

HOE!  
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August 2013

GRIMES COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 9, ISSUE VIII

IN THIS ISSUE

**Officers for 2013**

President: Jamie Brunns  
Vice President: Kathy Laughlin  
Secretary: Pat Randall  
Treasurer: Cathey Hardeman

**Committee Chairs**

Administration: Nicky Maddams  
Timekeeping: Martha Brogdon  
Awards/Social: Scotty Bennett/Phyllis Pollard  
Children's Activities: Phyllis Pollard/Marti Luedtke  
Communications: Nicky Maddams  
Class: Nicky Maddams/Jamie Brunns  
Co-op: Fred Vesperman  
Anderson Beautification: Janeth Nevill  
Publicity: Peggy Sloan  
Fundraisers: Phyllis Pollard/Dianna Westmoreland  
Go Texan Landscaping: Mike Brame  
County Fair Judging: Marti Luedtke  
Historian: Sharon Murry

**Texas AgriLife Extension**

Extension Agent: Kimberly Hall  
MG Coordinator: Jayla Fry  
Secretary: Sandra Cook

**Newsletter**

Editor: Nicky Maddams  
Article submissions, photos and information due by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Send to:  
[biplanechik@yahoo.ca](mailto:biplanechik@yahoo.ca)

Website: [txmg.org/grimes](http://txmg.org/grimes)  
Email: [grimesmastergardeners@gmail.com](mailto:grimesmastergardeners@gmail.com)

**Upcoming Events**

August 3 11:00am-2:00pm Directors Meeting at A&M; Special Tax Presentation

August 6 11:00am-12:00pm Back to School Health and Safety Day at the Fairgrounds

August 13 9:00am Monthly Meeting with speaker Joe Floyd "Snakes in the Garden and Things that Sting and Bite"

September 10 10:00am Tour of Peckerwood Gardens near Hempstead

September 15 9:00am-12:00pm Fall Seminar – Water-Wise Gardening

October 8 6:00pm Fall Social hosted by Dianna Westmoreland



Get to Know Your Fellow Master Gardeners!

Chat with Stephanie Cunningham

## August Vegetable Planting Guide

Plant now through

- 8/1 Melons, Okra, Peppers, Pumpkins, Tomatoes, Eggplant \*\*
- 8/15 Cucumbers
- 8/31 Peas (Southern, Edible Pod)
- 8/20 Sweet Corn
- 8/20 Squash (Summer & Winter)
- 8/31 Romaine Lettuce

\*\* Use plants rather than seed

Use protective floating row cover to help reduce heat and viral infection, and to provide a little shade to young plants.



STEPHANIE CUNNINGHAM

**Where were you born and how long have you lived in Texas?**

Born in Sacramento, CA...but I got here as soon as I could!

**Where is the farthest you have traveled from Texas?**

Munich, Germany...best trip ever!!

**Where would you go on your dream vacation?**

I would love to visit rural Japan, as in I have no interest in Tokyo just as I would not want to visit NYC. I think the country side and Japanese gardens would be wonderful!

**What is your favorite flower and tree? Do you grow them?**

I love sunflowers and sweet peas. These are what my Grandmother grew in her garden.

**Where is the prettiest garden you have ever been to and what made it so?**

Does a beer garden count? In Germany, the Chestnut trees were the main source of shade for the beer gardens and were covered with the most beautiful white flowers.



Chestnut Tree

**What restaurant do you would you travel an hour for?**

NIKO NIKO'S in Houston!!

**What is your favorite season?**

Spring.

**Why are you a Master Gardener or Intern?**

I am just beginning my garden journey. I live next door to the Young's (the Red Door B&B) and their gardens are awesome. I am starting small and with knowledge I hope to be able to have something beautiful one day.

**What is the closest you have been to a natural disaster?**

Ike.

**When was the last "back to nature" experience you have had?**

We just spent a weekend in Galveston. My daughter was stung by a jellyfish and I got a royal sunburn. I guess that counts!

**Where would you like to go that is "off the beaten bath"?**

Banner Elk, NC. It is a beautiful little town. I bought a pound of local peaches that I still dream about!

**What vegetable do you hate?**

I don't hate any vegetables, I love them all. I am not a picky eater. The only thing I do not eat is oranges. I don't care for the taste or smell.

**What do you love the smell of?**

Almonds. Bread baking. Babies. Wool & Vinegar.

**What is your favorite ice cream?**

Chocolate, with a splash of milk on top.

**What chore do you absolutely hate doing?**

Really...all chores. I'd rather be knitting. My one quirk, I do not like to listen to phone messages.

**What electronic gadget could you not live without?**

I run a business, which sells a lot online. At the shop I am always on the computer, taking photos, reading and answering emails. When I get home, I am happy to be away from it all. I set down the phone and most of the time will not pick it up until the next morning.

**Are you a social butterfly or do you prefer solitary endeavors?**

I do like to be surrounded with friends and family, but I would not consider myself a butterfly.

**Name one wonderful childhood memory involving gardening.**

I visited my Aunt in Olympia Washington and she had (to me at the age or 8) a real garden. It was bigger than her house. It had a white picket fence around it. She grew everything and it all tasted wonderful!

**What would you say is your garden style? (Country, cottage, formal, sculptural, etc.)**

Terrible...Hodge Podge...improving!



AUGUST brings us the following birthdays:

- Mike Arden – August 3
- Jennifer McKinney – August 12
- Stephanie Cunningham – August 15
- Jennifer Corzine – August 16
- Kathleen Flick – August 20
- Stewart Thompson – August 26

## MG COMMITTEES



By request, I am reposting the Committees we currently have, the Chairperson for each committee and what is involved.

Start thinking ahead to what might interest you next year, and how you can use your talents and abilities.

### Administration – Nicky Maddams

- ❖ Coordination of GCMG coverage regarding inquiries
- ❖ Check GCMG email on a daily basis and take necessary action

### Timekeeper – Martha Brogdon

- ❖ Collection of volunteer hours
- ❖ Report hours to extension agent

### GC Fair Judging – Marti Luedtke

- ❖ Assist with Horticulture Division of the Fair

### Communications – Nicky Maddams

- ❖ Website (with Helen Quinn)
- ❖ Newsletter
- ❖ Facebook

### Community Projects

- ❖ Go Texan Landscaping – Michael Brame
- ❖ Anderson Beautification – Janeth Nevill, Edmond McGee and Sharon Murry
- ❖ Senior Day @ GC Fair – Helen Quinn, Cathey Hardeman

### Children's Activities – Phyllis Pollard and Marti Luedtke

- ❖ Junior Ag Day, Big Backyard at Grimes County Fair, Trunk or Treat, etc.

### Fundraising – Phyllis Pollard and Dianna Westmoreland

- ❖ Present ideas to the association

### Social/Awards – Scotty Bennett and Phyllis Pollard

- ❖ Coordination of refreshments at meetings
- ❖ Christmas party

- ❖ Class of 2013 – Nicky Maddams and Jamie Bruns; Marguerite Corbello, Kathy Laughlin, Alvie Vesperman, Cathey Hardeman, Kathy Denning, Jennifer Corzine

- ❖ Coordination of speakers and classes

### Mentoring – Marguerite Corbello

- ❖ Guide and assist new class members

### Advertising – Peggy Sloan

### Nominating – Carol Garnett and Kathy Denning

- ❖ Seek members interested in holding an officer position (for election in November)

### Auditing – Kathleen Flick and Dianna Westmoreland

- ❖ Review year-end financial records for accuracy

### Historian – Sharon Murry

- ❖ Maintaining pictorial and written historical records of events.

### Directors – Kathy Denning, Sharon Murry

Alternates – Helen Quinn, Marti Luedtke

- ❖ Attend quarterly TMGA meetings in College Station and provide report to membership
- ❖ Vote regarding TMGA business



## Questions Received at Extension Office

We received inquiries about Round Up and how to best apply considering nearby plantings.

### Did you Know?

You can obtain valuable volunteer hours simply by writing an article or submission for this newsletter?

## Activity Report

Submitted by Marti Luedtke

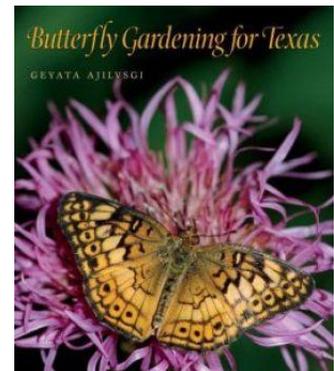
Amidst the hot July heat wave, the mighty Master Gardeners participated in the Grimes County Kids 4-H Camp at the Grimes County Expo Center July 16th.

Set as a teaching and class interactive program on "Wildflowers in Grimes County", about 40 kids participated. Beautiful slides courtesy of the Texas Department of Transportation were shown, with discussion abounding. After the slide program, each kid made "wildflower balls" to become "wildflower ambassadors" to throw beside the highway for fall planting. (Made with donations from Master Gardeners---clay by Dia Copeland and seeds from Kathleen Flick, Dianna Westmoreland, Alice Bond-Kocian, Cheryl Dowdy, Janeth Nevill, Angela Kinsey, and Marti Luedtke. Hope I didn't leave out anyone; tell me if I did).

Alice Bonds-Kocian, Jennifer McKinney and Angela Kinsey artistically and enthusiastically aided Marti Luedtke in the workshop and presentation.

## IN OUR CO-OP

### Butterfly Gardening for Texas By Geyata Ajilvsgi



Texas hosts an unparalleled number of butterfly species, and whether one lives near the beaches of the Gulf Coast or in the mountains of the Trans-Pecos, all Texans can enjoy the color and tranquility that butterflies bring to any outdoor space.

In *Butterfly Gardening for Texas*, author and expert Geyata Ajilvsgi shares a wealth of practical information about all kinds of butterflies and the many flowers and other plants they utilize in their miraculous life cycle: from hidden egg to munching caterpillar to cryptic chrysalis to nectar-sipping, winged adult.

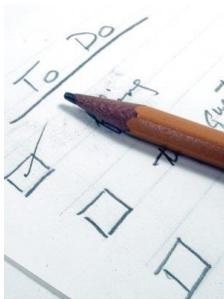
Written in an engaging, nontechnical style for anyone who wants to attract butterflies to the yard or garden, the book provides tips for making gardens caterpillar- and butterfly-friendly, in-depth profiles of more than fifty butterflies, descriptions of the food plants for a variety of both caterpillars and butterflies, and plant lists for easy selection and substitution, depending on where you live and what is available.

For those who want specific advice on what to plant where, Ajilvsgi has designed useful, adaptable landscape plans and extensive planting options for each of seven state regions. Helpful appendices aid gardeners in taking photographs of the butterflies they attract, in locating sources for seeds and plants, and in finding organizations and other instructive publications for additional information about these beautiful and beneficial insects.

As the popularity of butterfly gardening continues to increase, gardeners of all skill levels will find *Butterfly Gardening for Texas* an invaluable source of guidance and inspiration.

\* Review courtesy Amazon.com

## Garden Checklist for August



Dr. William C. Welch  
Professor & Landscape Horticulturist  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

- By August many fall vegetable seeds and even small plants may be set out for later production. Be careful to give extra water, and a little shade, to these young plants while they are becoming established. The result will be excellent cool season garden produce.
- Trim off faded flowers on crape myrtles and vitex to encourage later re-bloom.
- Evaluate the volume of water delivered from lawn sprinklers to ensure healthy, stress-free grass

during the heat of the summer. One thorough watering which will deliver one inch of water at a time is better than several more shallow sessions. The amount of water available through flower bed sprinklers may be checked by placing several shallow pans among shrubs or flowers.

- Caladiums require plenty of water at this time of year if they are to remain lush and active until fall. Fertilize with 21-0-0 at the rate of one-third to one-half pound per 100 square feet of bed area, and water thoroughly.



- Prune out dead or diseased wood from trees and shrubs. Hold off on major pruning from now until midwinter. Severe pruning at this time will only stimulate tender new growth prior to frost.
- Sow seeds of snapdragons, dianthus, pansies, calendulas, and other cool-season flowers in flats, or in well-prepared areas of the garden, for planting outside during mid-to-late fall.
- Plant bluebonnet and other spring wildflowers. They must germinate in late summer or early fall, develop good root systems, and be ready to grow in spring when the weather warms. Plant seed in well-prepared soil, one-half inch deep, and water thoroughly.
- Picking flowers frequently encourages most annuals and perennials to flower even more abundantly.
- Pick okra, peas and peppers often to maintain production.
- It is time to divide spring-flowering perennials, such as iris, Shasta daisy, oxeye, gaillardia, cannas, day lilies, violets, lirioppe, and ajuga.
- Make your selections and place orders for spring-flowering bulbs now so that they will arrive in time for planting in October and November.

- Don't allow plants with green fruit or berries to suffer from lack of moisture.
- A late-summer pruning of rosebushes can be beneficial. Prune out dead canes and any weak, brushy growth. Cut back tall, vigorous bushes to about 30 inches. After pruning, apply fertilizer, and water thoroughly. If a preventive disease-control program has been maintained, your rose bushes should be ready to provide an excellent crop of flowers this fall.
- It is not too late to set out another planting of many warm-season annuals, such as marigolds, zinnias, and periwinkles. They will require extra attention for the first few weeks, but should provide you with color during late September, October, and November.
- Establish a new compost pile to accommodate the fall leaf accumulation.

