

# A&M GARDEN CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

### February 2013



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

2/1	10:00 A&M GC Board Mtg
2/8	9:30 A&M GC Meeting CS WW Facility 2200 North Forest Pkwy
2/18-19	Landscape Design School College Station, TX
2/28- 3/4	Flower Show School I Dallas, TX

#### TIP OF THE MONTH

##### Design Tip

This is the month for ROMANCE so spark up your home with some beautiful flowers. The mini-program at the February meeting is on a romantic dinner alfresco (eating outside) but you can create a romantic table arrangement for two for anytime of day. Do something more with those roses you receive than just plopping them in a vase. Men like to receive flowers also, so consider turning the tables on your spouse and you bring home the flowers and tell him you were thinking of him. For the singles out there, I personally find fresh flowers make me smile every I pass the vase, and some in your entryway are a nice surprise for visitors.

##### Horticulture Tip

This is the month a lot of places have bulbs out for planting for fall blooms, and the beginning of the deluge of ideas for spring planting. Pull out those magazines, the Texas AgriLife Extension web site, and think about your green space. Last frost will be March 5, so you need to be ready to plant. This is a good month to clear out those beds of weeds and debris, and get your tools ready because planting time is just around the corner.

##### Bonus Tip

If you missed the Brazos Valley Designers group this past month, there is still time to get on board and call Idalia - see below! This is a wonderful opportunity for you to learn from a Master Judge who has won the Texas Garden Club State Flower Show Design Excellence Award, a long-standing excellent and imaginative designer who has given tirelessly and freely of her time to educate and promote learning about floral design both here and with international affiliates in South and Central America, and has a dedicated mission to make your flower show in June a big success. She is the design consultant for the Design Division and will assist the 12 ladies who sign up to do a design in the June 8 Flower Show to take their design from their mind to the show.

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Kay Hamn Feb 15

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### REMINDER -

A&M Garden Club **membership dues** are due at the **April Meeting**

\$20.00 regular membership

\$22.00 associate membership

Make checks out to "A&M Garden Club".  
Give or send checks to Sarah Barrick,  
Membership Chair.

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## A&M GARDEN CLUB FEBRUARY MEETING

Friday, February 8th - 9:30 a.m.

College Station WWW Facility

**Topic of the Month:** Heather White - "Functional Table  
Design for Two - Romantic Dinner Alfresco

**Hostesses:** Sarah Barrick & Kelly Klimple

**Speaker:** Nancy Oertli, Brenham Middle School, Science Curriculum Specialist, and Deborah Lansley, member of The Herb Society of America, Pioneer Unit "Outdoor Living Center and the Sensory Gardens at Brenham Schools". The program is titled "**Brenham Sensory Gardens**".

The Sensory Garden at Brenham ISD Elementary School is part of the Outdoor Learning Center. Five beds relate plants to the five senses. The garden functions with the Butterfly Garden, the 1st Grade Vegetable Garden, Rainwater Harvesting and our Native Grass trail. Come and expand your senses. Sensory Garden at Brenham Elementary School - The main garden is divided into beds that relate plants to the five senses. The central "spectrum" bed is a color wheel that is planted with annual flowering plants and represents the sense of sight. Four surrounding raised beds contain various plants that represent the senses of smell, touch, taste, and hearing. The "Alphabet Walk" is used by the kindergarten and first grade to reinforce their knowledge of the alphabet. Each letter of the alphabet is represented by herbs, shrubs, and small trees. "A is for apple" to "Z is for zebra grass". The "Caterpillar Cave" is a tunnel made of cattle panels and planted with passionflower and Dutchman's pipe vines and surrounded by a myriad of herbs such as dill, fennel, parsley, and chervil – all plants that caterpillars love to munch. The second graders plant the various herbs in the fall and in the spring monitor them for caterpillar activity. It is a learning tool for visually teaching the life cycle of the butterfly and the hungry, hungry caterpillars from which they come. The "Zoo Bed" will be raised beds that contain plants that have animal names, such as "shrimp plant" and "lion's tail". The Herb Society of America: Pioneer Unit helped develop the Sensory Garden and volunteers for routine maintenance of the garden, working with teachers to educate the children about the plants, and to introduce the children and adults alike about the use and delight of herbs. Tour the Outdoor Learning Center in late March or early April to see the Outdoor Learning Center in full bloom. Nancy and Deborah will bring a plant or two as door prizes.



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**CLUB T-SHIRTS**

Kay Hamn will have a sign-up sheet at the February meeting if anyone is interested in purchasing an A&M Garden Club polo shirt or vest.

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**JANUARY MEETING:**

Carolyn Guillotte gave a mini presentation on "NGC Conservation and Tree Seedlings". Later in the week, Carolyn also provided members with free tree seedlings. The tree types included: Live Oak, Sweet Pecan, Red Mulberry, Rough Leaf Dogwood, Crab Apple, and Long Leaf Pine. A big thank you to Carolyn!

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL FEB 18 & 19TH**

LDS is Feb 18-19 at Christ United Methodist Church. A&M Garden Club members are volunteering to hostess and this is being coordinated by Judy Schafer. A&M Garden Club members are encouraged to register and attend the 4 course series of LDS which will increase your historical knowledge of landscape design, assist you in planning your own landscape design, and particularly is useful in community based projects. Registration forms are online:

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southerngarden/s glandex2.html>.

Members who have volunteered to help are: Fran Sadler and Sandy Williams will help Hazel McCoy sell books to support scholarship. Sherry Ellison, Helen Quinn with Judy Schafer on registration. Michele Wehrheim and Rose Smith will work first 4 hrs on Monday. Michele Wehrheim and Kelly Klimple will work Monday afternoon. Tuesday morning will be Myra Wright and Jane Cohen. Lunch hour will be Kay Hamn and Pat Ritchey. Afternoon will be Pat Ritchey, Johanna Roman, Idalia Aguilar, and Carmen Bittings.

**MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS:**

Let's give a big "Welcome" to our 4 new members. Please be sure to add their information in your CG directory. They are:

- Cheryl Burt**
- Ceci Matthews**
- Johanna Roman**
- Shirley Vasovski**



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**CARTER PARK PROJECT:**

The A&M Garden Club is working on a fun project. We will be providing plants, soil and mulch to beautify Carter Park in College Station.

If any A&M Garden Club members would like to donate funds to help with this endeavor (or if you know of any organization that would be interested in making a donation), you can make out your check to "A&M Garden Club". Be sure to put "Carter Park Project" on the memo line so Kelly knows what the donation is for, and send it to Kelly Kimple, our treasurer.

We will be purchasing supplies the first week of March. So if you would like to participate, please send your check to Kelly by the end of February.

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**FLORAL DESIGN CLASSES**

The floral design group had their first class and it was a great success!! Everyone had a wonderful time! Check out their beautiful creations...



**DISTRICT V SPRING CONVENTION**

March 26, 2013. Registration form is in the District V newsletter sent earlier this month. Registration is \$20 by March 15. Luncheon speaker is on "Signature Color". It is very important we attend as the business meeting will include information about the convention here in April (see below), and this is an opportunity to meet other TGC members in the district, and to SHOP!



### TEXAS GARDEN CLUB STATE SPRING CONVENTION

April 22-24, 2013. Workers will be needed from A&M Garden Club as we are the "home town club" though the host is District V.



### KEYHOLE GARDENING VIDEO

Our club purchased a copy of the Keyhole Gardening Video. It is available to be checked out if you would like to view it. It was mentioned that if a number of members would like to view it together, we could do a lunch and watch the video together. If you would be interested in doing this as a group, please email Sarah Barrick. We will then contact interested members and find a date that would work for everyone.



A&M GC members planting cold season crops at the Keyhole Garden.



### ARE YOU LOOKING FOR CUSTOM GARDEN MIX SOIL THIS SPRING?

If you are looking for someone to mix up a special blend of garden soil for your garden this spring, Rose worked with a young man who does this type of work. He mixed up a special blend of garden compost and soil for the keyhole garden project. His information is as follows if you are interested in contacting him. Rose said he was a real pleasure to work with: **Oppie's Topsoil, Sand and Gravel**, Oscar Cortinas Jr., 1755 W 28th, Bryan, TX, **979-822-5570** (office), Custom Mixes, mulches, etc., Delivery & Pickup available.