

Have you ever seen a yard that had luscious, vibrant, colorful landscaping and wished someone were around to give you a tour? Stop by this month's Beauty Spot and your wish may be granted. Congratulations Jaime and Carmen Figueroa of 3507 Pinehurst. You are the recipients of the August 2014 Beauty Spot award.

While out looking for this month's winner, someone suggested we check out the house on Pinehurst with the Pineapple Fountain. We are certainly glad we did, for that is where we met our young docent, Justin, the Figueras' 7-year-old nephew. He took us around to each bed, pointing out his favorite things.

On the right side of the driveway, a row of trees: crepe myrtles, dogwood, Japanese Red maple. Justin made sure we noticed the daisies, Black-eyed Susans (which are interspersed throughout the yard) and the shells that his aunt placed around the tree beds.

The top of the driveway was home to a container garden: overflowing pots of begonias, lilies, petunias, and Gerber daisies. Also a mini vegetable garden of green bean and tomato plants bursting with produce ripe for the picking. (I can practically taste those beans cooked up with some tomatoes and a bit of garlic... Yum!)

And just behind the vegetable garden, on the patio in the back (which you only get to see if you have Justin as your guide, and probably not even anymore because this was two weeks ago and they are probably no longer there as they would have metamorphosed into frogs by now) a tub with tadpoles.

The left side of the driveway had an assortment of evergreens and a dogwood to create the structure for the bed, and hostas, Black-eyed Susans, begonias and mint to fill in. Justin pointed out his favorite in the bed, the Butterfly Bushes, blooming purple and white flowers. And yes, Justin said, he has seen many butterflies.

The bed in the front yard of the house (with the Pineapple Fountain) also has frog statues and seashells. The plantings include a Butterfly Bush, Crepe Myrtles (with white and pink flowers), dogwoods, and assorted evergreens. There are zinnias, petunias, more bright yellow Black-eyed Susan, geraniums, and yellow and rose begonias. Vinca vines were blooming with light pink blossoms. And according to Justin, "the softest flower ever" resided here in this garden, the purple ageratum.

This is a yard chock-full of beautiful, interesting plantings and we are thrilled to see such a young person interested in all that it has to offer. Perhaps we have the next generation of gardeners sprouting right here in Country Club Hills.

Here's a link to a picture (photo credit goes to Ernie Klimonda):

<http://www.cchca.org/testwp/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/Aug-Bspot75-Ty.jpg>

Respectfully Submitted, Jennifer Judelsohn with Joyce Skoglund for Country Hills GardenClub