



## Henderson County Master Gardeners Weekly News Article July 24, 2017

### Meet the Masters: Lynn Stroud by Lydia Holley

Lynn Stroud admits “my becoming a Master Gardener was my wife’s idea. I would like to think that she recognized my penchant for gardening and did not just want to get me out of the house.” Stroud grew up helping work his father’s vegetable garden, maintain the yard, and tend to the fruit trees. “Once I had my own place it seemed natural to do my own work in the yard”.

Stroud has landscaped and installed the irrigation systems for all seven of the homes he has lived in. He suggests landscaping with “same-species evergreens in groups, and annuals in masses, to achieve more impact”. He also likes “curvilinear beds”, and uses “straight borders only when necessitated by existing hardscape”.

Savannah hollies, camellias, gardenias, dwarf yaupons, nandinas, Indian hawthorns, and cleyeras are some of the numerous evergreens Stroud uses for year round interest. After achieving a strong backbone, Stroud fills in with annuals for color. He often uses red and white vincas in the summer and yellow pansies in the winter.

His favorite ornamental grass is ‘Hameln’ dwarf fountain grass, and loves using this grass in mass groupings. One area of his landscape has a red, white and blue theme, with red blooming crape myrtles, the aforementioned ‘Hamelyn’ fountain grasses which display white plumes, and blue blooming ‘Henry Duelberg’ salvias.

Stroud has landscaped approximately three of the 20 acres he lives on, and manages the landscape for his housing development. “I try to use plants which do not require excessive maintenance. To keep it to a manageable scale, I have limited the plantings to around the foundation, the driveway circle in front of our house, and at the entrance to our property. To provide a screen along the rear property line, I have added a 600 foot long double row of loblolly pines and Arizona cypresses with a drip system.”

Stroud became a certified Texas Master Gardener in Montgomery County in 2006. After moving to Henderson County, he quickly joined the Henderson County Master Gardener Association (HCMGA). “In both situations, I have found that getting to know people who share the same passion is what I have enjoyed most about being a part of the organizations.” Stroud has served on HCMGA’s Bylaws Committee, Policies and Procedures Committee, Spring Conference Committee, Plant Sale Committee, and as Parliamentarian.

HCMGA is now accepting applications for the 2017 Master Gardener class. The deadline for registration is August 23. Applications can be obtained by calling the number below.

For more information, call 903-675-6130, email [hendersonCMGA@gmail.com](mailto:hendersonCMGA@gmail.com) or visit [www.henderson-co-tx-mg.org](http://www.henderson-co-tx-mg.org).

