



Phone: MG 533-5696
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Newsletter

2 S. Green St.
52 N. Washington St. Sonora,
CA 95370

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Announcements

Master Gardener Board Meeting will be held on Monday, August 31, 1:00 p.m. at the UCCE Office – 52 N. Washington St., Sonora.

Master Gardener General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 1, 6:00 p.m. at Cassina Demo Garden. **Potluck finger food. It’s a Party!!!!** No continuing education program.

President’s Message



Hi All,

Just a quick update on my water situation. I DID IT! Everything has been running smoothly now for about a month. If anyone else is running short of water and you are on a well, space those timers out. This has given my water source time to replenish itself before I tap into it again.

Everything in the ground gets watered every other day. They are adjusting pretty well. I can see a few that will have to go, but I think they are the ones that the lovely gophers have done a number on! I know for a fact that even your annuals can get tough. Next time you’re headed back up the hill from the valley, between Knights Ferry and Green Springs road, look for some cosmos, marigolds, and zinnias, growing next to the highway. NO WATER! Must have a little “Water Fairy” that comes by every day!

We recently went on a little trip and one stop we made was at the Hummer House in Christoval, Texas. Interesting place. It’s open to the public by appointment, but we were at his gate and he told us to come on in.

The Hummer House is the summer home to Texas’ largest concentration of breeding Black-chinned Hummingbirds. The observation room has a big glass wall where you can sit and watch all different kinds of birds do their thing. He has a nice big running water feature where they all come for a drink or to take a bath.

Lots of hummers to see but the bird that really gives you that WOW moment has to be the Painted Bunting. Native to the area, this little bird has some amazing colors. They’re known to be a little skittish, so I guess we were lucky to see one.

Besides viewing birds there, they also tag them. Since 1995, they have tagged over 35,000 birds. Of 135 species, 10,500 individuals have been Black-chinned Hummers. Can you imagine the size of the band you would put on a hummingbird? Get those glasses out! Don’t want to miss and get both legs!

In June they had a program on TV about the Hummer House. This month they are airing a segment on bird banding. Dates & times: Thursday, August 27 @ 8:30 pm, Friday, August

28 @ 10:30 am, and Sunday August 30 @ 10:30 pm. Look for it on RFD TV.

So, if you find yourself in San Angelo and you're looking for something to do, get on 277 south, go about 18 miles and look for the Hummer House. Next month I have another place you have to check out, another amazing place! See you on the road!

Toots



Calendar

SEPTEMBER

- 1-General Meeting 6:00 pm
(Cassina Garden - Finger Food Potluck)
- 1-Master Gardeners in Schools 5:00 pm
(Cassina Demo Garden)
- 9- Team Leader Meeting 9:00 am
(Cassina Demo Garden)
- 12-Open Garden Day 10:00 am
(Cassina Demo Garden)
- 14-Oak Propagation Workshop 1:00 pm
(Tuolumne Memorial Hall)
- 15-Fair Triangle Work Group
- 19-Great Sierra River Clean-Up 9:00 am

OCTOBER

- 3-Open Garden Day-10:00 am
(Cassina Demo Garden)
- 5-Board Meeting-1:00 pm
(UCCE Office)
- 6-General Meeting-6:00 pm
(Senior Center)
- 17-CNPS Fall Sale 9:00 am
(Jamestown-Rocha Park)

NOVEMBER

- 2-Board Meeting-1:00 pm
(UCCE Office)
- 3-General Meeting-6:00 pm
(Senior Center)
- 7-Open Garden Day-10:00 am
(Cassina Demo Garden)

Demonstration Garden Update

On a very hot August morning over twenty-five visitors came to the garden to learn about the care of berries. As usual, Gary gave a very informative talk as well as a demonstration of identifying which canes to prune.

Katy and a very helpful crew then presented us with fresh vegetables—grilled, baked and in salads. The salads were so refreshing and the grilled peaches absolutely 'to die for'! This is the second year that we have had this 'tasting from the garden' and it was just as much a success as last year.

In September, Garden Open Day will be on the 2nd Saturday of the month, the 12th, due to Labor Day. Katy, Jack and Gary will be discussing and/or demonstrating herbs; prepping the winter garden; seed collecting, preserving and planting; planting early crops from seed; and installing cold cloth. For those of you just starting to vegetable garden this is one Open Garden Day that you don't want to miss. And for experienced vegetable gardeners, your expertise on these topics is always welcomed.

The Garden Reporter



Library News

Ceanothus by David Fross and Dieter Wilken

The Library Committee tries to select books to amaze and delight you when we choose our new books. One of our newest in the library is full of pictures and packed with info on the ceanothus family. Part one is devoted to Ceanothus in the garden and landscape. It covers the history of cultivation, growing habits and diseases and pests. Part two is devoted to Ceanothus in the

wild including keys for distinguishing these sometimes hard to identify plants. Best known for their unrivaled range of blues, ceanothus will grow as a ground hugging mat or increasing in size from shrub to tree sizes. Spend some time with this book and you will appreciate how the authors strove to provide information for both gardener and botanist.

Thank you very much.
Julie Marie Segerstrom

Library Committee



Watershed Clean-Up

The rivers of the Sierra Nevada region provide almost 65% of the state's developed water needs on their way down to the Pacific ocean. Unfortunately our waterways have historically been a dumping ground for garbage. This year is the premiere year of the Great Sierra River Clean Up, which will be an annual event coordinated by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy every year on the third Saturday of September from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in conjunction with the California Coastal Cleanup Day. On this day, thousands of volunteers throughout California will collect tens of thousands of pounds of trash from the rivers of the Sierra Nevada range. To get involved and volunteer to help clean up local rivers and streams, please contact Corinne Munger at corinne@trcd.org or 533-8866.

Coordinator's Corner

Funding: On Tuesday, August 25, the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors approved a final budget that included a small amount of funding for the Master Gardener program in the form of a salary contribution for the coordinator. I am so grateful for the visibility this program has

achieved in Tuolumne County (thank you ALL for your many efforts) and for the show of support for Master Gardeners from our supervisors.

Hotline:

The Master Gardener Hotline has gotten off to a roaring start with volunteers staffing the hotline Tuesday afternoons and Thursday mornings. The phone number for reaching the MG Hotline is 533-5912; the e-mail address is mgtuolumne@ucdavis.edu

Ordering Materials from the UCCE Office:

If you need to replenish materials for information booths, Farmers' Markets, publicity displays, etc. please call me at 533-5696 or Robin at 533-5695 **at least one week ahead.**

If you're in town and wish to drop into the office to order materials, you may help yourself to materials already available in the brochures drawer in the Master Gardener office. Any materials needing to be copied or printed will be ready for you to pick up in a week.

Due to county and U.C. furlough days and salary reductions, it is no longer possible to be able to print and copy materials for you on a drop-in basis. Thank you for your understanding and patience; we regret any inconvenience this may cause.

Next Month's
Newsletter
Editor
Kris Grayum
Submissions Due
September 15th

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