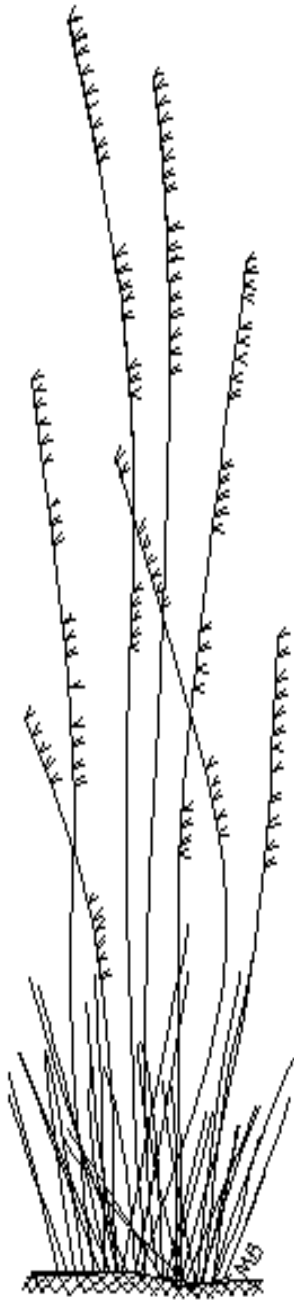


The Grama Gazette

Newsletter of the Native Plant Society of Texas
Garland Chapter
www.npsot.org/garland

Volume XIII Issue II

February 2011



Greetings, Native Plant Lovers!

Hello, is spring calling to you yet? The glorious weather we are having this third week of February is a fantastic time to prune anything that needs it, such as Autumn Sage, *Salvia greggii*. Many other sages and penstemons that maintain a winter rosette will benefit from having their flowering stems cut back to the rosette. It's also a good time to cut back to a few inches from the ground *Zexmania*, *Wedelia hispida*, Flame Acanthus, *Anisacanthus wrighttii*, and Aromatic Aster, *Aster oblongifolius*. They all send out new growth from the ground at the base of the plant.

Several members, along with Laura McLarry and her husband Hal, participated in the demonstration bed clean-up at Spring Creek Forrest Preserve the afternoon of February 12. Ben at Shoscape Nursery donated mulch and Laura, from Arboriological Services, was able to give our Desert Willows a much needed trim. Thank you so much all of you who made it out there! If you'd like to be included on the list of members who gather to do this, please let me know.

We are going to have our first meeting on March 20th at Rohde's at 2 pm. Bobette Brasfield from the Texas Conservation Alliance will be there to talk about the future water use of Texas and how conservation is a necessary component of it.

Our annual spring plant sale is usually held the first Saturday in May. We are still planning on having one, we just haven't finalized where it will take place.

Meanwhile, enjoy spring as it arrives and keep an eye on any native plantings you happen to see!

See you in March!

Susan Anderson
Chapter President

Sideoats Grama

(*Bouteloua curtipendula*)

Enjoys full sun;

grows two to three feet tall with attractive seed heads on one side of the stem;

attracts birds and butterflies;

Is the state grass of Texas

*Please join us for our meetings of the NPSOT, Garland Chapter,
this year being held in
March, April, May, September, October and November*

Our March speaker will be

Bobette Brasfield
from the Texas Conservation Alliance

Speaking on the topic

“Smarter Water for North Texas”

Explore the low-impact water supply options that will allow us to avoid the monetary and human costs associated with unnecessary new reservoirs.

Meeting/Question & Answer Time at 2 pm

Program begins at 2:15 pm

Rhode's Nature Store and Nursery
1651 Wall Street
Garland
972-864-4445

Please bring a friend!

Our demonstration garden cleanup at Spring Creek Forest Preserve on February 12, 2011.



COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

Because of the decreasing attendance at the meetings it was decided to have only six meetings per year in March, April, May, September, October and the holiday party in November.

Texas Discovery Gardens is happy to announce their **70th Anniversary Celebration**, starting this month. In 1941, five years after the original building and gardens were created for the Texas Centennial, Texas Discovery Gardens became a nonprofit organization. Since then, they have undergone several metamorphoses as the gardening climate changed. They are proud to herald 2011 as Year of Discovery as they look back on their 70 years and make plans to keep the gardens viable and vibrant in this new decade.

February at Texas Discovery Gardens

Saturday, Feb. 19, 11 am to Noon. **Garden Walk: Bug Hunt.**

Enjoy a guided garden tour with 'Bug Guy' John Watts as you discover the wealth of hidden insect life during the winter. Appropriate for ages 3+. Included with admission. Admission is \$8/adults, \$6/seniors, and \$4/children 3-11.

Saturday, Feb. 26, 9 am to 1 pm. **Grow With Us -- Water Conservation Techniques: Methods of efficient Irrigation.**

Learn how water is wasted and methods of irrigation to reduce water waste, with an overview of state regulations. \$60; Register for Course/Section Number HALT2005.53101 through El Centro College. **Online:** www.dcccd.edu (click on-e-connect-CE/W Training). **Call in:** 214 860-2147 **Walk In:** 801 Main St., - 2nd Floor Continuing Education Window. For more information on this course, visit the El Centro Continuing Education Website at <http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/Program/CE/>.

March at Texas Discovery Gardens

Saturday, March 5, 11 am to Noon. **Butterfly House Discovery Tour.**

Go on a guided tour of the Butterfly House and get a behind the scenes look at these winged wonders. Included with admission. Admission is \$8/adults, \$6/seniors, and \$4/children 3-11.

Saturday, March 5, 9 am to 1 pm. **Grow With Us -- Water Conservation Techniques: Planning the Landscape.**

See how to select the right area for your garden and what plants are best for our environment. We'll also talk about soil analysis, designing irrigation and mulching. \$60; Register for Course/Section Number HALT2005.53101 through El Centro College. **Online:** www.dcccd.edu (click on-e-connect-CE/W Training). **Call in:** 214 860-2147 **Walk In:** 801 Main St., - 2nd Floor Continuing Education Window. For more information on this course, visit the El Centro Continuing Education Website at <http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/Program/CE/>.

Sunday, March 6, 1 pm to 4 pm. **Nature Challenge Opening Day.**

Learn about this second annual summer-long challenge that gets you and your family outside visiting more than 20 environmental attractions across DFW. Free TDG admission if attending challenge.

Saturday, March 12, 9 am to 1 pm. **Grow With Us -- Water Conservation Techniques: Maintaining the Landscape.**

See how to properly maintain your landscape with watering, mulching, and more. \$60; Register for Course/Section Number HALT2005.53101 through El Centro College. **Online:** www.dcccd.edu (click on-e-connect-CE/W Training). **Call in:** 214 860-2147 **Walk In:** 801 Main St., - 2nd Floor Continuing Education Window. For more information on this course, visit the El Centro Continuing Education Website at <http://www.elcentrocollege.edu/Program/CE/>.

March 14 – 18, 11 am to 3 pm. **Spring Break Blitz.**

Enjoy discovery-themed activities all throughout Spring Break. Everything is included in your admission for the day. See our website for daily details.

Saturday, March 19, 11 am to Noon. **Garden Walk: Children's Garden Photography.**

Calling all 'budding' photographers! Discover how to photograph your spring garden and your favorite wildlife friends. Appropriate for ages 5+. Included with admission. Admission is \$8/adults, \$6/seniors, and \$4/children 3-11.

Saturday, March 26, 9 am to Noon. Composting Workshop.

Put your yard and garden trimmings to use as you prepare for your summer garden! Explore various composting techniques, earthworms, compost tea and integrated pest management. \$60; \$48 for TDG Members.

Join the Native Plant Society of Texas

Membership is renewable annually and extends for a year from the date we receive your original payment. If you wish to join or renew your membership, mail this form and the appropriate remittance, to:

**Native Plant Society of Texas
P.O. Box 3017
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
830/997-9272**

http://www.npsot.org/application/join_npsot.html

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student.....\$15.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior citizen (65+)...\$20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Couple (one member 65+) | \$30.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family.....\$40.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Group..... \$50.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron.....\$100.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor.....\$250.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting.....\$500.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate.....\$1000.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime..... \$1000.00 |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____ Phone _____

Chapter Affiliation GARLAND

New Renewal Address Change

E-mail Address _____

For IRS income tax purposes, the full amount of your NPSOT membership dues is tax-deductible as a charitable contribution.

The purpose of the Native Plant Society of Texas is to promote the conservation, research and utilization of the native plants and plant habitats of Texas, through education, outreach and example.



Rohde's

*Nursery
& Nature Store*

Thanks to our host Greg and the staff at Rohde's. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Rohde's
1651 Wall Street
Garland, TX 75041

972-864-1934 , 800-864-4445,
fax 972-864-0128

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ Chapter Leadership Team

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