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JANUARY 27, 2017

Dear Friends,

Here is the 190th issue of our weekly gardening newsletter for Houston, the Gulf Coast and beyond. We really appreciate all of our readers hanging in there with us, sharing stories and inspiring us in so many ways.

Thanks so much!

This newsletter is a project of The Lazy Gardener, Brenda Beust Smith, John Ferguson and Mark Bowen (John and Mark are with Nature's Way Resources). We also have a great supporting cast of contributing writers and technical specialists who will chime in and tweak away regularly. We would love to keep receiving your input on this newsletter . . . . comments . . . . suggestions . . . . questions. . . .E mail your thoughts to: [lazygardenerandfriends@gmail.com](mailto:lazygardenerandfriends@gmail.com). Thanks so much for your interest.

Please  or sign yourself up to receive this newsletter by clicking the "Join Our Mailing List" link just below. We will never sell or share our mailing list to protect the privacy of our subscribers.

Enjoy!

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!



**SAVE OUR LADYBUGS! . . . PLANTING BY HOLIDAYS HELPFUL  
. . . AS LONG AS YOU BREAK TO PRUNE THE ROSES**

***"Why don't we plant bulbs on Valentine's Day? Because . . . "***

***– Sally McQueen Squire, Houston's Bulb Lady (and my late great friend)***

**By BRENDA BEUST SMITH**

**THIS JUST IN . . . AN ALERT** from well-known Houston horticulturist/educator Angela Chandler of [thegardenacademy.com](http://thegardenacademy.com)

***"BEES, BUTTERFLIES AND NOW . . . LADYBUGS! Our beloved native Nine-Spotted Ladybug (left above) is being gradually overpowered and wiped out by the invading Multi-Colored Asian Lady Beetle (second from left), a winter household pest. The National Science Foundation and Cornell University's national project is asking everyone for native ladybug sighting reports and photographs. The nationwide "Rear & Release" project's website, [lostladybug.org/](http://lostladybug.org/) , has resources for schools, garden clubs, Master Gardeners. Tracking***

**maps on the website record and display sightings. A great local source for home gardeners and others who need help both identifying & controlling the Multi-colored Asian Lady Beetle can be found at:**

[arborgate.com/blog/are-lady-beetles-bugging-you/](http://arborgate.com/blog/are-lady-beetles-bugging-you/)

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Now, back to our regularly scheduled musings . . . When it comes to enjoying blooms of bulbs, do you **"Plant by the Holidays"** ?

I recently quoted my late friend Sally McQueen Squire's favorite garden club lectures, "**Bare Bones Landscaping**." Now, quoting her again! She was, after all, best known as Houston's Bulb Lady.

Two readers, Josey Malone in Magnolia and Janet asked about the chances of getting tulips to rebloom here. Both ladies wondered if they could dig up tulips, post blooming, store them over summer, re-refrigerate them 4-6 weeks in fall and plant again for another spring bloom cycle?

If anyone could figure out how to rebloom tulips here, it would have been Sally. Tulips, her most favorite, were stars of our longtime "bulb bible, Sally's **"The Gardener's Complete Guide to Growing Bulbs on the Gulf Coast"** (available on Amazon). A prime mover in the Garden Club of Houston's Bulb & Plant Mart, she and made many trips to Amsterdam (bulb heaven). But even she could never do get tulips to rebloom.

Tulips need slow, prolonged winter soil cooling and slow spring soil re-heating, not our roller coaster temperatures. Also true for muscari, crocus and, usually, hyacinths (may rebloom once, don't count on it). We compensate for slow winter cooling by refrigerating 4-6 weeks. But then two factors doom reblooming:

- our artificial way of cooling saps a lot of strength out of bulbs.
- there is no way to replicate gradual spring soil warming bulbs need to replenish for future blooms.

But, hey, it never hurts to try! Dig them up. Stick some in refrigerator in October. See what happens! If they do rebloom, they probably will "blast" (very short stems so flowers appear at the base of the plant).



**Tulips, left, certainly are beautiful. Perhaps nowhere in Houston are they as beautiful as they are on the Azalea Trail (Mar. 10-12), especially at Bayou Bend (2nd from left). Above right 3 bulbs: l to r, muscari, crocus, hyacinths**

If you try, let me know how it goes! To see tulips at their finest in Houston, go on the River Oaks Garden Club's 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Azalea Trail March 10, 11 & 12. Do visit all six spectacular gardens, but make sure to see Bayou Bend where Holland bulb displays will knock your socks off. [riveroaksgardenclub.org](http://riveroaksgardenclub.org)



*L to r, caladiums, alstroemeria, gladioli, oxalis, dahlias*

One of Sally's favorite lecture flyers was ***Planting by the Holidays***. Ironically, it ties in (sort of) with today's Spotlight article by Baxter Williams on pruning roses (below). How? Keep reading and you'll see:

### **SALLY'S PLANTING GUIDE:**

**PRESIDENTS DAY - FEB. 20:** Start caladiums inside; plant on Easter. (May rot if put too early in too-cool soil). Plant alstroemeria quickly. (Soil may already be too warm.) Stagger gladiolus planting at two-week intervals to produce a longer season of color.

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY - MAR. 17:** Oxalis (4-leaf clovers sold in grocery stores are perennials here). Start dahlias but be patient. These often require one full growing season before producing flowers.

**EASTER SUNDAY - APRIL 16:** Plant amaryllis and caladiums in ground now. Caladiums seldom winter over. Amaryllis do naturalize and are extremely hardy. No need to lift.

**MOTHER'S DAY - MAY 14:** Plant achimenes. Plant crinum and cannas any time except dead of winter.





*L to r, amaryllis, achimenes, crinums, cannas*

**MEMORIAL DAY - MAY 29:** Okay to plant caladiums this late, but use already-started plants.

**LABOR DAY - SEPT. 4:** Till bulb planting areas, add organic matter. Get October [Garden Club of Houston's Bulb & Plant Mart](#) on your calendar. Best selections of good-for-us bulbs. Best bulb planting time ahead!

**COLUMBUS DAY - OCT. 9:** Add dirt to bulb beds if the soil has settled. Start amaryllis in containers indoor so they will bloom for the holidays. Afterwards, plant in the garden, in a raised area, in the spring.



*l to r, agapanthus, allium, anemone, bletilia (ground orchid), Lycoris, ranunculus*

**HALLOWEEN - OCT. 31:** Plant agapanthus, allium, anemone, bletilia, lycoris, ranunculus (claws down!), crocus, Dutch iris, freesia, leucojum, milla, muscari, sparaxis & watsonia. (No daffs, tulips, hyacinths yet)



*L to r, Dutch iris, freesia, leucojum, milla, muscari, sparaxis and watsonia.*

**VETERANS DAY - NOV 11:** Start 'Paperwhite' narcissus in shallow dishes filled with pebbles for holiday blooms. Continue planting additional bowls every two weeks, to extend blooming season. Refrigerate tulip bulbs 4-6 weeks before planting.

**THANKSGIVING - NOV. 23:** Plant daffodils and pre-refrigerated hyacinths in the ground. Unchilled hyacinths can be planted anytime in hyacinth glasses or containers and refrigerated until the roots fill the glass. Start amaryllis bulbs in pots in a low-light area for holiday blooms.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE - DEC. 31:** Plant 4-6 weeks refrigerated (only) tulips. Plant at 2-week intervals for longer bloom season. Tulips can be planted anytime until Feb. 13.

### **VALENTINE'S DAY - FEB. 14 -- AND WHY CAN'T YOU PLANT TULIPS ON VALENTINE'S DAY?**

Because, said Sally, Valentine's Day is the traditional day for pruning roses in the garden!

The Houston Rose Society, the largest rose society in the nation, agrees.

That's why the Bayou City's top Rosarians annually invite all gardeners to a **Rose Pruning Done Right Workshop**. This year (because of the Super Bowl) the workshop will be held in a different spot:

**THURS., FEB. 9: ROSE PRUNING DONE RIGHT by HRS CONSULTING ROSARIANS, 7:30pm, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 1819 Heights Blvd. Free. Houston Rose Society event. [houstonrose.org](http://houstonrose.org)**

\* \* \*

One note before we get to rose pruning:

The big Feb. 18-19 [Matagorda Bay Birdfest](#) will be a great place to learn where & what to plant to attract birds (and butterflies) and to help replace lost habitat flora, thanks to the Native Plant Society of Texas and

Texas Native Plant Association exhibits. The Birdfest, at Texas Baptist Encampment, 100 First St. in Palacious, has a full slate of seminars, field trips and a parade. Details: [matagordabaybirdfest.org](http://matagordabaybirdfest.org)

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And now, back to roses.

In our Spotlight, below, Rosarians Extraordinaire Baxter Williams gives us a preview of advice that will be given during the workshop, including common pruning mistakes that even, they admit, experts often make.

Don't you love it when experts admit even they make mistakes? Master Rosarian James Laperouse, for example, added this personal confessions to Baxter's wonderful list of "DON'T DOs" below:

***"I used to use the wrong orientation of the pruners. That is to say, instead of having the sharp side of the by-pass pruner or lopper oriented to where the sharp edge is facing the part of the cane that is going to be left on the plant, I cut with the blunt edge down. Wrong! That would crush that part and would usually cause stem or cane die-back.***

***Also, in those "olden days", when I was in a rush, I was careless about placement of the pruners and would sometimes cut through the bud eye I was trying to keep on the plant. Then I would have to try to find another outward facing bud eye further down the cane -- always a struggle to do so!"***

\* \* \*

**TO THOSE OF YOU WHO SEND IN EVENT NOTICES . . . CHECK OUT THE CALENDAR BELOW.**

Events submitted in our EXACT FORMAT, so I can copy and paste them immediately into the calendar will much sooner than those that have to be retyped & reformatted.  
Events NOT submitted in our exact format may not be used until shortly before the event date.  
**All calendar items use the exact same format. No exceptions. See calendar below.**  
**Make sure whoever sends in your notices sees this info. Thanks. Brenda**







*Above, pruning sketches from the [American Rose Society Website advice](#).  
Below, Baxter and, at right, a part of the 500+ rose garden he and wife Patsy have created in Pasadena.*

## EVEN SEASONED ROSE GARDENERS MAKE PRUNING MISTAKES . . .

**By BAXTER WILLIAMS  
HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY  
[www.houstonrose.org](http://www.houstonrose.org)**

"Even seasoned rose gardeners make pruning mistakes, albeit few. Here are the likely ones.

1. Using unsharpened shears. Sharp shears are MUCH easier to use, and do less harm to the remaining canes.
2. Leaving more than 1/4-inch above the selected node, which excess will likely result in dieback. Actually, 1/8-inch is better.
3. Cutting to a small diameter stem. If you want the new growth to be strong enough to support a large stem and bloom, you should cut to a pencil-sized stem or larger; smaller ones cause smaller, weaker stems, and smaller blooms.
4. Leaving cane stubs at the bud union where a cane has been removed. Cuts at the bud union should always be flush with the surface.
5. Forgetting to protect your just-pruned rose bush against fungus diseases.
6. Leaving diseased (black-spotted) leaves on the bush. The fungus spores on those leaflets will spread to others on that bush, and to adjacent bushes, and to neighbors' bushes.
7. Listening to false advice, such as always disinfecting after each cut, and making each cut at a 45-degree angle.
8. Forgetting to have fun while doing the work."



\* \* \*

*Baxter can be emailed at [bxtwms@att.net](mailto:bxtwms@att.net). Or talk with him in person at:*

- THURS., FEB. 9: ROSE PRUNING DONE RIGHT by HRS CONSULTING ROSARIANS, 7:30pm, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 1819 Heights Blvd. Free. Houston Rose Society event. [houstonrose.org](http://houstonrose.org)

## JOHN'S CORNER

John is on vacation. He and his column will be back for the next edition.

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## WEEKLY GARDENING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS CALENDAR

**PLEASE READ BEFORE SUBMITTING AN EVENT TO THIS CALENDAR.**

Events **NOT** submitted in the **EXACT** written format below may take two weeks or longer to be reformatted/retyped. After that point, if your event does not appear, please email us. Sorry, no children's programs. - Submit to: [lazygardener@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lazygardener@sbcglobal.net)

**IF WE INSPIRE YOU TO ATTEND ANY OF THESE EVENTS,  
PLEASE TELL SPONSORS YOU HEARD ABOUT IT IN**

***THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER***

SAT, JAN 28: GROWING PEACHES IN GALVESTON COUNTY by HERMAN AUER, 9-11 am & KITCHEN GARDENING by MARY DEMENY, 1-3 pm, AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main, La Marque. Master Gardener events. Free, but register: [galvcountymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcountymgs@gmail.com), 281-534-3413, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SAT. JAN. 28: MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FRUIT & NUT TREE SALE, 8 am presentation, 9am-noon sale, AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd, Conroe. 936-539-7824; [mcmga.com](http://mcmga.com)

SAT, JAN 28: GROWING PEACHES IN GALVESTON COUNTY by HERMAN AUER, 9-11am & KITCHEN GARDENING by MARY DEMENY, 1-3pm, AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main, La Marque. Galveston County Master Gardener events. Free, but pre-register: [galvcountymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcountymgs@gmail.com), 281-534-3413, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SAT., JAN. 28: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FRUIT TREE SALE, Bear Creek Garden, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. 281-855-5600

SAT., JAN. 28: BUILD A BED with SCOTT SNODGRASS - Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond (281) 937-9449 - Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359 - (281) 341-1206 Free. [Myenchanted.com](http://Myenchanted.com)

SAT., JAN. 28: WALLER COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS EXTENDED FRUIT & NUT TREE SALE. 10am-2pm. Programs by BILL ADAMS at 9 am & at 11am. Tegeler Used Cars lot, 850 Bus. Hwy. 290, Hempstead. 979-826-7651; [txmg.org/wallermg](http://txmg.org/wallermg)

SAT., JAN. 28: WALLER COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS EXTENDED FRUIT & NUT TREE SALE. 10am-2pm. Programs by BILL ADAMS at 9 am & at 11am. Tegeler Used Cars lot, 850 Bus. Hwy. 290, Hempstead. 979-826-7651; [txmg.org/wallermg](http://txmg.org/wallermg)

SUN., JAN. 29: SUSTAINABLE LIVING THROUGH PERMACULTURE by Permaculture Guild of Houston, 12:30-5pm, University of Houston Central Campus. \$50. Urban Harvest event. [urbanharvest.org](http://urbanharvest.org). Click on "Classes."

TUE, JAN 31: ANYONE CAN GROW ROSES by JOHN JONS, 6:30-8:30 pm; AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main, La Marque. Galveston County Master Gardener events. Free, but pre-register: [galvcountymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcountymgs@gmail.com), 281-534-3413, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

WED., FEB. 1: BALANCE IN GARDEN DESIGN - PLAN BEFORE YOU PLANT by KAREN LEHR, 9am.C.L. United Methodist Church, 16635 El Camino Real. Free. Gardeners By The Bay event. Marjorie, 281-474-5051.

THURS., FEB. 2: ATTRACTING BIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES TO YOUR BACKYARD BY KATHY ADAMS CLARK, 10am, MUD Building, 805 Hidden Canyon Dr, Katy. Free. Nottingham Country Garden Club event. [nottinghamgardenclub.org](http://nottinghamgardenclub.org)

THURS., FEB. 2: ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS by LINDA GAY, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free but register: [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

THURS., FEB. 2: STROLLER STROLLS, 9am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT. FEB 4: GROW YOUR OWN FRUIT with John Panzarella, Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 Free. Myenchanted.com

SAT, FEB 4: GROWING CITRUS IN YOUR BACKYARD by ROBERT MARSHALL, 9-11:30 am, & GROWING BLUEBERRIES by DAVID COHEN, 1-2:30 pm, AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main, La Marque. Galveston County Master Gardener events. Free, but register: [galvcounnymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcounnymgs@gmail.com), 281-534-3413, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SAT. FEB 4: FRUIT CULTURE DAY-HIGH DENSITY ORCHARD by ANGELA CHANDLER; 10am, PEST AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT by SETH KNIGHT; 11:30am, GROWING FRUIT IN CONTAINERS by ANGELA CHANDLER; 1pm, PRUNING AND TRAINING FRUITING TREES AND VINES by BILL ADAMS; 2:30pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

MON., FEB 6: ROSES BY JAMES LAPEROUSE, Houston Rose Society, 9:30 am, Amegy Bank Community Room, 28201 State Hwy 249, Tomball. Free. Tomball Garden Club event. [tomballgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:tomballgardenclub@gmail.com)

TUE., Feb 7: GREAT SPRING VEGETABLE GARDENS BY Bob Dailey, 5:30-7:30 pm, Southside Library, 2101 Lake Robbins Dr, The Woodlands. Free. A Montgomery County Master Gardener event. Free but register: <http://www.countylibrary.org/south.htm>,

WED., FEB. 8: MICROGREENS, noon - 2pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

THURS., FEB. 9: ROSE PRUNING DONE RIGHT by HRS CONSULTING ROSARIANS, 7:30pm, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 1819 Heights Blvd. Free. Houston Rose Society event. [houstonrose.org](http://houstonrose.org)

THURS., FEB 9: GROWING SALVIAS by TRICIA BRADBURY, 9:30-11am, Missouri City Rec & Tennis Center, 2701 Cypress Point Dr., Missouri City. Free. Quail Valley Garden Club event. [QuailValleyGardenClub.org](http://QuailValleyGardenClub.org)

THURS., FEB. 9: CONTAINER GARDENING: THRILLER, FILLER & SPILLER, OH MY! by LINDA GAY, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free but register: [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

FRI., FEB.10: FLORAL DESIGN INSPIRED BY ART by HOUSTON DESIGNING WOMEN, 10am, White Oak Convention Center, 7603 Antoine. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. [houstonfederationgardenclubs.org](http://houstonfederationgardenclubs.org)

SAT., FEB.11: DAYLILY HYBRIDIZER TIM BELL & AUCTION, 2pm-5pm, Alvin Senior Center, 309 W. Sealy St., Alvin, Free. Lone Star Daylily Society event [lonestardaylilysociety.org](http://lonestardaylilysociety.org)

SAT. FEB 11: GUNTERS HEIRLOOM VEGETABLES, 9am-1pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

MON, FEB. 13: MONARCHS & MILKWEED by BARBARA WILLY, 6:30pm, Forest Room (BB1418), Bayou Building, University of Houston Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Free. \$5 parking. Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT)/Clear Lake Chapter event. [npsot.org/wp/clearlake/](http://npsot.org/wp/clearlake/)

SAT, FEB 11: GROWING AVOCADO & PAPAYA by JERRY HURLBERT, 9-11:30 am, &, SOIL HEALTH & EVALUATION by JIM GILLIAM, 1-2:30 pm, AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main, La Marque. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Free, but register: [galvcounnymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcounnymgs@gmail.com), 281-534-3413, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SAT., FEB. 11: ROSE PRUNING with GAYE HAMMOND, Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 Free. Myenchanted.com

MON, FEB. 13: MONARCHS & MILKWEED by BARBARA WILLY, 6:30pm, Forest Room (BB1418), Bayou Building, University of Houston Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Free. \$5 parking. Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT)/Clear Lake Chapter event. [npsot.org/wp/clearlake/](http://npsot.org/wp/clearlake/)

THU, FEB 16: PRUNING ROSES by JOHN JONS, 9-10am, AgriLife Research & Demonstration Garden, 4102 Main, La Marque. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Free, but register: [galvcountymgs@gmail.com](mailto:galvcountymgs@gmail.com), 281-534-3413, [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

FEB. 17: DAYLILY SALE, 2pm-7pm. Texas Home & Garden Show, NRG Center, 1 NRG Park, Houston. Lone Star Daylily Society event. 979-236-1478, Debbie Pike. [lonestardaylilysociety.org](http://lonestardaylilysociety.org)

SAT, FEB 18: GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ANNUAL SPRING FRUIT & CITRUS TREE, VEGETABLE & PLANT SALE. Pre-Sale Seminar 8am; Sale 9am-1pm. Jack Brooks Park Rodeo Arena, 10 Jack Brooks Rd and Hwy 6, Hitchcock. [aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston](http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston)

SAT., FEB. 18: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER PRECINCT 2 FRUIT TREE AND TOMATO SALE, Campbell Hall. Pasadena Fairgrounds, 7600 Red Bluff RD., Pasadena. [hcmga.tamu.edu](http://hcmga.tamu.edu).

SAT., FEB. 18: DAYLILY SALE, 10am-7pm. Texas Home & Garden Show, NRG Center, 1 NRG Park, Houston. Lone Star Daylily Society event. 979-236-1478, Debbie Pike. [lonestardaylilysociety.org](http://lonestardaylilysociety.org)

SUN., FEB. 19: BUILDING A FERN TERRARIUM by Darla Harris, 2:00pm, Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Dr. Non-members \$15, includes 3 plants & planting medium, bring container. Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society event. [tgcfermsoc.org](http://tgcfermsoc.org)

SUN., FEB. 19: DAYLILY SALE, 11am-5pm. Texas Home & Garden Show, NRG Center, 1 NRG Park, Houston. Lone Star Daylily Society event. 979-236-1478, Debbie Pike. [lonestardaylilysociety.org](http://lonestardaylilysociety.org)

MON., FEB. 20: STORYTIME IN THE GARDEN, 10:30-11:30 am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT. FEB 25: TOMATO TIPS with TOM LEROY, Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 Free. [myenchanted.com](http://myenchanted.com)

SAT. FEB 25: ROSE PRUNING by GAYE HAMMOND, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

WED., MAR. 1: 5th ANNUAL GULF COAST HER FAIR & LUNCHEON, Moody Gardens, 1 Hope Blvd., Galveston. \$35. Friends of Moody Gardens event. Reservations/details: [e.l.perry@att.net](mailto:e.l.perry@att.net); 409-740-6842.

THURS., MAR. 2: STROLLER STROLLS, 9am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

THURS. MAR.2: ATTRACTING BLUEBIRDS TO THE GARDEN by LINDA CRUM, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15636 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)



SAT., MAR. 4: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER TOMATO-PEPPER SALE, Bear Creek Garden, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. 281-855-5600

SAT., MAR. 4: LANDSCAPING MADE SIMPLE by Landscape Designers, Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 Free. [myenchanted.com](http://myenchanted.com)

SAT. MAR.4: THE SOUTHERN HEIRLOOM LANDSCAPE by DR. BILL WELCH & CHRIS WIESINGER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

SAT., SUN., MAR. 4-5: SPRING BRANCH AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB 37TH ANNUAL SHOW & SPRING SALE, Sat. Show 1-5pm, Sale 9am-5pm; Sun. Show & Sale, 10am-3pm; workshop Sat. & Sun. 1pm, Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Park Dr. Free. 281-748-8417, [kjwross@yahoo.com](mailto:kjwross@yahoo.com)

SUN. MAR. 5: GARDENING BY THE MOON by BETH HOUSE, 11am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [www.arborgate.com](http://www.arborgate.com)

WED., MAR. 8: MARCH MART PREVIEW, noon- 2pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

WED. MAR. 8: GARDEN PROBLEM SOLVING-KEEPING IT SIMPLE by LEON MACHA, Noon-1pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

FRI.-SUN., MAR. 10-12: 82nd ANNUAL AZALEA TRAIL: BLOOMS OF SPRING IN FULL SWING, 11am-5pm, River Oaks Garden Club event. [riveroaksgardenclub.org](http://riveroaksgardenclub.org)

SAT., MAR. 11: MARCH MART PREVIEW (Repeat), 10am-noon, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT., MAR. 11: THE EXPERTS ARE HERE--MIKE SERANT, JOHN FERGUSON, DAN SNYDER & L. P. KOJIS, Enchanted Forest 10am -10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 Free. [myenchanted.com](http://myenchanted.com)

SAT. MAR. 11: SPRING VEGETABLE GARDENING by BILL ADAMS & TOM LeROY, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [www.arborgate.com](http://www.arborgate.com)

SUN. MAR. 12: GARDEN BEE FORUM by ANGELA CHANDLER & MATT & KELLY BRANTLEY, 11am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [www.arborgate.com](http://www.arborgate.com)

MON, MAR. 13: PLANT NOW FOR GREAT WILDSAPES by DIANA FOSS, 6:30pm , Forest Room (BB1418), Bayou Building, University of Houston Clear Lake, 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Free, \$5 parking. Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT)/Clear Lake Chapter event. [npsot.org/wp/clearlake/](http://npsot.org/wp/clearlake/)

SAT., MAR. 18: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER SPRING PLANT SALE, Genoa Friendship Garden, Campbell Hall, Pasadena Fairgrounds. 281-855-5600

SAT., MAR. 18: GREAT GULF COAST PLANTS FOR SUN OR SHADE with Linda Gay Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 Free. [myenchanted.com](http://myenchanted.com)

WED. MAR. 22: FAIRY GARDENING-MAGICAL MINIATURE LANDSCAPE by ANGELA CHANDLER, Noon-1pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

SAT., MAR. 25: JOIN THE PERENNIAL PLANT MOVEMENT, Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 Free. [myenchanted.com](http://myenchanted.com)

SAT. MAR. 25: GARDENING WITH COLOR-CREATING THE 'WOW' FACTOR by GAYE HAMMOND, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

THURS. MAR. 30: WOODY TREES AND SHRUBS TO MAKE YOUR NEIGHBORS ENVY YOU by DR. DAVE CREECH, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

SAT., APR. 1.: WHITE OAK GARDEN SPRING PLANT SALE, 9am program by HEIDI SHEESLEY, 10am-2pm (or till sold out) sale, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Dr. [nnmd.org](http://nnmd.org)

SAT. APR 1: EDIBLE POLLINATORS by DAVE & TRISH WHITINGER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

MON., APR. 3-MAY 1: LANDSCAPE FOR LIFE, 9am-noon, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. \$150. Register: 713-274-4160.

TUES. APR. 4: WHATS NEW AND UNIQUE IN THE PLANT WORLD by RAND HOPKINS, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

THURS., APR. 6: STROLLER GARDEN STROLLS, 9-10am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT., APR. 8: PLANNING AND PLANTING A HABITAT GARDEN by NANCY GRIEG,- Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449 - Enchanted Garden 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond 281-341-1206 free. [myenchanted.com](http://myenchanted.com)

SAT. APR. 8: THE ART OF ESPALIER by ANGELA CHANDLER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

WED., APR. 12: GARDENING IN SMALL SPACES, noon-2pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

WED. APR. 12: SOLVING HOUSE PLAN PROBLEMS WTH LANDSCAPING FENG SHUI by KATHERINE ASHBY, Noon-1pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

SAT. APR. 15: VERTICAL GARDENS MADE EASY...AND AFFORDABLE! by STEVEN CHAMBLEE, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

THURS. APR. 20: VEGETABLES - IS IT TOO LATE? by JEREMY KOLLAUS, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

APR. 22: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER SPRING PERENNIAL SALE, Bear Creek Garden, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. 281-855-5600

SAT., APRIL 22: POOLSIDE CONTAINERS AND IDEAS, Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 free. [myenchanted.com](http://myenchanted.com)

SAT. APR. 22: LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND MAINTENANCE MADE EASY by SKIP RICHTER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

WED. APR. 26: FLOWER POWER by CYNTHIA GRAHAM, RN, BSN, Noon-1pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free, [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

SAT., APRIL 29: FAIRY GARDEN SEMINARS, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, 281-937-9449; 2pm, Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, 281-341-1206, both Richmond. \$10+. [myenchanted.com](http://myenchanted.com)

SAT. APR. 29: CONTAINER HERB GARDENING by HENRY FLOWERS, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

SAT., APR. 29: SPACE CITY HIBISCUS CHAPTER SHOW & SALE, 1-4pm, East Harris County Activity Center, 340 Spencer Hwy. Pasadena.

THURS., MAY 4: STROLLER GARDEN STROLLS, 9-11am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

THURS. MAY 4: RAZZLE DAZZLE BASIL by ANN WHEELER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

SAT. MAY 6: CUT FLOWER GARDEN by SONI HOLIDAY, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, 281-937-9449; 2pm, Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, 281-341-1206, both Richmond. [myenchanted.com](http://myenchanted.com)

SAT. MAY 6: RAZZLE DAZZLE BASIL by ANN WHEELER & CHRIS CROWDER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. [arborgate.com](http://arborgate.com)

WED., MAY 10: WORM COMPOSTING, noon - 2pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

FRI., MAY 12: BLOOMING BONNETS LUNCHEON, 11am - 1pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. \$25. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT. MAY 13: MOTHER'S DAY MAKE & TAKE FLOWERS/MARKETS, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, 281-937-9449; 2pm, Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, 281-341-1206, both Richmond. \$10+. [myenchanted.com](http://myenchanted.com)

SAT., MAY 20: MINI SUCCULENT OR HERB GARDEN, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, 281-937-9449; 2pm, Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, 281-341-1206, both Richmond. [myenchanted.com](http://myenchanted.com)

SAT., MAY 20: SPACE CITY HIBISCUS CHAPTER SHOW & SALE, 1-4pm, East Harris County Activity Center, 340 Spencer

Hwy. Pasadena.

THURS., JUNE 1: STROLLER GARDEN STROLLS, 9-10am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

WED., JUNE 14: CARNIVOROUS PLANTS, noon-2pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

OCT. 7: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FALL PLANT SALE, Bear Creek Garden, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. 281-855-5600

**If we inspire you to attend any of these events, please let them know you heard about it in . . .  
THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER!**

**PLEASE READ BEFORE SUBMITTING AN EVENT FOR THIS CALENDAR.**

Events **NOT** submitted in the **EXACT** written format below may take two weeks or longer to be reformatted/retyped. After that point, if your event does not appear, please email us. Sorry, no children's programs. - Submit to: [lazygardener@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lazygardener@sbcglobal.net)

**IF WE INSPIRE YOU TO ATTEND ANY OF THESE EVENTS, PLEASE TELL SPONSORS YOU HEARD ABOUT IT IN  
THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER**

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## ADOPTABLE DOG OF THE MONTH

## PEGGY SUE

Please Help Peggy Sue Get Adopted. She is a super sweet Pointer Mix and former shelter dog. She is about three years old. She has been spayed and is current on her shots. She is very social and plays well with other dogs and people including children. She is very mellow most of the time but does love to play and be silly in spurts. She is house trained and is not destructive in nature. She does need a companion dog.

The local rescue A Chance To Bloom helped us save her from the shelter initially, they helped her adapt to life outside of the shelter and helped socialize her. Now they are helping us to find a loving forever home. She is currently in the care of her foster who is unfortunately very maxed out with his own adopted former shelter dogs. Peggy Sue is a super special dog that is sure to bring her future family some really good kisses and good times in general.

If interested, please contact [A Chance To Bloom](#) or her foster Mark Bowen at [markbowenhoutx@gmail.com](mailto:markbowenhoutx@gmail.com)



## ABOUT US

**BRENDA BEUST SMITH**

WE KNOW HER BEST AS THE LAZY GARDENER . . .

. . . but Brenda Beust Smith is also:

- \* a national award-winning writer & editor
- \* a nationally-published writer & photographer
- \* a national horticultural speaker
- \* a former Houston Chronicle reporter

When the Chronicle discontinued Brenda 's 45-year-old "Lazy Gardener" print column a couple of years ago, it ranked as the longest-running, continuously-published local newspaper column in the Greater Houston area.

Brenda 's gradual sideways step from Chronicle reporter into gardening writing led first to an 18-year series of when-to-do-what Lazy Gardener Calendars, then to her *Lazy Gardener's Guide* book and now to her *Lazy Gardener's Guide* on CD (which retails for \$20. However, \$5 of every sale is returned to the sponsoring group at her speaking engagements).

A Harris County Master Gardener, Brenda has served on the boards of many Greater Houston area horticulture organizations and has hosted local radio and TV shows, most notably a 10+-year Lazy Gardener run on HoustonPBS (Ch. 8) and her call-in "EcoGardening" show on KPFT-FM.

Brenda recently ended her decades-long stint as Production Manager of the Garden Club of America's **BULLETIN** magazine. Although still an active horticulture lecturer and broad-based freelance writer, Brenda's main focus now is **THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER** with John Ferguson and Mark Bowen of Nature's Way Resources.

A native of New Orleans and graduate of St. Agnes Academy and the University of Houston, Brenda lives in Aldine and is married to the now retired Aldine High School Coach Bill Smith. They have one son, Blake.

Regarding this newsletter, Brenda is the lead writer, originator of it and the daily inspiration for it. We so appreciate the way she has made gardening such a fun way to celebrate life together for such a long time.

## JOHN FERGUSON

John is a native Houstonian and has over 27 years of business experience. He owns Nature's Way Resources, a composting company that specializes in high quality compost, mulch, and soil mixes. He holds a MS degree in Physics and Geology and is a licensed Soil Scientist in Texas.

John has won many awards in horticulture and environmental issues. He represents the composting industry on the Houston-Galveston Area Council for solid waste. His personal garden has been featured in several horticultural books and "Better Homes and Gardens" magazine. His business has been recognized

in the Wall Street Journal for the quality and value of their products. He is a member of the Physics Honor Society and many other professional societies. John is the co-author of the book *Organic Management for the Professional*.

For this newsletter, John contributes articles regularly and is responsible for publishing it.

## MARK BOWEN

Mark is a native Houstonian, a horticulturist, certified permaculturist and organic specialist with a background in garden design, land restoration and organic project management. He is currently the general manager of Nature's Way Resources. Mark is also the co-author of the book *Habitat Gardening for Houston and Southeast Texas*, the author of the book *Naturalistic Landscaping for the Gulf Coast*, co-author of the *Bayou Planting Guide* and contributing landscape designer for the book *Landscaping Homes: Texas*.

With respect to this newsletter, Mark serves as a co-editor and periodic article contributor.

## PABLO HERNANDEZ

Pablo Hernandez is the special projects coordinator for Nature's Way Resources. His realm of responsibilities include: serving as a webmaster, IT support, technical problem solving/troubleshooting, metrics management, quality control, and he is a certified compost facility operator.

Pablo helps this newsletter happen from a technical support standpoint.



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