

Nottingham Country Garden Club

Newsletter
March, 2012



NCGC Meeting /March 1, 2012

9:30 MUD Bldg. #81

Program: "Propagation"

Presenter: Marilyn Almon

Marilyn's program will include a power point presentation accompanied by a "how to" demonstration.

March Extra Activity

Date: Wednesday, March 14th

Time: Meet in the MUD Bldg. parking lot by 9:15. We should return by 4:00

Activity: A drive through the wildflowers, a tour and wine tasting at Messina Hof Winery, followed by a late lunch and shopping time at Martha's Bloomers.

Cost: \$12.00 which includes a sampling of 4 wines and a keepsake wine glass. Please sign up and pay at Thursday's meeting. (Lunch is extra)



A Word From Our President

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all of you. I say this because I wish all of you the Luck of the Irish with the "planting of the green stuff" this month. May it grow and prosper weed free! If you need information on propagation, give an ear to our fantastic speaker March 1st, Marilyn Almon. I am excited to hear her. See you Thursday!
Sue

Looking Ahead

The April meeting of NCGC will be "Cooking With Herbs" presented by Jennie Dunnihoo.



Events and Workshops

More Fun and Informative Gardening Events

*The Fort Bend County Master Gardeners will hold their annual Spring Plant Sale on Saturday, March 10, 2012 from 9:00-1:00 at the Fort Bend County Fairgrounds. For a list of plants available for sale go to www.fbmng.com.

*The annual River Oaks Garden Club Azalea Trail will be held March 9, 10, and 11 from 11:00-5:00. For ticket information go to www.riveroaksgardenclub.org.

*Harris County Master Gardeners Lecture Series will be on March 6th at noon in the extension office at 3033 Bear Creek Dr., Houston. The program will be "Time Tested Plants and Design" presented by Dr. Bill Welch.

Planning Ahead

*Houston Federation of Garden Clubs' April 13th meeting will be "Art and the Environment: An Inspiring Approach" presented by Vicki McMillan.

*Fort Bend Master Gardeners' April 19th program will be "Bamboo Varieties and How to Grow Them in Our Area" presented by Mike Frismanis, FBMG and bamboo grower.

Houston Federation of Garden Clubs

Friday, March 10, 2012

Houston Civic Garden Center
1500 Hermann Dr., Houston

Program: "An Eye On the Garden-From Ancient Times to the Future"

Presenter: Dr. Frank Zukerbrod,
Ophthalmologist and avid gardener

Zone 6 (our zone) is responsible for refreshments this month. There will be a sign-up list at Thursday's meeting for items needed.

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



Oxalis regnellii

Fort Bend Master Gardeners Monthly Program

Thursday March 15, 2012

6:30 Social Time

7:00-8:00 Program

Bud O'Shieles Community Center
1330 Band Road

Rosenberg, TX

Program: "Soils, Compost and Mulch"

Presenter: John Ferguson, Owner of Nature's Way Resources

NCGC Plant and Bake Sale

Please note new location

Date: Sat. March 31st

Time: 10:00-2:00 (set-up at 9:00)

Location: Parking Lot on southeast corner of Pin Oak Blvd. and Kingsland

* Sign up sheets for working the Plant and Bake Sale and for bringing tables will be out at the March meeting.

*Please help make the sale a success by contributing plants grown from cuttings, seeds, or divisions ready for the sale, as well as baked goods. We would also like to ask members to bring in empty nursery pots, any size, to the March meeting for those who may need them for plantings.

*Each member attending the March meeting will receive a flyer advertising our Plant and Bake Sale. Please place it on your mailboxes or other neighborhood location.



Magazine Donations

Just a reminder to bring in your old, "gently read" issues of magazines. Magazines can be on any subject (gardening, cooking, food, health, wellness, family, parenting, decorating, home, travel, leisure etc.) Magazines will be available for purchase at each meeting.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY To:

LORI FAY: 19

FRANKIE GREEN: 31



A SPECIAL THANKS!

NOTTINGHAM COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB
WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND OUR
APPRECIATION AND THANKS TO THE
FOLLOWING BUSINESSES FOR SUPPORTING
THIS YEAR'S PLANT AND BAKE SALE.
PLEASE GIVE THEM YOUR BUSINESS AND
YOUR THANKS!

*CICI'S PIZZA: WWW.CICISPIZZAKATY.COM

*DENTIST USA: WWW.DENTISTUSA.COM

*SHELTON'S FAMILY CLEANERS:

WWW.SHELTONFAMILYCLEANERS.COM

*DEPILEX HAIR SALON:

*KUMON: WWW.KUMON.COM

*GROCERY SERVICES INC.

*ANYTIME FITNESS:

WWW.ANYTIMEFITNESS.COM

*NEW STAR NAILS & SPA:

WWW.STARNAILSANDSPA.COM

*SWEET THINGS ICE CREAM SHOPPE:

WWW.SWEETTHINGSNORE.COM

*POSTAL EXPERTS:

WWW.POSTALWEBPLUS.COM

Monthly Gardening Tasks - March

Sources: Fort Bend Master Gardeners;

Dr. Doug Welsh, professor and horticulturist, Texas A&M University, Texas Garden A/mtnac
Fort Bend County Master Gardeners, Inc. website (www.fbmga.com), "Texas Gardener Magazine", Chris S. Corby Editor.



*Perennials & Annuals

If "spring fever" has set in and you just have to plant some pretty flowers, go ahead and plant cool-season flowers such as pansies and snapdragons, but know that they will wilt away come June when the heat sets in. Some better choices might be cockscombs, coreopsis, cosmos, cleomes, marigolds, nasturtiums, petunias (especially the Laura Bush and Wave varieties), salvias, sweet allysums, sunflowers, and zinnias. Fertilize annual and perennial flowers once this month. Dr. Doug Welsh recommends using urea, ammonium sulfate or blood meal. Cut back dead foliage on perennials and ornamental grasses only after you have seen new green growth emerging from the plant base. Divide fall-blooming perennials such as chrysanthemums, autumn asters, Mexican marigold mint, and physostegia (obedient plant). Remember to always use plenty of organic matter (mulch or compost) when setting out new plants.

*Vegetables & Herbs:

Before planting spring vegetables, prepare your beds with organic matter. The following vegetables can be planted in March from seed: beans (bush and pole from mid-March on), cantaloupe, corn, peppers (transplants), summer squash, tomatoes (transplants, should be in by mid-march), and watermelon. Warm-season herbs such as basil, mint, chives, lemon grass, lemon verbena, Mexican mint marigold, oregano, rosemary, and thyme can be planted now. Fertilize with a complete fertilizer, such as 15-5-10. Make this fertilizer application prior to each garden season, spring and fall.

*Trees and Shrubs:

Plant new shrubs and trees, either grown in containers or balled-and-burlapped (it's too late for bare root). Examples of summer blooming shrubs are althea (rose of Sharon), butterfly bush, crepe myrtle, glossy abelia, and vitex (chaste tree). Prune azaleas after blooming. Fertilize azaleas and camellias after blooming.

*Texas Wildflowers

Hopefully, with the recent rains, our native wildflowers will put on a show this year. For information on what is blooming and where, go to the TxDot Wildflower Hotline at www.txdot.gov or call 1-800-452-9292. You can also go to www.brenhamtexas.com for information and a map of wildflower trails in Washington County.



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 in the October newsletter with as much information as possible.