

Nottingham Country Garden Club

Newsletter
February, 2013

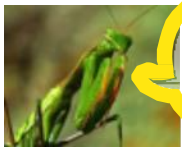


NCGC February Meeting

Thursday February 7, 2013
MUD Bldg. #81
805 Hidden Canyon Katy

Our February presentation will be "Beneficial Insects" with guest speaker Skip Richter.

Come join us and learn how to spare the life of a good bug.



THANK
you

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO :

PHYLLIS HOGUE - 2

GWEN HECK - 2

MARY LOU PROCTER

NORMA BEUSTRING - 22

SUSAN TERRY - 28



A Word From Our President

Hello Friends,
Did you Know?

There is nice lady
who lives in Katy.
She wonders, "What ever can I do?"

The plant sale date,
Is it too late to propagate?
"Oh, my! What ever will I do?"

So walking through her garden gate,
Gathering what she needs,
She transplants and she propagates,
Ignoring all the weeds.

For she knows that on the sale date,
She will have much more fun,
When she brings her precious plants to sell,
With her "NCGC friends" out in the sun.

Can you guess who this "lady" is?

Sue



FEBRUARY IS TOMATO PLANTING MONTH.
SEE THE "FEBRUARY IN THE GARDEN"
PAGE
FOR TIPS ON PLANTING.



Looking Ahead

Nottingham Country Garden Club's
March meeting will be Thursday, March
7, 2013 at the MUD building. Our speaker
will be Nell Shimek and the topic will be
"Daylilies".

Events and Workshops

Fort Bend County Master Gardeners
Monthly Program
Time: 6:30 social 7:00 program
Bud O'Shieles Community Center
1330 Band Rd., Rosenberg

*The February 21, 2013 program will be
"Rainwater Harvesting and Building a Home
Catchment System" presented by Joe Vinson, FBMG
Rainwater Harvesting Specialist.

*Vegetable-Herb Pre-Sale Talk
February 23, 2013 8:00am
Bud O'Shieles Community Center
Join us before the Vegetable-Herb Sale begins for a
pre-sale presentation to become familiar with the
vegetables and herbs to be sold.

*Vegetable-Herb Sale
February 23, 2013
9:00-noon or until sold out
Fort Bend County greenhouses behind the County
Extension buildings on Band Rd., Rosenberg.



Houston Federation of Garden Clubs

Friday, February 8, 2013
Houston Civic Garden Center
1500 Hermann Dr., Houston



Program: "Zen Gardens in Public Spaces: A Timeless Art"
presented by Keiji Asakura: Asakura & Robinson, Landscape
Design Company

For more information or for carpooling call Donna Luther @
(281) 492-1512

Plan Ahead:

Friday March 8, 2013
"Seasons Gone Awry: Art, Natural Disaster, and the
Nineteenth-century Romantics" presented by Cynthia S.
Williams, Ph.D

**Attention All Members If
you have any empty plastic
nursery pots please bring them to
Thursday's meeting. Several
people are in need of them for
transplanting plants for the plant
sale. Please make sure the pots
are washed out and dry so as not
to make a mess in the MUD
building.
Thanks!**

A Reminder from Texas Garden Clubs

Texas Garden Clubs invites you to read and enjoy the
Lone Star Gardener online. Click on
www.texasgardenclubs.org to go to the TGC home
page. Click the white flower in the box on the right side
of the home page to read the LSG online.



EASY GOING ROSE
AN EARTHKIND ROSE AT THE
DALLAS ARBORETUM

Fundraising Announcements

- our Fundraising Committee, under the capable and creative direction of Janet Blowers and Lori Fay, will continue with the monthly book and magazine sales this year. Bring in your old, "gently read" issues of magazines or garden-related books. Magazines can be on any subject (gardening, cooking/food, health/wellness, family/parenting, decorating/home, travel/leisure etc.) Magazines and books will be available for purchase at each meeting.
- our annual Plant Sale is tentatively set for Saturday, March 23, 2013. Be sure to continue transplanting and caring for your propagations.



FEBRUARY IN THE GARDEN

Sources Texas Garden Almanac Dr. Doug Welsh, Professor & Horticulturist Texas A&M University
"Texas Gardener" Magazine, Chris S. Corby, Editor, Fort Bend County Master Gardeners, Inc.
(www.fgmg.com)

GARDEN TASKS



- Fertilize cool-season annuals one more time this month to prolong blooming and plant vigor.
- Prepare vegetable and flower beds for spring planting by adding compost.
- Water all of the landscape once or twice this month in the absence of rain or after several windy days.
- Time to prune roses, fruit and nut trees. Do not prune spring flowering shrubs such as azaleas. They should be pruned after blooming.
- Trim up perennials that may have been damaged over the winter.
- Keep up with the weeding. It may be necessary to put down some pre-emergent this month to help control spring and summer weeds, but do not apply pre-emergent to vegetable gardens. Heavy mulching will help control new weeds from sprouting.
- Don't put away the frost blanket yet. our last average frost date is February 14th and February can be our coldest month.

WHAT TO PLANT



- Early this month is the last chance to plant cool-season vegetables such as beets, carrots, turnips, radishes and leaf lettuces. It is also the last chance to buy bare-root fruit and nut trees. If you buy citrus trees they will most likely need some protection from cold temperatures until next month.
- Time to plant potatoes. Cut a seed potato into sections with at least one eye in each section. Let these sections sit in a warm, well-ventilated area for a few days to dry out. After planting continue to move the soil or compost up around the stems as they grow.
- February is traditionally rose planting month. Consider planting Texas tough Earthkind roses. Go to <http://aggiehorticulture.tamu.edu/earthkindroses/> for a list of the cultivars.
- February is also time to plant tomatoes, but not until after the 14th. Most nurseries have their tomato transplants arriving in the next few weeks, so shop early for the best selection. If your soil's pH is lower than 6.5, add some lime at a rate of 1/2 pound per square yard of soil. Tomatoes like a pH of 6.5-7.5. You can purchase a soil test kit at many nurseries and garden supply centers. If you plan to use your tomatoes for preserving or making salsa, choose a determinate variety. All the tomatoes will ripen at about the same time. If you just want yummy fresh tomatoes for your salad or BLT, choose an indeterminate variety that will continue to produce over the whole season.
- There are still some cool-season annuals that can be planted now for added color and will do well until the heat really sets in. They are Alyssum, stock, snapdragons, calendula, nasturtium and dianthus.



Spring Gardening officially Begins! on February 2nd, Punxsatawney Phil, the nation's official groundhog, predicted an early spring this year. our recent weather certainly confirms his forecast. Time to get out, garden and enjoy the wonderful temperatures!

A Reminder From Horticulture
Do you have some lovely flowers blooming in your yard, or an unusual plant? Bring in a sample or cutting and share it with the club. Do you have something growing in your yard and have no idea what it is? Bring a sample in and we'll try to solve the mystery. Please remember to complete the horticulture form found on our website (www.nottinghamgardenclub.org) with as much information as possible.