



Responses to Evaluation

April 19, 2010

- % rounded up - with 176 Master Gardeners surveyed

Evaluation and Comments 2010 Texas Master Gardeners Association Conference

How did you hear about the conference?

Previous Conference	37%	Email	8%
MG Meeting	20%	MG Newsletter	4%
MG Website	13%	TMGA Board of Directors	3%
Fellow MG's	15%	Extension Agent	2%

Question	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
How would you rate the registration process?	48%	35%	12%	5%	.06%
If you stayed at the Omni Mandalay were you satisfied with your room?	66%	26%	6%	3%	0%
Were you satisfied with the courtesy of the hotel staff at the Omni Mandalay?	76%	21%	2%	1%	0%
How would you rate the opening night reception?	22%	41%	22%	10%	5%
Were you satisfied with the food service at the Omni Mandalay?	56%	27%	14%	4%	1%
How would you rate the conference facilities?	63%	31%	5%	0	.6%
Did you feel the speakers were informative?	32%	46%	18%	4%	0%
How would you rate the vendor exhibits?	15%	47%	24%	12%	2%
Did you enjoy the conference tours?	41%	34%	15%	8%	2%
How would you rate the overall timeliness of the conference events?	36%	43%	20%	1%	0

Question	YES	NO
Did you use the list of suggestions for family activities outside the formal conference?	100%	
Did having the speaker sessions and meals under "one roof" contribute to a better conference?	99%	1%
Was it helpful that the 2010 Conference website was continually updated? Did it help you plan for the conference?	66%	34%

Question	Bar	Restaurant	Spa	Fitness Center	Didn't Specify
Did you utilize the amenities of the Omni Mandalay Hotel such as the spa, fitness center, restaurant or bar?	41%	37%	8%	6%	8%

OVER ALL EXPERIENCE:

Conference & hotel: 94.4% Excellent to Good

Hotel: 95.6% Excellent to Good



2010 TMGA Conference Comments

REGISTRATION

1. Better explanation of classes would help.
2. 130 people wanted one class and only 30 could go. Try to accommodate remaining folks. [There were 83 MGs that requested this session, but we just couldn't accept more than 30 because of the way the class was set up. Recommending similar classes for future.](#)
3. Registration for Friday was confusing with the dinner guests vs. MG.
4. Appreciate the good room rate.
5. Long time for website to open. Need better program descriptions.
6. Like registration and handouts online.
7. Many MG's don't have computers. (2 comments)
[DCMGs provided printed handouts to those without e-mail.](#)
8. Make online registration optional.
9. Problems with accessing form on website for a long time.
[Taken care of as soon as we realized there was a problem.](#)
10. Signed up early but did not get first choice of Herb Cuisine class.
[Recommend similar classes for future.](#)

OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION

1. Felt we needed a "Welcome Hello" at the reception (4 comments)
2. Reception overpriced and not having bar open in food area prevented socializing. (3 comments) [There were 2 bars. One in Exhibit Hall; one in Ballroom \(food area\).](#)
3. Ran out of food. No drink except for water. Had to ask for coffee. Need more wait staff. Good folks but not enough. (3 comments)
4. Should have been included in registration – too expensive. (2 comments)

VENDOR EXHIBITS

1. Need more free time to shop. (2 comments)
2. Too few vendors (6 comments)
3. No encouragement to visit vendor exhibits. [Effort made to provide opportunities to visit exhibits.](#)

TIMELINESS OF EVENTS

1. Fast paced with too little time between sessions. (3 comments)

COST OF CONFERENCE

1. Too expensive. (19 comments)
2. Expensive, but I got my moneys worth.
3. Lovely conference but cost prohibitive for some. (2 comments)

HANDOUTS AT PRESENTATIONS

1. Speakers didn't know they were supposed to put handouts online. (5 comments) [Speakers were notified that handouts were to be made available on-line.](#)
2. Handouts online was great although I did meet people who were disappointed in not getting handouts at conference. (2 comments)
3. Should have provided handouts at conference. (16 comments)
4. Didn't realize how much updating was going on with website. Hope handouts will be on website for awhile after conference. [Handouts will be open for sometime.](#)
5. Only 1 of my 5 speakers had handouts available online.

MISC. COMMENTS

1. Please give out awards at Friday night dinner. (2 comments)
2. Earlier start on Saturday would have been nice. We have a long drive home.
3. Should let us visit and talk before presenters start talking at meals. (3 comments)
4. Shouldn't have planned tours at same time as State Meeting. [Often held during education programming.](#)
5. TMGA should have communicated directly with directors about meeting. An email would have been nice. (2 comments) [Many e-mails sent; website had information. E-mails sent to all MG member that the TMGA newsletter has addresses for.](#)
6. Not enough give aways - no door prizes. (5 comments)
7. Should have given away centerpieces – not sold them. (4 comments)
8. Should have given away roses at end of conference like last 2 years. [Economy a big factor in ability to have these types of give aways.](#)
9. As a hearing impaired MG, the audio systems were exemplary.
10. Would like class on water gardening.
11. Harris County didn't get to submit for awards because the dues were late. Could you send reminder email if dues are late? Please send special email to inform counties that dues are due. [Will pass along to TMGA Board.](#)
12. Nothing free here. Seems as though Dallas County was in it for the money only! Not impressed – expected more from a big MG group.
13. Too much food – although it was great. (2 comments)
14. Speakers should have enough samples, etc. for everyone in the classes.

SAVED THE BEST FOR LAST

1. It has been an excellent meeting.
2. You guys did a great job! I appreciate your willingness to pass along your conference hosting knowledge. That's what we are all about!
3. Hotel staff and Dallas MG's were wonderful; very organized!
4. Area in Irving was beautiful! Staff at hotel and vendors were wonderful! Food was excellent! Speakers the very best!
5. Great conference! Wonderful! Good job! Loved it! (10 similar comments)
6. First conference. Didn't know what to expect. Loved it! Thank you. (6 similar comments)
7. Very well coordinated. Conference and rooms in same area is excellent! (2 comments)
8. Enjoyed seeing old friends. Also getting new ideas.
9. Great conference with maximum comfort, convenience and information for attendees.
10. Nice conference, great hotel, great food!
11. Great responses from attendees.
12. Great conference! Seemed very well organized.
13. Was great to be here. Everyone was so nice and helpful. Good job!
14. Everything about the hotel was great – food, rooms, etc.! I enjoyed each of the dinner speakers. Rosemary was great!
15. Enjoyed keynote speaker. Conference was great!
16. Very impressed with the organization and presentations at the conference and classes. My first conference and I really enjoyed it.
17. Dallas MG's to be commended! Did a great job!
18. Nice hotel, nice services, food excellent!
19. Great job! Best part is working together with the other DCMG's at the conference.
20. Great conference. Very educational but also fun, fun, fun!
21. First conference. Very enjoyable. Loved every minute of it!