

# BCMG 2021 Holiday Party

By Nancy Mills,  
Bexar County Master Gardener



Holiday Centerpieces designed and crafted by Stephanie Jones and Anna Vogler.

“The party was a holiday gift to everyone who came! It was our first BCMG gathering since Covid closed things down in 2020. It was so good to see everyone in person again!”

-Lynn Cox, President, BCMG Board of Directors 2020-21

After 21 months, the BCMG gathered to celebrate the holidays, with fun, friends and, of course, food. The San Antonio Garden Center was decorated with beautiful centerpieces, designed by Stephanie Jones and Anna Vogler. The boxed lunches from Page Barteau’s Catering offered many choices and everyone seemed to be appreciating the camaraderie while enjoying their meals.

Lynn Cox, our Mistress of Ceremonies, gave out awards and certificates. Some of the awards included Honorary MG Anniversary Awards, Wise Owl Awards for those who went above and beyond the minimum hours of required continuing education, and Outstanding Volunteer Awards for those who went beyond the required hours of volunteer service.

Grace Emery was our top Outstanding Volunteer with 373.5 volunteer hours! Service Awards were given to Master Gardeners Lynn Cox, Ann Marie Pease and Ruth Rea for 20 years of service. Nora Richards was honored for her 25 years of service. Congratulations to all!

Other recognitions included the “Covid Class,” Intern Class 63, who had to complete their certification during the pandemic. And the most recent Intern Class 64 was presented watering can ornaments as a remembrance of their completion of their classes last fall.

The outgoing 2021 BCMG board was acknowledged and the 2022 Board was introduced, President Liana Benavides, Vice President Judy Warren, Treasurer Kathann El-Amin, Secretary Butch Lee. Muriel Langford and Nancy Mills will be Members at Large. Nora Fellows will be the Membership Director.

Grace Emery was once again honored with the announcement that she had been selected as the BCMG Master Gardener of the Year. She will be our nomination for the Texas Master Gardener of the Year. Congratulations, Grace and the best of luck!



Grace Emery, Outstanding Volunteer Award and BCMG MG of the Year.

Lynn, the outgoing president of 2020-2021 was presented flowers by Anna Vogler, who commented that “Lynn has done a tremendous job as president over the past two years. She has worked tirelessly in support of our programs and Master Gardeners. Her



Anna Vogler presents outgoing President, Lynn Cox with flowers.

gracious and pleasant personality made working with her a true pleasure. We truly appreciate her service to BCMG.” Liana presented Lynn with a gift and thanks for all of Lynn’s support and guidance these past two years. Anna also presented our incoming president, Liana Benavides, with flowers.

A BIG thanks, also to Judy Warren who chaired and organized this BCMG event and all of the MG volunteers who came to help. You are the best!!

The awarding of the amazing centerpieces from each table to the winning ticket holders ended our 2021 Holiday Party. As everyone was leaving, a member was heard to comment, “This was really a fun and great way to start the holiday season.” We agree and hope to do this again next year!



Anna Vogler presents flowers to our new President for 2022, Liana Benavides!

Photos courtesy of Lou Kellogg