

THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE



TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2011

Stacy's Furniture & Accessories

Community Room, 3rd Floor

1900 South Main, Grapevine

Social 9:30 A.M.

Meeting and Program 10:00 A.M.

We thank our members for continuing to carpool and park in the outer slots to allow Stacy's customers to park near the store entrance.

THANK YOU TO OUR HOSTESSES: Judy Ullman (Chair), Shannon Bordelon, Vicki Haines, Sandy Kancavicus, Laura Keathley, Tanya Kruger, Bea Stevens, Paula Wilbanks.

APRIL PROGRAM

“Texas Wildscapes”

Brett Johnson



Brett Johnson, an urban biologist with Texas Parks and Wildlife for six years, will speak at our April general meeting, discussing how to create a wildscape in our yards and urban landscapes and the steps we can take to receive certification from the Texas Wildscape Program and Best of Backyard Wildscapes. Brett received a BS in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from Texas A&M and an MS from Texas Tech. He has worked on research related to white-tailed deer, fire ants, turkeys, and black bears.

APRIL 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope you are ready for the busiest month of the year for the Grapevine Garden Club. In addition to our usual activities, April brings the annual plant sale. The proceeds from the sale provide funds for our scholarship and civic activities.

The plant sale is a huge undertaking. Planning begins months ahead, and volunteers are busy in many areas of preparation. Naturally the biggest effort is to provide the best possible plants to sell. We have wonderful choices of nursery plants that are carefully picked from a number of sources. In addition, our heirloom plants are always a big hit. Members contribute plants from their own gardens which are proven winners in this area. There is even a group of "diggers" that pot up plants directly from members' yards.

Other plant sale volunteers take charge of signage, publicity, cashing and even making wonderfully informative signs for each plant. There is the setup crew and the cleanup crew. We have members helping customers find just the plants they need for their yard and other members who help with keeping plants "safe" while customers continue to shop.

If you've experienced the plant sale before, you are familiar with this process. But if you are a new member this year or have never attended a plant sale, be sure to be at the Farmer's Market by the Gazebo on Main Street. The sale starts at 8:00 A.M. and continues to 1:00 P.M.

Be sure to bring your friends and neighbors too!

- Sarah Erickson, President



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Location
April 16-17	Flowercade	Ft. Worth Botanic Garden
April 17	Southlake Garden Tour	Southlake
April 19	Gardeners on the Go (GOG) Tour - Ft Worth Nature Center and Refuge - Wildflower hike	Ft Worth Nature Center
April 21	GOG and Tarrant County Master Gardeners Tour - Residential Gardens	Grapevine and Colleyville
April 22	Earth Day Celebration	Grapevine
April 23	Ft Worth Iris Society Show	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
April 26	GGC General Meeting	Grapevine - Stacy's Furniture
April 30	GGC Annual Plant Sale	Grapevine
May 1	Colleyville Garden Club Promenade	Colleyville
May 4	GOG - Oak Grove Ballfield Complex Tour	Grapevine
May 18	Ft Worth Garden Club Council Meeting	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
May 21	Ft Worth Herb Society Festival	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
May 24	GGC Spring Luncheon	Grapevine
June 4	North Texas Daylily Society Flower Show	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
June 9	GOG - Botanical Research Institute of Texas	Ft Worth, near Botanic Garden

APRIL 2011

GARDENS ON VIEW

Marge Carpenter, Coordinator



Once again GGC members have graciously opened their gardens for viewing, following the April 26 general meeting. Hostesses for the garden tours are Sylvan Sigler, Peggy Harris and Doris Hill. Pack a lunch and share conversations with friends on Doris' spacious porch. She will provide drinks and cookies.

Directions to their homes will be provided by email prior to the meeting. A few hard copies will be available at the meeting.

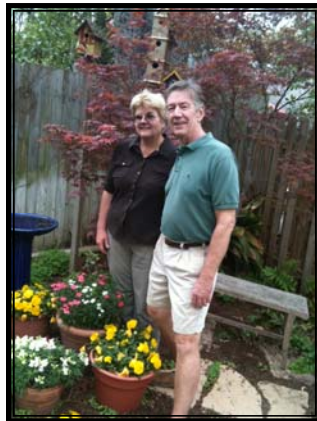
GARDENS ON VIEW RECAP

After the general meeting on March 22, tours were offered of two members' gardens and one elementary school garden. Diana Pospisil's large pie-shaped lot has gardens in both front and back full of beautiful perennial flowers that made it through our harsh winter. She also has a beautiful fish pond with waterfall. Pam Braak's garden also had lots of early blooms as well as some adorable hat-shaped birdhouses on her fence and an unexpected mirror looking into a surprise garden. The garden at Heritage Elementary School is the work of the schoolchildren. The master gardeners report the children are amazed when they pull vegetables out of the ground that they thought only came from the supermarket!

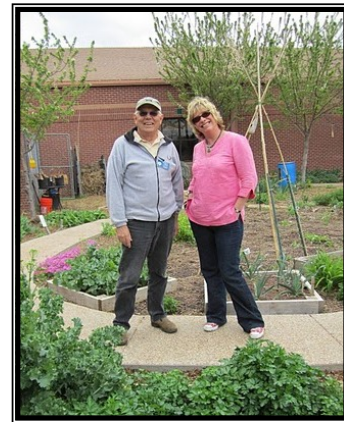
Approximately 35 people participated in the self-guided tours.



Diana Pospisil's garden



Pam and Greg Braak in their backyard



Master Gardener Bob Lundin and PTA liaison Becky Brookes host GGC members at Heritage Elementary School garden.

APRIL 2011

FLOWERCADE

Mark your calendars for Friday, April 15th

Our club participates in a flower show called *Flowercade* in April of every year. Participation in this event is one of the easiest things our club will ask of you. Here's how simple it is:



Look around your garden to get some ideas about which plants you might choose. Then, **on Friday, April 15th find two or three beautiful examples of your great gardening skills.** Look for specimens that are healthy, spotless and disease-free. **Cut them and put them in water.**

Things to remember:

1. Plant material must be fresh and grown by you on your own property.
2. Container grown plants must have been in your possession for at least 90 days, except for multiple plantings (dish gardens) that must have been in your possession for at least six weeks.
3. A cut specimen is to be one stem, bloom, spike, or spray, etc. Flowering plants should be in bloom.
4. Entries will be judged on Saturday morning, April 16th, so you will want to choose a specimen that is close to looking good on the morning you bring it to enter. This can be tricky, so just do your best.
5. The presence of insects or disease will disqualify an exhibit.

Then, all you have to do is to get those specimens to the Flowercade Committee. Our committee will be at **Joan Stewart's home** (Yearbook page A-49) **from 9:00 A.M. until noon.** We can be found at the back of the driveway, in Joan's spacious green house.

1. The first thing we will do is complete the entry cards with your name, the common name of your entry, plus its botanical name. It helps if you know the common and Latin names of your entries. If you don't, it's okay. Our committee will be able to assist you.
2. We put each specimen in one of the green bottles that will be available. We put plastic wrap around the stem to hold the specimen in place.
3. We attach the entry card and then it's ready to be transported to the flower show. Friday afternoon we transport the bottles to Fort Worth.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 16 and Sunday, April 17.

Plan to attend Flowercade. It is held at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden in the Moncrief Garden Center. It is open to the public Saturday, April 16th from noon until 6:00 P.M. On Sunday it is open from 1:00 - 5:00 P.M. **Admission is free!**

Since our club doesn't actually do a flower show this is a great opportunity to see what can be grown in our area plus see dozens of artistically created flower arrangements.

There will be two free programs on Saturday. At 1:00 P.M. the program will be "Great Dixter" by Aaron Bertelsen - a program about the UK's most creative garden. At 2:00 P.M. the program will be "The English Look" presented by Steve Huddleston. Steve is the Fort Worth Botanic Garden's Senior Horticulturist. It will be the perfect time to get great tips on how to take your spring planting into summer.



PLANT SALE NEWS

APRIL 29 AND 30

Only three weeks remain until the plant sale! The diggers have been busy digging and the buyers have been busy ordering plants. Plans are shaping up for a terrific plant sale. With spring finally rolling in, it will soon be time to shop the wonderful selection of plants to be offered on April 29 and 30. The Members Only sale will be from 4:00 - 6:00 P.M. on Friday the 29th. A 10% discount is offered to members for their total purchases - only on Friday. The sale to the public begins at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, April 30th. If you want to help and have not yet signed up, please contact Karen Rice (Yearbook page A-44).

- Karen Rice, Plant Sale Coordinator



IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Membership renewals for one year are due by May 1st. An added benefit to membership this year is a free 1-year subscription to Better Homes and Gardens magazine to the first 100 members that renew. We were given 100 subscription cards for this purpose by the American Public Gardens Association.

Count the benefits of membership:

- 🌸 Your information and photo in our annual yearbook when a new issue is distributed every September
- 🌸 Membership-only tours to interesting local gardens and longer jaunts
- 🌸 Entry to all club civic activities
- 🌸 Participation in our annual plant sale with members' discount

Mail your check for \$30 single membership or \$35 for family to Grapevine Garden Club, PO Box 811, Grapevine, Texas 76099. If you are mailing your renewal dues to the Post Office box and want a free 1-year subscription card, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope. Or bring your check to the general meeting on April 26. Don't miss out! Rejoin this month and continue the fun.

- Harriet Perrello, Membership VP

SOWING SEEDS AND GROWING FRIENDSHIPS

GGC Spring Luncheon

Tuesday, May 24

10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Val Reed, Luncheon Coordinator

As the club has grown in membership, the need to stage the spring luncheon has grown from the pleasure of having the luncheon at private homes and gardens where we strolled members' gardens and shared gardening tips to having the luncheon at local public parks. It was great fun to stroll members' gardens and share gardening tips. However, the joy of looking back over the accomplishments of the club and the growing friendships that have developed through participation in activities remain a constant.

You will take pleasure in this casual picnic at the Trawick Pavilion with its wonderful view of Lake Grapevine. Consider joining your gardening friends at the luncheon and applaud the officers who will be guiding us through the coming year. The work involved in staging the GGC plant sale will seem worth it as you visit with this year's scholarship recipients.

This is a chance to sample delicacies provided by members. Have you perused the recipe collections available on the GGC website? Don't forget to bring a copy of your recipe to the luncheon or submit it by email to Barbara Atkins (Yearbook page A-1) so that it can be included in the next edition of *Out of the Garden and Into the Kitchen*.

RSVP, Yes only - Linda Barraclough

(Yearbook page A-3) by May 17 and designate your contribution, dessert or salad, for the luncheon. Children "in arms" are welcome. If you wish to invite a guest, please give the guest's name to Linda Barraclough.



Wayne and Lou Milner prepare their garden for the 2006 Spring Luncheon

Scenes from the 2010 Spring Luncheon



APRIL 2011

GARDENERS ON THE GO

Joetta King, Coordinator

Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge (FWNC&R)

Tuesday, April 19

9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Guests and children may be invited; no pets
Fee - \$9 (includes entrance fee and guided
tour)

Following a brief introduction to the
FWNC&R, we will be joining a naturalist
for a leisurely hike to view the spring wild-
flowers. The tour will begin at 10:00 A.M.
Bring a brown-bag lunch to enjoy in the
picnic area following the hike.

The FWNC&R is a hidden jewel - a wilder-
ness comprised of forests, prairies and wet-
lands reminiscent of how much of the Fort
Worth area once looked. At 3,621 acres, it
is one of the largest city-owned nature cen-
ters in the USA.

If interested in attending, email or phone
Joetta King (Yearbook page A-26)

www.fwnaturecenter.org



Going Green at Oak Grove Park (Grapevine)

Wednesday, May 4

9:30 A.M.



- Tour conducted by Kevin Mitchell, Assistant Director of Parks and GGC member
- RSVP, yes only - Joetta King (Yearbook page A-26)
- No fee - Beverage provided
- Bring a bag lunch or snack to be enjoyed in a nearby picnic area following tour

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GARDENERS ON THE GO, cont. Going Green at Oak Grove Park

Built in the 1960s, the layout of the old ballfield complex at Oak Grove Park failed to meet current safety guidelines and was difficult to maintain. Over the years, surface water resulting from inadequate drainage along with additions to the park caused flood and maintenance issues and had poor visitor circulation.

The renovation and rehabilitation of nine ballfields for both baseball and softball was completed in 2009. Of particular interest to GGC members will be the efforts to incorporate environment-friendly features in the \$13M renovation project.



As you enter the renovated Oak Grove Ballfield Complex, your eye is drawn to the native stone-clad building located in the center of the complex enabling fantastic views of the surrounding fields and the lake below. The building was designed with several energy saving features: low flow toilets, low flow sinks, skylights in all rooms, on demand hot water, and automatic valves on the sinks/toilets. All rooms are equipped with occupancy sensors on the lights and fans to save electricity. The high pitched roof also serves as a source of natural ventilation for the restrooms, and fans/vents help draft natural air through the building. Glass blocks enable natural light to enter all rooms and reduce the use of electricity. The gutter system on the roof captures rainwater which is then returned to Lake Grapevine.

Grapevine is a member of Tree City USA, a tree planting and tree care program sponsored by The National Arbor Day Foundation for cities and towns in the US. It is not surprising that when over 100 trees were planned to be bulldozed during the renovation project an alternative measure would be initiated.

The Parks and Recreation Department decided to move and replant as many trees as possible prior to the demolition and construction. The larger trees, with 10 - 14 in diameter, were hand dug and moved with a crane. The smaller 4 - 9 in diameter trees were dug using a tree spade. The trees were moved to a temporary nursery adjacent to the project site. When construction was completed the trees were moved back and incorporated into the new Ballfield Complex landscape plan. These transplanted trees made an immediate impact.

Unfortunately, many trees could not be moved. The design team was charged to modify the design to save as many of the large trees as possible. In the center of the complex is a grove of 20 in diameter live oak trees. These trees would be impractical to move efficiently. Thanks to the determination of city staff and the skill of the design team, the design of the new complex was altered to save the live oak trees. The playground design was altered as well to incorporate existing cedar elm and Chinese pistache trees, which will provide shade for the children. Several of the fields' fence lines were also shortened to save several existing post oak trees.

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GARDENERS ON THE GO, cont. Going Green at Oak Grove Park

"Grapevine has a long and proud history of tree preservation. Saving the trees at our Oak Grove Ballfield Complex showcases the creativity and foresight of our city staff, and is another example of why Grapevine is recognized as a leader in horticultural and ecological efforts," said Sharon Spencer, City Council and GGC member.

Conservation efforts continued with the construction of a 2.7 acre irrigation pond which is used to irrigate the baseball, softball, and soccer fields at Oak Grove Park using raw water from Lake Grapevine versus treated water. Not only is the use of raw water healthier for the turf but it is less costly than treated water. In fact, the cost savings from the use of raw water will pay for the construction of the pond, pump house, and pumping system in approximately 12 years.

One of the most significant elements due to return on the investment was the Council approving the latest green lighting system for the ballfields. This system, called Musco Light-Structure Green, uses fewer light fixtures than standard systems, thus using less electricity to power the lights.

Native plants that require less water were used for landscaping the complex to reduce the overall watering needs. And lastly, recycled concrete was used for the sub-base for the cushion material utilized under the play equipment rather than the typical gravel base mix.

Another resourceful element incorporated in this project was the recycling of the existing complex materials. Park staff removed all existing chain link fencing, bleachers, lights, wire, shade structures, and other amenities that had become obsolete due to all the updates. The chain link fencing, bleachers, and shade structures were reinstalled at Meadowmere Soccer Complex and Oak Grove Soccer Complex. Other elements were distributed to other parks in Grapevine. Items that were not able to be reused were removed and recycled.

Boasting many green features, the complex earned the Texas Recreation and Parks' Design Excellence Award. Join us on May 4 as Kevin Mitchell speaks to us about the conservation endeavors at Oak Grove Park. He oversaw the design and development of this incredible facility which is one of the most state-of-the-art sports complexes of its kind in North Texas.



LAST CHANCE TO ORDER YOUR GGC T-SHIRT

If you want to obtain a GGC short sleeve T-shirt before the spring plant sale, please contact Karen Rice (Yearbook page A-44) by April 14th.

APRIL 2011

GARDENERS ON THE GO

Grapevine and Colleyville Residential Garden Tour

Thursday, April 21
9:15 A.M. - Noon



When will your garden be finished? Never!

Over the past few years, you may have viewed the three gardens that will be featured on the Tarrant County Master Gardener & GGC tour on April 21. You may have seen these gardens, but they will look different!

If you know anything about gardening, you will understand that severe temperatures, storms, disease and changing shade conditions can make major changes in a garden design. Every garden is evolving and priorities change. The Purdys replaced wax myrtles mutilated by heavy snow with flowering dogwoods. Rosette disease infected seventy-five rose shrubs and climbers at the Stantons. The only treatment is removal. During the eighteen month wait before roses can be replanted, colorful blooming plants have been added to the beds. The emphasis on a low maintenance landscape has gained a new priority at the Kings as seating areas throughout the property provide a place to rest while performing gardening chores. You will find it interesting to see how each gardener deals with new priorities and natural challenges.

From a quarter acre garden to a four acre landscape, you will gain ideas as you study these gardens and be astonished by the diversity of plants being grown from exotics and natives to old-fashioned passalong plants. A raised vegetable garden, water features, garden art, meandering flagstone paths, the Taj Mahal of chicken coops, there is something of interest for everyone!



Tour limited to GGC and TCMG members - No guests or pets, no fee

RSVP REQUIRED to receive the schedule for visiting the gardens, driving directions and carpooling information. Joetta King (Yearbook page A-26)

GARDENERS ON THE GO RECAP



Cutting Style in Southlake by Joetta King and Elayne Vick

In the interest of all things living, be they horticultural or animal, one of the club's recent tours addressed both with a visit to Mary Jo and Jim Milner's 130-acre spread in Southlake where GGC members were treated to an overview of the ranch, its environment of fields, barns, stables, and the valued horses.

While Mary Jo is a member of the Grapevine Garden Club, she is also a top-notch cutting horse rider. Over the past 39 years, she and her husband have collected a number of honors. They are currently National Cutting Horse Association's (NCHA) second all-time leading non-pro money winners and members of the NCHA Non-Professional Hall of Fame.

Mary Jo married her high school sweetheart, Jim Milner. Jim worked at various jobs from farming to running cattle with Mary Jo's dad. With little money they began their married life in California. They coupled an improvement in their finances through shrewd investments with their increasing interest in cutting horse competition. Since the headquarters for the NCHA was located in Fort Worth, Jim began to look for property in the area to start a chain of Taco Bell Restaurants. Jim sold his Taco Bells located in Fort Worth back to Taco Bell and developed Taco Bell in Dallas with Mary Jo's brother, Gene Upshaw, as a partner. They purchased the Southlake ranch about 1978 and moved there in 1988.

After the couple moved to Fort Worth, Jim purchased his second cutting horse in 1972. He and the horse just didn't click – an important aspect of cutting according to Jim and Mary Jo. The horse's trainer suggested that Mary Jo show the horse instead. A natural at cutting from the beginning, Mary Jo, with her horses, won every title she entered that year (1972) in North Texas Cutting Horse Association events. "I'd missed my roots so badly. When I started cutting horses, it fulfilled a part of me that was missing," recalls Mary Jo. "I'm like one of those border collies that just loved working the cattle."

As the tour began, GGC members rubbed noses with the oldest and most affectionate money-earning horse on the ranch, Red White and Boon. Red, a gelding, holds the lifetime high money earner title in the NCHA. He is 22 years old and retired about five years ago. Mary Jo competed in cuttings with Red for nine years.

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GARDENERS ON THE GO RECAP, cont.

Cutting Style in Southlake

Following our tour of the tack room, we inspected Mary Jo's "rig," a long pickup and attached horse trailer she drives to competitions almost every week. The rig contains a living quarters section along with the horse section, which provides Mary Jo comfortable accommodations while she's on the road.

We followed Mary Jo and Jim to the cutting horse training arena. Mary Jo, mounted on Flo, demonstrated cutting using a simulator mimicking a cow's movement. Jim explained that in cutting horse competition, the horse and rider select and separate a cow (typically a steer or heifer) out of a small group. The cow then tries to return to its herd; the rider loosens the reins and leaves it entirely to the horse to keep the cow separated, a job the best horses do with relish, savvy, and style. A contestant has 2 ½ minutes to show the horse; typically three cows are cut during a run. A judge awards points to the cutter based on a scale that ranges from 60 to 80.

"Daddy taught me to respect and work with a horse," recalls Mary Jo. At age ten she was very active in the local 4-H Club and raised steers to show and sell. Just like her father before her, Mary Jo has passed on her love of nature and animals to her children and grandchildren. Perusing a collection of articles and award acknowledgements displayed at the home of Joey and Laurie Milner, it was very apparent that Milner children and grandchildren are following Jim and Mary Jo's success as cutting horse competitors.

After lunch on the loggia, members were treated to several brief DVDs with further scenes of cutting horse champions including the Milner family. Mary Jo answered members' many questions about the ranch, the animals, and the cutting horse skill. She attributes part of her success to her inherent cow sense (an ability to "read a cow") and her athletic competitiveness.



34 GGC members (including the Milners) attended the tour.

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GARDENERS ON THE GO RECAP, cont.

Cutting Style in Southlake

The Milner family has been involved in the development of the NCHA Charities Foundation since its inception in 1982. Joey Milner, son of Jim and Mary Jo, serves as the President of the Foundation which provided over \$2 million in scholarship funding for over 500 different youth involved with the sport of cutting and helps NCHA members in times of need.



Enjoying lunch on the ranch loggia.

Mary Jo stressed, "Family is what it's all about. If my family weren't with me, it might be different. I couldn't do this without their support. As long as they're with me, I'm not ready to quit. I'm working toward another world championship." With all the family who assisted in hosting the GGC visit, it is very apparent that they support Mary Jo in many endeavors. A special thanks to family members – Laurie Milner for graciously hosting lunch and to Charlene Upshaw and Lou Milner for assisting with lunch preparations.

Inspired by our ranch visit and learning of Mary Jo's induction into the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame in 2004, some members journeyed to Fort Worth for a docent guided tour of the Museum followed by lunch in the Cultural District. The NCHA World Championship Futurity scheduled for November-December in Fort Worth may find GGC members rooting for our fellow garden clubber.

Touring the Milner ranch was a new and learning experience for many members, but several had knowledge of this world. At any gathering in Texas, it's almost certain you would find a few people who are "horse conscious" and have experience in this world. Would that we were all so fortunate.

A Family of Cutting Horse Winners



Mary Jo Milner holds the record for World Championship Titles (a total of seven) 1981, 1986, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005
Reserve Championships (2nd place) 1973, 1974, 2006, 2010
Cowgirl Hall of Fame – inducted October 28, 2004



Jim Milner - World Championship Title 1974



Joey Milner – Reserve Championship Titles 2001, 2002 and Youth Hall of Fame (Mary Jo and Jim's oldest son and father to their grandchildren)



Jordan Milner – Granddaughter – Senior Youth World Champion and Youth Hall of Fame



Jake Milner – Grandson – Junior Youth World Champion



GGC SCHOLARSHIP MONEY AT WORK

More good news from Peter Reigelman, 2010-2011 GGC Scholarship Winner.

The following email is shared by **Linda Barraclough, Scholarship Coordinator:**

I wanted to inform Grapevine Garden Club about some exciting news. I have gotten word that I will be working this summer at Philmont Scout Ranch in Northern New Mexico. I can not wait to get back! The position that I will be filling is the Valle Vidal Specialist. This is a job that is right in the middle of conservation at Philmont. I will be in more contact with the National Forest Service and have many opportunities to interact with them. My job will lead me to many exciting places as I will get to participate in all conservation training at the beginning of the summer to get me ready. As the Valle Vidal Specialist I will be in charge of the conservation in the Valle camps which include Whiteman Vega, Seally Canyon, and Ring Place. The work that will be done at these camps through the use of conservation crews varies widely at Whiteman. I will be building mountain biking trails and rerouting trail that does not meet the requirement for sustainable trail. At Ring Place we will work on cleaning up the evasive thistle that has spread in that region. In Seally Canyon a new project might come about since last year's project was mostly finished. All this means that I will be ready to go for SFA in the fall. I can not wait to get there and to learn about everything that is involved in forestry. Again I can not thank you enough for your support!

Sincerely, Peter Reigelman

GGC CIVIC COMMITTEE IN ACTION

Paula Jones, Coordinator

Grapevine Garden Club Executive Board approved a sixth \$200 Seed Money Award. The money will go to two GRACE Food Pantry vegetable gardens to be used for plants and supplies. These gardens produce over 800 pounds of organically grown fresh vegetables each year for those in need from the local community.

The Civic Committee has worked hard this year to choose projects eligible for Seed Money.

We still have additional funds left for worthy applicants. Additional information is available on our website.

Bounty from the 2010 GRACE
Community Garden



APRIL 2011

CHILDREN'S CLASSES AT THE GRAPEVINE BOTANICAL GARDENS AT HERITAGE PARK



Helpers are needed for the Children's Classes coming up on Tuesday, April 19, and Tuesday, May 17. Both classes will be held from 4:00 to 4:45 P.M. Classes are held in the Pewitt Education Pavilion, if weather permits. Contact Val Reed (Yearbook page A-43)

Bluebell Baskets

April 19

Recycling is very important these days. Make art from already "used" items and decorate a Spring basket with your art work. Then we will plant grass seed in your decorated basket. This session includes a story time and a seed art craft activity.



May Flower Fun

May 17



Tiptoe through the flowers in your imagination as we create paper flowers, and cup flowers, and then we plant them. This session includes a story time and craft activity.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



In the coming weeks several opportunities exist to help show off the wonders of the Grapevine Botanical Gardens and the city of Grapevine.

Wednesday, April 20 volunteers are needed to help pre-package Earth Day activities material for children. Be at Lisa Grove's office from 9:00 A.M. - noon to help.

Volunteers are needed May 13 - 15 for Main Street Outdoor Days in Grapevine to help in the GGC booth. Contact Barbara Thompson (Yearbook page A-52) to sign up. You are not required to have docent certification to participate in these activities.

APRIL 2011



CGC PROMENADE May 1

The Colleyville Garden Club, which celebrated its 50th anniversary this past January, presents Promenade on Sunday, May 1 from 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. This nationally recognized garden tour features four private gardens and the heritage garden at the historic Webb House. Tour homes feature a variety of gardens with pools, ponds, and other water elements, plus gazebos, and Texas native and drought-resistant plantings.

Promenade is designed for gardeners and non-gardeners alike. A raffle, plant and tree sale, and educational exhibit are tour favorites.

Tickets are \$12 in advance; \$15 the day of the tour at the garden locations. Ticket outlets are Foreman's and Market Street in Colleyville, Ashlin's Ltd, Blooming Colors and Marshall Grain Co. in Grapevine, and Calloway's Nursery in Hurst and Southlake. Visit ColleyvilleGardenClub.org for details.

TAKING CARE OF MOTHER EARTH EXPO

April 22

Palace Arts Center
300 S. Main St Grapevine
1:00 - 6:00 P.M.

Celebrate Earth Day by learning how to reduce, reuse, and recycle. This trade show will house over 20 businesses promoting their products and services as they relate to sustainability, conservation and environmental awareness. Five 30-minute educational seminars are scheduled throughout the afternoon.

GGC will have a booth, featuring the butterfly and its life cycle. There will be kids' books, activities, coloring sheets and live caterpillars - all designed to educate both youth and adults about the important role butterflies play in gardening.

Come out, enjoy, and participate in the GGC booth activities.

Taking Care of Mother Earth
Expo and Movie
Presented by:
Statewide Remodeling
Friday, April 22 - Grapevine, Texas

Expo	Partners With:	Movie
1:00 pm - 6:00 pm FREE Admission Educational Demos 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm 3:30 pm 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm	Nash Farm Keep Grapevine Beautiful Grapevine Environmental Services Grapevine Botanical Gardens	7:30 pm Disney nature earth Admission \$5.00

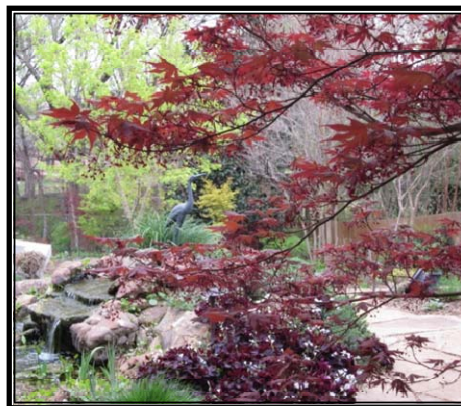
Grapevine Palace Arts Center | 300 S. Main St | 817-410-3100 | www.palace-theatre.com

THE MAKING OF A STAR

Toni Moorehead, Master Gardener

<http://signaturegardens.blogspot.com>

Have you heard of Texas Superstar® plants? Only the toughest, most reliable and best-looking plants are honored with the Superstar® designation. Every Texas Superstar® plant undergoes several years of extensive field trials by Texas AgriLife Research and the Texas AgriLife Extension Service. These plants are proven to perform superbly in the challenging growing conditions we face in Texas. During the field trials, plants receive minimal soil preparation, minimal water, and no pesticides. What this means to you is that you can count on success with these Texas-tough plants. Annuals, perennials, shrubs, trees, and even a few veggies made the cut. Visit <http://www.texassuperstar.com/> for additional details regarding the plants that made this prestigious path to stardom.

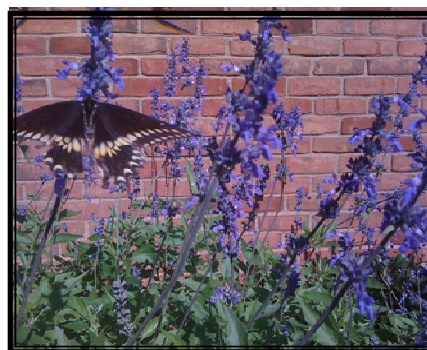


'Bloodgood' Japanese Maple

As I read about the Texas Superstar® plants I thought, "What makes a "star" in my garden?" After all, I have done my own "research field trials" of sort, meaning I started with a little research, plowed the "field" (tilled compost into my beds), and then threw in a lot of trials (and some errors, too).



'Mellow Yellow" Spirea



'Henry Duelberg' Salvia

To be designated a star in my garden, here are my qualifications: All of my selections must be able to withstand our brutal Texas summers as well as our unpredictable winters. They must do well with no heroic soil preparation other than the addition of compost and maybe a little expanded shale to improve drainage when necessary.

Shrubs must need minimal pruning — preferably none, or no more than once a year. The shrubs that top my list are: Dwarf Yaupon Holly, 'Nana' or 'Gulfstream' Nandina and Loropetalum. A couple recent favorites are 'Mellow Yellow' Spiraea and Oakland Holly. Even though I'm not a huge rose fan, I must admit Knock-Out Roses are stars because of their ease and long-lasting beauty.

(continued)

THE MAKING OF A STAR, cont.

Annuals and perennials must be showy for a long time and require minimal maintenance. *Salvia greggii* and 'Henry Duelberg' salvia (among many salvias) top my perennial list. I could not be without ornamental grasses, *Miscanthus Sinensis* 'Adagio' being my favorite. You just don't get more bang for your buck! Summer annuals for shade – caladiums and Dragonwing Begonias are hard to beat. For sun, angelonia, pentas, and sweet potato vine give nonstop color all summer long. Pansies and kale can survive our coldest winters.

Trees must have either spring blooms or great fall color. My 'Fire Dragon' Shantung Maple has both! I love the spring blooms of redbuds. A new variety, 'The Rising Sun', is quickly becoming a rising star in my garden! Of course, I cannot leave this category without mentioning the Japanese Maples. Their spring and fall foliage brings star quality to my shady areas.



'The Rising Sun' Redbud



Fall color of 'Fire Dragon'
Shantung Maple and
plumage of 'Adagio' grass



'Sango Kaku' Japanese Maple

Veggies – well, this is one category where I just plain need easy and productive! My favorite tomatoes are Celebrity, Superfantastic, Juliet, and Sweet 100. Basil is another must-have in the summer herb department. Lettuces, spinach, cilantro, and parsley are easy cool-season plants. Beyond that, all I can say is that I am still in the trial (and lots of error) mode.

So what plants are stars in your garden? I hope that you will take a look at the Texas Superstar® website and my list of favorites and see where you have room for some Texas-tough stars to shine in your garden.

APRIL 2011



WEST TEXAS STREET WORKDAY

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

9:00 A.M.

We have a workday scheduled for the 2nd Tuesday of April and we will begin at 9:00 A.M. Several folks have signed up to work that day, including Chuck Voelker, Pam Braak, Peggy Harris, Sarah Erickson, Suzie Cate, Margie Salame, Joan Kowalski, Bea Stevenson, Kathy Stone, Barb Morrell, Angela Ozymy, Jo Ogletree, Eloise Myers, Lisa Stokdyk, Joan Stewart, Val Reed, Harriet Perrello and Linda Krimm.

I look forward to seeing all of you there to weed, plant summer color and spread a little mulch. Be sure to dress for the weather and bring the necessary tools to work in the gardens.

If you have any questions regarding our workday, please be sure to contact me (Yearbook page A-18).

- Suzi Guckel, Chairman
West Texas Street Project



Suzi Guckel and Pat Mingus
at West Texas St



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED GGC IN MARCH 2011

Corrine Armatta - Keller
Nancy Carlson - N Richland Hills
Wendy Essex - Grapevine
Madeline Fitzgerald - Grapevine

Bob Lundin - Grapevine
Judy and Dan Reed - Grapevine
Joyce Schaffer - Saginaw
Debbie and James Smith - Euless

GGC MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL



Minnie Hall
Marilyn Johnson
Linda Krimm
Virginia Lawrence
Margaret Meharg
Patricia Mingus

Kevin Mitchell
Barbara Morrell
Barbara Oldani
Joyce Schaffer
Barbara Sloan
Judy Ullman
Shane Wilbanks