

A&M GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER

October 2012



President: Kay Hamn (979) 204-9216 email: k_hamn@yahoo.com

OFFICERS

President	Kay Hamn
VP Programs	Hillary Jessup
VP Web	Sarah Barrick
VP Ed. Projects	Geneva Eubanks
VP Hospitality	Rose Smith
Rec. Secretary	Jane Cohen
Corres. Secretary	Sherry Ellison
Treasurer	Kelly Klimple
Historian	Sarah Barrick
Reporter	Judy Schafer
Members at Large	Michele Wehrheim Sandy Williams



UPCOMING EVENTS

9/28	10:00 A&M GC Board Mtg
10/5	9:30 A&M GC Meeting **First Baptist Church Directions in newsletter
10/10-12	TGC Fall Convention Abilene, TX
10/20	Keyhole registration due
10/21-23	Symposium, San Antonio
10/30	Dist V Zone I Fall Mtg.

TIP OF THE MONTH

Design Tip

Balance - In floral design this is visual balance. It is usually the first thing you notice about a design. Stable balance is achieved by placing equal weight, either actual or visual, on opposite sides of an imaginary central line. Judges do this visually when looking at your design both horizontally and vertically, and if it is free-standing (such as on a pedestal or floor designs) then it must balance on all sides. Judges almost always comment on balance and tend to deduct heavily on balance because it is so noticeable; this is their perception that the design is ready to topple over, bottom heavy, or leans to one side. Balance can be in terms of visual weight of colors, textures, and forms of components. For example, darker and more solid components appear heavier than lighter and more open components do. There are two primary types of "balance" in a design. One is symmetrical balance where both sides are essentially mirror images of each other though the plant material may not be exactly identical and this is seen in Traditional Design. Creative Design may be symmetric, but it is much more commonly asymmetric or with informal balance. The visual weight is equal but the actual components often are not. This effect is often perceived to be more interesting visually and an expression of individuality and self expression. Creative Design has increasing popularity as an art form in many flower shows. However, there is a large role for Traditional Design especially since these are the typical design we give as floral arrangements to family/friends, and we often have these in our homes. Dynamic Balance is not a third kind of balance so the term is confusing for some people. It is a creative technique of placing components in a Creative Design so that balance, tension, and rhythm work together. The placement and choice of components helps mold the spaces in the design to create interest and your eyes move around the design, pausing in spots and then moving on.

Horticulture Tip

Bulbs - There are actually several types of bulbs: true bulbs, corms, tubers, tuberous roots, and rhizomes. True bulbs are complete plants in miniature. The heart is the embryonic flower surrounded by an undeveloped shoot and the body is large fleshy scales which are modified leaves and held together by a basal plate at the bottom. True bulbs include the onion, tulips, narcissus, hyacinths. Corms are rounded or flattened bulbous plants with a protective smooth or fibrous tunic and a basal plate. The nutrient holding body is a stem

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Michele Wehrheim Oct 1
Millie Parrack Oct 31

Please make the following telephone number correction in the yearbook.

Former member Sandra Williams telephone number has been listed as Sandy Williams number.

The correct number for Sandy Williams is 703-1157.

Sandy and Sandra are different people.

Please add the following information to your yearbook:

Lenora Patranella
775-6052
901 Esther Blvd
Bryan, TX 77802
lenorapatt@suddenlink.net

GARDEN CALENDARS

Sign up to purchase your Garden Calendar at the October 5th meeting. These will make great Christmas gifts for friends and family. (\$7.00 each)

base and not a series of scales and the tunic is dry leaf bases from the prior season. A corm lasts just one year, and a new corm grows on top or at the side of the new one. Corms include crocus, gladiolas, freesia. A tuber is a swollen stem borne underground like a corm but does not have a basal plate so there is no neat organization of the growing points. Usually buds or eyes are all over the surface and some appear from the top and sides. There may not be a standard shape. Tubers include cyclamen, anemones, and begonias. Rhizomes are thickened stems filled with nutrients to support the plant but grow horizontally and spread outwards partly or completely below the soil surface. Rhizomes include cannas, achimenes, agapanthus. Tuberous Roots differ from all others by being a swollen root borne as a cluster from the crown which is the base of the old stem. These modified roods provide the nutrients and can be propagated by cutting off individual storage roots with a bud or eye section at the top. Tuberous roots include dahlia, clivia, alstromeria, and ranunculus. Sometimes another group called pseudobulbs are included which are the specialized storage organ of Orchids but is unusual because it is green and above ground. It can be many shapes and is above ground but gives rise to leaves and the flower stalk.

In our area, it is common to plant many bulbs this time of year, in the fall, for beautiful spring plants. Most bulbs are very low maintenance, and are perennials. Plant in groupings of at least 3 to 5 for a punch of color. Bulbs need to be planted about 2-3 times the depth of their size. Of the true bulbs, many types of allium (onion family) grow in our area both edible and ornamental, and some hyacinths. Several narcissus varieties also grow here and naturalize (return each year) but you must be careful about selection. Some of the best varieties for our area include "Carlton", "Ice Follies", "Thalia", "Fortune". Corms that grow here include gladiolas. Tubers include the white potato, but many of the others are indoor type plants due to their inability to tolerate freezing. Rhizomes are common here and cannas can overrun your yard if you aren't careful but are hardy and come in many colors. Tuberous roots include sweet potatoes, and ranunculus. *A word of caution:* The box stores often promote plants that will not grow in our area. Stay away from all tulips, dahlias - they don't grow here!

Conservation Tip

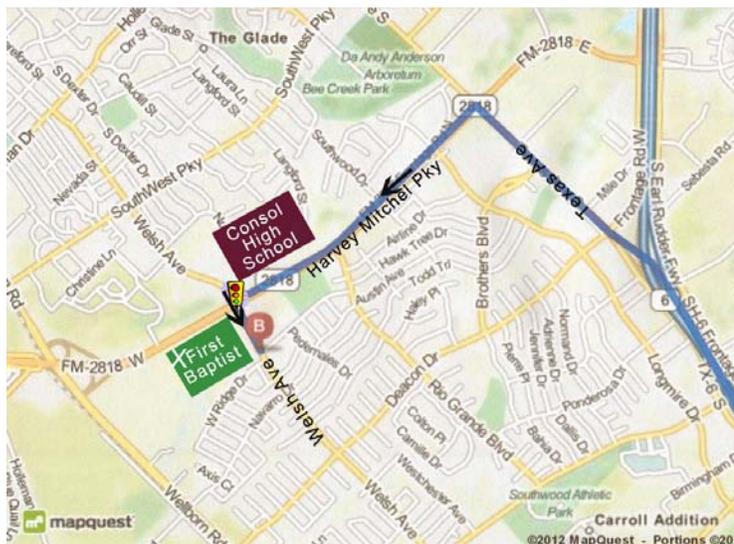
The next Brazos Valley Household Hazardous Waste Collection is on Saturday, October 27, from 7AM - 2PM. The collection site is the parking lot located off Harvey Road East the first turn past Veterans Park. They accept all kinds of waste - computers, electronics, cell phones, paints, chemicals, pool supplies, oils, medications, light bulbs, you name it!! Pull your stuff together and if you can't go, get a friend to take yours OR if you are going, offer to take someone else's. If we all do our part, we help to keep harmful substances out of the ground and the water supply and we limit the amount of stuff in the landfill. The community gets this free service twice a year - April & October. Time to clear out the garage and under the sink!



A&M GARDEN CLUB MEETING - OCTOBER 5, 2012 - 9:30 A.M.
(Please note: **FIRST** Friday of month and meeting at a different location)
First Baptist Church, 2300 Welsh Avenue, College Station, TX

DIRECTIONS:

From Texas Avenue, you want to go West on Harvey Mitchell Parkway (Hwy 2818) toward Consolidated High School. There is a stop light at the corner of the high school. That is Welsh Avenue. Turn **LEFT** on Welsh Avenue and the First Baptist Church will be immediately on your Right.



Speaker: Lyndon Almand - "Landscape Drip Irrigation"
Topic of the Month: Eleanor Floeck - "District Life Membership"
Hostesses: Millie Parrack & Hillary Jessup



**LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL I -
A BIG THANK YOU!!**

The A&M Garden Club assisted Nell Zeigler to hostess the LDS I at Christ United Methodist Church Sept. 10 & 11. Those assisting included: Jane Cohen, Sherry Ellison, Carolyn Guillotte, Kay Hamn, Helen Quinn, Sandy Williams, Judy Schafer, Idalia Aguilar, Suzanne Milstead, Pat Ritchey, Michele Wehrheim, and Judy's special helper her husband Dale. Dale went the extra mile to get

Nell's flat tire re-inflated on Tuesday so she could return home. The school was a big success and we were given \$200 as a thank you from TGC/LDS. It is unfortunate that garden club member participation in the school was very low - only about a dozen out of 140 people. This is a great school. You can start it at any time in the series of four schools and it is repeated in sequence and has traditionally been held here in College Station. The next school will be in February though exact dates were not yet given out.



SEPTEMBER A&M GARDEN CLUB MEETING

The A&M Garden Club met on September 14 with President Kay Hamn presiding at College Station Training Facility. Vice President Hillary Jessup introduced the speaker, Dr. David Creech from Stephen F Austin State University, on "Cool Plants for a Hot Climate", showing a variety of trees, shrubs and plants and donating 12 plants as door prizes.



Dr. David Creech



Mary Staffel

Mary Staffel reviewed *The National Gardener* magazine article on Genetically Modified Foods.

Lenora Patranella discussed a Terra Cotta Bird Bath or Feeder workshop for spring.



Lenora Patranella

The Keyhole Gardening Program and Workshop to be at SOS on November 10 was discussed by Jane Cohen, Hillary Jessup, Rose Smith and Kelly Klimple. Dr. Deb Tolman from Bosque County, the expert on Keyhole Gardens, will be the speaker at 8:30 am at Save Our Streets Ministries on Groesbeck Street, Bryan. Early registration of \$10 is due October 20. Registration form and more information is on the A&M Garden Club web page at amgardenclub.com.

Plans for the Daffodils at the Governor's Mansion were discussed by Jane Cohen, with a tea at the Mansion on February 28. Texas Garden Club is donating 1,000 bulbs for the replanting of the grounds after the fire damage.

Jane Cohen led the Pledges to the flags, Sarah Barrick led the Invocation, distributed Yearbooks and thanked for the newspaper articles. Rose Smith announced the meeting change to October 5 at the CS Baptist Church on Welch. Sherry Ellison reported on cards sent to Mary Staffel and thanks to Nell Zeigler.

Kelly Klimple accepted orders for the Vision of Beauty Calendar. For more information, go to the A&M Garden Club e-mail - amgc4U@gmail.com.

Hostesses were Rose Smith and Geneva Eubanks.

The next meeting is Friday, October 5, at 9:30 am with the program "Landscape Drip Irrigation" by Lyndon Almand, Master Gardener, at the College Station Baptist Church, 2300 Welsh Ave.



REMINDER - NOV 10 KEYHOLE GARDENING WORKSHOP

Bring cardboard, newspapers, old phone books, etc., to the meeting Oct 5. Also, we'll have some seeds at the meeting if you can plant and bring to the Nov 9 meeting to plant at SOS on Nov 10. Registration due by Oct 20. Please invite your friends and neighbors to attend. Registration form is on the amgardenclub.com web page.



ZONE II MEETING

Zone II Meeting November 7 in Marlin, TX. Registration form will be in the next District V Newsletter.



MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Idalia Aguilar who will be honored as the District V Member of the Year at the TGC State Meeting in Abilene Oct 10-11.

