



THE GREEN THUMB

GARDEN CLUB OF DALLAS



VOLUME LXXIV Number 6

DALLAS, TEXAS

June 2024

Garden Club of Dallas Monthly Meeting Wednesday June 19, 2024 Jewish Community Center 7:00 PM

Speaker:
Texas Master Gardener
Carolyn Hicks

Topic

Container Gardening



President's Message

Do you remember the little childhood ditties about nature? Of course, there were more serious poems as well; one of the most commonly committed to memory by children being Joyce Kilmer's "Trees." It is the ditties that stick in my mind though as I think about our weather over the last month.



"Spring has sprung
The grass has riz
I wonder where
The flowers is!"
AND

"Rain, rain, go away
Come again another day!"

I hope that the spring and early summer weather graced your yards and neighborhoods with lots of blooms, which may or not have survived the storms and deluge that followed. As I write this, the news is reporting rain again over the next few days. Whew! I guess your rain barrels are full – but don't forget the mosquito dunks everywhere! They say mosquitos can breed in a capful of water! Well. I digress.... I meant to begin with a hearty WELCOME to our newest member, Laurie Pessetto, who recently joined our club!

And, next, I want to extend a congratulations and BIG Thank You to Susan Quante, Connie Grossman, and Dan Whitman for creating (and maintaining) the latest addition to our club – an official Website! We have entered the twenty-first century! The site can be reached by going to

www.thegardenclubofdallas.com

What a great service and beautiful job, Susan, Connie, and Dan! Meanwhile, I will leave you with one last ditty –

"April Showers Bring May Flowers"

Oops! Wrong months! Oh well, I do hope the rain is favorable to whatever foliage you are fostering!

See you at the next meeting and don't forget to sponsor our advertisers!
— Alan

Visitors Welcome

CLUB MEETING LOCATION

At the Jewish Community Center, Big D room.

7900 Northaven Road, Dallas — Next to North Haven Gardens. Directions: north on Royal Lane, turn east. on Northaven Road

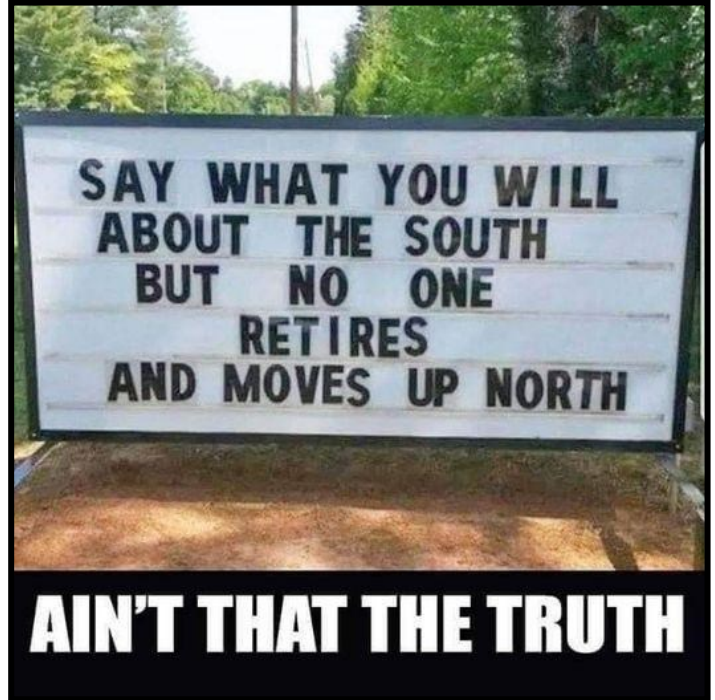
Dallas Garden Club Schedule

Board Meeting

June 13, 2024
 Ken & Phyllis Rueckert's Home
 7:00 PM
 7106 Meaowwreek Dr.
 Dallas, TX 75254
 972-661-3809

Club Meeting

July 17, 2024
 Jewish Community Center
 Big "D" Room
 7900 Northaven Road, Dallas



Dallas County Master Gardeners e-mail Address dallasmg@ag.tamu.edu

Master Gardener volunteers answer gardening questions to help Dallas County gardeners improve the results of their efforts.

2024 OFFICERS

President	ALAN GAGE	214-823-5459
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V.P. Promotions	open	
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Secretary	ANNA WILLIAMS	972-977-8030
Treasurer	BOB GROSSMAN	214-289-9827
Editor	KEN RUECKERT	972-661-3809
Board members (2)	open	

APPOINTED

Awards	Bob Grossman	
National Awards	Bob Grossman	
Gardening for/ Heart	Greg Clopton	214-476-4914
Chaplin	Rev. JoNell Lindh	214-341-6122
Hospitality	Connie Grossman	
Nominations	open	
Publicity	open	

GARDEN CLUB OF DALLAS
 needs your help — and it won't cost you a cent!

When you shop at TOM THUMB stores with your Reward Card "TOM" will donate a percentage of the amount of your purchases to Garden Club of Dallas. So go to the Customer Service counter and ask to have Number 8357 added to your card.
 The club has received about \$5,000 from this source since it started.

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 Clubs of America.



CAROLYN HICKS

Contact: Dallas County Master Gardeners Speakers Bureau

To book a speaker:

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

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Carolyn's mother and close friend, Suzy Fossett, were gardeners and Carolyn learned many tips from them. For over 50 years Carolyn has thought of them when working in the garden or cooking and baking in the kitchen.

Carolyn's particular interests include flowers, especially cutting garden flowers, pollinators and container gardening.

Her presentations include those on container gardening using flowers, herbs, and vegetables.

CERTIFICATIONS

TEXAS MASTER GARDENER, Dallas County

RECOGNITION & AWARDS

Junior Welfare League, *Stir-Ups* Cookbook Committee, Enid, OK

P.E.O. – Philanthropic Education Organization (International organization which supports women in college education) Chapter HA, Dallas, President, Secretary, Treasurer, Guard 500, Inc board of directors and volunteer for ten years

Boy Scouts of America, Board of Directors

PEGASYS public broadcast T.V. (Enid) volunteer and board of directors

Recognized for production of Public broadcast T.V. show "On-Call" for three years by the Garfield County Medical Society. The show featured physicians interviewed by an Enid news broadcaster.

Dallas County Advisory board member: Community Outreach, and DCMG Director at large.

Belmont Estate Neighborhood Association, Master Gardener judge & awards committee

EDUCATION

BS Broadcast Communications and Marketing, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK

WONDERWORD®

HOW TO PLAY: First read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are in all directions — vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once, so do not cross them out. It is best to find the big words first. When you find all the words listed in the clues, you'll have a number of letters left over that spell the Wonderword.

CLUES

- | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| Apple | Corn | Lavender | Ripe |
| Apricot | Crops | Lemonade | Sauce |
| Asparagus | Cucumber | Lettuce | Sell |
| Bakery | Eggplant | Mason Jar | Small |
| Blueberries | Flowers | Olive Oil | Business |
| Broccoli | Fresh | Oregano | Spinach |
| Cabbage | Fruit | Peanut Butter | Spring |
| Cake | Garden | Pecan | Squash |
| Candle | Garlic | Pepper | Strawberries |
| Canopy | Grapes | Pickles | Sustainability |
| Cantaloupe | Grocery | Pie | Table |
| Cards | Herbs | Pottery | Tractor |
| Carrot | Homemade | Preserves | Vendor |
| Cauliflower | Ice Cream | Pretzel | Watermelon |
| Celery | Jam | Produce | Zucchini |
| Cherries | Jelly | Radish | |
| Cookies | Jewelry | Raspberry | |

FARMERS MARKETS

by DAVID OUELLET
SOLUTION: 10 LETTERS

P	E	A	N	U	T	B	U	T	T	E	R	R	E	D	N	E	V	A	L
O	R	E	B	M	U	C	U	C	A	N	T	A	L	O	U	P	E	I	E
T	A	E	C	U	D	O	R	P	W	A	T	E	R	M	E	L	O	N	M
T	S	N	S	P	I	N	A	C	H	R	M	A	E	R	C	E	C	I	O
E	P	R	S	E	P	A	R	G	A	R	O	D	N	E	V	S	A	B	N
R	B	O	S	B	R	E	H	C	R	E	V	T	K	I	A	L	N	L	A
Y	E	C	O	P	Y	V	T	O	L	O	A	A	L	U	S	E	O	U	D
T	R	O	R	R	E	O	E	D	M	B	C	O	C	P	S	T	P	E	E
I	R	O	E	E	R	G	N	S	L	E	S	E	O	D	S	T	Y	B	C
L	Y	K	G	T	M	A	J	E	B	E	M	R	R	P	E	U	R	E	R
I	A	I	A	Z	C	E	G	R	I	A	C	A	R	Y	T	C	L	R	E
B	E	E	N	E	L	A	O	R	S	I	C	I	D	A	L	E	E	R	W
A	G	S	O	L	B	C	R	O	L	E	N	F	B	E	R	L	W	I	O
N	G	T	Y	B	C	E	N	R	L	G	L	I	L	Y	P	E	E	E	L
I	P	O	A	O	B	J	A	N	A	C	E	P	H	O	E	I	J	S	F
A	L	C	L	W	A	G	A	R	D	E	N	S	P	C	W	I	R	Q	I
T	A	I	A	R	E	P	P	E	P	T	O	R	R	A	C	E	P	U	L
S	N	R	A	D	I	S	H	S	E	R	F	R	U	I	T	U	R	A	U
U	T	P	I	C	K	L	E	S	U	G	A	R	A	P	S	A	Z	S	A
S	M	A	L	L	B	U	S	I	N	E	S	S	E	I	R	R	E	H	C

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5/19

ANSWER NEXT WEEK

Last Week's Answer: SYMBOLS

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LONE STAR GARDENING

Price isn't everything to a smart shopper



H. S. STEVENS

Smart shopping doesn't mean just finding sales or bargains. It means saving time and effort as well as money. Being a smart shopper means buying the right things at the right times, in the right sizes, and for the right price. Here are some tips to help accomplish each of these goals.

Gather Intelligence

Think first. Think about the effect you want and decide on the plants that will produce that effect.

When making selections, consider color, texture, mature size, light and maintenance requirements, and possible insect and disease problems. Gardening books, magazines and catalogs are good references.

Look for nurseries and garden centers that have Texas Certified Nursery Professionals, who are trained in all phases of horticulture, on staff.

Ask questions. You need to know more about the plants than what is printed on the label. (If you get an answer you know is incorrect, leave. You're in the wrong store.)

Plants and seeds

Before buying, carefully examine plant stems and foliage. Look for yellowed, scorched or spotted leaves that can indicate stress, insects or diseases. Check the undersides of the leaves. This is where you can find spider mites and white flies, two pests you don't want to take home with you.

If possible, carefully remove plants from their containers and check the roots. If a plant is healthy, it will have many white feeder roots, and the larger roots will not be matted or circling the inside of the pot. Avoid plants with brown or severely matted root systems.

When buying trees or shrubs, also look at the shape and form of the plant. The form should be symmetrical and natural. The trunk should be straight. Avoid plants that have cracks in the stem or trunk, especially if the cracks are near ground level. Vertical cracks near the soil line can indicate freeze damage.

Unless you need large plants to create an instant effect, smaller plants may be smarter buys. You may be able to get more plants in smaller containers at the same price.

Remember that the best and easiest route to success is to use plants that are adapted to your soil and growing conditions. Your county extension office or a Texas Certified Nursery Professional can provide recommendations.

In buying house plants, be sure you can provide the right light, temperature and humidity for the particular species.

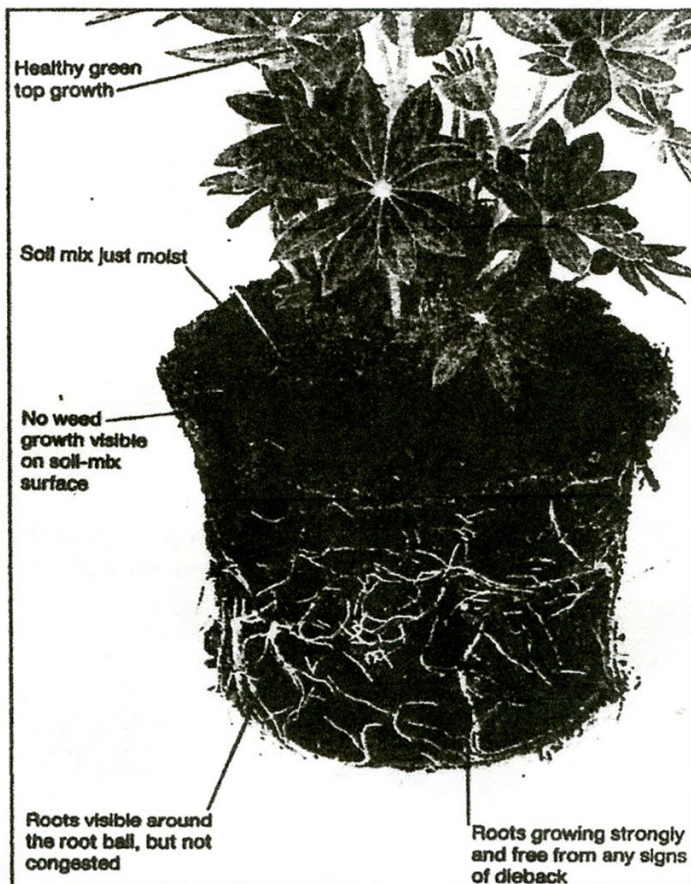
End-of-season discounts on seeds may or may not be a bargain, depending on the type of seed and where the packets spent the summer.

Onion, corn, parsley and bean seeds should be purchased fresh each season. Watermelon, squash; cucumber, eggplant, turnip, cantaloupe and lettuce seeds can remain viable for several years if stored under cool, dry conditions.

If the seed packets on sale are carry-overs from spring and have not been in an air-conditioned environment during the summer, they may have low germination rates. Heat and humidity shorten the shelf life of all seeds.

Pesticides and fertilizer

Even when pesticides are on sale, buy only those you need for the current season. Some pesticides have a shelf life of



To check for healthy roots, remove a plant from its container.

only one or two years, and you don't want half of that time to be wasted sitting on a shelf.

Store unused pesticides in a dry, cool area that's out of reach for children. Dampness and extremely high or low temperatures shorten the effective life of the product. Smart shoppers won't buy fertilizer solely because it is on sale.

The important consideration is whether it's the right type for the job. Fertilizers are formulated for specific uses; base your selection on a soil-test report or on the recommendation of a horticulturist or qualified nursery professional.

If you are buying fertilizer now, but all or part will be for use next season, store it in a dry area. Even in unopened bags, fertilizers can absorb moisture and become caked and hard if exposed to high humidity. Never place the bag on a concrete surface such as a garage floor.

Equipment

End of season sales can be a great opportunity for saving on the purchase of a tiller, shredder, mower, storage shed or other lawn and garden equipment.

And when buying any garden product that you will be using for several years, many features are more important than price. The best deal should include quality, ease of operation, service availability, and the coverage and length of the warranty.

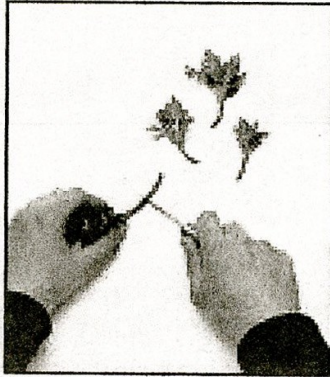
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PROPAGATING PERENNIAL HERBS

BY MAC MCGREW

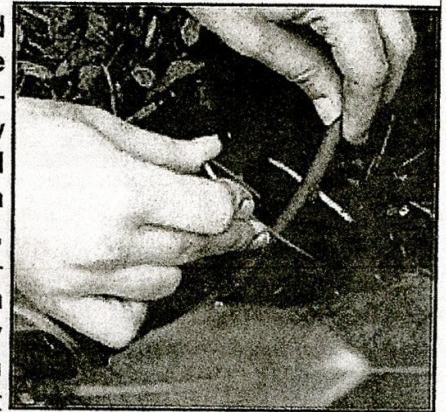
Some herbs are easily grown from seeds, but others may take a long time to germinate. To save time you may want to propagate them from existing plants. There are several successful ways to do this; by stem cuttings, root division or layering.

Stem cuttings work well with various herbs such as, lavender, mints, thyme, oregano or sage. These cuttings should be taken during the spring or summer. The best way to do this is to select tender segments from the plant that are about six inches long with four or five leaves along the stem. Make an angular cut. Then remove the excess leaves and dip the cut end into a rooting hormone and plant very deep into a seed starting mix. Cover loosely with a plastic bag and place in a cool spot away from sunlight. Monitor the cuttings carefully. You may need to add water occasionally. In a few weeks if you have any new leaf growth that indicates successful rooting. Repot the plants into a larger container filled with regular potting soil and gradually expose the new plants to full sunlight.



rosemary, lantana, fennel or marjoram. To accomplish this, dig up the plant's whole root system. Either pull the roots apart into individual sections or cut the roots into several pieces and plant them in other parts of the garden. The best time to do this is in the fall. This gives the plants time to establish themselves for a good start in the spring.

Layering involves selecting a suitable trailing stem from a perennial herb plant and tying it down in the soil thus encouraging it to form new roots. This method works well with herbs such as sage, marjoram and winter savory. Make a slanting cut halfway through the stem and place this cut portion just below the soil surface using a small piece of wire as a staple to hold the cut in place. Cover with soil and water well. When this cut develops new roots, cut the stem from the mother plant and transplant it into another part of the garden.



This is an excellent way to establish your new herb garden.

THOUGHTS ON HABITS

"NOTHING SO NEEDS REFORMING AS OTHER PEOPLE'S HABITS." MARK TWAIN

"GOOD HABITS RESULT FROM RESISTING TEMPTATION." ANCIENT PROVERB

"THE CHAINS OF HABIT ARE TOO WEAK TO BE FELT UNTIL THEY ARE TOO STRONG TO BE BROKEN." SAMUEL JOHNSON

"SOME PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS GRUMBLING BECAUSE ROSES HAVE THORNS; I AM THANKFUL THAT THORNS HAVE ROSES."

— ALPHONSE KARR

GARDENING THROUGH THE AGES WITH THE SAGES

"My garden is an honest place. Every tree and every vine are incapable of concealment, and tell after two or three months exactly what sort of treatment they have had."

—Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1803-1882

"Open afresh your round of starry folds ye ardent marigold."

—John Keats, 1817

"How fair is a garden amid the trials and passions of existence."

—Benjamin Disraeli, 1804-1881

"But though an old man, I am but a young gardener."

—Thomas Jefferson, in a letter, 1811



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hereby certifies that
Gregory L. Clopton

having honorably fulfilled all requirements prescribed by the Board of Trustees
of the Dallas County Community College District is hereby conferred the degree of

Associate of Applied Sciences

Ornamental Horticulture - Landscape Nursery

with all Honors, Rights, and Privileges appertaining.

in Witness Whereof,

*we have hereunto affixed our signatures and the Seal of the District
in the County of Dallas, State of Texas*

May 8, 1997

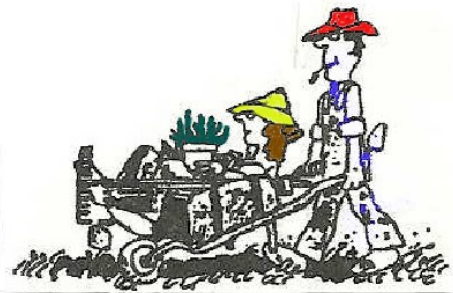
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