



**Texas Master Gardener Association
2010 INDIVIDUAL MASTER GARDENER AWARD**

Association Membership/Size: Medium (Small, Medium, Med.Large or Large)

Number of Members: 67

County: Hood

Address: 1410 W. Pearl St.

City: Granbury, TX Zip 76048

Phone: 817-579-3280 Agents e-mail: m-vahlenkamp@tamu.edu

Name of Master Gardener: Philip Oltmann

Kathy Murray, bobnkat@windstream.net

Name(s) of person(s) submitting the nomination e-mail

Marty Vahlenkamp

Name of County Extension Agent or County Program Coordinator

THIS SUBMISSION SHALL NOT EXCEED TWO (2) PAGES TOTAL.

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL MASTER GARDENER (10 pts)

In 150 words or less please describe the Individual Master Gardener.

Philip Oltmann can be described as eager, energetic, supremely friendly and willing to share his knowledge with others. Always the gentleman, Philip has a talent for recruiting other MGs to work alongside him in the Lake Granbury Master Gardener Demonstration Garden — even in cold, rainy weather. A Master Gardener since 2007, Philip quickly volunteered in the group's Garden and has served as chair for the past two years. During this time, the garden tripled in size. He spends endless hours planning and implementing projects in the Garden, soliciting help as needed to complete the work. Philip is an excellent manager of time, talent and financial resources. He also works side-by-side with the Extension Agent to ensure the Garden meets Extension goals/objectives. During his tenure in the Garden, Philip has overseen the installation of a Children's Garden, additional rainwater harvesting facilities and a grove of fruit trees.

**Please answer the questions as they relate to the 2010 entry year.
VALUE 10 POINTS EACH**

1. List and describe programs & projects in which the nominee participated.

Philip helps to coordinate educational projects in the Demonstration Garden including:

Square Foot Gardening — These raised bed gardens are used to teach the principles of square foot gardening. Various crops are planted in the Demonstration Garden each year.

Rainwater Harvesting — Several hands-on workshops/training sessions on rainwater harvesting take place in the Garden since it's storage tanks, roof catchment system and irrigation well illustrate the benefits of this endeavor.

Fruit Tree Pruning — Seasonally, pruning classes are held in the Garden's orchard.

Rain Gardening — A recent workshop included classroom time as well as hands-on activities in the Garden. Activities included the initial measuring, digging, etc., needed to install a rain garden.

Children's Garden — Philip and fellow MGs researched, planned and implemented a teaching garden designed for children.

2. Describe abilities related to working individually & in groups with Master Gardeners and Texas AgriLife Extension.

Philip is extremely patient and kind. He is equally comfortable leading a group or working as an individual. He communicates extensively with the Extension agent and involves him in the day-to-day work of the Garden. Everyone enjoys working with Philip including his wife Doris, a fellow Master Gardener.

Philip uses the skills he learned in his 29-year career with Del Monte to "get things done." He also shares the experience he gained from obtaining an Agriculture Business degree from Southern Illinois University, growing up on a hog/grain farm and participating in 4-H, FFA and sports.

Philip is equally enthusiastic when talking about victories or near disasters in the Demonstration Garden. He is very deserving of recognition.

3. Describe participation in activities that promote Master Gardeners & Texas AgriLife Extension

Philip is always willing and able to work with the Extension agent and fellow Master Gardeners to accomplish any task. He is visible at MG activities, not only in the Garden, but also at the group's community education programs, plant sale, etc. He is co-chairing a committee for the 2011 Texas Master Gardener State Meeting. Most of all, he is an informative host in the Garden — always happy to provide an education in good gardening practices.

4. Hours contributed to Master Gardeners in 2010. 294 Hours