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July 13th, 2018

Dear Friends,

Here is the 257th 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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ANTIQUES FOR "ENGLISH COTTAGE" LOOK ... TIP O' TROWEL TO KNOCKOUT ROSE ... TLC FOR TRAUMATIZED PLUMERIAS

BY BRENDA BEUST SMITH

BY THE TIME this comes out, it'll probably be 99° and bone dry. At this writing, it's pouring . . . AGAIN! To cheer my soggy soul, what better flowers to highlight than roses and plumerias? Especially "lazy gardener roses" . . . better known as antiques, old rose, old fashioned roses, heritage roses.

Below, my go-to plumeria guru, Paula Furtwangler, takes a look at "post-Harvey, post-ultra cold winter & post-major flooding" challenges that might have your plumerias requiring some special TLC.

But, first, roses in the spotlight.

- Vera J. wants to duplicate a wonderful English cottage garden with climbing (or rambling) roses trained over doorways or around windows. But she worries about our different growing climates.

Smart lady! Step one would be sticking to old roses that do well HERE. Next: plan for our area's very high humidity. Use a trellis to help provide air circulation between plants and walls.

One of our best known antique rose gurus, Dr. William C. (Bill) Welch, addressed suitable Gulf Coast varieties in both his "Antique Roses For the South" book and in an online treatise for Texas A&M. (aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southerngarden/antique.html).

Bill writes: *"In England, roses are sometimes trained on a wall, and allowed to grow on trellage placed on the roof. Only the hardiest roses, however, can tolerate the sun and radiated heat of our Texas summers. Consider some of the species climbers and exceptionally hardy hybrids such as 'Cecile Brunner', 'Lamarque', 'Lady Banks', 'Fortuniana', and 'Zepherine Drouhin' (ZD is the rose pictured at left above)*

If the term "old rose" crinkles your brow, officially these are varieties introduced prior to 1867. This term is also (albeit incorrectly) now applied to new "own root" (not hybridized) roses with "old rose" shrubby growth, soft flower forms, pastel colors and, sometimes, wonderful fragrance. Generally speaking, true old roses require far less care than modern roses. They've survived for centuries in old cemeteries, around abandoned farmhouses, etc. Most modern roses were hybridized for exceptional flower color and form, often at the expense of low maintenance and fragrance. But that's not true of all hybridized roses.

You can question Bill in person about old roses Saturday, July 14, at The Texas Rose Rustlers (antique rose enthusiasts extraordinaire) annual free Summer Meeting at the Antique Rose Emporium in Independence. Bill speaks at 11am, with Mike Shoup & Andrew Barocco sharing the stage at 2pm. Between TRR's lotto offerings and ARE's extensive inventory, probably no better opportunity exists to learn more about, and buy the best, antique roses for this area. No registration needed. texasroserustlers.com.

* * *

TIP O' THE TROWEL TO WILL RADLER, HIS SPECIAL "ROSE" . . . and Houston Rose Society's Suzanne Gilbert for sending the news that Will's KnockOut has been inducted into the World Rose Federation's Rose Hall of Fame. Working in his Milwaukee basement, amateur rose breeder Radler, in 1989, developed what would become the best selling garden rose in this country AND the one now credited with reversing the sagging fortunes of the entire garden rose industry.

Radler wanted recapture the low maintenance and heavy fragrances of old roses in a modern-looking rose. For 15 years he "played bee," manually spreading pollen to achieve a desired mix of traits. The popular double Knockout and new colors now being marketed are just the beginning of what Radler envisions.

While some purists question Knockout's claim to a true "rose" classification, most gardeners could obviously care less. Rose Rosette Disease is a frustration, although it hasn't proven a widespread traumatic threat so far in this area. Whatever, Knockouts appear here to stay, and even more new ones are on the horizon knockoutroses.com .

One caution: For the most part, Knockout has lived up to its "low care" claim -- with a few caveats. Knockouts are generally described as growing 3'-4' high and wide, but "can get larger if not pruned." That can be the understatement of the year in this area. Pictured at right above are Knockouts planted at Bay View Methodist Church in Crystal Beach.

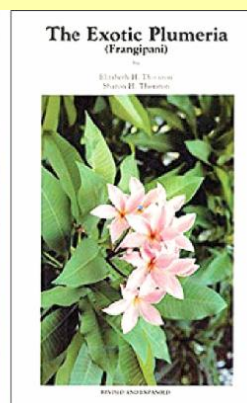
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BEFORE WE MOVE TO PLUMERIAS, want to give a Tip o' the Trowel to Master Gardener Programs statewide. Most programs now offer Junior Master Gardener programs. These, of course, create a need for JMG Leader Training, such as this one:

WED., JULY 25 - FRI., JULY 27: JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER Adult Leadership Training for Teachers, Educators & Volunteers in Support of Youth Gardening, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, 3355 Cherry Ridge, #208, San Antonio. \$100 pp; registration deadline: July 20. 210-631-0400; bexar-tx.tamu.edu

* * *

WATCH PLUMERIAS FOR POST-HARVEY TRAUMAS



*Left, 'Slaughter Pink' -- one of the easiest Plumeria cultivars to grow.
Right, Elizabeth Thornton's "The Exotic Plumeria" book*

PLUMERIAS IN THE SPOTLIGHT: About the time I started writing the Chronicle's Lazy Gardener column in the 1970s, I had the great fortune to get to know Elizabeth Thornton, an incredible woman and gardener. In 1979, together with Nadine Barr and Nancy Ames (yes, the singer), Elizabeth formed the Plumeria Society of America (before Hawaii thought to do so!) here in Houston.

The irony of this was that these three absolutely delightful women succeeded in making our Bayou City the international focus of a flower very few Houstonians were even growing at the time! No nurseries carried plumerias. That first year the fledgling PSA held it's first sale. All 120 plants sold out in 20 minutes.

Word spread quickly, membership soared and, by 1980, the fledgling association was receiving information requests from South India, New Zealand, Hong Kong, etc. One of its first actions was to send a \$500 donation to the University of Hawaii.

Best known back then as "that incredibly fragrant lei flower," plumerias were considered too tropical to plant outside here. Potted plants or lifted stalks were protected all winter then set back outside in pots in spring.

I hope by the time Elizabeth died she had seen how plumeria trees are now growing and blooming beautifully all year round in landscapes all over Houston and points south. True, serious collectors still protect their rarer frangipanis (as they're also called) and these are still definitely tropicals that might be "done in" by our occasional prolonged hard freezes.

The good news is that the more winters they survive in-ground, the more cold they are more likely to survive as they set stronger and stronger root systems. But, hardy as they may have become, our recent floods and prolonged cold, followed by our usual extreme heat can take a toll.

With the big Saturday, July 21, Plumeria Society of America Show & Sale coming up (9:30am-3pm at Bay Area Community Center, 5002 Nasa Road 1 in Seabrook), I asked former PSA President Paula Furtwangler for advice on helping her favorite flower survive these traumas. Her tips:

- *Extreme heat always stresses the leaves of the plumeria. We recommend using Epsom salt sprinkled into pots or around base of plant to reduce sunburn on leaf surface.*
- *If plants are in the ground they seem to do fine because the root zone is typically cooler than potted plumeria.*
- *When branches become heavy from large leaves, trim out a few lower leaves to increase air flow between plants.*
- *Late summer we usually get rust if leaves are dense and plants spaced out too close together.*

BE PREPARED! Paula warns that, in later summer, it is perfectly normal for plumeria leaves to yellow and drop when new tips are adding growth.

Paula also warns that the last PSA sale sold out in two hours, so it's a good idea to go in with some recommendations. Entry is free, and Plumeria Society members are on hand to diagnose problems.

Paula's choice of the best choice for someone just getting started with plumerias: 'Slaughter Pink' -- one of the easiest cultivars to grow. She explains: "*Flowers all summer, easy to root, and is showy all summer. Even though it is a pale pink, when a large 'Slaughter Pink' is in full blooms, it is a show stopper!*"

Not all plumerias do well in all areas. And some of the darker reds, Paula warns, can be more difficult to propagate. More reliable choices, she advises, might be:



Left to right, 'Mardi Gras', 'Texas Aggie', 'Hilo Beauty' & 'Iris Sunset'



Left to right, 'Penang Peach,' 'Lemon Drop' & 'Japanese Lantern'

For more details on the the Plumeria Society of America and/or the show & sale:

theplumeriasociety.org

* * *

Brenda's column in the LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER is based on her 40+ years as the Houston Chronicle's Lazy Gardener. To sign up for this free, weekly Greater Houston area gardening report or read past issues, go to natureswayresources.com

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NEWS FROM THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SOIL AND PLANTS #51

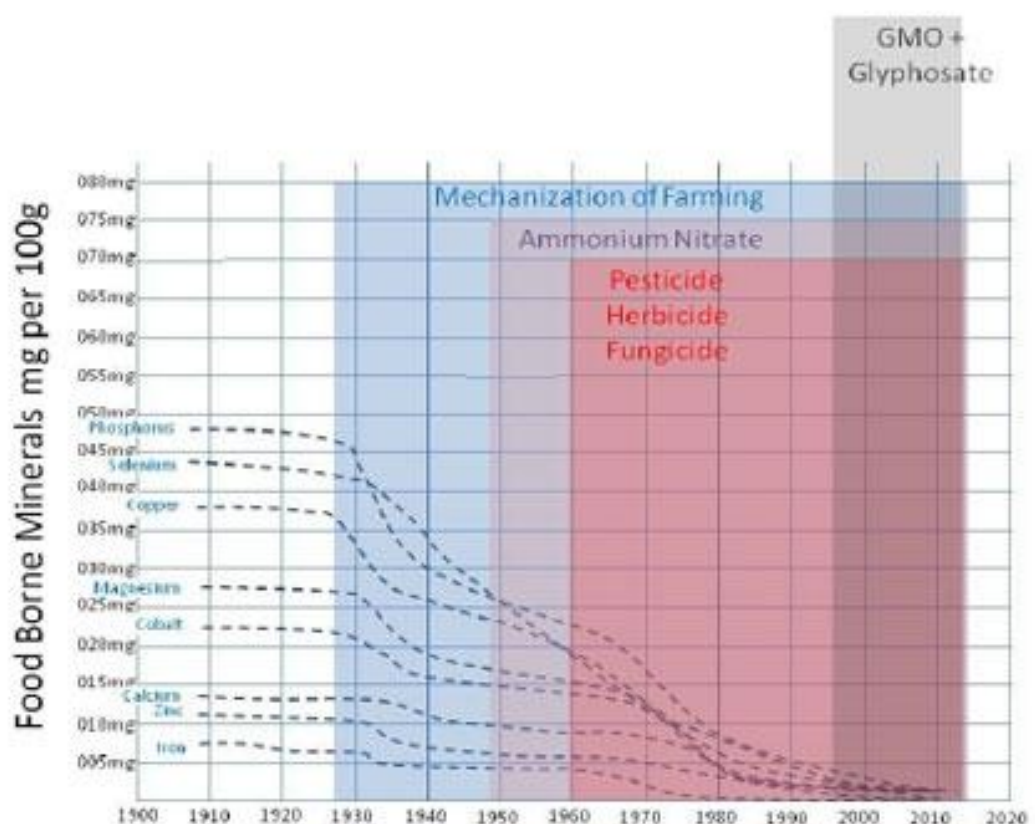
The focus of today's article is why we need to grow our own food organically: fruits, vegetables and herbs.

In numerous articles we have discussed the extremely poor quality of our food supply that is contaminated with toxic chemicals and is nutrient poor. The chart below is from government data and shows what has happened. From the Dr. Mercola's e-newsletter.

This chart starts in the year 1900 through the present and illustrates how the levels of essential elements (minerals) have steadily dropped with toxic chemical agriculture. The further we have moved away from how plants grow by the natural laws that God gave us, the poorer the quality. As clearly shown, every time the toxic chemical industry and it flunkies in the USDA and many major agricultural universities tell us we need to do something else, the quality has gone down.

I know the chart is hard to read, hence the first nutrient-mineral-element shown is phosphorus (P), the next one down is selenium (Se), then copper (Cu), magnesium (Mg), cobalt (Co), calcium (Ca), zinc (Zn) and lastly iron (Fe). For those whom wish to learn how these minerals affect our health go to the Nature's Way Resource website at the link below and click on the element you wish to learn about. <http://www.natureswayresources.com/minerals.html>

As one can see the "so called" improvement has caused a decline in nutrition or nutrient density as it is sometimes referred to. It starts with mechanical tillage that destroys the organic matter in the soil, without the organic matter the soil cannot hold nitrogen and other nutrients so artificial fertilizers are used. This kills beneficial life in the soil which helps plants absorb nutrients and be healthy, as a result plants are unhealthy and are targets for insects and disease who's role in nature is to get rid of unhealthy plants. We then treat the unhealthy plants with the toxic chemicals that pollute and cause hundreds of health problems, and the nutrient density declines even more. Now they tell us that we have to have GMO's to feed the world and use more herbicide and the nutrient density or quality gets worse (not to mention the tasteless food we have today).



Several studies have stated that we have to eat over 4 ears of non-GMO corn to get the same nutrition on ear of corn had in 1903. We get calories that make us fat but not the required nutrition that makes us healthy.

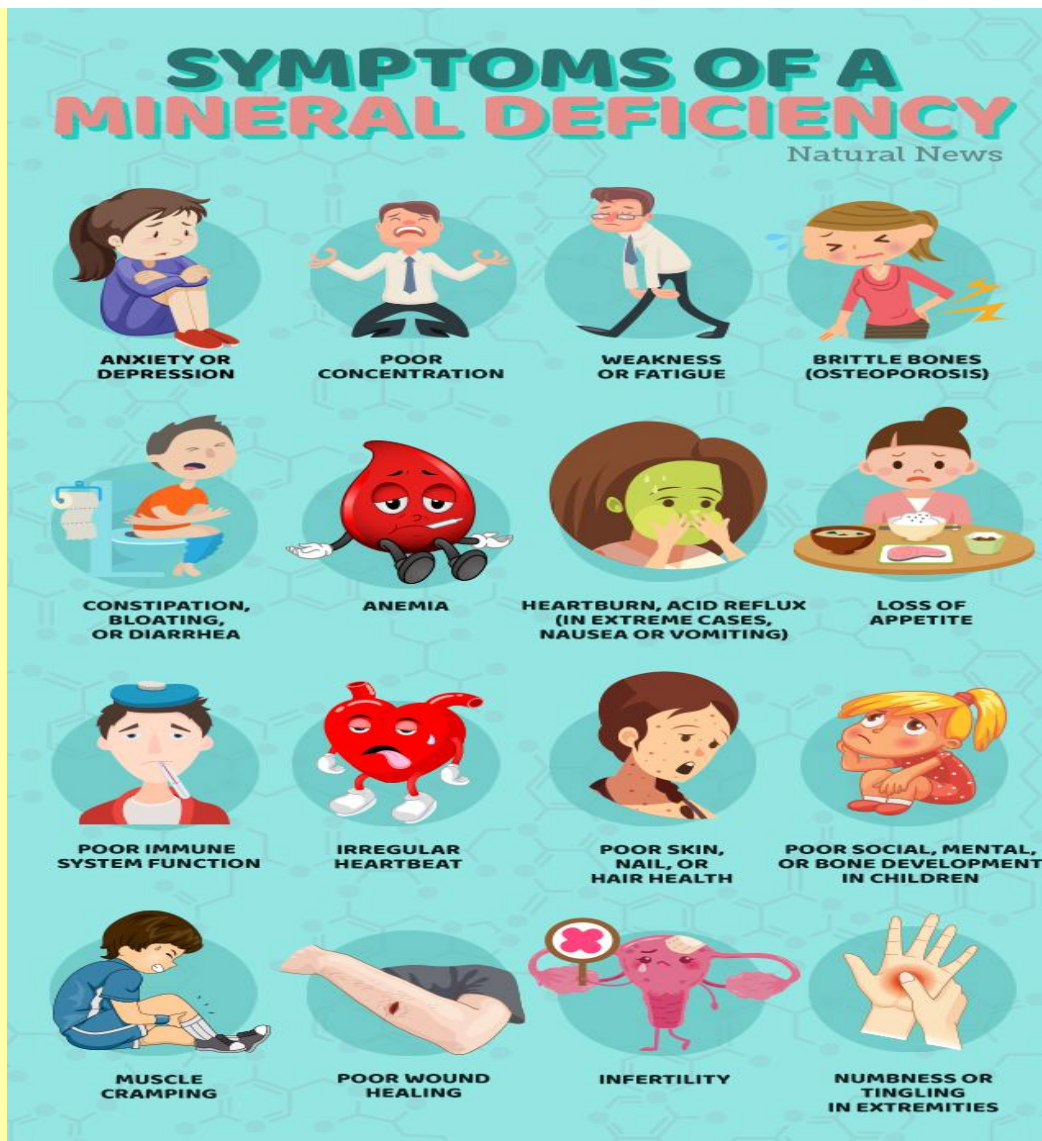
Now they tell us we need GMO's, so let's look at what happens to the nutrient density of one crop or vegetable (in this case corn) when it is a GMO' variety. As you can see Non-GMO corn has from 7 to over 400 times more nutrients than GMO corn! Also the GMO corn has very high levels of the herbicide glyphosate (Round-Up) a known carcinogen according to the WHO (World Health Organization) and many other institutions. As a bonus the GMO corn had high levels of formaldehyde another known carcinogen. No one in their right mind would buy a GMO product (or maybe the toxic chemical contamination and poor nutrition is why they are not in their right mind). All we have to do is watch the nightly news to see this from violent crimes to school shootings.

Nutrient Density of GMO & Non-GMO Corn, Iowa, 2012

Nutrient	GMO	Non-GMO	Nutrient	GMO	Non-GMO
Glyphosate	13	0	Mn	2	14
Formaldehyde	200	0	Fe	2	14
Test Wt.	57.5	61.5	Zn	2.3	14.3
N	7	46	Cu	2.6	16
P	3	44	Co	0.2	1.5
K	7	113	Mo	0.2	1.5
Ca	14	6130	B	0.2	1.5
Mg	2	113	Se	0.6	0.3
S	3	42	Cl	10	1

The results are in parts per million (ppm). For those whom are not familiar with chemical shorthand: N - nitrogen, P - phosphorous, K - potassium, Ca - calcium, Mg - magnesium, S - sulfur, Mn - manganese, Fe - iron, Zn - zinc, Cu - copper, Co - cobalt, Mo - molybdenum, B - boron, Se - selenium, and Cl - chloride.

The chart below is from the Natural News e-newsletter and is an illustration of health problems directly related to a lack of nutrition that we refer to as minerals or elements. Society today has hundreds of health problems caused or aggravated by nutrient (mineral) deficiencies.



Another example of nutrient/mineral deficiencies are food cravings (below are a few examples). The series of articles last year on minerals has a lot more examples.

Craving What Your Body Needs

Chocolate Magnesium (Mg)
Chromium (Cr)
Vanadium (Va)

Sugary Foods Chromium (Cr)
Carbon (C)
Phosphorus (P)
Sulfur (S)

Breads, Pasta & Carbs. Nitrogen (N)
Carbon (C)

Oily Foods Calcium (Ca)

Salty Foods Chloride (Cl)

Silicon (Si)

Bottom line is that if you want to protect your families and pets, we have to grow our own food, and do so using the modern methods based on soil biology that we call "Organic". They have to be grown in organic mineral rich soil full of beneficial microbes for the plants to absorb the minerals.

If you want to grow your own food and do not know how, the following book by my friend and colleague is:

" Year Round Vegetables, Fruits and Flowers for Metro Houston ," by Bob Randall, PhD., Retired Executive Director Urban Harvest. A resource guide on how to grow plants in the Houston area organically and where to get the supplies you may need. It is sold at many area gardening centers. One of the very best resources for Houston and Gulf Coast. *Highly Recommended*

If you want to learn why and how organic methods work, the following book is for the average homeowner (from fruits and vegetables to turf grass and trees).

Teaming with Microbes. 2nd edition , A Gardener's Guide to the Soil Food Web, by Jeff Lowenfels & Wayne Lewis, Timber Press, 2013, *ISBN-13: 9781604691139, Highly Recommended*

* * *

LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER CALENDAR EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

DON'T SEE YOUR ORGANIZATION EVENT LISTED? DID YOU SEND IT IN?
NO EVENTS ARE PICKED UP FROM OTHER NEWSLETTERS, MASS RELEASES, OTHER PUBLICATIONS, ETC.

Events *NOT* submitted in *EXACT* written calendar format below may take 2+ weeks to be posted.
Adult gardening/plants events only -- If you don't see your submitted event, email us

lazygardener@sbcglobal.net

IF WE INSPIRE YOU TO ATTEND ANY OF THESE EVENTS, PLEASE TELL SPONSORS YOU HEARD ABOUT IT

SAT, JULY 14: TEXAS ROSE RUSTLERS SUMMER MEETING 11am, Antique Rose Emporium, Independence, TX. Free.
<http://www.texasroserustlers.com/events/>

SAT. JULY 14: IRISES FOR THE GULF COAST GARDEN by MONICA MARTENS, 1-3pm, AgriLife Extension Bldg, Carbide Park, 4102 Main (Hwy 519), La Marque. Galveston County Master Gardener events. Free., Register: galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065. aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html

SAT., JULY 14: MINIATURE FAIRY GARDEN w/WATER FEATURE CLASS by JIM MAAS & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Road, Seabrook. \$50. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SAT, JULY 14: TEXAS ROSE RUSTLERS SUMMER MEETING 11am, Antique Rose Emporium, Independence, TX. Free.

texasroserustlers.com/events/

SUN., JUL 15: WICKING OF MAIDENHAIR FERNS FOR INDOOR AND OUTDOOR USE by DARLA HARRIS & LARRY RUCKER, 2pm, Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Dr. Lecture: free. Project \$10. Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society event. tgcfernsoc.org.

MON., JULY 16: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY & PLANT SALE, 9-11am, Genoa Friendship Gardens Educational Center Building, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Road, Pasadena. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. 713-274-0950; hcmga.tamu.edu

TUES., JULY 17: A HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO WEED CONTROL, 6:30-8pm; AgriLife Extension Bldg, Carbide Park, 4102 Main (Hwy 519), La Marque. Free. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Register: galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065. aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html

TUES., JULY 17: RAISED BEDS, DRIP IRRIGATION & RAIN BARRELS, 6:30-8:30pm, Spring Branch Memorial Library, 930 Corbindale, Houston. Harris County Master Gardener event. Free. 713-274-0950; hcmga.tamu.edu

TUES., JUL 17: WHAT YOU MISSED THE WORLD BROMELIAD CONFERENCE? DON'T WORRY, WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED! by GORDON STOWE AND DAVID WHIPKEY, 7pm, West Gray Multi-Service Center, 1475 W Gray. Free. Bromeliad Society / Houston event. bromeliadsocietyhouston.org

THURS., JULY 19: UNLOCKING HIDDEN TREASURES: FINDING NEW USES FOR OLD PLANTS by DALE KRUSE, 6:45 - 8:30 pm; Houston Arboretum, West Loop N access road before Woodway Dr. Free. Native Plant Society of Texas - Houston Chapter event. npsot.org/houston

THURS., JULY 19: RAISED BEDS, DRIP IRRIGATION & RAIN BARRELS, 6:30-8:30pm, Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane, Houston. Harris County Master Gardener event. Free. 713-274-0950; hcmga.tamu.edu

THURS., JULY 19: RABBITS & CHICKENS BY THE GARDEN by STACIE VILLARREAL, 6-8pm; Waller County Extension Office, 846 6th Ave., Hempstead. \$15. Waller County Extension Office event. \$15. Register: 979-826-7651

SAT., JULY 21: MONARCHS ON THE MOVE, 10am-noon, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. \$40. Register: themercersociety.org/events

SAT., JULY 21: RAISED BEDS, DRIP IRRIGATION & RAIN BARRELS - 10:30am-12:30pm, Maud Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd., Katy. Harris County Master Gardener event. Free. 713-274-0950; hcmga.tamu.edu

SAT., JULY 21: FALL VEGETABLE GARDENING, 9:30am-noon, Houston Museum of Natural Science, Moran Conference Hall, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. \$30. Urban Harvest event. Register: 713-880-5540; urbanharvest.org/classes-calendar

SAT., JULY 21: PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA SHOW & SALE, 9:30am-3pm Bay Area Community Center, 5002 Nasa Road 1 Seabrook. Free. theplumeriasociety.org

TUES., JULY 24: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY, 10-11:15am, Weekley Community Center, 8440 Greenhouse Rd., Cypress. Free. Register by July 22: ogd.harrishort@gmail.com

THURS., JULY 26: POLLINATORS & PLANTS by NORA KNOWLES, 6-8pm; Extension Office, 846 6th Ave., Hempstead. \$15. Waller County Master Gardener event. Register: 979-826-7651; wallermgardener2013@gmail.com

FRI., JULY 27: HOUSTON FOOD PRODUCTION CONFERENCE, 9am-3:30pm, University of Houston Downtown, 201 Girard. Harris County Master Gardener event. \$50 (\$30/students).

SAT., AUG. 4: HANGING BASKET CLASS CLASS by JIM MAAS & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Road, Seabrook. \$25. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

THURS., AUG. 9: MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM IN THE COMMUNITY by PAUL WINSKI & BRANDI KELLER, w/PLANT SALE, 10-11:30am, Genoa Friendship Gardens Educational Center Building, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd., Pasadena. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. 713-274-0950; hcmga.tamu.edu

THURS., AUG. 9: WATER, THE NECESSARY INGREDIENT by BAXTER WILLIAMS, 7pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillon, 1500 Hermann Dr. Houston Rose Society event. Free. houstonrose.org.

THURS., AUG. 9: FALL VEGETABLE GARDENING - 6:30-8:30pm, Barbara Bush Library, 6817 Cypresswood Dr., Spring. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. 713-274-0950; hcmga.tamu.edu

FRI., AUG., 10: GREATER HOUSTON ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMIT. Citizens' Environmental Coalition event. cechouston.org

SAT., AUG. 11: WASTE NOT, WANT NOT . . . BOKASHI AND VERICOMPOSTING, 9:30-11:30am. University of Houston Downtown, 201 Girard St. \$30. Urban Harvest event. Register: 713-880-5540; urbanharvest.org/classes-calendar

THURS., AUG. 16: FALL VEGETABLE GARDENING - 6:30-8:30pm, Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. Free. Harris

County Master Gardener event. 713-274-0950; hcmga.tamu.edu

SAT., AUG. 18: THE ART OF KOKEDAMA: JAPANESE GARDENING, 10am-noon, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. \$40. Register: themercersociety.org/events

SAT., AUG. 18: PLUMERIA CLASS CLASS by JIM MAAS & LORETTA OSTEEN, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Road, Seabrook. \$25. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SAT. AUG 18: BONSAI by CLYDE HOLT, 9-11 am, \$25; URBAN SMALL BACKYARD GARDENING by HERMAN AUER, 1-2:30pm, free; and PROPAGATING TOMATO PLANTS USING CUTTINGS, 2:30-3pm, free, AgriLife Extension Bldg., Carbide Park, 4102 Main (Hwy. 519), LaMarque. Galveston County Master Gardener events. Register: galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065; aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html

SAT., AUG. 18: FALL VEGETABLE GARDENING - 10:30am-12:30pm, Maud Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd., Katy. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. 713-274-0950; hcmga.tamu.edu

MON., AUG. 20: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY w/PLANT SALE, 9-11am, Genoa Friendship Gardens Educational Center Building, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Road, Pasadena. Free. 713-274-0950; hcmga.tamu.edu

TUE. AUG 21: GARDENING BY THE SQUARE FOOT by JOHN JONS, 6:30-8pm; Galveston County AgriLife Extension Bldg, Carbide Park, 4102 Main (Hwy 519), La Marque. Free. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Register: galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065; aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html

TUES., AUG. 21: FALL VEGETABLE GARDENING, 6:30-8:30pm, Spring Branch Memorial Library, 930 Corbindale. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. 713-274-0950; hcmga.tamu.edu

SAT., AUG. 25: FALL & WINTER VEGETABLE GARDENING CLASS by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & PAUL NESRSTA, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Road, Seabrook. \$40. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

THURS., SEPT. 6: ROSES by GAYE HAMMOND, 9-10 am; Waller County Extension Office, 846 6th St., Hempstead. Free. Waller County Master Gardener event. RSVP: wallermgardener2013@gmail.com, 979-826-7651

SAT., SEPT. 8: BASIC ORGANIC VEGETABLE GARDENING, 9:30am-noon. Houston Museum of Natural Science, Moran Conference Hall, 5555 Hermann Park Dr. \$30. Urban Harvest event. Register: 713-880-5540; urbanharvest.org/classes-calendar

SAT., SEPT. 15: MINIATURE FAIRY GARDEN CLASS by JIM MAAS & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Road, Seabrook. \$40. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SAT., SEPT. 15: TERRARIUM TIME, 10am-noon, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. \$40. Register: themercersociety.org/event

SAT., SEPT. 22: GARDENING FOR BIRDS & HUMMINGBIRDS CLASS by JIM MAAS & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Road, Seabrook. \$40. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SAT., SEPT. 29: HANGING BASKET CLASS by JIM MAAS & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Road, Seabrook. \$25. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SAT., OCT. 6: HIBISCUS CLASS WITH GRAFTING by JIM MAAS & JOE MILLER, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Road, Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SAT, OCT 20: TEXAS ROSE RUSTLERS FALL CUTTING EXCHANGE, United Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2038 FM 3171, Schulenburg. Free. texasroserustlers.com/events/

SAT., OCT. 27: FRUIT TREE CLASS by JIM MAAS & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Road, Seabrook. \$25. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

SAT., NOV. 3: MINIATURE FAIRY GARDEN CLASS by JIM MAAS & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Road, Seabrook. \$40. 281-474-2488, maasnursery.com

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

THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER!
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**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

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ABOUT US

BRENDA BEUST SMITH

WE KNOW HER BEST AS THE LAZY GARDENER . . .

. . . but Brenda Beust Smith is also:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

JOHN FERGUSON

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

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



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