Waechter.

Should we add your name to the list? Let us know:

Cindy Waechter, [cindy.waechter@gmail.com](mailto:cindy.waechter@gmail.com), 210-391-6153

Romelia Escamilla, [esromelia@gmail.com](mailto:esromelia@gmail.com), 830-401-0800 or

Jose Contreras, [elmerojoose@gmail.com](mailto:elmerojoose@gmail.com). 830-401-0800

\*Students and Sponsors will have opportunities to get to know each other at the Summer Social in June and a pot-luck event in August.

## GUADALUPE COUNTY FINANCE BUILDING FLOWER BEDS

The Finance Administration Building landscaping project is located at 307 Court Street. The rose beds have rotten timbers that need to be replaced. Carol Mycue and others met with Road and Bridge to develop the project and prepare a budget. The County, however, had asked that they purchase all materials within the county which had run them slightly over budget, but GCMG made up the difference in the costs from the Spring Valley Beautification Fund. The crew dug up the lantana and moved it out of the way. The work on the rock has been completed and the next step is to spread mulch and compost which will be done Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 8 am. Roses from Maldonado's will be planted later and Maldonado's will do the drip irrigation in May.

For information or to volunteer contact Carol Mycue 830-557-6387 or Carol Calentine 830-303-3889

Report by Carol Mycue

## Guadalupe County Community Garden - Updates from Ann

3/29 - We had two tenths of an inch of rain in the gauge, so it was very wet in the garden. The vegetables (and weeds) are loving it. We had two pounds of snow peas waiting to be picked. The total harvest was 8 pounds 2 ounces. So far this year, the harvest is 134 pounds 9 ounces.



4/2 - Look what we got out of the garden today. Those are some great looking onions!! The onions weighed 6 pounds, part of the 22 pounds we harvested today. Our total for the year is 156 pounds 9 ounces. Last year our first harvest was 22 March 2011, and the total on 2 April 2011 was only 3 pounds 7 ounces..we have been busy. Thanks Debbie and Terri (Dale too) for the all the work you did this morning.

4/5 - We were busy all morning and it got warm (hot) fast. We are making steady progress with the weeding (thanks Debbie and Linda) and the mulched areas look good. The zucchini and eggplant are blooming, as are a couple of the BHN 602 (Rodeo) tomatoes. Added watermelon and pumpkins (thanks Mary) to our plantings. Black-eyed peas and okra will go in next. Thanks to all who harvested, especially Dale and the never ending snow peas. We harvested 22 pounds 2 ounces of produce this morning. The garden has yielded 178 pounds 11 ounces this year.

**Folks, it is getting warmer earlier so we will start at 8 a.m. beginning Monday, 9 April 2012.**

4/12 - Clouds and a brisk breeze kept it comfortable this morning. The tomatillos, which have been blooming like crazy, are setting fruit. Thank you Mary and Terri for getting the harvest in while I weeded. The harvest today was 25 pounds 7 ounces, giving us a total of 236 pounds 5 ounces for the year. Hope to see you all this Saturday at our April workday. Gates open at 8 am.

4/19 - Monday, LaVerne and I harvested 24 pounds of produce. Today, Dale and I harvested 27 pounds 8 ounces. Our total for the year is 287 pounds 8 ounces. We removed the snow peas and planted Blue Lake bush beans and Armenian cucumbers. Mary, your pumpkins and strawberries are doing fine. Seeds planted last Saturday by the Mom's Club in their new bed are coming up. Weather...perfect!

4/23 - It was chilly for awhile this morning. We harvested the last of the broccoli and removed the plants. Pulled the carrots and got that area ready to plant summer peas (Texas pink hulled). We have several green tomatoes on our vines. We had two visitors, who came to see what we were growing and talk about how the garden works. We took 23 pounds 6 ounces of produce to RACAP's food bank. Total so far this year is 310 pounds 14 ounces.

## Subscribe or Renew and Add to the GCMG Treasury

To all of you **Texas Gardener** subscribers (or those of you thinking about subscribing), **Texas Gardener** has invited the GCMG to join their Fundraising Program. For each subscription that goes through us (and yes that includes renewals), the GCMG will be able to keep 25% in its treasury. Instead of sending your renewal notice and payment to **Texas Gardener**, make your check payable to GCMG and send it with your mailing address to 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin, Tx 78155. Give us your phone number too in case we have any questions and mark the envelope **Texas Gardener** subscription. The GCMG will send the subscription on to the **Texas Gardener** for processing. Rates are as follows: 1 year - \$24.95; 2 year - \$42.95; 3 year - \$53.95. Add an extra \$8 on the one year renewal for the Annual Calendar. You don't have to be a Master Gardener to participate, so if you have friends that subscribe, tell them about the Fundraising Program. Any questions? Email [jlbruno@gvec.net](mailto:jlbruno@gvec.net)

## MEET YOUR BOARD



Our first interview is with Bob Davis, President of the organization.

*Thank you, Bob for allowing us to interview you for the newsletter. What excites you about being a master gardener?* **Learning and sharing horticulture information with others and the diverse knowledge and talents of our membership.**

*What motivated you to take the master gardening class?* **I wanted to develop a diverse knowledge of gardening.**

*Which master gardener class were you in?* **I was in the Class 21 which met at night in Schertz.**

*What was your favorite topic when you took the class?* **It was about soils and taught by Malcom Beck.**

*How long have you been a Master Gardener?* **2 years and 3 months.**

*What is your favorite task to do at home because of your experience with master gardeners?* **I like to experiment with different spring and fall annuals.**

*What would you like to share with the members about yourself?* **I am a twentieth century history buff, enjoy sports and have officiated high school and college football for 22 years. My lovely Bev and I have one grandson and six granddaughters.....women rule my life.**

*What do you consider to be your primary responsibility as president of our organization?* **To be the primary spokesperson for our group.**

*What would you like to see our organization do in the next few years?* **Three things: continued growth in membership, outreach to the community, and educational development.**

*If you could have lunch with a gardening guru, it would be?* **Dr. Jerry Parsons (former Aggie) and if I could step back into time I would like to visit with Thomas Jefferson in his historic Monticello Gardens.**

*Thank you, Bob.*

### Field Trip to The Natural Gardener (Lady Bug)

Don Hilbert arranged for a field trip to the Natural Gardener on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. There is a \$50 fee for the trip that would be divided among the members that wanted to go on the trip. More information will be made available to GCMG members through e-mail.

### REMINDER

If anyone needs a card from the organization for an illness or loss of a family member, contact Gail Johnson, Secretary, 830-491-1996 or e-mail [gailjohnson@earthlink.net](mailto:gailjohnson@earthlink.net).

### March Meeting

The **drawing** was won by Bob Davis. Bill Jones won the **door prize**.

### FUTURE PROGRAMS

**June 21 - Summer Social**

**Aug 16 - Ten Bugs Every Gardener**

**Should Know**, Molly Keck, Integrated Pest Management Program Specialist with Texas AgriLife Extension of Bexar County. MS in Entomology.

## Members in Service

### Texas Master Gardener Board of Directors

Two Year Term - George Ammermann; Linda Bruno, Alternate

One Year Term - Gail Johnson; Jim Johnson, Alternate

### Project Evaluation Committee

Gillian Siemens, Barbara Gettig, Janice Knobles

Membership Outreach Committee - Virginia Biggs

Speakers Bureau - Clara Mae Marcotte

### Guadalupe Co. Community Garden Operating Committee

Linda Bruno, Holly Christian

JMG Program Coordinator - Lo-Ra Dick

Master Gardener Office/Library - Betty Hughes

AgriLife Building Workdays - Liz Romero

New Member Support - Bob Teweles

Hours Reporting - Dale & Ann Odvody

Notification - Dale Odvody & Beth Zies

Refreshment Coordinator - Treva Hicks

Historian - Gloria Saenz

WebSite Photo Album - Jerilyn Preston

Class 23 & 24 Coordinator - Jose Antonio Contreras

Newsletter Editor - Elaine McIntyre

Web Master - Randee Malmsten

## Speakers Bureau

On March 17th Deedy Wright spoke to the New Braunfels Conservation Society on Bringing Nature Home. On March 21st Clara Mae Marcotte gave a talk to the Clear Springs EE on Perennials. On March 24th Deedy Wright spoke at the Community Garden on Vegetables. On April 5th Deedy Wright gave a presentation to the Bulverde Library on Native Plants. Also on April 5th John Sells talked to the Los Granados Senior Center and on April 12th to the Men's Garden Club of San Antonio, both about Compost. On April 14th Peggy Jones gave a talk on Roses at Schulz Nursery.

Speakers, please let me know how many listeners are in each group, your subject, and when and where the talk is given.

Membership: if you belong to a club that needs speakers, please contact me, Clara Mae Marcotte, at [rcm.marcotte@gmail.com](mailto:rcm.marcotte@gmail.com). We have speakers on FireWise, Plant Propagation, Oak Wilt, Rainwater Harvesting, Greenhouse Management, Composting, Citrus Greening, Entomology, Vegetables, Wildflowers, and Floral Arranging.

Report by Clara Mae Marcotte

## MEMBER NEWS



The attached photo was taken by a friend at the end of our Spring Rummage/Bake & Plant Sale on March 24th. I was so tired....talked plants/master gardening all morning. Arrived at Immaculate Conception Church hall at 7:30 and didn't leave until 2 pm. It was damp and cool that day. The plants loved it but my hair didn't. Raised \$126.00 for Scholarships for our seniors. It was fun! Most all the plants were sold too cheap but those who bought them were happy and I guess that's what it's all about. *Flowers are Smiles from God.* Joyce Friesenhahn, Class 23.

## Earth Day in Seguin

The Guadalupe County Master Gardeners had a significant presence at the Earth Day in Seguin celebration on April 28th. There were close to 30 volunteer master gardeners manning the booths. There was a youth planting activity where the youth (and some interested adults too) could plant a vegetable in a terrarium (recycled water bottle) and newspaper pot. This demonstrated the use of recycled materials for planting a garden. They were then given basics for transplanting and growing the vegetable.

Betty Hughes coordinated an insect tattoo table - which also drew adults as well as the youth it was aimed at.

There was a general information table with flyers on gardening, along with information on **MG Class 24**. In addition to all that there was a drip irrigation display/demo and handouts; a rain barrel display and handouts, a free seed distribution and a rack of gardening literature.

Carol Calentine donated an Oak tree and a Mountain Laurel tree for a drawing. At mid day there were well over one hundred signed up for the drawing.

The whole effort was coordinated by co-chairs Ellen Laubhan and her on-crutches husband Randy Rye.



Photos by Romelia Escamilla and  
Peggy Jones



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## EARTH DAY IN SEGUIN (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)



Photos by Romelia Escamilla and  
Peggy Jones

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## TOO MANY WEEDS - TOO FEW PEOPLE



The Green Team meets the 1st & 3rd Mondays of each month to weed, prune, etc at City Hall and in Central Park. They meet at the City Hall Annex at 9 AM. More people are needed to get everything done. Many hands make quick work! Bring your own tools and a desire to beautify the area. An extra bonus is the hours you accumulate. Contact Hughlene Micheli, 830-379-5673, or e-mail [clifmic@axs4u.net](mailto:clifmic@axs4u.net)

## Volunteers Needed

**Ag Fest - on May 3<sup>rd</sup>** - 6 to 9pm, four volunteers needed at the Texas Agricultural Education & Heritage Center, Big Red Barn, 390 Cordova Road, Seguin to set up table display, answer plant questions and talk to attendees about how to become a Master Gardener.

**Water Fairs, May 4**, Watts Elementary, four volunteers needed to set up and run Rainfall simulator, Water Cycle, Enviroscope, Edible Aquifer displays games. This is a shorter time demonstration for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> graders in 15-20 minute increments.

**Water Fairs, May 15<sup>th</sup>**, Weinert Elementary 9:00 - 11:00

**Water Fairs, May 25**, Koennecke Elementary, four volunteers needed to set up and run Rainfall simulator, Water Cycle, Enviroscope, Edible Aquifer displays games. This is a shorter time demonstration for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> graders in 15-20 minute increments.

Contact Carol Calentine at [ccalentine@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:ccalentine@ag.tamu.edu) or 830-303-3889.

\* \* \* Report your hours monthly! \* \* \*

## Master Gardener Office on Mondays

Earth Day is the weekend before on April 28<sup>th</sup>. And Ag Fest is Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. So lots of help in the Master Gardener office is needed over the next four Mondays to pull all this together.

## LET'S TALK NATIVE, May 5, 2012 at the Justice Center in Seguin

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** on May 5th to help with set up, manning the GCMG information table, checking in seminar participants. Help also needed to tear down and clean up. We will start at 7:30 a.m. and close up about 4:00 p.m.

If you'd rather sign up to attend the Event but still want to volunteer, we also need people to stuff goodie bags on Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

Questions about LET'S TALK NATIVE? Call me at 210-363-8380 or email [jlbruno@gvec.net](mailto:jlbruno@gvec.net).

## AgriLife Building Workday May 19th

Weeding and pruning - again.  
Contact Liz Romero, [lromero16@satx.rr.com](mailto:lromero16@satx.rr.com)

**When Texans say don't pick the Bluebonnets,  
we mean it!**

If you didn't know it, Bluebonnets are the STATE Flower of Texas!  
Why you are not to pick them ... they are "protected".



Submitted by Bob Davis

# EDUCATION - CLASSES - SEMINARS

## San Antonio Daylily Society - It's Showtime!!

Come and help us celebrate the 44th anniversary of the SADS on **Saturday, May 19**, 2012, at the Antique Rose Emporium. We'll start selling our daylilies at 10:00 a.m., and many varieties will be available. The doors will open for viewing of the daylilies and designs at 1:00 p.m. following show judging that morning. Admission is FREE and there will be an **educational seminar starting at 2 p.m.** It's a great opportunity to talk to SADS members about growing daylilies in your garden.

## New Braunfels Library Gardening Series

700 E. Common St, New Braunfels

Presented by Comal County Master Gardeners

Time: 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

**May 23, 2012 – Minette Marr**, plant conservationist at the Wildflower Center in Austin, "Seed Collecting and Preserving", seed swap too.

Telephone: (830) 964-4494

**May 5 (Saturday) 9:00 am - 11:00 am: Attracting Butterflies to your Garden.** Join herbalist and horticulturist Diane Lewis for a class on butterfly gardening in South Texas and take a tour of the butterfly friendly plants at the San Antonio Botanical Garden. South Texas hosts more butterfly species than any other region in the United States; learn how to attract a greater variety of butterflies to your garden. We will focus on both larval and nectar plants, especially those that look great and perform well in our arid climate. These plants include native plants, non-native well adapted plants, and herbs and edible flowers that we can share with these beautiful and graceful creatures. Fee: \$35. Admission to the San Antonio Botanical Gardens is included in the cost of tuition. To register for any of these classes, please go online to [www.communityed.neisd.net](http://www.communityed.neisd.net).



## Native Plant Society of Texas Guadalupe County (Schertz-Seguin) Chapter

On Tuesday, May 15, 2012 the guest speaker, Liz Palfini (MS in Botany) of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, will present a program about identifying native plants for landscape value.

Guadalupe County Chapter meets the second Tuesday of the month at The Marion Library Meeting Room, 500 Bulldog Lane, Marion. There will be a plant/seed exchange and a welcome time at 6:30 pm followed by the program at 7:00 pm. It is open to the public and we welcome visitors.

For more information, directions to The Marion Library or membership applications contact our website at [www.npsot.org.guadalupecounty](http://www.npsot.org.guadalupecounty).

## UNDERSTANDING YOUR WILD NEIGHBORS

May 17 (Thursday)- 2-4:30pm  
Bexar County Extension Office, 3355 Cherry Ridge, Ste 208

No matter where you live, you are surrounded by an array of wildlife often living in your backyard. Luckily this doesn't usually pose a problem, but occasionally there can be a conflict that arises when wildlife get too close for comfort. This program will introduce you to some common urban wildlife and will provide you with some insight as to why certain urban species are possibly causing conflict and identifying the mysterious signs they leave behind. This program will be provided by Judit Green, Urban Wildlife Biologist with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Free to the public (spread the word!). Space is limited, please RSVP to Molly Keck at [mekeck@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:mekeck@ag.tamu.edu).



## Beekeeping Basics

May 18 (Friday) 9am - 3pm at  
Texas Agrilife Extension  
3355 Cherry Ridge, San Antonio

This program is meant for first-time beekeepers and will address topics such as basic bee biology, beekeeping laws and regulations, and bee viruses and diseases. Presenters are beekeepers Mike and Travis Cole, members of the Alamo Area Beekeepers Association. As an optional part of the program, a field trip on the morning of May 19 will be offered for participants interested in viewing some area beekeepers' hives. Cost \$50 includes snacks and lunch. Checks should be made payable to Bexar County Master Gardeners, with checks and completed registration forms mailed to: Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Attn: Molly Keck, 3355 Cherry Ridge Drive, Suite 212, San Antonio, Texas 78230. For more information, contact Keck at 210-467-6575 or [mekeck@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:mekeck@ag.tamu.edu).

## BCMG Rain Barrel Workshop

May 19 (Saturday) 9 am - noon  
Texas Agrilife Extension, 3355 Cherry Ridge, San Antonio

Rainwater harvesting is an innovative approach to capturing free water. You can save money by collecting and storing rainwater and using it to irrigate your trees, shrubs and flower beds, or to provide water to pets, birds, or other wildlife. Join County Extension Agent Bryan Davis, and Master Gardeners Lou Kellogg and Mary Fernandez to learn about rainwater collection for the home and landscape and make your own rain barrel to take home. Limit 30. Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 16, 2012. Fee: \$55. To register, please contact [programregistrar@sabot.org](mailto:programregistrar@sabot.org) or Sasha Kodet at [sasha.kodet@sanantonio.gov](mailto:sasha.kodet@sanantonio.gov) or 207-3270. 3 CEUs.

**MG Rainwater Harvesting Specialist Training**  
**May 24-25 (Thursday - Friday)**  
**San Antonio Botanical Gardens, 555 Funston, San Antonio**  
**hosted by BCMG**

Only 30 participant spots are available for this training, so please submit your registration forms as soon as possible. Registration is on a first come/first serve basis. Registration fee \$225. Payment and forms must be received by May 17, 2012.

Contact Bryan Davis at [210.467.6575](tel:210.467.6575) or by email [by-davis@tamu.edu](mailto:by-davis@tamu.edu)

**Master Gardener Specialist - Plant Propagation**  
**May 18-19, 2012**  
**Montgomery County Extension Center, 9020 Airport Road, Conroe**

**Cost:** Registration fee of \$180.00 per person includes:

- - one lunch and dinner, snacks and drinks.
- - Plant Propagation Notebook.
- - a copy of the Master Gardener Training for Plant Propagation (CD)
- - florist scissors, grafting knife and grafting tape.
- - all required materials and supplies.

For more information, contact [Kim Bartholet, Volunteer Coordinator, 936.539.7824](mailto:kbartholet@ag.tamu.edu)  
or [kbartholet@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:kbartholet@ag.tamu.edu).

**Master Gardener Specialist Composter Training**  
**June 13 - 14 (8 am - 5 pm) - June 15 (9 am - 12 noon)**  
**San Antonio Botanical Garden, 555 Funston, San Antonio**

This Master Gardener Specialist Composter Training was created as an intensive multi-day training that would empower Master Gardeners with knowledge and skills required to effectively support and multiply Texas AgriLife Extension Service efforts in Earth-Kind environmental educational programs in their counties.

Registration Fee: \$225 payable to Bexar County Master Gardeners, Attn: Angel Torres, 3355 Cherry Ridge, Suite 212, San Antonio, Tx 78230-4818. This includes 2 lunches, 1 dinner, snacks and other goodies. Payment and application must be in our office by Friday, May 18th. Cancellation must be made by Friday, May 25, as there will be a \$100 surcharge.

**Let's Talk Native!**  
**Saturday, May 5, 2012, 8:30 - 4:00**  
**Guadalupe County Justice Center, 307 W. Court, Seguin**

**Bill Neimann** from Native American Seeds talks about how to reduce your lawn's size and use native grasses to grow a sustainable lawn - and save money!

**Judit Green** from Texas Parks and Wildlife talks native plants that love the shade.

**Deedy Wright** from Native Plant Society of Texas talks why going native is so important today and which natives perform like champs in the sun and use little water.

Door prizes!!

Vendors: Maldonado's Nursery in Seguin, Hill County Gardens in New Braunfels and Lady Bug Products  
Two rain barrels for silent auction painted by Janelle Hannemann.

Lunch is from Mona's Custom Catering in Seguin.

**Registration** (includes catered lunch): Individuals - \$38 Couples - \$65 *Seating limited*  
Purchase advance tickets at AgriLife Extension, 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin for extra door prize entry

For more information, call 210-363-8380 or check out <https://npsot.org/GuadalupeCounty/>  
or [www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org](http://www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org).

## GARDENING EVENTS

### 2012 TMGA Conference - May 3rd to 5th

Registration is now open for the 2012 TMGA Conference. The Bexar County Master Gardeners are looking forward to seeing you at the state conference this year in San Antonio. We have an outstanding group of speakers, hands-on sessions and tours lined up for you. The conference will be held at the Norris Conference Center which is conveniently located at Wonderland of the Americas Mall, Interstate 10 and Loop 410. There are many hotels and motels within a 5 mile radius.

**May 3 - 5** (Thursday, Friday, Saturday): **2012 TMGA Conference** hosted by BCMG at the Norris Convention Center. You can earn up to 8 CEUs. To register go to [www.2012tmgaconference.org](http://www.2012tmgaconference.org). If you are interested in just attending the Thursday dinner (\$35) or a tour on Saturday (\$50) - please email [conf@bexarcountymastergardeners.org](mailto:conf@bexarcountymastergardeners.org). You may purchase a ticket for a guest or spouse to the Thursday dinner and/or tours.

**May 4** (Friday) Two **2012 TMGA Conference Workshops** have space available and may be attended independently of the conference. **Flower Arrangments 101** with Henry DeLeon and **Fruit Tree Grafting** with Dr. Larry Stein are two hands-on workshops led by acknowledged experts. Details of each workshop are available at [www.bexarcountymastergardeners.org](http://www.bexarcountymastergardeners.org) Either seminar may be attended for a \$50 fee. Interested Master Gardeners should send an email to [conf@bexarcountymastergardeners.org](mailto:conf@bexarcountymastergardeners.org) detailing which workshop(s) you are interested in.

You can get more information and register at: [www.2012TMGAconference.org](http://www.2012TMGAconference.org) or [www.bexarcountymastergardeners.org](http://www.bexarcountymastergardeners.org).

**Open to the Public  
Colossal Plant Sale  
(Cash, Credit Card, Check)**

**Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012 10AM-6PM - Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 2012 7AM-9PM  
Front Entrance to Norris Conference Center**

- New *Orange Frost* Cross of Satsuma and Changsha Citrus –Limited Numbers - Not Available in Nurseries till 2014
- New and Older Texas Superstar varieties
- Beautiful Hanging Flower Baskets
- Herbs

Plants are custom grown and selected from Peterson Brothers, Greenleaf, Color Spot and Monrovia nurseries for this special sale. This sale is not only for attendees of the 2012 State Master Gardener Convention, but also local Master Gardeners and ALL the public is invited. Come one and all Master Gardeners and start spreading the word!!!! Monies raised from the sale will go towards the local Youth Garden Program and the Educational Outreach efforts of the Bexar County Master Gardeners. See you there!!!

**Festival of Flowers**

**Saturday May 26, 2012 - 9am-5pm**

Alzafar Shrine, 901 N. Loop 1604 West, between Stone Oak Parkway & Blanco Road

Presented by San Antonio Water System  
in cooperation with the Texas Nursery and Landscape Association

\$6 Adults, children under 10 free  
Free Parking

Start growing/pruning/primping your plants, flowers, and vegetables. The Festival of Flowers includes the **Alamo Area Horticulture Show**. More information is available at: <http://safestivalofflowers.com/>.

**Plant Sale**

May 6 (Sunday) - 10am to 4pm.  
St. Stanislaus Church Festival at Bandera's Mansfield Park

Manny Santos ([manny063@sbcglobal.net](mailto:manny063@sbcglobal.net) or [210-521-0311](tel:210-521-0311)) is looking for calla lilies, canna or cactus to sell.

## MITCHELL LAKE AUDUBON CENTER

**Birdathon is May 5th!** A fun way to combine great birding with fundraising! Birders of all levels are invited to join us as we raise funds for our education and conservation programs. We have the best guides and the perfect location! Call (210) 628-1639 or email [mlac@audubon.org](mailto:mlac@audubon.org) to sign up or for more info.

**When Eagles Soared: Birds in Pre-Columbian Mexico - Thursday 5/10/12 6 to 9 pm.** A fundraising event with a program by Dr. Marion Oettinger of the San Antonio Museum of Art. An exploration of interest in birds and birdlife among pre-Columbian people of Mexico, particularly the Aztec. Drawing mainly for the codices and early Spanish chroniclers. Dr. Oettinger's talk will explore pre-Columbian bird hunting, breeding, and use of birds and bird feathers as tribute and in ceremonial life. Tickets and Sponsorships are available for this event - please contact Susan Albert at (210) 628-1639 or [salbert@audubon.org](mailto:salbert@audubon.org)

**Owl Prowl - Friday 5/11/12 7 to 9 pm.** Families explore MLAC in the early evening to see what birds and critters are around. We'll call owls and see "hoo" answers! This event is Free but space is limited. RSVP required.

**International Migratory Bird Day - Saturday 5/12/12 9 am to noon.** A series of family friendly activities to celebrate birds and International Migratory Bird Day. Join us for a morning of fun, including: City Slickers ID Challenge: Migratory Mapping, Avian Antics, Bird Banding Station, Great Migration Challenge, Bird Friend or Foe, I See You!, Birds and Beans, Twenty Ways to Help Birds, Migration Story Time and more! This event is free. No RSVP required.

## Comal County Tenth Annual Herb Affair

Saturday, May 12, 9 am - 3 pm  
Antique Rose Emporium, Evans Road, San Antonio

Herb of the year is the Rose. There will be demonstrations for such topics as cooking, potpourri, pressed flowers etc. There will be samples to take home and to try there; also, a children's craft table so they can make a gift for mom for Mothers Day.

## Canning and Preserving the Harvest Saturday, June 2, 10am at the Antique Rose Emporium

Now that you are harvesting, Martha Joyce of the Comal Agrilife Extension will show you how to keep the fresh taste of your gardening bounty with this *can-do* program. FREE

## The Southern Region MG Conference May 1-4, 2012 Natchez, MS

More information at <http://msucares.com/srmg>

# MAY 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 Ag Fest 6-9pm  TMGA	4  TMGA	5 5KWED Radio 1580 AM Lawn & Garden Show 9:15 a.m.  TALK NATIVE TMGA O FULL MOON
6	7 Master Gardener Office/Library 8:30-NOON  GCCG Workday 8am  GREEN TEAM 9 am	8	9	10 GCMG Board Meeting  GCCG Workday 8am	11	12 KWED Radio Lawn & Garden Show 9:15 a.m.
13 	14 Master Gardener Office/Library  GCCG Workday	15	16	17 GCMG Meeting 7 PM  GCCG Workday	18	19 KWED Radio Lawn & Garden Show 9:15 a.m.  <b>Ag Bldg Workday ARMED FORCES DAY</b>
20  ● New Moon	21 Master Gardener Office/Library  GCCG Workday  GREEN TEAM 9 am	22	23	24  GCCG Workday	25	26 KWED Radio Lawn & Garden Show 9:15 a.m.  <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>
27	28  GCCG Workday  <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b>	29	30	31  GCCG Workday		



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

Guadalupe County Master Gardeners <http://www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org> 830-379-1972 Ext 210  
Guadalupe County AgriLIFE Extension <http://www.guadalupe-tx.tamu.edu/> 830-379-1972  
Texas Master Gardeners <http://www.txmg.org>

### **GCMG Officers & Board of Directors**

Bob Davis	President
Peggy Jones	President Elect
Don Hilbert	Vice President
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Dave Elder	Publication Chairman
Carol Calentine	Volunteer Chairman
Jose Antonio Contreras	MG Training Chairman
Travis Franke	AgriLIFE Agent
	Master Gardener Coordinator

### **May Meeting**

**Thurs, May 17, 2012, 7 P.M.**  
*AgriLIFE Extension Building  
210 E. Live Oak, Seguin, Tx*

Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination by the Master Gardeners is implied, and no endorsement by the Master Gardeners is implied. Educational programs conducted by the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners serve people of all ages, regardless of socioeconomic level, color, sex, religion, handicap, or national origin.

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