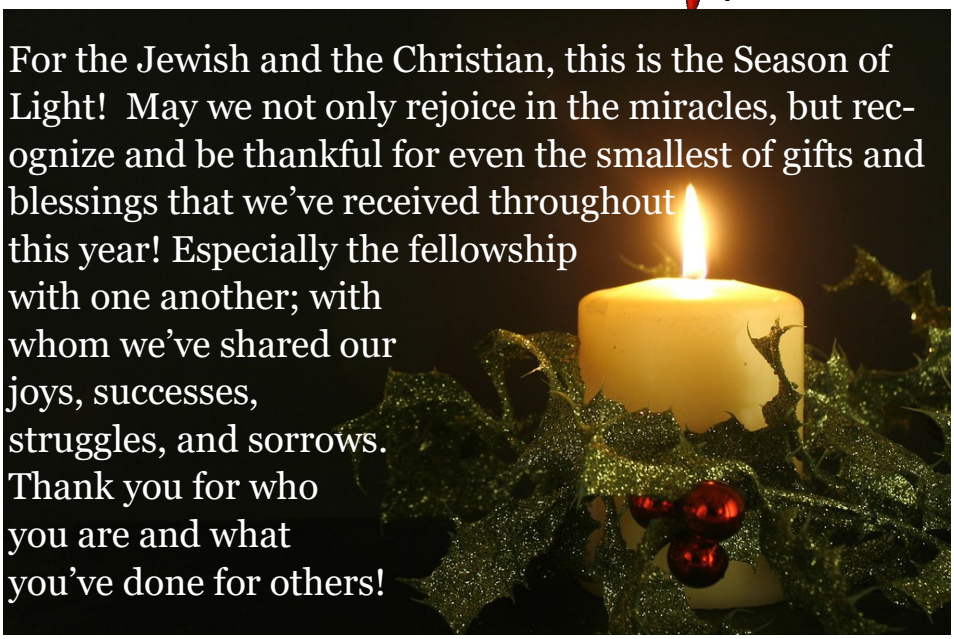
Nueces Master Gardener Gazette

Nueces County, Texas

The mission of the association shall be to organize and promote volunteer efforts that support the AgriLife Extension programs that are advancing sound horticultural practices in Nueces County (nueces.agrilife.org)



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DECEMBER NMG Intern Recognition Dinner

Tuesday, December 17th @ 6:30 pm
Garden Senior Center

The county extension office is providing turkey and ham.

Please RSVP your attendance & advise the side dish or dessert you'll be bringing to Gloria at vanzante@stx.rr.com or 994.8274

We're also accepting ***unexpired*** canned goods for the Food Bank and **new, *unwrapped*** toys for Toys for Tots.

Members: bring $20 cash or check for annual dues
Please make plans to attend! It's always a great time!

NMG LEADERSHIP

President-Beth Spirko
Vice Presidents-
Jessica Latimer &
Gloria Van Zante
Secretary-Madeline Church
Treasurer-Norma Hernandez
Members at Large-
Paul Parr
Huxley Smith
Theresa Stelzig
State Directors-
Nina Dawson
Carlos Valdez
Alternate: Deb Holliday
Gazette Editor-Kelly Denson

Nueces Master Gardeners Monthly Meetings

Next Mtg: Tuesday, January 21, 2020

(***No Meeting in December***)

11:00 a.m.—Board of Directors Meeting (Open to Members)

11:30 a.m.—Meet & Greet Brown Bag Lunch (Open to Public)

12:00 p.m.—Presentation/Education (Open to Public)
Subject to be Determined

12:30 p.m.—General Meeting (Open to Public)

Location: Garden Senior Center—5325 Greely Drive

Volunteer & Educational Hours CANNOT be accrued for cooking for or attending the Intern Recognition Dinner on 12/17/19. However, decorating and clean-up hours CAN be accrued.

Please update your contact info on VMS for the picture roster!
Click here: https://texas.volunteersystem.org/UniversalLogin.cfm

You may earn up to three hours annually with online training. Each course counts as **one (1)** hour.

For online CE training courses go to:

http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/training/

Email Betty Rogers at banrogers@aol.com after you have completed each course giving her the name of the course. Also, be sure to record those hours on your online reporting form (VMS).

Slate of 2020 Officers for approval:

President: Beth Spirko

Vice President: Vince Muscarello

Treasurer: Norma Hernandez (year 2 of 2-year term)

Secretary: Betty Whitt

Vice President Elect: Madi Church

At Large: Paul Parr, Linda Lamprecht (year 1), Agnes Hamilton (year 1)

State Directors:
1) Carlos Valdez, Sr. (year 2, President Elect)

2) Deb Holiday (year 1)

Alt: Karen Easton

NMG ONGOING PROJECTS

EARTH-KIND BEDS AT BOTANICAL GARDENS—Each of the five beds is maintained by a team, whose work day may vary. The group meets Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. If you would like to get involved contact Paul Parr for information at paulnorman4910@aol.com.

FOOD BANK PROJECT—The group meets Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. (except MG meeting day, then Wednesday) to maintain the vegetable beds and plan for the upcoming growing season. FMI contact Mary Lambert at 813.7596 or cwlmel@yahoo.com

GARDEN SENIOR CENTER COURTYARD—The 1st Monday of the month at 8:00 a.m. begins the work session during which MGs prune, weed, and generally shape up the courtyard. FYI contact Jessica Latimer at 563.6008 or 429paloma@att.net

RAY HIGH SCHOOL GREENHOUSE—**UPDATED INFO: Student activity times in the garden are 9 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. and 11 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.** MGs help coordinate student work in the garden area and offer hands-on gardening instruction. To get involved contact Alene Burch at lenahope9@yahoo.com.

SOUTH TEXAS BOTANICAL GARDENS (STBOT)—MGs can help out at the STBG any time during business hours. There is always something that needs to be done within your abilities. Check in at the Gift Shop for assignments & to record your volunteer hours.

DECEMBER/JANUARY ACTIVITIES

Clubs & Societies

⇒ **Next Meeting Tues 1/14 at 10 am @ GSC—Garden Council meet the second Tuesday of the month Sept. through May (except December) at 10 am @ GSC, for info contact 361-443-1821.** ***Receive CE hours for this club's presentations***

⇒ **Next Meeting Tues 1/21 at 6:30 pm @ STBOT. TX Master Naturalists meet the third Tuesday of the month (except Dec/Jun/July) 6:30pm at the Botanical Gardens, for info: https://txmn.org/st/**

⇒ **Next Meeting Wed 1/4 at 7 pm @ GSC—The Coastal Bend Cacti & Succulent Society meet the first Wednesday of the month 7pm at Greely Senior Center (GSC), for info contact 361-852-7700**

⇒ **Next Meeting Wed 1/22 at 6:30 pm @ GSC—The Plumeria Society meet the fourth Wednesday of the month 6:30pm at GSC, for info contact 361-813-9616**

⇒ **Next Meeting Thurs 1/8 at 7 pm @ GSC —The Bonsai Society meet the fourth Thursday of the month 7pm at GSC, for info contact 361-992-0009**

⇒ **Next Meeting Thurs 1/15 at 7:00 pm @ STBOT—The Bromeliad Society meet the fourth Thursday of the month 7pm at the Botanical Gardens, for info contact 361-658-8650**

25 Dec - John Balcar –Class 3

30 Dec - Melinda Russell –Class 29

30 Dec - Madeline Church –Class 27

06 Jan - Jan Shannon –Class 2

08 Jan - Frank Eicholz –Class 25

14 Jan - Agustin Molina –Class 28

Conchis Villafranco — Class 29

Julie Chancler — Class 29

DEC/JAN CALENDAR

Nueces Master Gardener Meetings/Events

- NO December Nueces Master Gardener Meeting at GSC (see page 2 for details)
  The intern recognition dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 17th @ 6:30 pm at GSC.
- Mon 1/2 @ 8am—Monthly Gardening Maintenance of Greely Senior Center (GSC) Courtyard
- Fri 1/17 @ 2:30 pm-4:00 pm—Learning to Grow Meeting at GSC
- Tues 1/21 Monthly Nueces Master Gardener Meeting at GSC (see page 2 for details)

LOCAL/STATE ACTIVITIES

Coastal Bend Meetings/Conferences/Training/Volunteers/Group Participation

- Weekly Educational Classes 10am-11 am at Gill Nursery. For more info call 361.992.9674 or click here for more info : https://gillnursery.com/garden-talks/
- Weekly Educational Classes 10:30 am-11:30 am at South Texas Botanical Gardens For more info call 361.852.2100 or go to their website http://stxbot.org/ and click the "education and events calendar" for a specific month or the full year. Click for Jan/Feb education flyer.
- Free monthly Orchid-ology Class meets the first Thursday of the month 7:00pm at the Botanical Gardens Education Center.
- The Port Aransas Garden Club has requested pictures of local plants for their book "Gardening in Port Aransas." Email them directly to jpeters44@mygrande.net or advise Kevin Gibbs, who will forward your submissions. The goal is to complete the project by Christmas.
- Tues through Thurs 2/2-4/2020 Southeast Region Sea Turtle Network (SERSTN) Annual Conference at Omni Hotel. Scholarships for the $150 registration fee are available to attend all or a portion of the conference. All MGs, interns, spouses who are interested in learning more about turtles, who has ever worked with turtles, or would like to work with turtles, must complete the registration form as a local participant (to the best of your ability) and submit it with payment no later than January 3rd to be refunded the $150 registration fee. Click here for the refundable registration fee form.
- Thurs 2/20/2020—Nueces County Landscape Conference, Del Mar CED. ***Sign up to work the registration table and attend the conference for free!***

State-Wide Meetings/Conferences/Training/Education/Events

- Texas Happenings! Texas Master Gardener Association https://txmg.org 979.845.3308 Click here for all events: https://txmg.org/events
- Sat 1/4/2020 @ Round Rock. 9th Annual Beekeeping Seminar -Austin Area Beekeepers Assn. Click here for Flyer. Registration info: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-austin-area-beekeeping-seminar-registration-75858425593.
- Mon-Wed 2/24-26/2020 @ College Station. Junior Master Gardener Training.
- Tues-Thurs 5/12-14/2020 @ Waco Convention Center. Waco/McLennan County—Texas Master Gardener Annual Conference "Bloomin' on the Brazos." Hilton Waco and Courtyard Marriott are now accepting reservations. The agenda will have Leadership Training on the afternoon of May 11th, with conference registration opening at 7:00am on May 12th. The conference will close at 5:00pm on the 14th. Special hotel rates are valid for three days before, and three days post-conference. Come, enjoy all that Waco has to offer! More info to follow:

FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

* December Week-End Adventures at Mustang Island State Park include resin-cast pendant-making, constellation tour & ask a ranger. For more info: https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/mustang-island
* Wed 12/18 - Every Wednesday of the Month 5pm-8pm. Corpus Christi Downtown Farmers' Market, 100 North Shoreline Blvd at The Art Center of Corpus Christi. Featuring fresh, local produce, eggs and meat, you will also find locally-created breads, jams & jellies, honey, artisans, live music, beverages and more. Everything at the market is grown, raised, or made within 200 miles of Corpus Christi, TX. FYI: https://growlocalstx.com/access/corpus-christi-downtown-farmers-market/
* Sat 12/21 - Every Saturday of the Month; Rain or Shine, 9am until sold-out. Southside Farmers Market, 5800 block of Everhart near Holly in the parking lot. Featuring home-grown/made produce, beef, eggs, honey, jellies, sweets, coffee, kombucha, juices, jewelry, wood art, pottery, greeting cards, plants. Get on the email list: southsidefarmersmarketcc@gmail.com.
* Mon 1/2 @ 8am—Monthly Gardening Maintenance of Greely Senior Center (GSC) Courtyard
* Sat 1/4 - First Saturday of Every Month 8am-5pm. The Market at Bay Area Landscape Nursery includes unique arts, crafts, jewelry, fashions, home decor, great foods and a whole lot more! https://www.mybayarealandscapes.com/
* Sun 1/5. Submissions from Assigned & Volunteer contributors are due for Newsletter to Kelly Denson (kellyfdenson@gmail.com). ***The Gazette will be published without submissions if not received by deadline.***
* Mon 1/6 & Tues 2/4.The Island Gardeners need speakers on Citrus, Fruit, & Nut Trees
* Wed 1/8 thru Wed 3/4 Port Aransas Garden Club needs speakers for their brown bags lunches
* *Tentative Date*-Sat 1/25/20-Xeriscape Symposium - Tentative Location, Del Mar College
* Fri 2/7 thru Sun 2/9—Spring Home & Garden Show, American Bank Center. Set-up Wednesday February 5th.
* Thurs 2/20—Nueces County Landscape Conference, Del Mar CED
* Sat 4/4—South Texas Botanical Gardens Dollar Day "Big Bloom" Plant Sale

A Contribution from Sandra Williams

I cut this tomato open to find seedlings growing inside. This is called **"vivipary"** or the growing of seedlings while enclosed within the embryo. This happens in fruits from time to time. With tomatoes, it usually occurs because the fruit is over-ripe. The fruit is still edible, but give it the taste test just to be sure it doesn't have an unpleasant flavor.

Many plants growing in mangroves are viviparous. The watery, saline environment is not conducive to their initial growth, so they remain attached to the parent plant until they are large enough to float to an area more conducive to growth.

MGs In Action

Ray High School Greenhouse

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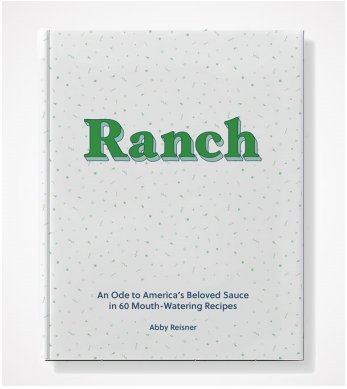

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Fall Broccoli Harvest!

We're searching for a Horticulture Assistant/Secretary. If you or someone you know is looking for a full-time job, please click or share the link below:

https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/nuecesco/jobs/2646406/senior-clerk-agricultural-

For General Info:

Individuals with Disabilities
who require auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in any extension event are encouraged to contact their County Extension Office at 361.767.5217 at least one week in advance of the program in order for proper arrangements to be made.

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TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE EXTENSION

Nueces Master Gardener Gazette
is produced monthly with submissions due to the Editor by the 5th of each month. If you have any submissions, comments or suggestions please send them to Kelly Denson kellyfdenson@gmail.com

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