



THE GREEN THUMB

The GARDEN CLUB OF DALLAS

www.thegardenclubofdallas.com



VOLUME LXXXVIII, Number 10

DALLAS, TEXAS

October 2025

Garden Club Meeting

October 22, 2025

Gardening on a Shoestring



**Speaker: Fran Powell,
Texas Master Gardener**

Visitors Welcome

CLUB MEETING LOCATION

At the Dallas JCC

**7900 Northaven Road, Dallas
Next to North Haven Gardens**

**Meet & Greet 6:30 pm
Program at 7pm**



President's Message

Hello Fall! What a beautiful season. The cooler days and nights give us and our plants relief and rest from the summer heat. **Fall** brings new colors from the trees. It's a nice transition before winter sets in. Fall is a great time in North Texas to plant trees and perennials. This gives their roots time to get settled before the cold. And they don't have to struggle with the heat of summer. Of course there are chores, but doing them in 80 degrees is certainly easier than in 100 degrees. It's also a good time to look at your garden and appreciate how hard it and you have worked this summer. May your days be filled with the sights and aromas of this wonderful season. And *please remember to patronize our sponsors.*

— Anna

2025 OFFICERS

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V. P. Promotions	Dana Brown
V. P. Hospitality	Connie Grossman
<i>Hospitality Assistant</i>	Laurie Pessetto

**Procrastination is
totally a good thing.
You always have
something to do
tomorrow, plus you
have nothing to do
today.**



Preparing Your Spring Garden Now

I know, who's thinking about Spring gardening now? But now is the time to prepare for a successful spring/summer garden.

You will need a tiller or a spading fork and a good strong back.

Also needed is mulch from grass clippings, tree leaves and your compost pile. Look around your neighborhood. One man's trash is another man's treasure. There is a wealth of free material already bagged for you. The smaller the material is, the better. A composter or chopper would be nice to have.

Our first frost here is usually mid-November. You may have some pepper plants or green tomatoes left in your garden. Put pepper plants in pots and take them indoors to a well lighted area for winter peppers.....hopefully.

There are recipes for fried green tomatoes also, or put the green ones in a brown paper bag and let them ripen.

Yellow pear tomatoes will grow until frost. They are tough.

Cover your garden or beds with grass clippings, leaves and/or compost.

Now the hard work. It's time to till, plow or turnover the soil. If you don't have a tractor or tiller.....you must do it.

Adding outside compost is always a good thing. Just spread it on top of your soil. Leave the garden or beds from mid-November to mid-February to compost..

Onions can be planted in January. Some green veggies and flowers in February.

Happy Gardening!

Bob Grossman





FRAN POWELL

Contact: Dallas County Master Gardeners Speakers Bureau

To book a speaker:

<https://dallascountymastergardeners.org/get-help/speakers-bureau/>

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Fran's love of gardening is shared by her three sisters, and lately by her brother. An English family of gardeners, her eldest sister became the best of the gardeners, supplying her family with many of the vegetables and fruit they need, as well as a plethora of flowers. Her younger sister's garden included an award winning vineyard in Sussex. Fran admits to being a lazy and frugal gardener and loves the easy results of growing roses and perennials. In Dallas, she has a zero-lot line home but manages to grow a variety of plants including a display of flowers nearly year-round.

Fran's talks include:

- Gardening on a Shoestring: Confessions of a Frugal Gardener
- Roses: Planning For Successful Roses in a North Texas Garden

CERTIFICATIONS

TEXAS MASTER GARDENER, Dallas County, 2012

VOLUNTEER WORK:

Founding member of the Metrocrest Teaching Garden, Metrocrest Services, Carrollton, Texas 2023 to present
 Curator, AddisonArt Program, Theatre and Conference Centre, Addison, Texas 2017-2024
 Volunteer in the Work Force Department, Metrocrest Services, Farmers Branch, Texas, 2013 - 2018
 Board of Directors, Oaks North Homeowners Association, 2005-2024, (HOA President 2010-2017, 2023 -2024)

Recycling Task Force, City of Santa Fe, New Mexico, 1996, 1997
 President, Board of Sponsors, Southeastern Center for Puppetry Arts, Atlanta, Georgia, 1981
 Vice-President, Board of Directors, Arts Festival of Atlanta, Georgia
 Founding Board Member of Georgia Business Committee for the Arts 1982
 Emerging artist: paintings and photography (2014 -present)

MEMBER OF AND/OR WORKS WITH FOLLOWING HORTICULTURE ORGANIZATIONS

Dallas County Master Gardener Association

EDUCATION

Educated in London and received certification as a teacher specializing in the Montessori Method. Moved to the USA to teach, but later got into the real estate business focusing on the management and marketing of retail properties (Malls) and received various designations through the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC); such as Senior Certified Managing Director and Senior Certified Marketing Director; and Awards for Marketing Programs.

Puzzle 56: Spooky Sounding...

I beg your garden?

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X	I	Y	I	B	S	U	T	C	A	C	N	I	A	R	B	R	N	Q	C	V

BAT FLOWER
 BLOOD GRASS
 BRAIN CACTUS
 CORPSE FLOWER
 DOLLS EYE
 GHOST PLANT
 PINCUSHION
 TOAD LILY

BLACK MAGIC
 BLOODROOT
 BUTCHERS BROOM
 DEATH APPLE
 DRACULA ORCHID
 LOVE LIES BLEEDING
 SNAKE PLANT
 WITCHES HAIR

BLEEDING HEART
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 ZOMBIE PALM

Moon flowers only stay open at night

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Mystery Search

Every month on the *website*, **NOT IN THE GREEN THUMB**, we will have a hidden Lady Bug for you to find. This is for members only and the first one to find the Lady Bug and emails us at info@thegardenclubofdallas.com will win a prize.



Susan is our September winner. She discovered that instead of "September" I had put in "Septemper". Congratulations to sharp eyed Susan.

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www.BrumleyGardens.com

This club welcomes beginner "wannabe" as well as experienced gardeners. We all can learn something about gardening at each meeting.

Visitors are welcome. Membership is open to men and women, teenagers and young adults. \$50 annual dues includes *The Green Thumb* and membership in the national organization: **Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Clubs of America.**



Bruce Miller

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If anyone has a favorite flower, plant, recipe or joke, please send it to us for inclusion either in the Green Thumb or on the website.

Thanks



Board Meeting

7:00 pm

October 9, 2025

At Bob & Connie's
6115 Linden Lane
Dallas, TX 75230



- Laurie Pessetto -- 10-2
- Paula Tucker -- 10-4
- Phyllis Rueckert -- 10-10
- Alan Gage -- 10-21

Door Prize Winner



Deborah Burrows

She won a \$50 gift certificate from Bruce Miller Nurseries

Happy Halloween



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Associated websites:
<https://thegardenclubofdallas.com>

Gardeners of America
National Headquarters
<https://www.gardenersofamerica.club>
Go to Members login: password "lily"

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*Submitted by Connie Grossman
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