

Sandoval County

Master Gardener

Newsletter

<http://sandovalmastergardeners.org>

New Mexico State University
Cooperative Extension Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture



Sandoval County



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SCMG Newsletter Submissions
Deadline:
21st of each month

Please submit news, articles, events and photographs to:
scmgnewsletter@gmail.com

Editor: Mike Stoy

COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Thank you all very much for the hours that you contribute to our community. I am sure that there are many who have volunteered to take on a lead with projects ... I just haven't heard about it yet. Please let me know. There is so much we do here in SCMG. I'm always so honored to hear the accolades that are generously given to us. It's because of our members that we are making such a difference in the State. Here are a few opportunities and opportunities filled.

- Organizations like SCMG always have opportunities for volunteers to help with our many activities. Our **web site** is a very important part of our outreach to the members and the community. We currently need volunteers to help with content management and administration. The administration function does require some technical skills. It would require

learning about WordPress (the software used by our site). Please contact Janet Blair if you have skills you'd like to keep sharp with our website.

- Thank you **Chris Meek** for stepping into a lead role with the Heritage Day in Corrales . May 14th from 10-4. This is a great opportunity to do Community Outreach in a fun, educational, and community event. Check the website to sign up for available spots.
- The **Education Committee** will not be meeting during the month of May ... they have really contributed in a huge way to making the Intern class informative, hands-on and appropriate for our incoming Master Gardeners. Thank you to the 14 members of this committee! Job well done!
- Watch the **calendar to stay up-to date** on all that we are doing in this great county.

- Barbara Dawson

FROM LYNDA'S DESK

As planting season approaches for vegetable gardening here are some basic tenants to keep in mind: 1) if you are new to gardening or this is your first season gardening in New Mexico, keep it small. It is better to do something achievable than to get frustrated, discouraged, or overwhelmed and lose your enthusiasm and joy for gardening all together. 2) Grow what you like to eat, what is expensive in the stores, what is not available in local markets. 3) How much space you have will influence what you grow. If you have a small space don't plant vegetables that require a lot of space like corn, cabbage, melons, and squash 4) Consider intensive planting patterns vs in line planting. You'll grow more in a smaller space, suppress weed growth, and have a more productive garden. 5) Try something

new: a new vegetable, a new variety, a new soil amendment, a different cultivation practice. Gardening is part science and part art, be creative. This spring I planted asparagus. Dr. Stephanie Walker says asparagus does very well in our climate. It will take two or three years to start getting good harvests depending on the age of the crowns, but it is the plant that will keep producing year after year once established. For more information see NMSU Guide H-227 "Asparagus Production in New Mexico." Purple asparagus anyone?

- Lynda



HungryGoddess.com

Education

2016 SCMG Intern Training Graduation

Article & Photos by Mike Stoy

The 2016 SCMG intern training class is a wrap. As is the custom, there was a graduation party held on the last day of class at the DeLavy house. The interns were given their certificates of completion for the training class and many of the SCMG project chairs spoke briefly to inform the interns of all the wonderful opportunities for them to complete the rest of their volunteer hours so they can become full SCMG members in the fall.

There was also a plant sale and of course there was plenty of fabulous food at the pot luck lunch. As a special treat everyone was entertained by a wonderful skit about the Hotline performed by Sangdeeta Kala McCandless and Gailen Zody which you can read on the following page.



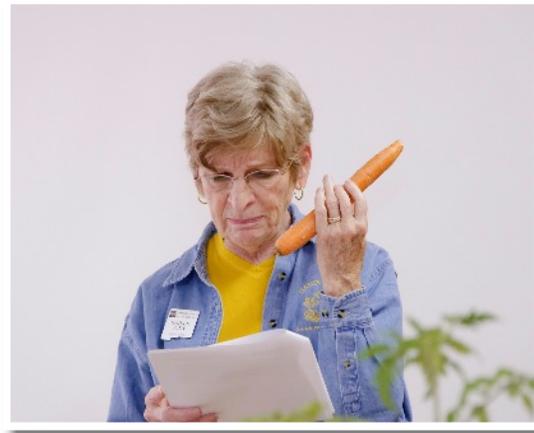
Humor**Skit: SCMG Hotline****Skit: SCMG Hotline**

Written by: Sangeeta Kala McCandless

Performed on April 26, 2016 at the SCMG Intern Class Graduation by A - Sangeeta Kala McCandless and B - Gailen Zody

Photos by Mike Stoy

- A. Good morning. Thank you for calling the Sandoval County Master Gardners. My name is TF. How may I help you?
- B. Good morning. I am having a bit of a... *(A interrupts)*
- A. *(Filling form)* Okkaay...Female...
- B. Excuse me?
- A. Oh don't mind me. I'm filling out this form for the Feds, but you're not supposed to really know that. Our County Extension agent has somehow got mixed up with them and now they want her to keep tabs on everyone who calls. Who knows what they have on her... a bit shady, if you ask me. OK, you were saying?
- B. *(Pause while caller digests this, but then continues)* Well, I have these tomato plants that I... *(A interrupts)*
- A. OK hang on, hang on. First I need to get your name, email and all that sort of thing. In case I have to do research and then get back to you – research that you could just as easily do yourself, but oh no,no, someone else has to do it for you. Go ahead, shoot.
- B. *(Again, pause while caller digests this, but then answers)* My name is Maria Fernandes, my email is... *(A interrupts)*
- A. O-la chikweeta *(mouths "Hispanic" to audience)*, como estaz. I looove Mexican food you know. The tamails...the tortilas... *(Y' pronounced)*, man! OK, let's get this form filled out... M-A-R-I-A Maria...F-E-R-N-A-N-D-E-Z Fernandez... *(B interrupts)*
- B. No... 'S'
- A. What do you mean No/Yes? Make up your mind, girl!



- B. My last name is spelt with an 'S' at the end, not a "Z".
- A. Aha, trying to be different from the *hoi pollo!* Mexican spelling not good enough for you, eh?
- B. Excuse me, I am NOT Hispanic. I am from Goa, India.
- A. Really? How odd. Not very original, kind of copy cat-ish, don't you think?
- B. Actually, it used to be a Portugese colony and ...*(A interrupts)*
- A. Too much information!!!! Moooving along! So, you were saying...???
- B. *(Pause... as caller gets more intimidated and confused...)* Uhhh...my tomato plants are losing their

Continued on next page

Skit: SCMG Hotline - continued

leaves. All I see are bare stems. I've been watering them regularly...*(A interrupts)*

- A. Are you sure it's your "tomato plants" that you want to talk about? Or is it something else, hmmm? How are things at work? Maybe...boss is being a jerk? Co-workers plotting against you? It's ok you know, you can tell me.
- B. *(Pause. Caller feeling disoriented, but then reacts, a bit bemused)*. Pardon? What does this have to do with my tomato plants? I have a problem with my tomato plants!
- A. Hmmm...., maybe something at home, then! Funny smell in the dishwasher? Apple pie not coming out right? Hubby seems a bit, let's say... disinterested?
- B. *(a bit hesitant)* Is...is...is this some kind of prank? Are we on some TV show or something? *(sounding a little weepy?)* I just want to know what's going on with my tomato plants!
- A. You know, we interns were warned about callers like you. The kind who'll talk about everything from their uncle to their dog before getting to the real issue. Fine, be that way. Let's talk about your "tomato plants" *(air quotes)*.
- B. *(Pause while caller tries to regroup)*. Like I said, my tomato plants are losing their leaves, like something is eating them. I've been inspecting them every day but I can't seem to find anything on them and they're looking really stressed and I don't know what I am doing wrong!
- A. OK, OK...don't start freaking out. Let's talk about your "cultural practices". How have you been treating these plants?
- B. How I've been treating them? Well, I water them once or twice a week, depending on the climate...uhhh weather. No, wait a minute...climate. *(pause)* Or is it weather? *(confused)*...whatever, you know what I mean. I put in some compost, I even applied some fertilizer and I...*(A interrupts)*
- A. They are not stressed, they are depressed! Have you been talking to them?
- B. *(Pause)* Talking to them...I read something on the net about that...
- A. You HAVE to talk to them! I mean, wake up, these are living things! And don't tell me you talk to them when you get back from work because that's when

you are tired and all you want to do is yank off your bra, grab a beer and flop down in front of the TV! Talk to them In. the. Morning! A good, long talk, once or twice a week. None of this 10 second "Hi, seen any ladybugs lately?" as you rush out the door. The right amount at the right time, that's the key.

- B. *(Pause)*. I uhh...I guess... *(Another pause)* But what do I talk to them about? Current affairs... maybe? The Presidential campaigns?
- A. Oh no, no, no...not that! That'll totally pucker up whatever leaves they have left, gum up their phylum and xolem and send them to Eternal Dorman-cyland!
- B. Yeah you're right, I start eating my hair and thinking of termite frass whenever I watch one of their ads. What about cooking? I love cooking! Nooo...can't discuss that with them either... they probably knew some of the ingredients. What should I do?
- A. For starters, just take a seed catalogue and read out the descriptions in a calm, soothing voice.
- B. That's genius! All that color and possibility and promise. I'll use Burpee's.
- A. Good. This is definitely a biotic cause...or an abiotic cause. Don't ask me what that means, I just like the sound of it. I can also suggest something else. I have a friend whose second cousin's wife's uncle...has a friend, who has a connection, who will let you have some of this stuff called Voldemort Morning Breath. A teaspoon is guaranteed to kill all weeds, pests and small children within a radius of 2 miles, 10 miles if it is breezy.
- B. Really? *(almost in tears)* Oh thank you, thank you. You've been so kind and such a huge help!
- A. Meet me at the Home Depot at the Plant Clinic. I'm doing Community Outreach there this Saturday. They keep telling me I don't need to come anymore but I'm not one to shirk my duty to my community, no m'am!
- B. So noble! Such an inspiration! I can't wait to meet yooouuu!
- A. 1.99 a pound. 2 dollars extra for the lead-lined bag. Bring cash.
(Both say "Bye" etc. excitedly)

Plant

ulip

Article by the author, SCMG

Plant

Scientific name: *Tulipa Linna*

Other names: Garden tulip

Type: Bulb

Family: Liliaceae

Native Range: Eastern Europe and Western Asia

Height: 4-10 cm

Light: Les

Soil: 6"

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Plant of the Month - continued

Growing tulips

Tulips are actually very easy to grow. Many people design an artistic, colorful layout for the Tulip blooms. Although Tulips are sun-loving, the intensity of the NM afternoon sun may cause them to suffer heat stress and should be a consideration when placing the bulbs. It is advisable to select only the finest quality bulbs, generally, the larger the bulb, the larger the bloom. After selecting the site for your Tulips, which should be well worked so as not to be compacted and free from grass and weed roots as well as large rocks, incorporate plenty of organic material and fertilizer into the selected area. Special bulb formulas, usually with high potassium and phosphorus ratios compared to nitrogen, and bone meal work the best. Ideally, the soil should have a slightly acid pH of 6 to 7. Tulips will bloom in almost any well draining soil since soggy soils tend to encourage bulb rot and/or poor flower display. With proper soil conditions, the bulbs should flower successfully each year. They should be planted per the directions from the supplier for spacing and depth. If no directions are included, plant the bulbs 6-8" apart and at a depth twice the diameter of the bulb.

Tulips are vivacious perennials and after the Tulip blooms, the plant continues to grow while slowly losing the outer parts but conserving the underground stems which are bulbs. It is during this post bloom period that the plant stores energy in the bulb for next year's bloom. Two to three weeks after the blooms have faded; the bulbs may be lifted and stored in a cold, dry place to be planted again in late autumn.

Tulips do require a period of cold while they are dormant and resting between bloom seasons. Tulip bulbs use the winter cold as a stimulation device. After cold weather, a tulip bulb slowly activates its flowering process for a spring bloom.

Finally, it is good practice to move the bulbs to a different location after approximately three years to keep them vigorous and promoting quality blooms if you want to use the same variety each year for many years. Since bulbs are relatively inexpensive and readily available in so many colors, some people actually treat them like annuals and change the display of their beds each year by purchasing new bulbs each season.

For more information click on the links below:

<http://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=TULIP>

<http://www.theflowerexpert.com/content/aboutflowers/exoticflowers/tulips>

http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=1&taxon_id=133974

<http://tulipsinholland.com/2015/03/11-fun-facts-tulips/>

<http://homeguides.sfgate.com/zones-planting-tulips-68890.html>

<http://www.bhg.com/gardening/plant-dictionary/bulb/tulip/>

Growers Market

Reopening of the Bernalillo Growers' Market

Article & photo by: Lynda Garvin, Extension Agent

The Bernalillo Growers' Market is back at a new location.

Location: The Pavilion in Rotary Park, just west of the corner of Camino Don Tomas and Calle Don Francisco in the Town of Bernalillo.

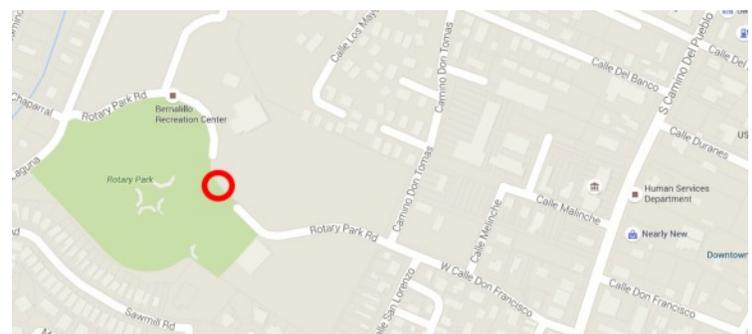
Opening day is Friday June 17 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM
Market Days: Fridays from 4:00 to 7:00 PM EBT accepted

Join us for fresh local produce, edibles, and home made goods.

For more information contact:

bernalillofarmersmarketnm@gmail.com

This market is not associated with the Zia growers market.



Education

Gardening in Climate Extremes

GARDENING IN CLIMATE EXTREMES: A JUDITH PHILLIPS SEMINAR

Article by: Janet Blair, SCMG

Nationally recognized Southwest gardening expert Judith Phillips will present a free seminar on gardening in the face of climate extremes. Her talk, entitled "Climate Extremes and Ways to Buffer it" will be presented May 18 from 1 to 4 pm at the Sandoval County Extension Service Office classroom, 711 South Camino del Pueblo in Bernalillo. The class is free, but pre-registration is suggested at sandovalmastergardeners.org. Walk-ins will be accepted if space is available.

Ms Phillips will be discussing strategies for avoiding rock and gravel landscaping. Semi-arid and arid places are not all sharp edges and spiny plants. There are many native and adapted shrubs, wildflowers and grasses that put on brilliant seasonal displays of color. They are the softer side of the Southwest she says.

"Design for extremes involves celebrating where you are: Consider the lay of the land since efficient use of water including rainwater can make landscapes look their best and become more tolerant of extremes. Work with what you have or reshaping the surface to better serve the way you want to use the space and the plants you want to grow.

"Choose materials adapted to the site conditions (those well-adapted plants, spiny and not) and pave the way to resilience using hard surfaces as rainwater collectors and diverters to support trees and large shrubs that buffer the heat generated by pavement," said Ms Phillips.

Judith Phillips is the author of many books on southwest plants and garden design including her latest *Growing the Southwest Garden*.



Photo By David Fenton

Charitable Giving

Pay It Forward: Donate for Master Gardener Intern Scholarships!

Article by: Lemyra DeBruyn, Class of 2016

What an experience it has been to become a Master Gardener in Sandoval County! However, not everyone who would like to participate can afford the cost of the training sessions.

Please consider donating toward scholarships to support those who could not otherwise become a Sandoval County Master Gardener.

Do it in memory of a loved one (we would love to hear your story). Do it to support someone who can then feed his or her family and community fresh healthy produce, helping address food insecurity so rampant in New Mexico.

Do it to support someone who will bring amazing ideas to the SCMG program based on his or her local hands on experience with gardening, heirloom seeds, traditional foods, subsistence gathering, medicinal plants, food sovereignty.... Do it to give someone the opportunity to learn about a whole new world

of plants and apply that knowledge in the many volunteer programs that give back to Sandoval County communities.

Do it because it is a good thing to do.

I will donate in honor of my sister, Rita, who loved gardening, transplanting trees, and gazing on the black eyed susans and marguerite daisies she had planted with such loving care. It was her friend, a master gardener in Itasca County, Minnesota, who suggested I take the Master Gardening training in my own county. She looked up Sandoval County Master Gardeners and said 'wow – what a program you have in your own back yard!'

Do it!

To learn more about the *Pay It Forward SCMG Scholarship Program* and/or to donate, please contact Sam Thompson at samandjohnthompson@gmail.com

Education

Santa Anna Nursery Tour

Article & photos by: Jim Dodson, SCMG Intern

In early April the SCMG 2016 Intern Class was treated to a three hour tour of the Santa Anna Native Plants Nursery conducted by nursery manager, Mike Halverson. The Interns especially appreciated Mike taking his valuable time to share his passion for native New Mexico plants. Santa Anna Native Plants Nursery is a valuable resource for professional landscapers and Sandoval County Master Gardeners. If you are interested in learning about seed gathering and native nursery production, Mike is always helpful.



Mike Halverson, Nursery Manager, shares his expertise and passion for native New Mexico plants with eager interns. Mike is a long time NM resident who began his interest in growing plants as a young boy. Even today, although he works with plants every day, he says he is still often distracted by locating interesting specimens where he might collect seeds.



Although closed to the public, Mike is highly supportive of master gardeners and says that Interns and current SCMGs are welcome to bring their identification badges to visit the

nursery and purchase inventory. Above, bountiful trays of promising seedlings are being prepared for spring distribution.



Taking advantage of unseasonably warm March weather, the discussion was animated as interns were treated to a walk-through of the new "Succulents Garden" at the Santa Anna Native Plants Nursery.



Above, stunning example of native New Mexico grasses, grown from seed at the nursery. The bright cream colored grass provides vivid contrast to surrounding deeper greenery.



Sandoval County Extension Agent, Lynda Garvin, takes copious notes to extend her knowledge and expertise during the tour.

Volunteering

Corrales Garden Tour

Article by: Tom Neiman, SCMG

Photo by: Elizebeth Lujan, SCMG

The Corrales Garden Tour is a fundraiser supported by the Sandoval County Master Gardeners who provide their insight and plant expertise into the diversity of garden types from xeric to irrigate. The one-day event, sponsored by *CorralesMainStreet*, is held on **Sunday, June 5th**. Up to 1,000 people will visit the six gardens located at homes in Corrales. This project is open to veterans and interns. Volunteer time is considered part of your annual ten hour public outreach requirement.

The Tour this year needs additional volunteers to support our six gardens in the morning and afternoon shifts. If you have time to help, please sign up on the SCMG website or contact Tom Neiman at tsubmit55@hotmail.com.



Volunteering

Outreach Refresher

Article and Photo by: Lynda Garvin, Extension Agent

Don't miss this opportunity to review the most common issues presented at our Plant Clinic tables and through the Hotline. This class is for anyone interested in reviewing common environmental, disease, and pest issues related to landscape plants and vegetable gardening. I have reviewed three years of hotline questions and consolidated them to the most frequently asked questions. If you plan on working at an outreach table or on the Hotline you are urged to attend.

What will be reviewed?

- 1) Tracking clients that visit your table or call/email questions to the hotline – Tom Neiman
- 2) The diagnostic process
- 3) Common issues through the outreach season
March through October

Monday May 9 from 2:00 - 4:00 PM at the extension office

Register on-line or send me an email if you are attending.



Humor

Checking the menu, a restaurant customer ordered a bowl of vegetable soup. After a couple of spoonfuls, he saw a circle of wetness right under the bowl on the tablecloth. He called the waitress over and said, "It's all wet down here. The bowl must be cracked." The waitress said, "You ordered vegetable soup, maybe it has a leek in it."



May 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 NOTE: the official SCMG calendar is on the website	2 Click on links below for more info	3 RR Tree Stewards Sterring Committee - 4pm -Gardening With the Masters - Container Gardening 7pm	4 RR Waterwise Garden 8:30am -Delavy House 9:00 - 11:00am	5	6	7 Plant Clinic - Home Depot 10am
8 Mother's Day 	9 -Outreach Refresher 2 - 4 pm	10	11	12 -New Beginnings 9:30-11:00am	13	14 RR Tree Stewards Training - 8:30am -Placitas Garden Tour 9:00am -Corrales Heritage Day 9:00am
15	16	17	18 Urban Horitculture - Gardening in Climate Extremes: A Judith Phillips Seminar 1:00pm - 4:00pm	19	20	21 RR Tree Stewards Training - 8:30am Plant Clinic - Santa Ana 10am Newsletter Articles DUE!
22	23	24	25	26 -New Beginnings 9:30-11:00am	27	28 RR Tree Stewards Training - 8:30am
29	30 Memorial Day 	31				
SCMG Board Meetings Third Tuesday of month, Sandoval County Extension Office, 3:00pm						



June 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>NOTE: the official SCMG calendar is on the website</p> <p>Click on links below for more info</p>	<p>SCMG Board Meetings Third Tuesday of month, Sandoval County Extension Office, 3:00pm</p>		<p>1</p> <p>RR Waterwise Garden 8:30am</p> <p>-Delavay House 9:00 - 11:00am</p>	<p>2</p> <p>-New Beginnings 9:30-11:00am</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Plant Clinic - Home Depot 10am</p> <p>SCMG BOD Leadership Retreat 1pm</p>
<p>5</p> <p>-Corrales Garden Tour 9:00am</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>RR Tree Stewards Steering Committee - 4pm</p> <p>-Gardening With the Masters Soil Erosion Mgmt- 7pm</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>-New Beginnings 9:30-11:00am</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Urban Horitculture - Eco Friendly Pest Mgmt 1:00pm</p>	<p>16</p> <p>-New Beginnings 9:30-11:00am</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Plant Clinic - Santa Ana 10am</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Father's Day</p> 	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Newsletter Articles DUE!</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>-New Beginnings 9:30-11:00am</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>-New Beginnings 9:30-11:00am</p>		
						