

Denton County Master Gardener Association

THE ROOT

Grow With Us



Buds From The Board

REFLECTING ON 2022 AND THE PROMISE OF THE NEW YEAR

BY CHERYL HUCKABEE, PRESIDENT

January was named for the Roman god Janus, known as the protector of gates and doorways, who symbolizes beginnings and endings. Janus is depicted with two faces, one looking into the past, the other with the ability to see into the future. (Almanac, 2022)

2022 was a good year for the Denton County Master Gardener Association. With the worst of the pandemic behind us, our events and activities returned to in-person, bigger and better than ever.

It was exciting to watch eager shoppers at our Spring Plant Sale, snapping up the best plants for North Texas landscapes and learning from our Master Gardener volunteers. We sold out of everything by two o'clock!

Almost 1,500 guests toured four beautiful Denton County Master Gardeners' homes at the Garden Tour in May. Visitors enjoyed the bright sunny day and learned tips and tricks from Master Gardener docents.

CONNECT WITH US ON THE WEB
<https://dcmga.com>

Buds from the Board (Cont.)

Although it was a sweltering June day, the Fruit, Vegetable, Herb, and Flower Show was a great success on the grounds of the historic Bayless-Selby House. Seven adult and youth participants won cash prizes for their outstanding submissions.

Science With Attitude held an Outdoor Summer Camp for 20 campers at Clear Creek Natural Heritage Center and hosted Wellington Science Night for 800 youth and adults. Global Gardeners, in partnership with Beulah Acres, helped school-aged youth learn about eco-friendly gardening from Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists.

Our new Fall Into Gardening educational event in September was a resounding success. 125+ participants enjoyed four classes, hands-on demonstrations, information booths, and garden tours. Look for another great event in 2023.

Master Gardener speakers gave 90+ presentations throughout Denton County, and programs were presented from March through November at our monthly meetings. Forty-five Master Gardener interns completed seventy hours of basic training. We distributed tree saplings in partnership with the Denton County Soil & Water Conservation District, held Design Your Yard Landscape Design classes, assisted with community gardens and beautification, and so much more, contributing over 26,000 hours of volunteer service to the community.

2023 is starting with much promise. In January, forty-three 2022 interns will graduate as certified Master Gardeners, and a new class of forty-five interns will begin their journey to certification. We'll launch a new website with many gardening educational features. Roots for Wings, a new project in partnership with the City of Lewisville, will help residents learn about gardening for pollinators. These and many more fun and educational activities are on deck.

The 2023 Directors and our Members hope to see you at one of our fun activities and wish you all the best in the New Year!



WHAT'S GROWING ON

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2023 Garden Tour Preview

Hundred Woods Acre – Oakpoint, Texas

May 13, 2023

Landscape Design tips, the importance of Native & Adapted plants, a shade gardening presentation, a scavenger hunt, and local arts and crafts booths – our Annual Garden tour has it all.

Watch for ticket information in early February.

By Sheila Daniel

Hundred Woods Acre is one of the homes featured in the 2023 Garden Tour. Master Gardener Cece and her husband John have turned this beautiful property into a whimsical garden that invites exploration. There are adventures around every corner of this lovely garden located on a wooded acre that backs onto the Corp of Engineer property of Lake Lewisville. Christopher Robin and Winnie-the-Pooh would feel at home in this beautiful garden shaded by over 100 trees, including native post oaks, white oaks, and cedar elms.



Cece describes her garden as shade, shade, and more shade. When walking up the front sidewalk, you are greeted with a lush and colorful array of Hostas which Cece learned to love when she lived in Missouri. Further on down the sidewalk are beautiful Japanese maples. With so much shade, grass presents a significant challenge, and she has used a variety of ground covers, including liriopse, dwarf mondo grass, and the natives--frog fruit, horse herb, golden groundsel, and snake herb under the native trees.

Closer to the street is a sunny stretch where the homeowners have installed a Red, White, and Blue Garden around The Flag to honor John's 24-year service to our country as a Marine. There is also a wildflower bed around the mailbox, which features reseeding wildflowers.

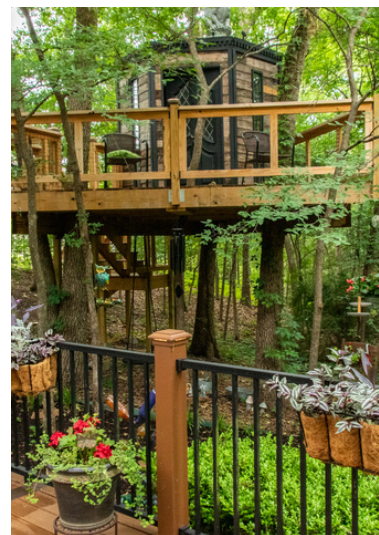
2023 Garden Tour Preview (Cont.)

Hundred Woods Acre – Oakpoint, Texas

While the front yard features many hints of artistry and creativity, you are filled with full-on fun and whimsy when you enter the backyard. The feature where you could linger for hours without taking it all in is the lakeside/wildlife mural a neighbor was commissioned to paint on the garage doors. A Master Naturalist will be on hand during the tour to help kids of all ages with a Mural Scavenger Hunt to spot the bluebirds, dragonflies, butterflies, turtles, and other native flora and fauna presented.



A waterfall that ends in a patio landing is located just below the garage doors. This is a unique setting to watch all of nature's beauty. Don't miss the alligator that lurks in the waterfall area. On one side of the patio is a Dragon Tree House topped off with a huge dragon—an item Cece purchased at a Halloween clearance sale. Though you will only be able to view the tree house from the ground level on tour day due to safety concerns, it will undoubtedly bring out all the imaginary adventures of the child in each of us. On the other side of the patio is a "she-shed" that Cece uses for crafting, and the grandkids use as a playhouse. This features another spot in the sun where many native perennials provide colorful blooms for pollinators.



Photos courtesy of DCMGA Member Lea Watson

Hundred Woods Acre is a must-see home on the Garden Tour, where you will find many ideas to inspire you to make your outdoor spaces more enjoyable.



Carolyn Tinner

Texas Master Gardener Emeritus

Denton County Master Carolyn Tinner, class of 2002, has been awarded the honorary title Texas Master Gardener Emeritus. It is an honorary title awarded to a retired Master Gardener volunteer for distinguished service to Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

By Janet Laminack, CEA-Horticulture & Gina Steiner, Horticulture Administrative Specialist III

After 20 years as a Denton County Master Gardener, Carolyn Tinner has decided to retire. Carolyn has been an exemplary Master Gardener who has served and educated the residents of Denton County well to fulfill Denton County Master Gardeners' mission "to educate and engage county residents in implementing research-based horticultural and environmental practices that create sustainable gardens, landscapes, and communities." During her tenure, Carolyn also helped grow Denton County Master Gardeners, their association, and their partners through her leadership, management, organizational and administrative skills.



**Carolyn Tinner
Class of 2003**



Carolyn Tinner (middle) with Linda Gonzalez & Marilyn Crouse (2022 Plant Sale)

Just three short years after her internship in 2002, Carolyn served as the DCMGA president in 2005. Under Carolyn's leadership, the DCMGA was able to host the 2005 Texas Master Gardener Conference. She was honored with the Executive Board Award in 2009. In 2010 she received the John Cooper Educator Award for her consistent excellence in educational volunteer service.

Before DCMGA membership grew so large, there would be annual meetings for all members to attend to address concerns, issues, and tasks and develop a list of the essential items during the coming year. Carolyn played a significant role in the formation of this group, participating as a group monitor.

Carolyn was instrumental in establishing DCMGA's Garden Fest, first held at LLELA-LISDOLA against traffic problems and rainy conditions. She stuck with it when it moved to the Upper Trinity grounds, to the Denton Library grounds until it morphed into Fall Fest at the First Baptist Church and Shiloh Acres in Denton, then TMUMC in Flower Mound, and then back to Denton at the Fair Grounds.

Carolyn Tinner (Cont.)

The DCMGA Garden Tour is a long-time annual educational and fundraising event for which Carolyn opened her garden. She also gave educational talks at various other gardens through years of garden tours. Additionally, Carolyn worked on the DIG project, located on county property, and helped to educate the public on good gardening practices. She and a few other Master Gardeners worked closely with the Upper Trinity Regional Water District to help install their landscape design for the UTRWD's offices.



As a leader in specialty groups, Carolyn served on the Herbal Branch, Succulent Group, and Plant Propagation Group committees. She has spent countless hours planning events and classes to promote horticulture practices. Carolyn's horticulture knowledge is extensive, yet her quest to learn new methods and plants continues. She enthusiastically shares ideas and facts entertainingly and graciously. She founded the Succulent Group in 2019, and when the pandemic limited formal education meetings, Carolyn opened her garden and greenhouse to continue to spread the word about succulents.

Carolyn's involvement in other Master Gardener projects is varied and lengthy. She served on the Speaker's Bureau, Fair Oaks Project, and the Plant Sale. She served as a judge at the Denton County Youth Fair, Herb Bowl, Flower Arranging, and the Fruit, Vegetable, Herb, and Flower Show. She is also a certified advanced training specialist in greenhouse management and plant propagation. Many early projects have come and gone that she worked on throughout her tenure.

Carolyn has a servant's, educator's, and doer's heart. She has been steadfast to DCMGA, Texas Master Gardener Association, Texas AgriLife Extension, and our Master Gardener coordinators throughout her tenure as a Master Gardener. Her influence through the years is evident in the organization that DCMGA has become, and the impact of her involvement in existing projects is apparent. We were very fortunate for her to have been a Denton County Master Gardener.



Carolyn Tinner (left) with Linda Harris and Janet Laminack, CEA-Horticulture

Denton County Youth Fair

By Sue Murray

One of my favorite writers, Erma Bombeck, once said "children make your life important." Well, that is certainly true for the organizers and judges of the Denton County Youth Fair. You may have heard some older adults bemoaning the attributes of the current generation of young people, but the kids who participate in the events of this Fair are among the best and hardest working. Unfamiliar with the Fair? Looking for a way to get your kids interested in gardening? Well, here are some things you need to know.



Denton County Youth Fair
Judges

The Denton County Youth Fair (DCYF) is typically held in March at the North Texas Fairgrounds in Denton, but preparation begins months earlier. There are over 200,000 young people in Texas who are members of 4-H, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) and the National Future Farmers of America Organization (FFA). Those who live in Denton County and are between the ages of eight to eighteen are eligible to participate in the Fair. They compete in a fair and friendly manner in eighteen livestock and project "shows" and three contests including tractor driving, public speaking, rodeo, and a livestock knowledge "Skillathon." There is also a rodeo, plus a Queen and Princess competition. It is similar to the Fort Worth Stock Show except smaller and for young people.

The Fair is sponsored and supported by the Denton County Livestock Association and the Blue Ribbon Club. Its purpose is to encourage and promote projects by Denton County youth, under the supervision of a teacher or 4-H. It is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn responsibility and showcase their hard work and dedication.



Denton County Youth Fair (Cont.)

The Denton County Master Gardener Association (DCMGA) supports the DCYF by registering, validating, and judging entries in the Horticulture competition. Horticulture education is provided through advice and feedback along with a Horticulture Guide and 4-H workshop. The workshops focus on fun plant-growing skills and generate interest in the competition. The two Horticulture Show Departments include Plants and Flower Arrangements. Flower Arrangements were added in 2017. Each Department has two divisions denoted by age. The junior division is third through eighth grade and the senior is ninth through twelfth. For the Plant entries, there are twelve classes including flowering, herbs, ferns, container gardens and fruit/vegetable. Normally, plants are validated in person on a Saturday in February at the Agrilife Office in Denton. However, in 2021, due to Covid restriction, a new online validation process was created and utilized. Coaching was done via email, text and phone plus a Zoom workshop. In March, three DCMGA judges scored the plants on ten different qualities. Each year, scoresheets with feedback are given for every entry to enhance the learning experience.



Floral arrangement entries are required to be fresh and contain only natural accents (foliage, branches, etc.). No artificial plants are allowed. There are four Classes in the judging: vase arrangements, container (non-vase) arrangements, mono-color and holiday themed. Two DCMGA judges evaluate entries based on ten different qualities from condition and color to design and distinctiveness. The arrangements are so beautiful, choosing the best one can be difficult. Over the years, the Horticulture entries have been unique – anything from water lilies in a tub to a

five foot tomato plant in a pot. 2022 included never-before-seen exotics, including a carnivorous plant. Many Horticulture contest participants return subsequent years. The Show attracts about the same number of boys and girls.

DCMGA member Lynda Harvey has been involved in the Fair since 2005. She is the Superintendent (manager) of the Horticulture competition. She is responsible for selecting the judges, often members of DCMGA. With Covid restrictions, this year's competition was a challenge. Lynda is grateful that DCMGA member Ruth Tweeto stepped in and contributed numerous volunteer hours to assist with the Horticulture event. One of Lynda's favorite memories from past years is of one female student who competed for 10 years in numerous categories but never won. Finally in her last year of competing, she won a Champion belt buckle. Lynda got to present it to her. The girl's entire family cried and hugged. Memories like that keep Lynda coming back each year.

Denton County Youth Fair (Cont.)

First-place winners in each Class and Department receive a rosette ribbon. Each Division (Junior/Senior) has a Grand Champion and Reserve Champion for each Class. The senior champions each receive a belt buckle. The Fair highlight is the auction on the final day. As of 2018, Horticulture champions became eligible for the auction. The livestock is sold at the live auction, and the premiums go to the participant who raised the animal. The Silent auction includes the Foods and Horticulture winners. The DCYF auction awarded over \$440,000 in premiums in 2021, which included five Horticulture participants from the silent auction. We hope to see you at the 2023 Fair!



Master Gardener Help Desk

*If you have questions about any horticulture-related subjects,
please contact our Master Gardener Help Desk at 940.349.2892
or master.gardener@dentoncounty.gov.*

It's free of charge, and our pleasure to assist you.

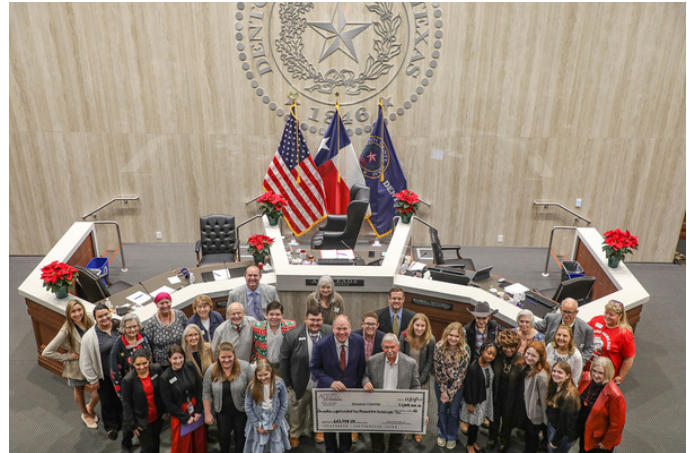
Denton County Master Gardener YouTube Channel

Click on "Videos" and check out our new presentations!
And don't forget to subscribe!

<http://www.youtube.com/c/DentonCountyMasterGardener>

2022 Denton County Commissioners Court Appreciation Breakfast

Tuesday, December 13, Texas A&M's Denton County AgriLife Extension Office presented a symbolic check to Denton County Commissioners Court for \$1,804,308.70. The amount represents 60,244 reported volunteer hours for 2022 multiplied by the independent sector's value of \$29.95 per hour. Denton County Master Gardeners contributed 26,346, or 44%, of the total volunteer hours.



Thank you, Denton County, Texas, for supporting Denton County Master Gardener Association and our fellow AgriLife associations. The opportunity to educate and engage our community is priceless!

View the AgriLife Year in Review 2022 presentation shared during the Commissioners Court at this link on our YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/qW9ph7hM5kk>

Members & Interns Are Invited!

2022 Graduation & Awards Banquet

Branching Out

Growing Together

JAN 18, 2023

6 pm 7 pm

Cash Bar Dinner

Robson Ranch Clubhouse

9501 Ed Robson Cir, Denton, TX 76027

LOOK FOR RSVP & PAYMENT LINK IN PLAN YOUR WEEK





**TEXAS
MASTER GARDENER**
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION
Denton County

It's time for Membership Renewal!



Scan this code or go to
dcmga.com/members-info/
to renew



TOP GARDENING TIPS

January

Keep landscape plantings watered well at root level.
Clean, sharpen, repair, and store garden and lawn tools.
Leave the leaves! Mow in place, compost, or use as mulch.
Check trees for damaged limbs that may be compromised by ice.
Relocate established trees & shrubs during winter dormancy.

#DCMGA #GROWWITHUS
DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

What's Growing On

Denton County Master Gardener Association Upcoming Events

- January 4** ***Pleasures & Perils of Perennials***
10-11 am. Presented by Carol Rowley. Denton Senior Center.
- January 10** ***Landscape Design***
7-8 pm. Co-sponsored by Flower Mound Garden Club. Presented by Lynda Harvey. Bridlewood Activity Center.
- January 13** ***Japanese Gardens***
9-10 am. Presented by Carol Rowley. Denton Senior Center.
- January 19** ***Companion Plants***
6-7 pm.. Co-sponsored by Greater Aubrey Area Gardening Series and Keep Aubrey Beautiful. Presented by Bonnie Ambrose. Greater Aubrey Area Library.
- February 6** ***Dogscaping***
7-8 pm. Co-sponsored by Flower Mound Library. Presented by Carol Arment. Flower Mound Library.
- February 13** ***Plant Propagation***
7-8 pm. Co-sponsored by Flower Mound Library. Presented by Cheryl Huckabee & Chryl Prestemon. Flower Mound Library.
- February 16** ***Plant Choices***
6-7 pm. Co-sponsored by Greater Aubrey Area Gardening Series and Keep Aubrey Beautiful. Presented by Mike James. Greater Aubrey Area Library.
- February 16** ***Starting Plants from Seeds***
6:30-7:30 pm. Co-sponsored by The Colony Public Library Presented by Cheryl Huckabee & Chryl Prestemon. The Colony Public Library.
- February 20** ***Garden Photography***
7-8 pm. Co-sponsored by Flower Mound Library. Presented by Janice Goetz. Flower Mound Library.
- February 27** ***Garden Tips, Tricks and Hacks***
7-8 pm. Co-sponsored by Flower Mound Library. Presented by Lynda Harvey. Flower Mound Library.

For detailed information: dcmga.com/upcoming-events

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension is an equal opportunity employer and program provider. The Texas A&M University System, the Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners of Texas Cooperate.



The Flower Mound Public Library presents
**The Denton County
 Master Gardener Association's
 2023 Spring Gardening Series**

February 6:

Dogscaping

Does your dog have opinions about your backyard landscape? Have they tried to implement these ideas? Explore how it is possible to achieve and sustain landscape design harmony for the entire family. Presenter Carol Arment is a Denton County Master Gardener and is also certified in Texas Native Plants.

February 13:

Plant Propagation

Would you like to learn to reproduce your favorite plants? Learn tips and tricks for propagating different types of plants for your landscape and share them with others. Presenter Cheryl Huckabee, the Denton County Master Gardener Association 2023 President, is a specialist in Plant Propagation and Vegetables.

February 20:

Garden Photography

Learn how to get the best images while photographing flowers, pollinators, birds and other critters in any garden, native prairie, or natural area. Presenter Janice Goetz is a Denton County Master Gardener, a Texas Master Naturalist with the Elm Fork Chapter, is Native Landscape Certified by the Native Plant Society of Texas, and is a member of several photography clubs in the DFW area.

February 27:

Garden Tips and Hacks

Try fresh ideas and tools that are economical and environmentally sound for you and your garden. Use resources wisely to rid pests, stay healthy, and beautify your yard. Presenter Lynda Harvey is a Denton County Master Gardener and a specialist in Entomology, Vegetables, and Earthkind. She is also certified by the Native Plant Society of Texas.



Texas A&M AgLife Extension is an equal opportunity employer and program provider. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

All programs start at 7 p.m.

**To register, please visit
www.flower-mound.com/libraryevents.**



3030 Broadmoor Lane, Flower Mound
 fmlibrary.net • 972.874.6200



2023 GREATER AUBREY AREA GARDENING SERIES

AUBREY AREA LIBRARY
226 COUNTRYSIDE DR., AUBREY, TX

JAN Presented by Bonnie Ambrose 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	19 Companion Plants Learn about the benefits of companion planting to conserve water, save space, improve pest control and pollination, provide habitat for beneficial insects, and add beauty to your garden.
FEB Presented by Mike James 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	16 Plant Choices Need help selecting plants for your landscape? This presentation will help you learn the crucial factors to consider in choosing the right plant for the right location, such as light, water, soil, and plant characteristics and function.
MAR Presented by Rooted in 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	16 Sprinkler Systems 101 Are you confused about how to manage your sprinkler system? This class simplifies the parts and components of your in-ground sprinkler systems with easy-to-follow tips on operating and setting your controller. You'll learn some water-saving tips, too!

KEEP
AUBREY
BEAUTIFUL



TEXAS
MASTER GARDENER
TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION
Denton County



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. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperation.



**YOU ARE THE
MISSING
PIECE!**

JOIN US AT THE
DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

**MEMBER
VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITY**
Fair

FEBRUARY 8, 2023, 10 AM
GLOBAL SPHERES CENTER
7801 S INTERSTATE 35
CORINTH, TX



Mission Statement

Denton County Master Gardener Association educates and engages county residents in the implementation of research-based horticultural and environmental practices that create sustainable gardens, landscapes, and communities.

Extension EO/EEO Statement

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. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

2023 Board of Directors

President	Cheryl Huckabee
Vice-President - Projects	Kelli Bixler
Secretary	Missy McCormick
Treasurer	Dale Powell
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Education Director	Daniel Arenas
Member-at-Large	Kim Shaneyfelt
Past President	Kathryn Wells
Extension Agent - Horticulture	Janet Laminack

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<https://www.instagram.com/DentonCountyMGA>

Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/@DentonCountyMGA>

Pinterest:

<https://www.pinterest.com/DentonCountyMGA>

YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/c/DentonCountyMasterGardener>

Save the Date

January 18

DCMGA Awards
Banquet / Annual
Meeting (Members
Only)



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Content

Submission deadline for the February edition of *The Root is Sunday*, January 15. Submissions may be revised at the discretion of the editor.

Ideas, photos, and articles are welcome and may be submitted to Editor Karen Gibson or Communications Director Judy Allen at dcmga.communications@gmail.com.

All photos are courtesy of DCMGA's Creative Visual Arts (CVA) Team unless otherwise attributed.