

GUADALUPE GARDENER JULY 2021

A monthly publication of the Guadalupe County Master Gardeners in cooperation with the Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension, Guadalupe County

President's Message

Happy July Master Gardeners,

And just like that, half of the 2021 calendar year is gone. Time flies when we're having fun!

"The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. To nurture a garden is to feed not just on the body, but the soul."

– Alfred Austin

It has been wonderful to see many of you starting to return to our monthly membership meetings, connecting with your fellow Master Gardeners after such a precarious year, and sharing your gardening passion. We've made it this far and we will continue to move forward.

If you were at the June membership meeting you learned we **WILL NOT** have a July membership meeting. Historically July is the month for the GCMG summer social but with the uncertainty of COVID still, on the fringes, your Board of Directors has opted to not have that gathering.

The Board of Directors is going to continue to move forward and use the BOD meeting to focus on the 2022 GCMG event/activity calendar, along with establishing goals for the upcoming year. We will have a strategic planning meeting to replace July's membership meeting and invite our GCMG Project Coordinators and Special Project Points of Contact to help with improving communication and planning. Some of you may have already heard from me and others should hear from me soon.

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We heard at our last meeting that many of our community gardens were blessed with the rains in May, but along with the rain came the overgrowth of weeds. Please make time to visit any of the community projects to lend a hand. You do not have to go to those locations only when the “regulars” are there. Please reach out to the point of contact (see later in the newsletter) and make time to help when it is convenient for you. It is a great way to accrue volunteer hours while doing what we all love.

With VMS getting the kinks worked out, please use that resource to keep updating your volunteer and education hours, review meeting minutes, and research other resources available to us through AgriLife.

Finally, as mid-2021 passes by, please consider the opportunities within your organization to be more than just a member. If you have an interest in helping with a project, please contact the MG leading that group. If you want to join a committee, please do so. If you want to simply help with refreshments at one of our meetings, your offer will be greatly appreciated. We are a group of volunteers with a common interest in gardening and we survive on the desire to help others, including helping our group.

Your Board of Directors will see some of you later in July at the 2022 Planning Meeting.

Happy Gardening,

Barry A. Jackson

2021 GCMG President





Note!

**The following volunteer
opportunities
may be available with
on an individual basis.
Please contact the
coordinator of the
activity to volunteer.**



Ongoing Volunteer Opportunities

At Your Convenience:

•**Kingsbury** - Kingsbury Habitable Spaces Garden, 3050 FM 1104, Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Contact Cathy Medlin at cathmed2003@yahoo.com or 830-221-8596 the first time you go so she can meet you at the gardens and discuss what needs to be done. Bring tools (hoes, trowels, etc.), gloves, hats.

•**Schertz** – Gutierrez Xeriscape Park, 1231 Borgfeld Rd. Contact Judy Stanley at 830-765-4613 or jstanley20@satx.rr.com for further information. (Need lots of help right now.)

•**Seguin** – Rain Garden at the Irma Lewis Seguin Outdoor Learning Center, 1865 E US Highway 90 (just past the Geronimo Creek bridge east of town on HW 90). Contact Mag Holm-Roesler at mrhr816@gmail.com or 512-656-2360 to discuss what needs to be done.



Scheduled Workday on Tuesday:

•**Marion** — Marion Veterans Community Garden. Contact Joyce Friesenhahn at 210-452-2404 or email her at omaannie2@gmail.com The park is located next to the old Schulz Nursery parking lot, 100 W Huebinger St.

Scheduled Workdays on Tuesdays & Fridays:

•**Schertz** — Guadalupe County Community Garden, 1101 Elbel Road, behind the County Annex Building. Start time is 8:00 a.m. Check with Ann Odvody at odvodyd@swbell.net or 210-994-9664. (Need lots of help right now.)

Scheduled Workdays on Wednesdays:

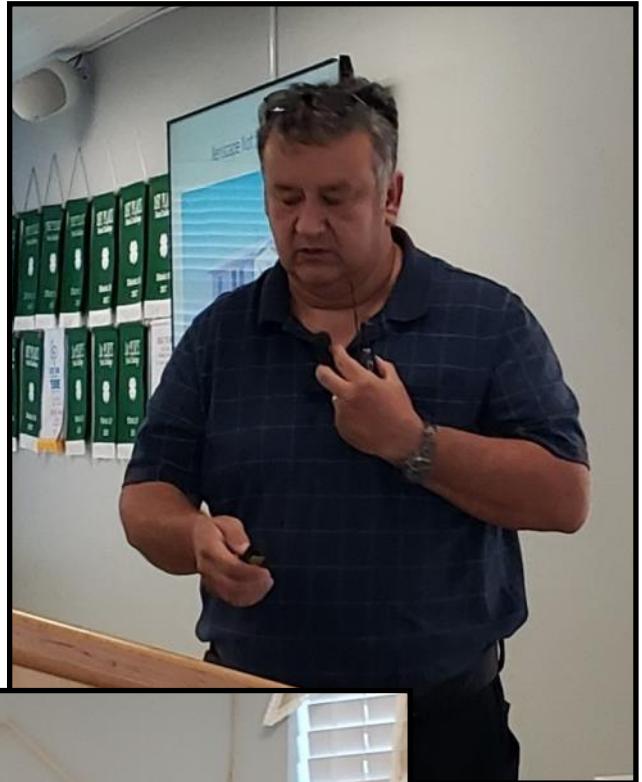
•**Seguin** — MG Office/Library, 210 E Live Oak, is open from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Volunteers are always needed. Ernestine Sykes ejackson.sykes@gmail.com or 210-544-0756. The office number is 830-379-2153

•**Seguin** — (Only 1st and 3rd Wednesdays) Park West Pollinator Garden, 600 Block of North Vaughn Ave., 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Maintenance of the pollinator garden and care of new plants. Bring gardening tools, water, hat, sunscreen, insect spray and wear appropriate gardening shoes. Contact Clara Mae Marcotte, rcm.marcotte@gmail.com or Liz Romero, fleurromero@gmail.com

Scheduled Workdays on Fridays:

• **Seguin** — Big Red Barn Gardens, 390 Cordova Road. Start time is 7:30 a.m. for the summer hours and 8:15 a.m. for the winter hours. Check with Janice Knobles

June Meeting Photos



Check us out on

facebook

The recent rain has blessed us with many outstanding flowers this spring and I'm grateful for all of you sharing your beauties on the GCMG's Facebook Page. From humongous Hibiscus, fields of Black-Eyed Susans, and visions of Sweet Vivien, to lovely Natchitoches and gorgeous roses, all of them worked their magic to make us smile and brighten our day.

Greenery is everywhere! Whether it was from the snow in February or all the recent showers, all flora is flourishing. Vegetable plants that would normally be wilting in the Texas heat by now are still producing! Our FB members have shown off their tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, eggplants, and more. It's amazing to see these plants still thriving.

Top contributors this month for posting photos, offering helpful hints, answering questions, giving advice, or just being a cheerleader to our **1145** Facebook members are:

- ◆ **Katherine Bennett**
- ◆ **Peggy Jones**
- ◆ **Kathleen Avant Smith**
- ◆ **Robin Muschalek**
- ◆ **Kim Tessanne**

Good job to all of you! Keep posting those lovely photos. You, yes you, help to bring cheer to everyone!

Thanks to all for sharing. If you need help with joining The Guadalupe County Facebook Page, please feel free to contact me at (830) 379-7203 or e-mail me at and I'd be happy to walk you through the procedure. Thank you all for sharing! Stay active! Stay positive! Stay safe!

April Rippel

Class 27

Wandering Gardener

Marilyn Moltz

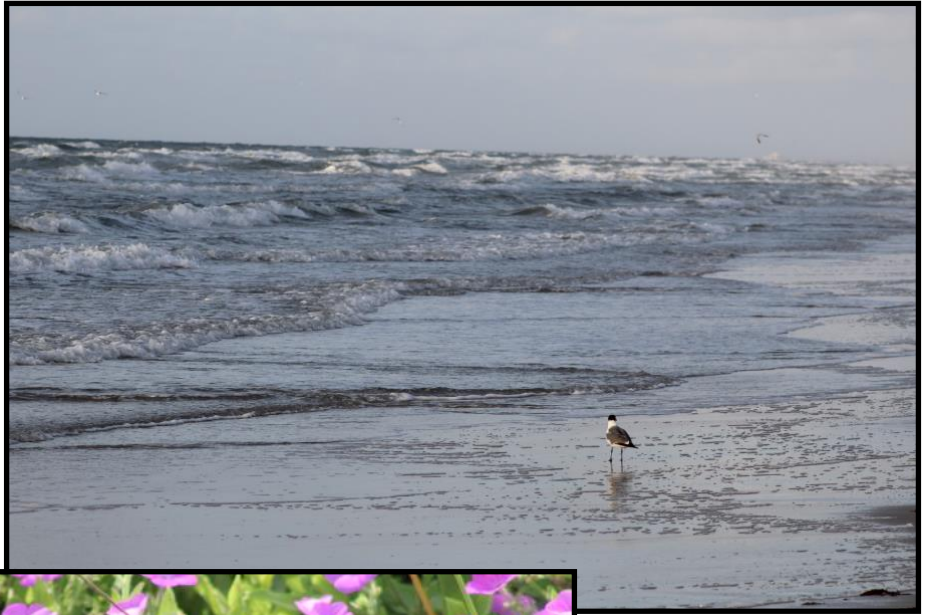
Summer Beach Fun at the Texas Coast

I am not a beach lady, nor am I a swimmer, but every couple of years I feel the need to take long walks on the beach and feel the sand between my toes. I prefer these walks to be early in the morning before sunrise when you can just see where you are going without a flashlight. As the sun begins to rise and the birds begin to fly and scurry along the beach to see what the tide has brought them, is the most peaceful time I know. We are lucky to live in Texas since we have a long and beautiful coastline. Over the years I have visited almost all of it from South Padre Island to Galveston and beyond.

For someone who does not like to get sand between their toes, there are many other things to see and do. Our coastal areas include botanical gardens, fishing experiences, national wildlife refuges, state parks, birding areas, boat tours, amazing sunrises and sunsets. If you are visiting during the full moon, it is something to behold, watching the moonlight light up the waves as it rises above them.

The pictures I have included is a sunset at South Padre Island. The other pictures I took at Port Aransas. They are sunrise just me and the birds, upper sand dunes covered with native plants, early morning deserted beach, and waves which always seem to be much taller than me but never overtake the beach (both the bird and I wonder about that). The flower is a phlox (Polemoniaceae) but I could not find which one would be growing that close to the beach. Hopefully, I will take a journey there in July to walk on the beach with my grandchildren who always add adventure and inspiration!









Continuing Education Events July 2021

Please be aware that due to the current COVID-19 situation all training from other organizations being offered is online. Notices from Bexar and Travis counties will be sent out to members as they are received, including reminders and updates. At the time of this writing, we have no information on scheduled July training from those organizations but it will be sent to members as soon as it arrives.

Saturday, July 10: "Gardening for Wildlife" Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 2:00-4:00. Virtual via Zoom. Fee is \$80. Register at <https://www.wildflower.org/event/gardening-wildlife-virtual/2021-07-24>

Guadalupe County Master Gardeners

Wednesday, August 11, 2021: "Hibiscus & the Mallow Family" by Guadalupe County Master Gardener Jerry McNulty at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free. Check us out on Facebook and at www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org

Wednesday, September 15, 2021: "Butterfly Gardening" by Guadalupe County Master Gardener Keith Muschalek at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free. Check us out on Facebook and at www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org

Wednesday, October 20, 2021: "Winterizing Irrigation Systems" by Guadalupe County Master Gardener Marvin Borth at the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, 210 E. Live Oak, Seguin. 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Free. Check us out on Facebook and at www.guadalupecountymastergardeners.org

(At present all training is scheduled "in person", should that change notice will be sent to Master Gardeners)

REMINDER

If anyone needs a card from the organization for an illness or loss of a family member, contact: Amy McNulty, Secretary, 830-491-4742 or e-mail amcnulty4@yahoo.com

Newsletter Staff

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Members in Service

Texas Master Gardener Board of Directors

Two Year Term (2020/2021) Mark Mullen, Alternate – Rachel Cavazos

One Year Term (2021) Jerry McNulty, Alternate – Vacant

Speakers Bureau - Treva Hicks

Guadalupe Co. Community Garden - Dale & Ann Odvody

Master Gardener Office/Library - Ernestine Sykes

Refreshment Coordinator - Kathleen Smith

Big Red Barn - Janice Knobles

Gutierrez Xeriscape Park - Judy Stanley

2021 County Fair - Kathleen Smith

Facebook Administrator - Kathy Adams

Christmas Tree Decorating - Ernestine Sykes

Newsletter Editor - Mary Miller

Web Master - Marvin Taylor

Spring 2021/Seguin Class Coordinator – Kay McElveen



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Guadalupe County Texas A&M AgriLIFE Extension <http://guadalupe.agrilife.org/> 830-379-1972

Texas Master Gardeners <http://txmg.org>

GCMG Officers & Board of Directors

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Rachel Cavazos -Treasurer

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Kay McElveen -Education Director

Carol Calentine-Volunteer Director

Travis Franke -AgriLIFE Agent Master Gardener

Coordinator

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Mary Miller, Editor marymcmiller@gmail.com