

October 2011

THE GRAPEVINE GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

# THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE



October 2011

Tuesday, October 25, 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:** Debbie Monahan (Chair), Nancy Nivens,  
Carolyn Ernst, Catherine Lacroix, Linda Barraclough, Carol Milner, Suzie Cate,  
Wendy Essex

## Grapevine Garden Club September Program

“How to Feed Your Pet Worms” Our speaker will be Susan McCrum from Redenta Gardens. Check the GGC website as well as the more detailed description in the 2011 – 2012 GGC Yearbook.

**☞Kathy Clark, Program Chair**



### President's Message

As I was planting my lettuce, pak choi, and some bright pink dianthus (which I picked up on our Gardeners on the Go trip) a worm wiggled into view. We take these little invertebrates for granted, but October's program speaker will expound on the benefits of raising our own composting worms. After giving my new plants a soaking drink of seaweed water, I looked up and had to momentarily lament the now leafless butterfly weed that the dozen or more monarch caterpillars had chewed to the nubs. Isn't it fun to watch nature's wonders in our own back yards?!



The September program was a wonderful start to our fall activities. Everyone learned something new about the dragonfly family (Odonata), container gardening and Nash Farms. And on our Gardener on the Go tour we learned about prairie restoration, plants in our aquatic ecosystem, and commercial plant propagation. If you love to learn and have fun with like-minded friends, you've joined the right organization.



Our "Suburban Salad" plant sales went well and we were also able to donate plants to the Botanical Gardens, GRACE community gardens, and the Heritage Elementary garden. All of these are great ways that GGC is involved in our community.

This month we invite you to take part in the Grapevine Butterfly Flutterby to share in the wonder that a child expresses when looking at a caterpillar through a magnifying glass, and to help with the West Texas Street group as we perform some fall cleanup and install some fall color. We hope to see you out and about!

**🌸Karen Rice, President**

## WEST TEXAS STREET

Some of the low income housing in Grapevine is located on West Texas Street, just two blocks from downtown Grapevine. The Grapevine Garden Club started this project to help senior citizens who lived on this cul-de-sac. We saw a need for beautification for our neighbors and our city. Beginning small with the installation of edged flowerbeds, shrubs, and perennials, the project grew and grew. Since so many of the original residents have passed away or moved, it was decided to continue the beautification project for the new residents, and they were invited to join us on our work days.

Work days are three times a year; typically in the autumn, winter, and spring. Our autumn work day this year will begin about **9 AM on October 11<sup>th</sup>**. We will weed, prune shrubs, dig out small volunteer trees and/or dead shrubs (especially after this terrible summer), plant winter color of pansies or violas and then spread mulch in the areas where it is needed.

In February it is time to do a little clean up and prune the many roses in the residents' flowerbeds. Since we have started tending the roses, the residents have seen a great improvement in the quality and quantity of the blooms on their plants.



*Joetta King & Joyce Quam  
West Texas Street*

The spring work day in April is such a great time of year to work in the garden because everything is starting to come alive after a nice long winter nap. We will weed and plant summer color along with hardy perennials from members' gardens, and generally spruce up the beds, getting ready for our hot summer days.

The West Texas Street Project is a wonderful opportunity to get to know more of our GGC members, often on a one-to-one basis, as we weed, plant, and visit doing what we love to do—dig in the rich Texas earth. If you have never volunteered for this project, flag your calendar for the 2<sup>nd</sup> weeks of October, February & April (allowing some flexibility with dates & times). Come join us.

**☞ Suzi Guckel, Chairman West Texas Street Project**

## BUTTERFLY FLUTTERBY—October 15, 2011

Check your calendars - it is almost time for Grapevine's 14th Annual Butterfly Flutterby on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. near the Grapevine Cotton Belt Depot, 705 S. Main Street, Grapevine, Texas. Many thanks to those who helped assemble seed packets and 100 necklaces. We were very busy.



We appreciate those who volunteered at the September meeting to help at the event. There are still more opportunities for anyone who wants to get involved.

Please check your gardens for caterpillars or chrysalises. The children love seeing the real thing, instead of just pictures. We would also love to have an arrangement of flowers that appeal to butterflies.

If you would like to help or have anything we can use, please contact Gloria Land or Sandy Cavanaugh.

**✂Gloria Land, Chair Butterfly Flutterby**

## GARDENS ON VIEW – SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

Forty-nine members watched Lisa Grove make beautiful “Salad Garden” containers at the Grapevine Botanical Gardens after our September meeting. We then went across the street to the Nash Farm and heard a history of the farm dating back to the 1800's. Before touring the farm house, we were told how the house was “modernized” at one point and then reinstated to its original condition by the Grapevine Historical Society.



*Lisa  
Grove*



*GGC  
Members at  
Nash Farm*

### **GARDENS ON VIEW, continued**

After our October meeting, we will first tour Joan Stewart's gardens on Drexel Drive in Grapevine. Then we will tour gardens at both Lou and Wayne Milner's and Mary Jo Milner's on Highland Street in Southlake. Directions will be e-mailed to you prior to the meeting. See you there!

☞ **Marge Carpenter, Gardens on View**

### **GARDENERS ON THE GO UPCOMING ROAD TRIP**

*Contact Joetta King for tour reservations and additional information.*

**Destination - Dallas  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18  
9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.**

A guest may be invited.

#### **Autumn at the Dallas Arboretum**

The tour is scheduled during the Arboretum's major fall event, *Autumn at the Arboretum*, highlighting 150,000 flowers and fall displays including 6,000 chrysanthemums and an elaborate Pumpkin Village made with more than 40,000 decorative pumpkins and gourds.



Join GGC members in a self-guided stroll of the Dallas Arboretum to view the fall display of perennials and annuals. Following our walk through the garden, we will lunch on the Lula Mae Slaughter Dining Terrace. No tour is complete without shopping and we will visit Jackson Home and Garden on Lemmon Avenue which has an outstanding selection of pottery, garden art, furniture and plants. Tour attendees will receive a 10% discount on all regularly priced items except grills.

#### **Destination - UTA – Arlington, November 3**

Regretfully, the tour listed in your yearbook of UTA's sustainable areas (Green at College Park and the Community Garden) has been cancelled until further notice.

☞ **Joetta King, Gardens on the Go Chair**

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

(Pat) Corinne Armatta  
 Bev Bravo  
 Wendy Essex  
 Doug Evans  
 Lisa Grove  
 Wayne Milner



Jessie Misch  
 Dick Pafford  
 Margie Salame  
 Nancy Searl  
 Sharon Swagerty  
 Chuck Voelker  
 Barbara Williams

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Location
Oct 11	West Texas Street Work Day	9:00 A.M. West Texas Street Grapevine
Oct 15	Butterfly Flutterby	10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. Grapevine
Oct 18	Fall Texas Garden Club Convention	San Antonio, Texas
Oct 18	Gardeners on the Go	9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. Dallas Arboretum, Dallas, TX
Oct 19	FW Garden Club Council Meeting	10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M. FW Botanic Garden
Oct 22	Culmination Event Texas Native Plant Week	10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. Botanical Research Institute of Texas 1700 University Drive, Ft Worth, TX
Oct 22 – 23	Fall Festival	Japanese Gardens FW Botanic Garden
Oct 25	GGC General Meeting	Grapevine - Stacy's Furniture
Oct 25	Gardens on View	Grapevine and Southlake
Nov 1	Fall District Convention	Nocona, Texas



## New Members

Cindy Miller  
 Sally Hart  
 Phillip Hart  
 Connie Bacon  
 Nancy Winslow  
 Susan Stanek  
 Sue Wille  
 Tina Boserup

## TEXAS NATIVE PLANT WEEK—OCT. 16-22, 2011

In 2009, a Texas bill was signed into law designating the third week in October as Texas Native Plant Week. October 16-22, 2011 is set aside as a time to recognize the role of native plants in conservation efforts. Planting native trees, shrubs, and flowers helps conserve water, improve water quality and provides wildlife habitat. Celebrate native plants this fall and make a difference by using natives in your landscape. For more information see <http://txnativeplantweek.org>



*Eve's Necklace*

The North Central Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas along with the Cross Timbers Chapter will staff a booth at the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT) on Prairie Day, Oct. 22 from 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M., where we will talk to the public about the virtues of our blooming natives, courtesy of our NICE! (Natives Instead of Common Exotics) nurseries. We will also give out a list of local natives and whether they grow in shade or sun, and which ones attract butterflies and birds.

**Nancy Laine Price, President**  
**North Central Chapter**  
**Native Plant Society of Texas**

## Save the Dates!

Date	Event	Location
December 6 <sup>th</sup>	Holiday Luncheon	Lancaster Theater Grapevine
February 27, 2012	Spring District II Convention	Ft Worth Botanic Gardens
March 22 – 24, 2012	Spring Texas Garden Club Convention	Grapevine
May 12, 2012	Grapevine Garden Club Plant Sale	Grapevine

## OUR NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS

**[www.grapevinegardenclub.org](http://www.grapevinegardenclub.org)**

When you search the Internet, you probably commonly use addresses ending in .com for commercial enterprises and .org for governmental and non-profit entities. Oddly, the Grapevine Garden Club has a .com address due to its being created in the early years of the Internet when almost all URLs ended in .com. To correct the perception that we are a profit organization, the GGC board voted recently to apply for the address “grapevinegardenclub.org” (note the new extension). The confirmation to use this URL will arrive soon, so the next time you go to the club’s website, try it.

Note that if you inadvertently use the .com address or if someone tries to find us using that extension, the request will automatically be sent to the .org address. Both URLs are valid, with only the .org address answering and displaying.

We are in the process of changing this address every place it appears on the Internet and in printed material. This will take some time but will create no problem since both old and new names are recognized.

Just remember, GGC is now an ORG.

**☞Elayne Vick, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP Communications**

## PLANT SALE PERENNIALS

It’s already time to be thinking about next spring’s Heirloom Plant Sale because this is a good time of the year to divide perennials. We would like everyone to contribute several plants to our Plant Sale that will be at the Grapevine Botanical Gardens May 11-12, 2012. We want perennials only. These should be planted in one gallon pots with identification markers. Planting materials (pots, markers, and medium) are available if needed. Please contact Paula Wilson if you need planting materials, or if you have any questions.



**☞Paula Wilson, Outreach Chair**

## OUR NEW FACE

The Grapevine Garden Club is developing a larger presence in Grapevine. In addition to the events we hold annually and are routinely involved in, this year we are also launching a campaign to help the Grapevine Parks and Recreation Department raise funds for the Botanical Gardens greenhouse project. Plus we are hosting the Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. spring convention next March. We have a website that is updated constantly with our news, tours, projects, and community involvement, and we are even on Facebook. Thus our “face” is everywhere in our community and elsewhere these days. It seems appropriate that we have a new logo with our name included in the design, one that we can use electronically and on all necessary printed materials. Our previous logo was created years ago, and it was time for a refresh. Here’s our new look:



No matter where this logo is used, its high resolution format will enable it to appear any size, from very small to very large. It has a white background, so if it is placed on a color tinted background, it will appear as a white rectangle with the images of grapes, name, and date of establishment. It should be used on awards, reports, stationary, posters, badges, invitations, club newsletter, announcements, and even fabric, hats, notebooks – in other words, any media where our name is appropriate.

Although we have not applied for a trademark for our new logo, just using it means we own the copyright. Please do not alter it in any way or make it part of another graphic since the only way we can be assured it is ours is by replicating it just as it is.

When the high resolution version of this logo is completed, all officers and committee chairs will receive an electronic copy. If you need to use the new logo, just ask for its JPG file.

**☞Elayne Vick, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP Communications**

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## GRAPEVINE BOTANIC GARDENS GREENHOUSE PROJECT

Let's chart our growth  
toward our goal.

**\$150,000**



**\$100,000**



**\$ 50,000**

**\$ 25,000**

**\$ 12,000**

**\$ 5,000**



## **HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

We will be celebrating the holiday season with our holiday luncheon on Tuesday, December 6th at the Lancaster Theatre at 300 South Main Street in downtown Grapevine. Social time will begin at 10:30am followed by lunch at 11:00. We will enjoy the a cappella voices of the Grapevine High School Jazz Choir. The luncheon will be catered by Napoli's Italian Cafe. Cost of the luncheon is \$23.00 for members and guests. Reservations will be accepted at the October and November meetings. Please make your check payable to Grapevine Garden Club. If you are bringing a guest please note their name on your check as well.



Deadline for reservations will be November 22, our November meeting. Cash donations for GRACE will be accepted at the door. Hope you will be joining us at this festive event!

**☞Joan Kowalski, Holiday Luncheon Chair**

## **SURVIVOR: TEXAS (Gardening Edition)**

**☞Toni Moorehead, Master Gardener**

If gardening during a Texas summer were a TV reality show, could you bear to watch? Oh, there would be plenty of drama, that's for sure, with lots of whining and crying and pouting. Sadly, though, there wouldn't be much singing or dancing. In fact, most episodes would seem rather dry. Everything would be in need of an Extreme Makeover, and you'd end up feeling like the Biggest Loser. But one thing you could count on is that it would be very hot and steamy. So tune in, you may even find a new Idol and a few Survivors.

Seriously, though, the reality of a Texas summer is that it is just plain HOT. And the summer of 2011 was the hottest of 'em all. Yes, Dallas/Fort Worth is now officially in the record books as the summer with the most 100-degree days—70 days. I finally feel vindicated for all of that whining, crying, and pouting! 1980 still holds the record for the most consecutive 100-degree days (42), but 2011 missed it

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by just two days and a few degrees. Hopefully that torch has been extinguished, never to be lit again.

Needless to say, this hot and dry summer episode took its toll on our gardens. Yet in spite of it all, there are SURVIVORS.

The words “water restrictions” seem to strike fear in the heart of every gardener. Don’t spend the season battling the elements. Turn these challenges into opportunities to make your garden better by choosing more drought-tolerant plants that have proven their worth.

Let's take a look at some of the players, marooned in the seemingly desolate locale otherwise known as...my garden. My “tribes” of plants faced daily endurance challenges and overcame many obstacles, yet some seemed immune to elimination.

Since I am the sole member of my garden's “Tribal Council” and “jury,” here’s a list of the plants that were star performers in my garden this summer and are deserving of my vote.

### *Plants for Sun*



*Salvias are the workhorses of my garden!*



*Zexmenia is extremely drought tolerant*

### *Salvias*—

- ‘Henry’ and ‘Augusta’ Duelberg (*Salvia farinacea*)
- Autumn Sage (*Salvia greggii*)
- Mexican Bush Sage (*Salvia leucantha*)
- Russian Sage (*Perovskia atriplicifolia*)
- Zexmenia (*Wedelia hispidula*)

## More Plants for Sun

- Pink Skullcap (*Scutellaria suffrutescens*)
- Dwarf Mexican Petunia (Katie’s Ruellia)
- ‘Powis Castle’ Artemisia
- Mexican Milkweed (*Asclepias curassavica*)
- Red Yucca (*Hesperaloe parviflora*)
- Lantana camara
- Mexican Feathergrass (*Nasella tenuissima*)
- Hameln Fountain Grass (*Pennisetum alopecuroides* ‘Hameln’)
- Lindheimer’s Muhly Grass (*Muhlenbergia lindheimeri*)
- Pink Muhly Grass (*Muhlenbergia capillaris*)
- Miscanthus sinensis ‘Adagio’ (Dwarf Maiden Grass)
- Black Fountain Grass (*Pennisetum* ‘Moudry’)

- Gray Creeping Germander
- Canna
- Datura



*Fountain grass ‘Karley Rose’*  
‘Karley Rose’ beat the heat with ease.



*'Azure Skies' Heliotrope*  
Heliotrope blooms nonstop  
and attracts bees.

- Thyme
- Rosemary
- Mexican Mint Marigold (*Tagetes lucida*)
- Rudbeckia 'Triloba'
- Flame Acanthus (*Anisacaths wrightii*)
- Texas Star Hibiscus
- 'Bath's Pink' Dianthus
- Four Nerve Daisy (*Tetranneuris scaposa*)
- Variegated Liriope 'Silvery Sunproof' (with afternoon shade)
- Sedum
- Yaupon Holly
- Burford Holly
- 'Gulfstream' and 'Nana' 'Harbor Dwarf' Nandina
- Yaupon Holly tree
- Crape Myrtles
- Redbuds: 'Burgundy Heart' 'The Rising Sun' 'Oklahoma'
- Rose of Sharon (*Althea*)



*Pink Rain Lily (Zephyranthes grandiflora)*  
Even with no rain,  
Pink Rain Lilies still bloomed.



*Purple Heart*  
(*Tradescantia* or *Setcreasea pallida*)  
Purple Heart is tough as nails!

## *Plants for Shade*

- Turk's Cap (*Malvaviscus arboreus*)
- Cast Iron Plant (*Aspidistra*)
- Leopard Plant (*Ligularia/Farfugium*)
- Cherry Laurel
- Ajuga (giant)
- Oakleaf Hydrangea
- Chocolate plant (*Pseuderanthemum alatum*)
- Oxalis triangularis
- Forsythia Sage (*Salvia Madrensis*)
- Holly Fern (*Cyrtomium falcatum*)
- Purple Heart (green variety)
- Horseherb (*Calypocarpus vialis*)



*African Hosta (Drimiopsis maculata)*  
African Hosta is not bothered by slugs, snails,  
or the heat.



*Tropical Giant Spider Lily (Hymenocallis)*  
photograph from Barb Munn  
Striking foliage in the shade garden



*American Beautyberry*  
(*Callicarpa Americana*)  
Native shrub that attracts birds

## *Heat Loving Annuals*

- Vinca (periwinkles)
- Angelonia 'Serena' series
- Cosmos
- Salvia coccinea  
(red and 'Coral Nymph')
- Blue Daze
- Malabar Spinach (vine)
- Esperanza (Tecoma stans)
- Lantana
- 'African Blue' Basil
- Holy Basil
- Lemon Verbena
- Sweet Potato Vine
- Perilla magilla
- Hyacinth Bean Vine
- Ornamental peppers
- Pentas (in afternoon shade)
- Caladiums (shade)
- Begonias (shade)



*Melampodium*

Melampodium blooms all summer  
and reseeds easily.

Some of my plants got sent to Redemption Island. They started out strong, but then quickly burned out when the heat was intense. After a disappointing debut, they are attempting to redeem themselves this fall, showing some recovery now that cooler temperatures have returned.



- Black-Eyed Susans (Rudbeckia 'Goldstrum')
- Summer Phlox (Phlox paniculata)
- Black & Blue Salvia (Salvia guaranitica )
- Lamb's Ear 'Helen von Stein'
- Wood Fern
- 'Texas Gold' Columbine
- 'Gold Dust' Aucuba
- Autumn Joy Sedum
- Knock-Out Rose

Unfortunately some plants went to Dead Man's Island:

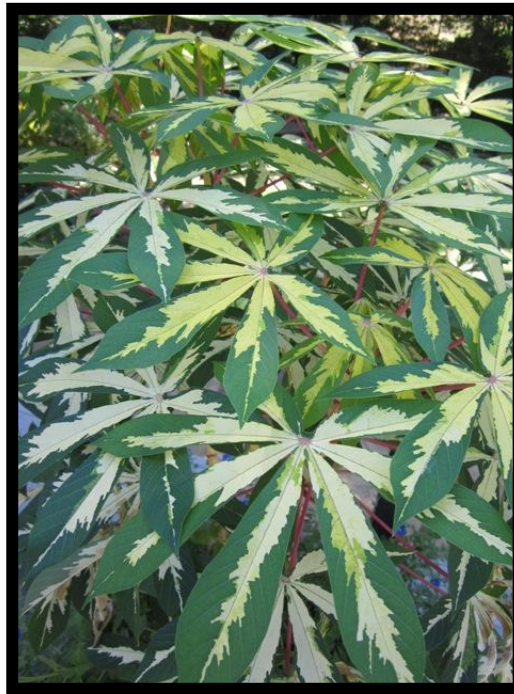
Eupatorium 'Chocolate'

Hostas

'Endless Summer' Hydrangea is on its last legs.

Shasta Daisy

Thankfully the list of winners is much longer than the list of losers. If this challenging summer has wreaked havoc in your garden, incorporate some of these well-adapted plants into your garden. Fall is a great time to get new plantings established before we have a re-run of this season's fiery episodes next summer. Make some changes to your garden now and you will be rewarded next year with a garden that not only survives; it thrives!



*Variegated Tapioca (Manihot esculenta)*

Variegated Tapioca is still going strong in mid-August!

<http://signaturegardens.blogspot.com>

### ***Other recommended survivors from garden club members***

- Duranta erecta (Brazilian Sky Flower)
- Aggie Cotton
- Texas Sage
- Zinnias
- Day Lilies
- Thai Basil
- Moss rose and purselane
- Abelia
- Okra
- Inland Sea Oats (Casmanthium latifolium)
- Gregg's Blue Mistflower
- Fall Aster
- Candle Tree
- Purple Coneflower
- Alternanthera
- Passion Vine
- Woolly Stemodia (Stemodia tomentosa)
- Pidgeon Berry
- Four O'Clocks

All indications are that this drought may persist for another two years. Don't let that news make you wish you could escape to Exile Island. A few wise plant choices can make a drought-tolerant and heat-loving garden a beautiful reality.

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## MEMORABLE GARDENS UNFORGETTABLE FRIENDSHIPS



Karen Rice and Kathy Clark  
Fort Worth Garden Club Council Meeting  
September, 2011



GGC Members viewing restoration of prairie  
ecosystem, Lake Lewisville Environmental  
Learning Area, September, 2011



Lake Lewisville Environmental Learning Area,  
September, 2011



Lake Lewisville Environmental  
Learning Area, September, 2011

Impact of exotic-  
invasive aquatic  
plants



Lewisville Aquatic  
Ecosystem  
Research Facility,  
September, 2011

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## MEMORABLE GARDENS UNFORGETTABLE FRIENDSHIPS



GGC Members  
Lewisville, September 2011



Lewisville Aquatic Ecosystem  
Research Facility  
September, 2011



Steve's Leaves  
Lewisville, September 2011

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## MEMORABLE GARDENS UNFORGETTABLE FRIENDSHIPS



Sherrod Pool Garden  
Margaret Meharg, Karen Rice, Linda Harris  
October, 2011



Sherrod Pool Garden  
October, 2011



Sherrod Pool Garden  
Mona Livingston, Joetta King  
October, 2011