

# ROOT-TELLER

September 2005

Volume 10, Issue 9

## Plants, Birds, and Elephants



### DCMGA Info-Fair

Saturday, September 24, from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM at LISDOLA

#### Updates:

1. Plants, Birds, and Elephants Needs You
2. Newton Razor Project
3. Bayless-Selby House Gardening Day

#### Training Opportunities:

1. Propagation Class II
2. TX Turf Field Day
3. The Scent of Christmas

#### Reminders:

1. Photo Ops and Parting Shots
2. Landscape Design Study Course, Session 1
3. "Floral Design Workshops"
4. 2006 Master Gardener Trainee Class Roundup
5. "Back to Your Roots," the Southeastern Regional Master Gardener Conference



Happy

September 1  
September 14  
September 15  
September 17  
September 19  
September 20  
September 24  
September 26  
September 28

Judy Riley, Selena Schindler  
Clarice Luce  
Fay Saxinger  
Kay Teegarden  
Larry Swenson  
Maribeth Lynch  
Cindy Wermeske  
Paula Blackshear, Carolyn Gold  
Monique Goodhart

Birthday



**A Publication of Denton County Master Gardener Association.**

**Comments & Suggestions:** Please call Pam McClimon or e-mail [Editor](#) with your comments and suggestions. Photos, phone numbers and email addresses printed in this publication are only for use by DCMGA members.

## Nominating Committee Meeting



The process to select new officers for 2006 begins with a meeting of the nomination committee on Friday, September 16, at 9:30 AM at the Extension Office. Board positions that need replacements are Second Vice-president, Treasurer, Program Coordinator and Newsletter Editor. Your help is very important, as either a participant on the committee or filling one of these positions. Contact Carolyn Tinner for more information

## Little Hands On the Farm



Even though it is just too darn hot to think, it is time to start "pondering " about helping with the Texas State Fair and Little Hands on the Farm.

On Friday, September 23, we will be preparing the START BARN by decorating with the cutouts and doing any touchup needed on the barn and cutouts. We will also landscape the area around the START BARN with plants and barnyard art.

We have volunteered to work the following Fair days: Tuesday, October 11, and Saturday, October 15. These will once again be five hour shifts from 9:00 AM-2:15 PM. Afterwards, you and your family (or friends) can enjoy the Fair.

Volunteers will receive a LHOFF T-shirt, parking pass, and entrance pass in addition to enjoying the Fair after the shift.

If you would be interested in working, let me know. Families are welcome this year to help out, so this can be that perfect fall family outing your have been looking for.



Mark your calendars now and keep in mind we will volunteer on a Tuesday and Saturday during the Fair, so when you are filling your calendar with fun fall family events, don't forget the Little Hands on the Farm. To volunteer, please email Mary Morrow, [hawkilittle@aol.com](mailto:hawkilittle@aol.com).



Shade for the Third Grade



DCMGA has been asked by the Lewisville Independent School District to help with the distribution of tree seedlings to third grade elementary school students in that district. The six different varieties of tree seedlings are being provided by the Denton Soil and Water Conservation District.

We will receive, bag, and deliver these trees to the various participating elementary schools during the third week of October. Several volunteers are needed. According to project manager Susan Musgrave, "this is an opportunity to help both LISD children and their communities, not just now, but for years to come."

To volunteer, contact Susan at (972)816-3712 or [susan.musgrave@verizon.net](mailto:susan.musgrave@verizon.net).

### [DCMGA Annual Retreat, on Thursday, October 6, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, at the Denton Woman's Building](#)

*If a Tree Falls in the Woods...and a Master Gardener is Not There to Hear It*

Don't miss the opportunity to have your voice heard in the planning of our Association's direction for the next year. Dramatic growth in both our association and Denton County during the past years has brought many new challenges. How do we meet our mission of both community service and education? How do we meet the needs of our membership?

The upside to this growth is the chance to share new ideas, insights, and enthusiasm. Bring those thoughts and concerns to the DCMGA Annual Retreat, on Thursday, October 6, 9:00 AM -3:00 PM, at the Denton Woman's Building, 610 Oakland St., Denton. Information regarding lunch arrangements will be provided soon.



It's Time for a Road Trip!

### [East Texas 2005 Annual Fall Gardening Conference and Heirloom Bulb Sale](#)

Smith County Master Gardeners are sponsoring a Fall Garden Conference and Heirloom Bulb Sale on Saturday, September 10. Greg Grant, well-known to us from the state conference, will speak on "Foolproof Bulbs for East Texas," with an all new slide show. Aubrey Fox, a third generation nurseryman from Tenaha will discuss plant choices for fall landscapes.

The conference will be held in the Tyler Rose Center and the Bulb Sale will be on the grounds of the Tyler Rose Garden.

The conference begins at 8:30 AM, with the Bulb Sale from 11:30-2:00 PM. No bulbs will be sold before 11:30!

The list of heirloom bulbs for sale includes Byzantine Gladiolus, St. Joseph's Lily, and fourteen varieties of Crinum. Check out the entire list at:  
<http://extension-horticulture.tamu.edu/county/smith/programs/fallbulb.html>.







## Mirror, Mirror, on the Wall...Who has the Fairest Garden of All? 2006 DCMGA Garden Tour


One of the most popular DCMGA projects is returning next spring. The annual DCMGA Garden Tour will again be held on Saturday, May 13. We did not hold the garden tour last year because we were busy hosting the state Master Gardener conference.

Darla Bostick has agreed to coordinate this event again. But first, our tour selection committee must choose the gardens to be included in the tour. A garden is selected not only for its beauty, but also for the lessons and inspirations it offers the viewer. If you would like your garden to be considered for the tour or you want to recommend another DCMGA member's garden for consideration, please contact Janie Farler, who is chairing this year's selection committee.

### Updates



We Need YOU to Help!



Plants, Birds, and Elephants are all coming together at our big **fall information fair on Saturday, September 24**. Its only three weeks away and we still have a lot to do. Volunteers are needed for prep. work (plant and merchandise pricing, etc) as well as many opportunities the day of the event.


A ten percent discount on the purchase price of plants will be given to members who have volunteered to help with this event!

<b>Workdays</b>	<b>Tuesday, September 6</b> <b>Tuesday, September 13</b> <b>Thursday, September 22</b>
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Our location is LISDOLA, the Lewisville Independent School district Outdoor Learning Area, off Highway 121. Since LISDOLA has been a longtime project of DCMGA, most of us have worked there at some time. We have only **three more workdays** to get LISDOLA into shape for public to view the site.

**Plant Sale**  
 Many of us have been potting plants for the sale and "baby-sitting" them through the long hot summer months. The last day to deliver donated plants for resale is **Tuesday, September 13 before 11:30 AM at LISDOLA.**

**Publicity**

We still need help distributing flyers throughout Denton County. They can be placed in local libraries, town halls/community centers, schools, churches, senior centers, and other locations where your neighbors and friends meet. Extra flyers are available at the Extension Office or by contacting Karen Archambault

**Vendors**

We have approximately ten vendors who have agreed to participate in this event. They will be selling jewelry, clothing, stationery, ironworks, bird feeders and related gardening items. Keep Lewisville Beautiful and the Denton County Master Naturalists are also setting up tables.

**Junior Master Gardeners**

Liz Gould will host a Junior Master Gardener table, making "Plant People," along with having some information about JMG and a display about the Children's Garden. She would like to have a few people help in the making of "Plant People." Also, she's invites anyone who has any experience with the Children's Garden to help out. If you are interested, please contact Liz.

Some call it an excuse to clean, some call it an opportunity to acquire....we call it a **White Elephant Sale**

Do fall cleaning the Master Gardener way! Make room for more garden tools, toys, and "art objects" by clearing out your garage, attic or greenhouse and donate any unwanted items to the White Elephant Sale.

Some examples of items wanted are;

- indoor/outdoor pots
- birdhouses/birdfeeders
- yard ornaments
- trellises
- tools/buckets
- tomato cages
- gardening books
- baked goods (hey, all that gardening requires calories!)

Drop off items by **Thursday, September 15** at these three locations:

1. Denton County Extension Office
2. 2000 Warwick Crescent, Argyle (Sandy Hiatte)
3. 6949 Hidden Valley, Flower Mound (Linda Krimm)

## **Newton Razor Project**

In the spring of 2005, after a huge work effort by the First Baptist Church of Denton, the outdoor learning area at Newton Rayzor Elementary School was renamed and dedicated to the memory of a beloved kindergarten teacher who died in January. Now known as the Cheryl Phillips Discovery Habitat, this outdoor classroom features:

1. an aquatic habitat with a solar powered pump, native aquatic plants and native fish,
2. an extensive butterfly garden with a vine-covered arbor with seating
3. an herb garden with many plantings that complement the butterfly garden
4. a drought tolerant Texas Natives bed demonstrating Xeriscaping and mulching practices
5. dry stream bed featuring several kinds of native Texas rock found in and around Denton
6. fossil garden with rock containing fossil fragments
7. weather station
8. shade garden
9. composting area with bins and tumblers
10. grade level beds for pre-K through fifth grade
11. bird feeding stations
12. work table and storage shed

In May, the outdoor learning environment received the distinction of being certified by Texas Discover Gardens as a Certified Butterfly Habitat, a continuity of the legacy of Ms. Phillips, who led the way for other teachers at Newton Rayzor in highly detailed studies of the butterfly life cycle. This fall the area will be officially certified as a Nation Wildlife Federation Certified Schoolyard Habitat, further legitimizing its use as a resource for scientific study, and many classes will participate in tagging monarch butterflies as part of a large scientific study of monarch migration.

## **Bayless-Selby House Gardening Day**

Let's meet Wednesday, September 21 at 9:00 AM at the Bayless-Selby House at the Historical Park of Denton County, 317 west Mulberry Street, Denton. It should be cooler for gardening. Come join our team! For additional information, contact Carolyn Gold.

## **Training Opportunities**

### **1. Second Chance for Propagation Class**

Dotty Woodson, a Horticulture County Extension Agent for Tarrant County, has agreed to teach a second propagation class on Wednesday, September 28. The first class, scheduled from 9:00 AM - noon, was filled almost immediately. Jim Appleby, Advanced Training Coordinator, was able to schedule Dotty for another session that same day.

The class will be from 1:00 PM-4:00 PM. Attendees will need to pre-register for this class, too. Please mail a check for \$10.00, payable to DCMGA, to Jim

Appleby, or drop your check by the Extension Office. Deadline for registration is September 21.

Please bring to class scissors, a sharp knife and any plants, cuttings or seeds that you would like to propagate.

2. **Texas Turf & Ornamental Field Day**

Texas Turf & Ornamental Field Day and Outdoor Equipment Field Day will be held Wednesday, September 14 from 8:00 AM-3:00 PM, at TAMU Dallas, 17360 Coit Road. There will be presentations on turf selection and management, landscape management new plant selections, and pest management. Registration is \$20.00 per person, if received by September 6 or \$30.00 per person for on site registration. If you are interested in attending, please contact the Extension Office.

3. **The Scent of Christmas**

What better way to say Christmas than to have the fresh fragrance of greenery in your home? Join DCMG Judy Cobb, a multi-award winner in both state and national garden club design competitions, and learn how to make a Williamsburg swag, that mixture of greens, cones, fruit and berries that our forefathers used to embellish their homes during the holiday season.

In her class you will assemble your own fresh swag to take home and learn techniques to help you create other designs. Judy will also demonstrate a Christmas mailbox design, a pot-et-fleur, and a dining room table design.

Two hours of Advanced Training credit will be given. Class date is Thursday, December 1, 10:00 AM. Sign up today. The class is limited to 24 participants. Friday, October 14 is the deadline to sign up and submit the fee of \$48, which covers materials.

## Reminders

### Photo Ops and Parting Shots

Join your fellow DCMGA members for a special September general meeting, as we share photos presented by Carolyn Tinner and celebrate the results of 18 months of hard work and planning. Bring something to share at the potluck luncheon, Wednesday, September 14, from 10:00 AM-1:00 PM, Denton Woman's Club, 610 Oakland St. (near the remodeled Emily Fowler Library) for a last look at the 2005 State conference.

**Please send RSVP's** to Carolyn Tinner, so we may accurately plan for drinks, etc.

**Landscape Design Study Course, Session 1**, will be offered September 19-20 in College Station/Bryan. The series, held in conjunction with the Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. and Texas Cooperative Extension, is given in four different sessions, approximately six months apart. Master Gardeners who complete a course qualify for twelve hours of advanced training.

### **"Floral Design Workshops"**

The Benz School of Floral Design has set dates for Master Gardener Workshops through December, 2005. Each workshop is held twice, once on Saturday and repeated on Sunday. The classes are six hours, and include lunch and two floral designs to take home.

The dates are: October 8/9, and December 3/4

For more information, contact [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/benz](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/benz)

### **2006 Master Gardener Trainee Class Roundup**

The annual fall roundup for trainee class members will be Wednesday, October 19, 10:00 AM-Noon, at the extension office. This is our chance to meet with fellow gardeners and discuss DCMGA programs and projects. Fliers regarding the roundup and class dates can be obtained at the extension office; be sure to pick up some for those friends and neighbors who have expressed an interest in become a Master Gardener.

**"Back to Your Roots," the Southeastern Regional Master Gardener Conference** will be held Friday and Saturday, November 4-5, in Conroe. It is sponsored by the Montgomery County Master Gardeners. More information is available at the extension office.

## **Minutes**

### **DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING AUGUST 3, 2005**

**President Carolyn Tinner** called the DCMGA Board of Directors Meeting to order at 9:05 AM. Those in attendance were Karen Archambault, Annie Brackin, John Cooper, Sandy Hiatte, Pam McClimon, Susan Musgrave, Carolyn Tinner, Linda Williams, Donna Wolfe and Mary Morrow.

The minutes were submitted to the Board via email by **Mary Morrow, Secretary**.

**Linda Williams, Treasurer**, submitted the Treasurer's report. The ending balance is \$16,172.27. Linda advised she was completing Form 990 and was seeking advice from a tax accountant. She suggested we might want to consider hiring a tax accountant in order to stay on top of requirements for 501(c)3. The Board will consider it for next year's budget. The cost per hour is approximately \$150. Carolyn advised Carol Appleby was conducting a midyear audit.

**Karen Archambault, Second Vice president**, gave an update on the upcoming Plants, Birds, and Elephants event. Annie Brackin made a motion to a variance to merchandise for resale; Mary Morrow seconded. Discussion followed and all in attendance approved. Carolyn advised our meeting for August would be Tropical Plants and Palms and, in September, we would have a potluck luncheon to celebrate the success of the conference.



The theme for the luncheon is "Photo Ops and Parting Shots." An invitation will be sent to the general membership.

**Susan Musgrave, Historian**, gave an update on the LISD tree distribution. Five tree varieties will be distributed to third graders in LISD in mid to late October.

Carolyn advised we would have two advanced training opportunities in the fall. The first will be September 28, given by Dotty Woodson on "Propagation" and the second will be December 1, given by Judy Cobb on "Holiday Floral Design."

**John Cooper** reviewed the changes in the extension office regarding receipts of monies. It was decided that the President would be responsible for picking up monies if the Treasurer was unavailable. The handouts located in the back of the office will be removed; they are all available on line if anyone needs a publication.

Carolyn advised Darla Bostick volunteered to be in charge of the 2006 Garden Tour. A garden selection committee will be choosing gardens in the fall to provide time for brochures to be printed, etc.

Carolyn advised there is a need to purchase our own laptop and AV equipment. Karen make a motion to approve spending a maximum of \$4,000 to purchase a laptop and corresponding AV equipment; Susan seconded the motion. Discussion was held, followed by a vote of eight ayes and one nay. It was decided we would take the vote to the general membership for their approval due to the cost involved

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM.

## Datebook

September 2005
<b>Sep. 6</b> - LISDOLA workday
<b>Sep. 10, 8:30am to 11:30am</b> - East Texas 2005 Annual Fall Gardening Conference and Heirloom Bulb Sale. Bulb sale will immediately follow conference and close at 2:00 p.m. No bulbs will be sold before 11:30!
<b>Sep. 13</b> - LISDOLA workday
<b>Sep. 14, 10am to 1pm</b> - Photo Ops and Parting Shots, a potluck luncheon at Denton Woman's Club
<b>Sep. 14, 8am to 3pm</b> - Texas Turf & Ornamental Field Day at TAMU Dallas
<b>Sep. 16, 9:30am</b> - Nominating Committee Meeting at the Extension Office
<b>Sep. 19-20</b> - Landscape Design Study Course, Session 1, will be offered in College Station/Bryan.

<b>Sep. 21, 9am</b> - Bayless-Selby House Gardening Day
<b>Sep. 22</b> - LISDOLA workday
<b>Sep. 23</b> - LHOF will be preparing the START BARN
<b>Sep. 24, 9am to 2pm</b> - Plants, Birds, and Elephants at LISDOLA
<b>Sep. 28, 9am to 12pm</b> - Propagation Class I
<b>Sep. 28, 1pm to 4pm</b> - Propagation Class II
<b>October 2005</b>
<b>Oct. 6, 9am to 3pm</b> - DCMGA Annual Retreat at the Denton Woman's Building
<b>Oct. 8 or 9</b> - The Benz School of Floral Design Master Gardener Workshops
<b>Oct. 19, 10am to Noon</b> - 2006 Master Gardener Trainee Class Roundup at the Extension Office
<b>Oct. 11, 9am to 2:15pm</b> - LHOF Fair days
<b>Oct. 15, 9am to 2:15pm</b> - LHOF Fair days
<b>November 2005</b>
<b>Nov. 4-5</b> - "Back to Your Roots," the Southeastern Regional Master Gardener Conference will be held Friday and Saturday, in Conroe
<b>December 2005</b>
<b>Dec. 1, 10am</b> – The Scent of Christmas, Holiday Design Course
<b>Dec. 3 or 4</b> - The Benz School of Floral Design Master Gardener Workshops