

Gardeners of Blanco County

**Next Meeting: December 13, 2011
Dick and Peggy Welches' Home
6810 Rocky Road, Blanco
5:30**

Pot Luck Party Fare

Christmas Party

Come to Dick and Peggy's for the Christmas Party, a little earlier than usual – 5:30 – so you can find it before it gets dark. Bring something good to eat and a "garden" present that will work for either a man or woman if you want to participate in the gift exchange. Bring your spouse or a friend.



Michael Presents Program on Landscape Design

Pataricia Michael gave an informative program on landscape design for the Hill Country. She stressed, however, that it is important to consult local records from past years for a true picture of Blanco/Johnson City temperatures and rainfall.

One idea she also stressed is that there are some plants we just don't need to plant and expect to grow. She told one of her clients to forget an orchard; instead she has designed an inviting nature walk with up-close beauty as well as seats for rest and vistas. There are many options for design and variety in our area.

Program Plans for the New Year

The following changes in the by-laws are suggested for the program committee:

A program committee will be appointed as an additional standing committee to help the Vice President plan and secure programs and locations. In addition, the committee will assist the Vice President by contacting the guest speaker prior to the meeting, arranging for any video/audio equipment the guest speaker may need, setting up the meeting room, getting a check for the guest speaker when needed and writing a thank you note to the guest speaker after the meeting is over.

The first sentence is already there but we wanted to give the committee these additional ways of assisting the V.P. We will need to vote on this at the December meeting.

Meeting times were also changed. Beginning in the new year, in January, day meetings will be at 12:00, noon, and night meetings will begin at 5:30. These changes will accommodate those who work and those who prefer not to drive at night.

Members can bring a brown-bag meal to meetings and volunteers will provide dessert and drinks to go with it. There will be a sign up sheet for refreshments for 2012 at the Dec. meeting. Henrietta volunteered to head arranging refreshments.



From Jim Meadows--

Once again I will be ordering onion set from Dixondale Farms. They've changed the types of short day onions to varieties with longer shelf life.

Types available are:

Texas 1014 -Supersweet Yellow

Texas Early White - Replaces Contessa

Hybrid Southern Belle Red - More bolt resistant than old red variety

Red Creole - Long storage time

Yellow Granex - Similar to Vidalia and Maui onions but short storage time

Short Day Sampler - Red Creole, Texas Early White & 1015Y varieties, 20 each

Each bunch has about 60 plants, I will schedule delivery so that I have them at January Meeting.

They should be planted as soon as possible. Makes about a 30 foot row if planted on 6 inch centers

Current cost is about \$4 a bunch but goes down with more orders.

Call me at 833-0995 or see me at December meeting to place order.



Note from Mary—

I can't believe that I forgot to take pictures at the last meeting, but I was too engrossed in the program! Would someone shoot some photos at the Christmas party and send them to me, as I will be unable to attend.

Thanks.



I also can't believe it, but my Christmas cactus is starting to bloom!

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Be sure to look at the fabulous Christmas lights in Blanco and Johnson City and surrounding towns like Burnet and Marble Falls.

In your Christmas giving, be sure to remember the needy and the shut-ins.

Merry Christmas!
Happy New Year!