

October, 2019

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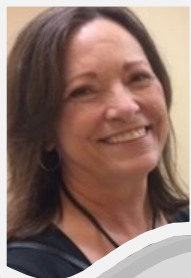
HCMG will meet on
October 2, 2019
at
1:00 - Business Meeting
2:00 - CEU Program

"Roses: Cultivating, Learning and Loving."

Brian Strickland,
HCMG, American Rose
Society member and
certified rosarian



Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity".



Rachel Garrison

President's Message

***"And all at once, summer collapsed into fall." --
Oscar Wilde***

October. Can you believe we've turned so many pages of the 2019 calendar? As Texas gardeners, we can now enjoy cooler temperatures and less rigorous demands from our gardens. Did I mention rain? Maybe we'll get some along with the cooler temperatures. Perhaps it's time to sit back and take pleasure in your landscape.

After living 15 of my adult years in Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Mid-western states, I've grown to really love the fall. With crisp temperatures and an array of fall color, it was almost a pleasure to rake up the mountains of leaves dropped by the beautiful maple, oak, and birch trees. Even though the display didn't fully develop until mid to late October, I would begin to anticipate the colorful display toward the end of September. Oh, the memories!

While we don't enjoy the spectacular displays of fall color that the more northern states enjoy, we can take a drive to Lost Maples and get a hint of fall glory. Or, perhaps visit one of our newest projects and find out what is growing in The Coming King Prayer and Sculpture Garden. Chris Seifert heads our involvement in the project. Read on for her description of the garden, and, who knows, you might be inspired to get involved with this project, too. Orange you glad it's fall? Master Gardeners' new project:
The Coming King Prayer and Sculpture Garden.

The Coming King Prayer and Sculpture Garden on Bensen Drive faces Interstate 10 and is Kerrville's top year-around visitor attraction, according to Trip Advisor. The free private garden of 24.5 acres exhibits twelve impressive sculptures by three artists whose work is collected internationally. Recently eight Master Gardeners, both experienced
Continued on page 7



HCMG 2019 Continuing Education Opportunities prepared by Racann Reid

Attendance at events other than Master Gardener meetings is optional. This list is for those wishing to attend other educational offerings; not all events are eligible to fulfill continuing education credits toward annual recertification.

Be sure to call and confirm event.

October 1, 6:30 p.m. social, followed by the meeting at 7:00 p.m., NPSOT Boerne. O. W. "Bill" Van Auken, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Biology at UTSA, will present "Big Tooth Maples in Central Texas." Cibolo Nature Center Auditorium. Visitors welcome.

October 2, 1:00 p.m. business meeting, 2:00 p.m., CE program, Hill Country Master Gardeners. Brian Strickland, HCMG, American Rose Society member and certified rosarian will present "Roses: Cultivating, Learning and Loving." Hill Country Youth Event Center. HCMGs, interns.

October 8, 1:00 p.m. social, followed by the meeting at 1:30 p.m., NPSOT Kerrville. NPSOT Kerrville member Arlon Motsch will give a presentation about the transformation of his yard and garden to native and low maintenance plants. Riverside Nature Center. Visitors welcome.

October 9, 8:45a.m.-12:00 p.m., Texas A&M. Turfgrass Field Day. Hear about current research activities in the Texas A&M turfgrass program. Early registration deadline **September 27**. \$55, includes lunch. <https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/turf>. Scotts-MiracleGro Lawn and Garden Research Facility.

More information on page 10.

October 9, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Hill Country Master Naturalists. John Hucksteadt, HCMN and NPSOT member, will present a program on forbs identification. Riverside Nature Center. HCMGs welcome.

October 9, 2:00 p.m., Rose Garden Club of Medina. Tarlton Holloway, Bandera County AgriLife agent, will present "The Importance of Fertilizing." Medina Community Center. Visitors welcome.

October 10, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Harper Public Library. Beth McMahon, Gillespie County AgriLife Horticulture Agent, will present a program on bulbs for the Hill Country, including which are good to plant, which require prechilling, local heirloom bulbs and more. Free. For more information, contact Beth at 832.997.3452.

October 12, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Hill Country Master Gardeners. Dr. David Apple, Texas A&M Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology, and Sheila McBride, Program Specialist, Texas Plant Disease Diagnostic Laboratory will

present information on tree benefits, tree biology and tree stress factors, including an offsite oak wilt injection treatment demonstration. Registration fee, \$35, includes snacks and box lunch. Registration deadline October 4. Hill Country Youth Event Center.

October 15, 10:00 a.m., Hunt Garden Club. Mary Frushou, a leader in the Native Plant Society of Texas Pollinator Garden Program, will present. "A Butterfly's Dream/World Gardening or Texas Style Gardening?" Hunt United Methodist Church. Visitors Welcome.

October 16, October 22, 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., Riverside Nature Center Association. As part of the RNC NED talks series, Kevin Hartley, Sierra Club Outings Leader and Wilderness First Responder, will present "Another World: Visiting Big Bend and Guadalupe Mountains parks in West Texas. Riverside Nature Center. Suggested donation: \$5.

October 16, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Fredericksburg ISD Community Ed. HCMN and NPSOT FBG member Chris Anderson will present "Deer Me! Native Plant Landscaping Despite the Deer." \$20. Register at 830-997-7182 or send email to rachelm@fisd.org. FBG Middle School Library.

October 22, 6:30 p.m. social, followed by the meeting at 7:00 p.m., NPSOT Fredericksburg. David Wunningham, Ph.D., owner of Natives of Texas Nursery, which specializes in Madrones, will present "Madrone Lore and More," including how to plant a Madrone tree. Memorial Presbyterian Church. Visitors welcome.

Addresses for Events Listed Above

Cibolo Nature Center Auditorium, 140 City Park Rd, Boerne
Fredericksburg Middle School, 110 W Travis St, FBG
Harper Public Library, 23247 US Highway 290, Harper
Hill Country Youth Event Center, 3785 Hwy 27, KRVL
Hunt United Methodist Church, 120 Merritt Road, Hunt
Medina Community Center, 13857 State Hwy 16N, Medina
Memorial Presbyterian Church, 601 North Milam St, FBG
Riverside Nature Center, 150 Francisco Lemos St, KRVL
Scotts-MiracleGro Lawn and Garden Research Facility, 3100
F&B Road, College Station



Hill Country Veggies

By Allen Mace

This has been an interesting month. First, the last week of August, I was able to check an item off my "Bucket List". My wife and I took a much needed vacation to Alaska. I've been wanting to get there since high school and I finally made it. Hopefully this is just the first of other trips to come to the 49th state.

Second, I would like to thank the Hill Country Master Gardeners for the opportunity to speak at the September meeting. I always enjoy talking about growing vegetables with others who share the same interest.

Thank You.

Alaska was very interesting. I had the opportunity to visit several vegetable gardens. The soil there is dark rich. It was fun to dig with your hands without clawing through rocks and caliche. It's amazing what rain and a cooler climate, along with 20 plus hours of sunlight, can produce. I guess I'm not in Kansas anymore. The bulk of produce that I saw in their outside gardens were the vegetables that tend to do well in our fall and winter gardens. What I saw was mostly greens and more greens, leafy vegetables. Most folks had small green houses and in these they grew tomatoes, squash and cucumbers, things that we grow during the spring and summer. During the summer months in Alaska, it's not uncommon to drop below freezing at night now and then. We even drove by one place that had what is known as a "High Tunnel". It was huge, I would have loved to have stopped and look inside.

People move to the interior of Alaska to drop off the grid and be left alone. Dropping in on folks unannounced, in the middle of nowhere is definitely frowned upon in Alaska.



Greens and Green



Cabbage



Brussel Sprouts



Kale

Butt-Holdsworth Library Program “Gardening 101” by Kim Courtright

I thought the MG members might be interested in knowing how the program was received by the public. The classes were held the second Saturday of each month starting in February, 2019. The class was scheduled to last for an hour. Some days we were right on the hour and sometimes we went a little long. That didn't seem to be an issue with either the attendees or the library. I tried to be one month ahead of the “gardening calendar” for our area. Each class was a brief introduction to what would be needed to prepare for the upcoming gardening activities. I had available multiple handouts and always posted the Texas Master Gardener website and a list of the topics that were available there that related to what we were doing.

I used what I like to call “old school power point” – display boards with the information attached. Would power point have been better? Maybe for a few things, but by not using it I had their attention and could judge when someone had a question that I hadn't answered to their satisfaction. I allowed them to ask questions as we went along and that seemed to work well.

Our highest attendance was 36 people and we averaged about 27 each month except the last month when there were only 15 – was that the topic (Trees and Vining plants) or that it was July? I don't know. Maybe stopping in June and tacking the last program onto the June program might have been a better idea.

I started making a dish utilizing the fruits or veggies or herbs that were available at the time to encourage them to grow more of these things. I also talked about the importance of pollinators at each class and talked about planting some things (like okra) just because they are pretty.

I asked them to complete a survey at the last class..... only 4 people turned one in. So maybe next time I will distribute surveys every other class. Feedback was positive and I have a list of topics they would like a more in-depth class on. We do have Master Gardeners in the Speakers Bureau for many of the topics , and I will be contacting you as soon as I talk to Rachel at the library to find out when she would like these classes held. If there are any of you that would be interested in giving a one hour talk on any of the topics please contact me at kimcourtright@ctesc.net and let me know.

I believe the gardening series was not only well received but that these types of classes are desperately needed. Not everyone has the time to devote to becoming a Master Gardener but they do want to garden. Offering these classes is a good way to encourage people to garden, save water, help the environment, save the pollinators and we all know that playing in the dirt is good for you.

If anyone would like to talk to their local library about holding these classes I am more than willing to share my “curriculum” with you. Many of you have far more experience with Texas gardening and probably have suggestions to make the

curriculum work better and I am always willing to accept suggestions. So if you want to try and give it a go feel free to contact me kimcourtright@ctesc.net



**See page 10 for
HCMG Library classes
schedule**



What is the magic of
old gardens?

Can it be in part that those
who designed them had
another objective in mind
besides that of pleasing the
eye, which tends to be our
only criterion?

Perhaps plants had more
personality, more dignity,
more mystery when they
were held in respect, even in
awe, because of the
wonderful powers they were
supposed to possess.

Bridget Boland
British Screenwriter



1. Culross, Scotland—a town that still looks like it would have in the 17th century (if you didn't have the cars). Pictured is the medicinal herb garden behind the Culross Palace. This palace has been used in many scenes from the Outlander TV Series. My cousin, my sister and I (with our husbands) went to locations in the Scottish Highlands where Dianna Gabaldon's novels were set and filmed.

2. Roses and medicinal herbs along the upper path.

3. A secret walled garden, Dunbar's Close Garden, off the Royal Mile, the road leading to Edinburgh Castle.

Photo Credit: Pat Wolters



Certificates awarded to Interns from the Class of 2019



Three Interns completed the required hours to become certified as a Texas Master Gardener. President Rachel Garrison awards certificates to Jeanne Hoverson (left) and Ray Tiemann (right) at the September Hill Country Master Gardener monthly meeting. Not pictured: Shannon Barker.

Photo Credit: Mark Shultz



Lost Maples State Natural Area with leaves starting to change color. Many factors determine the color of fall leaves. Due to the rains in September and October of 2018, it was not a good year for fall color at Lost Maples.

Let's hope that 2019 will be a stellar year for fall color!



Glory Community
Garden

There are several events for the Community –

Saturday October 26 is the date for our annual Fall Festival from 10am – 2pm. This is a come-and-go event featuring food, music, and games for all.

And should we mention Christmas? Of course! Right after the Thanksgiving holiday, everyone is invited to help decorate the Garden on Saturday December 7 at 10am. Stop by to help turn the Garden into a bright lighted display to celebrate the season.

We look forward to visiting with you in the Garden soon!

If you have questions or comments, feel free to contact Rev. Allen Noah at profit199@gmail.com or 210-884-3005.

Submitted by Pam Umstead

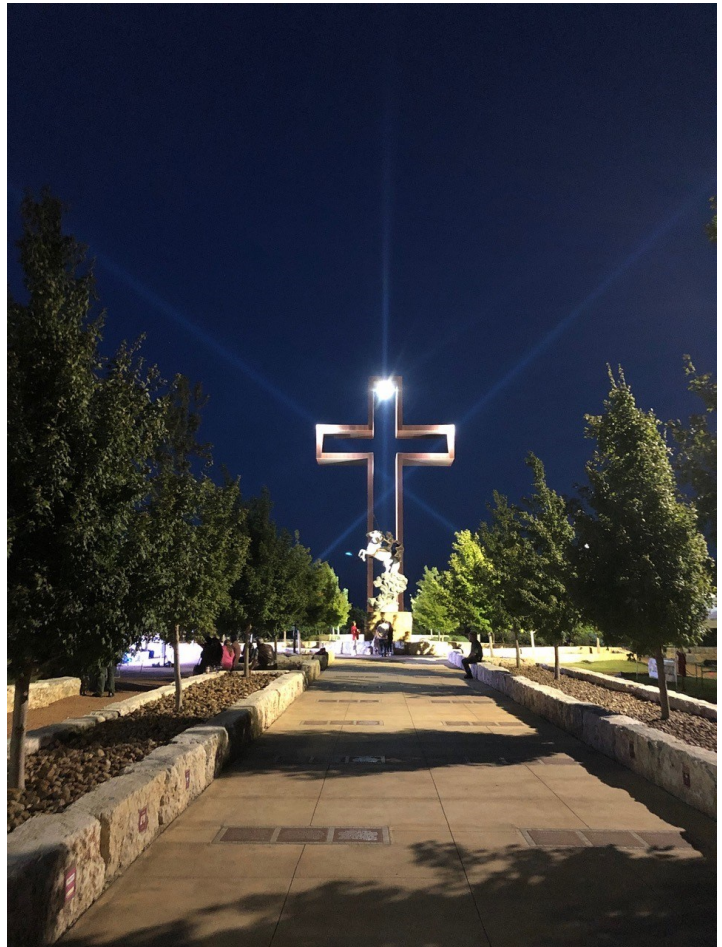
President's message continued from page 1

and those “in Progress”, have taken on a highly visible portion of that garden to improve multi-seasonal color, attract butterflies and hummingbirds, and to support the Biblical theme.

Chris Seifert oversees the entire garden's landscaping care and improvements. Terri DeBusk's research/work team has recommended appropriate selections for fall planting. Currently unwanted Bermuda grass is being removed to make way for fire bushes, corn poppies, fennel and dill, Maximillian sunflowers, Artemisia, daffodils, and a hardy fig tree to be planted. The plants and seeds will be donated by Billy Long Enterprises (think Garden at the Ridge). By spring, another phase of seasonal color is expected to be planted.

Melayne Arnold and others from the team will develop a printed self-guided tour to be made available to the 110,000 annual visitors. Perhaps by November a prototype will be ready for approval by The Coming King Foundation leadership.

Jim Wilson, Dennis Davidson and Tina Long are earning hours already by helping with the care of existing landscaping – what a welcome gift to The Coming King!



My daughter, Amanda, leads the school garden program at her children's Elementary School in Golden, Colorado. These pictures are from their first produce sale of the year.

Pat Wolters



World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms (WWOOF)



WWOOF is a worldwide movement linking volunteers with organic farmers and growers to promote cultural and educational experiences based on trust and non-monetary exchange, thereby helping to build a sustainable, global community.

As a volunteer (or WWOOFer as we call them) you will live alongside your host helping with daily tasks, experiencing life as a farmer.

As a host farm you will open your home to receive visitors from your own country or abroad who want to connect with the land and support the organic movement.



1

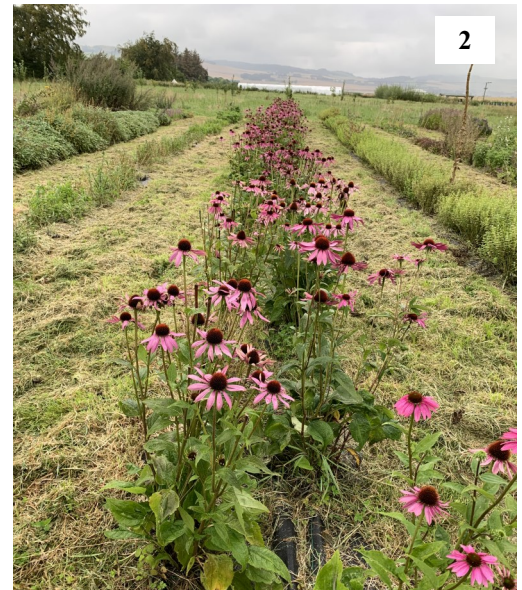
1. Rows of leaf fennel (doesn't make a bulb).

2. Purple Cone Flowers (*Echinacea purpurea*) used as a painkiller.

3. WWOOF host, Rosie, who spent 4 years at university to be a herbalist.

4. No till rows at the organic farm ready to plant.

Photo Credit: Pat Wolters



2



3



4

HCMG Monthly Business Meeting September 3, 2019

Call to Order (Please silence your cell phone.)
Rachel Garrison called the meeting to order.
Pledge of Allegiance-Sue Hall led the pledge.
Invocation-Allen Noah gave the invocation.
Verification of Quorum – Patti Schlessiger
verified a quorum was present. August 7, 2019
Minutes-Approved as presented

Executive Committees Reports

Treasurer's Report – Bernadell Larson was not present, but the report was approved as read

Standing Committee Reports

- ♦ Education Committee-Donna Bellis briefly discussed the focus group
- ♦ Public Programs-Ray Tiemann announced the upcoming Tree Workshop on October 12th in the large classroom at the HCYEC, registration cost is \$35.00. A show of hands indicated 21 members were interested.
- ♦ Publicity-Dee Dunton explained the position and asked for a volunteer to take over Publicity. She will mentor for a brief time.



Dee

Unfinished Business

New Business

Demo garden sprinkler repair-Jackie Skinner discussed the issues with the irrigation system. Several members have been hand watering the Demo Garden. She received bids to replace the section along the

fence. Brian Strickland moved to spend up to \$2,000 on replacing the section. Debra Foley seconded. Question was asked about how the other areas are working, to which Jackie said fine. Bee Evans asked about timing. Jackie said the best time is when the plants go dormant. Motion carried.



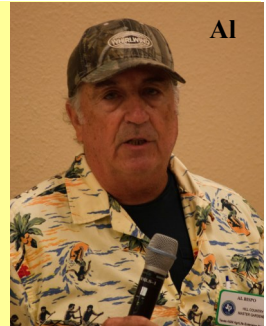
Jackie

Announcements

- ♦ Nominating Committee-Rachel asked for three members to volunteer for this committee. Terri

DeBusk, Karen Fuller and Lydia Jones volunteered.

- ♦ Gillespie County Fair-August 23-25. Al Bispo reported 820 contacts were made, 70 1/2 hours were worked by 11 members, 36 Landscape books were sold. The early shift will be eliminated due to lower traffic. He will chair again next year.
- ♦ UGRA-Landscaping to Keep the River Healthy, September 12th-Pam Umstead asked for 2 volunteers to register attendees. Shannon Barker and Anne Brown volunteered.
- ♦ Music in the Park-Pam Umstead announced this event, said to bring your lawn chairs. It will be at Glory Community Garden September 22 from 5-7 p.m.
- ♦ Karen Buck invited everyone to the Cross Mountain on North Lytle in Fredericksburg on Sept 11th, at 10:30 a.m. for the ribbon cutting and dedication of a bench to honor Kathy Lewis for all her volunteer time to make the garden beautiful.



Al



Pam



Karen

Certification Presentation-Shannon Barker, Jeanne Hoverson and Ray Tiemann received their certificates.

Adjournment

Next meeting-October 2, 2019 HCYEC
September CEU-Allen Mace, Vegetables
October CEU-Brian Strickland, Roses

Respectfully submitted:
Patti Schlessiger, Secretary

*Photo Credit:
Mark Shultz*

Hill Country Master Gardeners 201p

Executive Committee

Rachel Garrison
President

Debra Bacon
Vice President

Patti Schlessiger
Secretary

Bernadell Larson
Treasurer

Jackie Skinner
Ex-officio Advisor

Roy Walston
C.E.A. Advisor

Committees & Project Coordinators are listed on our website

Newsletter & Website

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Library 101 continued from page 4

After meeting with the Butt-Holdsworth Library it was determined that the classes will continue to be held on the second Saturday of the month from 10:30—11:30 a.m. The next HCMG Library classes will be as follows:

Date	Topic	Presenter
Oct 12, 2019	Alliums	Connie Townsend
Nov 9, 2019	Rain Water Harvesting	Anne Brown
December	No class	
Jan 11, 2020	Know your Colors of Fruits/Veg	Connie Townsend
Feb 8, 2020	Hill Country Vegetable Garden	
Mar 14, 2020	Home Grown Tomatoes	
Apr 11, 2020	Vermicomposting	Patty Zohlen
May 9, 2020	Hill Country Butterflies & Host Plants	Tom Collins
Jun/Jul/Aug	No Class	
Sept 12, 2020	Best Time to Plant Wildflowers	Imelda Horne
Oct 10, 2020	Plant Propagation	
Nov 14, 2020	Oak Wilt	Anne Brown

We need volunteers to be the speakers for the February, March and October sessions. Connie Townsend has expressed interest in having a co-speaker or someone she could mentor so that they could be available to lead their own sessions. Contact me at kimcourtright@ctesc.net if you are interested in speaking at any of these sessions. Thank You, Kim

2019 Texas A& M Turfgrass Field Day topics include:

- ♦ Turfgrass selection and management
- ♦ Irrigation management and drought recovery
- ♦ Turfgrass and ornamental pest management
- ♦ Golf course fairway and sports field construction
- ♦ New technologies and educational demonstration
- ♦ Turfgrass weed/disease control research
- ♦ Turfgrass fertility research

Registration from 7:45-8:30. Concurrent programs and field tours will run from 8:45 to noon, followed by lunch. Pre-registration is required for lunch. The fee is \$55.00 if registered by Sept 27 and \$65.00 thereafter. Located at Scotts-MiracleGro Lawn and Garden Research Facility, 3100 F&B Road, College Station. See program detail and parking instructions at <https://agrillifeextension.tamu.edu/blog/2019/08/20/texas-am-turfgrass-field-day-set-oct-9-in-college-station/>