

# URBAN DIRT

Published for the North County Master Gardeners



## FINALLY FALL...

by Pam Libby

Fall is the time when we finally get to plant those plants that would never make it through our summer heat.

For example: by October you can plant seeds for annual

herbs like cilantro, chervil, garlic and parsley.

September and October is the time to plant cabbage sets, carrots, collard sets, endive, kale, lettuce, mustard, onion seeds, potatoes, radishes, tomato sets, and turnips.

If it's flowers that you want, you can plant: ageratum, alyssum, calendula, carnation, day lilies, daisies, phlox, pansies (October), portulaca, and verbena. You can plant seeds for: Alyssum, bells of Ireland, calendula, columbine, delphinium, nasturtium, pansy, petunia, phlox, poppy, scabiosa, snapdragon, and viola.

As for bulbs, now is the time to plant: amaryllis, anemone, calla, day lilies, iris, and ranunculus. I'd wait until October before I plant narcissus

Of course Fall is a good time to: plant trees, clean up beds and add more mulch, prune off dead wood (but not from azaleas), dust beds with a little sulphur to prevent fungus, get after those weeds that went rampant when it was too hot to do anything about it, take cuttings of any tender perennials that you want to pot and replant in the spring, like geraniums or tender herbs. Remember to keep watering flowering trees and scrubs so that you can ensure spring blooms.

Fall is also a good time to think about your commitments to the Master Gardeners. Come join the Tuesday morning work crews. You get to pick an area of the garden to work in and to learn about. There are many choices: the children's garden, the greenhouse, the herb garden, the orchard, the perennial garden, the vegetable garden, the water garden (I hope I didn't forget any). After a few hours of work and some nice companionship, we even give you lunch – see the bottom of page 11 for Mary Ann Wagner's article. Have a wonderful Fall – come out and garden!!

## MEETING SCHEDULE

### SEPTEMBER: 9/21/99

Executive Board	5:30 p.m.
Dessert and Coffee	6:30 p.m.
General Meeting	7:00 p.m.

### SUBJECT:

**"WINTER IN YOUR GARDEN"**

Speaker: John Teas of Teas Nursery

### OCTOBER: 10/19/99

Executive Board	5:30 p.m.
Pot Luck Dinner	6:30 p.m.
General Meeting	7:00 p.m.

### SUBJECT:

**"ENJOYING THE FLOWERS FROM YOUR GARDEN"**

Speaker: Gay Estes, Garden Club of Houston



### PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

by Frances Robeson, MG President

*"All the world is a garden meant for us to share"*

So says a small china plate that hangs on the fence just beside my garden gate. I found this little plate as I dug through a pile of junk on a garage sale table. Since garden art is so popular I thought I would use it to display my up to date garden style and let visitors know that my garden is for sharing. In glancing at it each time I go through that gate, I realize that it speaks for the world of gardening that I know, a world of many kinds of gardens and of many gardeners willing to share their knowledge, ideas, plants, seeds, and to invite us in to enjoy their own special creations.

In traveling we often meet fellow gardeners and from the instant rapport and sharing of our gardening experiences, we obtain some of our most happy memories. I often think of two special people in two distant places.

In the piney woods near the Big Thicket, Geraldine Watson, a woman now in her seventies is eager to share her garden and the knowledge of the rare plants that she has spent most of her life trying to preserve. Hers is a garden of several acres known as Watson Pineland Preserve. Here she has built a small house with her own hands and restored the natural condition of the land. It is a place of longleaf pines, wildflowers, ferns, carnivorous plants, and orchids all beside a lake where you may see herons and kingfishers. There is no charge to visit this garden, but you may help continue its preservation by buying a print of one of Geraldine's native plant portraits which are for sale in her studio.

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