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President's Corner - Member Profile

We're going to go a little out of order this month. Wendi would have been our next profile, but she was helping her daughter after some surgery. Jennifer has some timely news this month—let's see what she has to share with us:

Hello, my name is Jennifer Myers. This is my second year of membership in PGS. I have enjoyed meeting a group of really special people and have learned a lot, as the climate here is pretty challenging. The field trips have helped me appreciate native plants.

I was born in Wichita, Kansas and have lived in Oklahoma City and Tulsa until moving to Southlake almost 5 years ago. I completed my Family Practice residency in Phoenix, Arizona—definitely a challenging climate.



I first became interested in plants when my brother decided to start a nursery in Tulsa; literally in my back yard. He began propagating plants and tried to specialize in perennials but he had to admit that the demand was not matching his efforts. People wanted annuals despite his insistence that they should introduce perennials into their gardens.

I love Southlake and want to preserve its special qualities. I am now a Candidate for City Council Place 5, running against a Planning and Zoning committee member. P&Z and City Council have allowed projects that threaten our 2025 land use plans and our low density wishes.

If you want to know more about the issues, talk to me at any of the meetings, visit my website, [jennifermymersmd.com](http://jennifermymersmd.com) or email me at [jennifermymersmd@gmail.com](mailto:jennifermymersmd@gmail.com) and VOTE MAY 8!



From the dirt up - Color in the Garden

We've learned how to build our garden plans, and we now know how to use trees, shrubs and hardscape. And now it's time to add color to



our gardens. Our upcoming meeting will focus on using color in our gardens. Michael Makens of Walkabout Gardens will talk to us about color and how we can use it in our gardens. This is a great

time of year to focus on color, as the nurseries are full of beautiful annuals and perennials.

Which ones should you choose? Aside from choosing the right plants for our growing conditions, we should also think about the mood we are trying to create.

White gardens are cleansing, soothing and contemplative. They look spectacular in the shade. The white garden is the most dramatic because of it's simplicity and use of restraint. The key to a good design is contrast. Pay special attention to the foliage. Vary the size, shape and texture. Try mixing variegated groundcovers with different shades of hostas. Finish off with white impatiens and vinca.

Cool colors are a favorite in the garden. There's

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**April Gardening Events**

**Dallas Blooms—Dallas Arboretum, March 6– April 11**

**Spring Plant Sale—FW Botanic Garden, April 10**

**Grapevine Garden Club Plant Sale - downtown Grapevine, April 17**

**Tarrant County Master Gardener Plant Sale—Tarrant County Resource Connection, April 17**

**Flowercade/Spring Festival in the Japanese Garden—FW Botanic Garden, April 24-25**

## Color in the Garden (cont.)

nothing like surrounding yourself with calm, cooling colors on a hot summer day. They are easy to work with. Blues and purples have a rare and exotic feel to them. If you find them too confining, you can add pale pinks, salmons and whites to add interest without turning up the volume too much

Reds, oranges and yellows are hot colors. They are stimulating, energizing and bold. They can be the most difficult to use. If you prefer them, try containing them to a particular area. They can be difficult to mix with blues and whites. Hot pink can be used to soften them. They are incredibly dramatic and tend to create focal points on their own.

Add excitement to your yard by adjusting the color scheme from season to season. It's easy

with a little planning - just pay attention to your plants' flowering times. For example, growing pink-, purple-, or blue-blooming bulbs and perennials in the spring; summery red and pink blossoms in the hot months; then mums with trees and shrubs in golden, orange, or red tones in autumn.

Color-play doesn't have to be limited to flowers. Add interest in your yard with statement-making containers. A bold blue ceramic pot, for example, can make just as much impact as the blooms it holds.

For anyone interested, we will visit Michael's garden after the April meeting. We'll caravan from Wendi's. The garden is located at the corner of Mid Cities Blvd. and Hawk Ave. (half-way between Davis Blvd. and Precinct Line).



## Dallas Blooms

We didn't have great weather, but we did have a great time at Dallas Blooms. The daffodils and forsythia were beautiful, and everything else was getting ready to bloom. Even though we had some rain, we all know—March showers bring April flowers! Thanks to all who made the trip!



**Next meeting - April 14**

**Wendi Carlucci's house**

**2000 North Peytonville**

**Southlake**

**Refreshments at 9:30, meeting starts at 10:00**

## Plant Sales

Both Grapevine Garden Club and the Tarrant County Master Gardeners will have their annual plant sales on Saturday, April 17th. Both will have annuals, perennials, heirloom plants from member's gardens, plus Texas natives and roses. The Master Gardener Sale will also have composting and container gardening demonstrations.

The Grapevine sale will be held in downtown Grapevine at the Gazebo. The Tarrant County Master Gardener sale will be held at the Tarrant County Resource Connection on Campus Drive, off of I20. Flyers for both events are being sent along with the newsletter.



## May PGS Meeting

The May PGS meeting will start with the election of officers for the 2010-2011 season. If anyone wants to nominate someone or wants to put their name in the ring, please let Wendi or Beckie

know. After our business meeting, we'll take our annual tour of member's gardens, followed by lunch at Diane Bredenberg's house. More details in next month's newsletter.



The Perennial Garden Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating its members on gardening topics specific to the North Texas area. The primary focus of the group is native and adapted drought tolerant perennials and grasses. Our purpose is to promote, encourage and share ideas with other gardeners regarding the implementation of native and adapted perennial in the suburban Texas landscape.