



Henderson County Master Gardeners Weekly News Article May 30, 2016

HCMGA Wins State Awards

by Lydia Holley

Henderson County Master Gardeners Association (HCMGA) won several awards at the Texas Master Gardeners State Conference which was held in McKinney, Texas, May 17-19, 2016.



Pictured are, Left to Right: Linda Benton, Margaret Dansby, Cherie Tanneberger, Yvonne Sparks, Lydia Holley

First Place for Outstanding Association in the Medium Association Category (25-49 members) was given to HCMGA for the second year in a row. Judy Haldeman was the 2015 President of HCMGA. This very prestigious award is based on several categories, including participation and quality of internal and external programs, projects, community outreach, and leadership.

HCMGA hosts numerous programs throughout the year, including a Spring Conference, several free programs throughout the summer known as HCMGA's Summer Series, and a Fall Conference, which is traditionally hosted by HCMGA interns. HCMGA projects, the Dream Garden and South Athens Elementary School garden, are important to the community. It takes the work of numerous Master Gardeners for HCMGA to continue these programs and projects.

Margaret Dansby and Linda Benton were awarded 2nd place in the Project category for the Dream Garden. The Dream Garden is located in the East Texas Arboretum and is a demonstration and learning garden for the public to enjoy. Margaret Dansby and Linda Benton serve as co-chairs for this HCMGA project.

Yvonne Sparks placed 3rd in the Written Education category for the HCMGA email newsletter, 'The Inside Dirt'. This email newsletter goes to HCMGA members as well as the general public and is published bi-monthly. Yvonne Sparks was the 2015 editor of the Inside Dirt newsletter.

Cherie Tanneberger was awarded 3rd place in the Educational Program category for the HCMGA Summer Series program "Summer in the Garden: Dream of Blossoms, Butterflies and Bees". This program was presented last summer at the Dream garden. There were numerous learning opportunities offered, with a string presentation on butterflies given by Master Gardener Wayne Stafford, a composting presentation given by Master Gardener Bob Erickson, information from East Texas Beekeepers Association, and others. Cherie Tanneberger was 2015 Vice President, Member and Community Education.

For more information, call 903-675-6130, email hendersonCMGA@gmail.com or visit www.henderson-co-tx-mg.org.