

Good-Sam Planting Project

Article by Betty Mullenweg— photos courtesy Dorothy Thetford and Betty Mullenweg

Betty Mullenweg, Project Manager, planting of native plants at the Good Samaritan Society Denton Village, shares the following update:

After receiving a request for assistance with native plant landscaping from Good Samaritan, Denton Village, Van Elliott initiated the "Good Sam Planting Project" under P-070510.



Preparing—standing in the empty plot are Fritz Poppe (MN), Betty Mullenweg (MN/GS resident) and Nancy Kurrus and Joe Baldrige (GS residents)



Committee members Al Pena, Marilyn Blanton, Betty Mullenweg, Nancy Kurrus, Joe Baldrige, Fritz Poppe, Dorothy Thetford and Freddie Martinez, GS Director of Senior Living.

We have identified six different areas ("Plots") at the Denton Village to address. Planting of "Plot A" was accomplished last week just in time for the 1-1/2" of rain to mess up! However, all the plants survived and repairs have been accomplished! Area residents have been most complimentary! We will continue to plant other "plots" as they are readied by Good Sam staff and plants are obtained. So far, plants have been provided to Good Sam by a grant from Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial organization.

A team led by Good Sam resident Betty Mullenweg, who is also a Master Naturalist, was formed with our members and several Good Sam residents. Team members are: Fritz Poppe, Marilyn Blanton, Dorothy Thetford, GS residents Joe Baldrige, and Nancy Kurrus (sister to our own Shirley Lusk). GS employees, Freddie Martinez, Director of Senior Living, Luis Alfonso, Director Environmental Service, Al Pena, environmental service, round out the team.

For more information, contact Betty Mullenweg at bmullenweg@gmail.com.



Near completion before the "flood"

Flood damage repaired and topped with Dyno Dirt



Take time to participate



<https://sites.google.com/site/trailsofdentoncounty/Home/ray-roberts-lake-state-park/green-belt-trail>

GREENFEST

From Marian Kester

It was a beautiful day at the Greenbelt Greenfest on September 27. Led and organized by Marian Kester several Master Naturalists, with the guidance from our friend, Dr. Tom La Point, took the opportunity to educate the public about who lives in their Trinity River. We collected aquatic critters from the river and put them on display. About 145 people stopped by our booth to learn about may flies, damselflies, water striders, beetles, water fleas, glass shrimp, crayfish and a host of other wonderful residents of our river.

It was a good opportunity to educate folks about the lives of aquatic arthropods, how to reduce the number of mosquitoes and the importance of keeping our wonderful river clean and flowing. A wonderful time was had by all. Thanks to Shari Brand, Sherrill Campbell, Linda Cox, Jan Deatherage, Peg La Point, Mary Morrow, Judy Riley, Brenda Wellenreiter, Angilee Wilkerson, Louise Wyss, and Betty Zajac for helping out. Thanks also goes to the Elm Fork Education Center for lending us several items to help with the success of this activity.

These Master Naturalists (and including Van Elliott the photographer) worked the MN booth at the Master Gardener Fall Festival on October 4, 2014, in Flower Mound at the Trietsch Memorial United Methodist Church. While information was shared with attendees, a good time was had by all.

Photo courtesy Van Elliott



Judi Elliott, Jan Deatherage, Judy Riley and LeeAnn Weaver



“Two bubbles found they had rainbows on their curves. They flickered out saying: “It was worth being a bubble, just to have held that rainbow thirty seconds.”
— [Carl Sandburg](#)

Nature brings us “full circle” — photo from NASA over Perth, Australia

Take time for a closer look



Green Milkweed *Asclepias Viridis*

By Marilyn Blanton



Green milkweed is also called green antelopehorn.



Asclepias virides is my scientific name but most just call me green milkweed, either way I'm the same

I'm a tough, drought tolerant, sun-loving, native, herbaceous perennial occurring over a wide range

I'm the most common milkweed in Texas seen dotting well drained soils of prairies, pastures, fields and beside roadways
But herbicides, mowing and destruction from development has decreased my presence and raised great concern these days

Concern because milkweeds are the only larval host plant for the monarch butterflies whose numbers have drastically declined
Monarchs must lay their eggs on milkweed for their caterpillars to have food and to support the butterflies' migration time

I'm interesting for many reasons, one being my sticky, milky, toxic sap which is why I'm called milkweed
Another is my long, knobby seedpods packed with numerous seed whose silky tufts carry them away with the breeze

I grow one to two feet tall and may have a solitary stem or several that may stand upright or spread
My thick leaves are alternate, entire, variable but mostly lanceolate, and often have a wavy edge

My individual flowers have a distinctive structure and are arranged in clusters looking like green balls, which make me easy to
recognize and remember

Each separate flower has five green corolla lobes, five white and purple hoods with no horns, and may bloom from
spring to September

Being toxic, I'm not welcome in pastures where livestock grazes but with careful management, I deserve to be left to grow and
be appreciated

I'm also the host plant for queen butterflies and a nectar plant for others, too and it should be noted that my beauty as a
garden flower cannot be overrated

Take time to learn more



class of 2013

One

By Bob Ross

Like most folks, I am a lover of music. My musical interests pretty much run the gamut, from Classical, to R&B, to Rock, to Country. I love melodies and am often amazed how song writers can take a few words and develop a lyric to a song that can get varying responses from the listener. For example, all of us have heard a song and it may have reminded us about something that happened in our lives, reminded us of a girlfriend or boyfriend from the past, we remembered where we were the first time we heard the song and lyrics, or it simply could make us happy or sad. There are also those songs with lyrics that can have multiple uses or meanings.

Country mega-star Kenny Chesney released a song about three years ago with the title, "You and Tequila". It is the typical country genre in that the lyrics are expressing the sad feelings of a man and woman engulfed in the demons of the bottle. Hence the word tequila in the title! I am not much of a drinker of alcohol, and especially tequila. I understand that by me exposing that bit of knowledge about myself has pushed me to the rear of the line by all you margarita aficionados out there. And, that's okay. I know my place.

In "You and Tequila", Chesney has a line in the lyrics that just jumped out at me. The line in the lyric goes as such, "**One is one too many – One more is never enough.**" Being the semi-teetotaler that I am, the line had me thinking less about alcohol and more about opposite sides in many environmental battles of today.

More and more of the rural properties in our area are being gobbled up by the influx of more and more legions of humanity that want to live in a pretty area outside the confines of a city. If you are one of those individuals who purchased property in the 1970's, 80's, or 90's in areas such as Argyle or Copper Canyon, well you lived in the country and enjoyed the pleasantries of no one else living close to your abode. Times are changing. I have friends living in these areas, as well as many other locations throughout Denton, Wise, and Cooke Counties, that explain to me how disappointed they are with all the growth around them. For them, each time a new house is being built nearby they feel – **one is one too many**. For the developer building the additional 1,000 houses in a housing development – **one more is never enough**.

We all know that automobiles with gas combustible engines are not environmentally sound. **One more gas guzzler is one too many**. But, for the automobile manufacturer **one more automobile is never enough!** We know that aerosol spray cans are not environmentally sound and have proof of damage to the Ozone layer. **One more spray can is one too many**. But, for the manufacturers of spray paint or hair spray, **one more spray can is never enough!** We understand that the massive burning of coal as a fuel is not environmentally sound. **One more railroad car of coal is one too many**. For the owners of the coal mines, **one more railroad car of coal is never enough!**

