



Greenleaf

Volume 13 Issue 2

September, 2010

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fantastic news! The board of the SLGC is pleased to announce that our application for 501(c) (3) status has been approved by the IRS. We are now an official charitable organization. This will allow the club to better fulfill its educational mission. Thanks for this accomplishment goes to Maureen Trott, last year's Treasurer. Maureen, her committee, and our accountant worked together to ensure that we succeeded. Congratulations, SLGC!

Our long time friend, Heidi Sheesley of Treeseach Farms, is our speaker for the September meeting. She will preview the great plants that will be offered at our Garden Art and Plant Sale on Saturday, September 24. Each year she brings new and unique plants that everyone must have for their gardens. Club members may pre-order some of these plants after the general meeting.



One of the highlights of my year is the day we get our yearbook at the September meeting. I like to take it and look at my 10 year old photo in the membership section and see how young I looked! Yearbook chair Marsha Smith worked many long hours to create this little book of treasures for us. Inside you will find all the details of our events

and then you can mark your social calendar so you won't miss a thing.

Workshops and field trips are starting soon and reservations are always required. On October 4, Carolyn Salmans and Dolores Ottenhouse show us how to make dinnerware using seasonal fabric and glass plates. On October 26, we will enjoy a trip to the farm owned by SLGC member Deborah Birge. Her immense property has a myriad of gardening styles that will delight us all.

I hope you all have been enjoying the new digital Greenleaf. Lan Shen and her committee have added lots of colorful graphics and photos that really bring the articles to life. It's easy to download from our website and you can print out your own copy if you wish.

Terri

GARDEN CLUB PERSONALITY

By Lillian W. Bussells



I was born September 9, 1919 in Matthews, North Carolina and on September 9, 2009 I celebrated my 90th birthday!

I grew up the second oldest in a family of nine on a farm in Matthews during the depression. My mother, who had played basketball in high school, canned

everything we grew. My father sold trees all over Mecklenburg County, used a mule-drawn outdoor mill to make the best molasses in the county, and became a beloved superintendent in a local high school.

After I finished high school, I attended Lenoir Rhyne College in Hickory, North Carolina where I acquired office skills that led me from my first job as a "Chiclets Girl," to secretary of the Williamsburg chief of police, and later to the personnel department at Southern Bell Telephone Company in Charlotte, NC.

I met my husband, William E. Bussells, Jr., at a USO Dance during the war and married him in 1943. He served 16 months as a reconnaissance pilot in the Burma arena until WWII ended. After his return home, we lived 16 years in Virginia. That included a short time in Williamsburg where we used a hot plate for cooking and did our laundry by dropping it out of Billy's plane into the back yard of his parents' home in Kilmarnock to be washed by their housekeeper.

After Billie was killed in a private plane crash over the Chesapeake Bay, I moved back home to Matthews with my two children, then ages 6 and 8. As I reared my children, I worked at Charlotte Plastics as a buyer until I retired.

I've moved from my home, which I built in Matthews, to Sugar Land to live with my daughter, Jo Beth Moore. I visit my son and his family in Columbia, SC. My special interests are traveling, choir, painting and reading. Though I once happily toiled among my roses, I now enjoy gardening as a spectator.

2010-2011 Club Officers

President	Terri Hurley
1 st vice president <i>Programs</i>	Carrie Sample
2 nd vice president <i>Membership</i>	Gay Chavez Kathy Hradecky Joyce Jackson
Recording Secretary	Delores Reeves
Treasurer	Deborah Birge
Parliamentarian	Mary Ellen Twiss



Dues for SLGC are payable each spring, \$30 for the following year. New members joining June 1 - December 31 shall pay \$30 for the current year. New members joining January 1 - March 31 shall pay \$20 for the current year. For new members joining in April, dues are \$30 and apply to the following garden club year. Each member receives a monthly newsletter and copy of the club yearbook.



The Sugar Land Garden Club of Sugar Land, Texas, publishes the Greenleaf Newsletter monthly except June, July, & December.

Lan Shen
Shen.gcmn@gmail.com
713-771-1415

DEADLINE IS THE SECOND TUESDAY OF PUBLICATION MONTH

New Members

Welcome back returning member:
Marilyn Bradford

Due to privacy concerns, contact information of new members will no longer be in the newsletter, which is available online to the general public. Addresses and phone numbers will either be sent by email from the membership committee or by the telephone committee.

PLANT SWAP & FIELD TRIPS & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEES

By Terri Hurley

Some bright new faces on our committees would be nice! I hope that some of our members who have not served yet will volunteer for one of these positions described below. The work of a responsible and enthusiastic volunteer is priceless and so much appreciated.

PLANT SWAP: Jennifer Heffner, our Plant Swap coordinator, has had to resign due to family obligations. We need to find someone who can take her place as soon as possible. Plant Swap Chair is an enjoyable job that doesn't require a huge expenditure of time.

FIELD TRIPS: Mary Bates and Paula Goodwin have done a wonderful job of getting all the field trips planned. Now they just need one or two people to assist them on the day of the field trips. It will not be necessary for these volunteers to go to all of the field trips. They just need to be able to help out once or twice a year. For more information, contact Paula Goodwin at 281-242-0566.

EQUIPMENT: Belen de Guzman and Matt Hurley are in charge of the audio visual equipment we use during the general meetings. Because they travel, they need one or two people as backup in case they cannot attend the meetings. Again, the time commitment is not huge.

Committee chairs have the added perk of participating in monthly board meeting, where there is always good fellowship, good food, good work, and a tour of the host's home garden. As shown in the photos, the September board meeting was hosted by Mary Ellen Twiss, and co-hosted by Earleen Presson. (Please note: the hosting of board meetings is purely voluntary). Board meeting attendees enjoyed his and hers rose beds of Mary Ellen and her husband Ralph, both rose aficionados.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Terri Hurley at 281-491-9609 or thurley001@comcast.net.

September board meeting



12th ANNUAL GARDEN ART AND PLANT SALE (GAPS)

September 25, 2010

8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Sugar Lakes Clubhouse

930 Sugar Lakes Drive, Sugar Land 77478

For more information:

call 281-494-7977 or visit www.sugarlandgardenclub.org

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Our first SLGC meeting will feature a presentation by **Heidi Sheesley**, owner of Treesearch Farms, who will provide an overview of the plants featured at the Garden Art & Plant Sale (GAPS) on Saturday, September 25. Social time is 9:30 a.m. and program starts at 10:00 a.m. at the Sugar Land Community Center, 226 Matlage Way.

Local artist vendors will preview selected items of their garden-themed offerings which include wood angels, small paintings, wire wrapped garden art, jewelry, window charms, wall crosses, ceramics, nature photos and note cards, homemade jelly, block prints, bottle planters, items made with lavender, and Mexican imports.

Plant pre-orders by club members for GAPS will be taken after the meeting.

Proceeds from this sale help fund SLGC's community programs.



*Peachie's Pick
Stokesia*



Salvia miniata

Plants shown above are taken from the partial list of plants SLGC plans to have at the 2010 sale depending on availability. Photos are from the Garden Club website: www.sugarlandgardenclub.org

2010 plant description handout should be posted by September 21.

DATE CHANGE FOR DISCOUNTED PLANT SALE

Due to new information we recently received concerning laws governing non-profit fundraiser sales, the 25% discounted sale of left-over plants will no longer take place on Sunday. Instead, it will be between approximately **1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. on Saturday, the day of the sale.** All club members wishing to take advantage of this discount should wait in the air-conditioned clubhouse **until all customers are gone and inventory is counted.** Only then may club members begin shopping at the discounted price. The discounted sale is only open to club members.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

The sale involves a lot of teamwork. We still need volunteers. We encourage everyone to help with publicity. In the next few days, **please notify your friends and neighbors about the sale.** For other volunteer needs, please contact Debe Fannin at 281-265-4082 or debe23@aol.com to help and join the fun.

Questions? Contact

Lynne Leong 281-844-6585 or flynne@comcast.net.
Lillian Tigard at 832-437-3598 or tigards2@hal-pc.org



Vendors and their Art. Photo from www.sugarlandgardenclub.org



HORTICULTURE

By Paula Goodwin

It will be good to be back at our garden club again. It seems like the past summer has been way too long.

Our Garden Art Plant Sale is back again this month to help satisfy our voracious acquisition of plants. Welcome back again, Heidi Sheesley! Your slideshow and speaking always whet our appetite to try something new in our yards.

Some of my GAPS plant purchases that have thrived in my garden are: Terry's Pink Hibiscus, pink porterweed, American beautyberry, Mexican olive tree, Mexican flame vine, 'Mercer Blue' Thunbergia.

It may be helpful to recognize some of the descriptive [Latin root words](#) (usually the ending word) that will give you information about a plant. Some are fairly self explanatory as in *rosea*, rose-colored or *abundiflora*, profusely flowering. However, there are many others that are interesting and informative: *viscaria*, with sticky stems; *rupestris*, growing on rocks; *cera*, waxy; *laevigata*, smooth; *radicans*, rooting as it creeps; *damosa*, bushy; *actae*, seaside or seashore. I did not learn to pronounce *Asclepias* (butterfly weed) until I joined the garden club.

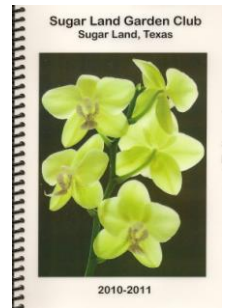
For every \$10 plant, you need a \$100 hole. But we gardeners sometimes have difficulty finding good organic soil amendments and natural fertilizers in garden stores. So here are a few simple (and frugal) sources to use as foliar sprays, for composting, and for green manures - plants grown as cover crops in an empty bed.

1. Cheap bird seed. A 50 pound bag is a great source of cool season cover crop seeds. Most are mixtures of oats, winter wheat, rye, millet, etc. When you are ready to use the bed next spring just, pull them out and throw them in your compost bin.
2. Catfish feed. Great source of alfalfa meal and fish meal for topdressing or compost teas.
3. Seaweed. Free for the taking if you happen to be in Galveston—just make sure all salt is rinsed and removed. Seaweed is one of the best soil amendments; it contains as much as [60 trace elements](#).
4. Fish emulsion.
5. Horse and cattle feeds. I go to the [Southern Cotton Oil Company](#) in Richmond for cotton seed hulls. It is used as cattle feed, but is great in the garden for topdressing and composting.

Continued on column 2.

YEARBOOKS

Yearbooks will be ready for pick-up at the September and October meetings. Please see **Marsha Smith**, who will be sitting at a table near the Membership/Sign-In area.



Fort Bend County Women's Center

Assisting survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and their children.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR WOMEN'S CENTER

By Vivian Cromwell

In October and November, we will be collecting money for our annual Christmas contribution to the [Fort Bend County Women's Center](#). This year, the Women's Center has requested that the money goes toward buying canned goods and non-perishable food items as their food pantry is always very low. However, please do not donate the canned goods, instead please contribute money for us to buy an appropriate variety of food items. Please start setting some money aside early to help us make a generous contribution to this worthy cause. For questions or more information, contact Vivian Cromwell and Debe Fannin, Co-chairs.

Continued from column 1:

6. Grass clippings. Also free for the taking.
7. Alfalfa. Sold as rabbit food or in hay bales.
8. Manures of vegetarian animals. Free at horse stables.
9. Blood and bone meal.
10. Coffee grounds. Free at Starbucks and other coffee houses if you ask.

In the vegetable garden, I never used a recipe for the soil. I knew it was good if I could easily stick my hand up to my wrist into the soil, bring a handful of it to my nose and smell that good "earthy" smell, and often find plenty of worms!

The plants I want to purchase this year at GAPS are salvias—always more salvias.

BUTTERFLY GARDEN WORKDAYS

By Dolores Ottenhouse

The next Butterfly Garden workday is **September 23rd**. The garden is located at the Sugar Land Branch Library, 550 Eldridge at the corner of Eldridge Road and 7th Street. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. Just bring your weeding tools and clippers and join us for some community service.

Except for November, workdays are the fourth Thursdays of every month at 8:00 a.m., weather permitting. Future workdays are on:

September 23	April 28
October 28	May 26
November 18	June 23
January 27	July 28
February 24	August 25
March 24	



Monarch on Mexican Milkweed (Asclepias curassavica)

WANTED: BUTTERFLY PHOTOS OR DRAWINGS

Every month, we would like to put a different photo or drawing of a butterfly with the Butterfly Garden Workday Announcement. If you have one that you would like published in the Greenleaf, please send it to Lan at shen.gcmn@gmail.com. The preferred format is a jpeg file.

Due to space considerations, not all submissions will appear in the Greenleaf. Also, please keep in mind that your editors of the Greenleaf currently do not have information regarding ownership protection. Thus, submitted photos, for the time being, will be available for others to download and use. For privacy concerns we will only add names of those who took the photos with their approval.



OCTOBER WORKSHOP "CREATIVE DINNERWARE"

When the mood strikes to put together a seasonal table setting, don't head to the department store for expensive dinnerware! Instead, check out the fabric store! Using clear glass plates and fabric you will learn how to create your own personal dinnerware.

The workshop will take place **Tuesday, October 5**, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the Red Room at the Sugar Land Community Center (226 Matlage Way). For more information, contact Carolyn Salmans.



NEW MEMBER COFFEE

Welcome new members! We want to get to know you and we would like to tell you all about how you can get involved in the SLGC. So, please join us for coffee and/or breakfast in a private room at la Madeleine on **Thursday, October 21**, 9:15 a.m. at 2675 Town Center Blvd. Hope to see you there! For more information, contact Kathy Hradecky.



OCTOBER FIELD TRIP

Join us **Tuesday, October 26**, for a tour of Deborah Birge's countryside garden in Richmond. In addition to the actual garden, you will also get a chance to meet her famous and friendly turkey and those magnificent longhorn cattle. We will lunch at Sandy McGee's in downtown Richmond. For more information, contact Mary Bates or Paula Goodwin.

SUGAR LAND GARDEN CLUB

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Please note that the following bylaw changes will be voted on at the general October SLGC meeting.

1. ADOPTION OF TEMPORARY BYLAW CHANGE

Article XIII – Club Organization and Purpose

The Club is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

2. ADDITIONAL PROPOSED REVISIONS

All proposed changes are between asterisks

Article V – Officers

Section 2 – Nominating Committee

a. There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of five (5) Members elected in November. Three members shall be elected from the membership of the Board of Managers at the November Board meeting, and the President shall appoint one as the Chair. The other two members shall be elected by the general membership at the November meeting. ****The President shall not serve on the Nominating Committee**.**

Article VI – Duties of Officers

Section 1 – President

a. Shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board; shall perform such duties as regularly pertain to the office, and shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees except the Nominating Committee ****and the Financial Review Committee**.**

Section 2 – First Vice President

b. Shall purchase ****the annual gift, for the year of service of the President, at the expense of**** the Club.

Article VIII – Standing Committees

Section 1 – Audit Committee

****Section 1 – Financial Review Committee****

There shall be a ****Financial Review**** Committee composed of three (3) members, appointed by the President, at the April Board meeting. Neither the current president nor the current treasurer may serve on this committee. The ****financial review**** committee shall report in writing to the Board at their September meeting and make the report available to the general membership in September.

Bylaws Committee

Deborah Birge
Evelyn Coe
Dianne Ozment
Mary Ellen Twiss



Keep Sugar Land Beautiful
An affiliate of Keep America Beautiful and Keep Texas Beautiful

RECYCLE FOR REUSE EVENT COMING SOON

By Tricia Bradbury

Saturday, October 9, 2010

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Fort Bend ISD Administration Parking Lot

Do you have some old books, glasses, or phones but don't know what to do with them? Keep Sugar Land Beautiful will hold its **7th Annual Recycle for Reuse** event on October 9 in partnership with the Fort Bend Education Foundation and the Fort Bend County Women's Center.

Please plan to donate your gently used items for reuse, including books, games, flash cards, DVDs, CDs, eyeglasses, hearing aids, hearing aid batteries, clothes, furniture, household items, and cell phones. Classroom items will be donated to Fort Bend ISD teachers. Eyeglasses, hearing aids and hearing aid batteries will be donated to the Lions Club. Furniture, clothing and household items will be donated to the Fort Bend Women's Center.

Donors are asked to bring clean, gently used items to the Fort Bend ISD Administration Parking Lot at 16431 Lexington Blvd, Sugar Land from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 9. For more information, please visit www.kslb.org

THE SUGAR LAND BRANCH LIBRARY

By Lan Shen



Peg Turrentine presenting "Fall Vegetable Gardening" at the Sugar Land Branch Library on Tuesday, August 17. Photo by Jennifer Washam.

The books that the Sugar Land Garden Club donated in 2010 to the Fort Bend County Libraries and the "Fall Vegetable Garden" display board will be available for viewing at the October meeting.



ECO CORNER

CASH (& LETTERS) FOR NASH

By Lan Shen

What is it? The Nash Prairie is a pristine prairie remnant, where much of the same plants grow now as they have for the past hundreds and even thousands of years. The plants on that property were the same ones that the first settlers saw. Although the once vast coastal prairie covered most of Houston and the Gulf coast between Corpus Christi, TX and Lafayette, LA, today less than 1/10 of 1% remains in a relatively pristine condition.

Recently, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and St. Mary's Episcopal Church in W. Columbia, at great sacrifice to the Church and the diocese, entered into an agreement to conserve this irreplaceable gem. TNC is raising money for this purchase, with the deadline – approximately December 27 – looming near.

Where is it? About 9 miles or 20 minutes south of Brazos Bend State Park.

Where can I read something about it? At [this link](#) and at "[Jewel in the Rough: Pristine Prairie on a Working Ranch](#)" (a long download) and at the [Coastal Prairie Partnership website](#).

What can I do to help save Nash Prairie?

Donate or write a letter of support to The Nature Conservancy: email sgray@tnc.org or send by mail to Sally Gray, The Nature Conservancy of Texas, 1800 Augusta Drive, Suite 240, Houston, Texas 77757-0803

Please mark the memo line: "Purchase of the Nash Prairie". The more local support, the easier it is to convince the large donors to contribute.

How can I see it? Contact the Rev. Peter and Susan Conaty, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, West Columbia, Texas and they will escort you to the prairie. It is currently private property. Contact info: Email: stmarys@hal-pc.org; home - 979-345-3285; church office - 979-345-3456

SLGC CORRESPONDENCE

A get well card was sent to Lillian Bussells, who had surgery in mid-August.

A get well card was also sent in August to Len Hicks.

Calendar of Events

Sugar Land Garden Club - General Meeting

Tuesday, September 21

9:30 a.m., social; 10:00 a.m., program

"Perennials for Every Garden" by Heidi Sheesley, owner of TreeSearch Farms, a wholesale nursery specializing in plants that are native or well adapted to our climate and soils. Her program will feature plants that will be available at our Garden Art & Plant Sale on Saturday, September 25.

Sugar Land Community Center, 226 Matlage Way 77478

SLGC - Butterfly Garden Workday

Thursday, September 23, 8:00 a.m.

Sugar Land Branch Library, 550 Eldridge 77478

SLGC - Set up for Garden Art and Plant Sale (GAPS)

Friday, September 24

Sugar Lakes Club House, 930 Sugar Lakes Drive 77478

SLGC Garden Art and Plant Sale (GAPS)

Saturday, September 25, 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Sugar Lakes Club House, 930 Sugar Lakes Drive 77478

Featuring perennials and Texas native plants from TreeSearch Farms, garden art, herbs from Fort Bend Master Gardeners, and seeds from members' gardens

Native Plant Society of Texas - Houston

Sunday, October 3, meet at 8:15 a.m.; leave at 8:30 a.m.

Field trip to Bear Creek Park

Meet at a parking lot in Memorial Park to carpool

Free & open to the public. Learn about native plants of the greater Houston area with local expert, Dr. Larry Brown. Contact Lan Shen for more information.

SLGC Workshop

Tuesday, October 5, 10:00 a.m. - noon

"Creative Dinnerware" by Carolyn Salmans

Sugar Land Community Center, Red Room
226 Matlage Way 77478

Nature Discovery Center, Bellaire

Wednesday, October 5, 7:00 p.m.

Adult Lecture Series

"Texas Prairies: An Historical Perspective" by Dennis

Jones of Brazos Bend State Park

7112 Newcastle, Bellaire 77401

Garden Club of Houston Bulb and Plant Mart

Thursday-Saturday, October 7- 9

Westminster United Methodist Church

5801 San Felipe at Bering Dr. 77057

Houston Federation of Garden Clubs

Friday, October 8, 9:30 a.m., social; 10:30 a.m., program

General Meeting "You Won't Believe It: Recycling for Home Exteriors and Interiors", [Dan Phillips](#), Huntsville, TX

Workshop "Learn How to Recycle Plastic Can Rings into Decorative Articles", Nancy Ayers

Houston Garden Center, 1500 Hermann Dr. 77004

Keep Sugar Land Beautiful

October 9, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Recycle for Re-use Collection Event

16431 Lexington Blvd. 77479

Green Thumb Seminar "Rainwater Harvesting"

Thursday, October 14, 7:00 p.m.

Parkway United Methodist Church, 5801 New Territory

Bld. Sugar Land, 77479

Native Plant Society of Texas - Houston

Sunday, October 17, meet at 8:15 am; leave at 8:30 am

Field trip to Katy Prairie

Meet at a parking lot in Memorial Park to carpool

Contact Lan Shen for more information.

SLGC - General Meeting

Tuesday, October 19

9:30 a.m., social; 10:00 a.m., program

"Get an Advanced Start in Decorating for the Holidays" by Nora Sim, owner of Nora Anne's Flower Shoppe and Texas Master Florist with over three decades experience.

Sugar Land Community Center, 226 Matlage Way 77478

SLGC - New Member Coffee

October 21, 9:15 a.m.

La Madeleine, private room, 2675 Town Center Blvd.

Sugar Land 77478

Calendar of Events

Fort Bend Master Gardeners

"High Density Planting"

Thursday, October 21, 6:30 p.m., social; 7:00 p.m., program

Bud O'Shieles Community Center
1330 Band Road, Rosenberg 77471

Native Plant Society of Texas - Houston

Thursday, October 21, 7:00 p.m., social; 7:30 p.m., program

"Our Trees, Our Climate" by M. C. Swearingen, M. Ag.,
ISA Certified Arborist

Houston Arboretum & Nature Center
4501 Woodway in Memorial Park 77024

SLGC Fieldtrip

Tuesday, October 26

Club Member Deborah Birge's Garden

Contact Mary Bates or Paula Goodwin for more information.

Others

9/25-26 Mercer Garden Faire

10/2 "Take Me Outdoors" at Discovery Green

10/16 Observation of Bird Banding and Data Collection, Lake Jackson 77566

Code:

- All color items underlined contain links for more information.
- Green = Sugar Land Garden Club events
- Dark blue = Non-SLGC events with links for more information
- Black = Non-SLGC events
- The links listed under **others** are perhaps more nature related rather than garden related or farther away.

Photos

Members are encouraged to send photos for the Greenleaf. Deadline is second Tuesday of the month. These photos of SLGC members' plants loaned to decorate the new hospice at Memorial Hermann hospital were taken by Terri Hurley. See her article "SLGC Comes to the Rescue and Beautifies New Hospice" in last month's Greenleaf.

