

# Granny's Porch

Lawrence Chose Me

Hello Everyone,

This is Granny back ready for another visit this pretty summer day. I always look forward to my Martins flying around my yard. There are so many. They get really noisy, and it stays that way until their young ones gets old enough to fly away, then one day they will all be gone in the late summer. Someone said why do you like Martins so good, I said well for one thing they keep the crows run off from my garden, and another I love to hear them because the Bible says



let everything that draws a breath Praise the Lord. When I hear them making all that noise I know that it is their way to Praise God, I wish all the people on Earth would do as the little birds do, and Praise God because they do draw breath too.

I love to sing because in Psalm 33 verse three says, Sing unto him a new song; play skillfully with a loud noise” and the verse before that the second verse says Praise the Lord with harp; sing unto him with the psaltery and a instrument of ten strings.” Someone said that the psaltery was a guitar. I’m not sure but the guitar has only six strings, so I love to play my guitar loud and sing, I love to go to church.

I wrote last with that I’d write more about my second marriage, to Lawrence Jackson, one thing I loved him for was he would go to church with me every time he could. He was a watchman for a coal company and sometimes he couldn’t get to go because he had to watch on Sundays.

I was telling you about when he stopped beside the road and waited for me, when I came home from work he said the reason he stopped was his tail pipe was making a noise and to he wanted to ask me if I had a boyfriend. I always teased him, I told him I didn’t believe he was having trouble with that pipe he always just smiled and didn’t say yes or no. He was a good and kind man.

He would come out by my house and eat supper when he was on his way to work. He said I was the best cook he had met since his wife Molly had died. He had been seeing a lady for some time before we met and when he stopped seeing her, she didn’t like that, and tried everything she could do to keep him. She kept calling him and he had his phone number changed. This went on for a while, then one day he asked me to go to Manchester with him to have his driver license renewed. Where Lawrence was parked you had to go on around the courthouse to get back out on the main road, so now somehow this lady saw his truck parked, and she went on around the courthouse and was parked where she knew he would have to go by her to get out on the main road.

When he got his license renewed we was ready to go home, just before we got to her, she was sitting in her truck, she made sure he saw her, she started to get out to talk with him but when she saw me with him she stopped. He blew the truck horn at her and before I could catch myself I hit him with my fist on the shoulder and I said stop and let me out and I’ll tell her to leave you alone, there was no way I could get him to stop. He said you have broken my shoulder and we are going home. I said you should not have blown the horn at her. I knew I had not broken his shoulder because at that time I only weighed 125lbs, by the time we got home everything was fine between us. This was one of the ladies he had dated that could not cook good, so I guess he decided he had better watch who he blew the horn at. I told him we had better go to the hospital and have that shoulder checked out, he just smiled right big and said oh I’ll be all right. This lady just was not ready to give up on him, there was some evenings he didn’t have time to stop and eat supper so on them evenings I’d take him something to eat and talk a while.

I knew he was wearing a nice ring and I never question him as where he got it, it wasn’t an engagement or wedding ring, so I never said anything about it. But one evening I found out how he came about getting this ring, we had been dating for several months and he had asked me to marry him, so I said yes and we were making plans to be married soon.

Now, one evening when I took his supper to him there was his old girlfriend who he blew the horn at, her and one of her boys was there. He was sitting in his truck, and she was standing beside it talking to him. She had decided to send her boy back home and spend the night there. I just walked over and never said a word to either one, or she thought he would choose her over me, so he said oh I choose Nancy, which was me. He said we are going to get married. She said well give my ring back. He gave her ring back and said I was going to give it to you anyway when I saw you again. He gave her ring back and said if you ever thought there was more than friendship between us, I’m sorry. I’ve met the one I’m going to marry, but we can still be friends. She thanked him and never tried to interfere with us again. He soon was wearing my ring.

I have more to write about our Lawrence, so just meet me here next week on Granny’s Porch.

Love, Granny

## Old Jim Will Return Very Soon. Dan Looks Forward to Continuing His Story for All of You!

### Yards to Paradise Home Foundation Plantings

by Max Phelps

Once upon a time, ugly concrete foundations of homes needed hiding. I suspect this prompted someone to invent the term “foundation plantings” and put plants along the foundation of their houses. Regardless of who started this practice, it’s a useful one. And to this day many homes still have foundations that are eyesores.

Our residences can be enhanced by a good planting design, no matter if there’s an ugly foundation to hide or not. I suggest creating such a landscape feature, but do it to match up to your specific house and your preferences for colors and textures. Foundation plantings often are the first plantings along the front of a recently constructed home. They should not be a ‘cookie cutter’ installation of one of 5 or 10 over-used plants just like everyone else chooses. Easy-care plants can still be varied to differ from those of neighboring homes.

In the overview, numerous municipalities and homeowner associations require plantings along the front foundations of homes. The idea has merit, no matter the motivating reason. Many rural homes still sport a n unattractive foundation long after the original construction. I do understand the reasons for some of the ordinances requiring plants that some cities implement. (But I also realize many of the resulting plantings are just to fulfill the letter of the law and are not the good or attractive choices that might be made by a skilled creative person.) If you have the option of doing the foundation plantings for your new home yourself, or of hiring a professional, you’ll likely produce a result superior to the “planting packages” most builders offer you.

Some modern homes may not have exposed ugly foundations; still, judicious plantings soften harsh architecture in most situations, tying the house to the yard.

Corner plantings, doorway plantings, plus connecting plantings are a common strategy for creating a good front yard foundation design.

Decisions already made concerning the drive and the path to the front door may limit your creativity in front foundation landscaping. (A curved walk offers numerous options for creative landscaping not accommodated by a straight concrete walk to the front door. So, if you’re buying a home and the drive and walk aren’t already concreted in, insist on some curves be made in yours.)

To set your foundation landscaping apart, color choices, plant sizes, textures, and multi-seasonal changing looks can be employed. Sometimes unique plants can also be employed. Being sure to use multiples of at least one plant throughout the design, you can put in a plant or two you desire as oddities or specimens.

Take note of the direction your home faces before beginning any landscaping. A south facing front is going to limit your options for using shade-loving plants, and a north facing front is going to limit the use of sun loving plants in your designs. (Or, you’ll find out the hard way that it matters!)

Shorter plants in front of taller ones is desirable if you have the room along your front foundation.

A layered look is a nice look on most homes.

Make note of the prominent colors on your home’s exterior. If you can tie some of your planting colors to the home colors (or choose opposites on the color wheel if you like some drama) it gives a sense of belonging and compatibility that neighboring homes may not exhibit.

One thing front yard landscaping should do is help visitors or delivery persons find the front door.

(Or, perhaps not, if you prefer to discourage anyone from ringing your doorbell.) Confusion about the front entry can be a negative in selling your home, so highlighting the front door is typically the correct way to go on this.

So, as you set about to do your foundation plantings, just a few cautions to be aware of. Pick a plant that will still fit the spot you are planting it in a decade from now, or two decades or more. Is your choice likely to at some point crack the sidewalk or the home’s foundation? Roots—will they be unsightly or affect things like drainage or septic? Security—do you wish to have overgrown large shrubs someone could hide in next to your front door? Other considerations may be leaves, trimming, dead limbs, death of plants from dry or overly wet locations, and the list could go on. Put a little effort into the process and you’ll have a foundation planting to be proud of.

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### Inspirational Thoughts Into God’s Word

By Lynetta Hunter

The temporal and sinful atmospheric habitation of present human activities is an entity, called the world. It is a spiritual place where humanity is governed by sin nature and dictated by its world system, which is hatred and conflict toward God. The prince of this place offers deceptive tactics and irresistible offers, causing pride and rebellion to make themselves manifest, producing evil destruction. Satan and his demons hide in darkness, as they direct blinded humanity into paths that connect into the wide road that leads to eternal destruction (Matt. 7:13). (1 Jn. 5:19) The hurt, abuse, lawlessness, and unimaginable deeds of the world, are mind-boggling and disturbing, but shouldn’t be surprising. That is simply what the world does, as the prince of the air leads it along (Eph. 2:2, John 14:30). The world contains unlimited wickedness that has already been given a final sentence from God (1 Cor. 15:19).

(Is. 9:6) The realm of God is a separate entity where Jesus is the Prince of peace, and the full characterization of its authenticity. Those who have been reborn into this place are governed by God’s righteousness. The power of Jesus pulls humanity out of the world and into this straight and narrow path that leads to eternal life (Matt. 7:13).

The two above places are enmity to each other. Prevailing evil, staggering confusion, and innocent sufferings, often lead to disappointment and anger toward God, but change nothing. God has already done all He is going to do for salvation of humanity in this age, He sent His Son to be a way of escape, before judgment on the world is announced (Gal. 1:3-4). Faith in Jesus is the dividing line that determines personal residency, where there is separation from the world, justification from its transgression, and sanctification from its appointed wrath.

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