



**Fort Bend County Master Gardeners, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
October 11, 2011**

Attendees –

Board Members Present: Barbara Buckley, Jane Gray, Peg Turrentine, Marilyn Almon, Becky Leugemors, Arnold Knoche, Gwen Heck

Board Members Absent: Barbara Brannon, Nat Gruesen Brenda Dresner. Ginny Grant

Extension Service Master Gardener Coordinators Present:
CEA - Horticulture – Shari Grahmann, Ph.D.

Quorum Present? Yes

Call to Order –Jane Gray called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes – After a motion by Peg Turrentine and a second by Barbara Buckley, the minutes of the September 13, 2011, Board meeting were approved by all, with corrections.

Officer and Committee Reports:

President – Jane Gray

- No report

Vice President – Peg Turrentine

- No report

Secretary – Gwen Heck

- Minutes of the August board meeting have been submitted to the webmaster.

Treasurer – Arnold Knoche

- Written report attached.

Past President – Nat Gruesen

- Absent, no written report

Awards – Vacant

- Awards Program will be December 8th. Awards committee to meet before next monthly meeting.

Communications – Barbara Buckley

- Written report attached
- Numbers have dropped for September
- Marilyn asked if we have a back-up to Barbara and she says not yet.

Community Relations – Brenda Dresner

- Absent, no written report

Education-Ginny Grant

- Absent, written report attached.
- Jane-met yesterday with the Sugar Land Farmer's Market committee to talk about ideas. They would like something interactive for the public but no formal program. We will need lots of help.

Fundraising – Barbara Brannon

- Absent. No written report.

Landscape –Becky Leugemors

- No written report.
- Chairperson of Composting is moving
- Becky submitted a sketch for the proposed panel to go along side the Range building to Shari
- Need pedometer to measure distance for the proposed gator path.

Member Relations – Marilyn Almon

- Written report attached.
- Dates for all proposed field trips are now confirmed.
- Peg would like to have some type of rolling cart to place sellable items on, when selling during workdays.
- All our money in our virtual store is tied up in inventory

Standing Committee Reports:

Governance Committee

- No report.

Extension Service Master Gardener Coordinators Reports:

CEA – Horticulture – Shari Grahmann. Ph.D.

- No written report.
- Ag' Barn was great! Format was wonderful. We will build on this.
- We had lots of media attention this year.
- Containers were a big hit.
- Plants used for decoration are for sale starting tomorrow.
- Sustainable landscape program was very successful.
- Jane-public was appreciative of the work done behind the scenes (rain barrels were ready to go)
- New master gardener class started last week with 22 participants.

Master Volunteer Coordinator, Fort Bend County – Margo McDowell

- Absent, no written report.

Other:

Old Business:

1. Spreadsheet-no major changes
2. Term Limits-in progress. Not ready to present to board
3. Greenhouse-no date set for repair. The vendor will evaluate what needs repair. Will start growing vegetables in January for the 2nd sale. We can't grow plants for the 1st sale because of the condition of the greenhouse.

New Business:

1. Domain Registration-Arnold inquires regarding a bill he received. Barbara will check this out.

Jane Gray adjourned the meeting at 7 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 8th at 6:30 p.m. at the Annex building.

Addendum:

- Jane Gray announced on October 13th that Robin Winfree has volunteered to be Awards Chairperson.

Respectfully submitted, with corrections
Gwen Heck, Secretary
Fort Bend County Master Gardeners, Inc.
November 8, 2011

Communications Report October 2011 Board Meeting

Submitted by Barbara Buckley, Communications Director

This report provides information and numbers for September 2011.

- 1 Website – Barbara Buckley**
Visitors from 1 September 2010 to 31 September, 2011: **152,455**
Visitors in August 2011: **11,338** Visitors in September 2011: **10,404**
- 2 FBMG Blog - Barbara Buckley**
Visitors from 1 September 2010 to 31 September, 2011: **47,810**
Visitors in August 2011: **4,185** Visitors in September 2011: **3,757**
- 3 Facebook – Cindy Pack**
Number of members as of 31 September 2011: **87**
September and October announcements were posted for Green Thumb, Monthly Program and Saturday workday.
- 4 Publicity – Mary Ellen Twiss**
Notices were sent to local newspapers, magazines, and websites with information about events for September and October.

Education Committee Report-October 2011

Ginny Grant

Entomology Group

Butterfly cards are ready for review by advisors.

Green Thumb Program

Program being revised/on hiatus until 2012

Monthly Educational Program

2011

October: Fall Bulbs, Chris Wiesinger, the Bulb Hunter

November: Native American Gifts to the World, Dr. Bob Pierce

2012

January: Fruit & Citrus, John Panzarella, (1 ½ hours)

February: Lessons from a Rose Rustler, Mike Shoup, Antique Rose Emporium

March: Soil Food Web & Types of Compost & Mulch, John Ferguson, Nature's Way Resources
(1 ½ hours)

April: Bamboo, Mike Frismanis, FBMG

Speakers Bureau

Sept: 4 programs – 3 garden clubs (90 attendees) & Papershell Nursery (28 attendees)

Oct: 3 programs scheduled

Youth Activities

JMG: Jane Long JMG group, Garden Gurus, LCISD, 23 members participating; school garden & activities at Growing in Grace Garden

Sep-Oct: Fort Bend County Fair, 4 school days, about 700 children attended

Oct 1: Sugar Land Farmers Market, paper pots, about 100 participants

Oct 21-22: Texian Market Days, George Ranch, (school groups on 21st, general public on 22nd)

Dec 9: Katy ISD, JMG Orientation for Elementary Science Curriculum Instructional Coaches

Miscellaneous

- Oct 1: Sugar Land Farmers' Market
Oct 8: Sustainable Landscape Seminar – FBMG partnered with Sugar Land Storm Water Management Dept; 40 Attendees; 21 MG volunteers

Member Relations Report

October 11, 2011

Marilyn Almon

FBCMG Participation in the Sugar Land Garden Club's Garden Art and Plant Sale (GAPS)—September 24th

6 master gardeners set up and staffed the booth and sold garden-related items. Sales totaled \$1010 (approximately half of the 2010 sales) and the garden club will retain 15% of the sales amount. Plant questions were answered as well as questions about the master gardener program.

4th Annual FBCMG Fall Garden Tour

Sunday, October 30th, 1 to 5 pm. Pat Davis is chairing this year's event and has scheduled 5 gardens which are located in Greatwood, Richmond, and Fulshear. Garden descriptions and driving directions are now posted on the members only page of the website.

Field Trips

- October 28th—Guided tour of Bella Vista Ranch in Wimberley and the Industrial Country Market in Columbus. BVR is an olive growing ranch and the headquarters of First Texas Olive Oil Co., where olive oil is pressed, seasonal produce is grown, and related products are sold. Deadline to sign up will be October 19th and this will be a day trip.
- November 17th—Guided tour of Ellison's Greenhouses in Brenham. Their poinsettia celebration will be held on November 19th and 20th and the field trip would occur just prior to that weekend.
- December 10th—Citrus tasting in John Panzarella's backyard in Lake Jackson. Details TBA.

Cookbook Project

Recipes are still being edited, but hopefully this phase will be concluded in the near future.

FBCMG Store

An inventory reduction sale is being considered for the last quarter. An evaluation will be made of the items currently being sold and of potential new items to be offered.