



Share

Share:



-
-
-
-



SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

Dear Friends,

Here is the 223rd 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!

[JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!](#)



L to r: Hippeastrum advenum, crocus, hyacinths & Sciurus vulgaris feeding on emerging tulips!

BULBS: GREAT HOUSTON TRADITION!

(but even experts can make mistakes)

... AND A FAREWELL TO LUCIA

*Squirrel, squirrel, burning bright, / Do not eat my bulbs tonight!
Squirrel, Sciurus vulgaris, / Leave to me my small muscaris,
Must you chew till Kingdom Come / Hippeastrum advenum?
If in your tummy bloomed a lily, / Wouldn't you feel sort of silly?
Must you hang up in your pantries / All my Pink Queen zephyranthes?
Tell me, has it ever been thus, / Squirrels must eat the hyacinthus?
O little rodent, / I wish you wo'dn't!*

-- "Tell about Night Flowers: Eudora Welty's Gardening Letters, 1940-1949"

By BRENDA BEUST SMITH

(Eudora Welty may have lived in Jackson, Mississippi, but be forewarned! Texas squirrels do like bulbs too! Hippeastrum are amaryllis; Zephyranthes are rain lilies. Who else would tell you these things?)

October is Bulb & Plant Mart month if you live in Houston.

The [Garden Club of Houston's annual Bulb & Plant Mart](#) has a long and fascinating history. When I first started writing about gardening (so far back in the 1970s, even I can't remember!), the then-named "Bulb Mart" was already well established as Houston's premier plant sale.

Enthusiastic (*and, I thought, somewhat obsessed*) GCH members got in their station wagons and headed out -- north, south, east and west) searching for plants they thought would do well in our unique subtropical climate. They sought out and bought unknown-to-Houstonians plants from growers and gardeners, carried them home carefully packed, tenderly cared for them throughout the year and, in the fall, offered them for sale to gardeners who formed long lines outside the gates waiting to get in.

I'll never forget one of the most entertaining interviews I ever did as a Chronicle reporter, around the time the Lazy Gardener column began in the mid-'70s. Close friends & GCH members Nancy Stallworth Thomas, Odette McMurray, Sally McQueen Squire and Alice Staub Liddell gathered in Nancy's living room and kept me in hysterics recalling their many "on the road" adventures. I could have, should have, written a book.

The Mart's big emphasis back then was mainly on bulbs, although they brought in other plants as well. Technically speaking, a bulb is usually a fleshy-leaved plant with a base that functions as a food storage organ during dormancy. In gardening, this definition has been expanded to include other plants with storage

organs, like tubers and rhizomes.

The key to success: don't cut leaves off multiplying bulbs. They need that "dying" foliage to replenish the bulb for future blooms. This "storage" aspect is what makes them such easy choices for lazy gardener, providing, of course, that you pick those best suited for our area.

That's the great thing about two upcoming Spotlight articles from the Garden Club of Houston. The first one, below, starts with common bulb-growing mistakes even experienced gardeners might make. This is followed by a look at the difference between annual and naturalizing bulbs by GCH's Dodie Jackson.

The second Spotlight that will run in a couple of weeks gives a great calendar guide for bulb planting and a list of bulbs you might want to try.

If you've never been to the Bulb & Plant Mart, this year's Oct. 13-14 free-admission Mart days mark its 75th Anniversary, a true milestone in Houston's horticultural history. My space would never cover all the plants the four ladies mentioned above, and subsequent GCH members, have introduced into our gardens.

The Mart has expanded and now includes expanded collection of hard-to-find and unusual crinums, daylilies, gingers, perennials, trees, shrubs, vines, herbs and citrus plants, including exclusive offerings grown specifically for the Mart from the gardens of GCH members.

Although Odette, Sally and Alice are no longer with us, Nancy Thomas is still a Mart stalwart. Saturday morning of the Mart you can meet and talk with Nancy, an internationally recognized, award-winning horticulturist, as well as Past President of The Garden Club of America. She'll be in the Plants That Merit Attention booth, her special focus for decades now.



Many daffodils do naturalize in our area, I to r, Italicus, Carlton and Fortune to name a few

Before we get to the Spotlight, lest you get confused about the difference between "daffodil" and "narcissus" -- The two words are synonyms.

"Narcissus" is the Latin, or botanical, name for daffodils. "Daffodil" is the common name for all members of the genus Narcissus. Like daylily is the common name for Hemerocallis. Or, giant white spider lily is the common name for Hymenocallis. Simple, eh?

* * *



Lucia's Garden

2360 W. Alabama
Houston, TX 77098
713-523-6494

*Healing Books, Music, Aromatherapy,
Stones & Crystals, Dried Herbs, Jewelry,
Incense, Classes, Healers and many other gifts
for the inner journey.*

HERBALISTS & GARDENERS WORLDWIDE HAVE LOST A WONDERFUL FRIEND WITH THE PASSING OF LUCIA BETTLER

Just learned that Lucia Bettler passed away on Fri., Sept. 22. So many of us knew and loved Lucia for so many years, it's almost impossible to imagine Houston's herb world without her. Owner of Lucia's Garden, wife of Michael Bettler, great friend, wonderful sage, stalwart of the Herb Society of America (and our South Texas Unit, in particular) . . . Lucia was one of those people who made life better for everyone. She shared a sense of peace and "I'm ok, you're ok" with me every time our paths crossed. And she started me on a collection of Cicely Mary Barker fairies in my garden that continues to this day.

Google "Lucia Bettler Facebook" and marvel (as I did) at how many different language translations there are, testifying to her influence across the globe. Log on and read the testimonies of good friends. Lucia was such a special person, she will be so missed and I'm so grateful she came into my life.

<https://www.facebook.com/luciabettler>

*Brenda's column in the LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER
Is based on her 40+ years as the Houston Chronicle's Lazy Gardener
Email questions, comments to her at*

lazygardener@sbcglobal.net

* * *



L to r, tulips, allium, anemones and watsonia

TOP TEN MISTAKES GARDENERS MAKE WHEN PLANTING BULBS!

from the
Garden Club of Houston's Bulb & Plant Mart
gchouston.org

1. **Too much water/overwatering** - don't submerge in water when forcing or water the bulb itself too much or it will rot.
2. **Not digging deep** enough for bulbs
3. **Allowing bulbs that need to be refrigerated to freeze.** Refrigerate in mesh bags
4. **Not allowing naturalizing bulb and leaves** to die down into the bulb that will give them the energy to bloom again
5. **Planting single bulbs.** Plant in clumps for a better showing
6. **Planting too close together.** Plant two bulb widths apart
7. **Planting in straight line.** Plant bulbs in "haphazard" patterns for a more natural flow
8. **Planting upside down** Pointy end/flat end goes up
9. **Too much sun exposure.** Bulbs don't like heat. They will bloom in partial shade.
10. **Planting too late.** Plant by end of January



L to r, oxblood lily, lycoris (naked ladies), rain lilies and muscari

Bulbs Annual vs. Naturalize

Advice from "green thumb" Dodie Jackson

One should plant annual bulbs, like tulips, some varieties of daffodils, allium, anemones, etc., the attitude should be the same as planting ANY annual plants. Muscari is an annual but attracts so many honey bees!!!

Many daffodils do naturalize in our area, Italicus, Carlton and Fortune to name a few. Do not forget to buy Fall blooming bulbs like Oxblood Lillies and Lycoris.

Rain Lillies naturalize too. They are a wonderful bloomer for most of the year, given enough rain.

Watsonia naturalized here and comes in white, pink, orange and yellow. It is quite lovely as a border.

* * *

For more of Dodie's great bulb-growing tips, [click here](#).

MAKE NOTE OF THESE IMPORTANT BULB & PLANT MART DATES:

- **SUN., OCT. 8: 2017 BULB & PLANT MART PRE-ORDER DEADLINE.** Tax-free shopping and save 10% and cut the line for spring bulbs. gchouston.org
-
- **THURS., OCT. 12: 2017 BULB & PLANT MART'S EARLY BIRD SHOPPING PARTY 4:30-7pm, St. John the Divine Church, 2450 River Oaks Blvd. \$20. Garden Club of Houston. gchouston.org**
- **FRI.-SAT., OCT. 13-14: 2017 BULB & PLANT MART, 9am-5pm Fri., 9am-2pm Sat., Guest speakers Saturday include Heidi Sheesley and Lanson Jones. St. John the Divine, 2450 River Oaks Blvd. Free admission/ tax free shopping.**

Garden Club of Houston event. gchouston.org

JOHN'S CORNER

MINERALS - The Elements and What They Do

Part 37

70) Ytterbium (Yb)

A soft silvery white metal that is slowly oxidized by air and reacts slowly with water. It is a member of the rare earth elements but twice as common as tin.

Found in igneous rocks at 3 ppm, shale at 1.9 ppm, sandstone at 1.3 ppm, and very little in land plants or animals.

Used as a doping agent in lasers where it creates color centers that store energy and found in many memory devices. The compound ytterbium bromide is used in the lighting industry.

It has no known biological role, however ytterbium salts stimulate metabolism.

In rodent studies, 14% of ingested ytterbium by the mother is transferred to the newborn mice.

It is not readily absorbed by plant roots, hence very little gets into the food supply.

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Ytterbium (Yb)

Vegetables can have 0.08 ppb of ytterbium but some lichens can absorb 900 ppb.

Sources: mineral sands of igneous rocks, some coals have 170 ppm

71) Lutetium (Lu)

Originally called Lutecium but changed to Lutetium by international agreement. Lutetium is the last of the lanthanide series of rare earths and is the densest and hardest of this group. It is another of the rare earth series that is found in igneous rocks at 0.5 ppm, shale at 0.33 ppm, and very little in sandstone or limestone. There is very little lutetium found in marine or land animals.

Lutetium is a silvery white metal that is the most costly element in the world even though it is more common than silver. It often occurs in the ore monazite and it is used as a catalyst in cracking, alkylation, and polymerization in many industrial processes.

No known biological role, however ytterbium salts stimulate metabolism. The highest amounts are in our bones with some in our livers and kidneys.

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Lutetium (Lu)

None

Members of the *Carya* species can accumulate up to 4.5 ppm

Sources: mineral sands of igneous rocks

72) Hafnium (Hf)

Hafnium is a lustrous silvery metal that is ductile and resists corrosion. Powdered hafnium will burn in air and resistant to most acids.

Hafnium is found in igneous rocks at 3 ppm, shale at 2.8 ppm, sandstones at 3.4 ppm and only 0.3 ppm in limestone. Soils average around 3 ppm of hafnium while almost none is found in seawater.

It is used in electric plasma torches to cut steel and can be anodized into attractive colors.
No known biological role

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Hafnium (Hf)

Hafnium has no known biological role in plants even though plants have 0.01-0.4 ppm of hafnium depending on the soil they were grown. Some marine plants will accumulate 10 ppm in their tissues.

Sources: mineral sands of igneous rocks, sewage sludge at 3 ppm

73) Tantalum (Ta)

Tantalum is a silvery shiny soft metal that is found in igneous rocks at 2 ppm, shale at 0.8 ppm, sandstone and limestone at 0.05 ppm, and extremely little in seawater at 0.0000025 ppm. However, marine animals accumulate up to 410 ppm.

Virtually every modern electronic device from cell phones to TVs to computers used tantalum capacitors in its circuits. Tantalum is almost impervious to chemical attack and resist corrosion hence it is used in surgery implants from plates for skull fractures to bolts to fasten broken bones.

Tantalum carbide is harder than diamonds. It has a very high melting point of 6,760 °F (3,738 °C) where it is used in special cutting tools.

Tantalum has no known biological role and appears to be non-toxic.

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Tantalum (Ta)

None

Found in plants at less than 5 ppb.

Sources: mineral sands of igneous rocks

74) Tungsten (W)

Tungsten is found in igneous rocks at 1.5 ppm, shale at 1.8 ppm, sandstone at 1.6 ppm and limestone at 0.6 ppm and soils at 1 ppm. Seawater has very little tungsten in it at 0.0001 ppm, but marine plants have 0.35 ppm. There is very little tungsten in land animals (0.005 ppm) where it is found in the heart muscle and our teeth.

Tungsten is a lustrous silvery-white metal and is the strongest metal at very high temperatures and it is very inexpensive. However, it has the same density as gold hence commonly used to make gold plated ingots (fake gold).

Tungsten carbide is used in cutting tools and in items that need to stay sharp, it is much harder than steel and does not fracture like diamonds. Due to its hardness, it is used in armor piercing bullets and to replace lead in shotgun shells.

Other uses include, used like lead in radiation shielding, used in special welding electrodes and used in incandescent light bulbs.

In humans, tungsten is found in our bones and in our spleen. A lack of platinum in the diet increases the rate of mortality in goats.

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Tungsten (W)

Required by some bacteria to live and grow. They contain an enzyme, which incorporates tungsten that can reduce carboxylic acid molecule to an aldehyde.

Tungsten has similar chemical properties as molybdenum (Mo) and has been found to substitute for molybdenum (Mo) in several microbial enzymes.

Plants can absorb tungsten from the soil and some trees can have 100 ppm. The species *Pinus sibiricus* is a accumulator plant.

Watering with sodium tungstate (Na_2WO_4) solution increases the growth and yield of grapes and alfalfa. Barley has been found to absorb tungsten when it was applied to a soil.

Sources: mineral sands of igneous rocks, fly ash from burning coal, sewage sludge

75) Rhenium (Re)

Found in igneous rocks at 0.005 ppm, marine plants at 0.014 ppm, and land plants 0.014 ppm. Land animals have very little rhenium where it is found in the thyroid tissue.

Rhenium is a silvery metal with a high melting point and similar chemical properties to manganese (Mn). The electrical or oxidation states range from -1 to +7. Rhenium diboride (ReB_2) is so hard it will scratch diamonds. It is used in nickel-iron super alloys to make turbine blades in fighter jets.

No known biological role and appears to be non-toxic.

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Rhenium (Re)

None

Sources: mineral sands of igneous rocks

76) Osmium (Os)

Found in igneous rocks at 0.0015 ppm. It is oxidized by organic matter to osmium oxide (OsO_4) where it is later reduced to osmium (Os).

Osmium is a silvery metal with a bluish tint that slowly oxidizes and is the densest of any element. Osmium is the hardest metal and is used in fountain pen tips and phonograph needle tips. Some compounds of osmium have shown anti-cancer effects.

It has no known biological role and appears to be non-toxic in pure form. However, some compounds are highly toxic.

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Osmium (Os)

None

Sources: mineral sands of igneous rocks

77) Iridium (Ir)

Found in igneous rocks at 0.001 ppm, land animals at 0.00002 ppm and land plants at 0.62 ppm.

Iridium is the second densest element but only by a little bit (one tenth of one percent). It is the most corrosion resistant metal known. High-grade automobile spark plugs with iridium tips will last far longer than conventional plugs.

Iridium is relatively rare in the earth's crust as compared to other elements but is common in asteroids and comets. Iridium found at archeological or geological sites is used to help date them.

No known biological role and appears to be non-toxic.

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Iridium (Ir)

None

Sources: mineral sands of igneous rocks

78) Platinum (Pt)

Platinum is a dense malleable transition metal and is considered a noble metal due to its resistance to corrosion.

Platinum is the premium element in society and more costly than gold since demand is so high, even though it is the 75th most abundant element. Rocks collected on the moon tend to be higher in platinum than those on earth. Platinum is found in igneous rocks at 0.005 ppm and land animals at 0.002 ppm.

Platinum is able to withstand powerful acids and high temperatures and is very stain and corrosion resistant. It is used as a catalyst in many chemical reactions such as refining crude oil into gasoline to our usage in catalytic converters in our cars.

It is used to make medical implants and its compounds are used as anti-cancer drugs.

Platinum is found in the muscles of mammals at a low level of 0.2 ppb even though it has no known biological role and is considered non-toxic in its pure metallic form. Some salts of platinum are highly toxic.

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Platinum (Pt)

Plants growing on soil derived from platinum bearing rocks can absorb up to 6 ppm where most of it is in the roots. Depending on the platinum chemical compound, proteins can bind some of the forms that are highly toxic.

Plants growing near roadways have higher levels of platinum. Radishes have been found that have 530 ppm, and some tobacco plants can accumulate 23,300 ppm.

Sources: mineral sands of igneous rocks, some coals have 230 ppm, sewage sludge where the platinum comes from ingested drugs.

**BELOW IS the most extensive gardening calendar ever
produced for the Greater Houston Area! It is brought to you
by these fine horticulture retailers . . .**



<http://microlifefertilizer.com/>



www.fslandscaping.net



www.grandifloraservices.com



www.natureswayresources.com

**WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR BUSINESS TO JOIN THESE PROUD
sponsors now reaching our area's most enthusiastic gardeners?**

Contact LG&F's publisher

NATURE'S WAY RESOURCES

936-273-1200 / natureswayresources.com

PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR SPONSORS!

* * *

LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER CALENDAR EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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
THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER!**

WED., SEPTEMBER 27: "SIGHTS OF NAMIBIA" by DICK AND PHYLLIS MCEUEN, 7:30pm., Metropolitan Multi-Services Center, 1475 West Gray. Houston Cactus & Succulent Society event. Free. hcsstx.org.

THURS., SEPT. 28: SOIL, YOUR ULTIMATE WATER RESERVOIR- TAPPING THE POTENTIAL by JOHN FERGUSON, 1:30-3pm, Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District, 655 Conroe Park North Dr., Conroe

SAT., SEPT 30: WOODLANDS LANDSCAPING SOLUTIONS, 9 am-Noon; The Woodlands Township Parks, Recreation and Environmental Services, 8203 Millennium Forest Drive, The Woodlands. Free.

SAT., SEPTEMBER 30: COCKRELL BUTTERFLY CENTER FALL PLANT SALE, 9am-Noon (or sell-out) Main entrance, Houston Museum of Natural Science, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. hmns.org, 713-639-4753.

SAT., SEPT. 30: SJC MASTER GARDENER FALL PLANT SALE WITH TOM LEROY. 9 am to 3 pm, Coldspring Community Center, E, 101 W Cedar Ave, Coldspring, TX. Free Admission. SJC Master Gardeners, <https://txmg.org/sjmg>

SUN., OCT. 1: SUSTAINABLE LIVING THROUGH PERMACULTURE #2, 12:30-5:30pm, Charles McElhinney Hall, University of Houston, Wheeler Ave @ Cullen. Urban Harvest event. \$65. Register: 713-880-5540 or urbanharvest.org

MON., OCT. 2: TAKING ROOT - PECKERWOOD GARDEN LUNCHEON, CHARLES A. BIRNBAUM SPEAKER, 11:30am, Junior League of Houston, 1811 Briar Oaks Lane. Ticket s: mkt.com/peckerwood-garden-conservation-foundation/

THURS., OCT. 5: PUMPKINS, SQUASH AND GOURDS by CORRIE TEN-HAVE, 10 am, MUD Building, 805 Hidden Canyon Dr, Katy. Free, Nottingham Country Garden Club event. ncgctx.org

THURS., OCT. 5: PRAIRIE PLANT RESTORATION ROUNDUP, 9am-3pm, Katy Prairie Conservancy Indiangrass Preserve, 3150 Herbert Rd., Waller. \$25-\$35. Register: katyprairie.org/events

SAT., OCT 7: PECKERWOOD GARDEN'S OAK COLLECTION / ACORN SHARING, 10am, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$15. Must register: eventregistration@peckerwoodgarden.org. peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232

SAT.-SUN., OCT. 7-8: SPRING BRANCH AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB ANNUAL FALL SALE, 10-4 Sat., 10-3 Sun. Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Dr. Free. 281-748-8417, kjwross@yahoo.com

SUN., OCT. 8: EDIBLE WILD PLANTS by DR. MARK VORDERBRUGGEN, 1-5pm, Houston Arboretum & Nature Center, 4501 Woodway. \$70. Register: 713-681-8433. houstonarboretum.org

SUN., OCT. 8: 2017 BULB & PLANT MART PRE-ORDER DEADLINE. gchouston.org

SUN., OCT. 8: DESIGNING BOUNTIFUL GARDENS THROUGH PERMACULTURE (6 classes), various locations, Urban Harvest / Permaculture Guild of Houston event. \$310. 713-880-5540, urbanharvest.org.

MON, OCT 9: SAGE ADVICE - A REVIEW OF TEXAS SALVIAS by STEPHEN BRUEGGERHOFF, 6:30pm, Forest Room (BB1418), Bayou Building, University of Houston Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Free (parking \$5). Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT)/Clear Lake Chapter event. npsot.org/wp/clearlake/

TUES., OCT. 10: GROWING PLUMERIAS, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. theplumeriasociety.org; 281-438-3653

THURS., OCT. 12: MOORE FARMS BOTANICAL GARDEN: A GERMINATING SUCCESS by REBECCA TURK, 7pm, Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building, Pineywoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St, Nacogdoches. 936-468-4404 or sullivanfa@sfasu.edu

THURS., Oct. 12: OLD ROSE TREASURES OF NEW ORLEANS - SURVIVING HEAT FLOODS AND HURRICANES by LEO WATERMEIER, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillon, 1500 Hermann Dr. Houston Rose Society event. Free. houstonrose.org

THURS. OCT. 12: INDOOR PLANT PURIFIERS by LINDA GAY, 10-11:30am, Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. Register: hcmga.tamu.edu

THURS., OCT. 12: 2017 BULB & PLANT MART'S EARLY BIRD SHOPPING PARTY 4:30-7pm, St. John the Divine Church, 2450 River Oaks Blvd. \$20. Garden Club of Houston. gchouston.org

FRI., OCT. 13: ALL ABOUT SUCCULENTS: by VERONICA LEWANDOWSKI, 10am, White Oak Convention Center, 7603 Antoine, Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event: houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

FRI.-SAT., OCT. 13-14: 2017 BULB & PLANT MART, 9am-5pm Fri., 9am-2pm Sat., Guest speakers Saturday include Heidi Sheesley and Lanson Jones. St. John the Divine, 2450 River Oaks Blvd. Free admission/ tax free shopping. Garden Club of Houston event. gchouston.org

SAT., OCT. 14: MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS FALL PLANT SALE. AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd, Conroe. 8am free presentation; 9am-noon sale. 936-539-7824; mcmga.com

SAT., OCT. 14: GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ANNUAL FALL PLANT SALE, 9 am-1pm. Galveston County Fair Grounds, Jack Brooks Park - Rodeo Arena, Hwy. 6 @ Jack Brooks Rd., Hitchcock.

SAT., OCT. 14: WILD BOUNTY by DR. MARK VORDERBRUGGEN, 6:30-8:30pm, Houston Arboretum & Nature Center 4501 Woodway. \$65. Register: 713-681-8433, houstonarboretum.org.

SAT., OCT. 14: BASIC FRUIT TREE CARE & PLANTING, 9:30-11:30am, Houston Museum of Natural Science, classroom, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. \$30. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540, urbanharvest.org

SAT., OCT. 14: ANCIENT ART OF FERMENTATION, 8:30-10:30am (3 20-min demos). Free. Urban Harvest Farmer's Market, 3000 Richmond Ave. Free. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540, urbanharvest.org.

SAT., OCT. 14: DIG INTO FALL GARDENING AT THE CULTIVATED CLASSROOM, 9am-noon, Gregory Lincoln Education Center, 1101 Taft St. \$20. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540, urbanharvest.org.

MON., OCT. 16: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER PREC. 2 OPEN GARDEN DAY, 8:30-11am, Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu

SAT., OCT 21: IN SEARCH OF THE RARER OAKS OF TEXAS by ADAM BLACK, 7pm (tour 5pm), Peckerwood Garden, 20559

FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10 lecture, \$10 Tour. Must register: eventregistration@peckerwoodgarden.org. peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232

SAT. OCT. 28: REBUILDING THE HEALTH OF YOUR LAWN AND GARDEN AFTER HARVEY by JOHN FERGUSON, 11:30am, Woodlands Fall Home and Garden Show, The Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel & Convention Center, 1601 Lake Robbins Drive.

SUN., OCT. 29: REBUILDING THE HEALTH OF YOUR LAWN AND GARDEN AFTER HARVEY by JOHN FERGUSON, 11:30am, Woodlands Fall Home and Garden Show, The Woodlands Waterway Marriott Hotel & Convention Center, 1601 Lake Robbins Drive.

SAT., NOV 4: HEAT TOLERANT CONIFERS OF PECKERWOOD GARDEN, 10am, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$15. Must register: eventregistration@peckerwoodgarden.org. peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232

SAT., NOV. 4: OPEN GARDENS DAY. AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd, Conroe. 9-1 a.m. Free. 936-539-7824; mcmga.com

THURS., NOV. 9: MAGNOLIAS: QUEEN OF THE GARDEN by ANDREW BUNTING, 7pm, Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building, Pineywoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St, Nacogdoches. 936-468-4404 or sullivanfa@sfasu.edu

THURS., NOV. 9: CITRUS TREES by MARY KHAZEN KARISH, 10 am, MUD Building, 805 Hidden Canyon Dr, Katy. Free, Nottingham Country Garden Club event. ncgctx.org

FRI., NOV.10: "I DON'T WANT TO GIVE UP MY GARDEN! - GARDENING FOR THE CHALLENGED LIFESTYLE: DR. JOE NOVAK. 10am, White Oak Convention Center, 7603 Antoine. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org.

SAT., NOV. 18: PECAN CELEBRATION, 10am-noon Houston Arboretum & Nature Center, 4501 Woodway. \$35. Register: 713-681-8433, houstonarboretum.org

WED., NOV. 29: SOIL FOOD WEB - HOW AND WHY ORGANIC METHODS WORK TO SAVE TIME & MONEY by DANIEL MILLIKIN, 6pm, McGovern Centennial Gardens, Hermann Park Conservancy, 1700 Hermann Drive. 713-360-1469

FRI., DEC. 8: 'HOLLY JOLLY' LUNCHEON GALA. SPEAKER: BILL MCKINLEY. 9 am, White Oak Convention Center, 7603 Antoine. Tickets \$30. Houston Federation of Garden clubs event. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org.

THURS., DEC. 14: THE YEAR IN REVIEW by DAVID CREECH, 7pm, Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building, Pineywoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St, Nacogdoches. 936-468-4404 or sullivanfa@sfasu.edu

FRI., JAN. 12: A CAMELIA COLLECTION - RESTORING IMA HOGG'S CAMELIA COLLECTION AT BAYOU BEND by BART BRECHTER. 10 am. White Oak Convention Center, 7603 Antoine, Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org.

MON., FEB. 26: SOIL FOOD WEB & COMPOST AND MULCHES, 9am-noon, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine Westfield Road, Humble. Texas Gulf Coast Gardener program. Register: Jennifer L. Garrison, 713-274-4160

FRI., MAR.9: THOSE ADDORABLE HUMMERS by SUE HEATH. 10 am. White Oak Convention Center., 7603 Antoine. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

SUN., MAR. 25: STEWARDSHIP OF THE SOIL by JOHN FERGUSON, 6pm, Sunday Evening Conversations on Creation Webinar, Lisa Brenskelle, brenskelle@aol.com

FRI., APRIL 13: THE WORLD OF SEED by ANGELA CHANDLER. 10am., White Oak Convention Center, 7603 Antoine, Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org.

MON., MAY 14: INTRODUCTION TO THE SOIL FOOD WEB by JOHN FERGUSON, 6:30pm, University of Houston at Clear Lake, Forest Room on East of Bayou Building. Native Plant Society of Texas at Clear Lake Martha Richeson, 713-962-7747

FRI. MAY 11: HONEY BEES - JAMES AND CHARI OF BLUEBONNET BEEKEEPERS. 10am. White Oak Convention Center, 7603 Antoine. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org.

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

THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER!

& please patronize our Newsletter & Calendar sponsors below!

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



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. 25% OFF Most Plants Through September & 50% OFF Pears & Pomegranates at Nature's Way Resources.

Confirm that you like this.

Click the "Like" button.