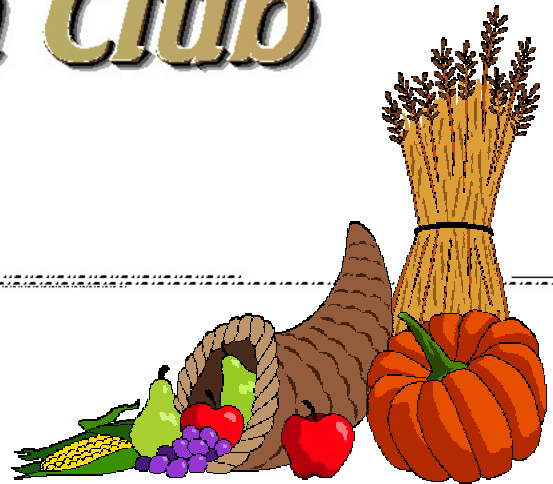


Nottingham Country Garden Club

Newsletter

November - December, 2010



*Nottingham Country Garden Club
Welcomes You*

Next Meeting:

Thursday, November 4, 2010

Program: Amaryllis in Your

Home and Garden

by Betty Lenderman,

former Houston Amaryllis Society

President, and founder of Enchanted

Gardens and Enchanted Forest Nurseries

9:30 a.m.

MUD Building #81

805 Hidden Canyon Dr.



Upcoming NCGC Workshop:

Tuesday, November 9, 2010

10:00 a.m.

Propagation Workshop

by Marilyn Almon, Fort Bend Master

Gardener, Propagation Specialist

Location: Fort Bend Master Gardeners Greenhouse in
Rosenberg.

We will meet at Gwen's house at 9:15 a.m. and carpool.

Call Gwen to reserve a place. (281-394-2827) or sign

up at the meeting. Deadline to sign up for the

workshop is Thursday, November 4th

Christmas Luncheon

December 2, 2010

at 3 Olives Italian Restaurant

22764 Westheimer Parkway

Sign up at November meeting and prepay \$18 for lunch

Bring a canned good or other non-perishable item to the luncheon for

donation to Katy Christian Ministries



Monthly Garden Tasks - November/December

Sources: Fort Bend Master Gardeners;

Dr. William Welch, Landscape Horticulturist, Texas A&M University;

Dr. Doug Welsh, professor and horticulturist, Texas A&M University, *Texas Garden Almanac*

Houston Rose Society *The Rosette*, Patsy Williams, editor



Annuals: Plant cool season favorites such as sweet alyssum, petunias, stock, snapdragons, pansies and violas, calendulas, cyclamen, Drummond phlox, English daisy, primrose, forget-me-not, and dianthus. Ornamental vegetables, such as Swiss chard, lettuce, cabbage, and kale also add color to the garden. Sweet peas, larkspur, and Icelandic poppies grow well from seed. Feed annuals lightly with a balanced fertilizer.

Perennials: Divide and reset spring-blooming ones, including daylilies, iris, oxeye daisies, coneflowers, Louisiana phlox, coreopsis, and Katie ruellia. Set out new perennials.

Take cuttings of plants to carry over to next spring inside or in a protected area - begonias, coleus, impatiens, geraniums, sweet potato vine, and various herbs. (Dip cut stem end in rooting hormone, poke into sterile potting mix, then keep damp but not soggy.)

Vegetables: Plant by transplant - broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, collards, lettuce, mustard greens, onions, and spinach. Plant from seed in November - carrots, lettuce, radish, snap peas, spinach, and turnips.

Herbs that like cooler weather include dill, cilantro, fennel, and parsley. According to herbalist Lois Sutton the following can also be planted in the fall: bay (tree), garlic chives, lemon balm, lemon verbena, Mexican marigold mint, mint, sage, oregano, rosemary, and thyme.

Roses: Stop fertilizing. Watch for diseases and insects such as thrips and cucumber beetles. Leave blooms on the plant (cutting a few for inside is OK). In this way the bush will slow down growth and will harden off before frosts or freezes. Mulch for winter. Wait until February to prune. Early November is a good time to take cuttings for rooting.

Shrubs: Plant new shrubs and trees, or transplant ones that need to be moved.

Bulbs: Plant agapanthus, allium, alstroemeria (Peruvian lilies), amaryllis, anemones, calla lilies, cooperia, crinum, dietes (African iris), daffodils/narcissus, freesia, grape hyacinths (muscari), star flower (Ipheion), iris (Dutch, Louisiana, walking, and some bearded), ixia, leucojum (snowflake), lycoris (hurricane lily), oxalis, paint flower (lapeirousia), rain lilies, ranunculus, sparaxis (wand flower), spider lilies, and watsonia. Tulips and Dutch hyacinths must be refrigerated 4-6 weeks before planting. For indoor flowering, plant amaryllis bulbs, keeping 1/3 of the bulb above the soil.

Upcoming Events and Learning Opportunities



Houston Federation of Garden Clubs

(our club is a member)

Houston Civic Garden Center 1500 Hermann Dr

Meetings - 2nd Friday of the month 9:30 a.m.

(Note: some of us meet and carpool each month to attend these meetings)

Friday, November 12, 2010 - Monthly meeting

Program - "I Didn't Know I Knew That" Speaker - Laura Huffman, Texas State Director of the Nature Conservancy and Jeff Weigel, Director of Strategic Initiatives

Workshop: "Miniatures: A Learning Experience" by Annette Pearce (space limited at workshop)

Saturday, November 20, 2010 - Federation Flower

Showat the Houston Civic Garden Center: "Falling Into Winter: A Holiday Show"

Friday, December 10, 2010 - Federation Monthly meeting and luncheon (must purchase tickets for lunch ahead of time)

Program: J. Scotts of J. Scotts: A Florist - "Texas Treasures"

Thursday, Nov. 4 - Coastal Prairie Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists - Texas Master Naturalist Program: "Bird Intelligence" by Gary Clark, author of nature books and the Saturday *Nature* column in the Houston Chronicle
Social time: 6:30 p.m. Program: 7:00 p.m.
Bud O'Shieles Community Center, 1330 Band Rd., Rosenberg, TX 77471

Tuesday, Nov. 9 - Harris County Master Gardener Lecture Series Program: "Plants of the Bible" by Jean Feifer, Harris County Master Gardener
Noon
Texas AgriLife Extension Service 3033 Bear Creek Dr., Houston, Texas

Tuesday, November 16 - Harris County Master Gardener Evening Lecture - "Let's Get Back to the Basics of Irrigation" by Jay Hartley, President, Houston Irrigation Association
6:30 p.m. dessert 7:00 p.m. program
Texas AgriLife Extension Service, 3033 Bear Creek Dr., Houston, TX



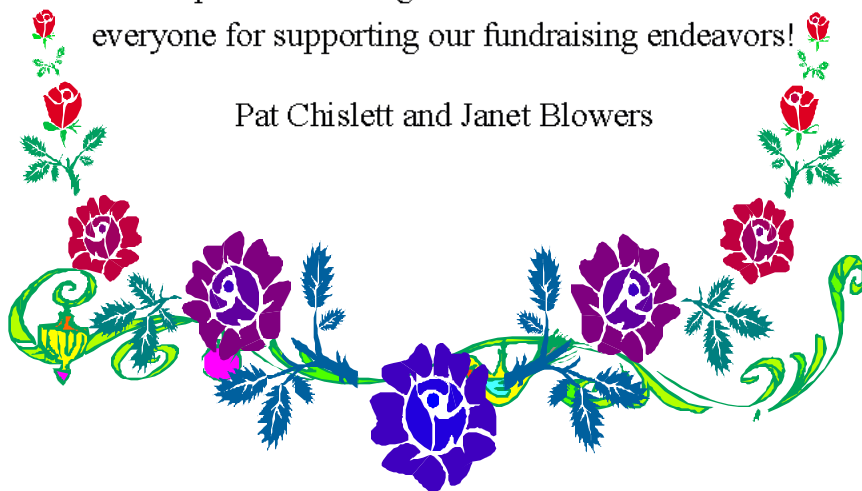
Step Right Up

and Join the Garden Tour

Beginning at the November meeting we will accept applications for your lovely gardens to be included in our 2010-2011 Garden Tour. Please consider entering your garden this year. Remember, we are not looking for "Bayou Bend" gardens, but practical examples of urban gardens that make interesting use of limited space or that may have an unusual feature or eye-catching plantings.

We hope to have 5-6 gardens for the tour. Thanks everyone for supporting our fundraising endeavors!

Pat Chislett and Janet Blowers





Let's Reach Our Goal!

Our November meeting will be your last opportunity to donate items for our raffle baskets. We would like to reach a goal of one item donated from each member. If you have any of the following items, bring them to the meeting November 4th or call Pat Chislett (979-885-6199) to make arrangements for her to pick up the items.

*Items for pampering such as lotions, bubble bath, soothing CDs, candles, books, magazines, cuddly socks etc.

*Items with a butterfly theme such as stationery with butterflies, yard art, home decorative items with butterflies, books about butterflies, etc. Anything to do with butterflies!

*Items with a Texas theme – think bluebonnets, cowboys, longhorns, horses, state of Texas design. Items might include dish towels, bluebonnet seeds, stationery, books, yard art, Texas foods such as pecans, salsa - anything that ties in with Texas.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support. YOU are the reason Nottingham Country Garden Club is such a success!

Pat Chislett and Janet Blowers, Fundraising Chairpersons



Poinsettia

Euphorbia: Genus with Over 2000 Species

Euphorbia species across the world have in common a milky latex sap and a unique flower structure. One of our favorite Euphorbias (*E. pulcherrima*), the poinsettia, may grow to 16 feet in its native habitat in Mexico. Examples of other commonly grown plants in this genus are: crown of thorns, summer poinsettia, and diamond frost euphorbia. Snow-on-the-prairie and snow-on-the-mountain bloom wild in fields in Texas in early fall. Many species of Euphorbia succulents grow in South Africa and Madagascar. Plants with the common names redbird cactus and pencil cactus are not true cactus but are actually Euphorbias. Wear waterproof gloves when taking cuttings or repotting any Euphorbia, and take care not to get any sap on your skin or in your eyes. The milky latex is an irritant and is toxic if ingested.



Crown of thorns



Summer poinsettia



Diamond Frost



Snow-on-the-prairie



African milk tree



Bug of the Month - Cottony cushion scale



Although female cottony cushion scales may be orange, yellow, or brown, their bodies are

usually covered with yellowish or white wax. A large fluted egg sac attached to the female may contain about 1000 eggs. Red larvae go through three more stages (called instars) before becoming adults. Most damaging to citrus trees, they also suck sap from leaves and stems of pittosporums, nandinas, roses, and many other plants. In addition, sooty mold, which forms on the honeydew excretions of these insects, turns leaves black and unsightly.

November and December Birthdays

Happy Birthday to:

Tisha McDuff - Nov. 8

Lisa Holden - Dec. 5

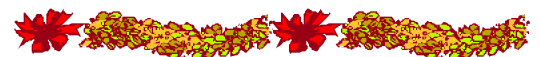
Tulin Demirmen - Nov. 15

Shirley Parma - Dec. 6

Joyce Merrett - Dec. 1

Pat Plesko - Dec. 7

Alice Brown - Dec. 3



Logo Contest

Calling all members with a creative bent! **Design a logo for Nottingham Country Garden Club** to identify our club. The logo will be used on brochures, booklets and tickets for the Garden Tour, and in the NCGC newsletter. (maybe for t-shirts, too)

All entries should fit into a **4" x 5" rectangle** but can be any shape (rectangle, circle, or other).

Designs with or without words will be considered.

Deadline: Thursday, January 6th (meeting day)

Prize for designer of winning logo: Free membership for Nottingham Country Garden Club for 2011-2012.