



March 18, 2016

Dear Friends,

Here is the 150th 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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HOW 'IN' IS YOUR YARD? . . . TRACKING MONARCHS . . . WALL GARDENS . . . FORTUNIANA ROOTSTOCK

BY BRENDA BEUST SMITH

How "IN" is your yard?

According to the [2016 Residential Landscape Architecture Trends Survey](#) conducted by the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), the Top Ten Landscape Trends are

- 10 - Reduced lawn area
- 9 - Drip/water-efficient irrigation
- 8 - Rain gardens
- 7 - Food/vegetable gardens
- 6 - Fire pits/fireplaces
- 5 - Permeable paving
- 4 - Low maintenance landscapes
- 3 - Native/adapted drought tolerant plants
- 2 - Native plants

And the #1 trend? Rainwater/greywater harvesting!

The survey includes a lot more data if you're interested: [Top Tend Design Trends](#).

I'm really surprised vertical gardening didn't make the Top 10. As our landscapes shrink - and privacy becomes harder to achieve - the concept of vertical gardens is steadily gaining in popularity.

Vertical gardening is definitely a trend all over in San Diego, as we discovered on a recent visit. One that really blew our minds, pictured below, was at Ironside Fish & Oyster Bar. This lovely living wall design also helps camouflage the entrance to the dumpsters! Judy Beust Harrington & Audrey Beust McMurray photos.



[Vertical Garden Solutions](#) (VGS), a California company, installed Ironside's garden wall on India St. Georges Fortier of VGS, who specializes in such plantings, points out they focus, of course, on Southern California growing conditions – which do differ from ours. But universally, he says, when such gardens fail, it's almost always because of . . .

- Wrong choice of plant material for the sun exposure,
- Over watering or under watering or
- Poor maintenance.

Keep these warnings uppermost in mind if you're planning such a project. They are fun and beautiful. But not "lazy gardening."

HORTICULTURE HEADLINES & HIGHLIGHTS:

* **IN RESPONSE TO LAST WEEK'S "PLANT YOUR EASTER LILY"** column, Mary J. of Woodville sent in this P.S.:

"...or, take your Easter Lily to the cemetery, plant it, do nothing for/to it, & watch it bloom every Easter! It's a Lazy Gardener's dream plant."

* **MOST OF US ARE FAMILIAR WITH CROWN OF THORNS PLANTS.** They make nice balcony/patio container plantings. But take a look at this 7-foot wide, 4-foot high, 5-foot deep Thai hybrid crown of thorns (below left & 2nd from left). This beautiful crown of thorns variety was planted four years ago by Southwest Houston gardener Bob White.

Bob reports, " Unlike our local small-flowered cultivars, this (and several other Thai cultivars I have) flower in the winter and peak about this time." The bracts ("flowers") last for weeks. This one's growing on the south side of Bob's house, partially covered by roof eaves and he does protect it from frosts & freezes.

Bob added this P.S.:"That's a giant dandelion on the right, and I am waiting to see how it competes before deciding which one to cut down." *I like folks who treasure wildflowers.*



MONARCHS HEADED THIS WAY! Journey North (JN), which tracks migrations (hummers, monarchs, etc.) wants to know if your milkweed/butterflyweed (right above) has emerged yet from winter dormancy? Hopefully yours died back naturally, so you can help monarchs fight their latest threat - the parasite Oe -. If it didn't, hopefully YOU cut it to the ground?

The first monarchs typically cross the Rio Grande into Texas around last Tuesday, March 15. They're looking for milkweed/butterflyweed. JN urges you to report:

- stage of your milkweed/butterflyweed,
- monarchs you've seen, when & where
- your milkweed species if possible

Report to Journey North (learner.org/jnorth). Or email Cindy Schmid: Cindy_JourneyNorth@comcast.net. And if you're looking for Texas native milkweed/butterflyweed and/or the tropical (red/orange/yellow) variety to plant, check the calendar below. Mercer Botanic Garden's big [March Mart](#) sale is this Saturday and the [Cockrell Butterfly Center](#)'s is April 9, among other sales that should carry different varieties.

In the meantime, if you want to attract monarchs, but don't know what Oe is, you need to. Some background info/resources:

* **THE MONARCH'S BEST HOPE IS STILL YOU**

<http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs172/1112503958110/archive/1120198692996.html>

* **ARE WE GARDENERS A THREAT TO MONARCHS?**

<http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs172/1112503958110/archive/1115065947379.html>

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THE MORE YOU KNOW, THE BETTER YOU GROW: In our Spotlight below, internationally-recognized Master Rosarian Don Adlong, a multiple-award winning rose grower, is helping to broaden our horizons by making us look below ground as well as above. Many of our favorite plants become favorites thanks to grafting, using hardy rootstock. Even if you don't plan to do this yourself, it's a wise gardener who at least knows how & why this is done, what is used and how appropriate various potential rootstocks are for our local growing climate.

Our spotlight below is just a glimpse into an overall view of Fortuniana rootstocks Don will be discussing Thursday, April 14, 7:30pm, at the Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. This Houston Rose Society event is free and open to the public. [Details: houstonrose.org](http://houstonrose.org)

**PLEASE - IF YOU DO NOT GET A RESPONSE FROM ME TO AN EMAIL, ASSUME I DID NOT RECEIVE IT AND SEND IT AGAIN!
CHECK NEWSLETTER CALENDAR TO MAKE SURE YOUR EVENTS ARE PUBLISHED. IF THEY AREN'T, LET ME KNOW!**

lazygardener@sbcglobal.net



Left to right, Lady Banks Rose, full & closeup. Cherokee rose center. Fortuniana (bush) right

GROWING ROSES ON FORTUNIANA ROOTSTOCK "THE WAY TO GROW"

by DON ADLONG

Houston Rose Society - www.houstonrose.org

Most modern roses are grafted or budded onto a rootstock because they do not produce a vigorous root system on their own. The most common rootstocks are Multiflora, Dr. Huey, Manetti and Fortuniana. Most large commercial nurseries don't propagate onto Fortuniana, because they don't perform well in Hardiness Zones lower than 7. However, they have proven to perform very well across the southern part of the United States, producing larger bushes along with more and larger blooms.

Fortuniana rootstock was discovered in China in 1850 by Robert Fortune a Scottish gardener. It is a white OGR (Old Garden Rose), a natural hybrid of "Lady Banks Rose" and "Cherokee Rose."

It is believed to have been introduced to America and Australia about 1903. Dr. Samuel McFadden of the University of Florida began grafting on Fortuniana in the early 1960's. Fortuniana has proven to be better suited than other root stocks to sandy soils, particularly those rife with nematodes and eel worms. That property was very instrumental in the introduction of Fortuniana to Florida.

Fortuniana root systems have very few woody roots and generally no tap root. This characteristic, on hybrid teas in particular, necessitates the staking of plants, as it is often common for bushes to grow to 6 or 8 or even 10 feet tall. The numerous feeder roots grow relatively shallow, 6 to 8 inches, and a Fortuniana root system can reach a diameter of 6 feet or more.



Fortuniana roots, left. Dr. Huey roots, right.

There are numerous similarities in horticulture practices between growing roses on Fortuniana and on other rootstocks. Differences include planting, watering, fertilizing, pruning and winterization.

Certainly in my own garden, Fortuniana is "The way to grow."

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THURS, APR. 14: ROSES ON FORTUNIA ROOTSTOCK by DON ADLONG, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Drive, Houston 77004. Free. Houston Rose Society event. houstonrose.org

JOHN'S CORNER

NEWS FROM THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SOIL AND PLANTS



A paper published in the Journal of Environmental Research Letters has found that dangerous nitrate from artificial fertilizers is building up in soils and the toxic effects can persist for decades after it is no longer applied. Exposure to nitrate enters waterways and causes hypoxic conditions creating dead zones in rivers and our oceans. This nitrate pollution also causes many human health problems such as "blue baby syndrome". As a result, cities are spending hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars to remove it from our drinking water.

Another study from the University of Missouri has found that plants can sense when they are being eaten and send out defense mechanisms to stop it. They found that when a caterpillar eats a leaf it produces vibrations that tell the plant to activate its defense mechanisms. The researchers recorded the vibrations and then played it back to a plant without caterpillars and the plant turned on its defense mechanisms.

A study from the University of California published in the Journal Ecology Letters has found that excess nutrient input from artificial fertilizers creates an imbalance in the interactions between plants and microbes. Plants produce carbohydrates that we call "root exudates" that feed the beneficial microbes. In return, the microbes protect the plant against soil pathogens and insect attack. When plants were fed nutrients from artificial fertilizers, they did not produce the root exudates and the good microbes quit protecting the roots allowing pathogens to attack the plant. This resulted in less plant growth. I first read about this issue back in 1999 in an article published in the Journal of Environmental Horticulture that found that Lace Bugs were attracted to plants fed artificial fertilizers. The same amount of nutrients supplied organically did not attract the lace bugs to the plants.

A study from the University of Guelph in Canada found that even low levels of pesticides affected the foraging behavior of bumblebees. It hindered their ability to learn the skill needed to extract pollen and nectar. Other studies have shown that low levels of pesticides far below the legal limit caused memory problems for honeybees as they forgot where the flowers were located. The government is pushing GMO crops on us that have much higher levels of pesticides. Dementia is a rapidly growing issue in our society, as we eat these contaminated foods, I suspect there is a correlation.

ANNOUNCEMENT

On Tuesday March 29th from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Houston Museum of Natural Science IMAX Theater Dr. Thierry Vrain will be giving a seminar "The Poison In Our Food Supply". Dr. Vrain (retired) spent 40 years as a soil biologist and genetic engineer for the Canada's Department of Agriculture. He has seen and studied first-hand the damage done to us by the proliferation of Glyphosate (Round-Up) and Genetically Modified Foods (GMO's) in our food supply. These dangers were well known and covered up by the manufacturer.

Dr. Vrain will bring the latest in scientific studies in a compelling and mesmerizing lecture. If You are concerned about your health and the health of your loved ones, this is a can't miss lecture. Tickets are \$18.00 per person and can be ordered through the Museum of Natural Science. <http://store.hmns.org/Selection.aspx?item=2865&sch=757910>

NOTE: Dr. Thierry Vrain, a former soil biologist and genetic scientist, worked for Agriculture Canada for 30 years. He was the designated spokesperson to assure the public of the safety of GMO crops. Since retiring 10 years ago, after taking into account scientific evidence ignored by most of the bio-tech industry promoters and government regulators, Dr. Vrain has reversed that position and now warns of the dangers from GMO crops.

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WEEKLY GARDENING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS CALENDAR

TO SUBMIT AN EVENT FOR THIS CALENDAR, PLEASE NOTE

Events **NOT** submitted in the **EXACT** written format below may take two weeks or longer to be reformatted/retyped. After that point, if your event does not appear, please email us. Submit to: lazygardener@sbcglobal.net

If we inspire you to attend any of these events, please let them know you heard about it in THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER

SAT., MAR. 19: MARCH MART, Fri: noon-4pm. Sat.: 8am-4pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 2206 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. 713-274-4160. VIP shopping: hcp4.net/community/parks/merce

SAT., MAR. 19: RAISED BEDS & LOW VOLUME IRRIGATION by HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 10am, Maude Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd., Katy. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu; 281-855-5600

SAT., MAR. 19: ORGANIC GARDENING FAIR, 8am-4pm, St. Anne's Catholic Church's Giving Field, Beaumont. Sharon Begnaud, sebegnaud@gmail.com

SAT., MAR. 19: HONEY BEES AROUND THE GARDEN by ROBERT MARSHALL, 9-10:30am, & TURNING DIRT INTO SOIL by JIM GILLIAN, 1-2:30pm, Galveston County AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102 Main, La Marque. Free but reservations requested for each: galv3@wt.net; www.aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

SAT, MAR. 19; RAISED BEDS & LOW VOLUME IRRIGATION BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 10am-Noon. Maude Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd., Katy. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2016-green-thumb.pdf; 281-855-5600

SAT., MAR. 19: GARDEN VILLAS GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL PLANT & GARDEN ACCESSORY SALE, 9am, Garden Villas Park Community Center, 6720 S. Haywood. bbums50@aol.com

SUN., MAR. 20: FROM SPORE TO STAGHORN FERN IN 6 MONTHS by Darla Harris & Larry Rucker, 2:00pm, Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Dr. Hands-on project. Free. Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society event. tgcfermsoc.org

MON. MAR. 21: OPEN GARDEN DAY WITH HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS AT PRECINCT 2, 8:30 - 11:00 am, Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd. FREE. Plants for sale in Greenhouse. 281-855-5600; hcmga.tamu.edu

SAT, MAY 21; PLANTS OF THE BIBLE BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 10am-Noon. Maude Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd., Katy. Free. Details: <https://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2016-green-thumb.pdf> 281-855-5600

TUES., MAY 24: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY AND SEMINAR: PLANTS OF THE BIBLE, 9-11:30 am, 3033 Bear Creek Drive. Free. Details: <http://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2016-hcmga-open-garden-days.pdf> 281-855-5600

TUES., MAR. 22: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY & RAISED BEDS & LOW VOLUME IRRIGATION SEMINAR, 9am, 3033 Bear Creek Drive. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu; 281-855-5600

TUES., MAR. 22: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY AND SEMINAR: RAISED BEDS & LOW VOLUME IRRIGATION, 9-11:30 am, 3033 Bear Creek Drive. Free. Details: <http://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2016-hcmga-open-garden-days.pdf> 281-855-5600

WED., MAR. 23; SPRING CONTAINER GARDENING WITH SKIP RICHTER HARRIS COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT; 16600 Pine Forest Lane. Free. pct3.com/senior-centers/glazier-senior-center; 713-274-3250

WED., MAR. 23: SEASIDE SUCCULENTS OF THE TEXAS GULF COAST by WALLACE WARD, 7:30pm, Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray. Free. hcsstex.org

Thur. March 24: BEEKEEPING FOR THE AMATEUR WORKSHOP by CAMERON CRANE, 1pm, Glazier Senior Center, 16600 Pine Forest Lane. Free. pct3.com/senior-centers/glazier-senior-center; 713-274-3250

SAT., MAR. 26: 2nd ANNUAL BAYOUT GREENWAY DAY, 11am-4pm, White Oak Bayou Greenway, T.C. Jester Park, 4201 T. C. Jester Blvd. Free. Houston Parks Board event. bayoutgreenwayday.org

SAT., MAR. 26: Peckerwood Garden Open Day, Hempstead. Garden Conservancy event. Tours are approximately every half hour from 10 am to 3 pm. \$10 for non-members, Members are free. Register at: <http://www.peckerwoodgarden.org/>, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead, 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SAT., MARCH 26: EASTER EGG HUNT, 8:30-9am, Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 E 11th. Free. Kids 6 and under. 713-861-5702; buchanansplants.com/events

TUE., MAR. 29: 'TEXAS TUFF' LANDSCAPE PLANTS - BLOOMING AND BEAUTIFUL by SANDRA DEVALL, 6:30-8pm, Galveston County AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102 Main, La Marque. Free but reservations requested: galv3@wt.net; www.aggie-

horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

TUES., MAR. 29: THE DANGERS OF GMO's by DR. THIERRY VRAIN, 6:30pm, Houston Museum of Natural Science, IMAX Theater, 5555 Herman Park Dr. \$18. hmns.org; 713-639-4629

WED., MAR. 30: GROWING GREAT TOMATOES & SUMMER VEGETABLES, 10am, Museum of Natural Science Moran Hall, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. \$45. 713-880-5540 or www.urbanharvest.org.

SAT., APRIL 2: WHITE OAK GARDEN SPRING PLANT SALE, 9am program by HEIDI SHEESLEY, 10am-2pm (or sell-out) sale. White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Dr., nemd.org

SAT., APR. 2: ROSES IN THE LANDSCAPE by GAYE HAMMOND, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, Richmond; 2pm Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, Richmond. Free. myenchanted.com

SAT., APRIL 2: MEMORIAL NORTHWEST LADYBUGS GARDEN CLUB PLANT & TREE SALE, 9am-2pm, Memorial Northwest Community Center, 17440 Theiss Mail Route Road, Spring. Free. mnwhoa.org

SAT, APR. 2: BRAZORIA COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE, 8am-noon, Brazoria County Environmental Education Station, 799 E. Hospital Drive at CR 171, Angleton. txmg.org/brazoria.

SAT., APR. 2: HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY SALE, 9am-3pm. St. Andrew's Church Bazaar, 1819 Heights Blvd. houstonrose.org

SAT., APR. 2: GROWING GREAT TOat, April 2. Urban Harvest's Growing Great Tomatoes & Summer Vegetables. 9:30am, Museum of Natural Science Moran Hall, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. \$45. 713-880-5540 or www.urbanharvest.org

SAT., APR. 2: DAYLILIES & OTHER PLANTS SALE, 10am, St. Andrews Episcopal Church's Spring Bazaar, 1819 Heights Blvd. at 19th St. Free. Houston Area Daylily Society event. 281-448-4153.

SAT-SUN, APR. 2-3: HOUSTON ORCHID SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW & SALE, Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-4pm, Museum of Natural Science, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. Free. houstonorchidsociety.org

SUN., APR. 3: RESTORING NATURE THROUGH PERMACULTURE series Part 1 by PERMACULTURE GUILD OF HOUSTON, noon, Japhet Creek Community Classroom, 4466 Billy Street. \$238. 713-880-5540; urbanharvest.org

MON., APRIL 4: GROWING HIBISCUS by MARTI GRAVES, 10am, Amegy Bank Building, Community Room, 28201 SH 249, Tomball. Free. Tomball Garden Club event. tomballgardenclub@gmail.com

WED., APR. 6: GARDENERS BY THE BAY ANNUAL PLANT SALE, 9:30am-noon, University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Dr. 281-474-5051; gbtb.org

WED., APR 6: CYPRESS CREEK DAYLILY CLUB PLANT SALE AT "EGGSTRAVAGANZA," 9:30am-6:00pm, Klein United Methodist Church, 5920 FM2920, Spring

THURS., APR. 7: FINIALS AND FOLLIES: A LOOK AT ARCHITECTURAL GARDEN FEATURES FROM AROUND THE WORLD by DARRIN DULING, 9:30am, Municipal Utility Building #81, 805 Hidden Canyon Dr., Katy. Free. Nottingham Country Garden Club event. nottinghamgardenclub.org

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

SAT., APRIL 9: HMNS COCKRELL BUTTERFLY CENTER SPRING PLANT SALE, 8am-noon (or sell-out), garage 7th level, Houston Museum of Natural Science, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. 713-639-4629, hmns.org

SAT., APRIL 9: Peckerwood Garden Open Day, 10am-3pm tours, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. peckerwoodgarden.org. 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SAT., APR. 9: TIME TO TALK HERBS by HENRY FLOWERS, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, Richmond; 2pm Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, Richmond. Free. myenchanted.com

SAT., APR. 9: ORGANIC GARDENING FOR CITY LIFESTYLES, 9:30am, Museum of Natural Science Moran Hall, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. \$45. 713-880-5540 or www.urbanharvest.org.

SAT., APRIL 9: CULTURE AND CARE OF PALMS, by O.J. MILLER, 9-11:30am, & THE FABULOUS FRAGRANT FRANGIPANI (PLUMERIA), by LORETTA OSTEEN, 1-3 pm, Galveston County AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102 Main, La Marque. Free, but reservations required for each: galv@wt.net; www.aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

TUES., APR. 12: PLANT PROPAGATION TECHNIQUES WORKSHOP by MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 9am. Extension Office, 9020 FM 1484 (Airport Rd.), Conroe. Free. Woodlands Garden Club event. thewoodlandsgardenclub.org

WED., APR. 13: ORGANIC GARDENING FOR CITY LIFESTYLES, 9:30am, Museum of Natural Science Moran Hall, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. \$45. 713-880-5540 or www.urbanharvest.org

THURS., APR. 14: ADDING A BUTTERFLY GARDEN: DESIGN, PLANTS and MORE by Mark Bowen, 7:30 pm, L.G.I. Lecture Hall, McCullough Jr. High School, 3800 S. Panther Creek Dr., The Woodlands, Free. 281-210-3925

THURS, APR. 14: HERBS-GROWING & USING BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 6:30-8:30 pm. Barbara Bush Library, 6817 Cypresswood Dr., Spring. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2016-green-thumb.pdf 281-855-5600

THURS, APR. 14: ROSES ON FORTUNIA ROOTSTOCK by DON ADLONG, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Drive, Houston 77004. Free. Houston Rose Society event. houstonrose.org

THUR., APRIL 14: GRAFTING PECAN TREES, by HERMAN AUER, 1:30-3:00pm; LOCATION: 7851 Winding Trail Street, Santa Fe, TX 77517. Free, but reservations required: galv@wt.net; www.aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

THURS., APR. 14: GROWING HERBS IN THE GULF COAST REGION by Ed Drier, 10am, Clear Lake Meeting Room, 5001 Nasa Parkway. Harris County Master Gardeners. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu

FRI.- SUN., APRIL 15, 16, 17: KINGWOOD GARDEN CLUB HOME & GARDEN TOUR 10am-4pm Fri. & Sat.; noon-4pm Sun. kingwoodgardenclub.org

SAT., APR. 16: ATTRACTING BUTTERFLIES TO POLLINATE YOUR GARDEN by NANCY GRIEG, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, Richmond; 2pm Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, Richmond. Free. www.myenchanted.com

SAT, APRIL 16: SPRING PERENNIAL PLANT SALE. OVERVIEW AT 8 am; SALE FROM 9 am- 1 pm. BRING YOUR WAGON AND COME EARLY FOR THE BEST SELECTION. 3033 Bear Creek Drive. Free. Details: <http://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/pubSales.aspx> 281-855-5600

SAT, APRIL 16; HERBS-GROWING & USING BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 10am-Noon. Maude Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd., Katy. Free. Details: <https://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2016-green-thumb.pdf> 281-855-5600

SAT., APR. 16: HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY SPRING ROSE SHOW, 1-4pm, Memorial City Mall. Free. event. houstonrose.org

SAT., APRIL 16: TAWNY (RASPBERRY) CRAZY ANT: MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES FOR HOMEOWNERS, by PAUL R. NESTER, Ph.D. 9am, & OLIVE OIL PRODUCTION by RANDY BRAZIL, 1-2:30pm, Galveston County AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102 Main, La Marque. Free, reservations: galv@wt.net;

SUN., APRIL 17: 2016 HIBISCUS SHOW & PLANT SALE, 1-4pm, Bellaire Community Center, 7008 S. Rice Blvd, Bellaire. Free. Lone Star Chapter/American Hibiscus Society event. Free. lonestarahs.org

MON., APR. 18: OPEN GARDEN DAY & PLANT SALE, 8:30-11am, Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd. Free. Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2 event. hcmga.tamu.edu

TUES., APR. 19: MILLENNIAL GARDENING by DEE NASH, 10am, St. Basil Hall, 702 Burney Road, Sugar Land. Free; Sugar Land Garden Club event. Sugarlandgardenclub.org
www.aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

TUES., APRIL 19; HERBS-GROWING & USING BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 6:30-8:30 pm, Spring Branch Memorial Library, 930 Corbindale. Free. Details: <http://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2016-green-thumb.pdf> 281-855-5600

TUE., APRIL 19: RAIN WATER HARVESTING, by Tim Jahnke, 6:30-8pm, Galveston County AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102 Main, La Marque. Free, reservations required: galv@wt.net; www.aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

THURS., APR. 21: GROWING FRUITS, NUTS & BERRIES by DR. BOB RANDALL AND DR. ETHAN NATELSON, Harris County AgriLife Center, 3303 Bear Creek Dr. Free. Gulf Coast Fruit Study Group event. 291

SAT., APRIL 23: Peckerwood Garden Open Day, 10am-3pm tours, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. peckerwoodgarden.org. 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SAT., APR. 23: ORGANIC SOLUTIONS TO PESKY INSECTS by ANDY CHIDESTER, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, Richmond; 2pm Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, Richmond. Free. www.myenchanted.com

SAT., APR. 23: HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY ANNUAL ROSE GARDEN TOUR, 11am-5pm. houstonrose.org

SAT., APR. 23: OVERVIEW OF PERENNIALS by HEIDI SHEESLEY, 8am, & PERENNIAL & PEPPER SALE, 9am-1pm, Campbell Hall, Pasadena Fairgrounds, 7600 Red Bluff, Pasadena. Free. Harris County Master Gardeners at Precinct 2. hcmga.tamu.edu

SAT.-SUN, APR. 23-24: HERITAGE GARDENERS 50TH ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE & SPRING GARDEN TOUR, noon-4pm Sat; 1-5pm Sun. Start (plant sale): Marie Workman Garden Center & Briscoe Gardens, 112 W. Spreading Oaks, Friendswood. Garden Center free; tour \$10 advance; \$12 day of tour. facebook.com/FriendswoodHeritageGardeners

TUES., APRIL 26: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY AND SEMINAR: HERBS-GROWING & USING, 9-11:30 am, 3033 Bear Creek Drive. Free. Details: <http://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2016-hcmga-open-garden-days.pdf> 281-855-5600

SAT., APR. 30: FAIRY GARDEN SEMINARS, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, Richmond; 2pm Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, Richmond. \$10/reservations: myenchanted.com

SAT., APR. 30: GARDEN CONSERVANCY HOUSTON OPEN DAY & PECKERWOOD GARDEN PLANT SALE, Houston. Garden Conservancy event. 10am-4pm. \$7/garden; \$40/All Day pass. peckerwoodgarden.org/garden-conservancy-houston-tx-open-day-2/, 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org or frankbrowniii@hotmail.com

SAT., MAY 7: 2016 HIBISCUS SHOW & PLANT SALE, 1-4pm, Knights of Columbus Hall, 702 Burney Rd., Sugar Land. Free. Lone Star chapter/American Hibiscus Society event. Free. lonestarahs.org

SAT., MAY 7: MINIATURE CONTAINER GARDEN WORKSHOP, 10-11am, Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 E 11th. Pay for supplies use. 713-861-5702; buchanansplants.com/events

SAT., MAY 7: CHAPPELL HILL GARDEN TOUR & PLANT SALE, 10am-4pm, 9060 Poplar St., Chappell Hill. Chappell Hill Garden Club event. 979-836-2554; 713-562-6191.

SAT.-SUN., MAY 7-8: HOUSTON WATER GARDEN AND POND TOUR. Houston Pond Society/The Lone Star Koi Club event. houstonpondsociety.org; lonestarkoi.com

SUN., May 8: Peckerwood Garden MOTHER'S DAY Open Day, 10am-3pm tours, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. peckerwoodgarden.org. 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SUN., MAY 8): Peckerwood Garden Open Day. Tours 10am-3pm. 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy

event. Register: peckerwoodgarden.org/, 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

TUES., MAY 10: GROWING PLUMERIAS, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, Hermann Park Conservancy, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. theplumeriasociety.org

THURS, MAY 12: PLANTS OF THE BIBLE BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 6:30-8:30 pm. Barbara Bush Library, 6817 Cypresswood Dr., Spring. Free. Details: <http://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2016-green-thumb.pdf> 281-855-5600

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 event. houstonfederationgardencubs.org

SAT., MAY 14: SUCCULENT MAKE AND TAKE, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, Richmond; 2pm Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, Richmond. Reservations: myenchanted.com

SUN., MAY 15: TROPICAL FRUIT TREES WITH DANY MILIKIN OF EDIBLE EARTH RESOURCES, 2-3pm, Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 E 11th. Free. 713-861-5702; buchanansplants.com/events

TUES., MAY 17; PLANTS OF THE BIBLE BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 6:30-8:30 pm, Spring Branch Memorial Library, 930 Corbindale. Free. Details: <http://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2016-green-thumb.pdf> 281-855-5600

THURS., MAY 19; PLANTS OF THE BIBLE BY HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS. 6:30-8:30 pm. Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. Free. <http://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2016-green-thumb.pdf> 281-855-5600

SAT., MAY 21: FRIENDS OF PECKERWOOD GARDEN dAY, 10am-3pm tours, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. peckerwoodgarden.org. 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SAT., MAY 21: HERB LORE WITH DANY MILIKIN OF EDIBLE EARTH RESOURCES, 10-11am, Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 E 11th. Free. 713-861-5702; buchanansplants.com/events

SAT., MAY 21: TOMATO & SALSA CONTEST judged by BILL ADAMS , 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, Richmond; 2pm Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, Richmond. www.myenchanted.com

SAT., JUNE 4: BUTTERFLY GARDEN WORKSHOP FOR KIDS, 10-11am, Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 E 11th. Free. 713-861-5702; buchanansplants.com/events

SAT., JUNE 11: PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA SHOW & SALE, 9:30am-3pm, Bay Area Community Center 5002 Nasa Road One Seabrook. Free. theplumeriasociety.org

SAT., JUNE 11: EDIBLE LANDSCAPING WITH DANY MILIKIN OF EDIBLE EARTH RESOURCES, 10-11am, Buchanan's Native Plants, 611 E 11th. Free. 713-861-5702; buchanansplants.com/events

TUES., JULY 12: GROWING PLUMERIAS, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, Hermann Park Conservancy, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. theplumeriasociety.org

TUES.-SUN., JUNE 14-19: WORLD BROMELIAD CONFERENCE XXII, Show and Plant Sale 9am-5pm Fri. & Sat.; 9am-noon Sun., Westin Galleria Hotel, 5060 West Alabama St. Bromeliad Society/Houston, Inc./Bromeliad Society International event. www.bsi.org

SAT., JULY 23: PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA SHOW & SALE, 9:30am-3pm, Fort Bend Country Fairgrounds 4310 Texas Highway 36, Rosenberg. theplumeriasociety.org

SAT, SEPT 24: FALL SALE (LANDSCAPE PLANTS, PERENNIALS & FALL VEGETABLES), 8am overview, 9am-1pm sale, 3033 Bear Creek Drive. Free. Details: <http://hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/pubSales.aspx> 281-855-5600

TUES., OCT. 11: GROWING PLUMERIAS, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, Hermann Park Conservancy, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. theplumeriasociety.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 AN EVENT FOR THIS CALENDAR, PLEASE NOTE

Events NOT submitted in the EXACT written format below may take two weeks or longer to be reformatted/retyped. After that point, if your event does not appear, please email us.

Submit to: lazygardener@sbcglobal.net

Green Job Opportunities at Nature's Way Resources

Inside Sales: duties include providing customer service, gardening advice and sales assistance. This is a part time position.

Horticulturist: duties include customer service, providing planting recommendations and helping to maintain our plant nursery.

For more information please email jobs@natureswayresources.com.

THIS NEWSLETTER IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS



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 the co-author of the book *Organic Management for the Professional*.

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

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.

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.



COUPON: Nature's Way Resources. 50% off pomegranates, pears and antique roses. (Offer good for retail purchases of this product (101 Sherbrook Circle, Conroe TX). Expires 03/28/16.