

**Texas Master Gardener Association**  
**INDIVIDUAL MASTER GARDENER AWARD**

Association Membership: Medium  
(Small, Medium, or Large)

Date: Jan 15, 2005

County: Hood  
Address: 200 N Gordon Rm 22  
City: Granbury, Texas Zip Code: 76048  
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Name of the Nominee: **Mary Lynn Martin**

**Brief description of Individual Master Gardener entry: (150 words or less)**

Mary Lynn is a loyal, dedicated Master Gardener who is always willing to take on any responsibility when called upon or fills in the gaps when no one else steps forward. A strong leader, supportive committee member and an outstanding teacher are other attributes she demonstrates in the Master Gardener program. Without hesitation, Mary Lynn graciously accepts invitations to speak to other organizations or make house calls in order to educate the public in the field of gardening and landscaping. Her positive attitude and congenial personality make working on her team a wonderful experience. Even though Mary Lynn is a knowledgeable horticulturist, she appreciates and respects the opinions and expertise of other gardeners and attends seminars and lectures frequently to keep her knowledge current.

Jane McConal  
Name of person submitting the nomination

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of County Master Gardener Program Coordinator

Please answer the following questions as they relate to the nominee. **Do not exceed two (2) pages of questionnaire.**  
**Note: A photo of the nominee must be submitted with this submission.**

**I. Organization and Leadership. (500 Points)**

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

President and Vice President

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

Chair – Scholarship Committee, Co-Chair – 2005 Garden Tour, Co-Chair – La Roe Park

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

- Habitat for Humanity-Program included planning landscape, donating and planting shrubs, turf and trees at Habitat homes.
- Demonstration Garden-Program to create an exhibit, open to the public, that demonstrates plant adaptability in Hood County. Mary Lynn developed the program and helped plant and maintain the garden.
- Calendar and Gardening Guide-Published and sold a calendar with ads and horticultural advice for each month. Mary Lynn organized the committee and calendar, sold ads, wrote copy, supervised all aspects of production and sold finished calendars.
- Granbury Garden Tour-First public garden tour in Granbury. Mary Lynn suggested the tour to HCMG. She organized all responsibilities for and was a primary participant in many aspects of the tour. She solicited sponsors, produced and distributed brochures and tickets, directed finances, distributed posters and signage, as well as presented her own garden on the tour.
- Scholarship Committee-Established a scholarship to be awarded to a high school or college student who is pursuing a degree in horticulture or related field. Mary Lynn supervised and/or administered all steps to establish the scholarship fund.
- A Gardeners Palette-Public garden tour scheduled for spring 2005. Co-chairing all responsibilities for tour with emphasis on solicitation, organizing committee, brochures and tickets.
- La Roe Park-Establishing a long-range landscaping plan to add curb appeal and make the park user-friendlier.

**4. List and describe the programs or projects the nominee has supervised or chaired for the Award Year.**

Scholarship Committee-See above, A Gardeners Palette-See above, La Roe Park-See above.

**5. Explain how the nominee participates in discussions and the operation of the Association or Corporation.**

Mary Lynn shares knowledge gained through years of gardening and horticulture research. She offers organizational and teaching skills she acquired during thirty plus years as an educator. She is a willing leader and worker. Speaking to the public as a representative of Master Gardeners is one of HCMG's most valuable assets.

**6. Describe how the nominee participates in helping develop new programs or projects.**

Mary Lynn initiated the Demonstration Gardens for our organization. She was a large influence in our initial public garden tours. She makes suggestions at organizational meetings, takes part in field trips and brings back new ideas from those trips. She attends seminars and lectures on various horticultural subjects and reports on these presentations to the membership.

**7. What new programs or projects did the nominee develop or hold a major position in for the Award Year?**

Scholarship Program, Advanced Training Seminar, Intern Mentor Program, HCMG Fall Favorites, La Roe Park, Master Gardeners Favorite Plants for Hood County

**8. How does the nominee solicit input/ideas from the membership?**

Mary Lynn's friendly outgoing personality is an asset as she develops relationships with other Master Gardeners. She calls and has personal contacts with members, initiates written surveys, encourages brainstorming and always takes time to listen to others.

**9. Is the nominee a catalyst for new ideas? (Give an example)**

Mary Lynn suggested producing the HCMG Calendar and Garden Guide and offering the first public garden tour. She was the primary motivator, leader and organizer of both projects.

**10. Is the nominee a loyal, dependable worker? (Give an example)**

After suggesting the Calendar and Garden Guide and the public garden tour, Mary Lynn organized the committees and most of the activity scheduling. She volunteered more hours than any other MG on these undertakings as she supervised all activities to complete these projects. She faithfully continued her leadership role during the months required to fruition of both programs. Her confidence in and constant support of other committee members inspired them to perform to the best of their ability. She has a perfect attendance record for the monthly meetings of HCMG for 2004.

**II. Individual Activity (500 Points)**

**1. Describe why the nominee is worthy of being the State Master Gardener of the Year.**

Mary Lynn cares about people. She has a gift for sharing her knowledge and expertise. After caring and sharing with elementary school children for 30 plus years, now, in retirement, she shares graciously and generously with gardeners. While doing this she advocates good horticultural habits and the goals and standards of the Master Gardener program. She is a fine example of the generosity of this educational program and is worthy of being named State Master Gardener of the Year.

**2. List any awards or special recognition the nominee has received within the past five years. (Include other organizations)**

Friend of 4H, Master Gardener of the Month, VP Newcomers Club, Landscaping & Plant Care Leader, Acton Methodist Church, HCMG Master Gardener of the Year 2004

**3. Describe the activities of the nominee that contributed to the education or knowledge base of the Master Gardener Association or Corporation.**

- Initiated local demonstration garden.
- Initiated and chaired Calendar and Gardening Guide
- Initiated and co-chaired first public garden tour after leading tours of her garden for MGs in 2000, 2001 and 2002.
- Gave reports on numerous seminars and meetings she attended including 2002 International MG Meeting.
- Gave talks to MGs in nearby counties on the following topics:
  - Developing a Wildscape Habitat
  - Advantages of Earthkind™ Roses
  - Perennials in the cottage garden
  - Color Throughout the Year
- Helped select plants to be sold at Fall Garden Market
- Served as mentor for new MG intern
- Committee member that: (1) Planned and implemented Advanced Training Seminar; (2) Researched, wrote and published Master Gardeners Fall Favorites (3) Researching and writing Master Gardeners Favorites for Hood County

**4. Describe the activities of the nominee that contributed to the education, knowledge base and any special contributions made to the residents of the county.**

- Reached 1,088 residents in educational activities including:
- Main speaker for North Texas Regional Garden Club Meeting.
  - Educational speaker for Rotary, Methodist Men, Baptist Senior Group, Optimist and garden clubs
  - Retired Federal Employees and County Extension Agents wives garden tour.
  - Led numerous tours of gardens on her five-acre home site to individuals, garden clubs and school groups.
  - Taught Junior Master Gardener lessons to juvenile detention residents.
  - Helped develop Education through Sharing, a handbook for Habitat for Humanity homeowners
  - Mentor for new Habitat for Humanity homeowners
  - Leader for landscaping and plant care team for Acton Methodist Church
  - Designed landscape for community center in Habitat for Humanity neighborhood. Led volunteers installing plants.
  - Provided on-site landscape development for residents in new homes.
  - Provided gardens for high school senior prom pictures.
  - Annually taught dog safety to elementary students through the Farm Safety Program.

**5. Hours Contributed for this award year**

265 volunteer and 43 advanced training for a total of 308 hours.