



# MG Grapevine



<http://scmg.tamu.edu>

September 2015

<http://easttexasgardening.tamu.edu>

## Number 9



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### The next SCMG Meeting

**September 3, 2015**  
**Rose Garden Center**  
**11:30 AM**

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Martin Davis, Editor

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Published for the Master Gardeners of Smith County, Texas under the auspices of the Smith County Office of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 1517 W. Front St. Tyler, TX 75702.

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### SCMG Association Meeting

September 3, 2015



Our speaker for the September 3rd meeting is Dee Bishop, Master Gardener extraordinaire!

The subject of her presentation is "One Dumb Gardener".

### AgriWorld

Yes - the East Texas State Fair turns 100 this year. With this in mind, the Master Gardener project "Our Secret Garden" will focus on how we got our water 100 years ago, the family garden from seed to harvest to seed, planting by the moon phases, and costs of items then and now.



The whole front of the AgriWorld building will have a train depot and a giant 3-car train silhouette with a water tower!

If you would like to help with the set-up, we will be starting September 8 at 10 am in Building E at the fairgrounds which is directly across the parking lot from the Tyler Rose Garden Center (where we have our monthly meetings). Come on out to help with this project and have all the fun you want - we'll make more! Hazel Bateman

### 1st Tuesday in the Garden

September 1st,

Noon at the IDEA Garden.

Dee Bishop presents, *Collecting Seeds*.

### Welch's Words

September is almost here! I can't believe how fast this year is going. One thing I know for a fact, it's time to cool down.

With September comes a gearing up of activities for Master Gardeners. We will be back in the gardens cutting back, re-planting, mulching etc.... Hope to see everyone in the gardens again.

WOW its AgriWorld time again. Please come help set up for our part of the East Texas State Fair. Set up work will begin in earnest on September 8th at 10:00 am. It's one of those times where you get to interact with people you don't normally have a chance to. Yes, its work but it's also fun!

Next on the agenda is the Bulbs 'n More Sale and Conference. It takes all hands on deck to make this event a success. We will be working on October 9th for set up and the 10th for the day of the event.

Many have asked what happens with all the left over bulbs! We take all the extra items to the Bergfeld Park Arts & Craft Fair on Saturday, October 17th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Have a couple spare hours, please join us there.

Mark your calendars for Friday, October 23rd for our member picnic and "Farewell to Keith". It will held at Cindy Harrington's home from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm. We have a few special things planned for the evening. Come say goodbye and enjoy some great company.

Before we do all these fun things! Don't forget we have our membership meeting on Thursday, September 3rd. Come early and browse the Smith County Master Gardener clothing that will be for sale that day.

Hope to see everyone soon! Pat



### Chad Gulley's comments...



Fall is just around the corner. This year is moving fast. Record rainfall in May to extreme heat and drought in July, weather is very unpredictable. Hopefully the predictions are correct and we begin getting much needed rainfall for our lawns, gardens, and landscape. I saw a forecast the other day

from one of the climatologist and they are predicting a strong El Nino which indicates possibly a cold, wet winter. We will see.

While my role in the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will remain as the Agriculture and Natural Resources Agent, I look forward to working with clientele in the Horticulture area as well. Fall and spring are busy times of the year.

I have met many of the Master Gardeners and look forward to working with and meeting many more of you soon. During the transition from Keith retiring until we hire a new Horticultural Agent, I will serve as Master Gardener Coordinator for Smith County. I have been working with the committee the past few months and keeping up to date on projects and educational programs provided by the Smith County Master Gardeners. While in Nacogdoches County as a County Extension Agent, I served as Master Gardener Coordinator there. I have already begun planning and scheduling the 2016 Master Gardener Class and will have the completed schedule finalized soon. Many of the dates and speakers are confirmed.

AgriWorld is just around the corner September 25-October 4. The Fall Conference and Bulb Sale is also on the horizon. The garden lecture series and first Tuesday in the garden are other fall programs to speak of. Fall is a busy time and the Master Gardeners are working hard as usual. If I can be of service or help to any of you do not hesitate to call. I look forward to working with you and want to say thank you for all you do for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service of Smith County. Chad

### Executive Committee notes

The committee met on August 20<sup>th</sup>.



Treasurer, Bob McRae presented a report comparing income and expenses with the budget for the period from January 1 thru July 31, 2015.

Hazel Bateman reported that the upcoming East Texas State Fair is its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. She advised that the theme will be trains, since that is how crops were delivered to market in the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The SCMG display will show how water was found and used in a house, planting by the phases of the moon and how food was preserved.

Plans for the bulb sale are progressing well. Selection of the plants for sale is underway. The featured speaker for the morning session will be Skip Richter. It was suggested that we have an evaluation at the end of the presentation to ensure that we are meeting the expectation of the attendees. Current plans are to have a handout with a list of the plants and bulbs for sale with a picture beside the information.

Pat Welch advised that we had a supply of plant markers available for use in the gardens, but we are approaching the end of the supply. Pat Welch will research the type preferred and bring more information to the meeting next month.

The nominating committee has been named, including Ann Smith, Ann Kelley, Cindy Harrington and Carolyn Chalender. They will be meeting during September and present their nominations at the October meeting.

Keith Hansen expressed his appreciation for all the support we have given him through the years. His job will be posted, seeking his replacement for his position, hopefully soon. Following his retirement he will become a consultant for gardeners. In the interim, Chad Gulley will temporarily be our coordinator. Chad has already nearly completed the planning for the 2016 Master Gardener class.

### What's Next?

Recently someone said in jest, "Since Keith Hansen is retiring, will we need to continue to report our volunteer hours?" Yes! While Keith is out there enjoying the next phase of his life, nothing will change with the Master Gardener program.

Keith will be venturing into consulting and has already set up his new website at [easttexasgardening.com](http://easttexasgardening.com) which is somewhat incomplete right now, but will be more complete later. While there, be sure to click on Facebook to see his new page.

He advises that the website that he began years ago, <http://easttexasgardening.tamu.edu> will continue to be available.

### M.G. Apparel

We will be taking orders for all Master Gardener apparel immediately before the next monthly meeting on Sept.3. The shirts, sweatshirts, hats, etc. will be on display from 10:30 to 11:15 am for ordering.

Please come early if you plan on ordering anything. We cannot stay after the meeting. Monette Colman

## September

### Our other Spring

By Dee Bishop

September is one of the best times to plant seeds both for vegetable gardens and for winter and spring color. Unlike spring, it is still hot, but if you are diligent to keep seeds watered (sometimes more than once a day) you can be very successful with starting all sorts of goodies from seeds right now.



Plant seeds of pansies, viola, snapdragon, linaria, lunaria, nasturtium, bluebonnets, coreopsis, flowering kale, cabbage, Swiss chard, red mustard, herbs such as thyme, parsley, cilantro, chives, garlic, salad burnet, and vegetables: green beans, lima beans (bush), cold crops such as broccoli, Brussels sprouts, and cabbage, collards, mustard greens (middle to end of the month), beets, carrots, and turnips, plus many more that skip my mind right now. Fall is our second planting time.

If you do not intend to have a fall vegetable garden, then now is the time to plant a good cover crop to help add lots of humus in your plot. The best gardens we ever had were after tilling in the cover crops we had planted. You get so much more from them than merely adding bags of compost (which is often not of the best quality). Grab up all the leaves you can find and put a layer up to eight or ten inches thick over the whole area of your garden and rough till it in. Winter will break the leaves down and by tilling time in spring, your garden plot will be bursting with all sorts of good organisms that will make your plants grow with gusto.

If you have considered having a wildflower meadow or just a planting of wildflowers in a sunny area you may have, now is the time to get the seed into the ground. Bluebonnets, queen anne's lace, coreopsis, Drummond's phlox, California poppies, (wait until next month to plant Shirley and other poppies) and other spring bloomers need warm fall temperatures to come up and cooler temperatures to grow strong root systems. They will sit in a small rosette all winter and take off with lengthening days and warmer temperatures. Once you get these plants growing, they will reseed every year.

September is often still very hot, but the nights are cooler, the days shorter, and sometimes we even get some rain. Planting in September will give you so much bang for your buck and is worth the extra time spent in watering to get so many plants for a mere pack or two of seeds.

### New E-mail Address

Sam Griffith - Ggriffith2007@aol.com

## E. T. Garden Lecture Series



**September 19th** at the Tyler Rose Garden Center. Dr. Jared Barnes presents, *Herbaceous Design*—Incorporating annuals and perennials in your garden. Registration 8:30 AM, lecture at 9:00 AM. Tickets are \$15 each.

On **October 24th**, Dr. William Welch presents *Redesigning Your Garden—Give Your Landscape Pizzas*.

Finally, on **November 14th**, Dr. David Creech presents, *Camellias—The Winter Garden Shouldn't be Boring*.

## Annual Bulb Sale & More

What date? Saturday, Oct. 10, 2015

Where? Harvey Convention Center—Tyler

When? Registration 8:30 AM, Conference 9:00 AM

Sale time 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Jean Smith is creating a list with photos and information on bulbs/plants to be sold. This list will be available on the SCMG website where color photos will pop-up for viewing.

The conference speaker will be Robert "Skip" Richter. He is a County Extension Agent in Horticulture in the Houston area. Skip is well versed as a speaker, writer and teacher. You will want to hear his presentation.

In the October newsletter, there will be more tidbits related to the week of the sale and "do's & don'ts" for the sale day. Even if you cannot volunteer or this just isn't your thing, come enjoy the day and the activities.

Thanks, Jim & Laquita Showen

## SFA Monthly Lecture

### THERESA AND LES REEVES LECTURE SERIES

Agriculture Building,

1924 Wilson Drive, Stephen F. Austin

State University, Nacogdoches, TX 75962.

6:30 PM refreshments/social, 7:00 PM

lecture followed by exciting plant raffle!

The September 17th lecture will be presented by Greg Grant / Dawn Stover - Their topic, "Is this the best Plant Sale in Texas or not?" A Plant Sale Preview.

**The plant sale is scheduled for October 3, 2015**

When their plant list is available, we will pass it along.



### Landscape Design School

September 21 & 22, 2015

The George Bush Presidential Library at Texas A&M University will be the site of the school. The school is sponsored by Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. & the Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

Registration for the course will be \$145 by September 1st and \$165 after that. Registration forms and the tentative schedule may be obtained at [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southerngarden](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southerngarden).

### The Southern Garden Symposium

October 23 & 24, 2015

With featured speakers like LSU Ag Center's Allen Owings, award-winning floral designer Scott Hasty, and noted author Larry Mellichamp, no other gardening program brings together top quality speakers and historic plantation settings as well as the Southern Garden Symposium in St. Francisville, Louisiana.

For complete program information and registration forms, visit [www.SouthernGardenSymposium.org](http://www.SouthernGardenSymposium.org); call 225-635-3738 or email [luciecassity@bellsouth.net](mailto:luciecassity@bellsouth.net). For information regarding overnight accommodations in St. Francisville, visit [www.stfrancisville.us](http://www.stfrancisville.us) or call 225-635-4224, toll free at 800-789-4221.



### Quick List of Coming Events

- Sept. 1—1st Tuesday in the Garden
- Sept. 17—SFA lecture Greg Grant/Dawn Stover
- Sept. 19—Garden lecture Dr. Jared Barnes
- Sept. 21-22—Landscape Design School
- Sept. 22-25—International MG Conference
- Sept. 25—Oct 4—AgriWorld at the E. T. State Fair
- Oct. 3—S.F.A. Plant Sale at Nacogdoches
- Oct. 10—Bulbs & More—Skip Richter conf. speaker
- Oct. 23-24—South. Garden Symposium—Francisville, LA
- Oct. 24—Garden lecture Dr. William Welch
- Nov. 14—Garden lecture Dr. David Creech
- May 17-19, 2016—Texas MG State Conf. McKinney

For more details visit:

<http://txmg.org/smith/coming-events/>

### Smith County Master Gardener Association

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