



Henderson County Master Gardeners Weekly News Article October 16, 2017

Henderson County Master Gardeners Present “Gardening the Easy Way.”
by Loretta Humble

Henderson County Master Gardeners Association is proud to present its Fall Conference on Thursday, October 26, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Senior Citizens Center, 3344 Hwy 31 E. Athens. It is free to the public. This year’s conference topic features two separate approaches to ease in gardening presented by two distinguished speakers.

David Gary- Master Gardener on Wheels

David Gary will demonstrate how a physically challenged gardener can build and maintain an accessible garden.

Gary, a United States Air Force Vietnam Veteran, is a Master Gardener. He worked in the family business, Gary Studios, in Dallas for over thirty-five years. Since May 2003, he has been a dedicated volunteer at the Dallas Arboretum, serving as a Tram Driver and a member of the Volunteer Advisory Board. He became a Certified Master Gardener when he and his wife Linda moved to Tyler in the fall of 2005. He continues his commitment as a volunteer at the Dallas Arboretum, driving more than one-hundred miles from Tyler to serve. He will lift your spirits as he tells you about overcoming the challenges of gardening from a wheel chair. He was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy at twenty-eight years old, but he avoids letting this progressive disease slow him down. His love for the Dallas Arboretum and his passion for gardening is an inspiration to all who hear him tell his story.



Greg Grant- Running Wild with the Natives

Greg Grant will speak on the advantages of landscaping with native plants, which make your gardening easier, as they generally require less care.

Grant is an award-winning horticulturist, writer, conservationist, and seventh generation Texan from Arcadia, Texas. He is author of *In Greg’s Garden-A Pineywoods Perspective on Gardening, Nature, and Family* and *Texas Fruit and Vegetable Gardening* and co-author of *Heirloom Gardening in the South and Texas Home Landscaping*. He just finished *The Rose Rustlers* with Dr. William Welch that is due out in 2017. He also writes the popular “In Greg’s Garden” column for *Texas Gardener* magazine and writes a monthly “Greg’s Ramblings” blog. His real job however is as the Smith County horticulturist for the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Tyler, Texas.



Grant has introduced a number of successful plants to the Southern nursery industry including: Blue Princess verbena, dwarf pink Mexican petunia, Gold Star esperanza, Laura Bush petunia, John Fanick phlox, Stars and Stripes pentas, Pam’s Pink honeysuckle, Lecompte and Flora Ann vitex, Henry and Augusta Duelberg sages,

Big Momma and Pam Puryear Turk's Cap, Peppermint Flare hibiscus, and the Marie Daly and Nacogdoches (Grandma's Yellow) roses.

Grant lives in the Pineywoods of East Texas and splits his time between Tyler and his grandparent's restored dogtrot farmhouse

HCMGA's Fall Conference is traditionally organized by the current year's interns. Interns have completed the Master Gardener training course and are working toward their certification.

For more information, call 903-675-6130, email hendersonCMGA@gmail.com or visit www.henderson-co-tx-mg.org.