

Additional Hood County Outreach

- Worked with the Hood County Library staff and volunteers to complete Phase 2 of the Library Beautification project in spring 2025, advising and guiding volunteers in the creation of the pollinator bed at the library entrance, coordinating with community volunteers and Master Gardeners to complete the Monarch Butterfly Life Cycle Sculpture, which was introduced to the community on May 3. See the article in the Hood County News: <https://www.hcnews.com/stories/monarch-life-cycle-sculpture-to-debut-may-3,73233>
- Awarded scholarships to two students: Asher Middleton and Caitlyn White who each received \$1000 for the fall 2025 semester and are working to be eligible to receive \$1000 for the winter/spring 2026 semester. Alicia Flower chaired the Scholarship Committee.
- Staffed a booth and answered horticultural questions at the Hood County Home & Garden Expo March 15.
- Celebrated with Habitat for Humanity the completion of three homes and welcomed the homeowners with a personalized book of gardening info about the Hood County area.



Left: the unveiling of the sculpture on May 3.

Below: Creating the Life Cycle sculpture involved Lake Granbury Master Gardeners, Friends of Hood County Library and many community contributors. Unique were Raul Sandoval (not pictured), and left to right, Danny Reed, Dwight Cullum and Colleen Lisenbee. Not pictured is Kylee Peterson.



Photo left, left to right, Renee Rogers, Debra Cook, Phyllis Webster, Tori Schaneman, and Deborah Rollins at the Home & Garden Show.



2025 Awards Continued from page 3



Propagator of the Year
NANCY WALSH



Master Gardeners of the Year
SHELLEY REYENGA
LOUISE HOOPER



Master Gardener Larry Smith, far right, presented new Habitat homeowners with a plant and horticultural information.

For more information about LGMG meetings, community education programs and special events, please visit www.txmg.org/hcmg or go to <https://www.facebook.com/LakeGranburyMasterGardeners>, <https://www.instagram.com/lakegranburymastergardeners/>, email lakegranburymastergardeners@gmail.com or call the Hood County Extension Office at 817-579-3280.



Lake Granbury Master Gardeners 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Dec. 31, 2025



This year 68 Master Gardeners volunteered 6,271 hours to increase the availability of horticultural information in Hood County, through the Hood County Extension Service, in collaboration with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. Through various horticultural programs, projects, events and activities, Lake Granbury Master Gardeners worked to improve the quality of life in our community.

2025 Executive Committee left to right: Corresp. Secretary Drew Ingram; Treasurer Tara Jones; 1st Vice President Dale Childers; President Olivia Barden; Past Pres. Steven Rhodes; and Recording Secretary Debra Cook. 2nd Vice President Genie Bishop not pictured.



Maintaining and Improving the Demonstration and Research Garden

This year, Lake Granbury Master Gardeners:

- Trimmed the trees around the garden;
- Rebuilt the water feature in the Shade Garden, improving, dividing and adding additional drip irrigation;
- Painted the USDA Hardiness Zone Map for Texas in the "Happy" flowerbed;
- Created the new "Grumpy" bed in the Children's Garden;
- Added ventilation system and shade cloth to Greenhouse;
- Designed and painted a monarch butterfly life-cycle mural on the side of the tool shed; and
- Purchased a new riding mower, thanks to funds from a generous donor. (The gift includes funds for additional decomposed granite to be installed on walkways, which will be in early 2026.)



Pictured are Demo Garden Manager Renee Rogers, left, with Hood County AgriLife Extension Agent Amanda Salinas.

Horticultural and Educational Efforts



- Worked with GHS teacher Erin Wilson and two senior high students for the Practicum in Horticulture program from September through the fall semester.
- Provided monthly educational programs on the third Wednesday of the month January through November, which were attended by Lake Granbury Master Gardeners and 102 guests. For half the year, we met at the Livestock Association's Exhibit building at Reunion Grounds; we helped improve the entrance by clearing weeds, adding plants and mulching using mulch from the county brush yard. *Continued on page 2*

Horticultural and Educational Efforts *Continued from front*

- Offered community members an opportunity to purchase more than 2000 plants, adapted to the Hood County area, at the annual LGMG Plant Sale; we were assisted by the GHS Jr. ROTC.
- Welcomed several hundred people of all ages to the 8th Romancing the Monarch festival, which is held annually in the Demonstration Garden the first Saturday of October. The next festival will be Oct. 3, 2026.



Plant Sale Chair Tori Schaneman oversaw preparation for the plant sale. Master Gardeners and area businesses contributed items for a gardening wagon to be given away to someone who had made a \$2 donation. Proceedings from the plant sale provide operating and scholarship funds for the following year.

Partnered with Monarch Watch and their tagging program, and tagged and registered 274 monarch butterflies during the annual migration through Hood County.



October is Monarch Month in Granbury



Children and adults of all ages enjoyed the festival. Shown above right is Chairman Deborah Rollins.

LGMG also partnered with the National Wildlife Federation to engage Granbury Mayor Jim Jarratt with the Mayor's Monarch Pledge. LGMG worked with Mayor Jarratt and Hood County Commissioners for proclamations: July as Milkweed for Pollinators month and October as Monarch Migration month.

Promoted the Romancing the Monarch festival:

- Met with the Granbury Cultural Arts Commission in July.
- Sponsored Rise and Grind in September.
- Worked with Downtown Merchants who participated in window displays to promote the festival, and with D'Vine wine for a Sip and Support fundraiser night.
- Submitted and landed promotion in Texas Highways magazine, by contributing a beautiful picture of monarch butterflies on Mexican flame vine. This picture was the featured calendar photo for the fall 2025 Texas Highways magazine; on the same page our October 4 Romancing the Monarch butterfly festival was listed.

Romancing the Monarch Festival Sponsors

Visit Granbury

The Inn on Lake Granbury- A Boutique Hotel

Home Depot

Lake Granbury Medical Center

Randy and LGMG Renee Rogers

Gilbert Environmental

Brookshire's Grocery

Master Gardener Susan Wood, far right, and her daughter Rowan Vaughn, finished the beautiful life cycle mural on the tool shed in time for the Romancing the Monarch Festival, making a lovely backdrop for tagging monarchs.



The next monarch festival is scheduled for Oct. 3, 2026.

Horticultural and Educational Efforts *Continued from page 2*

- Offered community education programs:
 - Container Planting workshop for invited guests of Magnolia Realty in May;
 - Companion Planting for seniors at the YMCA,
 - Members and guests of the Petals and Pals Garden Club and
 - Members and guests of the Granbury Garden Club.
- Master Gardeners also met with and provided gardening advice on community raised-bed vegetable gardening to representatives of Acton Middle School and First United Methodist Church.

- Regularly welcomed visitors to the Demonstration and Research Garden, including planned tours for:
 - Two groups of Hood County homeschoolers,
 - Lady Bug Garden Club,
 - Petals and Pals Garden Club,
 - Lake Granbury Art Association artists who set up easels to paint beautiful flowers,
 - October TxDOT tour with 25 certified Texas Travel advisors from DOT Travel Information Centers, and
 - GHS FAA Agriculture Issues Team presentation on Ecotourism to practice for competition.

Internally Focused Service

- Horticultural-related tours for Master Gardeners
- Received a donation of \$675 from Granbury Garden Club in February.
- Received Texas Master Gardeners recognition for LGMG Phyllis Webster, who was named outstanding individual for 2024, winning third place in the medium-large county category.



Phyllis Webster was recognized by the state earlier in the year, and then received her 25-year service pin in December.

- Promoted and supported the biennial Master Gardener training, which was March 25 – May 27, 2025. Following the 50 hours of AgriLife training, the interns will volunteer 50 hours to assist LGMG to qualify as Master Gardeners. There were 15 interns and five have finished their 50 hours to become Master Gardeners.
- Initiated communication efforts through the nine-member PR/Communications committee, including a new brochure, new monthly member newsletter —Garden Pickin's; maintaining and improving posts on the website; continuing twice-monthly Garden Patch articles in the Hood

2025 Awards

Years of Service pins were awarded in December:

10 Years: Anita Absher, Juy Duree, Shelley Reyanga, Ann Childers and Dale Childers;

15 Years: Glynna Torres and Jean Bassett;

25 Years: Phyllis Webster

19 Master Gardeners were honored for their more than 100 hours of service.



Five interns, from left to right, received certification: Karen Gembler, Susan Ballance, Karen Lindner, Bridgette Piatt and Laura Palmer.

Awards continued on back



PR/Communications Chair Louise Hooper

County News (which have been provided by Master Gardener Phyllis Webster for 25 years); and improving social media with more photos, improved graphics and new topics, including posting and answering questions on Facebook, Instagram and Next Door. We also achieved placement in Texas Highways and had several releases printed in the Hood County News.