



**PGS Officers  
2011-2012**

<i>Margaret Collins</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Tamara Hauser</i>	<i>Vice President</i>
<i>Sharon Duquemin</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Ken Stone</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Margaret Collins</i> <i>Ken Stone</i> <i>Tamara Hauser</i>	<i>Programs</i>
<i>Beckie Underwood</i>	<i>Historian</i>
<i>Jennifer Myers</i>	<i>Membership</i>
<i>Susan Schleppegrell</i>	<i>Hospitality</i>
<i>Randa Jessen</i>	<i>Meeting Reminders</i>
<i>Ed Richmond</i>	<i>Web Master</i>
<i>Sheryl Chambers</i> <i>Sharon Duquemin</i>	<i>Newsletter</i>

*President's Corner*



I see daffodils and even a few irises in bloom...spring is truly just around the corner. Even though the garden is still dormant, I know that much will happen in the next few weeks. Like our winter gardens, PGS is gearing up for a busy spring as well. Dotty Woodson, water specialist for Texas AgriLife Extension, will be presenting a program on drought tolerant perennials. We'll be at the DPS facility near Town Square in the upstairs community room. In April, well known organic gardener Lucy Harrell

will be presenting a program on Fairy Gardens. Thanks to Ken Stone for setting up the program on Fairy Gardening. We'll also be reviewing the slate of PGS officers for next year. Dr. Ehsan Moayyad will be hosting us in his Southlake home for this fun and informative meeting. In May we will be touring member gardens and approving our slate of officers for 2012-2013 with lunch following at Diane Bredenburg's lovely home and garden.



*Interested in Volunteering??*

We are a small club of serious gardeners for a simple reason. We want to get to know each other well—and you can do that only through keeping your group relatively small. We are a club of 36 members—and we are at the maximum club size, with a waiting list. However, the challenge in that is there are volunteer jobs that must be done if we are to be a fun group of serious perennial gardeners. Some jobs are large, some are smaller. Some jobs can be shared with a co-chair. Here is the list of 12 different volunteer positions:

- President – in charge of steering the club, leading board meetings, etc.
- Vice President – in charge of all programs
- Secretary – recording business meetings, etc.
- Treasurer – manages the club's treasury, reimburses expenses, etc.
- Membership – receives membership fees, keeps roster and nametags
- Newsletter – designs and writes the monthly communication piece that is distributed to our members
- Hospitality – manages refreshments for monthly meetings
- Publicity – communicates club's activities to the community, sends out press releases
- Historian – keeps records of club meetings, photographs of club's activities
- Webmaster – develops and provides content for club's website and garden tour website

**Local Gardening  
Events**

- Feb 24-26—Ft Worth Home & Garden Show, Ft Worth Convention Center
- Feb 25—Gardenfest 2012—Select Callo-way's Locations
- Mar 2-4—Dallas Home & Garden Show, Market Hall



## Interested in Volunteering?? (continued)

- Meeting Reminders – emails/phones members about monthly meeting
- Garden Tour Chair – manages all aspects of biannual garden tour

We need you to volunteer to help our Perennial Garden Society be the very best group it can be. Our hallmark is good programs—perhaps you and another member could vol-

unteer as co-Vice Presidents? Perhaps you and another member could co-chair the Publicity position. Perhaps you and another member could co-chair the Newsletter. Think of the possibilities! If you are considering helping PGS, please let Wendi Carlucci, wearluc-ci5740@yahoo.com, or Margaret know of your interest. Nominations should be turned in no later than March 15th!

## Board Meeting Summary

Our board of volunteers met at the end of January to plan for the remainder of this program year and begin planning for next year. We accomplished a great deal as evidenced by the following:

- Wendi Carlucci was elected as Nominating Chair and is tasked with presenting a slate of officers for our April meeting.
- Ed Richmond was elected webmaster and has started building our club's website, PerennialGardenSociety.org, in addition to one for our garden tour, SouthlakeGardenTour.org.
- The proceeds from the 2011 Spin Into Spring Garden Tour, gifted to Perennial Garden Society by Keep Southlake Beautiful, were set aside to fund future biannual garden tours. It was determined that we need to have in reserve enough funds to accomplish the tour in the same way it has been managed in the past. We currently have about \$5900 in that reserve fund. The club's treasury funds normal monthly expenses (speakers, room rental, etc.).
- It was decided that our club should incor-

porate as a not-for-profit organization. In the past we have existed under the umbrella of Keep Southlake Beautiful. We will look into purchasing an insurance policy that will provide some liability coverage along with Directors and Officers coverage.

- Members were encouraged to consider whether they wanted to continue in their current volunteer positions and communicate that information to Wendi.
- Our small club size requires that all members be involved as a committee member for the Southlake Garden Tour in some way.
- It was decided that we should choose a Southlake Garden Tour Chair Elect who would serve on the current Garden Tour committee. In that way, there will be a two-year training program for the Tour Chair.
- The Southlake Garden Tour will be a primarily educational program, not fundraising (i.e. scholarships, community beautification, etc.). We will not be partnering with SPIN to **offer the tour; therefore the name and logo of the tour were changed to reflect that decision.**

**Next meeting March 14**  
**DPS Building**  
**Refreshments -9:30 am**  
**Meeting—10:00 am**



## March Meeting - Dotty Woodson

Dr. Dotty Woodson is the Program Specialist for Water Resources for Texas A&M AgriLIFE Program. Dotty's program will cover landscape water conservation practices. Landscape design that promotes water

conservation is an especially important topic, with the heat and drought that we all experienced last summer. The projection is that we may be in for the same thing again this summer. It will be invaluable for us to have this knowledge as we



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## March Meeting - Dotty Woodson (cont.)



move into the garden season. What are you doing to harvest rainwater, irrigate efficiently, plant water efficient gardens? Are you using native plants? If not, or if you want to learn more, plan on joining us on March 14th at the DPS Building to

hear Dotty's presentation.

Guests are welcome, but please let Susan Schleppegrell know, so that we make sure we have plenty of refreshments. There will be no charge for guests.

## Pruning!! Back by Popular Demand

It's that time again. As the weather warms up and we approach mid-February, it's time to think about Pruning. We had a great program on pruning a couple of years ago, and it seemed to be a topic that had a lot of interest. So, here again, are some highlights for late winter/spring pruning.

Spring-blooming shrubs: (Indian Hawthorn, Viburnum, Forsythia, Flowering Quince, Loropetalum) Prune AFTER they finish blooming (probably about April). If you prune in February, you will cut off all the blooms.

Hydrangeas: DO NOT PRUNE now. Hydrangeas bloom on old growth (last year's growth), so pruning them now will sacrifice blooms. If you need to prune them, do so right after they finish blooming. Selectively prune by cutting the tallest stems close to the ground.

Ornamental Grasses: Cut Miscanthus and Fountain grasses down to about 3 to 6 inches. It is not necessary to cut Mexican Feathergrass; just give it a "haircut" and rake out the old grass stems. Cut Muhly grasses down to about a foot tall and rake out old stems.

Crape Myrtles: NEVER, NEVER, NEVER prune the tops of crape myrtles – PLEASE don't commit "Crape Murder." Prune only dead or crossing branches and any suckers that have grown at the bottom. If your tree did not leaf out well last year because of LAST winter's freeze damage, cut the tree TO THE GROUND and let it regrow. It

will quickly send up new shoots, and at that point you can pick the strongest stems to become the new tree.

### Perennials:

The following are just a few specifics.

Salvia Greggii – cut down to about 12 inches. It will stay more compact/full.

Shrubby Pink Skullcap, Blackfoot Daisy, Calylophus – just give it a haircut, taking off only a couple inches to make it look neater.

Purple Coneflower, Black-Eyed Susans, Fall Aster, Mealycup Sage, Mexican Mint Marigold, Russian Sage, Hardy Hibiscus, Mexican Bush Sage, Summer Phlox, Turk's Cap, Loosestrife, Zexmenia, Catmint – cut to the ground.

Lantana – Cut back to about 3 to 6 inches. It is slow to come out in the spring, so don't give up on it.

Creeping Phlox, Dianthus - no pruning necessary

Four-Nerve Daisy - no pruning necessary; just cut away old blooms.

Liriope (variegated or green "monkey grass") – cut back to about 1-2 inches.

Butterfly Bush (Buddleia) and American Beautyberry - Cut back to about 12 to 18 inches.

'Powis Castle' Artemisia – cut back to about 6 inches.

'Katie's' Ruellia (Dwarf Mexican Petunia) – cut to ground



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