



Master Gardener Gazette

Nueces County, Tx



The mission of the association shall be to organize and promote volunteer efforts that support AgriLife Extension programs advancing sound horticultural practices in Nueces County (<http://NUECES.AGRILIFE.ORG>)

WE ARE # 1

Texas State Excellence Award for Medium-Sized Master Gardener Associations

Submitted by Nueces Master Gardeners Rosemary Plank and Beverly Leach



At the June meeting the membership of the Nueces Master Gardener, Inc. (NMG) was notified that their association had won the first place Excellence Award for the 2015 Outstanding Project in medium sized Master Gardener Associations.

The title of our project is *Scientific Research and Design: Corpus Christi Independent School District: W. B. Ray High School Classroom, Greenhouse and Garden Project (Title 1 School)*.

The project application, as required per state criteria, was written and submitted by Nueces Master Gardeners Beverly Leach, Rosemary Plank and Deb Holliday.

A brief history leading up to this award began back in 2012 when Nueces Master Gardeners Carlos Valdez and Cheryl Lewis volunteered to become associated with W. B. Ray High School greenhouse project. This small team quickly grew to currently include more than seven Nueces Master Gardeners who work weekly, when school is in session, with students in the gardens and greenhouse.



Additional Nueces Master Gardeners participate bi-weekly in the lecture series presenting horticultural content to botany classes taught by teacher Victoria Reyes.

Continuing through 2016-2017 Beverly Leach and Carlos Valdez will be working together to coordinate the greenhouse activities and lecture series.

Nueces Master Gardeners volunteers are welcome to join the Ray Greenhouse Team. Contact Beverly or Carlos to volunteer.

Issue 6 – June 2016

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- Extension Office
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Leadership Contacts

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**Agents
Notes**

**TEXAS A&M
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EXTENSION**

Kevin O. Gibbs, CEA - Horticulture
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service Nueces County




**Texas
Master GardenerSM
Presidents Corner**

Debra Martin—President 2016

Aren't you Special!

June 15, 16th and 17th, I participated in a Master Gardener specialist training at the district office on highway 44. The training focused on melding the different components of the Learn Grow Eat Go curriculum with the new Growing and Nourishing Healthy Community Gardens program. The three day program brought in extension personnel from across the state to help with the training. Jayla Fry the State Coordinator was on hand to facilitate the training.

One of our Master Gardener's, Deb Holiday attended the training and now has been tasked with training others in the Growing and Nourishing Healthy Community Gardens curriculum. Many of you have already been assisting with the instruction of the curriculum as we implemented it in our community gardens that began in the late spring.

Kudos to Deb Holiday for seeking specialist training, and here's to many more successful specialist trainings to come.

Hey, by the way, we're all special in our own little way. Forrest Gump would probably say, "Special is as special does".

Thanks for making life fun and for working to make our group and its' endeavors a great success!

Continued - Debra Martin

- Water recently planted materials once or twice a week and water deeply.
- Watch for grub worms in you garden or yards
- Keep all flower bed and gardens free of weeds so they dont complete with your plants for moisture.
- Add one munch of organismic matter to your gardens bed, work it in
- Regularly check for whitefly and aphids, control with soapy water spray. Be sure to spray under the leaves

Whoa and after all of that, now it time to sit on the porch with a big glass of sweet Tea and hope for a bit of breeze to come your way.

Source: *Texas Master Gardener's Website*

Howdy

Here we are in July and it will be hot and humid for humans, pets and our plants. The sun will be beating down on our veggies, it will be too hot for tomatoes, okra will grow an inch a minute and our flowers will wilt in the mid day sun.

What is a gardener to do? Sit on the porch and drink a big glass of sweet ice tea? No, of course not, as my Momma would say, "no rest for the wicked".

We will be up early to water (hope we still have water in the rain barrels) and weed in the evening after the sun starts to set. A gardener's work is never done.

I found a great to do list from the Texas Master Gardeners Site just for us. Hope it helps to remind you of a few thing we can do between watering and weeding.

July to Do-List for Yards and Gardens in South Texas:

Time to plant:

- Flowers: night and day purslane, moss rose, vinca, Ice plant, Josephis coat, salvia, Mexican heather, Ruellia, gerbera daisy, dusty miller, gazania, coreopsis, caladium , coleus, celosia
- Trees: Plant container grown trees only! Natives: Mountain Laurel, guayacan, guajillo, live oak, anacua, Rio Grande Ash, mesquite,retama,wild olive,black willow
- Non-natives: Cottonwood, crepe myrtle, weeping willow
- Shrubs: Native manzanita, lantana, hachinal, coral bean, yucca, butter bush, wild petunia, chilipiquin, dwarf youpon holly
- Non-natives Bougainvillea, plumbago, hibiscus, butter weed, cape honeysuckle, pittosporum, ligustrum sage
- Vegetables: Cauliflower, cucumber, eggplant, okra, peppers, pumpkin
- Herbs: Thyme, rosemary, rue, anise borage, basil, bay, garlic, parsely, Mexican mint marigold

Remember:

- When planting trees, shrubs, flowers and herbs use mulch around the base of the plant to conserve moisture.

Continued in left column



- Thur. Jul 7 - Orchidology Class, 7pm
- Sat, Jul 2 thru Mon Jul 4 - Bonsai Bonanza, hosted by Corpus Christi Bonsai Club all weekend
- Wed Jul 6 thru Fri. Jul 8 - Blacklock's Kids - Basic Birding Camp, 9am,-1pm, ages 8-13
- Sat Jul 9 - Mulch More than Meets the Eye, 10am
- Sat Jun 18 - 'Reading our Palms" seminar, 10am
- Mon Jul 11 thru Fri Jul 15 - Kids' Half-Day Summer Nature Camp (birds/reptiles), 8:45-Noon, ages 8-12
- Mon. Jul 18 thru Fri. Jul 22 - Kids' Half-Day Summer Nature Camp (recycle/repurpose), 8:45-Noon, ages 8-12
- Sat. Jul 16 - New Plumeria Passions, seminar, 10am
- Sat. Jul 23 - Not Pretty Enough, seminar, 10am
- Mon. Jul 25 thru Fri. Jul 29 - Kids' Half-Day Summer Nature Camp (Nature Rangers), 8:45-12, ages 8-12
- Sat. Jul 30 - Christmas in July – Preparing for Holiday Herb Cooking, seminar, 10am

[For the Botanical Gardens 2016 Full Calendar of Events](#)
[CLICK THIS](#)

MASTER GARDENERS MEETINGS

Tuesday, July 19 at Garden Senior Center

- 10:00am - Board of Directors Meeting**
- 11:30am - Meet and Greet Over Lunch**
- 12:00pm – Lt. James Lerma with the Corpus Christi police department. Topic Identity Theft**
- 12:30pm – General Meeting**

Many thanks to the lunch volunteers for this meeting; Deb Holliday, Iris Klaneckey and Thorunn Kelley
To volunteer for future lunches, contact Rita Phillips 991-0750 or email rnphillipsccctx@grandecom.net

FROM BETTY ROGERS
TIPS ON REPORTING YOUR HOURS

If you do not re-certify for two consecutive years you will be automatically dropped from the Master Gardener Program. That does not mean, however, that we don't want you. You are welcome to come back to us at any time. Just contact us and let us know you are ready to return. You will need to complete 40 volunteer hours and 12 CE hours your first year back to be in good standing again.



Check out the VMS Event Calendar for a complete listing of all available volunteer events

ONGOING PROJECTS

COMMITTEE/PROJECT CONTACTS - [CLICK THIS](#)

RAY HIGH SCHOOL GREENHOUSE Tuesday MG Workday 9:00-11:00

FOOD BANK PROJECT "Outgrow Hunger" Tuesdays 7:30a.m. (Except MG meeting day then Wednesday)
 Contact: Mary Lambert 813-7596 or e-mail her at cwlmel@yahoo.com

NATURE CONSERVANCY Mondays, 4:00pm & Blucher Park 5:00 pm until sundown (Behind the Main Library). Contact: Karen Smith 877-9723

COURTYARD AT THE GARDEN SENIOR CENTER, 1st Monday, 9:15 a.m. Contact: Betty Whitt 991-5375

BOTANICAL GARDENS, Wednesdays, 7:30 a.m.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

(GC = Garden Senior Center)

Wed. Jul 6 - Coastal Bend Cacti & Succulent Society, 7pm, GC, 687-6474

Tue. Jul 19 - Aransas/San Patricio Master Gardener Association, 10am, 892 Airport Rd., Rockport, 361-790-0103

Thur. Jul 28 - Plumeria Society, 6:30pm, GC, 813-9616

Thur. Jul 28 - Bromeliad Society, 7pm, GC, 658-8650
 Bonsai Society, 7pm, GC, 992-0009

Nueces Master Gardeners that are celebrating a birthday in July include the following. The next time you see them be sure that you wish them a

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jul-01	Ronda Dizney	24
Jul-02	Dan Dain	23
Jul-04	Jeanne O'Leary	12
Jul-09	Gary Martin	13
Jul-11	Robin Arndt	24
Jul-13	Ronnie Maxwell	4
Jul-20	Karen Easton	Transfer
Jul-22	Carol Carroll	15
Jul-25	Karen Smith	15

RAY HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WIN NUECES MASTER GARDENER RECOGNITION AWARDS

Submitted by Nueces Master Gardener Beverly Leach

The Nueces Master Gardener, Inc. (NMG) have a team of volunteers that want to share their time and love of gardening with W.B. Ray High School students' on their greenhouse and gardens. Every week on Tuesday's they meet and work with teacher Victoria Reyes and her botany students as they plan, plant and cultivate the crops they select. Two years ago the Nueces Master Gardener Scholarship Committee developed criteria to promote this interest by originating a Recognition Award. Selection criteria includes that the student be a graduating senior in good standing; be a contributor to the school's horticultural activities; and demonstrate an ongoing horticulture interest during the two semester course. Award selection is done by two educators from W.B. Ray High School and a member of Nueces Master Gardener Scholarship Committee. This year there were two outstanding students that were identified.



Cake honoring the award winner at the monthly luncheon/meeting

THE 2016 RECOGNITION AWARD WINNERS ARE:



Delyah Henry who achieved graduating honors in three years with an outstanding GPA. Her interest in gardening included ability to identify problems and motivation to solve them associated with insect control and management of climbing vegetables like squash and peas. Her high school major is environmental science with a minor in botany.

Bridget Trevino with a 90% GPA in a dual major of political science and environmental science and a minor in English. She explored medicinal plants for her garden such as rosemary, catnip, mints and sage. She added a touch of Ray red to her garden with a row of begonias.

Both girls worked well with their garden partners as well as independently to keep their gardens growing. If you are enthusiastic, willing to learn and help others and able to communicate with today's high school students join us any Tuesday morning in the greenhouse when school is in session. To learn more about this ongoing project, contacts are Beverly Leach and Carlos Valdez

HELP OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Participating organizations are selling the special Macy's savings passes for \$5 each, keeping 100% of the proceeds for their mission - **our Scholarship Fund!**

The Savings Passes are valid at all Macy's stores during the Shop For A Cause three day event, August 26th thru August 28th, 2016. (For full details—[CLICK THIS.](#))

If you would like to buy some Macys Saving Passes or, even better, if you can help sell them, contact Norma Hernandez at 816-8206 or at cluestar@swbell.net

NEWLY CERTIFIED NUECES MASTER GARDENERS

The next time that you see them make sure that you give them a pat on the back and a very-very big
CONGRATULATIONS!

Lisa
Schmidt
Class 26



Elizabeth
Schmidt
Class 26





Submitted by Nueces Master Gardener Deb Holliday
 Carol Krank, DeAnna Baumgartner and I had a delightful time presenting an herbal tea party and tasting to the New Neighbors League GALS group today (6/1)

Submitted by Nueces Master Gardener John Balcar

Plumeria Grapette picture from his garden



Greeting Cards

Last month we asked you to donate any extra greeting cards that you may have had laying around. Linda Lamprecht has advised that the response by the Nueces Master Gardeners has been just great - we now have an very ample supply.

THANK YOU!

Now You Know!

The Oldest and Heaviest Living Thing

There is a colony of quaking aspen trees, which covers roughly 106 acres near Fish Lake, Utah, has some 47,000 individual stems. It is one single organism, connected by an enormous underground root system. Named Pando—Latin for “I Spread”—it weighs an estimated **6,600 tons**, making it the world’s heaviest organism; with an age upwards of **80,000 years**, it is also one of the oldest.



Read more: <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/photos-of-the-worlds-oldest-living-things-164321082/#8tW0XT2ScPFIOjsD.99>

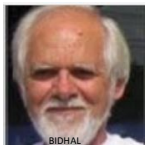


Another Master Gardener project begins.

Adapted from Ballard Street Jerry Van Amerongen at <http://www.gocomics.com>

A Note From Your Master Gardener Gazette Editor

Editor: John M. Slusarz Phone: 361-939-0505 E-mail: jmslusarz2@gmail.com



We had a exceptional meeting of the entire Gazette staff and spoke to media consultants and made the decision to include in this issue of the Gazette to only relevant NMG newsworthy items. This was done as it is July; schools are out, everybody is on vacation, traveling or spending quality time with family and friends at the beach. We hope you take this time to relax, enjoy and celebrate the 4th of July.



Kevin O. Gibbs, CEA-Horticulture—Editor: John M. Slusarz

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Individuals with disabilities who require auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation in order to participate in any extension event are encouraged to contact their County Extension Office at 361-767-5217 at least one week in advance of the program in order for proper arrangements to be made.

Contact for general information and name, address or phone number change please contact the office at:
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