

The February Monthly Meeting of PBMG will be held Wednesday February 6, at noon at the CEED. Bring nature items to donate to JMG. (See article on page 2)

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#### OFFICERS

**President:** Bruce Shearer  
**President Elect:** Marita Hendrick  
**Secretary:** Carol Siddall  
**Treasurer:** Nancy Davis  
**Records:** Veta Reese  
**Members-at-Large:**  
Jenola Flowers  
Gay Hock  
Ellie Holmes  
Don Kinnison  
**Past President:** Barbara Porsch  
**Publicity:** Carol Siddall  
**Membership List:** Eunice Barkes  
**Newsletter Editor:** Carolyn Beall  
**Website:** Kay Pate

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#### Directory Changes:

**Joyce McCarty** –  
delete phone #367-0992  
**June Alderman** –  
[juman627@grandecom.net](mailto:juman627@grandecom.net)

Please send phone, address and e-mail changes to:

Eunice Barkes 694-1858  
[ebarkes@suddenlink.net](mailto:ebarkes@suddenlink.net)

### Permian Basin Home Builders Association Home and Garden Show

Sat., February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10am – 6pm  
Sun., February 24<sup>th</sup>, 12pm – 4 pm

Hip hip hooray! The Home and Garden Show does NOT conflict with spring break this year! Master Gardeners will play a major role in providing the public with information about water conservation and gardening techniques at this event which will be held at the Midland County Horseshoe located on I-20 between Big Spring and Midkiff streets. There will be a variety of booths representative of businesses that provide services in all areas of home and garden development and renovation and our booth is traditionally a bee hive of activity and interest.

The Plant Doctor will be “in” to answer questions and diagnose ailing plants. Greeters will be available to guide the crowd and hand out free seeds for the young and restless who are anxious to dig in their gardens. Debbie and other master gardeners will be lecturing on various gardening topics and there will be many exciting demonstrations.

The Junior Master Gardeners are busy designing garden art made from nature’s best finds. This will be a project for the young children who attend.

There will be many volunteer opportunities before, during and after the show. You can sign up for the minimum two hour shift or work all day! There is something for everyone! Sign up sheets will be available at the February monthly meeting or you can call Joyce McCarty at 889-4251.

## KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED!

The Junior Master Gardeners (JMG) are busy creating Natural Recycled Birdfeeders and Nature Masks for the upcoming Home and Garden Show. These supplies will be used for a project for the young children who attend the event.

Keep your eyes peeled for natural goodies such as pinecones, twigs no fatter than a pencil, yucca pods, feathers and seeds. Gather your findings and bring them to the February monthly meeting. Toni Lindley will accept your treasures and see that they get to the JMG.

## WOW! 13,930 VOLUNTEER HOURS TURNED IN FOR 2007

These 13,930 hours were turned in by 139 Master Gardeners (including the trainee class) which averages 100 hours per person. Forty six members turned in 100 or more hours. Special recognition for that achievement goes to: Kay Pate – 543, Donna Stripling – 515, Barbara Porsch – 453.50, Marilyn Kindel – 453.50, Nancy Lovett – 406.50, Geriann Green – 333.25, Nancy Davis – 319, M. K. Engelstad – 271.25, Eloise Taylor – 249.25, Jenola Flowers – 231.50, Bob Cornell – 230, Pat Adams – 221, Merita Hart – 217.50, Carol Siddall – 215.50, Earl Foote – 210.50, Misti Linneman – 208, Ellie Holmes – 207.75, Kathleen Cox – 203.50, Bruce Shearer – 196.50, Gay Hock – 189, Shirley Kelley – 188, Marita Hendrick – 185.50, Emmy Ulmschneider – 180.50, Donna Winborn – 153, Ann Panuska – 144, Jill Scaff – 143.25, Veta Reese – 142, Mary Ann Miles – 137, June Alderman – 136.75, Joyce McCarty – 132.25, Margie Langfitt – 131.50, John Kelley – 125.50, Don Kinnison – 125.25, Josie Gans – 124, Nancy Kirk – 118.25, Toni Lindley – 115.50, Carolyn Beall – 113, Kathleen Utsman – 113, Richard Daly – 112.50, Marta Baumgartner – 110, John Swift - 108.75, Betty Swift – 107, Johnnie Luttrell – 104.50, Barbara Craig - 102, Laura Loos – 100.50, Roger Corzine – 100. These 46 volunteers (1/3 of our membership) contributed a total of 9228.25 of our total hours -- just a few hours shy of 2/3 of the total. Thanks to these and to all Master Gardeners for volunteering for our wonderful organization.

The Independent Sector set a value of \$18.77 per hour for volunteer work in 2006. Their 2007 amount won't be available until later this spring. At \$18.77 per hour our 13,930 hours means that the Permian Basin Master Gardeners has donated time valued at \$261,466.10 to our community in 2007.

Extension uses the "after tax hourly rate" of \$13.56 which is still a sizeable amount, but we have been using the Independent Sector amount in the past.

## **MEMBERS TO REMEMBER**

GET WELL WISHES TO SUE BURDETTE WHO BROKE HER FOOT RECENTLY.  
BOB CORNELL IS ANTICIPATING SURGERY.  
SHARI MAXEY'S MOTHER PASSED AWAY IN NOVEMBER.  
DAVID WEYANT'S WIFE PASSED AWAY ON DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>.  
PEGGY HUNDLEY IS RECOVERING FROM A RECENT STROKE.

## **.....INFORMATION TIDBITS .....**

- ❖ All trainees who were certified in 2007 are asked to please return "loaner" shirts to Jill Scaff at the February monthly meeting.
- ❖ The new 2008 MG Directory is included in this newsletter. If there are any changes that need to be made please notify Eunice Barkes ASAP, as directed on page 1, lower left corner.
- ❖ Pre-Order Plant Sale lists will be available in February. Early orders are due at the March meeting.
- ❖ Spring Break for Midland and Odessa will be March 17 – 21.
- ❖ Davesgarden.com offers a lot of plant information, tips and advice.
- ❖ MISD schools are now using electronic visitor badges to improve school security and student protection. If a MG agrees to work at a school they are asked to provide a government picture ID, such as a driver's license, when they check in the first time.
- ❖ The Xeriscape Garden at the CAF will now be called the Water Wise Garden and will be coded on time-sheets as "WW".

### **Junior Master Gardeners at Work**

The Regan Bluebonnets met twice during January. Sixteen students learned about plant needs while planting pansies to take home. The following meeting was on Parents' Day and the JMG program was explained as well as the after-school program. The Bush Bunch and Sunshine Group also met recently and toured the White Pool House and garden. The students learned about a variety of plants and managed to take home a nice assortment of seeds for their gardens. Master Gardeners of the future!

## **FUTURE DATES:**

### **\*eligible for recertification**

Wednesday, February 6, Water Conservation Committee, 10:30AM – CEED  
Wednesday, February 6, Monthly Meeting, 12Noon – CEED  
Tuesday, February 12, Home and Garden Committee, 1:30, Ector County Office  
Thursday, February 14, JMG Committee, 2:00 pm, Sibley Learning Center  
\*February 18-19, Landscape Design Study Course - Texas A&M, College Station (2 credits)  
\*Wednesday, February 20, Soils and Soil Fertility, 9AM – CEED (1credit)  
February 23 & 24, Home & Garden Show – Midland County Horseshoe  
Tuesday, February 26, JMG Teacher/Leader Training, 9AM-3PM - Region 18, Terminal  
Tuesday, February 26, PBMG Executive Board - 10:30AM - Midland County Office  
Wednesday, March 5, Monthly Meeting, 12Noon - CEED  
Tuesday, March 25, PBMG Executive Board - 10:30AM - Midland County Office  
\*Wednesday, April 2, Plant Pathology, 9AM – CEED (1credit)  
Wednesday, April 2, Monthly Meeting, 12Noon - CEED  
Saturday April 12, City of Midland Oak Wilt Seminar  
\*April 16, Weed Identification and Management, 9AM – CEED (1credit)  
Saturday April 19, Plant Sale at the Midland County Horseshoe  
\*April 23. EarthKind, 9AM – CEED (1 credit)  
\*April 24-26, TMGA Conference - Montgomery County, Conroe (2 credits)  
Tuesday, April 29, PBMG Executive Board - 10:30AM - Midland County Office  
\*Wednesday, May 7, Entomology, 9AM – CEED (1 credit)  
Wednesday, May 7, Monthly Meeting, 12Noon - CEED  
Tuesday, May 27, PBMG Executive Board - 10:30AM - Midland County Office  
Wednesday, June 4, Monthly Meeting, 12Noon – CEED  
\*June 5 to 7, Plant Propagation Specialist Training – Abilene (2 Credits)  
\*June 11 to 14, JMG Specialist Training, Georgetown (2 Credits)  
Tuesday, June 4, PBMG Executive Board - 10:30AM - Midland County Office

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

**Carver Garden** – Feb. 5 & 7, 8:30 am – 12:30 pm, M.K. Engelstad, Jerry Kressler  
**Compost Demonstration Garden** – Feb. 14, 9:00 am, Earl Foote, Mary Ann Miles  
**JMG Committee** – Reagan (Odessa) Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29. Misti Linneman, Toni Lindley  
**Nat'l Rose Research Garden** – Feb. 18, 9:00 am, Donna Winborn, Nancy Lovett  
**Sculpture Garden** – Feb. 7, 10:00 am, Barbara Craig, Joyce Houser  
**Variety Trial Garden** – Feb. 19 & 25, 10:30 am, Geriann Green, Nancy Davis  
**Water Wise Garden (CAF)** – Feb. 15 & 29, 1:00 pm

## **.....COMMITTEE MEETINGS.....**

**HOME AND GARDEN SHOW COMMITTEE** – after the February monthly meeting  
Wed., Feb. 6 and Tues., Feb. 12, 1:30, Carol Siddall, Joyce McCarty  
**PLANT SALE COMMITTEE** – TBA, Jill Scaff, Nancy Lovett  
**JMG COMMITTEE** – Thursday, Feb. 14, 2:00 pm, Sibley Learning Center  
**WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING** - Wednesday, February 6 at 10:30 a.m.  
prior to the monthly meeting. Merita Hart, Veta Reese

## LANDSCAPE DESIGN STUDY COURSE

It's not too late to register for the Landscape Design Study Course to be held at College Station on February 18-19. Not only does this course qualify as educational credits, but it is a valuable learning experience for anyone wishing to further their knowledge of landscape design. It deals with history of landscape design, design for homes, parks, businesses and highways, and much more. These courses are offered approximately every six months. Four courses comprise the entire program, but they do not have to be taken consecutively.

All information concerning registration and hotels can be found at <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southern garden/LDflyer.html>

## TEXAS MASTER GARDENER STATE CONFERENCE

The TMGA state conference will be held in Conroe on April 24-26. This qualifies for educational credits and there will be many wonderful programs, seminars, speakers and tours. Barbara Porsch has reserved a block of rooms at a hotel in Conroe, so if you plan on going, check with her before they are all spoken for.

All information concerning registration and hotels can be found at <http://www.2008texasmastergardenerconference.org/>

## 2008 SPECIALIST CLASSES

You will find information concerning Specialist Training on the TMGA web site at <http://www.texasmastergardener.org>

Click on "Specialist" in the left menu.

**BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM THE TEXAS  
A&M UNIVERSITY PRESS**  
DOUG WELSH'S TEXAS GARDEN ALMANAC  
A DAZZLE OF DRAGONFLIES  
TREES OF TEXAS  
TOXIC PLANTS OF TEXAS  
TEXAS RANGE PLANTS  
TREES, SHRUBS, VINES OF THE TEXAS HILL COUNTRY  
HUMMINGBIRDS OF TEXAS

### **- Guidelines from the Webmaster -**

#### **1. for submitting items for inclusion on the website**

- If your submission is a finished publication, it is ok to send it in PDF format.
- If it is possible that the document will require changes, submit the original so that it can be easily edited. I can convert it to PDF after it is completed.
- If your document is in a format unreadable to me (Macintosh, etc), send it in the body of an email, rather than an attachment.
- As a final alternative, get it to me in printed format, and I can scan it.
- *Please do not send WordPerfect documents.* WordPerfect has fonts and symbols that are copyrighted and will not convert to PDF, FLASH, etc. Microsoft word is always a safe bet, as is Rich Text. Most word processing programs will have an option to save as Rich Text (under "File > Save As")
- I would rather have digital photos in JPG or GIF or PNG format, but I can scan prints, so they are not a big problem. All digital cameras that I know of will save files in JPG format.
- Documents laid out in MS Publisher are OK also.
- I can scan drawings, so send them as hardcopy (maps, garden layouts, etc)

## 2. for accessing ‘Members Only’ on the website

The following information is needed if you want access to the ‘members only’ folder of the PBMG website. Please email the information to [kaypate@cablone.net](mailto:kaypate@cablone.net) . You can also have a free email address on the website if you want one. Submit your

- Name
  - Email address
  - Desired password (minimum of 7 letters or numbers, must start with a letter)
- Your username will be your email address.

### **Free email address**

If you want to take advantage of the free email address, we will also need a password for your email access. You can use the same password as your member access if you want. Your email address on the PBMG website will be your name (ie: firstlast@westtexasgardening.org)

If you do not currently have an email address, fill out the form below and deliver to Kay Pate or snail mail to

Kay Pate  
8 Saint Marys Cir  
Odessa, TX 79765

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Members Only Password: \_\_\_\_\_

Email password (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service  
The Texas A&M University System

1010 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Odessa TX 79761

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Deborah Bengé Frost  
CEA-Horticulture Ector/Midland Counties

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