

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA ANNOUNCES HONORARY PRESIDENT

Dr. William C. Welch, Professor and Landscape Horticulturist, Department of Horticultural Sciences, Texas A&M University has been selected as the Honorary President of The Herb Society of America. The announcement of Dr. Welch's appointment was made during The Herb Society of America's 75th Anniversary Educational Conference and Annual Meeting of the Members, June 27, 2008. Dr. Welch will serve a two year term beginning July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2010

Bill Welch received his B.S. degree in Landscape Architecture from Louisiana State University. After working several years as a landscape contractor in Houston, he returned to L.S.U. to earn his master's and doctoral degrees in Extension Education and Horticulture. He joined the Faculty at Texas A&M University in 1972.

Dr. Welch is editor of The Southern Garden web site within Aggie Horticulture. He is also a contributing editor for the *Horticulture Update* newsletter.

As Extension Horticulturist, Dr. Welch provides educational information and programs for county extension agents, nursery professionals, and civic groups, as well as for the general public. November of 1988, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service presented Dr. Welch with the Superior Service Award citing his successful educational programs.

Dr. Welch has been instrumental in developing the Texas Certified Nursery Professional program and currently serves on the Board of that organization within the Texas Association of Nurserymen. In 1986, he was presented the Arp Award by the Texas Association of Nurserymen for his contributions to the Texas nursery industry.

He has served on the Board of the Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., as Landscape Design Chairman for the past 24 years and has been awarded a Lifetime membership in that organization. In 1988, he was elected to the Board of Directors and currently serves as Publications Chairman for The Southern Garden History Society. From 1993 to 1995, he served as President of that society, and in the fall of 2002, the Board of Directors presented Dr. Welch with permanent honorary membership on their board. May, 1993, Dr. Welch was made a Member-at-large of the Garden Club of America in recognition of his programs and writings on exploring and interpreting our



gardening heritage. . In May of 2008, The Garden Club of America presented him with the Distinguished Service Medal, its highest award.

Selected Publications:

Planning the Home Landscape

Landscaping for Energy Conservation

Trees for the Texas Landscape

Water Gardening in Texas

Books by Dr. Welch include:

Perennial Garden Color, released in 1989 by Taylor Publishing Co. Dallas, Texas, is a comprehensive work on perennials, old garden roses and the cottage gardening concept in Texas and the South.

Antique Roses for the South, published by Taylor in 1990, is an expansion of his work with generations of Southern Roses.

The Southern Heirloom Garden, published by Taylor in 1995, addresses the history and cultures that shaped our Southern Gardens. The plant section includes essays on the history, culture, and use of heirloom plants in today's garden.

The Bountiful Cutflower Garden, co-authored by Neil C. Odenwald and William C. Welch, published by Taylor in 2000, details the annuals, perennials and foliage plants suitable for flower arrangements which can be grown in Texas and Southern United States.

The Herb Society of America is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to promoting the knowledge, use and delight of herbs through educational program, research and sharing the experience of its members with the community and is committed to protecting our global environment for the health and well-being of humankind and all growing things. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in herbs.

For additional information about membership or to find a local unit in your area, please visit www.herbsociety.org or call the National Headquarters, 440-256-0514.