

Like 0

Share

Share:

Tweet

-
-
-
-



August 10th, 2018

Dear Friends,

Here is the 261st 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!](#)



FRIENDS WITH NATURE? . . . LAZY GARDENERS RULE & WATCH THOSE PALM FRONDS

BY BRENDA BEUST SMITH

I've been writing about gardening for a very long time, over 5 decades, and have seen a lot of changes now common in the mainstream. Home landscapes shrinking, so many new flower varieties in nurseries especially from foreign lands, more interest in and use of 'natives,' especially to attract butterflies and hummers, more vegetables in urban gardens, more children gardening by choice, etc.

But perhaps the one I find the neatest of all is how many folks are truly making friends with Nature.

Decades ago, if I had quoted from the column mentioned below, a few readers would have smiled & nodded. The vast majority would have said, HUH? ARE YOU CRAZY?

We are gradually -- albeit VERY SLOWLY -- moving away from the centuries long approach of making our yards "conquer" Nature, to wanting to live in harmony with her, to be friends with her. True, a lot of it is to make less work for ourselves. But let's be honest.

Our beloved third rock from the sun is all we've got -- at least for the foreseeable future. We either make better friends with Nature or, if not us, certainly our children will pay the price.

Not sure how, but I somehow stumbled on a really neat column by a garden writer in Upper New York State. Master Gardener K. Dixon Zorovich titled her Finger Lakes News article, "[The Magic of Messy Gardens](#)."

I like this gal. Among other tidbits, she marvels at how "Milkweed appreciates a mess." She notes the proliferation of wild-growing milkweed in her area, admitting she "helped this process along by opening seed pods (left above) and scattering them about."

Zorovich made many of the same arguments for "controlled," un-manicured landscapes as Lauren Simpson did in her "Embracing Imperfection in Our Gardens" Feb. 8, 2018, LG&F edition. (natureswayresources.com/NLpdf/238LGNewsletter.pdf)

This is, of course, a scary prospect for neighbors, especially those who plan to try and sell their houses in the future.

Zorovich, who does have actual acreage, had pointers that could easily be applied to suburban yards: It isn't necessary to be messy on a large scale.

- A small brush pile provides habitat for native bees and other beneficial insects
- a dead tree or snag is prime real estate for woodpeckers"
- Leave one yard corner unmowed to allow (or plant) native wildflowers to sprout - summer food for monarchs, bees, etc.

- Intersperse perennial and/or in vegetable beds.
- Don't dread all "weeds." Dandelion blooms are beautiful in spring and visited by dozens of different pollinators.
- Cut back on mowing, let the grass get a little higher.

Zorovich points out that in some cases, "messy is a virtue." I think with just a little forethought, it's entirely possible to let your landscape be a little more friendly to your wild neighbors AND keep your human neighbors happy in the process.

My advice is a catchy line promoted by Chris LaChance: make your 'natural' areas look intended, not UNTended. Use borders, stepping stones, mulch over bare soil spots and decorative signs explaining what and why.



* * *

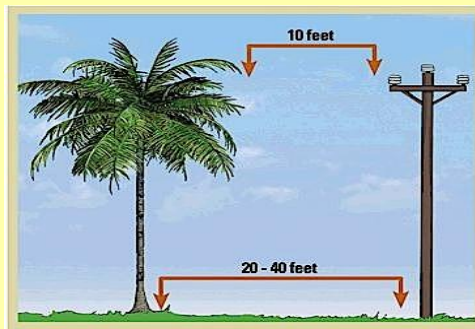
TIP O' THE TROWEL TO:

- **MARILYN O'CONNOR** who sent this great tip to Grace and Matthew Megow re their Dream Garden (get link) notes last week. *"Tell the children that pine cones and sweet gum balls keep cats out of the garden. It works for me. They do break down, so you do have to keep replacing them. But they're free, so who cares???"*



- **MITCH & LISA REED** who gave me another NO DEER plant to add to the free flyer I'll gladly email to anyone who wants one (lazygardener@sbcglobal.net). We called this lovely old fashioned plant (above right) "Cashmere Bouquet" - I guess after the soap that was so popular back in the '70s when I started this column. It's also known as Rose Ghory Bower, Mexicali Rose and Mexican Hydrangea, the name by which Mitch & Lisa know it.
 - It's not a hydrangea (altho I can see why that name fits) or a rose. It's actually a clerodendron, *Clerodendrum philippinum* or *bungei* (they look alike to me). Altho deer around Reed's water-view Elkins Lake home are prolific, and eat almost everything they can reach, this shade-lover is one plant they don't like for some reason. I haven't seen this in nurseries for decades, but if a local one carries it, let me know. I'll share word. [Dave's Garden](#) lists online sources.

* * *



PINE TREES & ELECTRIC LINES - BAD MIX! Officially, our hurricane season *starts* on June 1 and runs until Nov. 30. Companies are warning us:

Straight-up, fast-growing palm trees can quickly become a nightmare for homeowners who plant them under, or too close to, power lines. Unlike other trees, palm trees grow in a straight, vertical line, with a single growing point at tree top. Normal pruning techniques are not effective.

Palm trees present a specific hazard due to their extremely flammable properties, as well as affect customer service reliability by causing power outages."

If homeowners choose to include palm trees in their landscape plans, plant them at least 20-40 feet from electric facilities, in order to reduce the risk of windblown fronds coming into contact with power lines. No part of the tree should ever grow within 10 feet of a power line. If a growing palm tree becomes a safety hazard, it may need to be topped or removed altogether.

* * *

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



NEWS FROM THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SOIL AND PLANTS #55

Ultra-quick electrical pulses have been found to kill weeds and pathogens. New research from Old Dominion University are developing a new cancer therapy using these techniques. They generate about 3 million pulses in about one second and these kills cancer cells in animals in less than 10 seconds. These pulses heat up the cells internally which causes them to die. This same process causes the cells of weedy plants to die also, so I expect we will see electric weeders in the future.

Urban horticulture and agriculture is rapidly becoming more popular in the USA as more and more people want to prevent health problems and save money on medical expenses by eating healthy

organic food. Many non-residential properties offer areas to build gardens. These may be school yards, church grounds, abandoned lots, neighborhood parks, even roof tops, etc. Decades ago these properties could have belonged to a farmer whom dumped anything from used oil and antifreeze to lead based paints and other toxic chemical onto the ground where they may persist for decades. Lead and arsenic are two of the most common pollutants found after years of usage before being phased out. Many soil labs can test for these and other toxic contaminates. If the levels are low and depending on the contaminate then many of the issues can be solved by mixing in a good compost. The microbes in compost will degrade many organic chemicals from hydrocarbon (fuels and waste oil) to pesticides and even explosives. If there are high levels of toxins then a weed cloth barrier can be used to cover the ground and prevent roots from growing into the bad soil. Raised beds can be built on top of the weed barrier and the vegetables grown in them.

Rice University in Houston is developing a Urban Agriculture/Horticulture department led by Dr. Joe Novak and the on-campus gardens will provide nutritious **organically** grown food for the schools cafeterias.



One very important reason for growing our own food organically is our mental health. The microbiome of our digestive system provides over 80% of our immune system. This relationship between our guts and brains depend on trillions of beneficial bacteria, fungi, viruses, archaea, and eukaryotes that inhabit them. Researchers have found a relationship between these microbes and a series of neurological disorders and psychiatric conditions. These include depression, anxiety, autism

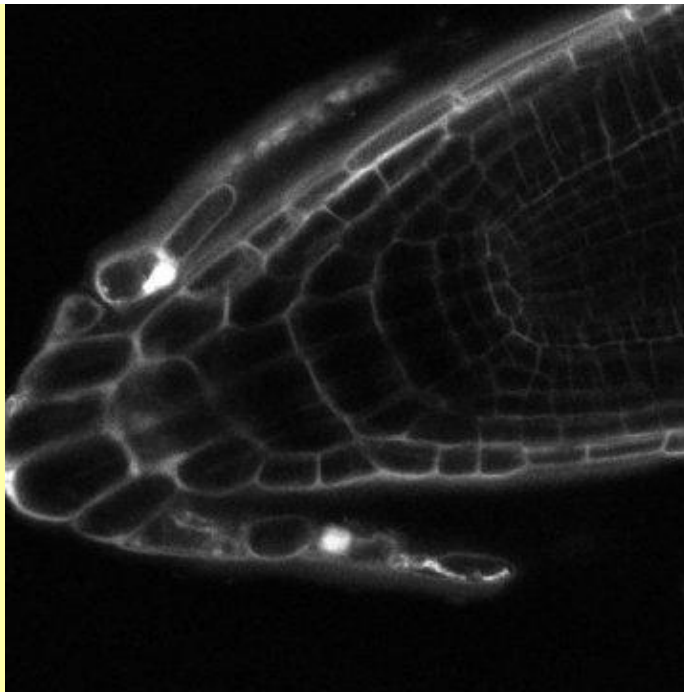
spectrum disorders, Parkinson's disease and many more. When we eat nutrient poor junk food loaded with toxic chemicals we destroy our microbiome. For more detail see the journal, Environmental Health Perspectives, June 2018, "What is Your Gut Telling You? Exploring the Role of the Microbiome in Gut-Brain Signaling". <https://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/ehp3127>

Another similar study from the Joslin Diabetes Center has found that people with type 2 diabetes suffer from depression and anxiety and that it is linked to the gut microbiome, which is linked to the quality of food we eat.

A new study from the University of California Berkeley published in the Journal Current Biology, July 2018 has found the more artificial fertilizer applied to plants, the amount of disease increased. The study clearly showed that the amount of artificial fertilizers applied changed the community of microbes on the leaves which then allowed pathogens to attack the plant. They also discovered that when applying beneficial bacteria to the plants leaves (probiotics), lower doses (less concentration) were more effective than high doses at preventing infection. This interaction of microbes and leaves is referred to as the phyllosphere. The last item they discovered was that some of the bacteria on the leaves could fix nitrogen from the air and give it to the plant. This effect may explain why a high quality compost tea is so effective at preventing diseases and increasing the health of plants.

A couple weeks ago we were talking about the decline of nutrients in our food supply. A study of food in Canadian markets has found similar results. They compared nutrition of 25 different vegetables and fruits today to those grown in the 1950's. In potatoes they discovered a 100% loss of vitamin A, 57% of its vitamin-C and iron (Fe), and 28% of its calcium (Ca). They also lost 50% of their riboflavin and 18% of their thiamine content. Similar results were found for other food crops. I wonder what the decline would have been if they went back to 1900?

Researchers using a new laser scanning microscope have found that as a root grows, it forms a cap of hard tough cells to protect the tender fragile growing tip. Every few hours the cap is sloughed off and replaced with a new one.



We have all heard the phrase "We are what we eat", and this applies to insects and animals also. For example a study in the Journal BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine (2017) has found that Tualang honey from the Malaysian jungle kill breast cancer cells in animal studies. Most of our medicines come from plants, hence it is no surprise that honey made from them would also have health benefits. Similarly Manuka honey from New Zealand has been found to be helpful in the treatment of shingles. The honey has to be raw, unfiltered and unprocessed to be effective.

Another paper published in the American Society of Agronomy Journal (May 2018), has found that chloride toxicity reduces the growth and production of plants, confirming other studies. Chloride forms when salt known as sodium chloride (NaCl) dissolves in water. Chlorine in our municipal water systems turns into chloride when we water our landscape. The more one waters, the more problems you have.

Another drawback to plastic mulch has been discovered. Eventually the plastic starts to physically degrade from exposure to sunlight and the elements. These find particles make their way into the soil over time. These film residues decrease soil fertility, interfere with water transport, and diminish the growth of plants. Journal of Science Advances 2018.

A study published in the Journal Environmental Health Perspectives (July 2018) has found that exposure to "greenness" is associated with slower cognitive decline. This confirms other studies on the benefits of being a gardener!

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., AUG. 11: WASTE NOT, WANT NOT . . . BOKASHI AND VERMICOMPOSTING, 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

THURS., AUG. 16: GARDENING WITH LOCAL NATIVE PLANTS AND HOW HOUSTONIANS ARE DOING IT" by KATY EMDE, 6:45-8:30 pm; Houston Arboretum, West Loop N access road. Free. Native Plant Society of Texas - Houston Chapter event. npsot.org/wp/houston

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: galvcountrymgs@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

TUES. 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: galvcountrymgs@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

TUE., AUG. 21: MY BROMELIAD RETROSPECTIVE by CHARLIE BIRDSOING, 7pm, West Gray Multi-Service Center, 1475 W Gray. Free. Bromeliad Society / Houston event. bromeliadsocietyhouston.org

WED., AUG. 22: "HYLOCEREUS: DRAGON FRUIT - HARVEST/'WET' SEEDS FOR SOWING/STORAGE," by WALLACE WARD, 7:30pm, Metropolitan Multi-Services Center. Free. Houston Cactus & Succulent Society event. hcsstex.org

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

TUES., AUG. 28: DIVERSITY OF FERNS by DARLA HARRIS, 1:30pm; Sugar Land Branch Library, 550 Eldridge Road, Sugar Land. Free. Sugar Land Garden Club event. sugarlandgardenclub.org

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: wallerimgardener2013@gmail.com, 979-826-7651

SAT. SEPT 8: BACKYARD CITRUS by ROBERT MARSHALL, 1-3 pm. Friendswood Public Library, 416 S. Friendswood Dr, Friendswood. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Free. Must register: galvcountrymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065.

aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html

THURS., SEPT. 13: ROSES: PLANTING, GROWING & UPKEEP - 6:30-8:30pm, Barbara Bush Library, 6817 Cypresswood Dr., Spring. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. 713-274-0950; hcmg.a.tamu.edu

THURS., SEPT. 6: INSECTS; THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE NOT SO UGLY BY MARY KARISH, 10 am, MUD Building, 805 Hidden Canyon Dr, Katy. Free, Nottingham Country Garden Club event. ncgctx.org

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. 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

THURS., SEPT. 13: FALL VEGETABLE GARDENING by CHRISTINE HAMMON, 10-11:30am, Genoa Friendship Gardens Educational Center Building, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd., Pasadena. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. 713-274-0950; hcmg.a.tamu.edu

THURS, Sept 13: BAYOU BEND: PLANTS THAT SHAPED MISS IMA'S GARDEN by Bart Brechter 7pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillon, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Houston Rose Society event. houstonrose.org

SAT., SEPT. 15: ROSES: PLANTING, GROWING & UPKEEP - 10:30am-12:30pm, Maud Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd., Katy. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. 713-274-0950; hcmg.a.tamu.edu

MON., SEPT. 17: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY, 9-11:00am, Genoa Friendship Gardens Educational Center Building, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Road, Pasadena. Free. Plants for sale in greenhouse. 713-274-0950; hcmg.a.tamu.edu

TUES., SEPT. 18: ROSES: PLANTING, GROWING & UPKEEP - 6:30-8:30pm, Spring Branch Memorial Library, 930 Corbindale. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. 713-274-0950; hcmg.a.tamu.edu

TUES., SEPT. 18: LOVE YOUR HIPPEASTRUM AKA AMARYLLIS by CHARLES PRASEK, 10am; St. Basil's Hall, 702 Burney Road, Sugar Land. Free. Sugar Land Garden Club event. sugarlandgardenclub.org

THURS., SEPT. 20: ROSES: PLANTING, GROWING & UPKEEP - 6:30-8:30pm, Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. 713-274-0950; hcmg.a.tamu.edu

SAT.-SUN., OCT. 6-7: SPRING BRANCH AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB ANNUAL FALL SALE, Sat., 10am-4pm; Sun., 10am-3pm, Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Dr. Free. 281-748-8417, kjwross@yahoo.co

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

SAT. OCT. 20: GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FALL PLANT SALE. Plant sale seminar: 8-8:50am. Sale, 9 am-1 pm. Galveston County Fair Grounds ,Jack Brooks Park - Rodeo Arena, Hwy 6 @ Jack Brooks Rd., Hitchcock. aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston/index.html

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

SAT., NOV.3: SEABORNE NATURE FEST, 10am-4pm, Seaborne Creek Nature Park, 3831 TX 36, Rosenberg. Free. SEABOURNE.NATURE.FEST

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



COMPOST TOP DRESSING
LAWN, TREE, & BED FERTILIZATION

<http://www.greenprotexas.com/>



Organic Fertilizers
Core Aeration
Compost Top Dressing
YearRoundHouston.com

<http://www.yearroundhouston.com/>



<http://microlifefertilizer.com/>



www.bartlett.com



Save 50% Coupon

ROSES: BUY ONE, GET
ONE FREE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

101 SHERBROOK CIRCLE, CONROE TX
www.natureswayresources.com or 936-321-6990

Offer Expires: WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

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.



Confirm that you like this.

Click the "Like" button.