

Nottingham Country Garden Club

Newsletter
October, 2011



NCGC Meeting /October 6, 2011
9:30 MUD Bldg. #81

Program: "The Ten
Commandments of Lazy
Gardening"

Speaker: The Lazy Gardener herself,
Brenda Beust Smith



Upcoming NCGC Workshop: **Wednesday; October 19th**

(Time and place to be announced)

Making Herbal Vinegars

by Cindy Meredith, Proprietor of "The Herb Cottage"
This workshop will be a hands-on activity/demonstration.
Each participant will need to bring a wide mouth quart
canning jar and any herbs you would like to use in your
vinegar. Vinegar will be provided, as well as some assorted
herbs.

**Workshops are for paid members only*

A Word From Our President

Hello!

I am so excited that the calendar tells me it is Autumn. It seems it is the only way I know. I think I will crank up the air conditioning so that my scare crows and pumpkins will not melt!

I am excited to have such a well known speaker for our Oct. 6th meeting. Many of you may know of her through her Houston Chronicle articles. Come on, enjoy and learn with me as we listen to a Houston gardening expert!

See You Soon,

Meeting Next Month

November 3, 2011

Fieldtrip: We'll be taking a trip to visit Peckerwood Gardens near Hempstead. These gardens are the creation of John G. Fairey whose background in fine arts can be seen throughout. The focus of Peckerwood Gardens is to introduce rare plants from Mexico to American gardeners.

More information and sign-ups at the October meeting.

**Fieldtrips are for paid members only*



Events and Workshops



Houston Federation of Garden Clubs

Friday; October 14th Houston Civic Garden Center, 1500 Hermann Dr., Houston

Time: 10:00 Refreshments
10:30 Program

Program: "Always Looking Ahead" Designing Women - a group exhibition of designs inspired by the study of several artists and the municipal art in Houston.

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

Harris County Master Gardener Lecture Series

Oct. 4th: "Organic Weed Control" by Jay White, Texas Gardener Magazine writer. Lecture begins at noon at the extension office, 3033 Bear Creek Dr., Houston

Oct. 18th: "Herbs" by Jeanie Dunnihoo. Lecture begins at 6:30 at the extension office.



Just Around the Corner!

The Garden Club of Houston's Bulb & Plant Mart

Friday, October 14th, 10am-7pm
Saturday, October 15th, 9am-5pm

New Location: Holly Hall Retirement Community (*gated, with secure parking*)
2000 Holly Hall Street (*across Fannin from Reliant Stadium*)

Free Speaker Series:

October 8th, 9am-12pm
Holly Hall Chapel
Featuring Heidi Sheesley of Treeseach Farms and Chris Wiesinger of Southern Bulb Company.

For more information go to www.gchouston.org

Fort Bend Master Gardeners Monthly Program

October 20th Bud O Shieles Community Center
1330 Band Rd.
Rosenberg

6:30 Social Time
7:00 Program

Program: "Planting and Caring for Bulbs"
Speaker: Chris Wiesinger, Bulb Specialist and author of Heirloom Bulbs for Today. He is also the owner of The Southern Bulb Co. Mr. Wiesinger will have copies of his book available for purchase and signing, as well as some of his bulbs.

Fundraising Committee Needs Our Help!

The Fundraising Committee has some exciting raffles planned this year to raise much needed funds for our guest speakers, but they need our help! Look over the following list of items they need donated and bring in one or two (or even more!).

Drinks with a Friend: Any beverage or beverage related item. Suggestions: teas, tea cups, coffee, mugs, tea cookies, tea tray, wine or beverage glasses

Sweet Treats: Any baking item or sweet item (can be sugar free) Suggestions: baking mixes, chocolates, mints or hard candies, oven mitts, rolling pin, cupcake wrappers, decorations for cookies or cakes, sprinkles

Herbs: Any item related to herbs or herb gardening. Suggestions: Any herb seeds, pots, gloves, plant labels, gardening tools, spice jars

In order to allow time to arrange the baskets **please bring your contributions to the October or November meeting** or contact Janet Blowers (janetblowers@hotmail.com) or Lori Fay (luvgingerpug@yahoo.com) to come pick them up.

Magazine Donations: 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.

Your contributions are greatly appreciated. Thanks to everyone for your continued support!

Heartfelt Thanks to

Frank's Nursery

302 FM 359

for Richmond, TX plant

in this month's

raffle.



v o a x w o c k a n a
Pansy Halloween Mix

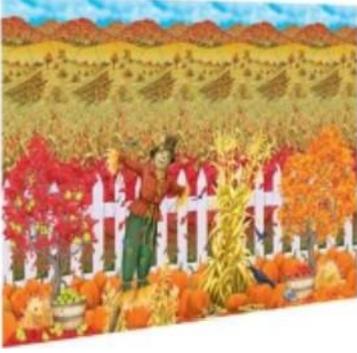
**OCTOBER
BIRTHDAYS**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

PATCHISLETT – 10/03

MARGARET COOK – 10/24





Monthly Gardening Tasks - October

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

"Texas Gardener" Chris S. Corby, editor/publisher.

Flowers: Plant cool season flowers such as pansies, snapdragons, calendulas, petunias, dianthus, and stock. This month is the time to start those spring-blooming flowers that grow slowly over the winter in preparation for rapid growth and blooms next spring. The list includes bluebonnets, poppies, larkspur, hollyhocks, sweet peas, cornflower and scarlet flax. Enjoy fall-blooming perennials, such as chrysanthemum, firespike, Mexican Bush sage, and Mexican mint marigold. This is considered the best month for dividing and moving bulbs and perennials, such as Lilies and Iris. If you have caladium bulbs and want to save them for next year, dig them up. Store the bulbs in a cool, dry location and make sure all the dirt is off of every part. Purchase or order spring-flowering bulbs while the selection is good. Prepare beds now by adding organic matter. Wait for cooler weather to plant agapanthus, allium, lilies, ranunculus, amaryllis, anemone, calla, cooperia, crinum, daffodils/narcissus, ixia, and oxalls. Tulips and Dutch hyacinths must be refrigerated 4-6 weeks before planting. Stop feeding your roses. Begin to leave blooms on the plant (cutting a few to bring inside is okay) so the bush will slow down growth and will harden off before frosts or freezes. Mulch for winter.

Vegetable/Herbs: This is the ideal time to plant cauliflower, beets, broccoli, carrots, kohlrabi, onions (the "Texas Grano 10-15" means plant on Oct. 15th), radishes, and turnips. Leaf type lettuce and spinach need to wait until it cools off a bit this year to prevent early bolting. Transplants of oregano, rosemary, thyme, chives and Mexican mint marigold can all be planted now. Herbs planted now will be well established and ready to really take off in the spring. Dill, cilantro and fennel like cooler weather and will produce nicely in the coming months. Provide herbs with well-drained soil.

Shrubs: Plant new shrubs now. Fall is a good time to purchase berry bushes, since you can see the berries (male hollies don't have berries). Examples of hollies: yaupon, Burford, Savannah, possumhaw, Nellie Stevens.

Time for Cuttings: Take cuttings of begonias, coleus, impatiens, geraniums, sweet potato vine, and herbs to carry over to next spring. Keep inside or in a protected area.



Our Horticulture Committee would like to ask everyone to use the following forms for any horticultural exhibit you might bring in. The forms will help the person showing the exhibit as well as other members

to learn more about a specific item. Use the form below as a master and make copies as needed. Thank you!

Nottingham Country Garden Club Monthly Horticulture

Common name:

Botanical name:

Height/width:

c o c e o o e o o o e e e

type:	light:	soil:	hardiness:
annual	sun	moist	hardy
perennial	partial sun	boggy	root hardy
shrub	shade	dry	tender
tree	filtered shade	alkaline	
bulb	"any"	acidic	
		"any"	

Your name:

Nottingham Country Garden Club Monthly Horticulture

Common name:

Botanical name:

Height/width:

c o c e o o e o o o e e e

type:	light:	soil:	hardiness:
annual	sun	moist	hardy
perennial	partial sun	boggy	root hardy
shrub	shade	dry	tender
tree	filtered shade	alkaline	
bulb	"any"	acidic	
		"any"	

Your name:

Nottingham Country Garden Club Monthly Horticulture

Common name:

Botanical name:

Height/width:

c o c e o o e o o o e e e

type:	light:	soil:	hardiness:
annual	sun	moist	hardy
perennial	partial sun	boggy	root hardy
shrub	shade	dry	tender
tree	filtered shade	alkaline	
bulb	"any"	acidic	
		"any"	

Your name:

Nottingham Country Garden Club Monthly Horticulture

Common name:

Botanical name:

Height/width:

c o c e o o e o o o e e e

type:	light:	soil:	hardiness:
annual	sun	moist	hardy
perennial	partial sun	boggy	root hardy
shrub	shade	dry	tender
tree	filtered shade	alkaline	
bulb	"any"	acidic	
		"any"	

Your name: