



MG Grapevine



<http://scmg.tamu.edu>

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Turner..

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**There is NO
SCMG Association Meeting
in July 2016**

Bulbs and More!
Sale and Fall Conference
October 8, 2016

Smith County Master Gardeners and
East Texas Lecture Series
presents

**“Bulbs for Southern
Gardens”**

With Brent Heath of Brent & Becky's



Harvey Convention Center
2000 W. Front St. Tyler, TX
Registration 8:00 AM, Program 8:30
AM

\$15 for lecture
Bulbs and More! Sale
11:30 AM—1:30 PM
No entry fee for sale

Smith County Master Gardeners
will not be charged for attendance
at the morning lecture.

There will be many volunteer opportu-
nities during the coming weeks in
preparation for this event. Sign up!

Susan Stone Sez....



Summer is around the
corner and the “dog
days” are officially here.
It goes without saying,
“Be careful out there!”

Thank you to all who
helped make the Home Garden Tour a
great success. A lot of new people
worked on this project this year and
they were awesome! A special “thank
you” to those of you who sold ads and
worked on the Tour Guide.

July is good time to stay indoors and
work on projects for the Fall.
AgriWorld and the Bulbs and More
Conference are two that come to mind.
Committees are forming and meeting
and work is continuing, so these pro-
jects should be a great success. The
Calendar and Garden Guide is about
ready to go to the printer. Wonder
who will be the winning photographer
whose picture will grace the front cov-
er?

Remember, we don't meet in July.
Stay cool and hope to see you at our
next meeting, August 4.

Susan Stone
SCMG Association President

Work Day in the Gardens

The regular Tuesday work days will con-
tinue during July, starting at 8:30 AM
each week.

Chad Gulley comments...

Summer is in full swing! I hope all are having a great summer so far. Happy Fourth of July to everyone. As we get into summer, we will soon be in the fall. Time is flying by this year. It seems like we just celebrated the New Year's holiday.



The East Texas Garden Lecture Series will begin again in September. The featured speaker September 10 will be Erfan Vafaie on "THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE UGLY" – Learn your beneficial and pest insects. The October series will be a big program as we team up with the Environmental Horticulture Committee to make the Annual Bulb Sale and Conference a larger event. This year's conference will highlight Brent Heath – Brent & Becky's Bulbs covering "BULBS FOR SOUTHERN GARDEN."

The fall is also busy as we get into AgriWorld and the Secret Garden. AgriWorld is an award winning educational display set up during the East Texas State Fair to aid in educating youth and adults alike where their food, fiber and shelter comes from. This Agricultural Awareness educational display will offer interactive yet live education to those in attendance of the fair. Thanks for all the Master Gardeners on all the hard work over the years with this educational opportunity.

We are getting a lot of calls about insect and disease issues on various plants including turfgrass, ornamentals, and vegetables. Monitor your landscape as early detection of these issues may be necessary to prevent economic losses to your plant material. We have seen some strange things this season from azalea gall to black knot to take-all root rot just to name a few.

Thanks for all you do. I will once again serve as Master Gardener Coordinator during the interim period between Kyle's leaving and the hiring of the new Agent.

New Project



Dr. Joe Masabni, the Extension Small-Acreage Vegetable Specialist, is now at Overton Research and Extension Center. He is starting field trials on tomato and greenhouse research on aquaponics. Dr. Masabni is interested in volunteers to help him with his research, similar to the arrangement made with Dr. Pemberton. Dr. Masabni prefers not to have the volunteers on the same day so that there's no competition for volunteer hours between Pemberton and Masabni. 3-4 volunteers this summer are desired to help with tomato harvest.

Dr. Masabni will make this opportunity an educational and fun experience. Future activities may require more volunteers and Dr. Masabni would like input of the MGs to help him guide his field trials. For example, what crops, what varieties, what production system, etc.?

Dr. Masabni would like to meet with the interested volunteers to set up a coordinator for this group and start planning for volunteering work.

Joe Masabni
Extension Small-Acreage Vegetable Specialist
Overton Research and Extension Center

The project described above was approved by the Executive Committee on June 16, 2016.

For those Master Gardeners who may be interested in participating, please advise Chad Gulley (Chad's e-mail is c-gulley@tamu.edu) so that a meeting with Dr. Masabni may be scheduled.

AgriWorld 2016

The East Texas State Fair will be from September 23- October 2, 2016, but work of the AgriWorld project has already begun and you too can be a part of the group.

The SCMG's will sponsor the "Secret Garden" again this year. The theme for AgriWorld is fun, colorful, and whimsical. The "Secret Garden" will focus on future gardening. It will have a lot of color in our display. We need many volunteers with creative ideas and skills to match. The central focus of our display will be raised bed gardening and gardening in limited spaces using creative approaches to the future of gardening in increasing population centers. We are presenting on Saturday afternoon September 24 and on Monday through Thursday evenings. We have three MG's that have volunteered to present and need three more. The idea is to reach out to the community and answer questions on gardening. This is an opportunity to really put SCMG in the spotlight.

If you have questions please call Wayne Elliott at 903-363-9453 or 903-707-5411.

SUMMER'S HEAT, BUT ALSO SUMMER'S BOUNTY

By Sam Griffith



The old expression is: “spring has sprung,” but I say that summer has leapt upon us with a vengeance! I know that summer actually begins Monday, June 20, with the summer solstice, but with last week’s string of days with 100 degree heat index, I think summer has arrived a couple days early.

Several Master Gardener workdays were canceled last spring due to rain, but I now expect more delays because of the oppressive heat and humidity.

Last Wednesday, I went down to the cattle pens at 6 am to load seven head in the cattle trailer to take them to the North Tyler Veterinary Clinic for routine shots and such. I quickly load them into the trailer in less than 30 minutes, but I was already soaking wet from the heat and humidity. And, without air conditioning in my 1971 GMC truck, it was a toasty, sweaty morning. But the cows and calves, in their fur coats, enjoyed the car ride, looking out of the trailer, watching the scenery go by.

But the garden vegetables are coming in! I have been harvesting peaches and blueberries, tomatoes and strawberries, peppers and blackberries. Nothing compares to a fresh home-raised tomato, eaten in the garden, freshly picked, still slightly warm from the summer’s heat. Mmmm, good.

It is called “delayed gratification”: You do the preparation, you plant the seeds, you cultivate, and then, in due season, you reap the benefits of your efforts. The same rule applies to all walks of life, whether one’s profession, or one’s home life, or even in the garden. The fresh vegetables on the table and beautiful flowers in your vases and in your flower beds are your rewards for faithful diligence.

So take a moment to stop and smell the roses, or enjoy a garden fresh tomato or peach from your fruit tree, and reflect on the joys, and the rewards, of a well-spent spring. As the Apostle Paul wrote to the Galatians: “let us not grow weary in well doing: for in due season, we shall reap, if we faint not.” (Galatians 6:9)

Who is Benefited?

By Clayton Turner

Recently I was asked to take over a section in the IDEA Garden and convert it to a “succulent” garden. There were two primary reasons I accepted the challenge. First of all, over the last three years, I had developed a fascination and enjoyment of succulents. Selection, along with proper growing information for East Texas, was minimum to non-existent. With the rising demand for water rights and water price increases, it seemed a source worth exploring.

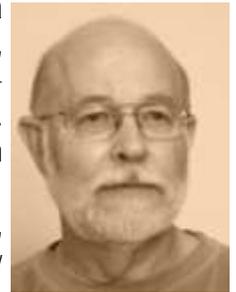
The second reason was I had a vision of what I wanted to present and how to present it, knowing I had the backing of three key people to support me. Without their support, my ideas would not have come to pass.

So, my special thanks go out to my wife, Pat, for encouragement and support in layout of the garden area as it constantly changed. Also to Charlie Colman & Victor Long for taking my display ideas and coming up with a way to construct, along with their expertise in building and installing them. Thanks also go out to the many others who work in the IDEA Garden for their help in making the succulent area a success. Come out and see for yourself something “different” and “unusual.”

Smith County Master Gardeners is not only a great organization for learning, but offers a great opportunity for each member to teach others about their “passion” area.

Whether you are an “old-timer” or a newly graduated intern, take it from me, “Don’t just be a doer to get required hours, but be one who teaches others and learns more about your own ‘passion’”. Tell our leaders of your interest requesting the opportunity to explore and teach others about your passion. I promise, YOU will be the one who is benefited the most.

Clayton Turner-Succulent Area Leader-IDEA Garden





The Executive Committee met on June 16th and considered the following:

A request from Cindy Harrington to add two fans to the IDEA Garden pergola was approved.

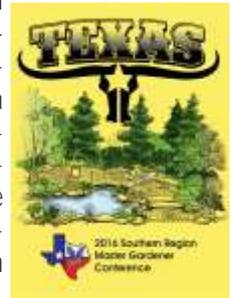
Dr. Joe Masabni proposed a new MG Project involving vegetable trials and greenhouse aquaponics. Dr. Masabni is Extension Small-Acreage Vegetable Specialist at Overton. He will need a few volunteers for his current tomato field trials and for future trials that will be planned. His request was approved (see page 2).

The progress of upcoming projects was discussed, including AgriWorld, the Calendar/Gardening Guide and Bulbs and More noting Smith County MG's will not be charged to attend the morning lecture.

Henry Burch presented a comprehensive review of the SCMG insurance coverage, for discussion but no action at this time.

November 1-4, 2016 The Cowboy Experience

Come to the 2016 Southern Region Master Gardener Conference in Arlington and Fort Worth, hosted by Tarrant County. Master Gardeners from thirteen southern states will come together to learn from gardening specialists, tour local sites and gardens, partake in The Cowboy Experience and be treated to some good old-fashioned Texan hospitality.



Go to <https://2016southernregionmg.com/> for more info.

2017 TMGA Conference Cruise

Come join us aboard the Carnival Liberty™ for four special days of education and fellowship, along with sun, fun and ocean waves!

April 27-May 1, 2017

Guaranteed availability, choice of state-rooms and special pricing are only available until July 1, 2016.

For more information visit the conference website at: <http://texasmgconference.com/>



For more events and more details - go to—<http://txmg.org/smith/coming-events/>



Field Day at Overton

Photos by Brenda Strong

