

UrbanDirt

IN COOPERATION WITH THE TEXAS COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Amaryllis belladonna

By Virginia Joiner



One of the most exciting bulb growing developments of the last decade is the *Amaryllis belladonna*. It is a cross between two bulb species from the west side of the Cape of South Africa, *Amaryllis belladonna* and another related South African bulb, *Paradiscola belladonna* is said to be the one true Amaryllis. It can be distinguished from the lily family (liliaceae) by the placement of the anatomical ovary and they are considered more advanced in evolution than the lilies.

Amaryllis belladonna is one of the few summer or autumn flowering bulbs. In the United States belladonna is called "naked lady". The beautiful flower stalks appear about two months after the lush green straps have died. The straps which appear in early spring die back in early summer. It can produce one or two naked stems, each bearing a cluster of 2-12 funnel shaped, fragrant flowers.

The Amaryllis bulb can produce flowers for up to 75 years. Belladonna blooms more freely when it gets year around watering. For more abundant blooms the following year cover with peat or leaves. *Amaryllis belladonna* can also be used in the rock garden as it can be drought tolerant as well but does not produce as many blooms. If you have an established landscape, Agapanthus is a good companion plant. Belladonna can also be grown in ground cover and mixed with annuals. A hawk moth was believed to be the source of pollination but carpenter bees were seen visiting during the day light hours. In its native habitat it is believed that the bee is the main pollinator.

Traditionally the Amaryllis has symbolized splendid beauty, pride and poetry. Classical poets tell us that Amaryllis was a pure nymph shepherdess. Even though she was timid and shy she had a spine of steel. She fell in love with Alteo, an icy-hearted shepherd who was as handsome as Apollo and strong like Hercules. She determined that she would be true to him regardless of the consequences. Alteo was very indifferent to Amaryllis and the love she offered. His only desire was that a new flower be brought to him, a flower that had never before existed in the world. Amaryllis consulted with the Oracle at Delphi. The Oracle told her to go to Alteo's door for thirty consecutive nights and to pierce her heart with a golden arrow. For thirty consecutive nights, dressed in maidenly white and dripping blood she did as the Oracle told her. The shepherd Alteo finally opened his door to discover a beautiful flower with crimson petals which had sprung from the blood of Amaryllis' heart.

The so called Amaryllis that is forced into bloom by the thousands each year belongs to the genus *Hippeastrum* from South and Central America. They are predominately used as house plants. There are some differences between the two. Belladonnas blooms are smaller and the stalk is not hollow.

Wear your smiles and come into the garden.

President's Thoughts

By Doug McLeod



We had a good time at the George Brown Convention Center at the Texas Nursery Landscape Association Expo. Upon completion of Expo we loaded plants, shrubs and trees on 7 trucks, one trailer and one large u-haul truck. We then trucked them back to Extension area and unloaded them. Some of you Master Gardeners, and there are too many to name, showed up to help and worked long hours to complete this project. **Michael Morrison** deserves a pat on the back for setting it up and the hours he put in.

I am constantly amazed at the reaction people get when I tell them that I am a HCMG. The normal reaction is that they have some type of problem in their garden and need help. Telling people that you are a HCMG is a sure way to break the ice at a party or any group where the conversation is sparse.

There is a lot of activity going on at the different gardens and a lot of new help is showing up to work them. I am proud of our MG's who continue to come up with new suggestions on how to streamline our different programs at the Extension Center.

Happy Gardening.



Harris County Master Gardener Association
3033 Bear Creek Drive (281) 855-5600
Houston, TX 77084 FAX (281) 855-5638

2004–2005 Board of Directors

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(281) 870-1907

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(713) 218-8261

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(281) 855-5600

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(281) 855-5600

Horticulture Secretary Becky Deasy
(281) 855-5600

Volunteer Coordinator Scott Hume
(281) 855-5600

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(281) 955-8013

Speakers' Bureau..... Beth Grunden
(713) 461-7159

Urban Dirt Carol Cammack
ccammack@ag.tamu.edu

Michael's Corner

By Michael Morrison, CEA Horticulture

Wow, what an effort this past month! With the Texas Nursery Landscape Association Expo trade show and the Houston Home Show at the George R. Brown Convention Center. For the Landscape and Nursery Expo show we were one of four groups that helped set up on two days before the show and a tear down Sunday from 2 pm until 10 pm. Many plants and pavers and trees were donated to the Master Gardeners as part of the exchange for our labor to help in the show. The sale of these goods and items so far has brought in over \$2,000! I wanted to take a moment and thank everyone who helped out in this tremendous undertaking of labor and love. Many thanks to **Tamara Christensen, Ellen McDougal, Doug McLeod, Sharon Weisbrook, Kristina Baldwin, Cindy Appleman, Art Chapman, Sonia Rosenthal, Stephanie Baker, T Polk, Richard Lund, Mike Hammer, Mike Spangler, Marge Chambers, Grady Joiner, Ken Dorman, Bob White** and **Norman Morrow**. They did an outstanding job of sweat and labor to help the Harris County Master Gardeners. To date they have made over \$3,000 dollars on this event proceeds. This was truly an outstanding effort and a great fundraiser for the Harris County Master Gardener program.

In other news, the scarecrow crew did a fabulous job of making works of art. One of the creations was featured on the front page of the Katy Times. Thanks to the head scarecrow organizers **Toni Platt** and **Tamara Christensen**, and other wonderfully creative folks such as **Betty Beck, Marian Marshall, Patricia Metzinger, Rita Ladd, Linda McCormick, Pat Vavra, Diane Gribshaw, Janet Foy, Patti Dawid, Holly Hand, Susan Carter and her two children, Gwenn Webb, Patricia Muske, Sandra Gottschalk, Olga Johnston, Iris Gerken, Melissa Gibbs, Loraine Koehl, Cindy Appleman, Ashwin Shaw** and **Kristina Baldwin**.

And finally, the new Master Gardener interns continue to amaze us with their energy and enthusiasm. If you're in the gardens on one of the Gardenia activity days, please stop by and say 'hello'. They are a great group of folks and will make great additions to our organization.



Scarecrow Contest Winners

- 1st - Hello, Dolly - Garden Diva
- 2nd - Homer Simpson
- 3rd - Mother & Child - Childrens Garden

Garden Gifts

News from our Outreach Gardens

By Kenneth Dorman

I'm writing this in early September so it is before the Fall Sale, but I am sure the sale was an outstanding success and I want to thank all the people that helped me put it on. If I named them all here it would take up all my space so I'll just mention especially **Jean Fefer, Anne O'Neil, Mary Ann Wagner, Virginia Joiner, Diane Ballentine, Dave Mason, Scott Hume** and **Becky Deasy**. These are the people responsible for growing, ordering, displaying and selling the various types of plants with the exception of Becky, who is the glue that kind of holds it all together. I walk around smiling and trying to take as much credit as possible for the work everyone else does.

The CCSC garden is coming along nicely and we will have everything except the onions planted by mid-month. We will be taking out the three beds of field peas and two of okra and planting the carrots and lettuce in those beds and the strawberries in the big bed with the fruit trees this month. We didn't have any stinkbugs on the field peas as I anticipated; although, we did have some aphids. When we cut these plants off we were still picking 12-15 pounds of peas per week. The okra plants got so big they looked like fig trees. Cilantro, lettuce and arugula will be seeded in areas of the fruit tree bed where the fig trees were. You notice I wrote, "cut these plants off", about the peas because we leave the roots since they have nitrogen nodules on them.

We should start getting oranges in mid-November and probably will begin picking the papayas about the same time. I intend to do the full program on the fruit trees this coming season; pruning the peach, pear and apple trees at the proper time and beginning an organic spray program to discourage varmints and disease. I fully expect a bumper crop from all of them this time around; if not, then it's back to every tree for itself.

The potatoes I saved and planted all rotted so we have another bed for cabbage or something else. We will plant potatoes again in January. Thank goodness it was only a bed eight feet by four feet and not two hundred acres. I don't think I could stand to be a big time farmer; the uncertainty would be too much for my heart.

In the January article I will print the plants varieties we used throughout the year and the amount of produce we got from each along with pertinent comments. I hope this information coupled with that from the vegetable garden at Extension will be of use to our vegetable gardeners.

Every Tuesday I marvel at all the people working in the various gardens and I am reminded of the Rudyard Kipling saying, "Gardens are not made by singing, "Oh, how beautiful," and sitting in the shade." We have many beautiful gardens maintained by a lot of fine people. It shows that we do, indeed, have an outstanding Master Gardener organization peopled by a multitude of selfless gardeners. I feel privileged to include the CCSC and Bonita Street gardens and our volunteers in this group, as I'm sure the Precinct 2 members do with their gardens.

Love yourself!



Photo by Carol Cammack

HCMGA Announcements & Events

Upcoming Events

Oct 5 - Hamburger Tuesday

Work up an appetite in the Extension Gardens then enjoy a home cooked burger with us. The program will begin at noon with **Eddie Ray Andrews** speaking on **Daylilies**. It will be an interactive talk with opportunity for questions and answers.

Oct 13 - Field Trip to the Herb Gardens at Round Top

Call Katherine Peterson at (281) 497-3555 for more information.

Oct 19 - Monthly Meeting

Join us for desserts and fellowship at 6:30 p.m. followed at 7:00 p.m. with **Susan Whittig Albert** sharing the **Mysteries of Herbs** with us.

Volunteer Opportunities

Urban Dirt Editor. If you have experience using Adobe InDesign and would like to take over as Urban Dirt editor, you're hired! Please call Carol Cammack or Scott Hume to accept your new position. (281) 855-5600. See Editor's Note on **page 14** for more information.

Fire Ant Booth Workers. Enjoy being stung by fire ants? Fight back!!! Help cut down on their population by volunteering to work at our booth. The Fire Ant Project needs a few more volunteers for the coming Home & Garden Show.

October 15 - 17, 2004. 9th Annual Fall Texas Home & Garden Show at Reliant Center (Hall A). Booth hours will be: Friday - 2:00 to 8:00 p.m., Saturday - 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday - 11:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Currently have 2 openings for **Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** Also need Alternates who are willing to fill in for the other shifts if someone cannot make it.

Volunteers will work in shifts, receive free admission to the show and be given credit toward their Master Gardener or Master Naturalist volunteer hours! What would you do? Hand out literature and answer questions. No previous experience needed. Information on fire ants and the Fire Ant Project will be provided prior to the show. *Come join the fun!!!* We kick fire ant ___!

If you want to volunteer, have any questions or would like further information, please call Terrie Lenert at 281-855-5650.

HCMGA October Events

Oct 5 - Hamburger Tuesday

8:00 a.m. Garden Volunteer Hours
11:30 a.m. Home Cooked Burgers
Noon: **Eddie Ray Andrews** on **Daylilies**.

Oct 13 - Field Trip to the Herb Gardens at Round Top

Call Katherine Peterson at (281) 497-3555 for more information.

Oct 19 - Monthly Meeting

6:30 p.m. Desserts
7:00 p.m. **Susan Whittig Albert** on the **Mysteries of Herbs**.

Web Surfin'

Tech news for Master Gardeners

By Tom H. Robb, Jr



Backup Your System - Part IV - The End

In Part I we discussed the reasons for periodically backing up the vital information on your computer recognizing that it is not “if” but “when” you experience a computer crash. In Part II we discussed the different types of Backup and Part III dealt with the various medium available for backup. Now it is time to talk about software that creates the backup.

All versions of Windows come with a backup utility of sorts, limited in capability and as in the case of Windows XP, not easily accessible. And to make it worse, each version uses a different format and turns out backups that are not compatible among all versions.

Most of the time we tend to understate our projections of the future. Although most backup software won't limit the size of your backup, the medium which stores it is limited. As mentioned in an earlier part, zip drives range in size from 100 MB to about 2.2g with cost increasing with capacity. CD's are now rather inexpensive but can store only up to 700 MB. DVD's raise the storage to 4.5g but here again, both equipment and disks are expensive. Tape can store up to 250g but at a large expense for both equipment and tape.

Hard drives continue to drop in price and now can be externally driven from USB 2.0/firewire. And an external drive has the advantage of being carried from one computer to another. Although I have not tried all of them, I have read reviews of several backup programs and I will give a brief summary of those which appear to have more good features than bad.

BackUp MyPC, features backup and restore functions for entire systems or individual files; disaster recovery ability; good selection of backup options; works with a variety of storage media. Formerly a product of Veritas, it is now distributed by Stomp. See <http://www.stompinc.com>.

NovaBackup 7.0 Professional Edition is a NovaStor product which received excellent reviews. It features backup and restore functions for whole systems or individual files; online backup storage available for an additional fee; excellent selection of backup options; works with a variety of storage mediums; good for both novice and advanced users. See <http://www.novastor.com>.

And last, but for me, not least is Symantec's Norton Ghost which I use. Ghost utilizes several methods of backup; Ghost Basic; Ghost Advanced; and Ghost Utilities. Space will not permit a full description but let me say that under Advanced, I use what is called Clone with another hard drive as my backup. Clone does as its name suggest - it totally creates a mirror image of my “C” drive on the “D” drive. In fact my “D” drive thinks it is a “C” drive. And the speed of creation is superb. I can transfer about 20g from “C” to “D” in under 30 minutes or so. Ghost is listed as being for small businesses or for advanced users, but it's very simple for anyone to use and on several occasions it has been a life saver.

Space prevents even a summary of several other acceptable programs including Acronis True Image, Iomega's Automatic Backup and Retrospect Backup for Windows 6.0. Another Symantec product Drive Image 7.0 which supposedly works similar to Ghost, received several poor ratings. Stomp's Simple Backup and NewTech Infosystems's DriveBackup! 3.0 incorporate provisions that would make them unacceptable to most of us.

Now that you know all about “backup” - do it!!

Happy computin'

Events Around Town

Urban Harvest



Working with Gardens & Orchards
to Build Healthy Communities

Urban Harvest Classes

Classes are held at Urban Harvest, 1900 Kane, unless otherwise noted. For detailed class listings and more information, visit www.urbanharvest.org or call (713) 880-5540.

Tuesday October 5. Gardening Basics 3: Fertilizing Fundamentals.

6:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m. \$20. Registration required. Explore the many excellent organic fertilizers available on the market today. Application tools and techniques will be profiled as well as fertilization schedules.

Tuesday October 19. Gardening Basics 4: Growing Transplants with a Focus on Tomatoes

6:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m., \$20. Registration required. Don't settle for the selection of non-organic, expensive transplants found in most garden shops. Learn to grow healthy transplants from seed with supplies costing less than \$15.



Precinct 2 News & Events

We are definitely in plant sale mode out at Precinct 2 with two major sales coming up. Our annual Garden Treasures Fall Sale was on September 25th and our first annual Herb-a-Palooza is on October 9th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Clear Lake United Methodist Church at 16335 El Camino Real. There is so much prep work to be done before a sale and we appreciate everyone pitching to accomplish everything.

We had a great workday on Thursday, September 9th. Thanks to **Hazel Potvin, Marilyn and Drew Williams, Suzy Crabtree, Sue Lane France, Gloria Tome, Isabel Audio, Linda Garren,** and **Barbara Morrison** for working on the assembly line to make our Friendship Garden Herb Blend, a dried herb mix, that we will be selling at Herb-a-Palooza. **Pat Mitrowski** provided samples and it's delicious. Thanks to **Marliene Oren** who came up with such a great recipe, it's sure to be a hit. After completing the herb blend we stayed into the afternoon to mix rose food to sell at the fall sale. Diane Bryant was busy assembling her new worm-casting sifter; she'll be bagging up castings for the sale also. All in all it was a very productive day.

Ruth Touchstone has been busy gathering a collection of tropical plants to offer at our sale. Thanks to **Gloria Tome** and **Isabel Audio** for stepping into care for the herbs growing in the greenhouse for our herb sale. They are looking wonderful and are sure to be popular. **Angela Chandler, Louis Mickler** and **Charles Berry** are making progress on the drip irrigation system in the garden-thanks to all of you for your efforts.

Theresa Holloman, Ruth Touchstone, Pat Mitrowski, Janice Patrick, Ginia Keen and **Kaye Corey** turned the GFG Store into a mobile store and set up to sell products to the new Master Gardener class at the Houston Arboretum. It's always fun to meet new gardeners, they are an enthusiastic group and we enjoyed meeting them.

Groundwork is being laid for the Rose and Herb Garden expansion. **Krista Kaiser** has taken on the task of getting the area cleared and ready to plant. The bricks will be stacked on pallets and moved, the banana trees will be located and the ground leveled.

Thank you to **Angela Chandler** for her program on Fall Vegetable Gardening at the September First Wednesday. We had a great turn out with a lot of new faces. The GFG Store was opened for business and had a profitable day. October 6th will be Introduction to Bonsai with **Dolores Plaisted**, the program starts at 10:00 a.m. with potluck lunch immediately after. November 3rd we'll have **Greg Harmison** presenting Bulbs for the Year. On October 11th we will hold our quarterly evening meeting at the East Harris County Activity Center, located at 7340 Spencer Hwy at 7 pm. This quarters meeting will include a program on **Antique Roses** by **Deanna Krause** and of course, refreshments. Please plan on joining us.

Precinct 2 News & Events

P2 Master Gardener of the Month: Pat Pate

This month we'd like to recognize the contributions of Pat Pate as the Precinct 2 Master Gardener of the Month. Pat spends the majority of her time working in the Rose Garden. She arrives very early in the morning and very quietly and efficiently goes to work pruning, feeding or weeding the roses. The Rose Garden reflects her dedication. If you don't see her out in the garden chances are she's enjoying her other hobby, traveling. Thanks Pat, we appreciate all you do for the Genoa Friendship Garden.

Herb-a-Palooza

Saturday, October 9th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Precinct 2 will hold their first annual herb sale at Clear Lake United Methodist Church, 16335 El Camino Real, featuring a variety of popular and unusual herbs, with free demonstrations and seminars throughout the day. Rain or shine.

All demonstrations and seminars are free and open to the public. The sale will include iron garden accessories, The Friendship Garden Herb Blend, as well as a large variety of herbs for fall planting.

Schedule of events:

- 9:00 a.m. - Plant sale opens
- 9:15 a.m. - Herb Vinegar Recipes
- 9:30 a.m. - Lana Simms-Living the Herb-a-palooza Life
- 10:45 a.m. - Using Herbs to Create Beauty Products
- 11:15 a.m. - Fresh Herbs in the Kitchen-Basil Pesto
- 11:30 a.m. - Hidden meaning of Tussie Mussies
- 1:00 p.m. - Sale ends

Precinct 2 Upcoming Events

Oct 6 – First Wednesday

9:30 a.m. Registration

10:00 a.m. **Dolores Plaisted** on **Introduction to Bonsai Design and Horticulture.**

11:00 a.m. **Pot Luck Luncheon.**

Bring a dish to share. 1202 Genoa Red Bluff. For reservations call (281) 991-8437.

Oct 9 – Herb-a-palooza Sale and Seminars

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Clear Lake United Methodist Church
16335 El Camino Real.

Oct 11 – Quarterly Evening Meeting

7:00 pm **Deanna Krause** on **Antique Roses**

East Harris County Activity Center
7340 Spenser Hwy

Nov 3– First Wednesday

9:30 a.m. Registration

10:00 a.m. **Greg Harmison** on **Bulbs for the Year.**

11:00 a.m. **Pot Luck Luncheon.**

Bring a dish to share. 1202 Genoa Red Bluff. For reservations call (281) 991-8437.

Mercer Celebrates 30 Years

By Greg Harmison



Everyone is invited to help Mercer Arboretum celebrate 30 years of fun, friends, education and gardening Saturday, October 9 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tours of the park will highlight the historical features, and a singing cowboy and magician will be performing in the Visitors Center. Cockrell Butterfly

Center will have a large walk-in display featuring live species from their collection. Whether you have enjoyed Mercer for many years or you are new to the Mercer experience, this is a great time to be part of the celebration.

Mercer Arboretum & Botanic Gardens has grown tremendously over the last 30 years. What all began in 1974, when Thelma and Charles Mercer sold their 14-acre homestead along Cypress Creek to Harris County, has grown to almost 260 acres. Thelma, an avid gardener and nature lover, had only one request of Harris County: that the land be used as a natural area for all to enjoy. Three decades later, the Mercers' mark can still be seen. Many of the plants Thelma planted are still growing strong; the pond Charles built is a favorite place for children to watch Koi and goldfish; and their former homestead, which has served as the Volunteer Cottage for many years, is still located in its original location, although the house has undergone renovations.

Thelma's gardens began with plantings of the native plants she found on the property and exotic plants she purchased. These gardens are now at the center of over 20 acres of gardens that include collections of gingers, Louisiana iris, bamboo, daylilies, and plantings of theme beds such as tropical plants, annuals, and a prehistoric garden. The newly expanded Endangered Species Garden attracts visitors to a waterfall flowing through an artificial beaver dam, and plantings of native plants mixed in with endangered species. This garden helps achieve Mercer Arboretum's educational and conservation goals by showing visitors the plants listed as federally endangered, threatened, or at risk.

Of course, maintaining a garden this size is hard work. Loyal staff and a core of dedicated volunteers are the success story to maintaining the gardens. Through the years Mercer's volunteer force has grown to over 150, and without them the park would not be what it is today. Whether it's planting, propagating, mulching, setting up before an event, or cleaning up after a flood, the volunteers are what make Mercer Arboretum & Botanic Gardens special.

Celebration Schedule of Events

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Cockrell Butterfly Center's walk through tent (main gardens)

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Children's nature games (west side playground area)

10:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Welcome and Invocation, Introduction of special guests

10:45 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Refreshments and entertainment in the courtyard

11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Guided tours of the East side gardens

11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Trixie's Magic (west side playground area)

11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Trixie's Magic show in the Visitors Center (main gardens)

Mercer Arboretum & Botanic Gardens

October Classes at Mercer

Lunch Bunch: Daylilies. Wednesday, **October 13** from noon to 1:00 p.m. Join Horticulturist Suzzanne Chapman as she demonstrates proper techniques for dividing and replanting daylilies. Bring a sack lunch to enjoy. Please call ahead for reservations. Bring a sack lunch to enjoy during the program.

Taxonomy Made Simple. Saturday, **October 16** from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Join Program Manager Greg Harmison as he shares basic information about plant taxonomy (scientific classification) and why common names may not always mean what they say. Reservations required.

Pruning. Saturday, **September 18** from 10:00 a.m. to noon, learn the best techniques and tools, and when to prune and when not to prune. Please call ahead for reservations.

November Classes at Mercer

Lunch Bunch: Plant Now for a Beautiful Spring. Wednesday, **November 10** from noon to 1:00 p.m. Bring a sack lunch and join Mercer Horticulturist Suzzanne Chapman to learn which plants should be planted in the fall for a beautiful spring garden. Call for reservations.

Spring Bulbs for Houston. Saturday, **November 13** from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Nothing says spring like beautiful bulbs in the garden. Learn when and how to plant bulbs that will return year after year. Call for reservations.

Texas Bamboo Society

Mercer Arboretum & Botanic Gardens is hosting the Texas Bamboo Society meetings Saturday, September 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The monthly meetings feature demonstration or slide programs from 10 a.m. to noon; a “bring your own brown bag lunch” from noon to 12:30 p.m.; and hands-on training in Mercer’s bamboo garden from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. The October meeting will be held in Harlingen, TX. For more information go to <http://www.bamboocraft.net/forums/calendar.php?do=getinfo&e=134>. There is no November meeting.



Mercer Arboretum & Botanic Gardens is a Harris County Precinct 4 facility, under the leadership of Commissioner Jerry Eversole, located at 22306 Aldine Westfield Road, one mile north of FM 1960. Harris County Precinct 4 programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, sex, religion, national origin, or physical ability. Anyone requiring special assistance to participate in any program, or for more information, please contact Mercer at (281) 443-8731 or by email at mercervarboretum@cp4.hctx.net. On the web at <http://www.cp4.hctx.net/mercervarboretum>.

Volunteer Hours

See below for instructions.

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email address _____

Period covered – from _____ to _____

Date	Facility or Garden Name	# Contacts	Hours
Total hours this worksheet			

Submitting your volunteer hours Please drop off completed forms in the inbox on **Scott Hume's** desk. Scott can be reached at (281) 855-5600 or oshume@ag.tamu.edu.

Want to fill out this form on your computer? The volunteer hours form included here is for printing out and filling in by hand. But we've posted a spiffy version on the MG website, which you can fill out on the computer in Acrobat Reader before printing to save you all that tedious handwriting. The downloadable version even prints the current date and totals your hours for you. Get it at <http://hcmga.tamu.edu/hcmga/urban.htm>

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eDIRT OCTOBER 2004

Editor's Note

By Carol Cammack, CEA- Horticulture

Photo by Carol Cammack



Change can be scary, but I'm frequently amazed by how it often turns out to be for the best. It is time for a change. I have decided to give up my job as editor for Urban Dirt. I enjoy the work immensely but I'd like to redirect my creative efforts in another direction. I will continue to put out the newsletter until a new editor is identified. In order to make the transition as simple as possible we are hoping to identify someone who already has some publishing experience, particularly with the program we are already using: Adobe InDesign. If you have this type of experience but prefer a different program perhaps we can figure out a way to convert the files over to your preferred program. An industrious individual might be able recreate the current layout or come up with a new one. That would be okay too... if you don't mind the extra work. Please give me a call if you are interested.

Please submit all articles and comments electronically by the 15th of every month to: **Carol Cammack**, c-cammack@tamu.edu. Please limit your articles to 500 words or less, as we do have space limitations.