

THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE



TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2010

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: René Herndon (chair), Sandy Kancavicus, Suzi Guckel, Sherry Schultz, Jessie Misch, Camille Kissell, Paula Jones, and Beckie Underwood.

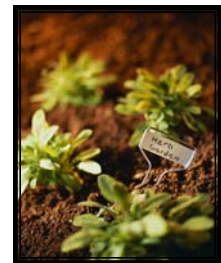


MARCH PROGRAM

"Herbs for Fun and Fragrance" Kay Nelson

After volunteering at the Dallas Arboretum, Kay developed an interest in herbs and became a charter member of the North Central Texas Unit of the Herb Society of America. She has installed herb gardens at DABS (Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Society) and K.B. Polk Elementary School in Dallas. She has an interest in herb gardening, aromatherapy and fragrance crafting.

Kay's landscaping business, CARETAKERS, specializes in commercial and residential installation of tropical and blooming plants using organic methods. She is also employed by North Havens Gardens and is presently serving there as a garden coach.



Who doesn't love herbs? The scents, the tastes and the different foliage. Mmmm! Come learn more about herbs and maybe you will decide to incorporate herbs in your garden.

MARCH 2010

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Well, it is finally true, I'm certifiable! Yes, that is what I said. I'm a Certified Wildlife Habitat gardener and proud of it.

When I was counting the different birds in my backyard a few weekends ago for the Great Backyard Bird Count, I had a chance to stare out the back window at the trees, the scrubby vegetation on the Corp of Engineers property behind us, and over into my neighbor Ella Barber's yard. Suddenly I realized that we had a great place for all our birds to live. That made me think about a wildlife habitat for our winged critters and the furry ones as well.



We've seen squirrels, possum, armadillo, raccoons, coyotes, red shouldered hawks, lots of goldfinch, robin, cedar wax wing, woodpeckers, and so many other birds in our backyard and I decided that was because it was a good place for them live. I googled Wildlife Habitat and found the requirements to become a Certified Wildlife Habitat. The site lists the requirements as food, water, cover, place to raise young, and reduction of chemicals, and to compost.

The habitat you are creating should have at least three sources of **food**, such as berries, seeds, nuts, nectar, foliage/twigs, fruit, pollen, suet, bird, squirrel, hummingbird, butterfly feeders. The next requirement is to have one source of **water**. This can be a birdbath, lake, stream, seasonal pool, butterfly puddling, river or pond.

I had never thought about it before, but the wildlife really needs **cover**, and you must provide at least two places for them to find shelter. This cover can be a wooded area, ground cover, rock pile or wall, roosting box, dense shrubs, evergreens, brush or log pile and a few others. Don't you already have some of these?

The next thing they need is at least two places to court, mate, bear and then **raise their young**. At first I thought, "Well, there goes the neighborhood," but then I read that all I need are mature trees, a meadow or prairie, nesting box, host plants for caterpillars, dead trees, or a dense shrub or thicket area. Well, I was looking at it right there in my back yard.

The last thing on their list was to be **environmentally friendly** with at least two of the following things: conserve water, compost, reduce erosion, mulch, control exotic or invasive species, and eliminate chemical pesticides and chemical fertilizers. Wow, how great is that!

Yes, I signed up. For \$20 I will get a certificate, a one year subscription to *National Wildlife*, and a quarterly e-newsletter. I know that I'm doing a small part to help our wildlife friends. Come on, join me, check out the website. (The link is on page 21 of this newsletter.) You may find that, like me, you already qualify. Oh, I forgot to mention, I did buy a \$30 sign to put in my yard that gives me bragging rights without uttering a word.

- Suzi Guckel, President



WELCOME TO OUR
NEW MEMBERS
WHO JOINED IN
FEBRUARY 2010

Candace Kyler - Grapevine
Dorothy Launius - Grapevine
Margaret Meharg - Grapevine
D'Ray Rice - Grapevine
Audrey Wahl - Grapevine



MARCH 2010



CHANGE IN ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

The executive board of the Grapevine Garden Club determined there was a need to increase annual membership dues. It has been 10 years since the last increase. The GGC has grown substantially during that period. As a larger organization we have additional financial obligations such as insurance, tax preparation, storage, and meeting room security.

Our other major operating expenses increase each year, such as monthly programs, yearbook, newsletter, Texas Garden Club, Inc. dues, and other miscellaneous expenses. We have been fortunate to raise substantial funds for our civic projects and scholarships, but these funds are dedicated to our good works, and are not part of our normal operating expenses.

The motion was made that dues for an individual membership shall be raised to \$30 (from \$20) per year. Prorated dues for the individual membership joining after January 1 of the fiscal year will be \$25. Dues for a family membership shall be raised to \$35 (from \$25) per year. Prorated dues for the family membership joining after January 1 of the fiscal year will be \$30. This motion will be presented at the March meeting for your approval.



DOCENT OPPORTUNITIES

The docent refresher seminar, originally set for March 9 will be rescheduled for April. The date and time will be furnished later. For further information please contact Lisa Grove or Shari Stanfield (Year book pages A-17 and A-52, respectively.)

Date	Activity	Time
Monday, March 22, 2010	Girl Scout Troop 5350. 10 Daisy Scouts, ages 5-6.	4:15 - 5:15 P.M.
Thursday, April 15, 2010	Waverly Park Garden Club. 38 to tour and have lunch in Grapevine.	To be announced.
Friday, April 16, 2010	DFW Environmental Earth Day at DFW Wellness Center. See newsletter page 9 for details.	9:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. (2 hr shifts)
Thursday, April 22, 2010	Arbor Day at Oak Grove Ball Park. All are invited to attend.	4:30 - 5:30 P.M.
Monday, April 26, 2010	Camp Wrinkle Ranch. Seniors from the Grapevine Senior Activity Center to tour and do veggie/herb containers to take home. About 20. All Docents participating are invited for the day's activities.	10:00 A.M. Settlement to City Museum Tour (45 min.) 11:00 A.M. hamburger cook out lunch at the Vinyards Campground. Noon tour and activities at Botanical Gardens.

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MARCH 2010

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 20	Garden Walk - Earthworm Extravaganza	Texas Discovery Gardens, Dallas
March 23	GGC General Meeting	Stacy's Furniture, Grapevine
April 10	Spring Plant Sale	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
April 17 - 18	GGC Annual Plant Sale	Gazebo on Main St., Grapevine
April 17 - 18	Ft Worth Iris Society Flower Show	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
April 18	Molly Hollar Wildscape Native Plant Sale	Randol Mill Park Greenhouse, Arlington
April 24 - 25	Flowercade	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
April 24 - 25	Spring Festival in the Japanese Garden	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
April 27	GGC General Meeting (9:30 A.M. start)	Stacy's Furniture, Grapevine
April 27	GGC Gardens on View (4 residential gardens)	Grapevine area
May 1 - 2	African Violet Show and Sale	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
May 5	GGC Waxahachie Tour (2 residential gardens) and The Greenery (garden center)	Waxahachie, TX
May 7	National Public Gardens Day	Grapevine Botanical Gardens
May 11	GGC Spring Luncheon	Trawick Pavillion - Lake Grapevine
May 15	Herb Society Festival	Ft Worth Botanic Garden
May 15	Butterfly Plant Sale	Discovery Garden, Dallas
May 29	North Texas Daylily Society Show	Ft Worth Botanic Garden



FLOWERCADE



Flowercade, a garden show, is sponsored by the Ft. Worth Garden Club Council and will take place on April 24-25 in Oak Hall at the Ft. Worth Botanic Garden Building. Our garden club has traditionally entered horticultural specimens and designs in this show.

Some of you have shown interest in entering an exhibit in the design, table setting or artistic craft sections of the show. If you plan on entering, please notify Sarah Erickson (Yearbook page A-15) right away so a space can be reserved for your design. If you feel that you need more advice or guidance, please call Sarah or Rachel Clark (Yearbook page A-11) for more information.

The horticultural specimens will be collected and readied for display on Friday, April 23. Sarah will give you suggestions for this process at the March garden club meeting.

- Sarah Erickson

MARCH 2010

GARDENERS ON THE GO
FORT WORTH
APRIL 8, THURSDAY 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Our Fort Worth tour will begin at **Tandy Hills Natural Area**. Tandy Hills Natural Area (THNA) is a 160-acre indigenous remnant of a prairie located in the heart of Fort Worth. The land was obtained by the City of Fort Worth Parks Department in the 1960s and designated a "natural area" in 1987. Since 1990, the park has been managed by the Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge.

Noted for its unusually complete collection of prairie flora, THNA contains more than 500 native plant species. The show of spring wildflowers is unsurpassed in the Metroplex. The land is a living demonstration of how most of Fort Worth and the Great Plains appeared in predevelopment times.

Prairie habitat is one of the most endangered ecosystems in America. It is a privilege to have the opportunity to have community activists and ardent advocates of Tandy Hills, Don and Debora Young, visit with us and lead us on a walking tour of this Natural Area. This is a natural setting and the walk is mildly strenuous but enjoyable.

The walk offers lessons in how homeowners unknowingly affect neighboring habitats. An example is the non-native plants, including nandinas, privets and photinias, that have spread from surrounding neighborhoods crowding out the native plants.

Don Young recently wrote the following observation on the Friends of Tandy Hills website.



***Tandy Hills Natural Area** is very much alive in the dead of Winter! The sound of snow falling and snow birds flying are filling the air above Tandy Hills Natural Area with beautiful music.*

*As the heavy, heavy snow continues to pile deeper and deeper, thousands of **Cedar Waxwings** and **Robins** are swarming over Tandy Hills. For the past few days the sky above our beloved prairie has become a kind of L.A. Freeway for uncountable numbers of these birds. The permanent residents, Cardinals, Jays, White-wing Doves and Sparrows are in a tizzy. Grackles are keeping their distance. The cosmopolitan invaders are pulling rank.*

*At the top of the local avian food chain, however, a **Cooper's Hawk** watched the countless newcomers with aplomb. The drive-thru window just came to her/him. Life doesn't get much better than this. Meanwhile, the first **Trout Lily** of 2010 has already bloomed and posed gracefully for me last week. They keep blooming earlier every year, or it seems that way. Tens of thousands at THNA are gradually reaching through the snow and up to the sky where the snow birds fly.*

Don and Debora founded Prairie Fest to raise public awareness of the importance of preserving all parks and prairies in north Texas. The year 2010 marks the 50th anniversary of Tandy Hills and the 5th annual Prairie Fest. This is an outdoor festival that celebrates our connection to the natural world through music, art, dance, environmental stewardship and wildflower tours. It is scheduled for Saturday, April 24 from 10 A.M.- 8:00 P.M.

(Continued)

MARCH 2010

GARDENERS ON THE GO, cont.

A \$5 per person cash donation is suggested for the Friends of Tandy Hills as an honorarium to Don and Debora Young for their guidance on today's tour.

Following our visit to Tandy Hills, we will be venturing to **Old Home Supply House** where you may find a piece of garden art to enhance your landscape. Their garden area is full of new and vintage fountains, statuary, planters, wrought iron gazebos, trellises, arbors and benches of all sorts. (Tour attendees will receive a 10% discount on purchases.)

Our other shopping sites will interest both gardeners and cooks.



Home to Garden's unique containers and succulent plantings will amaze you. This whimsical-eclectic nursery was one of the favorite stops on the *2007 Garden-Art-Shopping Tour*. Dallas Morning News description of this nursery - "Imagine that the Mad Hatter threw a tea party at Shrek's and the Fab Five did the decorating." Tour attendees will receive a complimentary 4" plant.

Elizabeth Anna Samudio, owner of **Old World Garden Nursery**, presented the GGC January program, "Gardens that heal, creating your sacred space." We will take this opportunity to visit her eco-friendly garden center. As a cancer survivor, Elizabeth emphasizes feeding the earth with organic products. Don't expect a typical nursery! Hens and pet rabbits wander the 1-acre site. You can anticipate a good supply of plants including native, adaptive and useful perennials; heirloom tomato, pepper and melon plants grown naturally; and pesticide free herbs. Elizabeth will be offering the following specials for our tour group: quart color plants (\$4.95) - buy one and get the second at 30% off or buy two and get the third plant at 50% off; 15% off all perennials; buy 5 perennials and pay only \$6.95 each; compost tea regularly \$7.50 reduced to \$5; 10% off all other items excluding produce.

Pendery's World of Spices is a marvelous source of pungent chilies, spices, salsas, balms and unusual kitchenware. Tour attendees will receive a complimentary spice sample and a Pendery's catalog.

Of course, we will need nourishment! The choice of an eatery for lunch on W. Magnolia Avenue will be at the discretion of each carpool group.

If you wish to attend this tour, sign up at the March General Meeting or contact **Joetta King** (Yearbook page A-26) by April 1. Members attending will receive additional information about the tour by email or telephone.

For further information:

<http://www.tandyhills.org/>

<http://www.penderys.com/>

<http://www.hometogarden.biz/>

<http://www.OLDHOMESUPPLYHOUSE.COM/>

<http://www.elizabethanna.net/>



MARCH 2010

ANNUAL SPRING MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON



"GARDEN FRIENDS IN TWENTY TEN"

Tuesday, May 11

Lakeside Picnic

Social 10:30 A.M. Lunch 11:00 A.M.

General Meeting 11:45 A.M.

Trawick Pavilion on the shores
of Grapevine Lake (in Oak Grove Park)
2700 Darren G. Medlin Trail

Anita Hilfiker, Coordinator

You are invited to celebrate another successful Grapevine Garden Club year at the Annual Spring Membership Luncheon. Dine on the many delicious salads and desserts provided by members. Enjoy the company of gardening friends, witness the installation of 2010-2011 officers and visit with our scholarship award winners. It will be a casual affair with members lunching on picnic tables under the pavilion. We can bring a guest.

You can sign up for the luncheon at March and April General Meetings. Be thinking about a potential guest and your contribution of a salad or dessert.

If you wish to serve as part of the luncheon work crew, please contact René Herndon (Yearbook page A-21).

SIGN UP FOR THE LAKESIDE PICNIC:

RSVP, Yes Only by May 1 - Joy Mayo (Yearbook page A-30)

If you are inviting a guest, please give Joy your guest's name.



Photo: 2009 Val Reed (Luncheon work crew)



PLANT SALE POTTING PARTIES OFF TO A GREAT START

The first heirloom plant potting party got off to a great (albeit windy) start on Feb 25. This hardy group potted over 100 gallon pots of summer phlox. If you want to join in the fun by digging, or donating plants, please contact **Val Reed**. (Yearbook page A-45. Note, Val has a new email address.)

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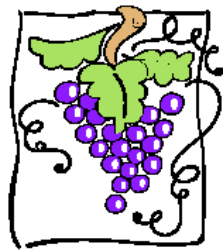
PLANT SALE - APRIL 17



The various committees are busy making the final arrangements for our annual plant sale. Karen Rice and Val Reed have had potting parties for all of those wonderful heirloom plants that our customers will snatch up. We hope you will be potting your plants to add to those already potted. Barb Munn, Linda Krimm and Diane Cauwels are ordering annuals, perennials and roses from several nurseries. Other committee chairs are contacting those members who have signed up to help as cashiers, cashier assistants, plant consultants, holding area, set-up, cleanup crews and more. It's not too late to volunteer! Contact Joyce Quam to sign up. (Yearbook page A-44)

Remember: The Members Only Sale is Friday, April 16, 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. Members will get a 10% discount at that time. The sale to the rest of the world begins at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, April 17. No discounts on Saturday. No reductions either, so come on Friday to help and buy what you wish! Remember that Barb Munn is taking pre-orders for roses, flats of annuals, and other items on the Members' Purchase List.

- Joyce Quam



PLANT SALE

GRAPEVINE GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL PLANT SALE

**SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2010
8:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.**

**Come to the Farmers' Market by
the Gazebo on Main Street,
Grapevine, Texas**

- ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS . . . New Varieties
- HEIRLOOM PLANTS . . . Plants from members' gardens
- TEXAS NATIVES . . . Butterfly Garden Plants
- ROSES . . . Earthkind, Antique and Fragrant
- SUN- AND SHADE-LOVING PLANTS
- HERBS . . . AND MUCH MORE!!

Proceeds Benefit the Club's Scholarship Program and
Grapevine Community Beautification Projects

MARCH 2010

DOCENT OPPORTUNITY

DFW AIRPORT 2010 EARTH DAY EVENT THE EARTH FIRST CHALLENGE



Date: Friday, April 16th, 2010

Time: 9:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.

Location: DFW Airport Livewell Center

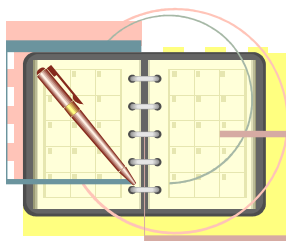
3625 West Bear Creek Court, DFW Airport, TX 75261

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day, which is celebrated globally throughout the month of April. Earth Day provides environmental awareness, education and appreciation for many of the earth's natural resources. DFW International Airport is sponsoring the Earth First Challenge.

DFW's Environmental Affairs Department (EAD) will be hosting this fun, educational and exciting challenge on Friday, April 16th, 2010. This challenge is designed for elementary students and will focus on the importance of protecting the Earth's natural resources. Students will enjoy a variety of learning stations that will include hands-on, interactive experiments and games, centered on environmental awareness. Students will divide into teams at the learning stations, and the team with the highest score at the end of the day will be presented with a prize. The Earth First Challenge will encourage students to work as a team to promote diversity, to be creative, and to apply their recently gained knowledge to solve actual environmental problems, and learn how to protect our planet.

GGC Docents, we need your help. Participation will be divided into 2 shifts, 9:30 – 11:30 A.M. and 11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. We will do a craft or garden related activity. Handouts and information will be available for the students. Approximately 400 students are expected to rotate through during the entire 4 hour period. Ages are kindergarten through 5th grade, but we anticipate mostly 5th graders. This is an exciting opportunity. Please contact Shari Stanfield or Lisa Grove (yearbook pages A-51 and A-17, respectively) if you have questions, and to confirm your participation.

PROTECT
OUR
PLANET



SAVE THE DATE:

The Great Taste of Grapevine

Thursday, April 8, Hilton DFW Lakes. Featuring over 35 restaurants. For information or tickets please contact **Paula Pafford.** (Yearbook page A-41)

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MARCH 2010



CELEBRATING NATIONAL PUBLIC GARDENS DAY

Date: Friday, May 7

Time: 11:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Place: Grapevine Botanical Gardens at Heritage Park

National Public Gardens Day is a celebration of America's Public Gardens and the role they play in education and environmental stewardship. It will be held on May 7 from 11:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. at the Grapevine Botanical Gardens at Heritage Park. Workshops/ classes will be held hourly at the Pewitt Pavilion. Activities will include fun projects at the children's potting bench, crafts, and docent-led tours. The Grapevine Art Project will have painters in the Garden. GGC members not working the event should feel free to drop in, participate in the activities, and enjoy the Garden. A schedule of events will be published later. **Docents are needed.** To volunteer, or for more information, please contact **Lisa Grove** (Yearbook page A-17).

WEST TEXAS STREET FEBRUARY WORKDAY

We had a great morning pruning and doing general cleanup on West Texas Street on February 16. We started at 10:00 A.M. in the sunny areas, hoping it would warm up, and sure enough it did. We were finished in just under an hour. Thanks so much to Pat Mingus, Lynn Kugler, Angela Ozymy, Kathy Clark, Joyce Quam, Peggy Harris, Paul and Carolyn Ernst, Barbara Atkins, Val Reed, and Joetta King.

- Suzi Guckel



MARCH 2010



CREATE A BUTTERFLY GARDEN THIS SPRING

Cabin fever from our recent winter weather makes us think about getting out in our gardens to clean and plant! Now is the time to plan your butterfly garden or your backyard habitat. Our plant sale volunteers are busy selecting plants that will be perfect to establish a habitat for your butterfly friends. Just imagine how much fun you'll have this summer watching a fennel plant being eaten to the ground by Black Swallowtail butterfly caterpillars, or a gorgeous passion vine full of Gulf Fritillary caterpillars!

Butterfly-Friendly Gardening Practices

- **Avoid all insecticides and pesticides** in your garden. Otherwise, you will kill the very insects and caterpillars you want to attract.
- Fire ants eat butterfly caterpillars, so treat individual mounds with an orange oil/water mixture.
- Aphids can be blasted with a strong stream of water or squirted with soapy water.
- A gardener must be prepared to accept the sight of chewed and eaten leaves on the larvae plants.
- Very few butterfly species cause significant damage to garden plants.
- Be prepared for butterfly-friendly gardens to attract beneficial insects, hummingbirds, song birds, reptiles and small mammals.

Plant Choice

- Choose a mixture of annuals, perennials and shrubs that provide nectar and caterpillar food.
- Tall plants and shrubs will buffer the wind. Butterflies need wind protection.

Plant Selection

Plant native species to attract native butterflies. Some suggested plants for many parts of Texas are:

- ***Annuals:*** Fennel**, dill, parsley**, cosmos, marigold, purple cone flower, salvia (many varieties), zinnia, and pentas.
- ***Perennials:*** Black-eyed Susan, asters, daisies, goldenrod, milkweed**, monarda, phlox, salvia (many varieties), yarrow, lantana, verbena, Turk's cap, winecup, rosemary, penstemon, liatris, daylily, coreopsis, and sedum.
- ***Shrubs:*** Abelia, butterfly bush (buddleia), hibiscus, lilac.
- ***Vines:*** Autumn clematis, coral honeysuckle, coral vine, passion flower**.

**larval plants

For more information about butterflies and the plants they love, review the excellent plant information provided by Randy Johnson, horticulturalist at the Texas Discovery Gardens in Dallas, in the January 2010 edition of the GGC newsletter. Also, review the following websites:

www.westongardens.com; www.dallasbutterflies.com; www.monarchwatch.org;
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/wildscapes.

Consider certifying your garden as a backyard wildlife habitat through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

MARCH 2010

CREATE A BUTTERFLY GARDEN THIS SPRING, cont.



CREATING A BACKYARD HABITAT

To create your backyard habitat you must provide food, shelter, nesting areas, and water for birds and other wildlife. You must eliminate pesticides and herbicides and be tolerant of all wildlife — including slugs, snails, lizards, caterpillars and other creepy, crawly creatures!

Visit www.nwf.org/backyardwildlifehabitat for help from NWF's native plant guide. Check out www.dirtdoctor.com, or www.westongardens.com for Texas native plants.

Checklist for Creating a Bird-Friendly Backyard Habitat

- Stop using pesticides in your yard.
- Recreate the multiple layers of plant growth found in natural areas for weather protection - ground cover, mid-height, evergreen shrubs, tall trees, dead limbs (scags).
- Select specific plants to provide nutritional foods during different seasons.
- Plant shrubs and small trees in same-species clumps for adequate pollination of fruit (hollies).
- Provide at least one clump of conifers (evergreens).
- Leave vines, or plant native additions.
- Limit the size of your lawn, resulting in less mowing, fertilizing, watering, and pollution.
- Avoid invasive exotic (non-native) plants.
- Supply a source of water, such as a birdbath or fountain. Dripping or running water attracts birds.
- Provide and monitor nest boxes of various sizes.
- Leave some leaf litter on the ground.
- Use only organic, slow release fertilizers - preferably compost.
- Provide a variety of bird feeders to attract ground feeders, platform feeders, and perching birds.
- **KEEP THE CAT INDOORS!**

To obtain an official Texas Wildscapes certification application:

Texas Wildscapes
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/wildscapes

To obtain certification information for the national program:

National Wildlife Federation
11100 Wildlife Center Drive
Reston, VA 20190
800-822-9919/585-461-3092
www.nwf.org/backyardwildlifehabitat or
www.nwf.org/habitatshop
www.enature.com

- Barbara Atkins

MARCH 2010



SUZI'S SUMMER GARDEN ON THE BOAT

Yes, sometimes during the summer, when I'm surrounded by water, I really begin to miss dirt. Yes, I said dirt. Not the gossip kind, but the digging in the dirt kind. So when we sold the sailboat and bought a trawler, I was finally able to have a couple planter boxes which have been a very satisfactory substitute.

Since the boat is white with navy blue canvas, I knew we needed a splash of red, and what better choice in New England than red geraniums. So these past few years I have planted herbs and red geraniums. What a treat to fix dinner and simply walk to my planters to pick some oregano, thyme or rosemary to incorporate in our meal.



This past summer we took the boat up the Hudson River, through the Erie and Oswego Canals into Lake Ontario, and then on to Kingston, Ontario, where we picked up the Richelieu Canal that ends in Ottawa. Even though we were told we could not take plants or dirt into Canada, I decided I would once again plant my red geraniums and herbs and enjoy them as long as I could.

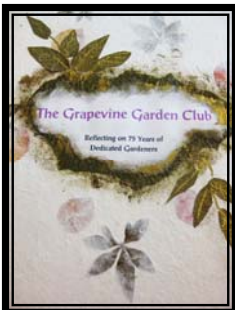
When we were at our last stop before crossing into Canada, sadly, I gave my two planters away. Imagine my excitement when I found a vendor at a farmers' market at our first stop in Canada - Kingston, Ontario. I was able to buy a small planter that was already filled with mature, delicious herbs. Remember the recent picture in the club's newsletter of the rosemary blooming in my back yard? Well, that is my Canadian rosemary that I brought home and will take back to New England this summer.



A really great part of my summer was being able to enjoy the beautiful flower gardens along the way. All the vibrant colors of the flowers that struggle in our climate thrive in the northeast, and are great to enjoy without getting my hands dirty.

Although my summer is very different compared to so many other folks, I've always tried to remember to bloom where I'm planted.

- Suzi Guckel



LOOKING BACK, 2nd installment

We continue to celebrate GGC's history with an article written by Dr. Edith Pewitt (Grapevine Garden Club President 1991-92 and member since 1988). In "Passalong Plants," found on the next page, Edith eloquently describes the joy of sharing plants. This article is particularly appropriate and timely, as the plant sale is only weeks away.

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PASSALONG PLANTS

by Dr. Edith Pewitt

One of my favorite garden books is Passalong Plants by Steve Bender and Felder Rushing. They write about plants that have survived in gardens for decades by being handed from person to person. These plants will not be found in neighborhood garden centers. Sometimes the only way to obtain these heirloom plants is to beg a piece from the fortunate gardener who has one. A gardener who has an aggressive plant will offer some to every neighbor, family and friend.

There is a long list of plants that I have shared from my gardens in the last fifty years. They include irises, daylilies, roses, altheas, American beautyberries, cannas, cashmere bouquets, catalpas, crinum, daffodils, four o'clocks, phlox, horsetails, lamb's-ears, bush honeysuckles, Mexican petunias, mock oranges, blue mistflowers, montbretia, naked lady lilies, snowdrops, spiderworts, spiraea, wood ferns, sweet peas, trumpet vines, trifoliate oranges, Turk's caps, vitex, yarrows, yuccas and zinnias.

Many Grapevine Garden Club members shared dozens of their plants to be planted in the many landscaping projects sponsored by the Club: median plantings, Torian Cabin at Liberty Park, heirloom garden at the Heritage Center, Texas Street housing project and at Bessie Mitchell House at the Grapevine Botanical Gardens.

Landscapes would be planned on paper. A list of needed plants would be published. The members would respond with the needed plants. The community was beautified.

Some of us are plant rescuers. In areas that will be cleared for development, the plants are saved and shared. In the early 1950's before water was impounded in Grapevine Lake, Clara Bess Shelton and I drove down North Main Street to the Denton Creek bottom to the site of a farm. The house and barn were gone but plants remained. We dug irises, daylilies and a swamp rose. The descendants are growing in my garden today. The swamp rose multiplies by putting up canes, and it is easy to root so I have potted and shared hundreds.

Many garden clubs have plant swap days and plant sales that provide other ways to passalong plants. At the annual Grapevine Garden Club's plant sale there will be many heirloom plants to be shared with others who in turn can become passalong planters.

One of my greatest joys of gardening is to share my plants with others. I appreciate the plants that I have received from others. When I look at the rough-leaved dogwood in bloom and the pretty iris 'Beverly Sills', I say a prayer of thanksgiving for Sylvan Sigler who passed along these plants to me for my garden.

And so I enjoy not only the plants that I have received, but I treasure the thought of the giver. I enjoy a walk through my garden of memories. I encourage you to join me in being a "passalong plants" gardener. It is a way to build a never-ending memory.

MARCH 2010

CLASSES AT THE GRAPEVINE BOTANICAL GARDENS

Environmentally Friendly Easter Baskets

Date: Tuesday, March 16
Time: 4:00 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.
Ages: 3 - 6 years old
Educational Pavilion



Let's plant grass seed in our baskets and watch it grow tall. Baskets, seeds and soil will be provided. This session includes a story time, and a take-home garden activity. Cost \$5.

There's a Flower in My Shoe

Date: Tuesday, April 20
Time: 4:00 P.M. - 4:45 P.M.
Ages: 3 - 6 years old
Educational Pavilion

You can plant in anything, as long as it hold water and soil. The more unusual, the more fun! Bring your own, or choose from our unique whimsical "pots." This session includes a story time and a craft activity. Cost \$5.



WINTER WONDERLAND IN NORTH TEXAS



What a winter we have had! The snow was amazing, creating magical landscapes. Fortunately, snow is not a usual occurrence, and our child-like hearts delight in its wonder. Thanks to all who took the time to send in photographs of your yards and of the Grapevine Botanical Gardens to share with our members. Over fifty pictures were submitted. Several can be seen on the following three pages. Each picture is tagged with an identification number in the lower left hand corner. The key to the sources of the pictures is listed below. Enjoy.

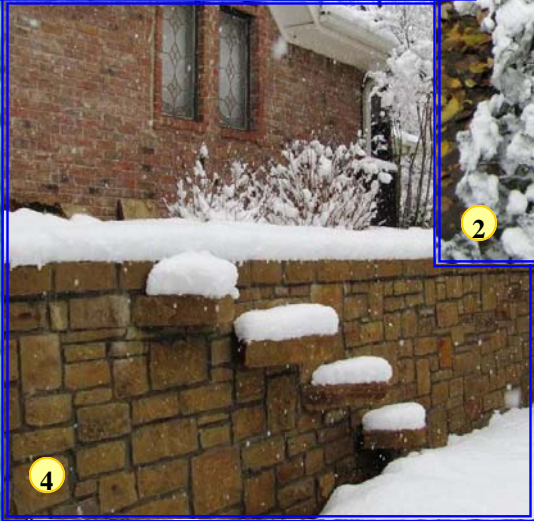
- Kathy Dohrer

1	Ella Barber	9	Lou Milner	17	Mona Livingston
2	Ella Barber BG*	10	Suzi Guckel	18	Ella Barber BG*
3	Ella Barber	11	Lou Milner	19	Marci Junge
4	Barbara Atkins	12	Linda Krimm	20	Bea Stevenson
5	Ella Barber	13	Linda Krimm	21	Barbara Atkins
6	Barb Munn	14	Toni Moorehead	22	Joan Kowalski
7	Ella Barber BG*	15	Linda Hurley	23	Suzi Guckel
8	Ella Barber	16	Pam Braak	24	Pam Braak
				25	Lou Milner

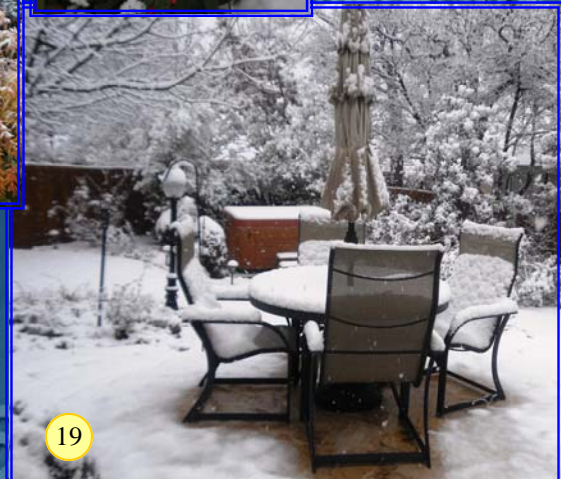
* BG = Grapevine Botanical Gardens

The Winter That Was

Nature's Artistry

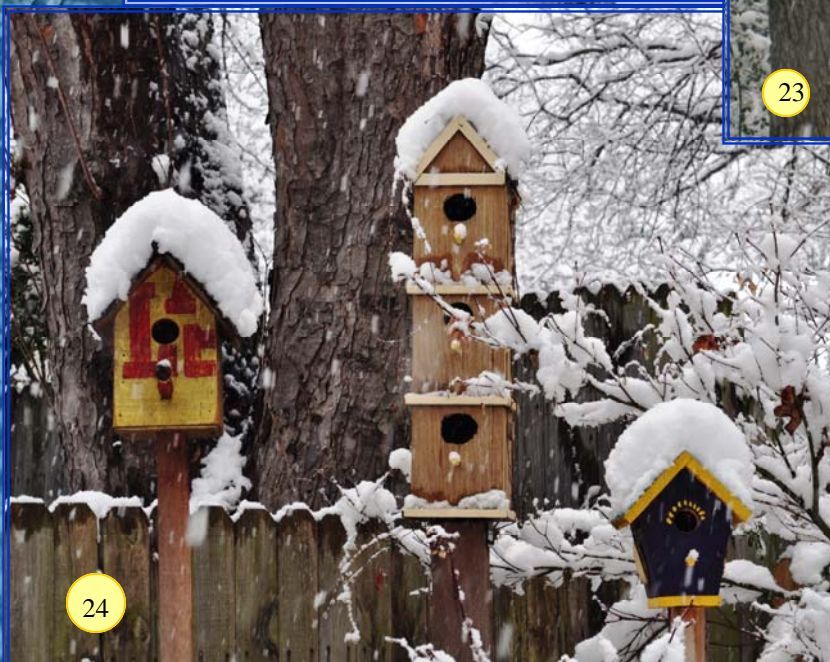
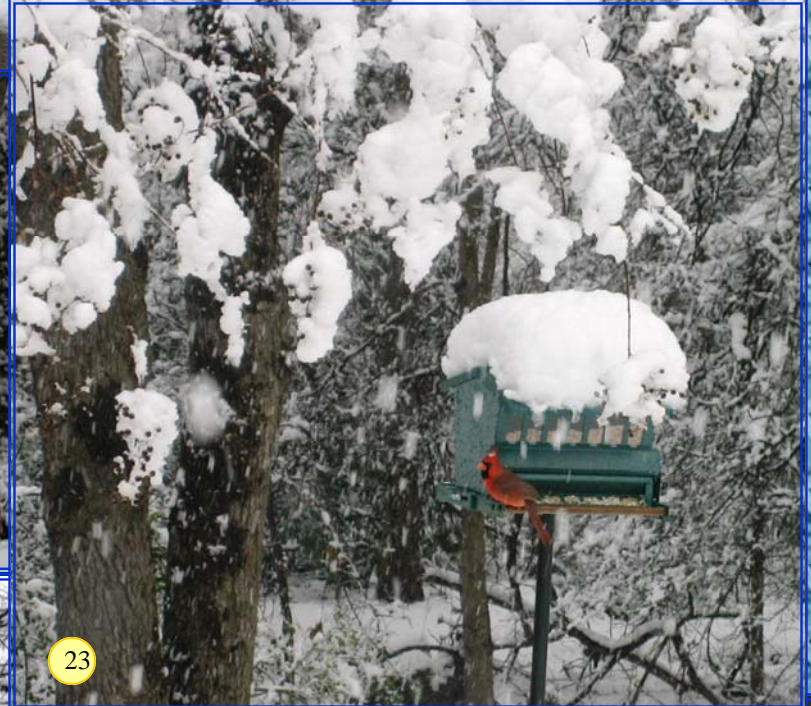
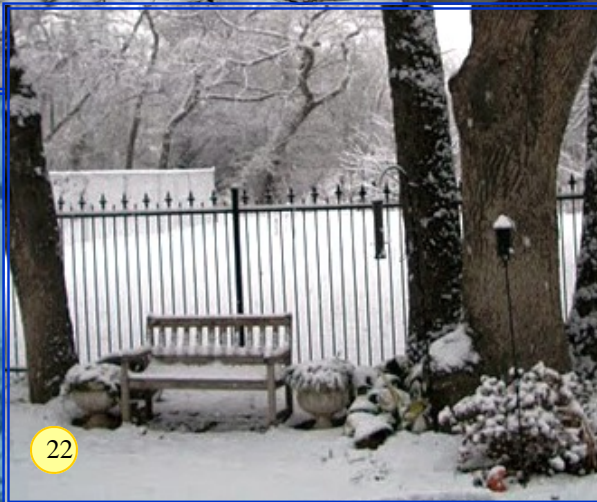
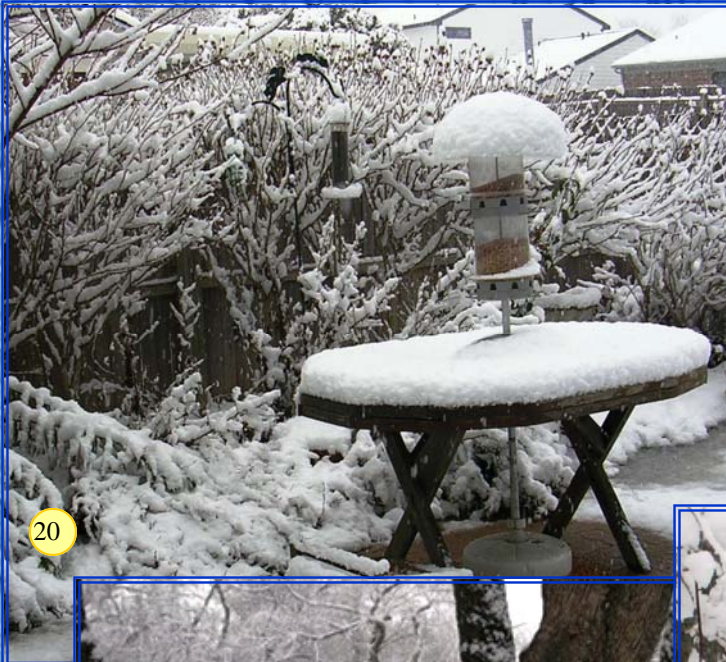


The Winter That Was, cont.



The Winter That Was, cont.

Caring for our Feathered Friends



02/11/2010

MARCH 2010

NEW CRAPE MYRTLE PEST

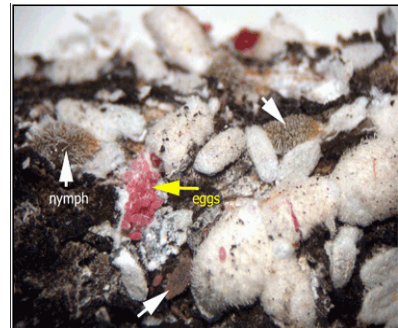
Toni Moorehead, Master Gardener

Last month, I pleaded with you to stop committing "Crape Murder." Thank you to all who have done their part to spread the word about this unnecessary practice! This month, we are going to address another Crape Myrtle issue. Do your Crape Myrtles look like they have been set on fire? Are the branches covered with what looks like black soot, sprinkled with white ashes? Your Crape Myrtles are being attacked by Azalea Bark Scale. Yes, I said "azalea." Apparently, azaleas were not enough for these sucking little insects, so they had to expand their menu. Azalea bark scale, *Eriococcus azaleae*, is an aggressive, sap-feeding insect, and it has made a remarkably fast appearance as a new pest on our beloved Crape Myrtles.



According to Michael Merchant, Professor and Extension Entomologist with Texas A&M University, one of the first signs of an azalea bark scale infestation is a black (sooty mold) coating that appears on the bark of the trunk and on the branches of crape myrtles (see picture, left). Leaves and limbs may feel sticky (honeydew) from byproducts of the insect's feeding.

The insects appear as white, waxy encrustations likely to occur anywhere on the plant, but often near pruning wounds or in branch crotches. Up close, the azalea bark scale insect is white to gray in color. Larger female scales "bleed" a pink liquid when crushed. Careful examination may reveal dozens of pink eggs under some of the larger white scale covers. The females can lay around 50-250 reddish eggs and they will protect them under their bodies. Once the eggs hatch, the nymphs (crawlers) are light yellow in color and will crawl to a new location to begin feeding. This scale usually has two generations per year and overwinters in the egg or nymphal stage.



Texas control recommendations for azalea bark scale are still being developed, but Mr. Merchant and Kimberly Schoffield, with AgriLife Extension, give the following suggestions for control of this insect:

For heavily infested plants wash the trunk and reachable limbs with a soft brush and mild solution of dishwashing soap. This will remove many of the female scales and egg masses and make insecticide control more effective. Also, washing will remove much of the black mold that builds up on the bark on infested trees.

During the winter, apply dormant oil applications to bark and crotches of the plants where scales shelter. Thorough coverage of the tree is especially important when treating with oil.

Systemic insecticides such as something containing imidacloprid or acephate can also be used to control these scales. In addition, insecticidal sprays containing such chemicals as malathion or bifenthrin will provide control when the scale is in the crawler stage. It is believed that March to mid-April will be the best time to spray.

Please visit <http://citybugs.tamu.edu/> for more information.

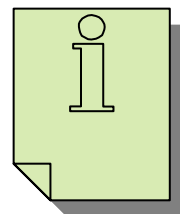
GARDENING WEBSITES

The call went out and you responded. A wide assortment of gardening-related websites has been compiled and can be found below and on the next page. Texas A&M University provides a wealth of information. If butterfly gardens are your passion, we have the websites for you. Interested in Xeriscape, native plants, wildlife habitats or wildflowers? We've got you covered. Need a list of nurseries, plant names, insect or weed identification? They're there, too. Check it out. The list below specifically pertain to Texas. Websites on the next page are more general.



GARDENING WEBSITES RECOMMENDED BY GGC MEMBERS SPECIFIC TO TEXAS

Title	Web Address	Description
Aggie Horticulture®	http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/	Earth-Kind® Landscaping, Texas Superstar®
Aggie Horticulture®	http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/ornamentals/natives/	Native tree info, listed alphabetically
Best Guide to Gardening	http://bestguidetogardening.com/texasgardening/	Long list of Texas gardening sites.
Blue Moon Gardens	http://www.bluemoongardens.com/	Unique nursery. Trends and tips.
Chamblee's Rose Nursery	http://chambleerose.com/	Tyler, TX. Earth-Kind® roses.
Dallas Arboretum Trial Gardens	http://dallasplanttrials.org/	Latest info on new plants in north Texas.
The Dallas County Lepidopterists' Society	http://dallasbutterflies.com/	Butterfly gardening.
Dirt Doctor, Howard Garrett	http://dirtdoctor.com/	Organic gardening & living.
Garden Time Online	http://gardentimeonline.com/	National and Texas gardening advice.
Gardening with Skip Richter	http://gardeningwithskip.tamu.edu/	County extension agent advice.
The Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary	http://www.heardmuseum.org/	McKinney, TX - native plants
Insects in the City™	http://citybugs.tamu.edu/	Cures for bug problems.
Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center	http://www.wildflower.org/	Native Plants
Maggie's Garden in Texas	http://www.maggiesgarden.com/index.html	"Garden strolls." Local advice.
Metro Maples	http://www.metroamaples.com/	Ft Worth area maple info.
Native Plant Society of Texas	http://www.txnativeplants.org/	Gardening with native plants.
The Texas A&M University Turfgrass Program	http://aggieturf.tamu.edu/	Texas turf grass tips, pest, disease, weed identification.
Texas Gardener	http://www.texasgardener.com/	Online gardening magazine.
Texas Imported Fire Ant Research and Management	http://fireants.tamu.edu/	FAQs about fire ants and control.
Texas Master Gardener	http://aggiehorticulture.tamu.edu/mastergd/mg.html	Plant problem solving.
Texas Parks and Wildlife Wildscapes	http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/wildscapes/	Habitat restoration and conservation.
Texas SmartScape®	http://www.txsmartscape.com/	Interactive landscaping guide. Specific to our region.
Texas SuperStar®	http://www.texassuperstar.com/	Recommended plants for Texas.
Weston Gardens	http://www.westongardens.com/	Nursery in Fort Worth, specializing in native and acclimated plants.



GARDENING WEBSITES RECOMMENDED BY GGC MEMBERS, CONT. NOT SPECIFIC TO TEXAS

Title	Web Address	Description
A Way to Garden	http://awaytogarden.com/	Blog by Margaret Roach, former garden editor for Martha Stewart's <i>Living</i> .
Audubon	http://audubonathome.org	Birds, conservation.
Butterfly Gardening	http://www.butterflygardening.org	Butterfly info from around the country
Dave's Garden	http://davesgarden.com/	Photos, articles, tips on all aspects of gardening.
Felder Rushing	http://felderrushing.net/	Wide variety of gardening info.
Garden Guides	http://gardenguides.com/	General. List of TX nurseries. Pest, diseases, weed controls. Organic gardening. Plant taxonomy.
Garden Place	http://www.gardenplace.com/	Tips - lawn care, bugs, garden calculators, plant guide.
Garden Rant	http://www.gardenrant.com/	Gardening blog. Other blog addresses.
Gardener's Supply Company	http://gardeners.com/	Supplies for yard, landscaping, pest control.
In A Garden	http://tinaramsey.blogspot.com/	Gardening blog with lots of pictures.
Monarch Watch	http://www.monarchwatch.org/	Monarch info around the country
National Wildlife Federation	http://www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Outdoor-Activities/Garden-for-Wildlife.aspx	Learn how to and certify your garden as a wildlife habitat.
New Sprout	http://newsprout.blogspot.com/	Gardening blog.
P. Allen Smith Garden Home	http://pallensmith.com/	Landscape tips. Artistic gardening.
The Herbarium of the US - National Arboretum	http://www.usna.usda.gov/Research/Herbarium/	Broad gardening information.
The Nature Conservancy	http://www.nature.org/	Global conservation.

MARCH 2010

GGC SUPPORT OF GRACE

The Grapevine Garden Club board has approved a donation of \$400 to GRACE (Grapevine Relief and Community Exchange). The GRACE Community Garden Project fund-raising goal is \$1,000, needed to acquire a shed to house garden tools and supplies. The GGC contribution is a budgeted item for the GGC Civic - Community Committee. GRACE's new initiative is in harmony with GGC's Mission Statement, to promote interest in flowers, gardens and horticulture. Information is provided below if individuals wish to make independent contributions.



*

GRACE Community Garden Needs a Shed



*

The GRACE Community Garden Project has plans for gardening supplies and equipment, but no **shed** to keep these items dry and safe.

The shed will be erected at the GRACE Community Garden, located at 837 E. Walnut Street in Grapevine (next to GRACE Pantry). The estimated cost is \$1000.

Please help.

Suggested donation: \$25

Make checks payable to: Keep Grapevine Beautiful

Mail to: P.O. Box 95104 Grapevine, TX 76099

Please send in your donation by April 30.

**ThankYouThankYouThankYouThankYou
for your support**

- Keep Grapevine Beautiful
- GRACE Community Garden
Project Advisory Council



* 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization

WWW.GRAPEVINEGARDENCLUB.COM

MARCH 2010

NASH FARM ACTIVITIES

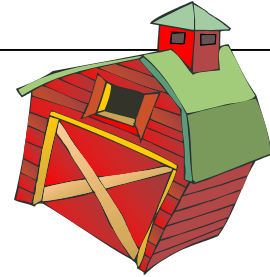
TOM SAWYER: WHITE WASH THE FENCE

Date: March 13, 2010

Time: 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Participants: About 200

The public is invited to visit Nash Farm, listen to storytellers bring Tom Sawyer to life. Visitors need to bring their own paint brush so that they can help whitewash the fence at the farm. It is a latex based stain, but it can ruin clothes. Free admission.



CHARLOTTE'S WEB

Date: March 20, 2010

Time: 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Participants: About 200

The public is invited to visit Nash Farm, listen to storytellers bring to life snippets from the children's story Charlotte's Web. Visitors will get to meet pigs, other farm animals, and tour the barn. Everyone is encouraged to wear their best farm attire. Free admission.

SPRING INTO NASH FARM (SPIN)

Date: April 10, 2010

Time: 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Location: Nash Farm

Participants: About 3,500

This family fun event at the farm draws lots of Grapevine families. Planting in the garden, playing heritage games, farm animals, and farm fun makes this a great event to be a part of. Free admission.

Reminder

The April 27 GGC general meeting will start 30 minutes earlier than usual. The social will start at 9:00 A.M. and the program will start **PROMPTLY at 9:30 A.M. This early start is for the April meeting only.**