



GRAPEVINE
GARDEN CLUB
 Established 1932



GARDEN CLUB of the YEAR

2011, 2014, 2015

Member of
 National Garden Clubs, Inc., South Central Region,
 Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., District II,
 and Garden Club Council of Ft. Worth

THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

September 2020

Remarkable Native Plants for Diverse Home Gardens

Many sun-loving, native Texas plants are popular ornamentals because they are good-looking and can beat the heat. But what about native plants for shade gardens, wet soils or non-irrigated areas? Which



plants will behave politely in the garden and which are best for wildscapes? And with plentiful, non-native nursery selections, why bother

with natives at all? Betsy Marsh will share her own adventures with native plants, explain why they make a difference and help you find the right ones for your home garden or landscape. Whether you have shade or sun, prefer a formal or a naturalistic look, she will help you find native Texas plants that will meet your needs and make gardening more rewarding.

See page 3 for information on this month's speaker.

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Grapevine Convention Center

1209 S. Main Street

Grapevine, Texas 76051

Please Note:

Please watch our website and Wednesday e-blasts for information about fall events!

Our September 22nd meeting will be virtual, via Zoom.

President's Message

It seems that our lives are on hold right now. We are waiting—waiting until we can resume our normal activities and routines. But inhabitants of our Natural World are not waiting. Their lives continue according to some internal clock that is oblivious to COVID-19. Monarch generation 4 has emerged from their chrysalises and instead of seeking a mate to procreate, are beginning their journey south. Hummingbirds are swarming around our feeders, Turk's cap and hibiscus—massing to head south in a couple of weeks. What do these tiny intrepid travelers need as they fly great distances at this time of year? They need nectar—for energy!

Remember the list of Our Favorite Fall Nectar Plants published in the September 2019 Newsletter? That list now has a permanent home on our GGC website under the Learning Resources tab. Check it out! It's not too late to seek more nectar plants for your gardens.

GGC continues to plan interesting programs and activities that can safely include and engage our members. Be sure to read our Wednesday Email Updates to see how you can stay involved. Our next three general meetings will be *virtual*. If you are not accustomed to Zoom, please don't be reluctant to try it out. I remember how nervous I was the first few times I used this new technology to reach out to our Executive Board! In our Wednesday Update this week, please look for the introductory session on Zoom and register. Come see how unintimidating new technology can be!

Enjoy your gardens. Be watching for how our Natural World celebrates the changing seasons. Although we may feel that our lives are on hold, we can still enjoy how these remarkable life forms continue to respond to their internal clocks—in spite of today's human challenges.

Dinah Chancellor



Monarch on hibiscus



Ruby-throated hummingbird
on firecracker bush

Please refer to GGC's website for full calendar of club events.

<http://grapevinegardenclub.org/calendar>

Gardens on View: Tours to members' or friends' gardens following a general meeting.

Since there are no physical general meeting for the remainder of 2020, Gardens on View will not take place until further notice. However, we will be working on Open Gardens and, if you would be interested in showing your garden, please contact Joetta King P 38 of the yearbook.

Submitted by Catriona Noble



New Member Coffee
hosted by
Grapevine Garden Club
Grapevine Botanical Gardens
Pewitt Pavilion
Tuesday, October 13, 2020
9:30 am - Social
10:00 am - Getting Involved

RSVP by October 1, 2020
email or call
miriamward524@yahoo.com
817-488-1650

Masks &
Social Distancing
Required

You're Invited!

Stay Safe

Remarkable Native Plants for Diverse Home Gardens

Betsy Marsh

Betsy Marsh is the Conservation Education Coordinator for the Tarrant Regional Water District, a Tarrant County Master Gardener, and Grapevine Garden Club member.

Growing up camping in Texas state parks, native plants stole her heart at a young age and she has been gardening with Texas natives for more than a decade. She attended the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Michigan where she received an MS in Natural Resource Policy and Behavior. As a program coordinator, consultant and editor for various non-profit organizations, she worked with many indigenous, environmental, and human rights advocates from the U.S. and Latin America before settling with her family in Grapevine. Most recently, she worked for Grapevine Parks and Recreation Department developing environmental education programs for youth, helping schools create native plant gardens, managing habitat restoration efforts, and promoting biodiversity research. As a proud mom of three and volunteer, she also worked with Grapevine Elementary to build and care for a beautiful school garden.

Fall Open Garden Event

Despite social distancing currently being an issue and limiting GGC activities, you have an opportunity to view members' gardens by attending Open Garden events. When your garden is in peak bloom with a favorite plant or perhaps your vegetable garden is looking lush, contact Joetta King, Open Garden Coordinator, and she will help you promote a time when club members can visit at your convenience.

To kick off the Open Garden events for this club year, Ed and Joetta King are inviting you to visit their garden on October 5th, 7th or 9th between the hours of 9-11 a.m. It's a small garden and to limit the number attending at a specific time, contact Joetta and indicate a time preference (9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30 a.m.) If these dates/times are not suitable for your schedule, another appointment for your visit can be arranged.

The Kings' garden has been developed over 35 years and is best known for the bluebonnets blooming each spring, but probably the most unique aspect of the half-acre landscape is that there is no lawn. Small lava stone and flagstone pathways lead you through beds featuring shrubs, groundcovers and perennials suitable for both sunny and shady areas. Unlike most residences with outdoor living spaces located in the backyard, patio seating areas were also created in the front landscape to take advantage of the prevailing breezes during the heat of summer. The garden markers that identify plants may be helpful as you browse the garden and see a plant that you would like to use in your landscape. (FYI - Metal garden markers are available for sale on the GGC website.)

A favorite bloomer in the King fall garden is *Lycoris radiata*. It is such a delightful surprise! There is no sign of the plant from late spring when the foliage disappears until a narrow stem emerges in the fall and grows to 18" height. After a summer of miserable temperatures, the red-spidery bloom atop the stem declares that at last it is fall! The bulb has many common names – naked lady, Guernsey lily, surprise lily and spider lily. After the bloom disappears, foliage emerges to a 6" ht and will remain evergreen through the winter. In past seasons *Lycoris* have bloomed any time between late September to mid-October in their landscape, but hopefully they are at peak bloom and complementing other annual and perennial fall color during your visit.

Wanda Stutsman has graciously offered to host an Open Garden event later this fall, so read the newsletter & e-blasts for the announcement! It is up to the host to determine the visiting schedule and limits.



Submitted by Joetta King

Ways And Means

Virtual Craft Fair

This year, we are going to have a virtual craft fair.

The Fair is open to all members to showcase their handmade crafts. If you would like to participate, you would need to send me up to 12 photos of products along with prices. Visitors to your online booth would email or contact you directly to arrange payments and pickup.



We are going to create a page for each “booth” and a main page that links them all.

The fair will be posted for the whole month of October with weekly E-blasts.

We have 8 participants so far. If anyone else would like to participate, contact me and send a payment of \$10 payable to the G G C. Cutoff date is September 23rd.

Online Store

We are having a sale on our Quick Reference Guides, marked down from \$7 to \$5. Butterflies, Wildflowers, Fish, Bats, -- these are excellent handy references to local flora and fauna.

With all orders \$20 or more you'll receive a free twine in a can, while supplies last.



The on-store is available 24/7, which is especially useful as we will not be having any face to face meetings till next year. You pay online and pick up at my home in Grapevine.

Please visit the G G C website to see if there are any items that you need for yourself or for gifts. Remember, all purchase help fund our club activities

Thank you!
Alexandra Evans, Ways & Means

In the best interest of our members and the community,
we have cancelled this year's Holiday Luncheon.



Conservation Corner: Fall planting

Being able to garden and plant in the fall is our reward for surviving yet another hot and dry Texas summer. Planting in the fall may be a new idea to some gardeners, but there are many benefits to it.

The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago.

The second best time is now.

So the proverb goes...



(My late father-in-law in his family's garden seventy or so years ago. Check out those iris!)

In Texas, Arbor Day is celebrated on November 1st, while the rest of the country celebrates the planting of trees in April. Why the difference? Because trees (and shrubs) planted in the fall get off to a much better start than those planted in April.

Our soil never freezes in zone 8a, even in our coldest winters, which means that plant roots continue to grow year round. Plants that are put into the ground now have time for their roots to get established, with at least six months of cooler temperatures and heavier rainfall before summer sets in yet again. The soil is still warm from summer, while the air is cooling down, thus creating better growing conditions. All of those factors give plants an advantage come August to plants that weren't planted until spring.

If you are in the market for trees or shrubs and fall leaf color is a consideration, fall is a great time to visit nurseries and see plants while their leaves are turning color. Leaf color varies from tree to tree, even within one variety, so look for individual plants that have the most vibrant fall colors.

If you are in the market for trees, visiting a botanical garden or arboretum is a great way to look at many types of trees in one location. The Grapevine Botanical Garden, for example, is free and open to the public and features several dozen different trees, all native or well adapted to North Texas.

Need another reason to plant now? Fewer insects are out and about in the fall, which means less pest management and a more enjoyable gardening environment.

Trees, shrubs, hardy perennials and winter hardy annuals (such as pansies and ornamental kale) can all be planted now. Availability of plants will vary by garden center, with independent garden centers carrying the best selection in the fall.

Don't forget that we can also grow vegetables, such as lettuce and beets, through the winter. Check with your county extension office for a chart of what vegetables can be planted now.

Submitted by Suzie Agnew

Wall-Farrar Adopt-An-Area: Trail Tidy-Up

Monday September 28, 2020 – 9 a.m.

Location is the Wall-Farrar Nature Trail Grapevine. Karen Rice is the Coordinator. Social distancing will be practiced. Parking is allowed courtesy of Church at the Cross at 3000 William D Tate Ave, Grapevine, TX 76051.



Fall Bulb Sale

I always love to watch for spring flowering bulbs as they bring color and interest to garden beds and borders in the early spring. Some of the tiny bulbs even have “wandered” on their own to other parts of the garden - probably caught up in a trowel full of soil when transplanting other nearby perennials. These bulbs will be available at the end of October and should be planted by mid December. The bulbs will send out their roots and get established in your garden with the foliage appearing a couple of months later. Please email you orders based on the provided form to Karen Rice. Orders will end on September 30 and bulbs will be ready for pick-up the end of October. Payment will be collected when picking-up your bulb order. Supply is limited.

Happy bulb shopping! Karen Rice – Fall Bulb Coordinator

Membership

Welcome to our new 2020-2021 year!!

We have a total of 240 members!!

There are 141 individual memberships and 47 family memberships for a total of 186 paid memberships.

A very special welcome to our newest member - Kim Briggs, Evelyn Urbanosky's daughter!

Submitted by Susan Holley, Membership



2020 Fall Planted Bulbs For Spring Blooms



Spanish Bluebells - *Hyacinthoide hispanica* 'Excelsior' Late spring; Heirloom from 1906.

10-12" (18 Bulbs)



Narcissus Salome - Late to mid spring; 1958; creamy petals, peachy yellow cup.

13-18" (9 Bulbs)



Narcissus Sweetness - Mid spring; Golden yellow, fragrant; heirloom 1939.

12-14" (18 Bulbs)



Narcissus Rip Van Winkle - Early - midseason; yellow ragamuffin look; Historic 1884.

5-8" (18 Bulbs)



Tulip Clusiana v. Charysantha - Early-mid spring; red and yellow; naturalize when happy; 1948.

6-8" (27 Bulbs)



Rolf Fiedler Ipheion Early spring: naturalizer.

3-6" (27 Bulbs)



Leucojum Giant Snowflakes - mid-late spring; Heirloom.

18-24" (9 Bulbs)

All bulbs are \$10/bag

NO. OF BAGS	2020 Fall Planted Bulbs—Spring Blooms	\$10/bag
_____	Spanish Bluebells - Hyacinthoide hispanica 'Excelsior' Late spring; Heirloom from 1906; 10-12"	18 bulbs
_____	Salome - Late to mid spring; 1958; creamy petals, peachy yellow cup; 13-18"	9 bulbs
_____	Sweetness - Mid spring; Golden yellow, fragrant; heirloom 1939; 12-14"	18 bulbs
_____	Rip Van Winkle - Early - midseason; yellow ragamuffin look; Historic 1884; 5-8"	18 bulbs
_____	Tulip Clusiana v. Charysantha - Early-mid spring; red and yellow; naturalize when happy; 1948; 6-8"	27 bulbs
_____	Rolf Fiedler Ipheion Early spring: naturalizer; 3-6"	27 bulbs
_____	Leucojum Giant Snowflakes - mid-late spring; Heirloom; 18-24"	9 bulbs

_____ **Total number of bags** \$ _____

Contact Information

Name _____

Email address, phone number



Order your bulbs by 9/30

Bulbs ready for pick-up 10/26 – pay at time of pick-up

\$10 / BAG

Email order form to kl.rice@verizon.net