



AUGUST 28, 2015

Dear Friends,

Here is the 121st issue of our weekly gardening newsletter for Houston, the Gulf Coast and beyond. We really appreciate all of our readers hanging in there with us, sharing stories and inspiring us in so many ways.

Thanks so much!

This newsletter is a project of The Lazy Gardener, Brenda Beust Smith, John Ferguson and Mark Bowen. (John and Mark are with Nature's Way Resources). We also have a great supporting cast of contributing writers and technical specialists who will chime in and tweak away regularly. We would love to keep receiving your input on this newsletter . . . comments . . . suggestions . . . questions. . . Email your thoughts to: lazygardenerandfriends@gmail.com. Thanks so much for your interest.

Please or sign yourself up to receive this newsletter by clicking the "Join Our Mailing List" link just below. We will never sell or share our mailing list to protect the privacy of our subscribers.

Enjoy!

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GARDENS CAN OVERCOME ANY CHALLENGE

BY BRENDA BEUST SMITH

AN INDIAN BUTTERFLY LEGEND

*If anyone desires a wish to come true they must capture a butterfly and whisper that wish to it.
Since they make no sound, they can't tell the wish to anyone but the Great Spirit.
So by making the wish and releasing the butterfly it will be taken to the heavens and be granted.*
~Author Unknown

First: that butterfly on an esperanza, above left. It was taken by Tom Clark, one of the most talented nature photographers I've ever seen. No special reason for publishing it other than it made me so happy to look at it.

MOVING ON . . .

I love any garden technique that helps someone cope more successfully with any frustrating roadblocks, whether huge or minor. Thinking here about the challenges faced by those who have issues with bending, reaching, lifting, stamina, heat, cold, etc.

So often we view such challenges as overwhelming problems to solve rather than just using "Occam's razor." If you have used, or been fascinated by, a technique - no matter how unconventional - used to overcome such gardening challenges, do share!

When the term "horticulture therapy" was adopted decades ago by those using gardening to help with recovery of both physical and mental impairments, I immediately realized that almost everything proposed was also a great technique for lazy gardeners.

For example, bringing plants up to eye level makes it so much easier to water, feed, enjoy and/or harvest than in-ground plantings. "Table" planters so a chair can easily slide underneath helps with standing or stamina problems.

When I heard the [Houston Federation of Garden Club](#) was bringing Bobbie Mason to town to speak on "Garden Walls," I immediately contacted them to see if she would write a Spotlight article for us.

Truth be told, when Bobbie first wrote me about the "Garden Wall" her Dallas-based Ovilla Garden Club erected and maintains at Dallas Health South Veteran's Hospital, I conjured up a totally wrong mental image.

I pictured a smaller version of the incredible "wall garden" the Palm Beach Garden Club had erected and maintains at Saks Fifth Avenue in that Florida city. Pictured at center above, this 24 ft. high, 840-square foot vertical garden is filled with almost 11,000 plants. Lovely to look at, but definitely no for lazy (or challenged) gardeners!

But then Bobbie, Texas Garden Club, Inc., Trustee, send me the picture (at right above) of the truly ingenious hospital vertical "planter" that will be one of the many "wall gardens" she'll discuss Friday, Sept. 11, at the free HFGC lecture, 10:45am, at the White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Dr.

Bobbie calls wall gardens a "forever old idea for gardening in small spaces" and speaks from experience. Her own walls, inside and out, are covered with plants. She notes that these days, whole "walls" for planting can be ordered off the internet, along with all the necessary mechanics.

If you've been toying with the idea of joining a local area garden club, the Houston Federation of Garden Clubs is the place to start. www.houstonfederationgardenclubs.org. Since the 1930s, the Federation has been helping garden clubs to best serve their members. Sixty-eight area clubs are now members and, through the Federation, are continually contributing to this community and working with other horticulture organizations.

The Federation is a member of Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., now a coalition of over 315 Texas area garden clubs, 17 councils and 65 horticultural affiliates. <http://texasgardenclubs.org/>.

Who else would tell you these things?

* SNAKES FOR SENIORS? Not really. Just thought that might draw your eye to a new free ecology-focus program starting Sept. 4 at Jesse Jones Park & Nature Center, 20634 Kenswick Dr., Humble. First Friday Friends, geared to 55+ adults, will open with "Getting to Know Snakes" by Monte Parks. Hey, we all need to be able to identify our local snakes, especially those that love our gardens and why. More titles of this 1-3pm series: hcp4.net/community/parks/jones or 281-446-8588.

* Brenda's "LAZY GARDENER'S GUIDE" - a when-to-do-what in Greater Houston area gardens - is now available on CD only (pdf file). \$20. For a free page of this month's TO-DO list, email Brenda at lazygardener@sbcglobal.net

Spotlighting . . .

Houston Federation of Garden Clubs!

Lazy Gardener and Friends Newsletter



WALL GARDENS: A FOREVER OLD IDEA FOR GARDENING IN SMALL SPACES

BY BOBBIE MASON
TEXAS GARDEN CLUBS, INC. TRUSTEE
 Ovilia Garden Club, Dallas

You can put wall gardens on the smallest of quaint areas - fences, whole walls and roofs. Each person is only limited by his imagination: A ship with a United States Shaped Wall Garden, A United States Flag, balconies in New Orleans have many beautiful areas that are small, European Cottages have beautiful walls completely covered.

One side of my home has Virginia Creeper folding around to the front walls with beautiful morning glories from my great grandmother. A copper metal picture frame hangs on a west wall with succulents and sedums. Because it is a wooden wall, my husband put a Plexiglas barrier on the back.

Wire hanging baskets cut in half make planters for a deeper plant pocket. Also useful: baling wire from hay for horses. Be very careful when making wall gardens choose plants that have the same water and sun requirements.

The Ovilia Garden Club's Living Wall (pictured above) on the mental health patio at the Dallas Health South Veteran's Hospital, brings much joy to the patrons. It measures 10' x 20', incorporating 160 eight-inch planters. We provide about twenty flats of four-inch plants according to the season.

Everything is organic. Water is provided by a ten-gallon sprayer on wheels. Watch out for hoses with lead, for animals as well as people.

Keeping a wall garden within your imagination is the key to success. If you like orchids, air plants, ferns, succulents and sedum, cactus, trailing ivy or water plants, you only need to consider your location and decorating design preference when choosing your containers.

You can plant almost any container with something you love.

* * *

FRI., SEPT. 11: WALL GARDENS IN MANY WAYS WITH SUCCULENTS AND SEDUM 10-12 am, program 10:45-11:30. Speaker: Bobbie Mason, TX Garden Clubs, Inc. trustee. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Drive, Houston. Free.



JOHN'S CORNER

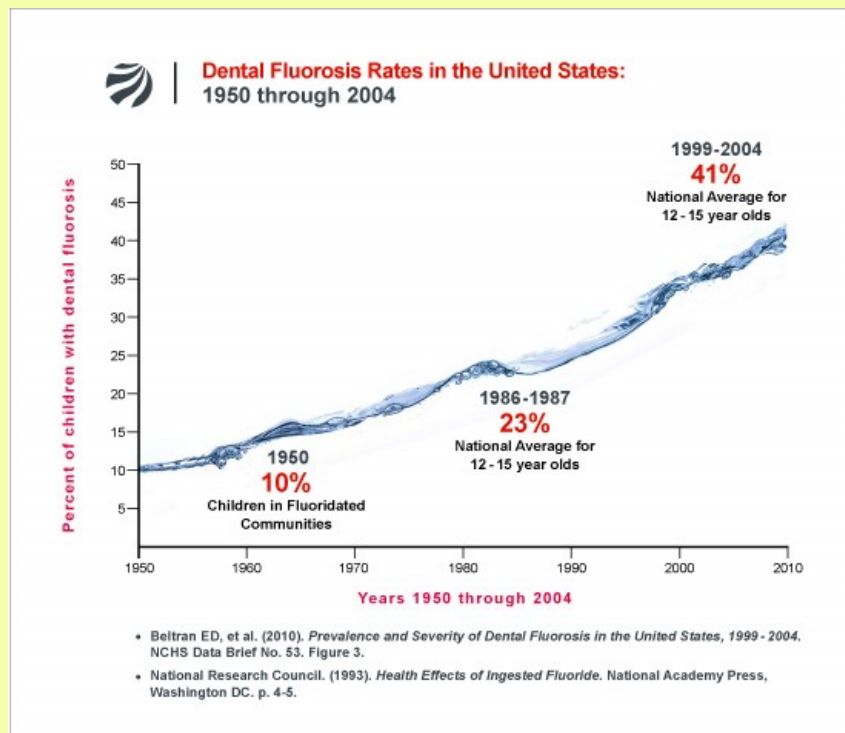


A Book Review

The Real Dirt on COMPOSTING, Cheryl Wilfong, Heart Path Press, Copyright 2015, ISBN: 978-0-9825664-7-3, www.meditativegardener.com. This book is a very easy to read and a light look at backyard composting. It is arranged in lots of 1-2 page chapters on various aspects of composting. Cheryl has done a good job of conveying all the basic ideas in an easy to read format with a light hearted approach. This book would be great gift or stocking stuffer for any gardener.

FLOURIDE Update #3

I was reading another article on the dangers of fluoride in our water system this week. According to the CDC dental fluorosis continues to rise in the USA as shown in the chart below and it is hurting our children the most.



A study in Ireland found that there was a link of fluorosis and cardiovascular disease ("Dental Fluorosis is a biomarker for coronary heart disease (CHD)", 2013, Takamori). Professor Takamori's research team observed that children with dental fluorosis have a higher incidence of heart damage and an increase in abnormal heart rhythm than those without fluorosis.

I read or frequently hear on the news of student athletes dying or having to quit sports because of heart problems. I wonder if it is the fluoride in our water systems that is killing them.

This is another reason to remove fluoride from our water systems, it not only helps our plants as we have discussed previously, but also protects our families.

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WEEKLY GARDENING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS CALENDAR

TO SUBMIT EVENTS - PLEASE - USE OUR FORMAT!

Find a similar event in our calendar below and copy the format EXACTLY.

Then you can add additional information. Email to lazygardener@sbcglobal.net.

Not using our format will result in a delay in publication! Events will not be picked up from other newsletters.

If we inspire you to attend any of these events, please let them know you heard about it in

THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER!

SAT., AUG. 29: SUCCESSFUL FALL VEGETABLE GARDENING BY LUKE STRIPLING, 9-11:30am, Galveston County AgriLife Extension in Carbide Park, 4102 Main, La Marque. Free. Master Gardener event. Reservations to galv3@wt.net. aggiehorticulture.tamu.edu/galveston; 281-534-3413

SAT., AUG. 29: ALL ABOUT HERBS, 9-11am, University of St. Thomas, Strake Hall, Room 207, 3918 Yoakum Blvd., \$45. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org.

SAT, AUG. 29: GROWING TOMATOES & PEPPERS BY ANGELA CHANDLER, 10 am, Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 East 11th Street, free. buchanansplants.com/calendar/events

SAT., AUG. 29: JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER LEARN, GROW, EAT, GO TEACHER/LEADER COMMUNITY PARTNER TRAINING, AgriLife Extension Service, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. \$32.64. [Registration deadline: Aug. 24.](http://www.ag.tamu.edu) 713-274-0978 or snolen@ag.tamu.edu

SAT., AUG. 29: GROWING TOMATOES & PEPPERS BY ANGELA CHANDLER, 10-11am, Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 E 11th. Free. 713-861-5702; buchanansplants.com/events

TUES., SEPT. 1: PRE-ORDER BULB DEADLINE FOR THE OCT. 1-3 2015 BULB & PLANT MART. gchouston.org, 713-683-9450 or cgerikson99@gmail.com

WED., SEPT. 2: INSECTS IN THE GARDEN - FRIEND OR FOE, 9:30am, University Baptist Church, 16106, Middlebrook. Free. Gardeners by the Bay event. 281-474-5051

THURS., SEPT. 3: ENJOYING A NIGHT BLOOMING GARDEN BY JUDY ULKE, 9:30am at the Municipal Utility Building, 805 Hidden Canyon Drive, Katy. Free. Nottingham Country Garden Club Program. nottinghamgardencub.org or 832-390-7321

SAT., SEPT. 5: BEST TREES & SHRUBS FOR TEXAS, 10:15am, Cornelius Nursery, 2233 S. Voss Road; free. comeliusnurseries.com/events

WED., SEPT. 9: ORGANIC VEGETABLE GARDENING. 10am-noon. Houston Museum of Natural Science, Moran Hall, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. \$45. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

THURS, SEPT 10: INDOOR GARDENING-PEST PROBLEMS & ANIMAL SAFETY BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 6:30-8:30pm. Barbara Bush Library, 6817 Cypresswood Dr., Spring. Free. hcnnga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2015-green-thumb.pdf; 281-855-5600

THURS., SEPT. 10: FALL ROSE FEEDING - WITH WHAT AND WHEN?, 7:30pm, (new location) Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Drive. Free. Houston Rose Society event. houstonrose.com

FRI., SEPT. 11: GREATER HOUSTON PLANT CONFERENCE, 8am-3:30pm, Extension Office, 3033 Bear Creek Rd. \$60 (until 9/9). Texas A&M AgriLife Extension industry event. Registration: eventbrite.com/e/greater-houston-plant-conference-2015-tickets-17232611204

FRI., SEPT. 11: WALL GARDENS IN MANY WAYS WITH SUCCULENTS AND SEDUM BY BOBBIE MASON, 10am, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Drive. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

SAT., SEPT. 12: BASIC ORGANIC VEGETABLE GARDENING, 9-11am. Houston Museum of Natural Science, Moran Hall, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. \$45. Urban Harvest event. Details: 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

SAT., SEPT.12: FALL LAWN CARE, 10:15am, Cornelius Nursery, 2233 S. Voss Road; free. comeliusnurseries.com/events

SUN., SEPT. 13: MINIATURE GARDEN WORKSHOP BY KAMILAH COLE, 2-3pm. Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 East 11th. Pay for supplies used. buchanansplants.com/calendar/events

MON., SEPT. 14: "GROWING COFFEE IN ECUADOR BY RICH VEGA, 6:30pm, Moody Park Community Center, 3725 Fulton. HUG (Houston Urban Gardeners) event. houstonurbangardeners.org

TUES., SEPT 15; INDOOR GARDENING-PEST PROBLEMS & ANIMAL SAFETY BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 6:30-8:30pm, Spring Branch Memorial Library, 930 Corbindale. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2015-green-thumb.pdf; 281-855-5600

TUES., SEPT. 15: GARDENING BY THE SQUARE FOOT BY JOHN JONS, 6:30-8:30pm, Galveston County AgriLife Extension, 4102 Main, La Marque. Free. Master Gardener event. 281-534-3143; aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

WED., SEPT. 16: KITCHEN VEGETABLE GARDENING BY MARY DEMENY, 10am, Clear Lake Park Meeting Room, 5001 NASA Parkway, Seabrook. Free. Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2 event. hcmga.tamu.edu

THURS., SEPT 17; INDOOR GARDENING-PEST PROBLEMS & ANIMAL SAFETY BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 6:30-8:30 pm. Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2015-green-thumb.pdf; 281-855-5600

SAT., SEPT. 19: "MAKING GARDEN MEMORIES" GARDEN TOUR, 10am-4pm, League City, TX \$10 advance ticket, \$15 door. League City Garden Club event. leaguecitygardenclub.org, or leaguecitygardenclub@gmail.com

SAT., SEPT. 19: SQUARE FOOT GARDENING. 9-11am. University of St. Thomas, Malloy Hall, Room 14, 3918 Yoakum Blvd. \$45. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

SAT., SEPT 19: BULBS & BUDDIES, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com or 281-351-8851

SAT., SEPT. 19: WILDSAPES WORKSHOP & NATIVE PLANT SALE, 8:30am-3:30pm, Houston Zoo Brown Education Center, Hermann Park. \$40 (\$50 after Sept. 12). Native Plant Society of Texas Houston Chapter, Texas Parks & Wildlife and Houston Zoo event. npsot.org/wp/houston/ or 832-859-9252.

SAT, SEPT 19; INDOOR GARDENING-PEST PROBLEMS & ANIMAL SAFETY BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 10 am-Noon. Maude Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd., Katy. Free. npsot.org/wp/houston/ hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2015-green-thumb.pdf

SAT., SEPT. 19: GROWING ONION & GARLIC BY KEN STEBLIEN, 9-11am; KITCHEN GARDENING BY MARY DEMNEY, 1-3:30pm, , Galveston County AgriLife Extension, 4102 Main, La Marque. Free. Master Gardener event. 281-534-3143; aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

SAT., SEPT. 19: MCMGA FALL PLANT SALE, 9am-1pm, PROGRAM, 8am, Montgomery Co. Extension Office, 9020 Airport Road, Conroe. 936-539-7824 or mcmga.com

SAT., SEPT. 19: FALL IN LOVE WITH VEGGIE GARDENING. 10am. Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, Richmond, TX Free. 281-937-9449, myenchanted.com

SAT., SEPT 19: FALL IN LOVE WITH VEGGIE GARDENING, 2pm. Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, Richmond, TX Free. 281-341-1206; myenchanted.com

SAT., SEPT. 19: FALL CONTAINER WORKSHOP BY DIANE BULANOWSKI, 10-11am. Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 East 11th. Pay for supplies used. buchanansplants.com/calendar/events

MON., SEPT. 21: OPEN GARDEN DAY, 8:30-11am, Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd. Free. Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2 event hcmga.tamu.edu

TUES., SEPT 22: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY & SEMINAR: INDOOR GARDENING, 9-11:30 am, 3033 Bear Creek Drive. Free. 281-855-5600; hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2015-open-garden-days.pdf

WED., SEPT 23: TREES FOR ANY LANDSCAPE, noon-1pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com or 281-351-8851

THUR., SEPT 24: BASIC ORGANIC GARDEN - ITS ALL ABOUT THE SOIL, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com or 281-351-8851

SAT., SEPT. 26: AUTUMN PLANT SALE & MARKET, 10am-4pm, Mercer Botanic Garden , 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. The Mercer Society and Mercer Botanic Garden event. 713-274-4160; hcp4.net/community/parks/mercer

SAT., SEPT. 26: PECKERWOOD GARDEN OPEN DAY. 10am-3pm. Peckerwood Garden, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SAT., SEPT. 26: GARDEN TO TABLE. 9-11am. University of St. Thomas, Malloy Hall, Room 14, 3918 Yoakum Blvd. \$45. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

SAT., SEPT 26: FALL INTO SPRING - CONNECT THE SEASONS WITH COLOR, 10:00 am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com or 281-351-8851

SAT., SEPT 26: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS FALL PLANT SALE; OVERVIEW AT 8 AM, SALE FROM 9 AM-1 PM, 3033 Bear Creek Drive. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/pubSales.aspx; 281-855-5600

SAT., SEPT. 26: FALL CENTERPIECES WITH JEFF KRAUSE. 10am. Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, Richmond, TX Free. 281-937-9449; myenchanted.com

SAT., SEPT 26: FALL CENTERPIECES WITH JEFF KRAUSE, 2pm. Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, Richmond, TX Free. 281-341-1206; myenchanted.com

SAT., SEPT. 26 COCKRELL BUTTERFLY CENTER FALL PLANT SALE, 9am-noon, Houston Museum of Natural Science Parking Garage/7th floor, 5555 Hermann Dr. Free parking with \$30+ purchase. hmns.org

SAT., SEPT. 26: ORCHIDS FOR BEGINNERS BY ERICA PAQUIN, 10-11am. Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 East 11th. Pay for supplies used. buchanansplants.com/calendar/events

SAT.-SUN., SEPT. 26-27: HOUSTON CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW/SALE. 9am-5pm. Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray. Free. <http://hcsstex.org>

SUN., SEPT. 27: SUSTAINABLE LIVING THROUGH PERMACULTURE - CLASS 1. 2-6pm, I-610/Stella Link area residence. \$40. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

SUN., SEPT 27: GRAFTING 101, 11:00 am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com or 281-351-8851

THUR., OCT 1: ATTRACTING BLUEBIRDS TO THE GARDEN, 10:00 am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

THURS., OCT. 1: ANTIQUE ROSE EMPORIUM & VERSATILITY OF ANTIQUE ROSES IN GARDEN SETTINGS BY MICHAEL SHOUP, 9:30am, Municipal Utility Building, 805 Hidden Canyon Drive, Katy. Free. Nottingham Country Garden Club event. nottinghamgardenclub.org or 281-351-8851

SAT., OCT. 3: ART OF FALL LANDSCAPE DECORATING, 10:15am, AND FAMILY DAY! FALL FESTIVAL, 9am-6pm, Cornelius Nursery, 2233 S. Voss Road; free. corneliusnurseries.com/events

SAT., OCT. 3: CONTAINER VEGETABLE GARDENING. 9-11am. University of St. Thomas, Malloy Hall, Room 14, 3918 Yoakum Blvd. \$45. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

SAT., OCT. 3: FALL FESTIVAL WITH URBAN HARVEST, 10-11am. Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 East 11th Street, free, www.buchanansplants.com/calendar/events

SUN., OCT. 4: SUSTAINABLE LIVING THROUGH PERMACULTURE - CLASS 2. 12:30-5:30pm. University of Houston Central Campus. \$50. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

THUR., OCT 8: HERBS - THE BASICS & MORE, 10:00 am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com; 281-351-8851

THURS, OCT 8: PROPAGATION & SEED SAVING BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 6:30-8:30pm. Barbara Bush Library, 6817 Cypresswood Dr., Spring. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2015-green-thumb.pdf; 281-855-5600

FRI., OCT. 9: 12th ANNUAL WATER QUALITY SYMPOSIUM FEATURING CHAD PREGRACKE, 7:30am-3pm, United Way Community Resource Center, 50 Waugh. Bayou Preservation Association event. bayoupreservation.org

FRI., OCT. 9: WATER FOR TEXAS, WATER FOR THE FUTURE BY KATHLEEN JACKSON, 10:15am, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Drive. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs. houstonfederationgardencubs.org

SAT., OCT. 10: CONSTRUCTING THE HOME VEGETABLE AND FRUIT GARDEN. 9-11am. Westbury Community Garden, 12581 Dunlap. \$45. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

SAT., OCT. 10: PECKERWOOD GARDEN OPEN DAY. 10am-3pm. Peckerwood Garden, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SAT., OCT 10: HERBS - THE BASICS & MORE, 10:00 am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com or 281-351-8851

SAT., OCT. 10: ATTRACTING BIRDS TO YOUR GARDEN WITH KATHY ADAMS CLARK. 10am. Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, Richmond, TX Free. 281-937-9449, myenchanted.com

SAT., OCT 10: ATTRACTING BIRDS TO YOUR GARDEN WITH KATHY ADAMS CLARK, 2pm. Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, Richmond, TX Free. Details: 281-341-1206, myenchanted.com

SAT., OCT. 10: FALL BULB WORKSHOP BY DIANE BULANOWSKI. 10-11am. Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 East 11th. Pay for supplies used. buchanansplants.com/calendar/events

SUN., OCT. 11: DESIGNING BOUNTIFUL GARDENS THROUGH PERMACULTURE. 6-classes. University of Houston Central Campus. \$404. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

WED., OCT 14: HERBAL BEVERAGES, 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com or 281-351-8851

THURS., OCT. 15: PECKERWOOD GARDEN TAKING ROOT LUNCHEON WITH MICHAEL VAN VALKENBURGH, 11:30am-1pm, Bayou Club, Houston. \$150. Peckerwood Garden Conservation Foundation event. Reservations: squareup.com/market/peckerwood-garden-conservation-foundation

THUR.-SUN., OCT. 15-18: MASTER COMPOSTER PROGRAM, Green Building Resource Center, 1002 Washington Ave. Steve Stelzer, 832-394-9050, steve.stelzer@houstontx.gov

THURS., OCT 15; PROPAGATION & SEED SAVING BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 6:30-8:30 pm. Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2015-green-thumb.pdf; 281-855-5600

SAT., OCT. 17: THE EDIBLE LANDSCAPE. 9-11am. University of St. Thomas, Malloy Hall, Room 14, 3918 Yoakum Blvd. \$45. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

SAT, OCT 17; PROPAGATION & SEED SAVING BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 10am-Noon. Maude Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen, Katy. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2015-green-thumb.pdf; 281-855-5600

SAT., OCT 17: GARDENING IN THE HELL STRIP, 10am, and TOUGH AS NAILS, PRETTY AS A PICTURE, 2pm, The Arbor Gate,

15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com or 281-351-8851

SAT., OCT. 17: PUMPKIN PALOOZA. 10am. Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, Richmond. Free. 281-937-9449 or myenchanted.com

SAT., OCT 17: PUMPKIN PALOOZA, 2pm. Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, Richmond. Free. 281-341-1206 or myenchanted.com

TUES., OCT 20: PROPAGATION & SEED SAVING BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 6:30-8:30pm, Spring Branch Memorial Library, 930 Corbindale. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2015-green-thumb.pdf; 281-855-5600

WED., OCT. 21: BACKYARD COMPOSTING AND VERMICULTURE. 10am-noon. Houston Museum of Natural Science, Moran Hall, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. \$45. Urban Harvest event. Details: 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

SAT., OCT. 24: HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY'S ROSE-A-PALOOZA, Harris County AgriLife Extension Center, 3033 Bear Creek Drive. 10am educational programs; noon - Rose Show. \$30. houstonrose.org; suzzieq1971@gmail.com

SAT., OCT. 24: PECKERWOOD GARDEN OPEN DAY. 10am-3pm. Peckerwood Garden, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. Details: www.peckerwoodgarden.org, info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SAT., OCT. 24: BACKYARD COMPOSTING AND VERMICULTURE. 10am-noon. Houston Museum of Natural Science, Moran Hall, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. \$45. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

SAT., OCT. 24: MIX-UP A PARTY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON. 10am. Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, Richmond. Free. 281-937-9449 or myenchanted.com

SAT., OCT. 24: MIX-UP A PARTY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON. 2pm. Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, Richmond. Free. 281-341-1206 or myenchanted.com

TUES., OCT 27: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY & SEMINAR: PROPAGATION & SEED SAVING, 9-11:30am, 3033 Bear Creek Drive. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2015-open-garden-days.pdf; 281-855-5600

WED., OCT. 28: INTERNATIONAL OLEANDER SOCIETY KEWPIE GAIDO LUNCHEON AND ANNUAL MEETING. Lydia Miller, 409-770-4312: www.oleander.org

SAT., OCT. 31: HIGH DENSITY ORCHARD. 9-11am. University of St. Thomas, Malloy Hall, Room 14, 3918 Yoakum Blvd. \$45. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

SAT., OCT. 31: FRIGHTFUL FUN IN THE GARDEN WITH CLINT THE SNAKE MAN. 10am-noon. Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, Richmond. Free. 281-937-9449 or myenchanted.com

SAT., OCT. 31: FRIGHTFUL FUN IN THE GARDEN WITH CLINT THE SNAKE MAN. 2-4pm. Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, Richmond. Free. 281-341-1206 or myenchanted.com

SAT., NOV. 7: PECKERWOOD GARDEN OPEN DAY. 10am-3pm. Peckerwood Garden, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. Details: peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

FRI., NOV. 13: MOTHS OF TRINITY RIVER REFUGE - GOOD, BAD AND UGLY BY STUART MARCUS, 10:15 am, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Dr. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

SAT., DEC. 5: HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE, 10am-4pm, Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 East 11th Street, free, buchanansplants.com/calendar/events

FRI., DEC. 11: A WARM WELCOME BY BARBARA BAKER, 10:15 am, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Drive. Tickets required. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

FRI., JAN. 8: PERSONALIZING YOUR GARDEN FOCAL POINTS BY DARNELL SCHREIBER, 10:15am, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Drive. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

FRI., FEB. 12: THE HOLISTIC GARDEN, BY DR. JOE NOVAK, 10:15am, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Drive. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

FRI., MAR. 11: BULLET PROOF VIBURNUMS FOR THE GULF SOUTH BY DR. DAVID CREECH, 10:15am, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Drive. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

FRI., APR. 9: XPLORING CREATIVITY BY LILLIAN RICO, 10:15am, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Drive. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

FRI., MAY 13: NIGHT SOUNDS - TWILIGHT WALK THROUGH THE GARDEN BY DEBBIE BANFIELD, 10:15am, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Dr. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs; houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

**If we inspire you to attend any of these events,
please let them know you heard about it in**

THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER!

TO SUBMIT EVENTS:

**Find a similar event in our calendar below and copy the format EXACTLY.
Then you can add additional information. Email to lazygardener@sbcglobal.net
Not using our format will result in a delay in publication.
Events will not be picked up from newsletters.**

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ABOUT US

BRENDA BEUST SMITH

WE KNOW HER BEST AS THE LAZY GARDENER . . .

. . . but Brenda Beust Smith is also:

- * a national award-winning writer & editor
- * a nationally-published writer & photographer
- * a national horticultural speaker
- * a former Houston Chronicle reporter

When the Chronicle discontinued Brenda's 45-year-old "Lazy Gardener" print column a couple of years ago, it ranked as the longest-running, continuously-published local newspaper column in the Greater Houston area.

Brenda's gradual sideways step from Chronicle reporter into gardening writing led first to an 18-year series of when-to-do-what Lazy Gardener Calendars, then to her *Lazy Gardener's Guide* book and now to her *Lazy Gardener's Guide* on CD (which retails for \$20. However, \$5 of every sale is returned to the sponsoring group at her speaking engagements).

A Harris County Master Gardener, Brenda has served on the boards of many Greater Houston area horticulture organizations and has hosted local radio and TV shows, most notably a 10+-year Lazy Gardener run on HoustonPBS (Ch. 8) and her call-in "EcoGardening" show on KPFT-FM.

Brenda recently ended her decades-long stint as Production Manager of the Garden Club of America's **BULLETIN** magazine. Although still an active horticulture lecturer and broad-based freelance writer, Brenda's main focus now is **THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER** with John Ferguson and Mark Bowen of Nature's Way Resources.

A native of New Orleans and graduate of St. Agnes Academy and the University of Houston, Brenda lives in Aldine and is married to the now retired Aldine High School Coach Bill Smith. They have one son, Blake.

Regarding this newsletter, Brenda is the lead writer, originator of it and the daily inspiration for it. We so appreciate the way she has made gardening such a fun way to celebrate life together for such a long time.

JOHN FERGUSON

John is a native Houstonian and has over 27 years of business experience. He owns Nature's Way Resources, a composting company that specializes in high quality compost, mulch, and soil mixes. He holds a MS degree in Physics and Geology and is a licensed Soil Scientist in Texas.

John has won many awards in horticulture and environmental issues. He represents the composting industry on the Houston-Galveston Area Council for solid waste. His personal garden has been featured in several horticultural books and "Better Homes and Gardens" magazine. His business has been recognized in the Wall Street Journal for the quality and value of their products. He is a member of the Physics Honor Society and many other professional societies. John is is the co-author of the book *Organic Management for the Professional*.

For this newsletter, John contributes articles regularly and is responsible for publishing it.

PABLO HERNANDEZ

Pablo Hernandez is the special projects coordinator for Nature's Way Resources. His realm of responsibilities include: serving as a webmaster, IT support, technical problem solving/troubleshooting, metrics management, quality control, and he is a certified compost facility operator.

Pablo helps this newsletter happen from a technical support standpoint.

MARK BOWEN

Mark is a native Houstonian, a horticulturist, certified permaculturist and organic specialist with a background in garden design, land restoration and organic project management. He is currently the general manager of Nature's Way Resources. Mark is also the co-author of the book *Habitat Gardening for Houston and Southeast Texas*, the author of the book *Naturalistic Landscaping for the Gulf Coast*, co-author of the *Bayou Planting Guide* and contributing landscape designer for the book *Landscaping Homes: Texas*.

With respect to this newsletter, Mark serves as a co-editor and periodic article contributor.



COUPON: Nature's Way Resources. 20% off our: Garden Mix Light Plus. <http://natureswayresources.com/products.html>

(Offer good for retail purchases of this product by the cubic yard at Nature's Way Resources (101 Sherbrook Circle, Conroe TX). Expires 09/13/15.

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Nature's Way Resources (101 Sherbrook Circle, Conroe TX). Expires 09/13/15.