

2002

Texas Master Gardener Association
Individual Master Gardener Award

Association Membership: Small

County: Ellis

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Name of the Nominee: Arlene Hamilton

Brief description of Individual Master Gardener entry: (150 word or less) – There is no one more deserving in our organization than Arlene Hamilton. Arlene is a tireless worker and continually shines as a leader and friend to the Ellis County Master Gardeners. She never hesitates to share her extensive knowledge of herbs and sound gardening. As President, mentor, originator of major projects and programs, friend and unselfishly volunteers when asked. It is our pleasure to nominate Arlene Hamilton as our Individual Award Nominee.

Melinda Kocian and Kay Conant

Name of person submitting the nomination



Signature of County Master Gardener Coordinator

I. Organization and Leadership (250 points)

1. What offices has the Nominee held? (Include past service) –

- Vice President of Projects in 2001
- Vice President of Programs for the Greater Fort Worth Herb Society in 2001
- President of the Ellis County Master Gardeners in 2002

2. What office or leadership role did the nominee hold during the Award Year? –

- Arlene Hamilton is the Ellis County Master Gardener representative on Downtown Farmer's Market Board
- Arlene is the Coordinator of the Ellis County Master Gardener Information Booth at the Downtown Waxahachie Farmers' Market as well as coordinator of the Master Gardeners, farmers and Extensive Service Staff on 2 major festivals that ran in conjunction with the Downtown Farmer's Market
- Arlene chaired the Master Gardener Info booth at the 2003 Ellis County Lawn and Garden Expo
- She also chaired the Texas Master Gardener Awards Committee for the Ellis County Master Gardeners

3. List and describe the programs or projects the nominee has supervised or chaired the committee? (Include past work) –

- 2001 – Arlene Hamilton chaired the first Master Gardener 2001 Training Class that entails recruiting and training community volunteers for the Master Gardener program
 - Arlene chaired the first Ellis County Master Gardener Lawn and Garden Expo – The Lawn and Garden Expos is an annual event bringing together the members of the community interested in learning gardening and horticultural information. The Expo featured presenters, vendors and featured a plant sale
 - Arlene Hamilton fashioned and helped organize the Master Gardener's participation in the Crape Myrtle Festival – an annual event within the community celebrating Waxahachie as the unofficial Crape Myrtle Capitol of Texas.
- 2002 - Arlene was instrumental in setting up the Annual Retreat to Heritage Farms
 - She chaired the Study Committee on landscaping the grounds around the newly restored Ellis County courthouse
 - Arlene orchestrated the Veteran's Memorial landscape project at the Ellis County Civic Center – The Memorial honors the Veterans of Ellis County.
 - She chaired the Ellis County State Awards Submissions Committee in 2002.
 - Arlene formulated two garden tours for the Association featuring Master Gardener's home landscapes
 - Arlene organized and presented herb-related workshops to the Ellis County Master Gardeners, Dallas and Tarrant County
- 2003 - Arlene chaired and helped write awards for the Texas Master Gardener Awards Committee of Ellis County
 - She chaired the Master Gardener Information booth at the 2003 Lawn and Garden Expo. This entailed an extraordinary amount of time gathering mass amounts of material to make available to the public. There were over 1800 in attendance.
 - Arlene represented the Ellis County Master Gardeners on the Downtown Farmers' Market Board. The Market is the city's first attempt to provide the community of Waxahachie with an open-air venue to purchase fresh produce grown by local farmers. Because of her relentless involvement, market generated over 1000 requests from the public for further gardening information. She also set up the scheduling and helped coordinate the Master Gardeners volunteers working the booth.
 - She coordinated Master Gardeners, farmers and Extension Office Staff on two major Master Gardener food festivals: a Summer Vegetable Grill Fest and a Fall Vegetable Festival.
 - Arlene participated in planning the vegetable and herb garden 4-H project with the 4-HIM club that boasts a countywide membership.