



Message from the President

Inside this issue:

Message	1
Minutes—Sept 13	2
New Landscape Bridge	2
Minutes—Nov 8	3
Proposed Budget-2012	3
Ron's Ramblings	4
Most Blessed-Least Grateful	4
Memorial Articles	5
Allison's Accents	6
Final By-Laws	7-10

Special points of interest:

- Watch for next CVMG business meeting—Jan 10
- Special Bridge for 4-H Demo Beds
- Are you ready for a new year of gardening?
- Have you turned in your Volunteer hours for 2011?

First, I want to thank the outgoing officers for their service to the CVMG.

Pat Karmany (VP), Susan Stanfield (Secretary), and Don Piwonka (State Director) have each served a two-year term of office. Please extend your thanks when you see them.

Please congratulate our new officers: Ron Knight as VP, Jeannette Hobbs as Secretary and Carol Diminnie as State Director.

Second, I want to thank Ron Knight and his wife for hosting the CVMG Christmas gathering on December 10. It was a delightful evening with great company and good food.

Third, I want to thank Al-

lison Watkins for shepherding the CVMG for another year.

Next, Ron has started to line up speakers for the bimonthly education programs that follow each general meeting. Michael Nickles, Managing Director/Owner of Paradise Ponds LLC, & Rockwater Consulting LLC, will be presenting *Rain Water Harvesting/ Storm water Management*. This presentation will be an informative discussion about the need for rain water harvesting and storm water runoff solutions for the home. The general business meeting will start at 5:45 PM with the goal of ending the business meeting about 6:15 PM. The educational portion of

the meetings is open to the public so please spread the word.

The CVMG By-law revisions were approved at the November 8, 2011 meeting. The latest version of the bylaws are included in the newsletter. *(They can be torn off and kept for future reference)*. Minutes of the last two meetings are also included. Both sets of minutes will be up for approval at the **January 10, 2012** meeting.

As usual, let me know of questions, suggestions, and concerns.

Carolyn Mason

President

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Concho Valley Master Gardener Monthly Meeting
4-H Building, San Angelo, Texas
Sept 13, 2011 5:45 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

The president, Carolyn Mason, called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. A motion was made to file the minutes from last meeting. Linda Rowe made the motion and Janie Houck seconded it. The motion passed.

Jackie Swanson reported \$19,385.41 in the account. This is after they zeroed out the amount over the budget for the demo beds. There is \$2,972.19 still appropriated to projects and \$16,288.14 not appropriated to anything. Loretta Burgess made the motion to file the treasurer's report and Debbie Vincent seconded. The report was filed.

Allison announced new Master Gardeners who have achieved their 50 volunteer hours. From the 2010 class: Barbara Maner, Stacy Smith, Samantha Boyle, Georgia Edwards. From the 2011 class: Jalene Jones and Nina Hallmark. They received their certificates and pins.

Projected expenses for continuing projects (emergency funds) are as follows:

- Propagation/greenhouse/plant sale/library garden \$500
- Rainwater collection system maintenance \$500
- 4-H Demo Beds-beds, trees, water feature, rain garden, pathways, Garden bridge, benches, signage, plants & supplies \$1,000

Ron Knight made the motion to accept these figures and Janie Houck seconded it. The motion passed.

Allison made a funding request for a research project she will be doing with Dr. Steve George. They will be testing Eath-Kind roses. It will be repeated in several locations across the U.S. This trial is for all of West Texas. There will be 80 plants in all. She is asking for \$2,000 to create the bed, mulch, etc. It will be in Kirby Park for the community to watch and for Master Gardener's to participate. Allison will keep an eye on it and tend the garden. The city will furnish the water and location. This will be a 4 year study. Debbie Vincent made the motion to allot \$2,000 for Allison's project. Linda Rowe seconded it and

the motion passed.

Donna presented an idea for the November meeting. Monte Sims from Bes Tex was present to ask what we wanted to hear about in the way of lawn care. It was decided to have him speak on how to recover from the severe drought for our trees, shrubs and lawn. His vender from ARS will demonstrate pruners and how to safely trim your trees. It was suggested to open it to the public and allocate \$200 to the Extension office to cover the fee. It will be offered to the public free of charge. Linda Rowe made the motion to have Monte do the presentation in November. Sandy Rogers seconded it and the motion passed.

Carolyn recommended we allocate funds to help the state directors cover their cost of attending meetings. This will be voted on at the November meeting.

Loretta Burgess said we have the opportunity to get free wood chips from a company who will deliver them to our area free of charge. After discussion, it was decided to let them bring the chips until we get too much or it isn't working. Janie Houck made the motion to accept the free chips and Debbie Vincent seconded it. The motion passed. We now have a nominating committee: Jaylene Jones, Janie Houck, and Linda Rowe. We need to fill the secretary, state director and vice president slots. Carolyn made the motion to accept these people for the nominating committee. Carol Sturm seconded it and the motion passed.

The committee will announce the candidates in October. Elections will be at the November meeting.

Allison announced Larry Justice from the downtown library needs help cleaning out the large round pots in front of the library. They will do it during the week in October. Anyone wanting to help with this short project should call Allison.

Allison's Landscape school will be Mondays & Tuesdays: Sept 19 & 20--26 & 27. She needs volunteers for registration and to help with snacks. Master Gardeners can take the class for free, however if you want the class materials you will need to pay the fee. Each session is 6:30-9 p.m. This counts as education hours-6 hours.

The November meeting will be the annual meeting. We will vote on the changes in the by-laws and the new officers will be elected.

Debbie Vinson made the motion to adjourn and Loretta Burgess seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Bonnie Amos gave the program about dangerous native plants.

Respectfully submitted by
Susan Stanfield, Secretary.

New Landscape Bridge

We will shortly have a new attraction to our "Demo Bed" area. Yes folks it is ready to move to the site and finish setting it up. I am proud to announce that the students of "BOZO's School of No Fingers" has graduated another class of the highest level carpenters possible. I am thankful for their help, input, and tenacity. Thanks a lot. Students of the Class are as follows:

- LOIS DRAPER** (Master Home Coming Queen)
- Ron Knight** (Master Helper)
- Howard Benes** (Master Craftsman)
- Bob (BOZO) White** (Master Planner & Teacher)
- Harley** (Master Superintendent and Quality Control Officer)

In all sincerity, I am very proud of our accomplishment and look forward to other projects.

Now comes the next part of this project, it will include taking the bridge to 4H Building, setting into place and leveling, screwing in deck flooring and other odds and ends. We need help, about three or more persons would be great. We are planning to have a work day on a Saturday in the next two weeks or so, weather permitting. I will announce the Date at the meeting. **Bob White**

(Pictures can be found on following pages)

Concho Valley Master Gardener Annual Meeting Minutes
4-H Building, San Angelo, TX
November 8

Welcome and introductions. Carolyn Mason called the meeting to order at 5:45 PM and welcomed everyone. Introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes of September 13, 2011 meeting. The minutes have not been received therefore a motion was made by John Jones to table approval of minutes until minutes were made available. Jackie Swanson seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

Treasurer’s Report. The CVMG continue to be in the black. Other details were provided. Bob White motioned to file the treasurer’s report. Kay Thompson seconded and motion was carried.

New Business: Elections.

The following individuals were elected by acclamation: Ron Knight as Vice-President, Jeannette Hobbs as Secretary, and Carol Diminnie as State Director following a motion by Demo McMinn and seconded by Bob White.

2012 Budget was presented. Two additional items were added.

Speaker’s fund – It was decided that funds to bring speakers in should be approved by the membership two meetings prior to the scheduled presentation. Demo McMinn made the motion. It was seconded by John Jones. Motion carried.

Travel reimbursement for State Directors – Each State Director and alternate may be reimbursed up to \$200 for travel and attendance at one state meeting per year. Receipts must be submitted for reimbursement. Motion made by Kay Thompson and seconded by Bob White. Motion carried. Bob White motioned that the proposed budget with the two additions

be approved. Kay Thompson seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Bylaw changes. Kay Thompson made a motion that the revisions to the By-laws that were distributed over the past two months be approved. Carol Sturm seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Holiday Party. Ron Knight has agreed to host the holiday party. The date will be December 10.

Opening of educational program to the public. Kay Thompson made a motion to open the education portion the CVMG bimonthly meetings to the public at no charge. Bob White seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

On-going business. There was no on-going business.

Announcements/Projects

Tulip bulb planting with 4 and 5 year olds at the San Early Childhood Center Friday November 18 8:30 AM until 10:30 AM.

Home and Garden Expo March 24 –25 Earthkind Rose planting November 9 & 10.

Allison announced that Kathy Hinds has left the Extension office and that Pam Claborn has joined Janice Alexander as support staff.

Meeting Dates: January 10, 2012

Speaker: Michael Nickles with Paradise Ponds. The presentation will focus on using water features in the landscape.

Adjournment. Judi Perkins made a motion for adjournment. Motion seconded by John Jones. Motion was carried and meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Carolyn R. Mason
Secretary pro tem

PROPOSED BUDGET—2012

Apron/T-shirt Fund*	\$ 331.75
Demonstration Gardens-4H Bldg	\$ 2,000.00
Emergency Funds-4H Demo Beds	\$ 1,000.00
Emergency Funds-propagation; greenhouse; plant sale; library garden	\$ 500.00
Emergency Funds-Rainwater Collection System Maintenance	\$ 500.00
Greenhouse—	
Construction & Maintenance*	\$ 2,109.46
Library Garden Fund	\$ 200.00
MG Christmas Party	\$ 100.00
Plant Sale Fund*	\$ 2,000.00
Postage	\$ 50.00
Rainwater Harvest Program	\$ 750.00
Testing EarthKind Roses	\$2,000.00
Christmas Gifts for Ext Employees	\$ 200.00
Continuing Education Fund—5% of Fund Raising Events	
State Directors' Reimbursement	

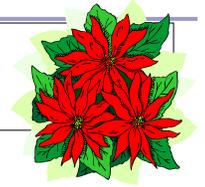
**indicates will carry forward from prior year*



**Landscape Bridge Project:
Lois Draper and Howard Benes.
Worker Ron Knight was not available for this picture.
“I don’t believe they can walk & chew gum at same time.” (Bob White)
GREAT JOB!!!**



Ron's Ramblings



Many of my personal favorite Christmas memories center on Christmas Eve services at Sierra Vista United Methodist Church. Walking into the sanctuary with my family and seeing the beautifully adorned altar lined with Christmas poinsettias has become a reassuring tradition. Plant taxonomy classifies this Yuletide plant as *Euphorbia pulcherrima*, literally, "the most beautiful Euphorbia." It is a sub-tropical plant, native to Mexico where it is a deciduous flowering shrub, growing up to 10 feet in height, but being intolerant of cold, in our area, it is usually treated as a seasonal houseplant. Joel Roberts **Poinsett**, the first U.S. Ambassador to Mexico, introduced the first specimens to North America in 1828. He raised the plants on his Greenville, South Carolina plantation and gave them to friends as gifts. Dictionaries list poin-SET-ee-uh and poin-SET-uh, both as acceptable pronunciations.

Our TGC horticulturist, Allison Watkins, recently gave some valuable tips for caring for these beautiful plants in her Standard

Times column. Check in the archives if you missed it. Most people, when thinking of this plant, think of the color red (which is still my favorite), but white, yellow, pink, and marbled varieties are also available. Incidentally, when laymen speak of the "flowers" on these plants, what they're actually referring to are petal-like leaves known as "bracts." They do have flowers, but these green and yellow flowers are small, and not the feature for which one buys the plants, according to David Beaulieu, with About.com Landscaping. Despite the myth of toxicity, the plant is not deadly poisonous (but this is not a recommendation to eat one of them!). However, the milky sap can result in contact dermatitis.

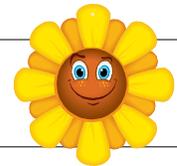
According to Twilight Bridge, *The Legend of Pepita and Pedro* features a poor Mexican girl named Pepita who had no gift for the Christ child at the local Christmas Eve service. The custom of the time was to bring gifts to the baby Jesus. One year, Pepita was very sad, because she had no suitable gift to of-

fer. As she walked with her cousin Pedro to church, she confessed how ashamed she felt. Pedro responded, "I am sure, Pepita, that even the most humble gift, *if given in love*, will be acceptable in His eyes." Pepita knelt by the road and gathered a handful of everyday weeds, making them into a small bouquet. Other children teased her as they arrived with their presents. She remained silent because she knew her bouquet was all she could give. Her spirits lifted as she knelt to place her gift at the foot of the nativity display. Instantaneously, the gift of weeds burst into brilliant red blooms. Onlookers were convinced that they had just witnessed a Christmas miracle. Locals named the red plants *Flowers de Noche Buena*, or Flowers of the Holy Night. They continue to bloom each year during the Christmas season.

Mark 12: 44 *For they all threw in out of their abundance, but she out of her deep poverty has put in everything that she had...*

Ron Knight

Most Blessed—Least Grateful by Doreen Grimes



Posted SA Times-Nov 25, 2009

Gratitude! What a simple word, yet so meaningful. All too often we Americans forget, amidst all the bad news the media gives us, that we are the most blessed people on earth, and at times, the least grateful.

Sure, we've had a tough year. Businesses have closed, too many people have lost their jobs. But, at the same time, new stores are opening and it seems that a new sense of hope is again permeating our society, even among some of the hardest hit.

In the Saturday-Sunday edition of The Wall Street Journal, a story by Peggy Noonan was published that expresses what I am beginning to

feel — "We're still here" **and** "I am so grateful."

Think about it. Every one of us has something, usually many things, for which to be grateful. And, remember — gratitude is not just for this Thanksgiving but for every day of the year.

Noonan wrote about a friend who noticed all the frowns he saw on people's faces in the early days of 2009. He decided to try to counter that by making a conscious effort to smile at everyone he met. He's trying to start a "smiling epidemic" in his city of Chicago. Not a bad idea — it's hard not to return a smile to anyone who smiles at you.

As an additional bonus, smiling is good for your health. I've read that something as simple as a smile helps activate the endorphins that help lower your blood pressure, activate your immune system and give you an overall feeling of well-being.

Let's start our own "smile epidemic" here in our area. And, as you smile, think of all the things that you are grateful for. Remember that gratitude helps to change your outlook to a more positive stance. And attitudes are contagious. Be thankful. "We're still here." "I am so grateful."

Editor's Note: SMILE—Be Happy!

Memorial to Doreen Grimes

by Janice Alexander



There are not any times that I personally take time to write articles for the Master Gardeners but I felt the need to comment on the life of a fellow Concho Valley MG who passed away just before Christmas this year. Dr. Doreen Grimes was a gentle but VERY loving soul whom I had dealt with as editor of the CVMG Newsletter since June 2001 and into January 2002 when we began the "official" newsletter format of "Through the Grapevine". Before that time, news was sent out on a just need basis with a few news articles and upcoming events. FYI: the CVMG organization officially began with classes in late 1999 and unofficial newsletters in April 2000.

Doreen spent many hours doing personal 1-on-1 interviews and researching her articles and then proofreading each edition before we printed and sent them out. Doreen took the MG class in the fall of 2001 and jumped into all the activities of CVMG with both feet. I began work with the Extension Service in May 2001 and she was one of the first mentors I had with editing & producing a newsletter.

During each edition, we had tried to introduce and interview various active members of CVMG. During a slow quarter in 2004 when Doreen was having a hard time finding anyone to agree to this 'spotlight' - I suggested that we learn about her but she did not want to write her own story. Therefore, John B. decided to take on the responsibility to introduce her to the members. I have included that article below.

At the annual meeting of the Texas Master Gardeners in April 2008, our issues from 2007 were honored as one of the top MG newsletters for the year within the State. I have included a photo of Doreen with Kay Thompson who received the award at the convention and then presented a special gift to Doreen as a Thank you for her dedication to the CVNG news.

If you were not privileged to know or had meet Doreen, I want you to know that she was one of the most gentle but tough women and was adamant about people ALWAYS being able to 'learn' subjects you are passionate about. She was a GREAT mentor and teacher and passed that info along to all she meet in school and in her life.

In doing research on Doreen—I have also included her obituary for you to see her life and elsewhere in this newsletter an article which I found that she had sent to the Standard Times on "Most Blessed-Least Grateful". Although it was written at Thanksgiving-2009, I have included it as a RESOLUTION for the new year and a tremendous goal to have and follow.

Farewell—Doreen—I REALLY learned a lot from you and feel privileged to have known and worked with you. What I have learned will be passed along to others both in academic literature and faith beyond all understanding.

SpotLight on: Doreen Grimes

Musical Gardener by John Begnaud—Printed in CVMG Newsletter- January 2004

The gardener's showcase is a great way to learn more about our Master Gardeners. Dr. Grimes refused to write about herself so I, John Begnaud, the agent, will do the honors.

Our newsletter editor, for the second year, is a 32 year resident of San Angelo following growing up in Weatherford, Texas. Doreen is a musicologist by trade and a gardener by love.

Dr. Grimes has a Ph.D. in music theory and musicology from the University of North Texas and taught college level music history and theory for 38 years before retirement in 2000. She has written textbooks used in her courses.

Doreen loves to perform ragtime shows on the piano and is her church organist. It sure would liven up church services if she did her ragtime on the organ! She teaches piano to a number of students and has been a judge in music contests.

A love of gardening was acquired from her grandparents and father. She remembers well the many lessons learned on the 3 acre plot on the edge of Weatherford. Some of her favorite plants are Cosmos, marigolds, and experimenting with her some 75 container plants.

Her gardening goals include to get more involved in testing plants for the Concho Valley.

Thanks to Dr. Grimes for all the hard work on our newsletter.



SAN ANGELO Dr. Doreen Grimes, PhD, passed away Friday, Dec. 23, 2011, in Temple, Texas. She was 84. Funeral service will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2011, at Sierra Vista United Methodist Church with the Rev. Dr. Stephen Sweet officiating. Burial will follow in Oakland Cemetery in Weatherford, Texas. Arrangements are under the direction of Johnson's Funeral Home.

Dr. Doreen Grimes, PhD, was born in 1927, in Weatherford, Texas, to her parents, Berta and Clarence Grimes. At a very early age, Dr. Grimes showed amazing talent in academics and music. She graduated from Weatherford High School and attended Southern Methodist University, receiving her bachelor of music in piano performance in 1949. The next year she received her master of music degree in piano performance from S.M.U. From 1950 to 1962, Dr. Grimes was the director of the "Grimes School of Music" based in Weatherford. This studio was unique in that Dr. Grimes established a traveling music studio, where she would teach children all over the North Texas area.

In 1962, Dr. Grimes was appointed the chairman of the department of music theory at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, N.M. She also began her work towards her doctorate in music theory at North Texas State University. She completed her PhD in music theory in 1966.

In 1971, Dr. Grimes came to Angelo State University to establish the music degree there. She was instrumental in its development and served as head of the department for two years. She established the piano studio at ASU and then went on to establish the musicology department there, teaching music theory, composition, style and analysis, music literature, sight singing and private piano lessons. She remained at ASU for 29 years, until her retirement in 2000.

Professionally, Dr. Grimes composed over 400 works for all media, including two symphonies, two operas, piano and organ compositions, chamber music and over 100 choral compositions. After her retirement in 2000, she

(Continued on page 6)

Concho Valley Master Gardeners

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We're on the web!!

<http://mastergardener.tamu.edu>

<http://txmg.org/conchovalley/>



(Continued from page 5)

took master gardening training and received her master gardener designation. She acted as a substitute organist at area churches. In 2006, Dr. Grimes trained for lay speaking in the United Methodist Church and served as a certified lay speaker in various churches in the area.

Dr. Grimes passed away at Scott & White Memorial Hospital in Temple as a result of complications from heart valve surgery. She passed from this world to the next knowing that her savior Jesus Christ had prepared a room for her. She was preceded in death by her parents, Berta (Keaton) and Clarence Grimes. Any memorials may be directed to the music program at Sierra Vista UMC.

Dr. Grimes was an amazing woman that touched the lives of musicians all over the United States and the world. She was a great teacher, mentor and friend. Most of all, she was a child of God. Her greatest mission in the past five years was to deliver the good news of the grace of our dear lord and savior, Jesus.



John Begnaud's Park Bench Dedication—October 30, 2009. LtoR: Lynne Alexander, Pat Attebery, Doreen Grimes, Fran Gregg.



Landscape Bridge Project: Bob White
"\$@#&+% - I am sure glad this is over."

Allison's Accents:



My green thumb came only as a result of the mistakes I made while learning to see things from the plant's point of view.

~H. Fred Dale

I'm sure I say this every year, but it's hard to believe another whole year has passed! It seems like time has just flown by. 2011 was a wonderful year (except for the drought of course) and let's hope for an even better 2012.

I want to thank each and every one of you for all the hard work and effort you always put into making the Concho Valley Master Gardener program so great, and for all the help you've given for Extension projects and programs. There have been many things I am grateful to you for throughout the year, but some recent ones that come to mind are the Kordes Rose Trial planting, the Regional Pecan Show and the EarthKind Landscape School. These would have been impossi-

ble without all the support and hard work from you!

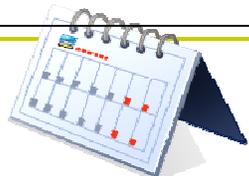
We will be starting a new Master Gardener training class this spring, and I would like to encourage you all to spread the word to your neighbors and friends who may want to join. This year the class will be held Wednesday evenings from 6 to 9pm every week from March through May. A night class will only be offered rarely, so we want everyone to take advantage while they can. Those interested can contact the Extension Office for more info. Happy New Year!

Allison Watkins

Horticulturist

Calendar items:

- ➔ January 10—CVMG Business meeting-5:45pm; Program by Michael Nichles— 6:30pm - *RainWater Harvesting*; 4-H Bldg
- ➔ January 20-*Lunch-N-Learn* on Fruit Trees
- ➔ February 17-*Lunch-N-Learn* on Tree Care & Pruning
- ➔ March 3—People-Plant Connection Workshop: *West Texas Land Reclamations*
- ➔ March 7—New CVMG starts, 4H Bldg, 6-9pm
- ➔ March 16—*Lunch-N-Learn*, Vegetable Gardening



BYLAWS
Concho Valley Master Gardener Association
(in support of Texas AgriLife Extension Service of Tom Green County)
Approved November 8, 2011

Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be the Concho Valley Master Gardener Association.

Article II. Objective

This organization shall be a non-profit, educational, literary and charitable association within the meaning of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code to support Texas AgriLife Extension Service. This organization will not be affiliated with any commercial enterprises. Its objectives shall be:

- to increase knowledge of gardening to its members and the general public
- to support and assist Texas AgriLife Extension Service by providing the community with information on good gardening practices through educational projects, including publishing news articles and other mass media, presenting at garden clubs, schools and other community groups, and responding to telephone inquiries
- to assist "Master Gardener Interns" in fulfilling their volunteer commitment

Article III. Membership

Section 1. Members of this organization shall be Concho Valley Master Gardeners, certified by Texas AgriLife Extension Service, The Texas A&M University System.

Section 2. To become a certified Concho Valley Master Gardener, the person must complete the 50 hours of instruction offered by the County Horticulturist through the County Extension office plus 50 hours of volunteer service in the 12 months following the completion of the course. Volunteer service may begin prior to the completion of the course work. Master Gardener Interns will be non-voting Associate Members.

Section 3. To maintain certification and Active status, the Master Gardener must pay the annual dues, provide 12 hours of volunteer service and participate in a minimum of 6 hours of continuing education by December 31 of the preceding year. At present dues are \$2.00 for the Texas Master Gardener Association and \$3.00 for the Concho Valley Master Gardeners for a total of \$5.00. Concho Valley Master Gardener dues may be changed in the future by a vote of the membership. Dues may be paid in cash or check to the CVMG Treasurer at a regularly scheduled meeting or by sending a check to the CVMG at the County Extension Office. Alternatively, the Master Gardener may visit the Extension office in person to pay the dues. If the criteria of dues, service and continuing education are not met by the end of the calendar year, Master Gardener certification may be terminated.

Section 4. Should a situation arise that makes it impossible or very difficult to fulfill the volunteer service and/or the continuing education hours, the certified Master Gardener may request to be placed on the inactive roll for up to 2 years by sending a letter to the County Extension agent requesting inactive status with a very brief explanation why it is justified. The letter is due by December 31 of the year preceding the year inactive status is to begin. Payment of dues is still required.

Section 5. Should a person whose certification was terminated secondary to failure to pay dues in a timely manner, provision of the volunteer hours, and/or participation in continuing education hours, the previously certified Master Gardener may regain certification by attending 15 hours of class plus pay an reactivation fee of \$20 plus dues of \$5.00. If the termination period was greater than one year, back dues may be requested.

Section 6. Master Gardeners are expected to identify themselves as such only when performing public service under the auspices of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. Master Gardeners are not permitted to advertise their place of business during extension-related activities nor may the title of Master Gardener be included in any advertisements of businesses owned by or employers of Master Gardeners. Since AgriLife Extension Service is a source of unbiased, research-based information, appearing as a commercial activity, having association with commercial products or giving implied AgriLife Extension endorsement of any product or place of business is improper.

Section 7. Auxiliary Members. The Concho Valley Master Gardeners may vote to extend auxiliary membership to those individuals who contribute significant knowledge or expertise that facilitate the activities of the Master Gardeners. Auxiliary members will be non-dues paying and non-voting members. Auxiliary members are not eligible to hold an office.

Article IV. Meetings

Section 1. Meetings will be held bimonthly on the second Tuesday of the odd month unless voted otherwise by the membership for the purposes of educational opportunities, seminars or similar meetings. Notice of meetings and other educational opportunities will be announced through regular electronic communications or US Mail for those individuals without email.

Section 2. Special meetings may be called if the need arises at the discretion of the Executive Committee (see Article IX, Section 1). Such special meetings shall be announced to members by phone or email at least 10 days before the meeting date.

Article V. Fiscal Responsibilities

Section 1. The fiscal year of this organization shall run from January 1 to December 31 of each year.

Section 2. Any contributions, bequests/gifts made to the CVMG shall be accepted or collected and accounted for by the Treasurer with a report made to the Executive Committee.

Section 3. All funds of the CVMG shall be deposited to the credit of CVMG, under such conditions, and in such banks as designated by the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Approved signatures. Project coordinator may approve reimbursement for expenses related to their project. Request for reimbursement of the project coordinator need to be approved by the president.

Section 5. Budget. Annual budget shall be approved first by the Executive Committee and then by the CVMG members. No expense in excess of total budgetary appropriation shall be incurred without prior approval of the CVMG members.

Section 6. Emergency Allocations. The Executive Committee may approve necessary funds to meet emergency expenses not to exceed \$500. Such approvals must be reported to the membership at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Section 7. Audits. Audits will be performed annually and by resolution by the Audit Committee. A report of the Audit Committee will be presented to the Executive Committee and the CVMG members.

Section 8. Financial Reports. A summary of financial operations of the CVMG shall be made annually to the CVMG membership at the January meeting and by way of the January newsletter.

Article VI. Officers

Section 1. Officers of this organization shall be:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Directors (2)

Section 2. Officers shall be nominated by the nominating committee and a slate of candidates shall be presented to the membership via established means of communication prior to the November meeting.

Section 3. Officers shall be elected at the regular November meeting, and shall be installed and assume their duties on January 1 of the upcoming year.

Section 4. Officers will serve two year staggered terms. President, Treasurer and one Director will be elected in the even years. The Vice President, Secretary and one Director elected in odd years.

Section 5. Officers may be re-elected to the same office for a second term.

Section 6. All nominees for the office must be active members in good standing.

Article VII. Duties of Officers

Section 1. The President shall

- A. Preside at all meetings of the organization.
- B. Appoint the chairman of each standing committee and any special committees.
- C. Be an ex-officio member of all committees except the nominating committee.
- D. Work with the Treasurer on the budget.
- E. Communicate regularly with membership through established channels.

Section 2. The Vice President shall

- A. Take charge of meetings in the absence of the president.
- B. Be chairman of the bylaws committee.

- C. Be chairman of the program committee.
- D. Be responsible for the reserving of the meeting room and ordering the necessary furnishings.

Section 3. The Secretary shall

- A. Record the minutes of each meeting
- B. Distribute minutes in communications following each meeting.
- C. Keep a record of attendance at meetings.
- D. Keep a current list of members' names and addresses

Section 4. The Treasurer shall

- A. Receive all dues and monies for the association.
- B. Keep an exact account of all dues, other income, bank deposits, disbursements, and other financial matters.
- C. Pay all bills upon receipt of a written statement and purchase proof with co-signature of the project coordinator.
- D. Make a monthly financial report to the membership.
- E. Present the financial records for audit annually or at change of treasurer.
- F. Maintain record of assets.

Section 5. The Directors shall

- A. Represent the Concho Valley Master Gardeners at the State level through attendance at the Texas Master Gardeners Association (TMGA) Board of Directors meetings.
- B. Report any information from the TMGA Board of Directors meeting for the good of the CVMG membership.

Article VIII. Committees

Section 1. The standing committee chairman shall be appointed by the president and announced at the January meeting.

Section 2. Associate members may serve as members of committees.

Section 3. The standing committees if applicable and duties of each are:

A. Educational Enrichment Program

- 1. The Vice President shall serve as chairman.
- 2. This committee is responsible for arranging programs for bimonthly meetings and additional educational enrichment programs, seminars and field trips.
- 3. This committee is responsible for informing the County Extension agent when continuing education programs are required or needed.

B. Newsletter

- 1. The chairman will serve as editor.
- 2. The committee will prepare and send a quarterly publication to inform members of meetings and other pertinent information.
- 3. The committee shall consist of at least a chairman/editor and reporters.

C. Volunteer coordinating

- 1. The committee will consist of at least a chairman.
- 2. The committee will maintain the sign-up sheets for all on-going projects of the CVMG.
- 3. The committee will routinely inform the membership of possible volunteer activities through established means of communications.
- 4. The committee will contact members by the telephone as the need arises.

D. Nominating

- 1. The committee will consist of a chairman and two members who are not currently serving on the Executive Committee.
- 2. The committee will provide a slate of candidates for offices at the Annual Meeting held in November. The slate of officers will consent to serve if elected.

E. Audit

- 1. The committee will consist of a minimum two members who are not currently serving on the Executive Committee. An outside audit may be considered on the approval of the Executive Committee.
- 2. The committee will audit the financial records annually or change of treasurer and prepare a written report.

F. Website

- 1. The committee will consist of at least a chairman.
- 2. The committee will maintain the website, updating and upgrading it as necessary.

Article IX. Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee will consist of the president who will serve as chairman, vice president, secretary, treasurer, directors, and Volunteer Coordinating Committee chair.

Section 2. A staff member of Texas AgriLife Extension Service with horticultural duties shall serve as advisor to the Executive Committee.

Section 3. The Executive Committee will meet as necessary.

Section 4. A quorum of a majority of Executive Committee members will be present for transaction of business at Executive Committee meetings.

Section 5. In the event a vacancy occurs on the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee will present the name of the person recommended to complete the remaining term of office to the membership at the next regularly scheduled meeting for a vote of affirmation. If affirmation is not forthcoming, nominations will be taken from the membership present at the meeting followed by voting.

Article X. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Revised shall govern the association in all cases in which they are applicable and when not inconsistent with the bylaws of this association.

Article XI. Voting

Section 1. A quorum shall consist of the active members present at a meeting.

Section 2. All CVMG in good standing will be eligible to cast one vote in decision making or board elections.

Article XII. Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more tax exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the Federal Government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such asset not disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purpose or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Article XIII. Amendments

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the active members present at a meeting.

Section 2. Notice of all proposed amendments to the bylaws must be presented in writing at one regular meeting and a copy sent via email or mail to members not present. Proposed amendments will be voted on at the next regular meeting.