

GUADALUPE GARDENER SEPTEMBER 2021

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

President's Message

Welcome to September Master Gardeners! I trust you are doing well as the calendar flips towards the cooler months and the last third of 2021. And what a rollercoaster of a year it has been!

I grow plants for many reasons: to please my eye or to please my soul, to challenge the elements or to challenge my patience, for novelty or for nostalgia, but mostly for the joy in seeing them grow.

David Hobson

I feel like we have survived the Summer. This is the time of year, leading into Fall when our activities ramp up, and it is great to see many of you stepping forward to share our interest in all things related to gardening/plants.

Many of you have signed up to volunteer at the Guadalupe County Fair; there is a buzz about our organization about many of you asking what you can do to participate in upcoming events; the excitement of cash prizes for pumpkin decorating was part of several side conversations on Thursday at the general membership meeting; early conversations about grow teams was overheard; we have a new class of students I was able to meet and discuss how much we do as a whole;... There are just so many things happening currently.

It pleases me (and the other members of the Board of Directors) to see so many of you stepping up to support YOUR organization.

Additionally, seeing our volunteer numbers increase in our monthly reports shows that we still have a pulse and will soon increase our presence to a leading volunteer organization for the region.

Your continued patience with the VMS system is appreciated. Since the new program was created there have been issues impacting access throughout the state and not just in Guadalupe County. When we hear the issues get resolved we will notify you. We thank you for your continued patience.

Several of you have asked about the responsibilities associated with various roles in our organization. A review of the August membership meeting minutes will give details for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Please review the minutes for these details.

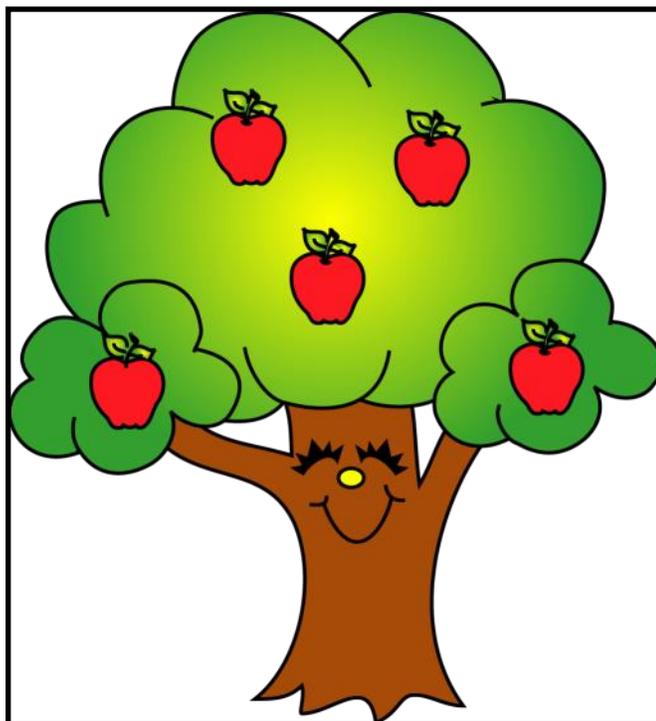
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Additionally, we are looking for a small group to serve as the Social Committee for our organization. The primary role would be to coordinate activities or facilitate functions that enhance our cohesiveness as a group AND expand our recognition throughout the region we serve. The options are limitless and open for discussion/conversation. Just off the top of my head: GCMG Summer Social; GCMG Christmas Party; 4th of July parade/float; Seguin Christmas parade/float, ... We recommend a small group work together and solicit members to participate in various community activities that can further educate, market, and recruit the GCMG.

With so many events and activities soon, the Board of Director members are looking forward to seeing many of you out and about representing our organization. Thank you for all you do for the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners.

On behalf of the Board of Directors,
Barry, 2021 GCMG President





Guadalupe County Master Gardeners Training Class 35

Become a Certified
Master Gardener



Master Gardeners is an **education sharing horticultural program**.
Students **commit to continuous learning** and **volunteer service**.

Schedule

Tuesdays,
January 18 – May 10, 2022

Registration Deadline

January 1, 2022

Time

5:45 – 8:45 p.m.

Cost \$235

Includes Texas Master
Gardener Handbook

Location

AgriLife Building
210 E. Live Oak
Seguin, TX 78155

Class Size

Limited

For more information contact:

Kay McElveen
Class Coordinator

hkaymcelveen@gmail.com

479-790-2933



GCMG Website:

www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org/



Welcome, Master Gardeners

GC Texas Master Gardner Class 34: Brief History

Author– E. E. Rodriguez

Sponsored by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, the Master Gardner Program implements a broad range of projects to enhance the quality of life in Guadalupe County Texas. Texas Master Gardeners, a corps of talented and highly trained volunteers who help Texans and communities through horticultural education. Funding for the Texas A&M Extension Service originates from state, county, and federal governments. Additional funding results from grants, contracts, fees, and services. Nationally, the U.S. Department of Agriculture established the Extension we know today as well as provides guidance, evaluation, and support for the state Extension service organizations.

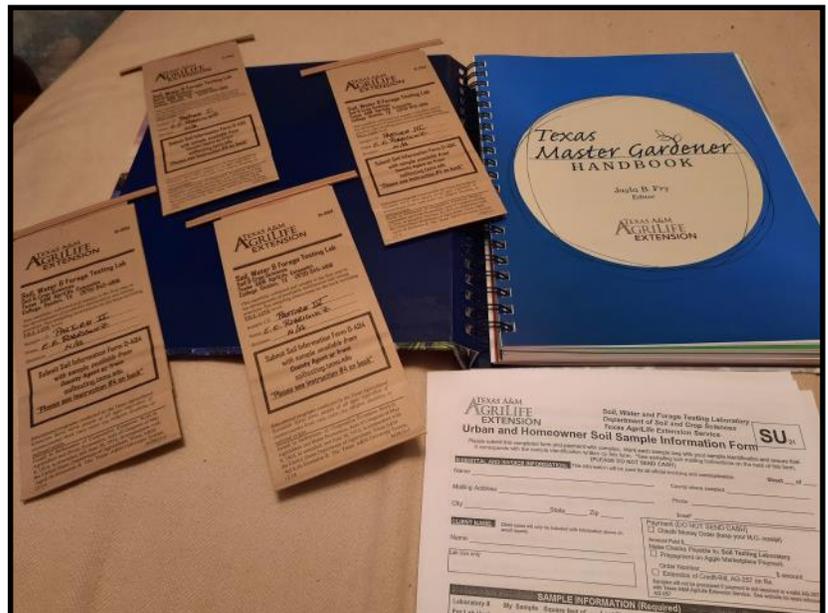
For instance, the Texas Extension's history began in 1862 with the [Morrill Act](#) which created the Land-Grant College and University System throughout the nation to provide education in agriculture and mechanics forming Texas A&M University as the land-grant university in Texas. A quarter century later in 1887 the [Hatch Act](#) directed the establishment of facilities in each state to conduct research needed to improve agriculture and related areas and Texas A&M AgriLife Research was established in Texas under the Hatch Act. Three years following, in 1890 Congress established additional thirteen colleges in the southern states for education of African Americans, and a land-grant university was established in the District of Columbia. In Texas, [Prairie View A&M University](#) was established and created near the end of the Reconstruction Era after the American Civil War. In that year, [State Senator Matthew Gaines](#) and [State Representative William H. Holland](#) – both former slaves who became leading political figures – crafted legislation for the creation of a state-supported “Agricultural and Mechanical” college. These men utilized the [Smith-Lever Act of 1914](#) that provided for the establishment of an educational service in each state to distribute information developed by the land-grant universities and research facilities to the people of each state. Thereby establishing in Texas, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service for Texans.

Today, Master Gardeners are active in all fifty U.S. states and eight Canadian provinces. More than 83,000 U.S. Master Gardeners were certified in 2014 and have provided about 5.3 million hours of volunteer service. Roughly 7,000 Texas Master Gardeners in 83 counties contribute more than 600,000 hours of volunteer service annually through the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Texas Master Gardeners have not only knowledge about horticulture, but also abilities such as teaching and public speaking; implementing and managing projects; analyzing and responding to clientele inquiries; developing and publishing curricula; delivering programs to mass media outlets; writing computer software; and writing and publishing news columns, newsletters, and other educational materials.

The Texas Master Gardener Program aims to:

- Disseminate research-based horticultural information to individuals and groups in Texas
- Develop and improve community projects related to horticulture, including demonstration gardens and community gardens
- Develop a network to help administer local Master Gardener Projects
- Establish 4-H horticultural clubs and Junior Master Gardener groups

Get involved and become a Texas Master Gardener to increase your knowledge and know how for yourself, your family, friends, and community. Enrollment will open July 1st for Class #35. For more information and or how to enroll please visit: <https://guadalupecountymastergardeners.org/>

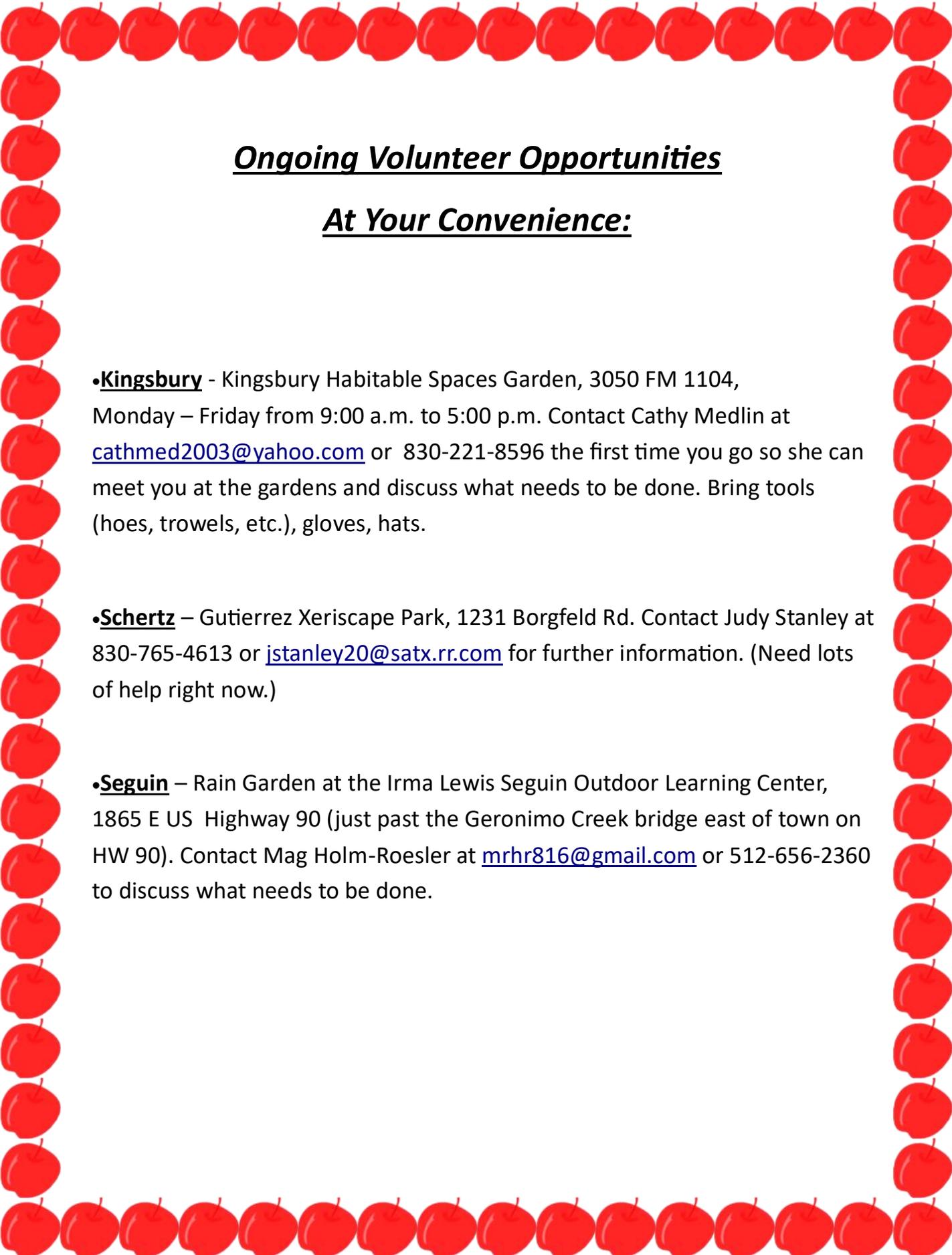




Note!

The following volunteer opportunities may be available with on an individual basis.

Please contact the coordinator of the activity to volunteer.



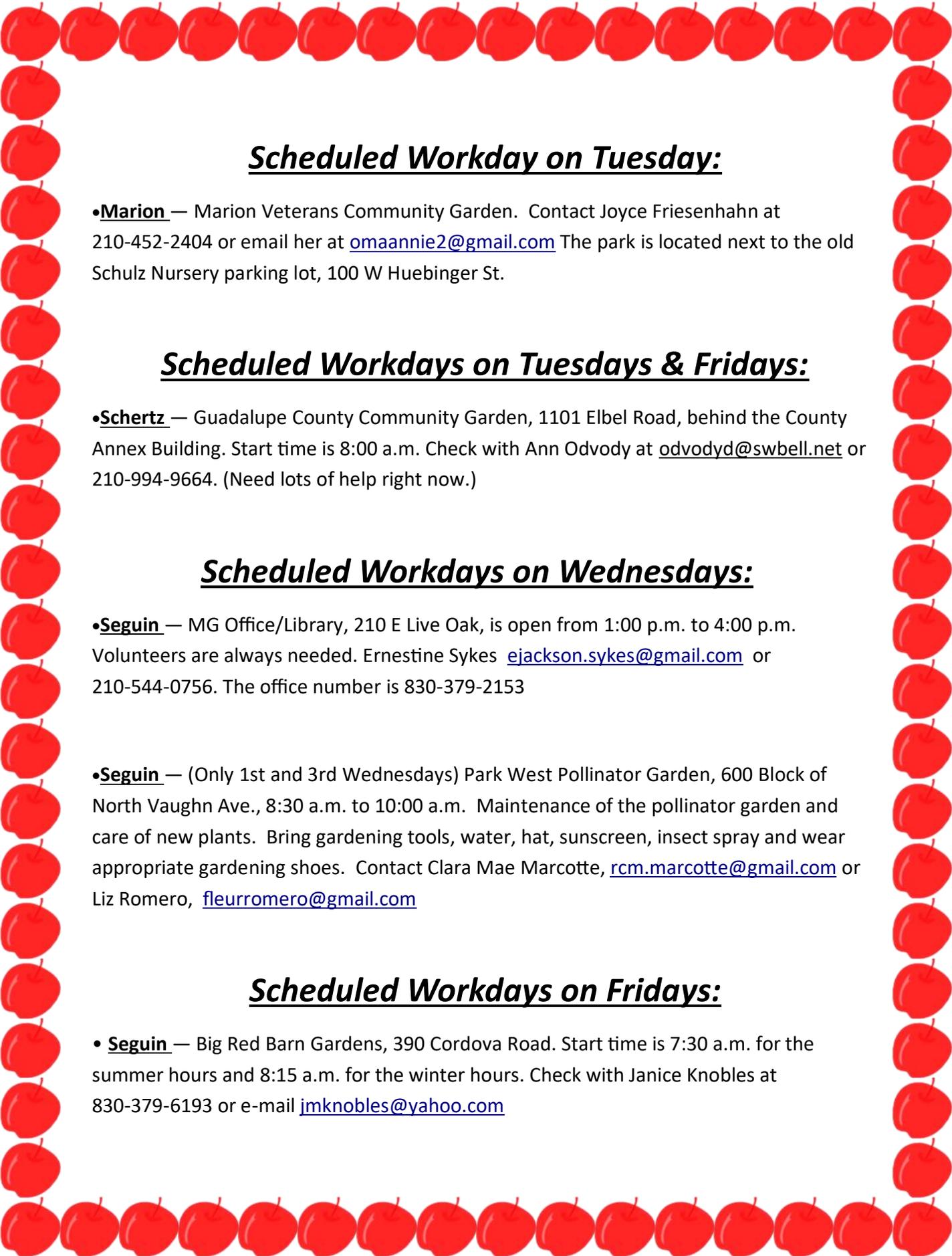
Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

At Your Convenience:

•**Kingsbury** - Kingsbury Habitable Spaces Garden, 3050 FM 1104, Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Contact Cathy Medlin at cathmed2003@yahoo.com or 830-221-8596 the first time you go so she can meet you at the gardens and discuss what needs to be done. Bring tools (hoes, trowels, etc.), gloves, hats.

•**Schertz** – Gutierrez Xeriscape Park, 1231 Borgfeld Rd. Contact Judy Stanley at 830-765-4613 or jstanley20@satx.rr.com for further information. (Need lots of help right now.)

•**Seguin** – Rain Garden at the Irma Lewis Seguin Outdoor Learning Center, 1865 E US Highway 90 (just past the Geronimo Creek bridge east of town on HW 90). Contact Mag Holm-Roesler at mrhr816@gmail.com or 512-656-2360 to discuss what needs to be done.



Scheduled Workday on Tuesday:

•**Marion** — Marion Veterans Community Garden. Contact Joyce Friesenhahn at 210-452-2404 or email her at omaannie2@gmail.com The park is located next to the old Schulz Nursery parking lot, 100 W Huebinger St.

Scheduled Workdays on Tuesdays & Fridays:

•**Schertz** — Guadalupe County Community Garden, 1101 Elbel Road, behind the County Annex Building. Start time is 8:00 a.m. Check with Ann Odvody at odvodyd@swbell.net or 210-994-9664. (Need lots of help right now.)

Scheduled Workdays on Wednesdays:

•**Seguin** — MG Office/Library, 210 E Live Oak, is open from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Volunteers are always needed. Ernestine Sykes ejackson.sykes@gmail.com or 210-544-0756. The office number is 830-379-2153

•**Seguin** — (Only 1st and 3rd Wednesdays) Park West Pollinator Garden, 600 Block of North Vaughn Ave., 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Maintenance of the pollinator garden and care of new plants. Bring gardening tools, water, hat, sunscreen, insect spray and wear appropriate gardening shoes. Contact Clara Mae Marcotte, rcm.marcotte@gmail.com or Liz Romero, fleurromero@gmail.com

Scheduled Workdays on Fridays:

• **Seguin** — Big Red Barn Gardens, 390 Cordova Road. Start time is 7:30 a.m. for the summer hours and 8:15 a.m. for the winter hours. Check with Janice Knobles at 830-379-6193 or e-mail jmknobles@yahoo.com

Check us out on

facebook

We added 28 new members to our Guadalupe County Master Gardener Facebook Community. Our top contributors were Jolana Ward Webernich, Suky Lozano, and Peggy Jones. Thank you to all who contributed.

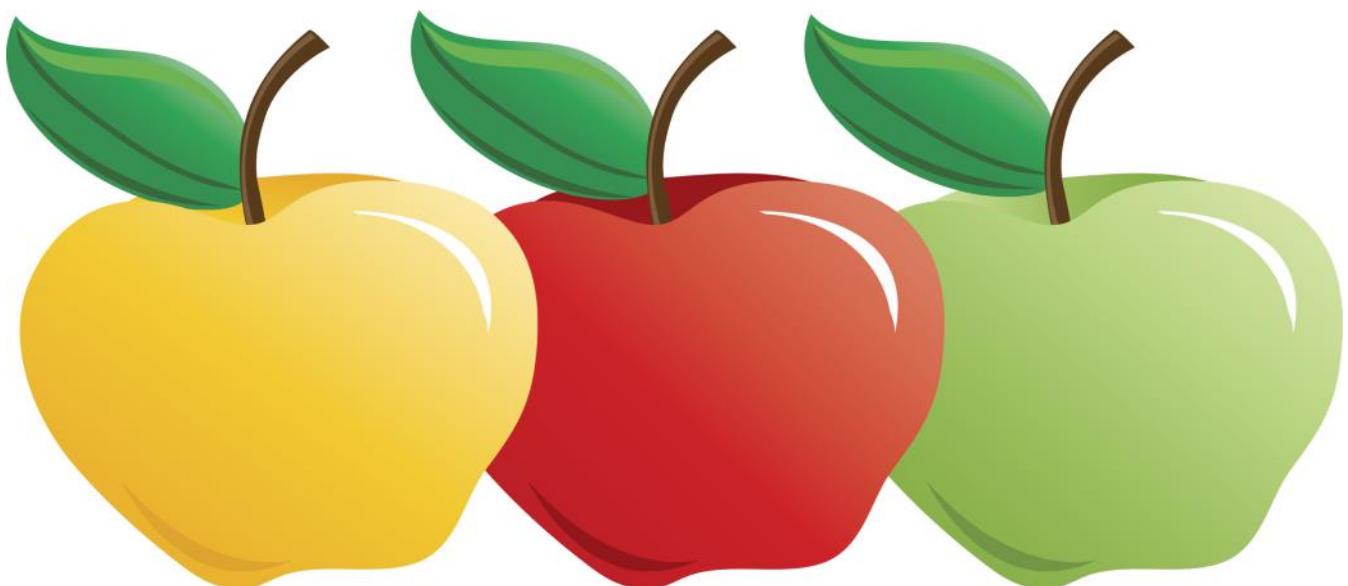
Garden Questions were about aphids, what to plant in the fall, and identifying various plants. We had how to prune spider plants and how to attract birds.

Our members are seeing a lot of toads and frogs in their gardens. Frogs, toads, and salamanders are considered Keystone or Indicator species, which is an indicator of habitat health. They are often the first to be affected by pollution or degradation of an ecosystem. Frogs and toads also help keep an ecosystem in balance by eating a large variety of insects and small animals. Frogs and toads are a sign of a thriving backyard system, so make space for them in your garden; include a small toad house for shelter which can be a clay pot placed on its side. Let's all encourage frogs and toads to stay in our gardens to help. Why are frogs so happy? They eat what bugs them.

Remember this is your community. Please take pictures of setting up your garden and prepping your garden for the fall; continue to send in your pictures of your garden in the progression of growth in the fall. Send in any questions, helpful 'how tos', or hints as we are all learners, and all knowledge is helpful. We learn from each other.

Until next time, take care and enjoy your gardens.

Kathy Adams



GUADALUPE COUNTY FAIR 2021

It's almost fair time! The 2021 Guadalupe County Fair will be held from Thursday, October 7th until Sunday, October 10th. There will be a lot of activity going on in our booth in the coliseum including a plant sale, kids activities and crafts, great raffle prizes, free seeds, horticulture entries, and a pumpkin decorating contest. I'd like to encourage each of you to submit a horticulture item to be judged. You will get a free pass to the fair for each entry that you submit, and you just might bring home a blue ribbon or two! The decorated pumpkins are amazing. Try your hand at that, too! All rules and regulations can be found on VMS, or by contacting me, Kathleen Smith, at 281-381-5268 or via email at kathleensmith1214@gmail.com. A copy was also emailed to each member last month. Horticulture entries will be accepted on Wednesday, October 6th from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Thursday, October 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. These times are different than what was published last month in this newsletter due to the fair committee changing the times we will be allowed in the coliseum.

Pumpkin entries will be accepted on Wednesday, October 6th from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and on Thursday, October 7th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Our plant team is busy growing some wonderful plants for our sale. These will include fall vegetables, trees, and native plants.

We are also in need of donated items for our raffle. Any item is greatly appreciated, large or small. This is a great fundraiser for our program. Please consider donating an item. We will sell tickets for \$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5.00. A few of our items so far are rain barrels, a beautiful wind chime, a soaker hose system, plants, gift certificates, and cash!

Come out and see the beautiful plants we'll be selling, bring the kids and grandkids to our craft tables, and enjoy the fun that is the Guadalupe County Fair!

Kathleen Smith

281-381-5268

kathleensmith1214@gmail.com

Wandering Gardener

Marilyn Moltz

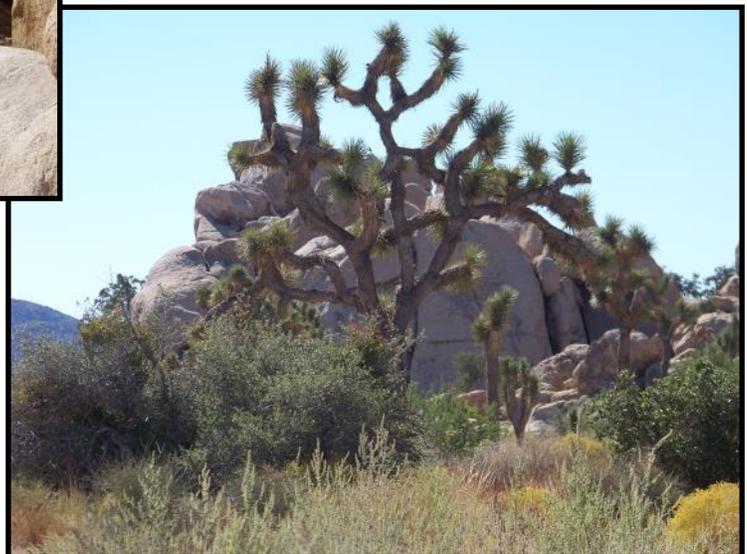
Joshua Tree National Park

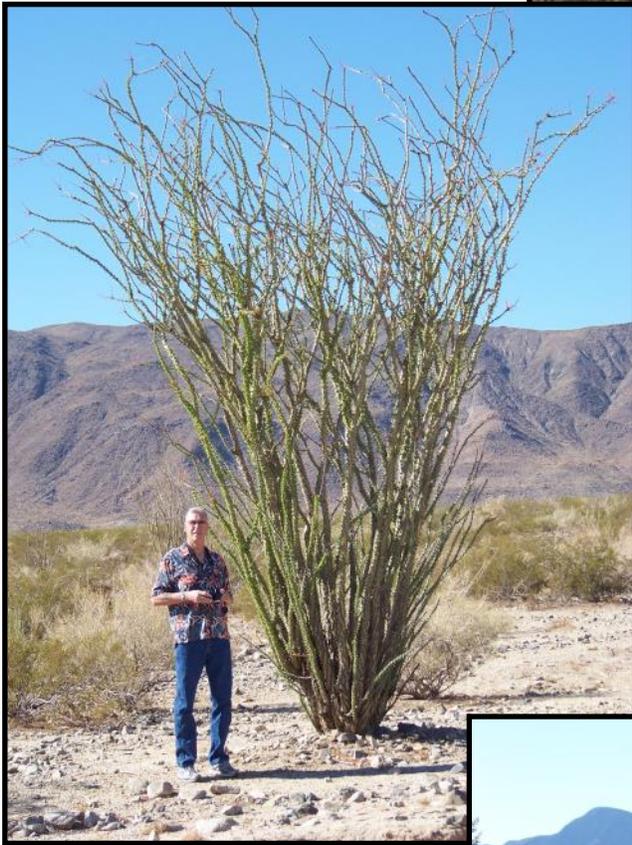
Twenty-Nine Palms

Located in southern California, north of Salton Sea and close to Palm Springs is Joshua Tree NP. This national park covers almost 800,000 acres and is in both the Colorado and Mojave Deserts. The park offers dark night skies, hiking, camping, photography, rock climbing and desert scenery. It has an elevation ranging from 536 feet to 5,814 feet at the top of Quail Mountain.

The Joshua Tree, *Yucca Brevifolia*, is a member of the Agave family. As with most large desert plants it only blooms when conditions have been just right. The trees have a unique shape and seem to have lots of long arms the older they get. They also provide food and shelter for birds, mammals, reptiles and insects.

The park has paved roads which will take you from one entry point to another. You will drive by many rock formations, mountain views, scenic overlooks and lots of desert plants. If you stop and walk a short distance from the road you may encounter some of the animals and birds that live in the park. It is a park worth taking the time to visit, just don't visit in the middle of summer unless you like the heat. I visited in October and hiking was very comfortable.







Continuing Education Events September 2021

Please be aware that due to the current COVID-19 situation some training from other organizations being offered is online. Notices from Bexar and Travis counties will be sent out to members as they are received, including reminders and updates.

Saturday, September 25: "Native Plant Maintenance" 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Cost \$30, Online. Register at wildflower.org/events/2021-09/

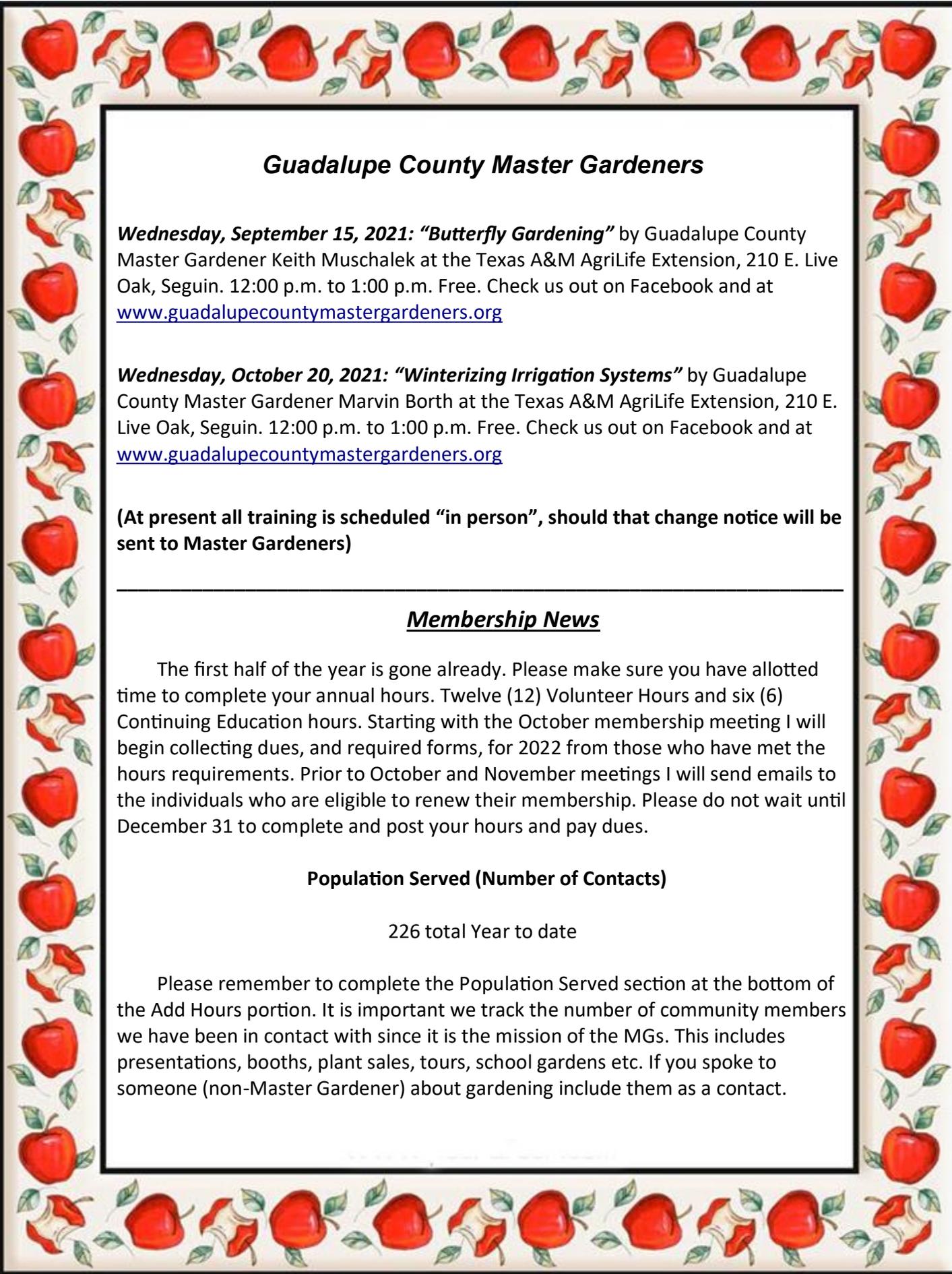
Tuesday, September 7: "English Style Gardens in Texas" 10:00 a.m. The Natural Gardener, 8648 Old Bee Caves Rd., Austin. Free & in person, online signup begins Sept. 2 at 6:00 p.m. at tngaustin.com/events/?yr=2021&month=9&dy&cid=my-calendar

Tuesday, September 14: "Butterfly Gardens" 10:00 a.m. The Natural Gardener, 8648 Old Bee Caves Rd., Austin, Free & in person, online signup begins Sept. 9 at 6:00 p.m. at tngaustin.com/events/?yr=2021&month=9&dy&cid=my-calendar

Tuesday, September 21: "Organic Veggie Gardening" 10:00 a.m. The Natural Gardener, 8648 Old Bee Caves Rd., Austin Free & in person, online signup begins Sept. 16 at 6:00 p.m. at tngaustin.com/events/?yr=2021&month=9&dy&cid=my-calendar

Tuesday, September 28: "Herb Gardening" 10:00 a.m. The Natural Gardener, 8648 Old Bee Caves Rd., Austin. Free & in person, online signup begins Sept. 23 at 6:00 p.m. at tngaustin.com/events/?yr=2021&month=9&dy&cid=my-calendar

Saturday, September 18: "Preparing Your Fall & Winter Garden, Part II", 10:00 – 11:30 Free, call to reserve space, 210-497-3760, Milberger's, 3920 N. Loop 1604 E. San Antonio



Guadalupe County Master Gardeners

Wednesday, September 15, 2021: "Butterfly Gardening" by Guadalupe County Master Gardener Keith Muschalek at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free. Check us out on Facebook and at www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org

Wednesday, October 20, 2021: "Winterizing Irrigation Systems" by Guadalupe County Master Gardener Marvin Borth at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free. Check us out on Facebook and at www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org

(At present all training is scheduled "in person", should that change notice will be sent to Master Gardeners)

Membership News

The first half of the year is gone already. Please make sure you have allotted time to complete your annual hours. Twelve (12) Volunteer Hours and six (6) Continuing Education hours. Starting with the October membership meeting I will begin collecting dues, and required forms, for 2022 from those who have met the hours requirements. Prior to October and November meetings I will send emails to the individuals who are eligible to renew their membership. Please do not wait until December 31 to complete and post your hours and pay dues.

Population Served (Number of Contacts)

226 total Year to date

Please remember to complete the Population Served section at the bottom of the Add Hours portion. It is important we track the number of community members we have been in contact with since it is the mission of the MGs. This includes presentations, booths, plant sales, tours, school gardens etc. If you spoke to someone (non-Master Gardener) about gardening include them as a contact.

Volunteer Recognition Drawing

July 2021 Volunteer Recognition Drawing

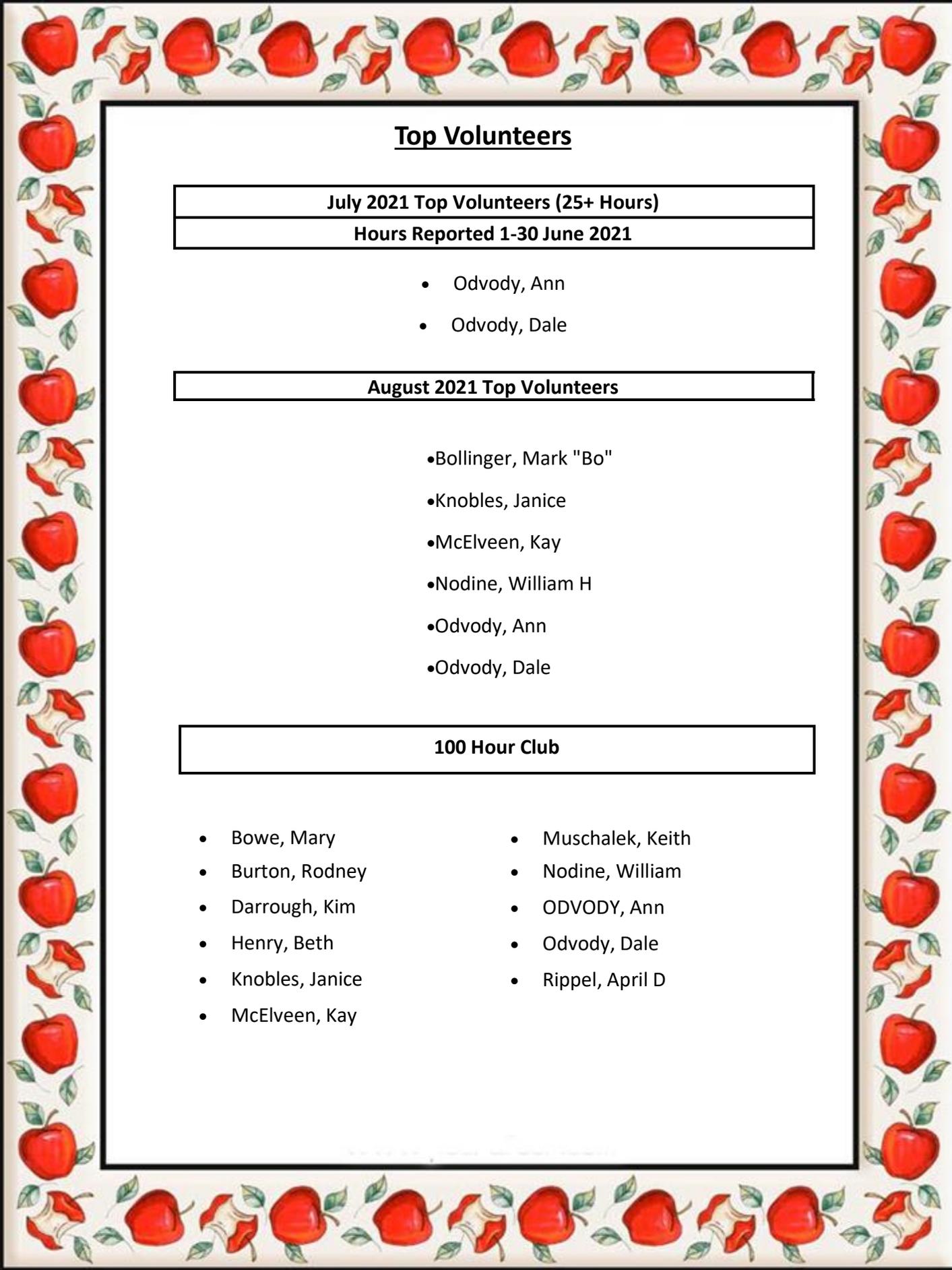
Hours Reported 1-30 June 2021

1	Bollinger, Mark "Bo"		8	Nodine, William H
2	Burton, Rodney		9	Odvody, Ann
3	Cover, Kay		10	Odvody, Dale
4	Friesenhahn, Joyce K		11	Richardson, Thomas J
5	Henry, Beth		12	Schultze, Pat
6	Lucas, Melinda J		13	Sykes, Ernestine J
7	Montalvo, Maria S		14	Younger, Pam

August 2021 Volunteer Recognition Drawing

Hours Reported 1-31 July 2021

1	Bollinger, Mark "Bo"		11	Montalvo, Maria S
2	Burris, Welta		12	Muschalek, Keith E
3	Burton, Rodney		13	Nodine, William H
4	Cover, Kay		14	Odvody, Ann
5	Friesenhahn, Joyce K		15	Odvody, Dale
6	Henry, Beth		16	Richardson, Thomas J
7	Jones, Peggy		17	Schultze, Pat
8	Knobles, Janice		18	Smith, Kathleen
9	Meade, Constance L		19	Sykes, Ernestine J
10	Miller, Mary C		20	Younger, Pam



Top Volunteers

July 2021 Top Volunteers (25+ Hours)

Hours Reported 1-30 June 2021

- Odvody, Ann
- Odvody, Dale

August 2021 Top Volunteers

- Bollinger, Mark "Bo"
- Knobles, Janice
- McElveen, Kay
- Nodine, William H
- Odvody, Ann
- Odvody, Dale

100 Hour Club

- Bowe, Mary
- Burton, Rodney
- Darrough, Kim
- Henry, Beth
- Knobles, Janice
- McElveen, Kay
- Muschalek, Keith
- Nodine, William
- ODVODY, Ann
- Odvody, Dale
- Rippel, April D

REMINDER

If anyone needs a card from the organization for an illness or a loss of a family member, send an email to: GCMGTX@gmail.com.

Newsletter Staff

Editor - Mary Miller

Photographer - Marvin "T" Taylor

Proofreaders- Stephanie Strolle, Beth Zies, Randee Malmsten

Wandering Gardener - Marilyn Moltz

IT Guru –Greg Miller

Members in Service

Texas Master Gardener Board of Directors

Two Year Term (2020/2021) Mark Mullen, Alternate – Rachel Cavazos

One Year Term (2021) Jerry McNulty, Alternate – Vacant

Speakers Bureau - Treva Hicks

Guadalupe Co. Community Garden - Dale & Ann Odvody

Master Gardener Office/Library - Ernestine Sykes

Refreshment Coordinator - Kathleen Smith

Big Red Barn - Janice Knobles

Gutierrez Xeriscape Park - Judy Stanley

2021 County Fair - Kathleen Smith

Facebook Administrator - Kathy Adams

Christmas Tree Decorating - Ernestine Sykes

Newsletter Editor - Mary Miller

Web Master - Marvin Taylor

Fall 2021/Seguin Class Coordinator – Kay McElveen



Guadalupe County Master Gardeners, Inc.

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Seguin, TX 78155

Guadalupe County Master Gardeners <http://www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org> 830-379-1972 Ext 210

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

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

GCMG Officers & Board of Directors

Barry A. Jackson -- President

Jerry McNulty -Past President

April Rippel -President Elect

Gregory Haag -Vice President

Valerie Bartonek -Secretary

Rachel Cavazos -Treasurer

Janice Jadwin -Publicity Director

Kim Darrough -Membership Director

Kay McElveen -Education Director

Carol Calentine-Volunteer Director

Travis Franke -AgriLIFE Agent Master Gardener

Coordinator

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. The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife.

Mary Miller, Editor marymcmiller@gmail.com