

Chapter Challenge Competition Announcement:

Designing with Dried Texas Native Plants

In honor of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Native Plant Society of Texas (NPSOT), Symposium 2010 is sponsoring a competition among chapters of the society to encourage the use of dried native plant materials in artistic displays. NPSOT is challenging each chapter in the State to bring an arrangement to the symposium representing native flora from their area. Each arrangement will be entered in the competition and placed on display during this, our 30th annual symposium.

As you plan your design, observe how nature does “her arranging.” Often, a simple stand of Little Bluestem in full bloom, backlit by the sun creates a scene that we can all appreciate and enjoy. Dried grasses are one of nature’s most wonderful gifts for use in dried designs—as are pods of many varieties. The much-maligned Mexican hat makes seed heads aplenty, as does the Purple Coneflower. Ever think of drying Maximilian sunflower or Rosinweed? For height, color, and interest of leaves, flower pods and dried, curly golden flower petals these plants are fabulous. Or perhaps the seed pods of Big Red Sage. Along with many grasses, gayfeather, the ironweeds and monardas are just a few of the amazing native wildflowers that retain color, shape and form for years to come. The combinations are endless!

Your chapter’s participation in this competition will assist NPSOT in promoting the abundant varieties of native plants that can be used for arranging and decorating throughout the year.

For further information on this competition and display, please see our symposium website www.npsot.org/symposium2010 and look for the Special Events tab. If you have questions please email us at drieddesigns@npsot.org or call the State Office at 830-997-9272.