

Garden Chatter

November 2016

In My Garden – Carol Falls

With fall peeking over our shoulder, there is lots of movin' and shakin' going on at the homestead in these last few tantalizing days.

- I dug up 30+ years of cannas in a jam-packed bed and replaced it with a lone crape myrtle. Those cannas are now spread at the city park, East Texas, Bells, and the Howe library garden. It's so fun to know other plant rescuers.
- I also glimpsed a plot of spider lilies under a giant billboard on a drive-by. When I went back with shovel and bucket, the whole area had been mowed. There was nothing left but little flecks of red blooms blowing across the weeds in the empty lot. Arghh....who would *do* that? Alas, persistence was rewarded and I was able to dig a few. I do plan to go back and look for their green tufts of growth. That'll be an easier dig.
- Night Blooming Cereus, from an MG plant sale years ago, has bloomed for the first time ever!
- Juliet tomatoes from Mr. Ed are producing more than we can give away. Their good start in life is reaping rewards.
- Roses, esperanza, sages, obedience plant are all making a last stand.
- I am already dreading Moving Day – the days before the first freeze when all these pots need a new home. That's moving and shaking I really don't like to do.

Since this gardener is highly averse to cold weather, she is soaking in every bloom and autumnal breeze. A conversation and a cuppa on the swing here, watching the hens compete there....happy days and cheers to us!

Adopt-a-Spot, Fairview Memorial Garden – Rose Zoglio

I'm back from Florida and a big thank you to my MG's for keeping the garden going. A special thanks to Carla and her husband for fixing the problems that always seems to plague us. We recently planted new rose bushes and added additional youpon hollies to complete the shrubs. Pansies will be planted in the coming weeks; we're still waiting for the weather to cool off.

It still looks good and will soon be displaying Old Glory for the upcoming holiday. We will be having a workday soon to replant and clean up for the fall. Date to be announced. I hope to see new faces for this event.

Eisenhower Birthplace – Karen Page & Sharra Mings

Eisenhower State Park – Ed and Ann Supina

The fall asters are putting on quite a show. A blaze of purple welcomes visitors at the Park entrance. The Maximilian sunflowers were cut down after their spectacular foliage and it won't be long before the beds go to sleep for the winter.

The Park really helped us by stepping up the water pressure making watering easier and less time consuming. Our continued thanks to John Hanel for taking on the weekly task of watering.

Fall Garden Show – Mike Gowdy

Groff Beds – Judy Fisher

Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge – Donna Rogers

Herald Democrat – Ginger Mynatt

Junior Master Gardeners – Suzanne Buchanan

KXII – Frances Nelson

Frances Nelson appeared with "Naked Ladies" in a pot! Okay, Magic Lilies, Surprise Lilies, Spider Lilies, Lycoris Radiata or Lycoris Squamigera. Anyway, this is what we talked about this month with Rita and it made her open her eyes really wide. We are also talking up the intern class for 2017 and definitely will do more in November. Remember to watch and have your friends watch also. That is on the noon show November 10..

McGee Meditation Garden – Frances Nelson

On October 26, Diane Getrum, Regina Allen, Linda Littrell, Suzanne Exley and T.L. Holden labored under the October sun and obliterated the sweet potato vine. (Note to self--do not plant this man eater next year.) Me? I just watched and said "rip it out". The garden is getting ready for fall and winter with a nice new blanket of mulch and many fewer Mexican Petunias, ageratum, daylilies and anything else that needed dividing. We were all able to go home with new plants for our gardens and a plan for next year.

Color pots are in place. Since the church is working steadily toward the renovation of the Meditation Garden we are planting only in the pots this winter and if anyone wants to dig up bulbs that will no longer have a home, let me know. Come by, enjoy the peace or just pass the time of day; the garden is waiting.
Love, Frances

Memorial Garden Whitesboro – Lenora Garrison and Sue Abernathy

Nursery Visits – Darlene Cherry

Speaker's Bureau & Education – Beverly Green

You Don't Have to Water All Your Trees, Just the Ones You Want to Keep.

Pat Piaschyk started Treeland Nursery with her husband, Bob Piaschyk in 1983. With over 33 years of experience in the industry she provides a wealth of knowledge to the farm. Pat studied horticulture at Collin County Community College, and holds a Texas Nursery and Landscape Association certification. She is also an active member of the Collin County Master Gardener Association. She loves insects, gardening in the cottage style, and is a self-admitted plant addict, but plans to seek help.

Denise Piaschyk has rejoined the family business this year, and brings a unique and creative touch to the farm. After 10 years in the Interior Design and Architecture industry she decided that plants were less demanding than her design clients, and has decided to return to the family farm. Denise studied Interior Architecture at Texas Tech University, and plans on obtaining her Master Naturalist certification this fall. Her passion is combining preservation with beautiful landscape designs. Denise also shares a love for bugs, and enjoys landscape photography, and blogging.

Door prizes will be given!