

# Nottingham Country Garden Club

Newsletter  
October, 2012



## NCGC October Meeting

Thursday October 4, 2012 9:30 am  
MUD Bldg. #81  
805 Hidden Canyon Katy

Our October presentation will be "The Historical, Cultural, & Culinary Aspects of Pumpkins, Squash, and Gourds". Our guest speaker is Corrie Ten-Have.

What a great way to kick off the fall season. You won't want to miss this presentation!



## NCGC Christmas Luncheon

Nottingham Country Garden Club's Christmas luncheon will be held on Thursday, December 6, 2012 at Carmelo's Restaurant in Katy. If you plan to attend we will have a sign-up sheet at our October and November meetings. Cost for the luncheon is \$25.00, payable by check or cash when you sign up.

## October Extra Activity

Our October Extra Activity will be "Painting Gourds for the Holidays". NCGC member Helen Poole will be guiding us through this activity. Helen will have some Halloween and Christmas patterns (plus a scarecrow) to choose from.

Cost will be \$10.00 for your supplies. Sign-ups will be at Thursday's meeting.

Date: Wednesday October 17, 2012  
Time: 9:30am and 1:00pm workshops  
Place: Alice Brown's Home  
1711 Mission Springs Drive  
Katy tx 77450

*Extra activities are open to NCGC members and personal guests only.*

## Looking Ahead



The November NCGC meeting will be "Hand-on Propagation - Seeds and Cuttings". Our speaker will be Jean A. Fefer. After Jean's presentation, we will have 2 workstations set up: one for planting seeds and another for cuttings. Please save 2-liter plastic soda bottles and 24 oz. cottage cheese type containers and bring them to the November meeting. The club will be providing the seeds, soil, and some cuttings, but bring cuttings from your own yard and share/swap with your friends. Also, plant some extra cuttings for our March plant sale fundraiser! you will be taking home planted seeds and cuttings to nurture!

## A Word From Our President

Hello to all my friends!

My calendar says "Fall/Autum" has begun. I am thrilled. I hope the weather will soon cooperate with temperatures that are more tolerable. We will indulge ourselves with our meeting topic about pumpkins, squash and gourds, work in our fall vegetable gardens, and learn how to paint gourds at our October workshop, (these informal gatherings are so much fun that I sometimes want to keep these treasures all to myself. But, I will share...) By the time we do all of this, certainly fall temperatures ought to catch up to us. Ahhh, go on. Put out the scarecrows and smiling pumpkins. I will see you very soon!

Sue

# Events and Workshops

## Fort Bend County Master Gardeners Monthly Program

Thursday, October 18, 2012

6:30 Social Time

7:00-8:00 Program

Bud O'Shieles Community Center

1330 Band Road

Rosenberg, TX

Program: "General Gardening Information"

Presenter: Vince Mannino, Director of Fort Bend  
County AgriLife Extension Service

### Plan Ahead:

Thursday November 15, 2012

"Ferns from A-Z"

Darla Harris, President of Texas Gulf Coast Fern  
Society

## Houston Federation of Garden Clubs

Friday, October 12, 2012

Houston Civic Garden Center

1500 Hermann Dr., Houston

**Program:** "Flowers With a WOW Factor"

**Presenter:** Dawn Stover, Research Associate, Stephen F.  
Austin Mast Arboretum.

Plants with sex appeal or at the very least, a little unusual!

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

### Plan Ahead:

Friday November 9, 2012

"Georgia O'Keefe and Jean Tinguely -Discovering a Different  
Interpretation"

Design Program by those Designing Women who think  
outside the box.

## Save the Date

### The Garden Club of Houston's 70th Annual Bulb and Plant Mart

Friday October 12 9:30am to 6:00pm

Saturday October 13 9:30am-4:00pm

Holly Hall Retirement Community

2000 Holly Hall Drive Houston 77054

Fannin across from Reliant Stadium

### Harris County Master Gardener Lecture Series

October 16, 2012 7:00pm

AgriLife Extension Office

3033 Bear Creek Dr.

"Daylilies"

Speaker: Loris Garrett



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

*HAPPY BIRTHDAY To:*

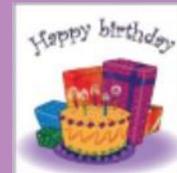
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*DORE SULISTYO 15*

*DESSIE HUBENTHAL 22*

*MARGARET COOK 24*

*DORIS NETTO 28*



## 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 will be available for purchase at each meeting.
- our annual Plant Sale is tentatively set for Saturday, March 23, 2013. This is a great time to propagate plants in your garden and get them started over the winter for the plant sale. Also, many garden centers are having sales up to 75% off right now. How about picking up a few inexpensive plants and care for them over the winter, then donate them to the plant sale in March. What a great way to help our fundraising efforts!



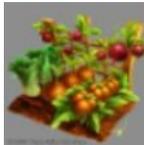
## OCTOBER IN THE GARDEN

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



- If you didn't get your flowerbeds and vegetable garden mulched in September, be sure to do it this month. Mulching will trap soil warmth and moisture that will benefit plant roots and reduce winter weeds.
- When daytime temperatures are consistently in the low 80s, you can turn off your irrigation system. Plants will only need water every 3 weeks or so throughout late fall and winter. If there is not enough rain, periodically turn on your system manually.
- Don't forget to fertilize and water vegetable crops through the fall and winter, just less frequently.
- Prepare an area to stockpile those soon-to-fall leaves. A large circle of fencing mesh wire will provide a nice space for storing leaves to use throughout the seasons for mulch and compost.
- Pick up, prune, and destroy insect and disease-infested plant materials, including dried fruit on trees, fallen fruit, fire blight killed branches and any other material that might be harboring insect pests or their eggs and disease spores or bacterial diseases.
- Stop feeding your roses this month. Don't cut blooms off except for a few to take indoors. Leaving blooms on will encourage the rosebush to slow its growth in preparation for winter.



### WHAT TO PLANT IN OCTOBER

- October is the time for planting cool-season vegetables. Beets, carrots, radishes, sugar snap peas, turnips, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, collard greens, kale, mustard greens, onions (multiplying), shallots, garlic, and swiss chard are some of the many varieties that grow well in the fall. Lettuces and spinach need to wait until later in the month when temperatures are a little cooler.
- October is a great time to plant perennial herbs such as oregano, marjoram, thyme, mint, rosemary and chives. This allows the transplants time to develop strong root systems. When spring arrives they'll be ready to go!
- This is the month for planting strawberries in Southeast Texas. Fall-planted berries will produce a bumper crop from late winter to May. Plant in raised beds for good drainage. Water plants twice a day for the first few days, then once a day for another few days to help them get established. Fertilize a week or two after planting.
- Start planting those spring-blooming flowers that germinate in the fall and grow slowly over winter, producing beautiful blooms in the spring. Included in this group are bluebonnets, poppies, larkspur, hollyhocks, sweet peas, cornflower and scarlet flax. Prepare the bed well by adding compost. Keep the soil moist to aid in germination. If the days are very warm and sunny, a little shade cover will help as well.



**Cabbage Looper**

#### Creepy Crawly Corner

Managing pests in the garden is somewhat easier in the fall and winter, but be on the lookout for the cabbage looper (inchworm) who may be enjoying a tasty meal of your cabbage, broccoli, and lettuce plants. An effective organic control is to spray with Bt.

#### 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, 2011 newsletter available on our website