



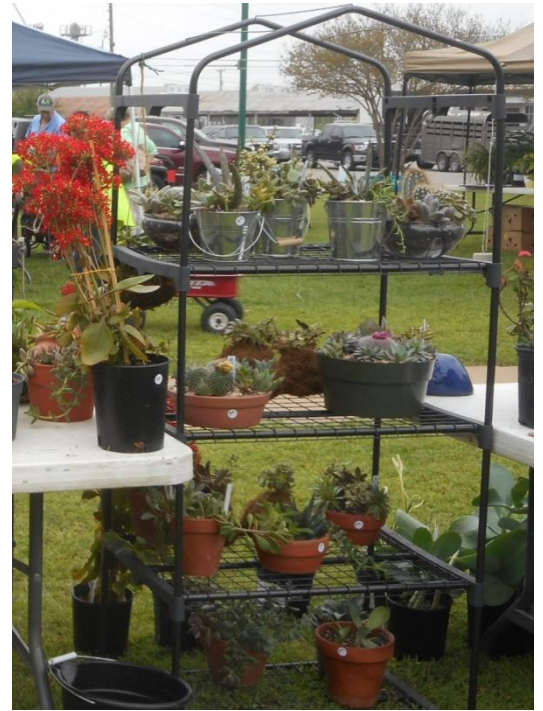
# *As the Garden Grows*

*A Publication of the Gonzales Master Gardeners  
Gonzales, Texas April 2018 Volume 8, Issue 4*

**Thank You Gonzales for Supporting the GMG Spring Plant Sale**











## First Graders at the Gardens

The first graders had a great day at the Children's Garden on March 27. They were able to see the growth of the plants that were planted on February 22. The radishes were harvested and more seeds planted. They are looking forward to their final harvest in May. Stay tuned as a final date has not been set.

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## Gonzales Elementary Orchard

The area where the Walnut Trees are growing on the south end of the PACE building has been designated as the Gonzales Elementary Orchard, aka GEO. The third graders will be having a contest to come up with a sign for the orchard. Each third grader will submit a design with one winner from each class. The finalists will be displayed at Gonzales Elementary School. A team of judges will decide on April 20 the winning design. It will then be made into a large sign that will be on site at the orchard.

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## Gonzales Master Gardeners Attend TXMG Annual Conference

Shirley Frazier, Sandy Llewellyn and Carolyn Parratt attended the TX Master Gardener conference in College Station on April 4-6. The new Leach Teaching Gardens on the campus was unveiled. We look forward to a report on what they learned at our next Noon MG lunch meeting on May 3.



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## Class #8 Students in the Final Stretch

Class #8 students are about to graduate. It has been another great year of learning about horticulture and gardening and working with these students. The next class will be the trip to the Ladybird Wildflower Center in Austin, Texas on Tuesday, April 17. Students have been given instructions about the date but if other Master Gardeners want to go, meet at the Wildflower Center at 9:30 am to get the guided tour or be at PACE by 7:45 am to car pool. The wildflowers should be outstanding this year if driving the roadways around here is any indication. The bluebonnets are at their peak right now.

The last class, on May 1, will be Ecosystems Management with Baron Rector, TAMU AgriLife Extension Range Specialist.

Graduation will be on May 15. A trip to the Mushroom farm and lunch will be part of the activities for the day. Details will be forthcoming.

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## Need Volunteer for Recruiting for Next MG Class

We need someone to help with Recruiting for the next MG class. This person would see that information gets placed in the newspapers and on our Facebook page, place signs out in town, handle the applications as they come in and take calls about the class. Please let Fran or Arline know if you are interested.

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## Noon MG Lunch

Our next GMG noon lunch meeting will be on May 3 unless otherwise notified (there is a conflict with the harvest at the Children's Garden). Carolyn Wilkerson and Jacky DuCote will be our hosts. Hope to see everyone at the meeting.

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## Area Events

**Georgetown:** Colleen Gardner, Executive Director of the Bamberger Ranch (Selah), will speak to the Native Plant Society of Texas on Land Conservation and Restoration on **April 12**. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office at 3151 SE Inner Loop Rd., Georgetown. Free and Open.

**Houston:** Jason Naivar, forest ranger with Jesse Jones Park & Nature Center, presents "Coyotes in Our Area," 10:00-11:30 a.m., **April 12**, at the Genoa Friendship Gardens Educational Center Building, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Road, Houston. For additional information, visit [hcmga.tamu.edu](http://hcmga.tamu.edu).

**Houston:** "Save That Rose for Next Week!" is the topic of the Houston Rose Society meeting, Thursday, **April 12**, 7:00 p.m. at the Cherie Flores Garden Pavillon, 1500 Hermann Drive, Houston. Diane Sommers will present the program. Diane is a Master Rosarian from Wisconsin, a Horticultural and Arrangement Judge. She will discuss the technique of dry wrapping roses. This technique helps the rosarian save beautiful roses for a special event when they have bloomed too soon. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. Arrive at 7:00 p.m. for social time and refreshments. Free admission. For more information, visit <http://www.houstonrose.org>.

**Nacogdoches:** Amanda McWhirt, University of Little Rock, presents "I Have a Thorny Issue to Discuss: Blackberry Basics" 7:30-8:30 p.m., **April 12**, in the Brundrett Conservation Education



Building at the Pineywoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St., Nacogdoches, TX. For more information call (936) 468-4129 or email [sfagardens@sfasu.edu](mailto:sfagardens@sfasu.edu).

**Tyler:** Master Gardeners at the Library, **April 13**, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. "Pass Along Plants" with Smith County Master Gardener, Andie Rathbone. Tyler Public Library, 201 S. College, Tyler. Free and open to the public. For additional information visit [www.txmg.org/smith](http://www.txmg.org/smith) or call 903-590-2980.

**Cleburne:** Johnson County Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale, **April 14**, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Held in the Sheriff's Posse White House. 1315 S. Main, Cleburne. Plants of North Texas; Tomatoes & Peppers, Herbs, Perennials, Annuals, Roses & Shrubs. Cash or Checks only.

**Sealy:** Bluebonnet Master Gardener Association Annual Plant Sale, Saturday, **April 14**, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on the grounds of the Santa Fe Museum, 211 E. Main St., Sealy. The plant sale is held in conjunction with Sealy's Spring Fest. There will be unique and boutique plants, Texas Super Stars, Earth-Kind varieties, annuals and perennials. There will be a Micro Greens demonstration at 10:00 a.m. Master Gardeners will share rainwater harvesting tips and help you decide what plant is best to take home. Micro green kits, rain barrels and garden gloves will also be on sale. Proceeds from a silent auction helps fund the BMGA Scholarships. For more information, visit [www.bluebonnetmastergardener.org](http://www.bluebonnetmastergardener.org) or email Renee Kofman at [renee@ircsurplus.com](mailto:renee@ircsurplus.com).

**Tyler:** The Smith County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office Environmental Horticultural Committee will host a spring landscape seminar Saturday, **April 14**, from 9:00 a.m.-noon at the HUB, 304 E Ferguson St, Tyler. Bob Byers, Director, Fort Worth Botanic Garden will present "Imagining a Better Garden; Easy Concepts for Understanding Landscape Design" while Smith County horticulturist Greg Grant will cover choosing plants for your East Texas garden. Byers holds a Master of Landscape Architecture from Louisiana State University. He worked professionally in Wisconsin, Florida, Alabama, and Arkansas before joining the staff the Fort Worth Botanic Garden in 2015. Byers has published articles in a number of regional and national publications and presented programs at state, national and international conferences. Grant is author of six gardening books, including *Texas Home Landscaping* and *The Rose Rustlers*, and is a *Texas Gardener* contributing editor. He has degrees in floriculture and horticulture, both from Texas A&M University and has worked for Louisiana State University and Stephen F. Austin State University. Grant introduced a number of successful plants to the nursery industry and was awarded the Lynn Lowery Memorial Award by the Native Plant Society of Texas for horticultural achievement in the field of Texas native plants. Registration is encouraged. The cost is \$15 payable in advance at the Smith County Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office (1517 W. Front St., Suite Rm 116) or at the door. The program is sponsored by the Smith County Environmental Education Committee. For more information contact 903-590-2980 or for more information on local educational programming, visit [smith.agrilife.org](http://smith.agrilife.org).

**Seguin:** Thursday, **April 19**, 6:30 p.m... Guadalupe County Master Gardeners will meet at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin, for a program from Keith Amelung. Learn the How, When, Where and Why about Growing Tomatoes. Everyone is welcome. Free. For more information, visit [www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org](http://www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org).

**Austin:** NEW: The Lazy Gardener – LBJ Wildflower Center, **April 21 @ 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm**  
Fee: \$30/person. Space is limited and registration is required. Time spent with your hands in the soil is time well spent, and you don't have to be a studied horticulturist to enjoy it. Take the "work" out of yard work and unearth your inner green thumb as a pro gardener arms you with the basics of native plant caretaking. We'll get you growing! [Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center](http://www.wildflower.org/), 4801 La Crosse Avenue, Austin, TX 78739. **Website:** <https://www.wildflower.org/>

**Hillsboro:** Spring gardeners and plant lovers are invited to the Hill County Master Gardeners plant sale on Saturday, **April 21**. A variety of well-adapted plants for Central Texas gardens will be offered, including annuals, perennials, natives and drought tolerant plants. 126 S. Covington St., Hillsboro. For more information, call (254) 582-4022 or email [hillcomastergardener@gmail.com](mailto:hillcomastergardener@gmail.com).

**Tomball:** Skip Richter, *Texas Gardener* contributing editor, will present Summer Color in the Landscape, Wednesday, **April 25**, Noon-1:00 p.m., at The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Landscape color options are plentiful in the spring but in summer our landscapes often become a "sea of green." Richter will discuss some of the best plant options for maintaining a beautiful, colorful landscape in the hot summer months. For more information, visit [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com).

**San Antonio:** 40th Annual SACXS Show & Sale. **April 26 @ 9:00 am - April 28 @ 5:00 pm**

The San Antonio Cactus & Xerophyte Society is holding its annual Show & Sale on April 26-28, 2018, at the San Antonio Garden Center. The Show & Sale will be open to the public from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Please join us and enjoy what we have to offer the cactus and succulent enthusiast at this Official Fiesta Event: Cactus & Succulent Vendors; Educational Displays; Hourly Plant Raffles; Live Demonstrations; Silent Auctions (Thurs./Fri.); Landscape Plant Auctions (Fri./Sat.). For more information, visit <http://sacxs.org>.

**Conroe:** Saturday, **May 5**, Open Gardens Day. 9 a.m. til 11 a.m. Free! Bring your kids and gardening questions and join Montgomery County Master Gardeners in their demonstration gardens at the AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Road, Conroe. There will be tours and plenty of Master Gardeners to identify plants and problems you may have in your garden and yard.



Earth Friendly Gardening & Landscaping  
Exposition and Workshops

Presented by Bexar County Master Gardeners

**Save the Date! Saturday, September 8, 2018. 8 am – 2 pm.** At the

University of The Incarnate Word, Dr. Burton E. Grossman International Conference Center (ICC) 847 E. Hildebrand, **San Antonio, TX 78212**. 12 1-hour Workshops (\$). Mini-Demonstrations throughout the day! Ask an Expert (1-2 pm) featuring...David Rodriguez, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent – Horticulture ... and if it grows, he knows! Natalie Cervantes, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Agent – 4-H and Youth Development ... and all things insect related! Mark Peterson, Conservation Project Coordinator for San Antonio Water System... and all things forestry and arborist related! Children's Gardening Activities. Interactive Expo/Vendor area. Dr. Tom Harris, "The Hill Country Gardener," Dr. Harris will be sharpening gardening hand-tools so bring yours with you! (donations accepted). Drawing for prizes! And More!

**Check out [www.txmg.org](http://www.txmg.org) for events around the state**

New Braunfels area: <http://txmg.org/comal/events>

Austin Area: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/travis/>

San Antonio, Texas- <http://www.bexarcountymastergardeners.org>



**DATES TO REMEMBER: (Check elsewhere in newsletter for details)**

**Unless otherwise noted, all meetings/classes are at  
623 N. Fair Street (Plantatarium: A Center for Exploration-aka PACE)**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>APRIL 8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Workday at PACE /GH	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> MG Class-Trip to Wildflower Center Austin, TX 9:30 am	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Board Mtg. 9:30 am	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Volunteer hours due	<b>May 1</b> MG class 8:30 to 12:30- Baron Rector-Ecosystems	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Noon MG Lunch Mtg.	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> MG Graduation 8:30-12:30	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Board Mtg. 9:30 am	<b>JUNE 1</b> Volunteer hours due	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Summer Social-noon	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>



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