



Of Leaf & Limb

Hill Country Master Gardeners Association

"Promoting education on horticulture and the environment"

April 2008
Volume 6, Issue 4

HCMG Monthly Meeting, 1:00 p.m. April 2, 2008 at the Extension Office

**Susan Wittig
Albert**

author of the China Bayles Herbal Mysteries will speak on **"Garden Mysteries: A Hill Country Writer Talks about Writing and Gardening."**

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President's Message



Randy Simmons

THANKS AND MANY THANKS

As of April 1, I will have officially held the position of president for three months or one-fourth of a year. In the short time I have been in this position, I have renewed admiration for the two presidents I have known in my

experience as a Master Gardener—**Faye Drodz** and **Anne Brown**. I also realize that without the help and expertise of these two women and several other people, this job would be much more difficult. I want to recognize and thank just a few of these volunteers who have definitely made my role as president decidedly easier and rewarding in these early months:

Tommie Airhart—is an inspiration to all of us as she continues to fight her personal battle with an insidious illness but is continually recruiting people for jobs to fill needs on various projects.

Eleanor Baldwin—heads up the newsletter team consisting of **Betty West, Kathie Marlow, Roy Eliff, Marilyn Pease** and **Christine Millar** with **Carol Brinkman**, as our new Webmaster. In a combined effort, this group has expanded and improved "Of Leaf and Limb" in a short period of time to a level that is worthy of statewide recognition.

Anne Brown—is just an e-mail or phone call away and she always responds promptly to every question I have had, and I've had a lot. She has had an answer for 99.9% of them!

Bernadell Larson— in behalf of HCMG took the initiative to apply for a grant of

\$500 from Exxon-Mobil Corp. which is given to non-profit organizations via former employees who do 20 hours of volunteer work per year.

Diane McMahon and Nina Wagner— spearheaded the surprise for Jamie and were responsible for the cake that we all enjoyed at our last meeting.

Kathie Marlow—has undergone a baptism by fire as program chairman with a case of Murphy's Law in that everything that could go wrong, hasbut she's still smiling, thank goodness!

Debbie Russell—is a trooper who has resolved more than her share of challenges as the Education Committee Chairman in a year that did not even include an ice storm!

Betty West—in addition to her other responsibilities with the membership roster, has been the point of contact for the Bamberger Tour, which has required a lot more organization than any of us envisioned.

Our Extension office staff, **Roy Walston, Jamie McClintock, and Laurinda Boyd**— have been invaluable in their availability and help. I can't imagine a better group of people in any Extension office anywhere.

We have a great group of HCMG volunteers who have been very willing to accept almost every job that has been asked of them. I can think of one exception - when I was the chairman of the nominating committee looking for a presidential candidate. I still think there was a conspiracy in the works as the deadline came and I became the candidate by default. And at the March meeting, I didn't feel a lot of overwhelming support for my 'dream' MG field trip of sky diving. But those two exceptions aside, I cannot express my appreciation enough for the support I've had from everyone since I assumed this office.



Betty West

Calendar of Events: Attendance at events other than Master Gardener meetings is optional; events are listed for those wishing to attend other educational offerings. Be sure to call and confirm event.

Betty West

March 24 - Texas Master Naturalists meet at Riverside Nature Center (RNC), 150 Francisco Lemos St., Kerrville at 7 p.m. The speaker is Tim Schumann, a Private Land Biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Service Center in Austin, and will be speaking about “*Hill Country Wetlands and Riparian Area Habitat Enhancement/Restoration.*”

March 25 - Brown Baggin’ by the Banks (noon-1 p.m.) will present **John Coleman (HCMG member)** discussing “*Drought Tolerant Plants.*” Charlie Hastings, director of Kerrville Public Works, will provide water conservation information. Location is Kerrville Schreiner Park, 2385 Bandera Hwy, Kerrville. Bring a sack lunch and learn something new. Free.

March 25 – HCMG classroom training session. Dr. Chalmers will present “Turf Grass Care” at the Extension Office at 1 p.m.

March 25 - Native Plant Society of Texas – Fredericksburg Chapter meets at the Gillespie County Historical Society Bldg, 312 West San Antonio St., Fredericksburg, at 7 p.m. Rufus Stephens, Wildlife Biologist at Texas Parks & Wildlife, will talk about “*White Tail Deer and Their Impact on Native Flora.*”

April 1 - HCMG classroom training session. Dr. Doug Welsh will present “Environmental Horticulture” at 1 p.m. at the Extension Office.

April 1 - Native Plant Society of Texas - Kerrville Chapter will meet at Riverside Nature Center (RNC) at 2 p.m. Tony Gallucci will share his film “*Ode to a River*” about the uniqueness of the fauna and flora of the Texas Hill Country.

April 2 - HCMG monthly meeting at the Extension Office at 1 p.m. Susan Wittig Albert, author of the China Bayles mystery series, will be our guest speaker. Her topic “*Garden Mysteries: A Hill Country Writer Talks about Writing and Gardening.*” Book sale/signing will follow.

April 5 - Riverside Nature Center will host a “*Field Trip to Wild Boar Farm: Learn about Local, Organic Food*” from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$10 p/p or \$7.50 for RNC members (includes the ride to/from the farm on an AACOG van). Contact RNC to make reservations in advance.

April 8 - HCMG 2008 Class field trip to Medina Gardens. This is *not* open to the general membership due to class size.

April 9 – Fredericksburg Garden Club meets at 2 p.m. at the Central Texas Electric Co-Op Bldg, 386 Friendship Lane, Fredericksburg. Nyta Hensley will discuss “*Bats and the Old Tunnel Wildlife Management Area.*”

April 12 – Fredericksburg Garden Club and Middle School Horticulture class will have their Annual Plant Sale at Kinderhall in downtown Fredericksburg. Plants go on sale at 9 a.m. - noon (or when sold out.) They anticipate having tomatoes, peppers, herbs and perennials.

April 15 - HCMG 2008 Class field trip to Hunt School. Connie Townsend and Sandy Martin (HCMG members) will host. This is *not* open to the general membership due to class size.

April 19 - Riverside Nature Center, with the assistance of Native Plant Society of Texas - Kerrville Chapter and Texas Master Naturalists, will host “*Earth Day*” from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. They are also having a “mostly native plant sale.”

April 22 - HCMG classroom training session. Fay Drozd (HCMG member) will present “Plant Propagation” at 1 p.m. at the Extension Office.

April 24-26 - Texas State Master Gardener Conference to be hosted by the Montgomery County MG in Conroe, TX.

April 26 - HCMG will have a booth at Market Days on the grounds of the Kerr County Court House from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. This is our first Market Days plant sale of the season so get there early for the best selection!

April 29 - HCMG classroom training session. Dr. Skip Richter will present “Organics.” This is the final class for 2008 and those Students who have successfully completed the classroom training will graduate. **Details for the graduation party will be announced shortly.**

April 29 – Native Plant Society of Texas – Fredericksburg Chapter meets at 7:00 p.m., Gillespie County Historical Society Bldg, Fredericksburg.

May 7– HCMG monthly meeting will be our annual “plant swap” so any of you gardeners who are cleaning out your flowerbeds, dividing plants, getting rid of greenery you no longer want ... don’t throw them out. **Pot them up and bring to our first annual plant swap!**



Pam Bresler

PERENNIAL PLANT EXCHANGE

Are you being mugged by your mistflowers? Have your fall asters taken over your flower bed? Maybe your iris have staged an insurrection. Well, boys and girls, rather than shovel pruning them, how about sharing them with your

fellow Master Gardeners?

After our monthly HCMG meeting, May 7, we will have a Perennial Plant Exchange.

As you divide your overgrown perennials, start potting up your excess plants. Water them and give them appropriate light until our May meeting. Also, be sure to label your plants. You can use short lengths of old mini-blinds, or even plastic cutlery with a file folder label attached. If you want to be really fancy, you can print the info on the labels with your computer. If you have photos of your plant in all its glory, or you can cut out photos from a catalog, you will help generate interest in your plants.

We are primarily interested in perennials, but if you have excess tomato, pepper, basil, etc. seedlings, I'm sure they will be appreciated as well. A friendly reminder: make sure your plants are free of insects and diseases. It is always prudent to isolate new plants, whether from a friend or a nursery, until you are sure you aren't adding problems to your garden.

To make it more fun, we will draw numbers and you will choose your plants based on the number you draw. If we have enough plants, we will keep going through the numbers until all the plants are "adopted."

You have to admit that gardeners can be a wee bit competitive, or else why do we brag at having the first tomato in our neighborhood? Imagine how your head will swell if your fellow MGs are swooning with excitement over your plants! So do some digging now, so your plants are over their transplant shock, and be prepared to adopt some new beauties for your garden while sharing your favorites with your fellow MGs.



APRIL VEGGIES

(Planting by Moon Signs)

By Connie Townsend



Have you ever wondered why Easter Sunday wanders around the calendar? Why can't be a certain date as Christmas is? Many of you probably remember learning this back in your church-training days, but I had to ask my pastor. Easter is always the first Sunday after the first full moon following the Spring Solstice. Isn't that a mouthful!

Now, you may ask, what in the world does that have to do with veggie gardening? I remember while growing up in Iowa, that Mother said the potatoes HAD to be planted on Good Friday. It didn't matter if that occurred in March or April or if the wind was blowing out of the northwest at 40 mph; THAT WAS THE DAY! What led me to think about this are the moon signs for planting veggies. All root crops (such as potatoes) should be planted on the full moon or right after it. So, I began to wonder if Good Friday is always in a full moon stage. It is! I planted my potatoes this year in the full moon at the end of February; we'll see how they do. One year I was just terribly behind in planting and didn't get them planted until Good Friday which was in April. The plants were some of the most gorgeous I'd ever had, but the potatoes themselves were not. April is a little late for planting potatoes in Texas.

Does planting by moon sign really work or make any difference? Many people believe strongly in them, others are somewhat skeptical. My thought is: what can it hurt? People have been using them for thousands of years, so there must be some element of accuracy to them.

So what gets planted when? During a first quarter moon, plant plants that mature with the edible part growing above ground that form seeds on the outside of the plant. Examples are lettuce, broccoli, and cabbage. During the second quarter moon, plant plants that mature with the edible part growing above ground that form seeds on the inside of the plant, examples being tomatoes, beans, and peas. During the third quarter moon, plant plants with the edible part growing below ground. The fourth quarter moon is not good for planting.

We should be about frost-free by now (maybe), so get those veggies in the ground and growing. Remember to water REGULARLY and fertilize as needed.



**SPEAKER FOR MAY
7 HCMG MEETING,
DR. TOM HARRIS**

speaking on “*Pruning to
Protect Your Investment -
Your Plants Are Gonna
Love Ya*”



Tom Harris, PhD., the *Country Gardener*, is a Master Gardener certified by the State of Texas, a Master Pruner certified by the San Antonio Botanical Garden, and a founder and volunteer for the Gardening Volunteers of South Texas (GVST).

From the Master Gardener program Tom has received advanced training in plant diseases, insects, drip irrigation, hazardous waste, compost and soils, and has been actively involved in vegetable trials and plant propagation. He has been president of the Bexar County Master Gardeners, *Master Gardener of the Year*, and editor of the Bexar County Master Gardener newsletter.

Dr. Harris is also active as a speaker and teacher for the organization. He speaks to other groups and continuing education classes for the local school districts, writes a weekly newspaper gardening column and articles for magazines, newsletters, etc. He has contributed several articles to PLANTanswers.com.

The only certified Square Foot Gardening instructor in Texas, Dr. Harris is self-employed as Dr. Phixit doing basic home maintenance projects for area customers. He does lots of wood working and repair of wooden items, sharpening and tool maintenance.

His latest service is what he terms a “YARD AUDIT.” It amounts to Tom coming to your home and doing a walk-through with you in your yard to evaluate what’s there while answering any questions you may have.

Tom has also written a book entitled 52 Weeks of Gardening which is an interesting, comprehensive, easy-to-read guide to gardening all year long. It specifically applies to the Texas Hill Country and South Texas. He also has a Monthly To-Do List publication that tells you in broad terms what should be done each month in the garden. He will be selling these items at the meeting.

Website of the Month

<http://www.texasoakwilt.org>

Kudos to ...

Anne Moss, Joan Bryson and Elin Elisofon, our latest Interns to complete their volunteer hours and become “certified” Master Gardeners.

Bernadell Larson, for the matching \$500 cash grant from ExxonMobil to Hill Country Master Gardeners. Some corporations have Corporate Matching Gift Programs and retirees who do volunteer work may apply for the grants. Bernadell did and we’re the grateful recipient of her volunteer hours plus the matching cash grant.

Market Days Are Here Again

The key money raising project, Market Days, will be on the following weekends:

- April 26**
- May 24 & 25**
- June 28**
- July 26**
- Sept 22**

There will be three (3) shifts made up of two interns and at least one Master Gardener.

- 8:30 – 11:30**
- 11:30 – 2:00**
- 2:00 – 4:30**

The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Master Gardener workroom.

Not only is this a great opportunity to raise funds for other projects but also an excellent opportunity to get the Master Gardener name and program before the general public...and earn a few more volunteer hours.

Lee Fry, Chairman 367-7109



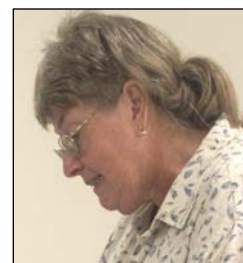
HCMG March 5, 2008
Monthly Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Randy Simmons at 1:07 pm. During the sign-in process, Sandy Martin distributed 2008 MG ID cards to those members present and handout information was available on the sign-in desk about Tracking Hours and Timekeeping and the Perennial Plant Exchange.

- Laurinda Boyd from the AgriLife Extension Office introduced Rene Walls, the new Family and Consumer Sciences Associate at the Extension Office. She was welcomed by the group.
- Speaker Mark Duff from the Texas Forest Service spoke about Fire Danger in this drought and the importance of establishing a Wildfire Defensible Zone around your home.
- Certificates were presented by the President to the newly Certified Master Gardeners: Anne Moss and Joan Bryson. Congratulations bestowed.
- A copy of the new MG logo was shown to the group. The President reported that arrangements are being made to have the new logo on this year's MG graduates name tags and may be available sometime in the future for currently certified MG's.
- The President announced that MG Bernadell Larson has applied and been awarded a \$500 Grant for the HCMG Chapter from her Exxon-Mobile Retirement association. Other members who have similar perks from their retirement associations are encouraged to apply for them.
- Discussion was held about the Membership Directory that has been published for the last few years. The group decided that it was not necessary to have both the directory and the frequently updated list of membership info that MG Betty West maintains. Member consensus was to use Betty's list. Copies are available from Betty either by email or at the office.
- Any member wishing to become Rainwater Harvesting certified may apply for upcoming classes.
- Anne Moss, Chairman of Archives, asked the group to share any pictures they have, especially from the 2007 class.
- Thanks went to MGs David and Dorothy Buchen for maintaining the demonstration garden and organizing the fall and spring clean-up.
- Anne Brown, Chairman of the Greenhouse committee, reported to the group that MG Ron Richerson has volunteered to assist with the drip system in the greenhouse and shade house. Estimated cost is \$1500.00. It was moved and seconded that the project be funded and installed. Motion carried with majority vote.
- Treasurer's Report – As of February 29, 2008 the chapter has \$11,605.00 in the checking account. The Treasurer, Patrick Moore, stated that a large expenditure was used to pay for texts for the current class.

The President and members made the following announcements:

- * Doug Welch's book will be sold at Market Days for \$27.00.
- * HEB – Junior Master Gardener Giveaway does not include Kerrville or Fredericksburg.
- * One more volunteer is needed to help with a school demonstration. Please contact MG Fay Drozd if interested.
- * Fredericksburg Native Plant Society will hold a presentation on Sept 20, 2008. Keep date available.
- * A project involving the Dietert Senior Center is being considered.
- * John Coleman presented a plant called a Mexican Silkassel Tree as a potential small tree for our Hill Country.



Secretary
Cheri
Bolden

Continues on Page 6, Second column



In Case of a Wildfire

(MG Tom Collins keeps this pasted on his refrigerator)

If advised to evacuate, do so immediately! You may have only minutes to act. Protect yourself and your family members.

Wear protective clothing. Sturdy shoes, cotton or woolen long pants, a long-sleeved shirt and gloves to protect your skin from hot embers. Take a dry handkerchief to protect your face. Smoke can make it difficult to breathe, damaging breathing passages or triggering respiratory distress.



Take your disaster supplies kit. Having items such as prescription medications, copies of identification and important paperwork, nonperishable food, bottled water and a supply of cash already assembled will make you more comfortable and confident while you are away from home.

Take your pets with you. Don't leave pets behind.

Lock your home. Others may evacuate after you or return before you. Secure your house as you normally would.

Tell someone outside of the wildfire area where you are going. Relatives and friends will be concerned about your safety. Letting someone know your travel plans will help relieve their anxiety.

Follow the route and directions provided by officials in charge of the evacuation. It's important that you do not detour from the route provided by officials - it is the safest route!

Evacuee Information Hotline - 1-800-RED-CROSS
Source: Hill Country Chapter American Red Cross

New on our website this month:

<http://www.hillcountrymastergardeners.org>

- * Member photo used as header on all pages
- * Calendar of events updated
- * From home page, click on "Who We Are" at the bottom; it takes you to brief overview of officers and committees
- * **We need pictures of the 2007 "Demonstration Garden" for our web**

Minutes continued from Page 5:

-Pam Bresler reported that the Plant Exchange will probably be held at the May meeting. Although it is a late start for plant division, the group felt it was a good idea to start while enthusiasm was high. Watch for details on email and in the newsletter.

-Judy Simmons reported that Telephone Duty for the interns will begin the day after graduation. Mentors who are desiring a refresher before instructing are asked to attend a class at noon on April 2nd, just prior to next month's general meeting. MG Diane Whitney will present the refresher.

- MG Lee Fry discussed plans for Market Days with the group. Planned dates are Apr 26th, May 24th & 25th, June 28th, July 25th, and Sept 22nd. Volunteer sign up sheet is in the office. Will need at least 1 certified MG and 2 Interns each shift. The shifts will run from 8:00 am to 11:30 am, 11:30 am to 2:00 pm and 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm. Contact Lee if you have questions.

- At 2:30 pm the meeting was adjourned into a surprise party for Jamie, the office manager, who is expecting delivery of her first child in April. She was presented with a gift of appreciation for all she does for the MG's.

Respectfully submitted, Cheri Bolden

At the March meeting, **Anne Moss** noted that **John Coleman** was promoting the merits of the **Mexican Silk Tassel** as an evergreen, deer-resistant native shrub. Anne has found (*garrya lindheimerii*) listed on the *Natives of Texas* online catalog - nativsoftexas.com. The shrub is further described on the Aggie Horticulture website:



<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/ornamentals/nativeshrubs/garryaovata.htm>



April Kitchen Garden

Compiled by Christine Millar

Our estimated last frost date is around the first week in April. Care still must be taken as temperatures can still drop into the danger zone and damage young plants. Sudden storms and temperature shifts can produce hail and high winds well

into May. Surround your plants with cages of row covers that will ward off hail damage and provide at least some buffer from the temperature yo-yo. Clothes pins are often suggested to keep the row cover on but high winds prove too strong and often rip these covers off. For a stronger more durable clip buy the heavier metal/plastic clips that you attach to your fridge to clip notes to. They can be found at local retailers. If you are installing wire cages around your tomato transplants remember to stabilize them using rebar rods. I have to remind myself in April that my puny tomato transplants will be engulfing the whole garden in October.

Indeterminate tomatoes are some of the hardiest for our area. It is always a problem to provide enough support for these vines that is not too tall to harvest from. My best harvests came from tomatoes tied to rebar rods to grow upwards to about 3-4 feet and then allowed to sprawl horizontally along the top of a 4' wide rigid wire panel. This forms an arbor of sorts so that could be harvested from both above and below. The vines are also protected from desiccating summer winds. The vines will grow towards the longest sun exposure so make sure that your grow panels are on the south side of the plant. Shade loving crops such as lettuce could grow underneath the panel. This year I am going to house my bantams underneath the support panel holding up the tomato. The chickens will appreciate the extra shade, fertilize the soil and eat fallen fruit and insects.

I tried to grow tomatoes vertically without a lot of success last year (it was a bad spring for tomatoes anyway). Too much sun and too little

leaf cover seemed to be the problem once the warm weather hit. The vines grew too high to harvest or control the indestructible leaf-footed bugs that suck the juices out of just-ripening tomatoes.

Try not to fertilize during extended overcast cold conditions. If the soil is cold the plant roots cannot take up nitrogen effectively and will have a bluish look about them. Wait till the sun is shining and the weather has warmed the soil before you apply fertilizers.

I grow herbs such as parsley, mint and basil in clusters of large colorful Mexican pots near my kitchen door that opens out onto a courtyard that faces south-west. I have learned that armadillos love to dig for grubs and insects that gravitate to the moist earth surrounding any regularly watered plant. If the herb is planted in the ground the armadillo will nightly excavate that poor transplant that you replant every morning. You can either

place large flat limestone rocks around the plant to deter these animals from digging or you can use glazed or fiberglass pots. Unglazed clay pots are not desirable for this climate as they wick the moisture away from the soil in the container. Elevated pots

allow these beneficial creatures to dig around the area without disturbing the roots and make it easier to harvest the herbs. The pots are placed on the shady side of a taller shrub to help keep the soil in the pot cooler. Fennel provides an attractive ferny shelter that once established, is sturdy enough to take armadillo excavations in stride, self seeds vigorously and provides a welcome touch of green during winter. I have also used agastache as a shelter plant, however, it does attract a lot of bees.

Water the pots often in the hot weather. I collect water when I shower in a bucket and use it to water the containers. Remember that your water conditioner puts a lot of salt into the water to soften it. Too much salt buildup will kill your plants. To reduce the salt buildup occasionally leach the salts from the containers by copiously watering with rain water that you collect and store in covered containers.

Unglazed clay pots are not desirable for this climate as they wick the moisture away from the soil in the container.



SPEAKERS BUREAU PLANS

The Speakers Bureau Committee is seeking your input. We encourage members to develop programs in their area of interest for local groups. You can work alone or with other members in preparing your program. The length of the talk is up to you, but 30 minutes to one hour might be appropriate. A question-and-answer time usually follows a presentation.

The following are suggestions only. Let your imagination run free with topics that interest you. Please check any below that you might develop into a presentation and return the form after the meeting. We believe that spreading knowledge is the mandate of the Master Gardener program and we hope you will contribute to that effort. Thanks for your help.



Sandy Martin

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annuals | <input type="checkbox"/> Perennials | <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable Gardening |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Composting | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Plants | <input type="checkbox"/> Ornamental Grasses |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Herb Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Fragrance Gardens | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildflower Gardens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organic Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Roses | <input type="checkbox"/> Master Gardener Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Xeriscaping | <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Décor | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Habitats |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly Gardens | <input type="checkbox"/> Gourds | <input type="checkbox"/> Hummingbird Gardens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening with Kids | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Gardens | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Gardens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insect ID | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn Care | <input type="checkbox"/> Dried Floral Crafts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Crafts | <input type="checkbox"/> Texas Trees | <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Pest Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Woody Shrubs | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening Calendar | <input type="checkbox"/> Color in the Landscape |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Design | <input type="checkbox"/> Bulbs | <input type="checkbox"/> Lasagna Gardening |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. MG Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Rainwater Collection | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening 101 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oak Wilt | <input type="checkbox"/> Pruning | <input type="checkbox"/> Favorite Garden tools |

Other Topics:

Name _____ Contact Information _____

Questions? Contact Sandy Martin 830 238-4181 ca_sandy@yahoo.com





And yet more talented people completes the introduction of our class of 2008

Hill Country Master Gardener Association
2008 Executive Committee

Randy Simmons - President
Roy Eliff - Vice President
Cheri Bolden - Secretary
Pat Moore - Treasurer
Anne Brown - Ex-officio Advisor
Roy Walston - C.E.A. Advisor

Committees
Archivist:
Anne Moss

Demonstration Garden:
Dorothy & David Buchen, Chairs

Education:
Debbie Russell, Chair

Greenhouse:
Anne Brown, Chair

Horticultural Inquiry:
Diane Whitney

Jr. Master Gardener Program:
Fay Drozd, Chair

Market Days:
Lee Fry & Roy Eliff, Co-Chairs

Mentors:
Judy Simmons

Nominating:
Maryallen Meriwether, Chair

Programs:
Kathie Marlow

Public Relations:
Carol Seminara

Record Keeping & Volunteer Hours:
Ida Luckey

Speaker's Bureau:
Sandy Martin

Volunteer Coordination
Tommie Airhart

Newsletter & Website
Editor – Eleanor Baldwin
Assistant Editors - Betty West & Kathie Marlow

Columnist - Christine Millar
Photographers - Roy Eliff & Marilyn Pease

Webmaster - Carol Brinkman
Web Assistant - Anne Moss

Submissions to

baldwin@ktc.com

Sherrill Durham of Fredericksburg is the owner of The Back Porch, featuring gifts and antiques. Her husband Oscar is a real estate broker and they have two children. Prior to becoming a shop owner Sherrill had been in education, the last five years as an administrator at the Fredericksburg Elementary School.



Merle Strickland has had an interesting life. She was the first female mayor of Florence, Colorado. She has taken care of her elderly family members and managed to raise a three pound tomato. She has finally decided to move back to Texas for some balance in her life.



Diane Naylor grew up on a large cattle ranch she is also a Registered Nurse in the State of Texas. In 2003 she received her Masters in Cultural Anthropology from the University of North Texas. Diane taught in Swaziland in Southern Africa in 1989. She has three children and nine grandchildren. One son lives here in Kerrville.



Kathy Lewis, also of Fredericksburg is a sheep rancher with her husband. They are involved in training sheep dogs and have three trained Border Collies. Kathy has lived in Egypt and taught at the American school there. She is recently retired and enjoys cooking, reading, and needlework



Paula Rector-Scott was the Kerr County Tax Assessor/Collector for 28 years. She is married and has one daughter and one beautiful four-year-old granddaughter. She is a native of Kerr County. Gardening has been a passion since she was 12. Paula loves all types of sports and has been a fitness instructor for 15 years. She loves to hunt and ride horses as well.



Rachel Meriwether of Kerrville is one of our youngest students. She has graduated from University of Louisiana with a degree in Research Biology with a focus on Botany. She has a certificate in Marine Survival and has worked for an oil company in Louisiana. She has done research on sea anemones in the Caribbean. This fall she is going to grad school to study ethno botany, possibly studying in England.



Robert Simpson lives in Kerrville. He has three grown children. Robert was in the Navy during WWII and then became a water department inspector for 35 years. He said he has gardened all over the western part of the United States, including Texas.



WELCOME

Class of 2008

to



HILL COUNTRY MASTER GARDENERS