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FEBRUARY 17, 2017

Dear Friends,

Here is the 193rd 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!

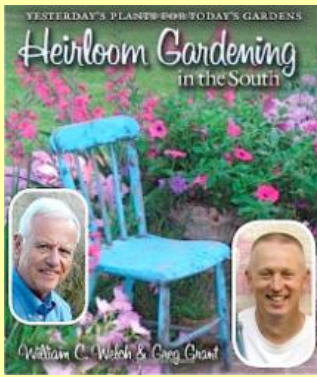
This newsletter is a project of The Lazy Gardener, Brenda Beust Smith, John Ferguson and Mark Bowen (John and Mark are with Nature's Way Resources). We also have a great supporting cast of contributing writers and technical specialists who will chime in and tweak away regularly. We would love to keep receiving your input on this newsletter . . . comments . . . suggestions . . . questions. . . E mail 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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Bill Welch, left, and Greg Grant (inserts) wrote the Heirloom Gardening book that boosted my greater appreciation of Africa-inspired bottle trees and gourd birdhouses (such as these from Shangri La Gardens in Orange) and crinum lilies. These and all pictures used are from Welch & Grant's "Heirloom Gardening in the South."

"

A LOOK AT OUR SOUTHERN GARDENING ROOTS

By BRENDA BEUST SMITH

Many wonderful gardening books have crossed my desk over the years -- dozens I consider incredibly useful. But if I had to pick my most favorite, it would be [Dr. William C. Welch](#) & [Greg Grant's Heirloom Gardening in the South](#) (Texas A&M University Press).

Why? Because it deepened my appreciation of my own garden. It broadened my awareness of the deep historical roots my plants boasted, giving added meaning to individual aspects, cultural significance I had only given passing awareness to before.

It was a change in perspective moment I treasure as much as I treasure Bill and Greg as longtime friends. What a great gift they gave me -- over and beyond a personal delight that my own Mexican, French & English heritage are included in his Big Eight!

I knew the history of bottle trees and the origin of prolific crinum lilies (great lazy gardener plants!), but began to see both with an even deeper appreciation. Both served as such important symbols of security for centuries for people on another continent far away.

Native plants were finally "in vogue" on the retail front when this book was published in 2011. I had always viewed native plants, especially wildflowers, as "my kind of" plants. No one feeds, waters, pampers or protects them and yet they are beautiful year after year. Only problem was, they usually weren't sold in nurseries. Slowly-but-surely they were appearing on the shelves thanks to then-fledgling groups like the Native Plant Society of Texas.

Bill (right) & Greg's book helped me move past my "selfish" love affair into far-more-actively researching individual plants to see how they were used for medicinal or ceremonial purposes. Not that I advised folks then or now to necessarily use them that way. But, rather, to encourage treasuring a plant's historical significance while utilizing its garden usefulness. In short, they made gardening a lot more fun for me!

Our gardens, here in the South, are most influenced by the eight primary groups of ancestors, listed below in the order determined by Bill & Greg. How aware are you of the original influences you might be utilizing?



Influences, l to r, Native Americans taught newcomers to use native plants like purple coneflowers. Mexicans loved bright flowers in containers close to living quarters. French immigrants introduced us to sophisticated formal designs.

- **Native American** - natives for food (including pecans!), medicine, ceremonies; farming corn, beans & squash; sit planning to connect communities; intimate knowledge of nature.
- **Spanish** - 4-part garden plans centered by a water feature; shade structures; contrasting formal, informal plantings; utilizing small garden spaces; bold contrasts; extensive containers
- **French** - Symmetrical landscapes, topiary, allées, espalier, pruning/shaping fruit trees, ornate parterres designed to be viewed from above, expressed dominance over nature.



L to r, One of Greg's earlier African style swept lawns at his own home. The English taught us about perennial borders and the Germans loved their vine-covered arbors

- **African** - Swept yards, yard as extension of house, guinea fowl, bottle trees, many now-famous Southern plants (watermelon, okra, peas, castor beans, crinums). (Note: [Stephen F. Austin Pineywoods Native Plant Center's "Firewise" demonstration garden](#) advocated a swept yard as one way to protect homes from forest and other fires.)
- **English** - Natural style, park-like landscapes, perennial borders, eclectic plant mixtures surrounding small homes
- **German** - Scientific interest in plants, production, botany, new plants; edibles & market gardens; trees for shade, ornament, lining streets; summerhouses; neatly swept yards



L to r, Italian immigrants brought their mastery of statuary and other landscape harscapes. Unique Asian garden "worlds" required plants with flowers and foliage that spoke to overall spirit

- **Italian** - Signature plants like Italian cypress; extensive use of statuary, columns, containers; innovative use of water; plants secondary to structural elements; strong axial development

- **Asian** - Southern palette (bamboo, cherries, Japanese maples, azaleas, camellias); deep appreciation of nature & simplicity; bonsai, bridges, lanterns, moon gates; quiet water features

Dr. Bill Welch will recommend an array of Southern heirloom plants for color and charm when he is joined by Chris Wiesinger of The Southern Bulb Co., on Sat., March. 4 at The Arbor Gate in Tomball. Their presentation will focus on helping gardeners think of landscape design as a process to bring order into a home landscape and recommend an array of southern heirloom plants for color and charm. It's free but register first: arborgate.com.

You can meet Bill Welch at the above event, or email him at wc-welch@tamu.edu.

Greg can be emailed at greg.grant@ag.tamu.edu or you can meet him in person at:

*** SAT., MAR. 18: SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW, SOMETHING BORROWED, SOMETHING BLUE**
by GREG GRANT, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

"The Rose Rustlers," a new book by Greg Grant and Dr. William C. Welch will be published by Texas A&M Press in the fall.

* * *



*Above, left, Eulas Stafford with his wife Lake, who passed away last year.
At right, the Eulas plumeria introduced by Florida Colors Nursery in his honor*

EULAS STAFFORD - A TREASURE LOST. Gardeners lost a wonderful friend with the passing of Eulas Stafford, a pillar of the [Plumeria Society of America](http://PlumeriaSocietyofAmerica.com) (based here in Houston) and the [International Plumeria Conferences](http://InternationalPlumeriaConferences.com).

Eulas was a blessing to everyone who loves and/or grows plumerias (also known as frangipani, the Hawaiian lei flower.)

* * *

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED CELEBRATE KEEP HOUSTON BEAUTIFUL'S 30TH ANNIV: Keep Houston Beautiful is looking for 3,000 volunteers to help clean up & beautify 30 sites, pick up 30,000 pounds of trash and more on Saturday, April 8. Details: houstonbeautiful.org. What a great family project!

***Brenda's column in the free, emailed LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER is based on her 45+ years as the Houston Chronicle's Lazy Gardener. To sign up: [CLICK HERE](#)**

SENDING IN EVENT NOTICES?

FIRST, PLEASE CHECK OUT THE CALENDAR BELOW.

**Events NOT submitted in our exact format (it never changes!)
will take far longer to be added to the calendar.**

Make sure whoever sends in your notices sees this info. Thanks. Brenda

JOHN'S CORNER

MINERALS - The Elements and What They Do

Part 13



21) Scandium (Sc) - Scandium is a soft silvery yellow-white metal that will tarnish in air and will burn easily once ignited. It is the 35th most abundant element in the earth's crust with an average of 16 ppm, and in soils at 12 ppm. It is found in igneous rocks like basalt and granite at 22 ppm, shale's at 13 ppm, sandstone, and limestone at only 1 ppm. It is a component in over 800 minerals. This is an element that is expensive not because it is rare but because it does not become concentrated in nature.

Scandium has a plus three electrical state (Sc^{+3}) which allows it to easily substitute in compounds and molecules for aluminum (Al^{+3}), iron (Fe^{+3}), titanium (Ti^{+3}), or yttrium (Y^{+3}) all of which combine in the plus three electrical state.

Scandium iodide (ScI_3) is added to mercury vapor lamps to produce a light source that resembles sunlight and is popular for use in filming. Scandium is used in lasers to televisions and other electronics. Since aluminum and scandium are chemically similar, scandium is added to aluminum to make it much stronger. This alloy is used in high performance bicycle frames, jet fighters, and baseball bats.

Scandium is found in nature in peat, coal, or crude oil, and where it concentrates in the ash when they are burned. Artificial phosphate fertilizers often contain high amounts of scandium from 7-36 ppm. Pure scandium reacts with water releasing hydrogen gas. Scandium combines with hydrogen to form scandium hydride (ScH_2), which is a good conductor of electricity for unknown reasons.

We do not know a lot about scandium, and how it affects our health. In land animals (mammals), scandium occurs at higher concentrations in the heart and bones. Scandium has been found in association with the amino acid proline, but the reasons are not clear. Other studies have shown that the vitamin-D molecule has to have scandium to work effectively. Other work has discovered that the human body needs adequate boron to utilize scandium.

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Scandium (Sc)

Scandium has been found in 3% of the plants tested, with vegetables having 5 ppb (parts per billion) and grasses 70 ppb while "tea" leaves can have 140 ppb.

Scandium is used as a seed germinating agent when applied as scandium sulfate ($\text{Sc}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$) in a dilute solution to corn, peas, wheat and other plants. It increases the number of seeds successfully germinating. Scandium content is higher in old leaves and roots as compared to younger leaves and some herbs have scandium at levels up to 2 ppm.

Note: It was interesting that a couple of the reference books that were only 15 years old stated "there is no known biological role" for scandium. However, the newer ones reported the information above. I expect as the diagnostic tools and techniques continue to improve we will find out more about this element in the future.

* * *

WEEKLY GARDENING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS CALENDAR

PLEASE READ BEFORE SUBMITTING AN EVENT TO THIS CALENDAR.

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. Sorry, no children's programs. - Submit to: lazygardener@sbcglobal.net

IF WE INSPIRE YOU TO ATTEND ANY OF THESE EVENTS,
PLEASE TELL SPONSORS YOU HEARD ABOUT IT IN
T HE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER

FRI., FEB. 17: DAYLILY SALE, 2pm-7pm. Texas Home & Garden Show, NRG Center, 1 NRG Park, Houston. Lone Star Daylily Society event. 979-236-1478, Debbie Pike. lonestardaylilysociety.org

FRI., FEB 17: LATE WINTER INTEREST IN THE GARDEN by ADAM BLACK, 7pm, Peckerwood Garden, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SAT, FEB 18: GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ANNUAL SPRING FRUIT & CITRUS TREE, VEGETABLE & PLANT SALE. Pre-Sale Seminar 8am; Sale 9am-1pm. Jack Brooks Park Rodeo Arena, 10 Jack Brooks Rd and Hwy 6, Hitchcock. aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

SAT., FEB. 18: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER PRECINCT 2 FRUIT TREE AND TOMATO SALE, Campbell Hall. Pasadena Fairgrounds, 7600 Red Bluff RD., Pasadena. hcmga.tamu.edu.

SAT., FEB. 18: DAYLILY SALE, 10am-7pm. Texas Home & Garden Show, NRG Center, 1 NRG Park, Houston. Lone Star Daylily Society event. 979-236-1478, Debbie Pike. lonestardaylilysociety.org

THURS., FEB. 18: SPRING VEGETABLE GARDENING, 10am, Maud Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd. Katy, 281-492-8592. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event.

SAT., FEB. 18: MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENER WINTER CLASS - SPRING GARDENING (sessions). 9am-Preparing for Spring Gardens; 1pm-Vegetable Gardening, AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd, Conroe. \$5 one session; \$7 both. 936-539-7824; mcmga.com/

SAT., FEB. 18: URBAN HARVEST MARKET FRUIT TREE SALE, 8am-noon, 3000 Richmond . urbanharvest.org

SUN., FEB. 19: BUILDING A FERN TERRARIUM by Darla Harris, 2pm, Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Dr. \$15. Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society event. tgcfersoc.org

SUN., FEB. 19: DAYLILY SALE, 11am-5pm. Texas Home & Garden Show, NRG Center, 1 NRG Park, Houston. Lone Star Daylily Society event. 979-236-1478, Debbie Pike. lonestardaylilysociety.org

MON., FEB. 20: STORYTIME IN THE GARDEN, 10:30-11:30 am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

TUE., FEB. 21: DIVERSITY OF HARDY AND TROPICAL FERNS by DARLA HARRIS, 7:30pm, West Gray Multi-Service Center, 1475 W Gray. Free. Bromeliad Society / Houston event. bromeliadsocietyhouston.org

TUES., FEB. 21: SPRING VEGETABLE GARDENING, 6:30pm, Spring Branch Memorial Library. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. 281-855-5600

WED., FEB. 22: AGAVE IS LIFE by ARCHEOPRODUCTIONS (movie), 7:30 p.m., Metropolitan Multi-Services Center, 1475 West Gray. Free. Website: hcsstx.org

THURS., FEB. 23: FORT BEND COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS VEGETABLE-HERB PREVIEW PROGRAM, 6:30-8:30pm, Bud O'Shieles Community Center, 1330 Band Road, Rosenberg. fbmg.org; 281-341-7068; FortBendmg@ag.tamu.edu.

SAT., FEB. 25: SOIL, YOUR ULTIMATE WATER RESERVOIR by JOHN FERGUSON. 9:30-10:30am, Brazos Center, 3232 Briarcrest Dr., Room 102, Bryan. Fee. Brazos County Master Gardeners, brazosmg.com

SAT. FEB 25: TOMATO TIPS with TOM LEROY, Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 Free. myenchanted.com

SAT. FEB 25: ROSE PRUNING by GAYE HAMMOND, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT., FEB. 25: GARDENING DEMOS, LEVY PARK RE-OPENING, 10am-7:30pm, 3801 Eastside. Free. levyparkhouston.org

SAT., FEB 25: PECKERWOOD GARDEN OPEN DAY, 10am-2pm tours, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

WED., MAR . 1: 5th ANNUAL GULF COAST HER FAIR & LUNCHEON, Moody Gardens, 1 Hope Blvd., Galveston. \$35. Friends of Moody Gardens event. Reservations/details: e.l.perry@att.net ; 409-740-6842.

WED., MAR. 1: RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS & SOME COOL ONES TOO by GENE SPELLER, 9am, Clear Lake United Methodist Church, 16635 El Camino Real. Free. Gardeners By The Bay event. 281-480-2244

THURS., MAR. 2: STROLLER STROLLS, 9am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

THURS., MAR.2: ATTRACTING BLUEBIRDS TO THE GARDEN by LINDA CRUM, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15636 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT., MAR. 4: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER TOMATO-PEPPER SALE, Bear Creek Garden, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. 281-855-5600

SAT., MAR. 4: LANDSCAPING MADE SIMPLE by Landscape Designers, Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 Free. myenchanted.com

SAT. MAR.4: THE SOUTHERN HEIRLOOM LANDSCAPE by DR. BILL WELCH & CHRIS WIESINGER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT. MAR 4: HEIRLOOM VEGETABLES by The GUNTHER'S, 10am-1pm, Nature's Way Resource, 101 Sherbrook cir, Conroe. Free. www.natureswayresources.com

SAT., MAR 4: PECKERWOOD INSIDER'S TOUR, 10am, Peckerwood Gardens, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$15. Garden Conservancy event. Register: peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SAT., SUN., MAR. 4-5: SPRING BRANCH AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB 37TH ANNUAL SHOW & SPRING SALE, Sat. Show 1-5pm, Sale 9am-5pm; Sun. Show & Sale, 10am-3pm; workshop Sat. & Sun. 1pm, Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Park Dr. Free. 281-748-8417, kjwross@yahoo.com

SUN. MAR. 5: GARDENING BY THE MOON by BETH HOUSE, 11am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. www.arborgate.com

MON., MAR. 6: BROMELIADS by DAVID WHIPKEY. 9:30 am, Amegy Bank Community Room, 28201 State Hwy 249, Tomball. Free. Tomball Garden Club event. tomballgardenclub@gmail.com

WED., MAR. 8: MARCH MART PREVIEW, noon- 2pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

WED. MAR. 8: GARDEN PROBLEM SOLVING-KEEPING IT SIMPLE by LEON MACHA, Noon-1pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

THURS., MAR. 9: CHEMICAL SAFETY IN THE GARDEN by DONALD BURGER, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillon, 1500 Hermann Dr. Houston Rose Society event. Free. Houston Rose Society event. houstonrose.org

THURS., MAR. 9: CURRENT PLANT TRENDS by PAUL WINSKI, 10-11:30am, Genoa Friendship Garden Education Building, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd. Free. Harris County Master Gardeners Precinct 2 event. hcmga.tamu.edu .

FRI.-SUN., MAR. 10-12: 82nd ANNUAL AZALEA TRAIL: BLOOMS OF SPRING IN FULL SWING, 11am-5pm, River Oaks Garden Club event. riveroaksgardenclub.org

SAT., MAR. 11: MARCH MART PREVIEW (Repeat), 10am-noon, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT., MAR. 11: THE EXPERTS ARE HERE--MIKE SERANT, JOHN FERGUSON, DAN SNYDER & L. P. KOJIS, Enchanted Forest 10am -10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 Free. myenchanted.com

SAT. MAR. 11: SPRING VEGETABLE GARDENING by BILL ADAMS & TOM LeROY, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. www.arborgate.com

SAT, MAR 11: BONSAI by CLYDE HOLT, 9-11am, \$25, & COMPOSTING by JIM GILLIAM, (Free) 1-2:30 pm, AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main, La Marque. Galveston County Master Gardener events. Register (both): galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-534-3413, www.aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

SUN. MAR. 12: GARDEN BEE FORUM by ANGELA CHANDLER & MATT & KELLY BRANTLEY, 11am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. www.arborgate.com

MON, MAR. 13: PLANT NOW FOR GREAT WILDSAPES by DIANA FOSS, 6:30pm , Forest Room (BB1418), Bayou Building, University of Houston Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Free, \$5 parking. Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT)/Clear Lake Chapter event. npsot.org/wp/clearlake/

FRI., MAR 17: EXPLORING THE SPICE ISLANDS IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF DAVID FAIRCHILD by CHAD HUSBY, Ph.D., 7pm, Peckerwood Garden, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

FRI-SAT., MAR. 17-18: MARCH MART Plant Sale, Fri. 10am-4pm, Sat. 8am-4pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble.

SAT., MAR. 18: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER SPRING PLANT SALE, Genoa Friendship Garden, Campbell Hall, Pasadena Fairgrounds. 281-855-5600

SAT., MAR. 18: GREAT GULF COAST PLANTS FOR SUN OR SHADE with Linda Gay Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 Free. myenchanted.com

SAT, MAR 18: TOMATO STRESS MANAGEMENT, PART 3 by IRA GERVAIS, 9-11:00 am, & CULTURE & CARE OF PALMS by OJ MILLER, 1-3:00 pm, AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main, La Marque. Galveston County Master Gardener events. Free, but pre-register: galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-534-3413, www.aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

WED. MAR. 22: FAIRY GARDENING-MAGICAL MINIATURE LANDSCAPE by ANGELA CHANDLER, Noon-1pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT., MAR. 25: JOIN THE PERENNIAL PLANT MOVEMENT, Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 Free. myenchanted.com

SAT. MAR. 25: GARDENING WITH COLOR-CREATING THE 'WOW' FACTOR by GAYE HAMMOND, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT. MAR 25: HERB TALK with JEANNIE DUNNIHOO, 10am, Nature's Way Resource, 101 Sherbrook cir, Conroe. Free. natureswayresources.com

SAT., MAR. 25: NATIVE LANDSCAPING CERTIFICATION LEVEL 1 CLASS (Introduction), 8 am-4:30 pm, Armand Bayou Nature Center, 8500 Bay Area Blvd, Pasadena. \$37. Native Plant Society of Texas-Houston Chapter; Registration: npsot.org/wp/nlcp; npsot.org/wp/houston/native-landscaping-certification.

SAT, MAR 25: TURNING DIRT INTO SOIL by JIM GILLIAM, 1-2:30 pm, AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main, La Marque. Galveston County Master Gardener events. Free, but pre-register: galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-534-3413, www.aggie-

horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

THURS. MAR. 30: WOODY TREES AND SHRUBS TO MAKE YOUR NEIGHBORS ENVY YOU by DR. DAVE CREECH, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT., MAR 25: PECKERWOOD GARDEN OPEN DAY, 10am-2pm tours, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SAT., APR. 1.: WHITE OAK GARDEN SPRING PLANT SALE, 9am program by HEIDI SHEESLEY, 10am-2pm (or till sold out) sale, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Dr. nnmd.org

SAT. APR. 1: MEMORIAL NORTHWEST LADYBUGS GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE, 9am-2pm, MNW Community Center Parking Lot, 17440 Theiss Mail Route Road, Spring. mnwhoa.org.

SAT. APR 1: EDIBLE POLLINATORS by DAVE & TRISH WHITINGER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

MON., APR. 3-MAY 1: LANDSCAPE FOR LIFE, 9am-noon, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. \$150. Register: 713-274-4160.

TUES. APR. 4: WHATS NEW AND UNIQUE IN THE PLANT WORLD by RAND HOPKINS, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

THURS., APR. 6: STROLLER GARDEN STROLLS, 9-10am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT., APR. 8: PLANNING AND PLANTING A HABITAT GARDEN by NANCY GRIEG,- Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449 - Enchanted Garden 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond 281-341-1206 free. myenchanted.com

SAT. APR. 8: THE ART OF ESPALIER by ANGELA CHANDLER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT., APRIL 8: NATIVE LANDSCAPING CERTIFICATION LEVEL 3 CLASS (Installing/Maintaining), 8 am-4:30 pm, Kleb Woods Nature Center, 20303 Draper Road, Tomball. \$57. Native Plant Society of Texas-Houston Chapter; Register: npsot.org/wp/nlcp; npsot.org/wp/houston/native-landscaping-certification.

WED., APR. 12: GARDENING IN SMALL SPACES, noon-2pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

WED. APR. 12: SOLVING HOUSE PLAN PROBLEMS WITH LANDSCAPING FENG SHUI by KATHERINE ASHBY, Noon-1pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

THUR., APR. 13: SOILS & MULCH by JOHN FERGUSON, 10am, Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnett at Hillcroft. Free. Houston Area Daylily Society event. 281-723-7409

SAT. APR. 15: VERTICAL GARDENS MADE EASY...AND AFFORDABLE! by STEVEN CHAMBLEE, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

MON. APR. 17: ALL ABOUT MULCHES by JOHN FERGUSON, 2 pm, AgriLife Extension Center, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe. Free. Montgomery County Master Gardeners. 512-577-2914, mcmga.com/

THURS. APR. 20: VEGETABLES - IS IT TOO LATE? by JEREMY KOLLAUS, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

APR. 22: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER SPRING PERENNIAL SALE, Bear Creek Garden, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. 281-855-5600

SAT., APRIL 22: POOLSIDE CONTAINERS AND IDEAS, Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 free. myenchanted.com

SAT. APR. 22: LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND MAINTENANCE MADE EASY by SKIP RICHTER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

WED. APR. 26: FLOWER POWER by CYNTHIA GRAHAM, RN, BSN, Noon-1pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free, arborgate.com

SAT., APRIL 29: FAIRY GARDEN SEMINARS, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, 281-937-9449; 2pm, Enchanted

Gardens, 6420 FM 359, 281-341-1206, both Richmond. \$10+. myenchanted.com

SAT. APR. 29: CONTAINER HERB GARDENING by HENRY FLOWERS, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT., APR. 29: SPACE CITY HIBISCUS CHAPTER SHOW & SALE, 1-4pm, East Harris County Activity Center, 340 Spencer Hwy. Pasadena.

THURS., MAY 4: STROLLER GARDEN STROLLS, 9-11am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

THURS. MAY 4: RAZZLE DAZZLE BASIL by ANN WHEELER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT. MAY 6: CUT FLOWER GARDEN by SONI HOLIDAY, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, 281-937-9449; 2pm, Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, 281-341-1206, both Richmond. myenchanted.com

SAT. MAY 6: RAZZLE DAZZLE BASIL by ANN WHEELER & CHRIS CROWDER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

WED., MAY 10: WORM COMPOSTING, noon - 2pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

FRI., MAY 12: BLOOMING BONNETS LUNCHEON, 11am - 1pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. \$25. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT. MAY 13: MOTHER'S DAY MAKE & TAKE FLOWERS/MARKETS, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, 281-937-9449; 2pm, Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, 281-341-1206, both Richmond. \$10+. myenchanted.com

SAT. MAY 13: ART IN THE GARDEN, 10am-3pm, Seminar-FELDER RUSHING, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT., MAY 20: MINI SUCCULENT OR HERB GARDEN, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, 281-937-9449; 2pm, Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, 281-341-1206, both Richmond. myenchanted.com

SAT., MAY 20: SPACE CITY HIBISCUS CHAPTER SHOW & SALE, 1-4pm, East Harris County Activity Center, 340 Spencer Hwy. Pasadena.

SAT., MAY 20: LONE STAR DAYLILY SOCIETY 23rd ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW & SALE. 10am-4pm Sale; 1-4pm Show. Epiphany Lutheran Church, 5515 W. Broadway, Pearland. Free. lonestardaylilysociety.org; peskine@comcast.net; 713-882-9958.

THURS., JUNE 1: STROLLER GARDEN STROLLS, 9-10am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT. JUNE 3: TOMATO CONTEST, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. Categories and Guidelines online, arborgate.com

WED., JUNE 14: CARNIVOROUS PLANTS, noon-2pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

OCT. 7: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FALL PLANT SALE, Bear Creek Garden, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. 281-855-5600

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

PLEASE READ BEFORE SUBMITTING AN EVENT FOR THIS CALENDAR.

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. Sorry, no children's programs. - Submit to: lazygardener@sbcglobal.net

**IF WE INSPIRE YOU TO ATTEND ANY OF THESE EVENTS, PLEASE TELL SPONSORS YOU HEARD ABOUT IT IN
THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER**

THIS NEWSLETTER IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS



ADOPTABLE DOG OF THE MONTH

PEGGY SUE

Please Help Peggy Sue Get Adopted. She is a super sweet Pointer Mix and former shelter dog. She is about three years old. She has been spayed and is current on her shots. She is very social and plays well with other dogs and people including children. She is very mellow most of the time but does love to play and be silly in spurts. She is house trained and is not destructive in nature. She does need a companion dog.

The local rescue A Chance To Bloom helped us save her from the shelter initially, they helped her adapt to life outside of the shelter and helped socialize her. Now they are helping us to find a loving forever home. She is currently in the care of her foster who is unfortunately very maxed out with his own adopted former shelter dogs. Peggy Sue is a super special dog that is sure to bring her future family some really good kisses and good times in general.

If interested, please contact [A Chance To Bloom](http://AChanceToBloom.org) or her foster Mark Bowen at markbowenhoutx@gmail.com



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 at Nature's Way Resources (expires 2/25/17)

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