



Blackfoot Daisy
Photographer: Joseph A. Marcus
Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center



A monthly publication of the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners in cooperation with the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension, Guadalupe County

President's Message

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November Meeting

Date: Thursday, November 17
Social & Refreshments 6:30 p.m.
Presentation at 7:00 p.m.
Topic: Guadalupe County Soils by John Watkins
Business meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Future Meetings

Friday December 9 - Christmas social at Faith Lutheran Church at 6:00 p.m.
January 19th - Shade Plants by Liz Romero
February-TBA
March-TBA

Be Part of a New Earth Compost, Inc. Tour...

An effort among Guadalupe County Master gardeners is being made to organize a tour of the New Earth Compost, Inc. company to see some of the latest procedures and science involved in creating soil additives.

An approximate 90-minute tour will be provided by the New Earth sales team to show from start-to-finish how the company prepares soil mixes for sale to the general public. There will not be a charge for the tour which will be conducted mostly in vehicles that accommodate several people comfortably.

The New Earth location is about 45 minutes from Seguin along I-10. It is assumed the tour will begin from Seguin's AgriLife Building and return there. Comfortable clothes and especially shoes must be worn to ensure a good experience. Most of the tour will be in vehicles but minimal walking is necessary to see the process "up close."

A Q&A session will be part of the tour.

New Earth creates and sells to the public the following products: compost, container mixes, mulches, soil mixes and rock(s). Master Gardeners are given a discount with proper identification when purchasing New Earth products at the company site. New Earth products are available in various forms at businesses such as HEB.

Point of Contact (POC) for this possible excursion is Bob Cox. To participate, please send Cox an email at robertlcox40@gmail.com

In the email, please list:

- (1) the best day(s) of the week for you to participate
- (2) your morning or afternoon preference
- (3) if you have an SUV or van you will drive for the event
- (4) if you would like to join other group members in a lunch
- (5) if you have an idea for lunch following the tour, list your suggestion(s).



Edition of Guadalupe Gardener

Due to scheduling conflicts on my part, the January 2017 edition will be published prior to Christmas 2016. If you normally submit articles to me for the newsletter, the date will change for the month of December. This change only effects the articles submitted in December 2016. Usually the date is the 20th of the month, for this December the date will be Sunday, December 11, 2016. I realize our Christmas party is scheduled for December 9th. If this causes issues with any articles or photos from the party, let me know. For all others, please submit your articles by the 11th.

Mary Miller
Editor

October Meeting Bats by Judit Green

Photos by Robert Cox



Class 28 Update

Going into the Master Gardener class I had anticipated learning about the various aspects of horticulture, getting my hands in the soil, and spending time volunteering. However, there was one thing that I had not really thought about - and that was all the wonderful people I would be meeting and getting to know while volunteering! Since our background checks finally came in, most of my fellow students and I have begun trying to get those 50 hours of volunteer work knocked out. In the process we have gotten to know each other better and begun to get to know many of you. What a pleasure!

The past few weeks have been filled with such interesting topics that there is absolutely no way that I could pick one as a favorite. We heard Patty Leander talk about How to Grow Vegetables You Like to Eat (and now I'm trying to grow garlic for the first time). Dennis Hale came back to help us understand our soil test results and to discuss How to Design & Create the Landscape You Want and How to Grow Better Lawns. (Yes, I have been doing a lot wrong in that area and now know some things I need to change.) After hearing Jim Johnson talk about Drip Irrigation and Liz Romero share on Harvesting, Storing and Re-use of Rain, several of us in the class have decided we need to have a work day when we all get together to paint rain collection barrels. Then, in our last class we heard Gail Johnson passionately talk about Composting. Afterwards we had two breakout sessions that we could choose from - Peggy Jones did a session on Roses, while Jose Contreras talked about Firewise Landscaping. I look forward to every class knowing that I will be immersed in an engaging learning experience.

As I reflect on all these topics, the new learning I acquired, and the time volunteering I find that there seems to be a common theme throughout, and that theme seems to be "relationships". The relationships between plants and soil, insects and plants, plant requirements and the decisions we make in placement, and especially the relationships with each other. I am so grateful for the relationships that have entered my life since starting the Master Gardener class. Thanks to all of you who so willingly share with this new class of students and the people you come in contact with in your volunteering. Thank you for that relationship!

Gaye Slomka

Class 28

Report from the Big Red Barn

Kay McElveen

If you haven't been to the garden at the Big Red Barn recently you need to visit. It is looking great. The area that the Master Gardeners are caring for has expanded. There was a good sized area next to the street that a 4-H group was planting but they have given it up and we have taken it over. We do not have all of it planted this fall but we do have pumpkins and corn there.

We also have all of the usual fall plantings of broccoli, cauliflower, peas and beans of various kinds, tomatoes, squash, etc.. It is looking great and some of the early things are being harvested – we pulled very large radishes out of the keyhole garden last Friday. We are still planting some later vegetables and are considering a plot of lavender in an area near the road. Speaking of flowers – the butterfly garden is beautiful and has many butterflies.

With fall comes Agri Fair Days and school tours. A **BIG** thank you to all who volunteered to help with the school tours. We had 9 days of tours and a total of 1705 students of various ages from six different counties. It is always a challenge to make the short period of time we have for the garden section of their day interesting and valuable but all of you made it work! I believe that one day the students got a real treat watching caterpillars destroy (in a very short period of time) a fairly large fennel plant, which led to a discussion of the life cycle of butterflies.

Thanks again!

The volunteers at the BRB wish all of you a wonderful and productive Fall!



San Antonio Herb Market 2016

Herbs, herbs, and more herbs! That's what I found at the 25th Annual San Antonio Herb Market on Oct. 15th.

The historic Pearl Brewery was a wonderful venue with the Saturday Farmer's Market, several beer and wine tasting booths, and an array of guest speakers to make the event informative as well as entertaining.

One of the interesting things that I learned is that peppers are considered an herb. According to Leslie Bingham (Herb of the Year: Peppers! lecture) and David Rodriguez (Growing Peppers in Containers - lecture), peppers meet all the criteria and have been used as an herb for thousands of years with the mother plant of all peppers being the chile pequin pepper.

The Bexar County Master Gardeners had a colorful booth where they were selling "more" herbs and providing kid friendly activities. I introduced myself to several of their members and we had great conversations about, what else, HERBS!

To learn more about herbs and upcoming events, please visit the website at: www.sanantonioherbmarket.org

Next year, maybe the GCMGs can put a field trip together to visit the 26th Annual SA Herb Market in mass! It was well worth the drive and I came home with lots of goodies. I can't wait to harvest and enjoy some of my new plants.

April Rippel

Class 27



Our Nation's Roadsides

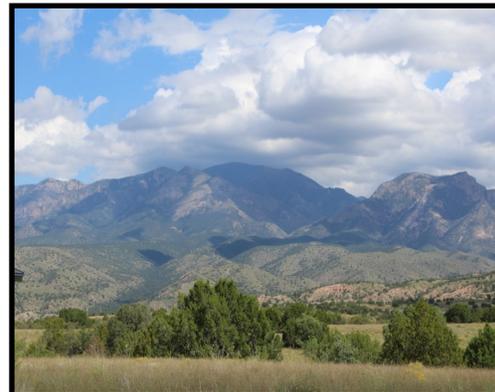
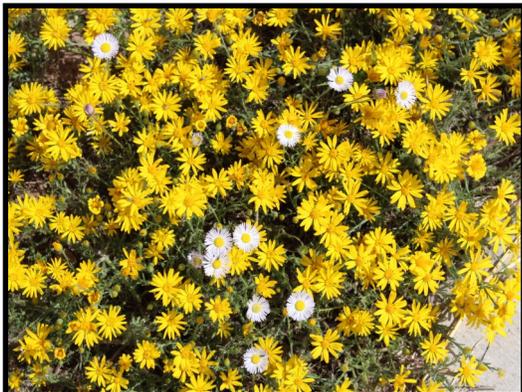
The Wandering Gardner

Marilyn Moltz

I have been very fortunate since I retired January 2007 and have traveled to 47 states and 5 Canadian Provinces. Along these many miles of roads I have seen so many beautiful views. One never knows where they will encounter something of beauty, an unexpected meeting with a “critter”, a panoramic view, flowers you’ve never seen before, or meet someone friendly who will share a special place to eat great local food, find a good buy or tell you what is round the bend so you won’t miss it!

Along the US Interstate System, US Highways, Scenic Byways and just winding back roads, you can pull over and stop at rest areas, picnic areas, scenic overlooks and parking areas. At once such picnic area in the Gila Wilderness in New Mexico, we came across information on the mountains surrounding us, a tribute to the man who helped establish the wilderness area, flowers, trees and shrubs, birds, butterflies and vistas in all directions. Included are some of the pictures I took there.

I hope as you travel across this great nation of ours, that you stop, not just to change drivers or use the facilities, but to take a slow stroll along the pathways and encounter what that part of the country has to show those who choose to take time to look. Beauty is all around us!



Veterans Memorial Park Marion, Guadalupe County, Texas

The people in charge of the Veterans Memorial Park in Marion has solicited help from the Master Gardeners in deciding plantings, mulching, etc. at the park and the Board has agreed.

A preliminary meeting has been set for 10:30 next Thursday, Nov. 3 at 10:30 at the Park. If you are interested in working on this project please contact Joyce Friesenhahn by phone [210-452-2404](tel:210-452-2404) or email omaannie2@gmail.com For further information about the park <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txguadal/VetMemorial.html>



GCMG Facebook Update and Announcement

The Guadalupe County Master Gardener FB page is now up to 35 members. We're having a lot of fun sharing photos, announcements, and learning from each other. We'd love to see you in the group and now it's easier than ever to join. If you click on the FB icon below, it will take you directly to our page.

Good news! The Board Members of the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners have decided to make our FB page a "Public" Group in order to better provide the public with information, notifications, and educational material. This means that you can now "share" this group with your FB friends.

Don't delay! Join today! We want your knowledge, questions, and photos. We also love to see funny gardening stories!

If you have any questions or concerns you can contact me directly at adrappel@gmail.com or give me a call at (830) 379-7203 during daytime hours.

April Rippel

Class 27



October Volunteer Recognition Drawing

34 Certified Master Gardeners qualified for the October Volunteer Recognition Program Drawing. Congratulations to **Laura Cunningham** who won a \$20 gift certificate to Maldonado Nursery.

Members Reporting 5 or More Volunteer Hours in September 2016

October Volunteer Recognition Program					
	LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME		LASTNAME	FIRSTNAME
1	Bennett	Kathy	18	Knobles	Janice
2	Bowe	Mary	19	Martin	Cindy
3	Bradbury	Dixie	20	Micheli	Hughlene
4	Burton	Rodney	21	Miller	Mary
5	Carroll	Kathy	22	Odvody	Ann
6	Cover	Kay	23	Odvody	Dale
7	Cox	Robert (Bob)	24	Patterson	Karen
8	Cunningham	Laura	25	Preston	Jerilyn
9	Darrough	Kim	26	Richardson	Elizabeth
10	Delcambre	Sharon	27	Rippel	April
11	Elia	Debra	28	Seale	Iris
12	Foss	Sandra	29	Styblo	Mary
13	Friesenhahn	Joyce	30	Suchan	Carol
14	Henry	Beth	31	Teweles	Robert
15	Heurman	Barbara	32	Virost	Terri
16	Jones	Peggy	33	Winkelman	Cynthia
17	Kjohede	KJ	34	Wise	Donna

All 34 qualify for one entry into the \$150 Annual Recognition Drawing.

To qualify for the Monthly Volunteer Recognition Program drawing, Certified Guadalupe County Master Gardeners must report a minimum of 5 volunteer hours earned during the month in VMS by the last calendar day of the month. Hours earned for attendance at the monthly GCMG Membership Meeting are not included in the minimum 5 hours, except those earned for meeting setup. Board members do not participate in the Volunteer Recognition Program.

Don't forget to **earn and report your hours by 30 November 2016** to be eligible for the December Membership Drawing.

September 2016 Volunteer Recognition Corner

- ◆ GCMG volunteers reported **838.2** volunteer hours
- ◆ Members Volunteered
 - 161** Hours at Guadalupe County Community Garden
 - 113** Hours at Master Gardener Class
 - 85** Hours in Preparation for the Guadalupe County Fair
 - 71** Hours at Red Barn
 - 71** Hours in Fund Raisers (GCCG Fair)
 - 69** Hours at LaVernia Primary School
 - 45** Hours in Youth Education (Red Barn School Tours)
- ◆ **September's Top Volunteers: Mary Bowe, Kim Darrough, Cindy Martin, Kay McElveen, Ann Odvody, Dale Odvody, April Rippel, Carol Suchan and Robert Teweles** reported 25 or more volunteer hours
- ◆ **66 Master Gardeners** have met the volunteer and continuing education hours requirement for 2016
- ◆ **2016 100 Hour Volunteers: Kathy Bennett, Mary Bowe, Rodney Burton, Kay Cover, Robert Cox, Kim Darrough, Joyce Friesenhahn, Jim Johnson, Peggy Jones, KJ Kjolhede, Janice Knobles, Cindy Martin, Kay McElveen, Ann Odvody, Dale Odvody, Jerilyn Preston, Iris Seale, Mary Styblo, Carol Suchan and Cindy Waechter**

Annual Review of GCMG Ongoing Projects

Our policy and procedures manual requires the Board to review in November of each year ongoing projects to determine if the project furthers our education mission and how, contributes to or erodes our focus on public education, is worth the use of volunteer time and exposure and if there is interest within the membership in doing the project properly. We invite members to provide input regarding ongoing projects or recommend new projects. You may email input to Cindy Waechter. If you would like to recommend new projects, download and complete the GCMG Approved Garden Application, found in VMS under Newsletter/Documents, Membership Information and forward it to Cindy Waechter prior to 15 November. Following is the current list of approved ongoing projects as of Oct 2016.

Project Name	Description
<u>(a) Membership Meeting</u>	Monthly Membership Meeting to Include Speaker Presentation Continuing Education Hours: Speaker Presentation Volunteer Hours: Travel Time & Business Meeting

Annual Review of GCMG Ongoing Projects Continued

<u>(b) Continuing Education</u>	Educational seminars/classes in the various facets of gardening A&M AgriLife Master Gardener on-line training modules
<u>(c) MG Organizational Support</u>	Committee Duties & Meetings Executive Board Duties and Meetings Facebook Master Gardener Office/Library Membership Outreach (Notifications, phone calls, cards, letters, etc.) Newsletter Publicity Seguin Christmas Tree Decorating Socials, hospitality, refreshments (planning, set up, clean up: NOT attendance or cooking) Volunteer Hours Program Volunteer Recognition
<u>(d) Guadalupe County Community Garden</u>	
<u>(e) Gutierrez Xeriscape Park</u>	
<u>(f) Red Barn</u>	
<u>(g) Approved Gardens</u>	Marion Veteran's Park Seguin Park West
<u>(h) Public Education/Outreach</u>	Answering questions for the public Ask a Master Gardener KWED radio (Researching, preparing, presenting) Library Gardening Series (Lunch & Learn) (Researching, preparing, presenting) Public education programs/seminars (Researching, preparing, presenting) Speaker's Bureau Website

<u>(hh) LaVernia Primary School</u>	
<u>(i) Youth Education Gardening</u>	Ag Days Schertz/Cibolo AgFest Big Red Barn Buckaroo Days at SASS&R School gardens, not otherwise listed
<u>(ii) Fund Raisers (Plant Sales, Garage Sales, etc.)</u>	
<u>(iii) Earth Day</u>	
<u>(k) Master Gardener Class</u>	All activities associated with the preparation for, delivery of, and the conclusion of the Class for Master Gardeners.
<u>(l) San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo</u>	
<u>(m) Guadalupe County Fair</u>	
<u>(mm) Master Gardener Booth</u>	Pecan Fest
<u>(n) Texas State Master Gardeners Association</u>	Conferences Directors meetings
<u>(o) Other</u>	



Don't Let the Clock Run Out

Pay Your Dues at the November Membership Meeting

Guadalupe County Master Gardeners will be collecting 2017 dues at the November Membership Meeting from Certified Master Gardeners who have met their recertification requirements. The 17 November meeting will be your last opportunity to pay 2017 dues at a membership meeting.

Chapter 6 of the Policies and Procedures Manual, approved by the voting membership in May 2014, requires the following to recertify and pay your dues by 31 Dec 2016.

Complete 12 hours of volunteer service

Complete 6 hours of continuing education

Report hours in the on-line Volunteer Management System (VMS)

Complete and sign the annual Texas Master Gardener Volunteer Agreement

If you were a member of Class 23, Class 26 or your background check expires in 2017, complete and sign the Volunteer Consent for Criminal Background History Check

Please remember **the Membership Chair and/or Treasurer cannot accept your dues until you have** reported the minimum hours required for re-certification in VMS, completed and signed your Texas Master Gardener Volunteer Agreement, and completed and signed your Volunteer Consent for Criminal Background History Check if it expires in 2017.

Volunteer Opportunities

Every Monday the **MG office/library** is open from 8:30am-noon except for holidays. Volunteers are always needed. Contact Betty Hughes. 830-401-4066 or e-mail ehughes5@satx.rr.com.

Every Tuesday and Friday are work days at the **Guadalupe County Community Garden**. Check with Ann Odvody odvodyd@swbell.net 210-994-9664 for start hour and access at other times.

Every Friday 9am is a workday in the gardens at the **Big Red Barn**. Check with Janice Knobles, 830-379-6193 or e-mail jmknobles@yahoo.com for details.

KWED Master Gardener Lawn and Garden Show is always looking for volunteers. Contact Janet Grafe at 830-639-4199 or e-mail to janetgrafe@hotmail.com.

For our meetings, we could use help with setting out chairs since we usually put out 80 chairs. That way we are not putting out chairs during the program. If a few people came 30 minutes early, that would help a lot.



Guadalupe Chapter Presents

Propagating Native Plants **(No, you *don't* have a black thumb)**

Want more native plants in your window box, garden, or acreage? You can shop for them, trade for them – or breed and grow your own.

Propagation is not magic; it's a skill anyone can learn, a skill that can be creative, entertaining and addictive. How? Robbi Daves Will wants to show us how. Come and watch, ask questions, and try it for yourself. Go away with new skill, new confidence, and a totally green thumb.

Robbi grew up in central Texas, playing in the dirt and exploring the outdoors. She earned a degree in Horticulture from Texas A & M University and has been in the green industry for over 30 years, working with native plant production, landscape construction, and retail and wholesale nurseries. She occasionally eats roses for breakfast.

Tuesday November 8, 2016, 7:00 PM
St John's Lutheran Church, FM 465, Marion, TX

Meetings are open to the public. Visitors are welcome.

There is a plant/seed exchange and greeting at 6:30 PM followed by the program at 7:00 PM.

For more information, directions to St John's Lutheran Church, or membership applications see our website at: <http://npsot.org/wp/guadalupe/>

REMINDER

If anyone needs a card from the organization for an illness or loss of a family member, contact: Janice Jadwin, Secretary, [210-848-3634](tel:210-848-3634), or e-mail jmjadwin@yahoo.com

Newsletter Staff

Editor - Mary Miller
Photographer - Marvin "T" Taylor
Distribution - Doug Biggs
Proof Readers- Bob Teweles & Cynthia Lyssy
Wandering Gardener - Marilyn Moltz
IT Guru -Greg Miller

GCMG Outreach

Virginia Biggs is GCMG's Outreach Chairman. If anyone knows of a GCMG who needs a meal, please let her know 830-560-1976.

Members in Service

Texas Master Gardener Board of Directors

Two Year Term - Dave Elder - Alternate - Marvin Borth

One Year Term - Peggy Jones - Bob Teweles, Alternate

Membership Outreach Committee - Virginia Biggs

Speakers Bureau - Treva Hicks

Guadalupe Co. Community Garden - Dale & Ann Odvody

Master Gardener Office/Library - Betty Hughes

Refreshment Coordinator - Treva Hicks

Big Red Barn - Janice Knobles

Gutierrez Xeriscape Garden - Kim Darrough

Historian - Sandy Foss

2016 County Fair - Cindy Martin

Class 28 Coordinator - Cindy Martin & Kay McElveen

Spring 2017 Class Coordinator in Schertz - Cynthia Lyssy

Christmas Tree Decorating - Betty Hughes

Newsletter Editor - Mary Miller

Web Master - Bob Teweles



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Guadalupe County Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension <http://guadalupe.agrilife.org/> 830-379-1972

Texas Master Gardeners <http://www.txmg.org>

GCMG Officers & Board of Directors

Marvin Borth- President

Jose Contreras -Past President

Cynthia Lyssy -President Elect

Kay McElveen -Vice President

Janice Jadwin -Secretary

Jim Johnson -Treasurer

Dave Elder -Publication Chairman

Cindy Waechter -Membership Chair

Travis Franke -AgriLIFE Agent

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Mary Miller, Editor marymcmiller@gmail.com