

SFA GARDENS ANNUAL REPORT 2014

9-01-2013 to 8-31-2014

Introduction

SFA Gardens, continues as a recognized center within Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas, USA. SFA Gardens is a multi-faceted public garden developed within SFA's Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture. The gardens are managed by Associate Director Dr. David Creech (1/2 time) and 4.5 FTE staff, both professional and classified, volunteers and student workers. SFA Gardens cover 68 acres on the SFA campus—10 acres in the Mast Arboretum and Jim and Beth Kingham Children's Garden, eight acres in the Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden, eight acres in the Gayla Mize Garden, and 42 acres in the Pineywoods Native Plant Center. In addition, SFA Gardens plays a role in the maintenance and development of the 60-acre SFA's Recreational Trails and Gardens, which is adjacent to the Gayla Mize Garden.

Community support is provided by a "Friends of SFA Gardens" group with about 200 members and the SFA Gardens Advisory Board, which meets quarterly. While State of Texas funding assists with operations and maintenance expenses, the gardens staff raise significant funds through two plant sales per year, a robust grant-seeking effort, and four endowments that support all of the gardens but the PNPC. A major capital campaign raised about \$1 million dollars from private donors and Texas foundations to build the Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building at the PNPC. The building demonstrates environmentally sensitive methods of construction and operation. A successful proposal to the Sun Club of Green Mountain Energy, Austin, Texas, led to a solar array which, by our latest estimates, provides about 60 percent of the structure's energy needs.

A new development, the Jimmy Hinds Park, received funding in the past year from Barbara Finney, who was the daughter of Jimmy Hinds, the first Agricultural Professor at SFA. That gift will allow the development of a high visibility garden on a well-travelled thoroughfare in Nacogdoches, Austin Street. Development plans for the two acre property are on the SFA Gardens Pineywoods Native Plant Center home page.

Plant diversity and adaptability are key focal points in developments in each of the four main gardens, offerings in the two plant sales, and in the public outreach by staff through lectures, public events, publications, and tours. Environmental education for future generations is another main initiative that reaches nearly 20,000 a year in a broad spectrum of programs for ages K-adult.

Gardens Goals for Fiscal Year 2014-2015

Mast Arboretum

Continue cooperation with colleagues and friends in the Art Department and the community to create a high profile Sculpture for All juried competition in the Mast Arboretum and Ruby Mize Azalea Garden.

Conduct regional native grass trial; trials of blueberries, pomegranates, kiwis, and with the Takii Corporation, canna hardiness.

Do a better job of posting plant performance information on the web. Improve reporting.

Design new Children's Garden area on north side of Mast Arboretum by College Avenue and develop a campaign to get it funded.

Improve Elking Environment on southern side of Mast Arboretum.

Improve Ruth Williamson, Herb Garden and Elking Environment

Treat the wood in pavilion in the Jim and Beth Kingham Children's Garden.

Paint the outdoor classroom in the shade garden.

Add nursery space on East end of N shade house by taking out deodar cedar and building a pad

Expand Kiwi planting

Take a leadership role in managing the new nursery at Grounds.

Take a leadership role in the Mum evaluation plantings at the Gayla Mize Garden.

Develop the rectangular plot on the South side of the Jim and Beth Kingham Children's Garden Pavilion.

Develop a database for plants being trialed for companies.

Develop a plan for improving the "look" of the front compartment of the glasshouse and implement it.

Develop a location for taking care of cuttings that are coming out of the mist bed. Install a time clocked watering system. .

Add controllers and time clocks in the nursery

Continue to improve our social media presence with timely Facebook posts . . . Dawn and Dave

LaNana Creek Corridor

Add new *Taxodium* genotypes where space allows (Mast Arboretum and Ruby Mize side needs a transfusion)

Pruning lower limbs.

Collect data on two *Taxodium* research projects.

Continue brush control on banks of creek.

Continue timely weed control applications.

Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden

Finish Garden shed and use it – paint the door. Put a good door knob on the building.

Add more plant labeling.

Continue support of Nacogdoches Azalea Trail activities.

Continue support of Little Miss Princess Tea Party.
Move the nursery out of the Tower area
Work with the administration to see if there's a mechanism to move the ROTC tower to a more suitable location.
Work with Grounds to develop a plan to clean up the Heavy Equipment Yard area.

Pineywoods Native Plant Center (PNPC)

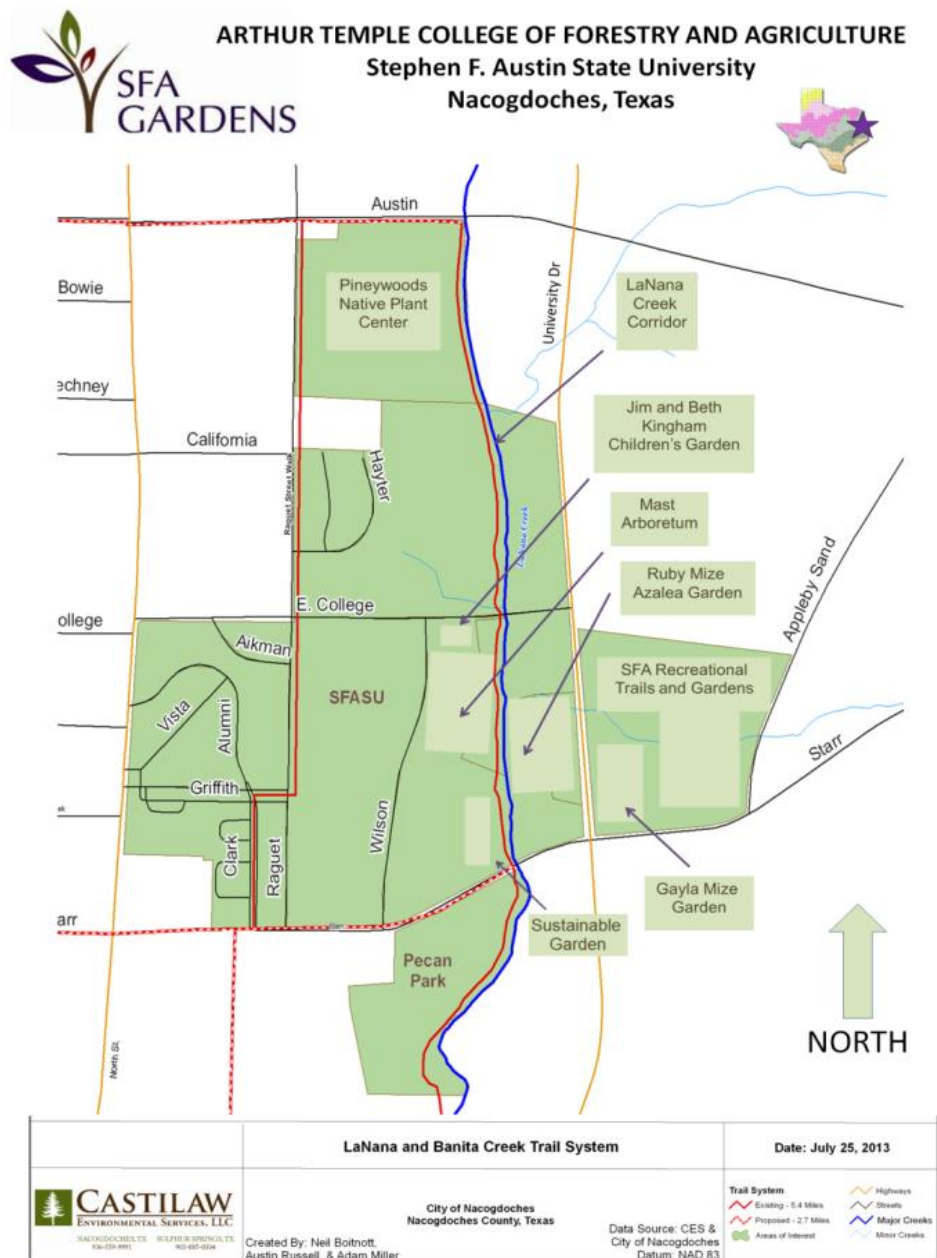
Propagate and grow as many saleable plants as possible to produce two successful plant sales to support the year's financial needs of the PNPC.
Hire up to 10 student workers to help maintain the 42 acre PNPC grounds and nursery facility.
Install faucets in the CEB landscape.
Repair the broken bridge in bottom land.
Develop a parking plan to allow vertical parking.
Coordinate installation of three lights for the CEB
Installation of gutters and rainwater capture
Have signage made for visitor instructions, parking, etc.
Manage blueberries and muscadine plantings.
Complete *Ilex decidua* collection.
Enhance CEB landscape and improve sod.
Continue to battle Chinese privet, Chinese tallow, and other invasive plants in the Tucker Woods.
Install time clocks and controllers on the nursery
Develop a native plant list and then implement a plan to increase native plant diversity at the PNPC – focus on collections, new plants.
Develop an irrigation plan and implement it. Move more of the landscape to drip and faucet controllers.
Develop a mini campaign to install gutters and rainwater capture for the CEC.
Jimmy Hinds Park Project – boardwalk connections to treehenge and computer shack parking lot.
Install irrigation system and benches at Jimmy Hinds Park. Vineyard – add pergola structure

Gayla Mize Garden

Continue the application of crushed asphalt to trails.
Barb continues to map and label.
Again, find a creative way to finish the pavilion in the Gayla Mize Garden – adding a roof -
Crinum collection expanded and labeled.
For Mum collection and other color, expand the entire front line of weeping balds.
Finish planting the few open areas left.
Add tours of this garden to annual Azalea Trail tours.

Environmental Education Program

Continue environmental education programming, wide-ranging horticultural outreach through speaker series at SFA and in other gardening venues across the US.
Implement program assessment for all public programs.



SFA GARDENS – THE YEAR IN REVIEW – 2014

The big accomplishment for SFA Gardens in the past year was the construction of the Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building at the Pineywoods Native Plant Center. This million dollar project honors our lead donor, Ms. Ina Brundrett, Tyler, Texas.



Side walks – Nov 2013



Dedication Day Jan 27, 2014



First class in the Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building before we “found” the funding for furniture. Jan 15, 2014



A proposal to the Sun Club of Green Mountain Energy, Austin, Texas, was approved and with that came a solar array worth over \$30,000. The array was installed July 2014 and is currently providing about 60-70 percent of the energy needs of the Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building.



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April 5, 2014 Spring Garden Gala Day sale.



John Anderson and Dawn Stover bask in the first ever Sculpture for All event at SFA Gardens, a cooperative project with Jeff Brewer, Art Department, SFA. A juried show with a \$20,000 campaign that showcases the work of renowned sculpture artists in the country.



The Keel



Visitors either loved the baby carriage or did not. Note the plus sized pacifier.



the North End of the PNPC we have added two rows of blueberries. Part of our evaluation program with USDA and other Universities. Many advanced selections. Deer continue to be a problem.



Tucker House during a rare snow, Jan 24, 2014



The Environmental Education Program touched the lives of 12,104 young kids and their parents. This aspect of our program is under the supervision of Elyce Rodewald and Kerry Lemon and an army of volunteers, interns, and student workers.



Bugs, Blossoms, Butterflies, Birds, Bees and Bats event brings several thousand children into an educational extravaganza. April 9, 2014.



We lost a special friend in April 2014 with the passing of George Millard. Friend, cooperater with our program for many years, a true jewel our community. Naturallyu curious, George was quick to become a good market gardner with strawberries as a banner for his business on Woden Road.



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Chandler was the best in our variety trials. George kept meticulous records. I took this image in my office just a few days before he left our community of citizens. George actually cared



Most things in life don't turn out exactly like expected. In this case, the Ruby Mize Azalea Garden has exceeded everyone's expectations. This garden has hit a stride that continues to amaze anyone blessed to land in the garden when all the colors are going. This is a click and shoot photo opportunity for anyone interested in plant combinations, color combinations, form and grace. Duke Pittman and crew get high marks for making A+ on maintenance.



April 7, 2014 – Orange Dream is the Japanese maple at the center of the image. SFA Gardens is home to over 300 varieties of *Acer palmatum*, Japanese maple. Considered by many as the aristocrat of small trees, they provide the perfect backdrop for a collection of over 7000 azaleas.



The Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden is an amazing jewel on the LaNana Creek necklace. This community of plants is quite home under the high canopy pine forest. Maintenance chores are easier now that plants have grown, prospered, filled in and said, "Hey, we're here now – we own the place."



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PLANTS

SFA Gardens is responsible for reforesting the stretch of LaNana Creek as it courses ½ mile through the SFA campus. We have planted over one thousand Taxodium of known genotype on both sides of the creek. The collection is databased and mapped. April 13, 2014 modes



After three growing seasons, several hybrid Taxodiums exceed 18' in plant height.



Prunus X 'Purple Pride' is our first patented plant and it is in production by several licensed growers.



Tim Woods, New Plants Specialist for Proven Winners, standing next to one of our Oakleaf Hydrangeas, *Hydrangea quercifolia*, selections.



New crape myrtle varieties have been planted under the high voltage lines by the Coliseum parking lot.



Our block of “new” crape myrtle varieties includes 15 varieties of the black leaf forms just now waves in the mass market.



includes making

Our plot of the Mexico Mountain Sugar Maple is at the Science Research Center and represents largest t USA planting of this endangered species. Promising for its heat, drought and alkalinity tolerance this is a first generation planting of seedlings from our large tree at the SFA Mast Arboretum. This planting is comprised of 277 seedlings and five have been cutting propagated, selected for form.



located the

A bucket list plant, this is *Franklinia alatamaha*, which flowered for the first time Texas at the Gayla Mize Garden, July 16 2014. This endangered plant was discovered almost three hundred years ago by William Bartram, but when he returned to the location it was gone. Fortunately, he saved the plant by planting it in Pennsylvania at his estate. Sensitive to drainage issues and susceptible to cotton root rot.



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While the fruit wasn't ripe for picking until Sept 9, 2014 – I am including this development in our 2013-2014 report.. Our first picking of golden kiwis at SFA and the first good crop of this species, *Actinidia chinensis*, in Texas. Two varieties: 'Golden Drangon' as the female and 'CK3' as the male proved to be successful in this first crop. These varieties are via a trialing agreement with Dr. Jay Spiers, Auburn University, Alabama.



Most fall Mums are poor garden performers. Dawn Stover leads a trialing program to evaluate over 50 heirloom mums for their garden potential, as well as their potential for the mass market.



This is Chrysanthemum 'Ruby Mound', an old timey perennial that has performed well in our trials.



Hayes Jackson, Anniston, Alabama, plantsman and County Extension Horticulturists really liked our rare Mexico *Quercus tamurhama*. This oak is one of our rarest in our collection which is one of the finest plantings of western oaks in the South.



JIMMY HINDS PARK DEVELOPMENT BEGINS IN AUG 2014

Aug 7, 2014 – Jimmy Hinds Park Development begins because of a wonderful gift from Barbara Finney. Located on the North end of the PNPC, this two acre development will be undergoing a transformation in the next few years.



DR. DAVE CREECH (Sept 1, 2013 – Aug 31, 2014)

INTERNATIONAL

China, Nov 9 – Dec 7, 2013. I was part of a four-member USDA team invited to China as part of a USDA/China Ministry of Agriculture Scientific Exchange team. Beijing, Nanjing, and Kunming focus. Part of six seminars with a total of 307 in audience.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Sept 6-9, 2013. Woody ornamental trees with potential. Gulf States Horticultural Expo, Gulf Shores, Alabama. 32 in attendance.

Creech, David. 2013. Shrub Evaluation at SFA Gardens. Presentation at the International Plant Propagators Society annual conference, Athens, Georgia. 210 in attendance.

Oct 26, 2013. Cool plants for a hot climate and Plant Raffle. The Woodlands, Houston, TX. 140 in attendance.

Oct 3-4, 2013. China Connection. Presentation to the Tennessee Urban Forestry Association. 116 in attendance.

Creech, David. Dec 19, 2013. Raising a Garden is like raising a kid. Lecture to the Theresa and Les Reeves Lecture series, SFA Gardens. 41 in attendance.

Dec 18, 2013. Check presentation ceremony at the new CEC. \$30,000 for a solar panel array via Green Mountain Energy.

Creech, David/. 2013. Is Conservation Horticulture and Opportunity or a Headache? TNLA Green Nov – Dec 2013: 31-33.

Creech, David. Small Flowering Trees Deserving Greater Use. 2012 Proceedings of the International Plant Propagators Society, Annual Combined Proceedings 62: 325-330. (Published Jan 2014).



Creech, David and Dawn Stover. 2014. Notes from SFA Gardens: Connecting People, Plants and Plans. TNLA Green 16 (1): 53-55.

Jan 30 – Feb 2, American Society for Horticultural Science Southern Region annual conference, Dallas, Texas:

A Spatial Analysis of a Colony of *Hibiscus dasycalyx*, the Neches River Rose Mallow, Established in 1996 in Nacogdoches County, Texas. David L. Creech*, David L. Kulhavy, Daniel R. Unger, and Matthew A. Wade, Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX 75962.
(dcreech@sfasu.edu)

Is Pictometry® a useful tool for tree, shrub and landscape evaluation? David Creech*, David L. Kulhavy, Daniel R. Unger, and Matthew A. Wood, Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX 75962.
(dcreech@sfasu.edu)

Overview of Recent New Crape Myrtle Cultivar releases. Wells, Daniel, Allen Owings, and David Creech. LSU AgCenter, Hammond Research Station, 21549 Old Covington Highway, Hammond, LA 70430 and Stephen F. Austin State University, Department of Agriculture, 1924 Wilson Drive, Nacogdoches, TX 75962 (dwells@agcenter.lsu.edu)

SFA's Horticulture judging team of Amny Rose, Jordan McGee, Gus Walker, and Ariel Jones put in a fine performance at the J.B. Storey Horticulture Judging Contest. The annual conference of the American Society for Horticultural Science Southern Region was held in Dallas, Texas, January 30 – February 2, 2014 annual conference. With seven University teams participating – four students per team - the SFA team took third place overall team award, second place greenhouse floral and foliage team - second place woody ornamentals team, and third place vegetable team. Jordan McGee second place overall high scoring individual and third place woody ornamentals individual - and finally, Amny Rose third place greenhouse and foliage individual award. Yeah!

Served as one of the three judges of the Warren Barham PhD Graduate Student Paper Competition.

Serve on the Executive Committee of ASHS-SR as a past-President.

Feb 6, 2014. The Natives are restless. Presentation to the Master Gardener class, Montgomery county, TX. 67 in attendance

As chair of the search committee, I managed the interview process for the new Assistant Professor of Horticulture position. 28 applicants, reduced to top three:
Andrew King, February 11-12, 2014
Catherine Simpson, February 16-17, 2014

Jared Barnes, February 18-9, 2014

Offered to Jared Barnes who accepted the position February 26, 2014

David Creech. Feb 19-21, 2014. Texas Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta. The Year in Review. Fort Worth Botanical Garden, Fort Worth, Texas. 82 attending David Creech.

Feb 25, 2014. Fruit Trials at SFA Gardens. Texas Fruit Growers Conference, Nacogdoches, TX. 70 in attendance.

Mar 1, 2014. Two presentations to the Gregg country Master Gardeners: Shrubs for the Pineywoods and China – Plants, Plans, People. 162 in attendance.

David Creech. Mar 18, 2014. Meeting with Drs. Patillo, Berry, and Turner on campaign for Children's Garden.

David Creech. Mar 20, 2014. Fifty new plants. Arbogate Nursery at Tomball, TX. 92 in attendance.

David Creech. April 2, 2014. China – Plants, Plans and People from a Faraway Land. Oklahoma Master Gardeners, OSU, Stillwater, OK. 154 in attendance.

David Creech. April 8, 2014. China – the business of Agriculture. Presentation to Dr. Joe Ballenger's International Marketing class. 31 in attendance.

Dave Creech. Apr 10, 2014. China Connection. Cool Plants for a Hot Climate. Lecture to the Mercer Society at downtown Houston Convention Center. 24 in attendance.

David Creech. Apr 20, 2014. China Connection. Presentation to Oklahoma City Master Gardeners. 194 in attendance.

Dave Creech. May 15, 2014. Short presentation at the annual Sugar Creek Garden Club, Sugarland, Texas, including thanks for scholarships for our students. 96 in attendance.

David Creech. May 22, 2014. Presentation to ATCOFA Advisory Board on PNPC, new Conservation Education Building.

David Creech. June 7- 10, 2014. Board meeting Southern Region International Plant Propagation Society. Asheville, NC.

July 7, 2014. Visit of Tom Wood, Ginger specialist from Florida.

David Creech. July 10, 2014. Presentation to the Nacogdoches Lunch and Learn group. Nacogdoches, TX. 93 in attendance.

David Creech. July 15, 2014. Tour of SFA Gardens to the Texas County Extension Agent group.

David Creech. July 21-25, 2014. An Overview of *Taxodium* Research at SFA Gardens. Southern Nurserymen's Association, Atlanta, Georgia. 32 in attendance.

Portland, Oregon. August 16 – 24, 2014. Part vacation, part business. Met with four colleagues from Beijing Florascape and toured nurseries and gardens in the area.

Dan Unger, David Kulhavy, Jeff Williams, Dave Creech, and I-Kuai Hung. 2014. Urban Tree Height Assessment Using Pictometry Hyperspatial 4-inch Multispectral Imagery. Accepted by Journal of Forestry (in press).

Plant sale April 5 2014 – new record: \$56,200

Invited reviewer of a proposal to *National Geographic*: Applicant's Name: Coffman, Gretchen C - Project Title: Restoration of Critically Endangered Cypress Trees of Laos

David Creech, David Kulhavy, Dan Unger, I-Kuai Hung and Dan Fyne. Neches River Rose Mallow, *Hibiscus dasycalyx*, Spatial Analysis and Survival. A poster at the Bright Ideas conference, SFASU, Nacogdoches, TX 05-06-2014

GREG GRANT — September 1, 2013-August 31, 2014

Presentations:

September 23, 2013. "Let Me Introduce You" to the Texas A&M Landscape Design Study Course in College Station. 135 in attendance.

November 2, 2103. "Lessons From my Grannies" at the Antique Rose Emporium Fall Festival of Roses in Independence, Texas. 150 in Attendance.

November 6, 2013. "Gardening for Love" to the Heritage Club in Nacogdoches. 17 attendance.

January 15, 2014. "Lessons from my Grannies" to the San Augustine Rotary Club in San Augustine. 25 in attendance.

February 8, 2014. "Vegetable Gardening 101" to the SFA Gardens weekend seminar in Nacogdoches. 15 in attendance.

February 11, 2014. "Landscape Design Principles" to the Nacogdoches County Master Gardeners in Nacogdoches. 12 in attendance.

March 7, 2014. "Gardening for Love" to the Texas Garden Clubs district meeting in Center. 125 in attendance.

March 8, 2014. "Lessons From my Grannies" to the Cherokee County Spring Gardening Symposium in Jacksonville. 114 in attendance.

March 13, 2014. "Plant Sale Preview" to the SFA Gardens Lecture Series in Nacogdoches. 87 in attendance.

April 29, 2014. "Gardening for the Birds and the Bees" to the Alabama State Master Gardener conference in Daphne, Alabama. 250 in attendance.

April 30, 2014. "Gardening for Love" to the Alabama State Master Gardener conference in Daphne, Alabama. 200 in attendance.

May 3, 2014. "The Greg Grant Collection" to The Arbor Gate Saturday seminar in Tomball, TX. 50 in attendance.

May 3, 2014. "Appreciation award acceptance speech" to the Mercer Society banquet at the Mercer Arboretum in Humble. 100 in attendance.



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May 19, 2014. "Heirloom Gardening in the South" to the Daughters of the American Revolution in Nacogdoches. 35 in attendance.

May 31, 2014. "Heirloom Gardening in the South" to the Arkansas State Master Gardeners conference in Texarkana. 500 in attendance.

June 12, 2014. "Lessons from my Grannies" to the Nacogdoches County Master Gardeners lunch and learn in Nacogdoches. 50 in attendance.

June 26, 2014. "Gardening for Love" to the Dallas Woman's Club in Dallas. 375 in attendance.

Total Lecture Attendance: 2,240

Tours:

September 14, 2013. SFA Gardens fall bulb tour in Arcadia. 55 in attendance.

October 6, 2013. Texas Rose Rustler tour in Arcadia. 15 in Attendance.

March 20, 2014. PNPC tour to Harrison County Master Gardeners. 12 in attendance.

March 26, 2014. PNPC tour to Gregg County and Cherokee County Master Gardeners. 17 in attendance.

March 27, 2014. PNPC tour to Smith County Master Gardeners. 14 in attendance.

March 29, 2014. Trillium tour to Smith County chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas in Arcadia. 8 in attendance.

June 10, 2014. PNPC tour to the Leona-Centerville Extension club. 10 people in attendance.

July 15, 2014. PNPC tour to the Texas Agrilife County Agent's Association. 17 in attendance.

Total Tour Attendance: 148

Publications:

Grant, Greg. *Oxblood Lilies*. **Arbor Gate Blog**. September 2013.

Grant, Greg. *Flying Tigers*. **Neil Sperry's Gardens**. September/October 2013. Volume XXVII. Issue 5.

Grant, Greg. *Mr. Green Jeans. Really!* **Texas Gardener**. September/October 2013. Volume XXXIII. Number 6.

Grant, Greg. *Ladies and Gentlemen, Start Your Fall Gardens*. **Arbor Gate Blog**. October 2013.

Grant, Greg. *Falling Again*. **Arbor Gate Blog**. November 2013.

Grant, Greg. *Crape Myrtle Manifesto*. **Neil Sperry's Gardens**. November/December 2013. Volume XXVII. Issue 6.

Grant, Greg. *Quilt a Garden*. **Texas Gardener**. November/December 2013. Volume XXXIII. Number 1.

Grant, Greg. *Bell Weather Cold*. **Arbor Gate Blog**. December 2013.

Grant, Greg. *Happy Holidays!* **Arbor Gate Blog**. January 2014.

Grant, Greg. *Pass the Plants Please*. **Neil Sperry's Gardens**. January/February 2014. Volume XXVIII. Issue 1.

Grant, Greg. *The Adams Family*. **Texas Gardener**. January/February 2014. Volume XXXIII. Number 2.

Grant, Greg. *Fire and Ice*. **Arbor Gate Blog**. February 2014.

Grant, Greg. *From Frozen to Fragrant*. **Arbor Gate Blog**. March 2014.

Grant, Greg. *Pam's Pink Honeysuckle*. **Neil Sperry's Gardens**. March/April 2014. Volume XXVIII. Issue 2.

Grant, Greg. *My Dog Rosie Lives in a Tree!* **Texas Gardener**. March/April 2014. Volume XXXIII. Number 3.

Grant, Greg. *Nothing Bad Happens to a Writer*. **Arbor Gate Blog**. April 2014.

Grant, Greg. *Ready, Set, Go!* **Arbor Gate Blog**. May 2014.

Grant, Greg. *What's up at the PNPC?* **SFA Gardens Newsletter**. Spring 2014.

Grant, Greg. *Picking and Grinning*. **Neil Sperry's Gardens**. May/June 2014. XXVIII. Number 3.

Grant, Greg. *My Long, Sweet Journey Home*. **Texas Gardener**. May/June 2014. XXXIII. Number 4.

Grant, Greg. *A Spectacle Under the Pines*. **TNLA Green**. May/June 2014.

Grant, Greg. *May I Have a Break?* **Arbor Gate Blog**. June 2014.

Grant, Greg. *Hey June*. **Arbor Gate Blog**. July 2014.

Grant, Greg. *Sweet Love*. **Neil Sperry's Gardens**. July/August 2014. Volume XXVIII. Issue 4.

Grant, Greg. *Almost Like a Song*. **Texas Gardener**. July/August 2014. Volume XXXIII. Number 5.

Grant, Greg. *July, July, July*. **Arbor Gate Blog**. August 2014.

Training/Events:

September 16, 2013. Attended William C. Welch lecture on Landscaping in Lufkin.

September 19, 2013. Attended Wayne Pianta SFA Gardens Lecture Series on new bedding plants.

October 8, 2013. Attended native plant luncheon at the History Center in Diboll.

October 17, 2013. Attended Matthew Kwiatkowski SFA Garden Lecture Series on amphibians.

November 21, 2013. Attended Jackie Carlisii SFA Gardens Lecture Series on organic gardening.

December 19, 2013. Attended Dave Creech SFA Gardens Lecture Series on events of the past year.

January 9, 2014. Attended Jason McKenzie SFA Gardens Lecture Series on Texas cottage gardens,

February 13, 2014. Attended Jay White SFA Gardens Lecture Series on vegetable gardening.

February 20-21, 2014. Attended the Texas Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta meeting at the Fort Worth Botanical Garden.

February 27-March 3, 2014. Attended the Southern Garden History Society annual meeting in Savannah, Georgia.

April 10, 2014. Attended Jerry Parsons SFA Gardens Lecture Series on tomato production.

May 8, 2014. Attended Hayes Jackson SFA Gardens Lecture Series on plant collecting.

May 13-14, 2014. Attended TLL Temple Boggy Slough planning meeting.

June 12, 2014. Attended Peter Loos SFA Gardens Lecture Series on native plants.

July 10, 2014. Attended Paul Wilson SFA Gardens Lecture Series on salsa.

August 14-16, 2104. Attended the Texas Nursery and Landscape Association trade show in San Antonio.

DAWN STOVER – September 1, 2013 – August 31, 2014

Tours and Outreach

September 11, 2013 – Graduate student recruiting tour

September 12, 2013 – Women of Agriculture. 15 students

October 1, 2013 – SFA Agriculture College Day. 60 students

October 8, 2013 – Presentation about the SFA Gardens to Forestry 221 students for plans building. 30 students

October 16, 2013 – Mast Arboretum tour, Cypress Area Garden Clubs. 45 attendees

October 18, 203 – Mast Arboretum tour, Travel with Carole. 41 attendess

October 24, 2013 - Local Food Fair. SFA Campus

October 26, 2013 - Fall Fandango. SFA Gardens

November 1, 2013 – Mast Arboretum tour and reception, Pines Garden Club. 20 attendees

December 18, 2013 – SFA Gardens tour and visit, LSU faculty

November 17, 2013 – Bee habitat collaboration with SFA Biology, Dr. Dan Bennett

January 8, 2014 – Autism and gardening consultation with Dr. Ginger Kelso, SFA Human Services

January 31-Feb 1, 2014 – American Society of Horticultural Science, Southern Region, J.



Benton Storey - organize and host undergraduate judging competition, 100 students

February 7, 2014 – Pines Garden Club auction. 100 attendees

February 25, 2014 – Mast Arboretum tour, Diboll Garden Club. 15 attendees

March 8, 2014 – Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, FFA Nursery and Landscape CDE. 150 students

March 20, 2014 – Mast Arboretum tour, Cherokee County Master Gardeners. 30 attendees

March 27, 2014 – Mast Arboretum tour, Smith County Master Gardeners. 25 attendees

April 7, 2014 – SFA FFA Nursery and Landscape CDE. 125 students

April 22, 2014 – SFA Gifts officers – tour of SFA Gardens

May 14, 2014 – Mast Arboretum tour, Longview Greenstreet Garden Club. 18 attendees

May 16, 2014 – Brick Street News interview, SFA Gardens and Garden Capital of Texas

May 28, 2014 – Mast Arboretum tour, Forest Cove Garden Club

June 10, 2014 – Mast Arboretum tour, Leona-Centerville EE Club. 22 attendees

June 14, 2014 – developed self-guided tour of the Sculpture for All exhibit through the Mast Arboretum and Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden. 47 attendees

August 18, 2014 – Mast Arboretum and Ruby M. Mize Garden tours for visiting professors from Nanjing Forestry Institute

Presentations and Workshops

October 10, 2013 – “Perennials for the Landscape” - Lunch and Learn, Nacogdoches Agrilife Extension. 100 attendees

November 13, 2013 – “Sexy Plants” – Gregg County Agrilife Extension. 60 attendees

December 7, 2013 – “Deck the Halls” workshop. 30 attendees

December 11, 2013 – wreath demonstration, HRT 322. 12 attendees

January 13, 2014 – “Everything Including the Kitchen Sink” – presentation, FUMC Primetimers. 75 attendees

January 14, 2014 – “Sexy Plants” – Harrison County Agrilife Extension. 50 attendees

February 3, 2014 – “Mixed Border Design” – Gulf Coast Gardener work shop, Mercer Arboretum, 100 attendees

February 8, 2014 – “Veggies 101” – SFA Gardens workshop, 40 attendees

February 25, 2014 – “Annuals and Perennials” workshop, Nacogdoches County Master Gardener training. 15 attendees

March 13, 2014 – “Garden Gala Day Preview” – Les and Theresa Reeves Lecture series, 100 attendees

March 25, 2014 – “All You Ever Wanted to Know About the SFA Gardens” – Nacogdoches Rotary presentation, 35 attendees

August 19, 2014 – “SFA Gardens Fall Festival Preview” – Angelina County Master Gardener presentation, 31 attendees

Professional Development

January 31-Feb 1, 2014 – American Society of Horticultural Science, Southern Region

November 2-6, 2013 – International Plant Propagation Society, Southern Region annual conference, Athens, GA

June 16-20, 2014 – All American Selections – Summer Summit, Asheville, NC

July 11-15, 2014 – AmericanHort Cultivate trade show and educational session, Columbus, OH

Les and Theresa Reeves Lecture Series – monthly lectures at the SFA Gardens

SFA Training:

Security Awareness Training

Hazcom standards training

Defensive driving and van certification

Intro to grant writing

Professional Achievements

Edit SFA Gardens *News*, quarterly newsletter for the SFA Garden’s members

Successfully completed fundraising campaign for outdoor sculpture competition and brought Sculpture for All exhibit to the SFA Gardens

Service

Nacogdoches Junior Forum: Corporate Sponsor Chair/board member, Outreach Committee member

Garden Capital of Texas Committee

Healthy Nacogdoches Coalition

Cub Scout Pack 161, Den leader

First United Methodist Church, children's volunteer

BARBARA STUMP - September 1, 2013-August 31, 2014

Progress Toward Goals for 2014 Fiscal Year

For Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden

Create a new event for fall to draw visitors to learn more about Japanese maples.—Yet to be defined.

Increase promotion of Azalea Trail events so annual Symposium and Little Princess Tea Party make money, and evaluate proposal to charge for guided Azalea Trail tours.—Friends of SFA Gardens Board Member Dr. Cheryl Boyette secured a sponsor for the Little Princess Tea Party so that net income for event was \$457. No sponsor for Symposium and low participation netted a loss of \$291.

Develop plan for correcting erosion on the southern bank of Burrows Creek, on the northern end of the garden.—Yet to be defined; some solutions suggested, but not approved to move forward to construction.



For Gayla Mize Garden

Complete plant stake and plant labeling of entire collection. Process of mapping and listing plants needing labels about 80% done; creation of labels about 2% done, due to mechanical issues and nomenclature accuracy concerns.

Assist in sourcing new deciduous azaleas.—Yet to be done

Create visitor map and brochure in time for spring visitors.—Very basic level version done.

Completed Major Projects

Received and installed six new 10-foot metal benches for Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden honoring major donor Dorothy Wisely.

Other duties as assigned and completed

Managed paperwork for Search committee for Assistant Professor of Horticulture.

Supported efforts to secure Jimmy Hinds Park project, procured sign and information about Jimmy Hinds for permanent signage.

Wrote grant for Conservation Educator Funds to private granting foundation. \$10,000 secured to help maintain assistant education coordinator salary.

Goals for FY 2015

For Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden

Lead organization and execution of national Azalea Society of America convention March 26-29.

Assist with Nacogdoches Azalea Trail tours as needed during Azalea Trail.

Get design proposal and cost estimate for roof to cover Council Ring. This would increase number of events that could be held there as well as reduce costs for Azalea Trail events. Budget permitting, begin construction.

Set up a graveled and signed parking area by ROTC tower for staff parking.

Improve irrigation in western-most bed (#45) and replace Encore® Azalea Collection losses.

Consider second pink “entrance sign” with map at western entrance to garden.

For Gayla Mize Garden

Complete Pavilion roof on raised area by asphalt walk by well so area can be used for picnics and other gatherings.

Purchase and install two metal benches in Pavilion.

Complete individual plant-stake signs for all unique plant taxa.

For Jimmy Hinds Park

Assist as needed, primarily by monitoring purchasing and ensuring six new metal benches are installed.

Published Papers

Stump, Barbara. Summer 2013. 8 (3): 3 "What's an Azalea-lover to Do? SFA Gardens News.

Stump, Barbara. Spring 2014. 8 (6): 2014 Azalea Trail Highlights. SFA Gardens News.

Stump, Barbara. Sept-Oct 2013. Making Garden History Now—Notes from SFA Gardens. TNLA Green XV(5): 29-31

Talks, Presentations, and Tours

October 1, 2013. Stump, Barbara. Design Principles in Action: Marfa Texas. Applied Landscape Segment of Texas Gulf Coast Gardeners Course sponsored by Mercer Arboretum and Botanic Gardens, Houston, Texas. 15 in attendance.

October 10, 2013. Fall Color in the Garden, Emphasizing Native and Japanese Maples. Nacogdoches County Master Gardeners "Lunch n' Learn" meeting. Nacogdoches, Texas. 80 in attendance.

November 4, 2014. Moderator of Education Session on Ornamentals, Southern Rhododendrons, Camellias, and Natives. 28th Annual Southern Region International Plant Propagators' Society (IPPS). Athens, Georgia. 300 in attendance.

March 1-May 28, 2014. Stump, Barbara and three trained docents. Guided tours (11) of Ruby M. Mize Azalea Garden during Nacogdoches Azalea Trail, Nacogdoches, Texas. Groups ranged from Lone Star College and church groups from Houston to garden tour groups from Tyler and a group from the STEM Conference held at SFA, and the local Neuro Support Group, and regional master gardeners. 351 in attendance.

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2014. Stump, Barbara and two SFA Gardens volunteers each date. In-garden docents during Nacogdoches Azalea Trail. Estimated 310 visitors for the period. An additional attendance on March 22: Little Princess Tea Party (100) and the Japanese Maple Azalea Symposium (20).

March 29, 2014. Presentation Inviting ASA Members to the 2015 Nacogdoches National Azalea Society of America Convention. Charleston, South Carolina. 120 in attendance.

Service

Member of Nacogdoches Garden Capital of Texas Committee, dedicated to beautification of Nacogdoches city and county.

National board member for the Azalea Society of America, including attendance at the national Azalea Society of America convention in Charleston, South Carolina, March 27-29, 2014.

Co-chair of 2015 National Azalea Society of America convention to be held in Nacogdoches, Texas. March 26-29, 2015. Theme: "Texas Forestry Country—Azalea Trails and Gardens."

ELYCE RODEWALD – September 1, 2013 – August 31, 2014

Education Team

Coordinator: Elyce Rodewald

Assistant Coordinator: Kerry Lemon

Student Workers: Brandy Sapp, Isis Waites, Ariel Jones, Anthony Rosborough, Morgen Huss, Trenton Stiefel, Mary Leigh Winkler, Jason Gray

Interns: Alexis Boyd, Nelly Cervantes, Cody Pruitt

Education Assistants: Vicki Baggett, Maya Lemon, Sarafina Feldman

SFA Garden Volunteers: Jackie Grant, Ray Goehring, Kathy Greer, Mary Beth Hagood, Ruth Heino, Kay Jeffrey, Mary Louise Jobe, Marianne Young



Presentations

Coordinated and/or presented educational programs for SFA Gardens for over 19,000 participants. See table below.

Highlights include twice weekly after-school programs for Boys and Girls Club members and Raguet Elementary School students, hands-on environmental education field trips for all Nacogdoches ISD elementary students grades K-5, monthly outdoor family fun days, bi-monthly garden seminars, four weeks of summer camps and special events including the Little Princess Tea Party and two FFA Career Development Events (horticulture judging contests).

SFA Student Involvement

Environmental Education programs at SFA Gardens advanced the University mission by enhancing excellence in teaching, learning, creative work and service and by creating new learning opportunities for SFA students. Three students completed required internships by participating as teachers in the after-school program or summer camp experience. Students enrolled in Dr. Alan Soward's and Leah Kahn's science methods courses also gained hands-on experience in curriculum development and instruction in an outdoor classroom through their participation in Bugs, Bees, Butterflies and Blossoms and Wild About Science.

Community Partners

Pineywoods Audubon Society, Boys and Girls Club of Nacogdoches, Texas Forest Service, Boyette Consulting, City of Nacogdoches Parks and Recreation Department, Keep Nacogdoches Beautiful, Pineywoods Beekeepers Association, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, US Forest Service, Nacogdoches Junior Forum

Training

At SFA, attended Receipts and Deposits, Property Management and Campus Programs for Minors training

Attended Certified Food Manager course through Texas AgriLife Extension

Service

Facilitated 3rd grade garden project for NISD

Grants and Funding

Received Green Mountain Energy Sun Club grant for solar array installation at the Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building -- \$30,000 +\$15,000 in contributions from Encore Electric

Managed More Kids in the Pineywoods Grant from USFS

Received Texas Parks and Wildlife COOP Grant - \$ 36,584

Managed SFA Garden Membership drive and supervised collection of fees for educational programs.

SFA Gardens Environmental Education Program Data Summary

	2001-2002	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Adult Programs													
Arboretum/Azalea Garden/PNPC Tours	744	744	768	1334	1214	1343	863	1244	1499	908	460	1278	912
Les Reeves Lecture Series	980	860	709	823	922	751	824	789	811	780	802	809	982
Garden Seminars	83	158	184	175	32	45	57	65	32	145	396	142	206
Educator Workshops	24	186	23	121	183	225	455	110	160	30	43	88	0
Volunteer Training	25	35	13	45	29	11	30	18	10	8	12	26	11
Adult Special Events	1285	1927	1070	1508	1200	3281	1862	1350	1020	987	300	254	0
Lectures-outreach							3179	4232	2905	2388	3437	4738	5169
Sub-total	3141	3910	2767	4006	3580	5656	7270	7808	6437	5246	5450	7335	7280
Children's Programs													
Arboretum Adventures	917	546	820	733	1048	1120	771	1162	1377	784	546	514	588
Trees Are Terrific	2320	1246	962	622	1784	1750	2072	1795	552	921	717	0	0
Forest Awareness						450	600	1050	1200	1900	535	613	600
GardenQuest	398	644	381	0	525	182	316	80	320	175	0	28	120
Go Wild	174	690	924	549	711	772	803	752	549	540	499	473	495
Wild About Science (Go Native Field Day)	0	0	250	300	594	594	508	351	483	479	525	452	446
Earth Science Exploration						475	475	612	1076	869	796	447	462
School Gardening	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	120	0	0	0	473	495
Bugs, Bees, Butterflies and Blossoms	500	1000	2025	2640	2574	2816	2800	2800	2477	3292	3301	3523	3279
Pineywoods Day Camps	26	26	36	58	63	67	74	77	77	83	87	87	91
Children's Special Activities	571	1056	1538	1756	2004	200	350	800	882	115	804	2120	1902
Wild About Wetlands	0	0	0	87	154	395	111	46	19	28	27	30	100
Nacogdoches Naturally-Family Day								193	520	500	893	1753	1888
CDE (Career Development Education)						700	686	511	704	772	897	845	700
Nacogdoches Naturally-After school									503	495	648	1138	938
Sub-total	4972	5208	6936	6745	9457	9521	9566	10349	10739	10953	10275	12496	12104
Total	8113	9118	9703	10751	13037	15177	16836	18157	17176	16199	15725	19831	19384

Data shown are
From
September
through August
each year.

KERRY LEMON – September 1, 2013 – August 31, 2014

Nacogdoches Naturally Education Programs:

Twice weekly after-school programs for Boys and Girls Club Members and Raguet Elementary School students.

Family Fun Days:

September 7, 2013: Kick-off Day – PNPC

October 12, 2013: Blast from the Past – community event

October 27, 2013: Pirates in the Pineywoods – Gayla Mize Garden

November 16, 2013: Meet the Creepy Crawlers – PNPC

January 25, 2014: Kid Fish – community event

February 8, 2014: Family Gardening - PNPC

February 15, 201 Bird Day – PNPC

April 5, 2014: Earth Day Celebration – PNPC

April 26, 2014: Farm and Forestry Day – SFA Beef Center

National Archery in the Schools program offered to Mike Moses Middle School – Outdoor Education Classes over a total of 12 days

March 6, 2014: Special Event – Healthy Activity Tailgate Party Carpenter Elementary School

March 22, 2014: Special Events – Spring Fling – community event

Little Princess Tea Party – Ruby Mize Azalea Garden

June-July 2014: 4 weeks of summer camp for children ages 4-15

Assisted with educational field trips



Presentations:

March 18, 2014 “Environmental Education at SFA Gardens” presented to Flora Garden Club

Grants and funding:

May 31, 2014: Applied for Texas Parks and Wildlife Community Outdoor Outreach Grant
August 1, 2014: Received notice of grant recipient award for TPWD COOP Grant

Trainings:

SFA CPM, SFA Banner, Wilderness First Responder recertification
February 26-28, 2014: Attended annual Informal Science Educators Association Conference

Other:

Participated in Science in the Public Interface Project sponsored by College of Forestry
Attended monthly SFA Sustainability Advocacy Coalition Meetings

DUKE PITTMAN – September 1, 2013 – August 31, 2014

As the SFA Gardens Technician, Duke coordinates student workers, and handles garden installation and maintenance projects. He sets the pace and sees that projects are initiated and completed in a timely manner.

