



A Gardener's Journal

PGS Officers 2010-2011

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<i>Sheryl Chambers</i>	<i>Newsletter</i>
<i>Judy Anderson</i>	<i>Meeting Reminders</i>

Member Profile-Margaret Collins



This month's member profile is Margaret Collins. Margaret serves as our Secretary this year and provides the meeting recaps that we are now including in the newsletter.

In her own words:

After 20 years in not-for-profit management, I retired in 2003 so I could enjoy spending more time in my garden and on my patio! My husband and I have lived in Southlake for 13 years, moving from the Dallas area where we lived for 30 years. Both native Texans, we love the opportunity to

work in our yard and experiment with plants. We have three grown daughters--spread across the country with one living in the DFW area--and two wonderful young grandsons. We love to travel and are also active in our church. Formerly a Master Gardener, I stay very busy with gardening in our community. My husband and I have been very active in building two different gardens at our church, White's Chapel United Methodist--Founder's Chapel Butterfly Garden and the Resource Center's Sanctuary Garden. I've always loved gardening because it's great exercise and good therapy.

November Meeting - Ornamental Grasses

This month's speaker is John Snowden from Blue Stem Nursery. John's going to talk to us about Ornamental Grasses. Grasses add variety to many types of gardens, including water, Japanese, rock, wildlife, craft, xeriscape, container and others. Ornamental grasses add two elements to the garden experience that are not readily obtained



from many other plants: movement and sound. Grasses look well against a dark background and placed to catch morning or evening light.

Grasses add a significant vertical presence to the winter landscape and are commonly left standing until spring. The dried foliage of ornamental grass-

es is combustible during the winter and is likely best removed in public and commercial sites.

Some grasses grow best under warm temperatures (warm season) and others in cooler temperatures (cool season). Plant ornamental grasses in the spring. Container-grown grasses can be planted all season, stopping a month before first frost. Late planting of grass divisions is not recommended, particularly for warm season types.

Grasses generally grow best in three to five hours of direct sun each day. In shade, these grasses may not bloom, are often lax and tend to fall over, and may not develop peak fall color.

Local Gardening Events

- 9/18-11/14, Autumn at the Arboretum, Dallas Arboretum
- 11/6, Fall Plant Sale, Texas Discovery Garden



Ornamental Grasses (cont.)

Most grasses can benefit from mulching and many from cutting back, usually just before new growth begins in the spring. Use hedge shears and wear gloves to prevent cuts from the razor-sharp edges of some species. A number of perennial grasses form root masses that can be

very difficult to divide and transplant. Most annual types can easily be grown from seed. Few pests bother grasses. If aphids or mites appear, spray with a strong stream of water to control the problem.

November Gardening Tips—Perennial Care



Fall Perennial Care - Evergreen perennials

and alpines should not be trimmed in the fall. Usually the best time to trim these is immediately after blooming, if at all. Leave these alone in the fall: *Ajuga*, *Alyssum*, *Arabis*, *Armeria*, *Artemisia* 'Powis Castle' and 'Huntingdon', *Aubrieta*, *Aurinia*, *Bergenia*, *Cerastium*, *Corydalis*, *Dianthus*, *Epimedium* (trim in late winter, before new buds appear), evergreen *Euphorbia*, *Helianthemum*, *Helleborus*, *Heuchera*, *Iberis*, *Kniphofia*, *Lamium*, Lavender, *Liriope*, *Origanum*, *Phlox* (creeping types), *Primula*, *Pulmonaria*, *Sagina*, *Saxifraga*, *Sedum* (many creeping types), *Sempervivum*, *Teucrium*, *Thymus*, *Viola*.

Certain **woody-stemmed perennials** are better left alone in the fall, and pruned back in the spring, leaving about 6 inches of woody stem for the new buds to appear from. These include: *Buddleia*, *Caryopteris*, *Erysimum* 'Bowles' Mauve', *Fuchsia*, *Hypericum*, *Lavatera*, *Perovskia* (Russian

Sage), *Phygelius*, *Santolina*

Moving or dividing perennials in the fall...

Moving or dividing perennials in the autumn is a great way to reduce your work next spring. The cool, moist weather is an ideal time for perennial roots to become well established, even in cold-winter regions.

Rule-of-Thumb for when to move or divide perennials:

If the plant blooms between early spring and late June, then early fall division/moving is ideal.

If the plant blooms after late June, then early spring division is ideal.

Exceptions to the rule are: Peonies (move/divide in fall only), Oriental Poppies (move/divide in August), Bearded Iris (move/divide in July through September) and true Lilies (move/divide in mid to late fall).

Next meeting November
10 at Tamara Hauser's -

911 Emerald Blvd.,
Southlake—

Social Time—9:30 am

Meeting—10:00 am

October Meeting Re-Cap

We met on Oct. 13, 2010 at the lovely home of Susan Schleppegrell. Wendi called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. after members enjoyed refreshments. Notebook additions were distributed in addition to a handout regarding plant propagation. Marilyn Sallee, Master Gardener and Propagation Specialist presented the program about different techniques of propagation cloning. Six different techniques were demonstrated using root division and node cloning including ivy, sedum, turks cap and a variegated shrub. She emphasized using the correct planting medium with

perlite or a mixture of perlite and peat being the best choices. Marilyn discussed the appropriate watering techniques, making sure cuttings receive the correct amount of moisture and planting "wet to wet." She answered specific questions from members regarding roses and other plants. Members were able to take home some of the propagated plants she used as demonstrations. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.



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.

PERENNIAL GARDEN SOCIETY

2010 – 2011

PROGRAMS, HOSTS & CO-HOSTS



- September 8th** Trends in Landscape Design - Sharon Duquemin
Location The Lodge @ Bicentennial Park
Co-hosts Pattie Minder, Wendi Carlucci, Jackie Phillips, & Beckie Underwood
- October 13th** Propagation – Marilyn Sallee
Host Susan Schleppegrell 525 Brooks Court, Southlake
Co-hosts Barbara Schlauch & Pat Wiszneauckas
- November 10th** Ornamental Grasses - John Snowden w/ Blue Stem Nursery
Host Tamara Hauser 911 Emerald Blvd., Southlake
Co-hosts Sharon Duquemin & Marge Carpenter
- December 8th** Hands-on project – Claire Alford
Location The Lodge @ Bicentennial Park
Pot-luck Brunch Everyone bring something to share along with gift for GRACE
- January 12th** Vegetables – Bill Vanderver and Bill Hall
Host Wendi Carlucci 2000 North Peytonville, Southlake
Co-hosts Sheryl Chambers & Jennifer Myers
- February 9th** Ponds – Scott Wood w/ Terrascapes
Host Margaret Collins 2901 Knight Court, Southlake
Co-hosts Shirley Morris & Jackie Phillips
- March 9th** Soil/Compost/Bugs – Michael Bosco w/ Soils Alive
Host Bob Hudnall 1402 Plantation Drive
Co-hosts Ken Stone & Kalena Cook
- April 13th** Field Trip
- May 12th –** Members Garden Tour and Lunch
Luncheon Host Diane Bredenberg
Members asked to bring Salad or Dessert
1. Becky Gamble
 2. Ken Stone
 3. Tamara Hauser
 4. Marge Carpenter
- (alternate—Ed Richmond, if needed)