



**PGS Officers
2011-2012**

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President's Corner



Let me be one of the last to wish you "Happy New Year!"

If you're like me, you've become very frustrated with our drab, gray landscape. Perhaps like me, you've already thought, "Why can't I be in Florida?" One of the

reasons I love southwest Florida in January is my hunger for blooming flowers like impatiens and geraniums. Well, you and I have to sustain ourselves with the hope of spring flowers. I planted tulips at the end of December and just today my husband and I planted herbs and onion sets in our raised patio bed. Spring may be two months away, but it's only a daydream away for me. I loved Mariana Greene's presentation at our January meeting and I am looking forward

to our spring programs with Cindy Hoyt and Dotty Woodson.

I hope you will join us for these fantastic speakers. We gardeners are a crazy bunch. Because we are nurturers, we love to plant, groom and even harvest blooms or fruit. Because we are hopeful optimists, we garden in the dead of winter and in the midst of drought. We never give up!



February Meeting - Herbs!!



Whether we grow them for cooking, aromatherapy, medicinal purposes or simply to add beauty to our gardens—herbs can be a wonderful addition to

the landscape. Even if you don't use herbs for cooking, they can serve many purposes in the landscape. They can help keep bugs away from other plants, add fragrance, attract butterflies, hummingbirds and bees, and can provide much needed fillers in and amongst our perennials.

Sometimes it's just the wonderful textures of the herbs that we need to complete our gardens.

What are the best herbs to grow in this area, how do I plant them, what sort of conditions do they need, and what do I do with them once I grow them? Our February meeting will answer all of your herb questions! Cindy Hoyt from the Piney Woods Herb Farm will be our special guest.

**Local Gardening
Events**

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



Lavender Ridge Farms—December

What a wonderful presentation we had from the team from Lavender Ridge Farms. Just hearing the story of how hard they worked to make their business a success was very inspiring. I think we all learned about what kinds of lavender to grow for cooking and what kind to grow for aromatherapy uses. When and how to harvest and dry were also interesting topics. And WOW—the won-

derful products they brought from their gift shop! It was a wonderful way to get in the mood for the holidays!

Thank you to Tamara for opening her holiday home to us for the meeting. And thank you to all of the members who attended and brought such wonderful goodies to share for our brunch.

Gardening Fool—January

What a fun way to start off the year! Marianna Greene, the “Gardening Fool” from the Dallas Morning News was our special speaker at the January meeting. Marianna did a wonderful slide presentation on some of the interesting gardeners that she’s met during her tenure writing for the Dallas Morning News. I think the most interesting thing was that for the most part, the garden-

ers weren’t “trained.” They seemed to be just like us, passionate about gardening and making the space around them more beautiful. Whether it was overwintering tropicals or turning their front yard into an English Garden—they did it with passion. And they were happy to share their knowledge with others. And isn’t that the most wonderful thing about gardeners?

**Next meeting
February 8**

Jennifer Myer’s Home

**801 Cross Lane in
Southlake**

**Refreshments -9:30
am**

Meeting—10:00 am

February Meeting—Piney Woods Herb Farm

Join us in February as Cindy Hoyt, co-owner of Piney Woods Herb Farm talks to us about the many different kinds of herbs and their uses. Piney Woods Herb Farm is located in Kennard, Texas—approximately 3 hours from Dallas, in the “heart of the Davy Crockett National Forest.” Cindy and her husband Richard started the farm in 2002, moving from Dallas to Kennard to

take advantage of country life. Cindy started small and grew the farm over a period of time. Join us at Jennifer Myers home on February 8th to learn more about herbs and enjoy Cindy’s presentation.

Guests are welcome—but please RSVP to either Jennifer or Susan Schleppegrell, so that we know how many people to plan for.



Garden Tour—last call for Nominations

This is it—the LAST CALL for nominations for the 2013 Southlake Garden Tour. We have some wonderful nominations so far, but we need more!

Do you have a friend or a neighbor with a beautiful or interesting yard? Or, is there a garden that you drive by that you’ve always thought was wonderful? If so, please send the address to Margaret

(marge227@verizon.net) or Beth

(dragonbeth@gmail.com) NO LATER THAN Jan 31, 2012. We will be contacting the homeowners in early February and then will be taking a tour of all of the gardens so that we can finalize our list in March. Then it will be time to take publicity photos that we can use next year for the Tour.

Please give us the homeowner's name (if at all possible), address and any special information on their garden.



The Perennial Garden Society is a non-profit organization in Southlake 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 perennials in the suburban Texas landscape.