

A&M GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER October 2013



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OFFICERS:

President	Michele Wehrheim
1st VP Programs	Hillary Jessup
2nd VP Web	Sarah Barrick
3rd VP Com Event	Kay Hamn
4th VP Hospitality	Ceci Matthews
Recording Secretary	Pat Ritchey
Corres. Secretary	Sherry Ellison
Treasurer	Mary Staffel
Historian	Helen Quinn
Reporter	Jane Cohen
Past President	Kay Hamn
Members At Large	Carmen Billings Belinda Love



OCTOBER A&M GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Friday, Oct. 11 - 9:30 a.m.

College Station WW Facility, 2200 North Forest Parkway

Speaker: Linda Gay of Arbor Gate "Shade Gardening"

Hostesses: Geneva Eubanks, Rose Smith, Carmen Billings

MESSAGE FROM MICHELE

At our regularly scheduled meeting on September 13th, we heard Dr. Juliana Rangel, from the TAMU Dept of Entomology, discuss honey bee behavior, care, and importance of healthy bee activity in our daily lives. TGC President Sarah McReynolds attended Dr. Rangel's presentation and provided info about native mason bees and the TGC partnership with a mason bee supplier. Judy Schafer shared two mason bee houses that she made of re-cycled materials.

During October and November, a committee chaired by Helen Quinn and Sandy Williams will be working with Dr. Rangel to establish the site for a pollinator-friendly garden at the Riverside Campus Lab. Any club members with knowledge of bee-friendly plants are invited to contribute their expertise to the pollinator-friendly garden project beginning this autumn and continuing into the spring of 2014.



Michele Wehrheim, A&M Garden Club President, welcomed 37 members and guests. Sarah Barrick distributed yearbooks. Sarah McReynolds, Texas Garden Club State President, from Mexia, and Judith Schafer show mason bee houses made from recycled materials.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10/4 10:00 am A&M GC Board Meeting
- 10/8 10:00 a.m. Awards Committee Mtg Home of Hillary Jessup
- 10/5 Boonville Days
8-9 am - Set Up
9 am-4 pm Event Hours
- 10/11 9:30 A&M GC Meeting
CS WW Facility
2200 North Forest Pkwy
- 10/12 9-2 BV Master Gardeners Autumn Garden Tour
- 10/15-17 Flower Show School II - Dallas
- 10/17-19 TGC Fall Convention - Houston
- 10/21-1/4/2014 CS 75th Anniversary Exhibit at George Bush Library
- 10/26 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Carter Park Work Day
- 10/31 TAMU Green Gardens Tour
8:40 am Meet at Sams

Pencil in on your calendar:
Carter Park Dedication Event - November 15th at 11:00 am - at Carter Park.

Jane Cohen and Sherry Ellison shared plans for the historic interpretative panels to be installed at Richard Carter Park and the native plant landscaping to be done at Richard Carter Park. A work day at the Park with Keep Brazos Beautiful is planned for October 26. Dedication of the new panels will be November 15, as a part of College Station's 75th birthday celebration.

Heather White, Suzanne Milstead and Norma Jean Stokes contributed historically accurate floral displays to the Bush Library for the College Station history exhibit that will be available for viewing from mid-November to January 2014. There are beautiful color photos of the floral arrangements on page 12 of the District V Newsletter that was sent by Marlene Gillman to all club members on Oct. 2nd

Additional volunteers are welcome to help with the veggie garden after-school project on **Monday afternoons from 3:45pm to 4:45pm** at the Save Our Streets Ministry in Bryan. Stop by and say hi to the kids and fellow club members Rose Smith, Marianne Maxwell, Jane Cohen, and Belinda Love as well as John Roemer and TAMU student volunteers Melissa and Rachel.

The Zone II autumn meeting will be held on Nov. 19th hosted by Brown Bag and 4 Seasons Garden Clubs at the Carleen Bright Arboretum in Waco/Woodway. We will carpool to the meeting and members are encouraged to bring plants for the Ways and Means table. More detailed info and a registration form are among the last few pages of the District V Newsletter.



Interesting excerpts from the most recent issue of the Keeping In Touch newsletter from TGC President Sarah McReynolds. The KIT is sent to club presidents but can also be viewed by all club members on the TGC website:

DRAGONFLY

Dragonfly pins are available for \$10 as a TGC Ways and Means project. A bright silver toned pin in a variety of colors is a fun accessory. Also, Member Garden Signs, Dragonfly Scarf, Recycle Purses, Bluebonnet Bottle Tree. See W&M co-chairs Heather White & Suzanne Milstead in Houston at the Fall Faire Meeting being hosted by the Houston area council of garden clubs.

DRAGONFLY SYMBOLISM

The dragonfly is considered to be an agent of change and presumably symbolic of a sense of self-realization, from how the dragonfly uses its power to control its movements so elegantly. Change and evolution is all about the dragonfly's ability to fly and the way it can be comfortable on water, land, as well as the air. Help your club members be agents of change.

Please welcome our two new Club members when you see them at the meeting

LaNell Crumpler &
Norma Read

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Michele Wehrheim Oct 1
Mellisa McIlhaney Oct 15
Millie Parrack Oct 31

TGC FALL CONVENTION

"Fall Faire . Far Out" is TGC's 85th Fall Convention October 17-18-19, 2013 in Houston. Registration received by Oct 13. Late registration - meals not guaranteed. See texasgardenclubs.org or the Summer LSG. Include \$30 registration fee.

A&M Garden Club President Michele Wehrheim and Helen Quinn are attending the Friday, 10/18 luncheon with an informative presentation about Brookwood Community, which has been a State Project for many years. If you want to ride with us please contact Michele at the club meeting on the 11th, by email michelewehrheim@yahoo.com or by phone at 979-703-8271.

The following is by Carol Smith, TGC Brookwood Community Project Chair:

The Brookwood Community is a residential facility and vocational program for adults with disabilities, located in Brookshire, TX, 40 miles west of downtown Houston, with 114 residents and 82 day students. Brookwood provides an educational environment that creates meaningful jobs, builds a sense of belonging, and provide dignity and respect for adults who are functionally disabled (mental/physical disabilities preventing them from living on their own.)

Enterprises include horticulture, handcrafts, food packaging, mail orders, café, weddings, receptions, & catering. Resident's abilities are matched, ie, design Christmas cards, pour cement pieces into molds, sand pieces of statuary. Others make cuttings of plants, plant plugs, fill pots with potting soil, water and haul flats to green houses. Some serve patrons in the Café or help with greeting customers.

The God-centered facility receives no government funds; instead Brookwood relies on sales proceeds from entrepreneurial enterprises 40%, tuition 40%, and private sector donations 20%. Donations from Texas Garden Clubs go directly to the Horticulture industry for supplies the regular budget can't provide, like raincoats while moving plants to greenhouses during the rain; backpack sprayers to make spraying go faster; 32 gallon trash cans to hold potting soil & move where needed; furniture for the break-room; nursery carts & 2 way radios ... whatever is on their needs list each spring.

Check out the Brookwood Gift & Garden Center and Café ... Best food, best plants, best gift selection anywhere! Browse the 47 green-houses, learn about the educational and work programs, shop, and have lunch - all make a fun pilgrimage for clubs. The poinsettia growing program is very impressive. Christmas Shopping!

If you can't get here, check us out online at brookwoodcommunity.org.

TGC TRAVELS

September 5-14, 2014 Gardens of Portugal and The Azores. Start now making your plans. Several people have already signed up, and around 50 brochures were picked up at the Landscape Design School. Get information online at texasgardenclubs.org and at Fall TGC Convention. Join us for a "Once in a Lifetime" experience. For information: call/email Helen Quinn, Trips Chair, 936-718-0531, hortiq@gmail.com. Full color trip brochures will be available at the club meeting Oct. 11th.

Our club is participating in the Boonville Living History Day at the Brazos Valley Museum of Natural History next to the Brazos Center. Several club members, including Judy Shafer, Sherry Ellison, Idalia Aguilar, Michele Wehrheim and Jane Cohen will be telling Indian legends about native plant origins and uses. We will also have plants and seeds to giveaway as well as membership information. There is no cost to attend the event although there is a charge to visitors for chuck wagon meals. We will be indoors doing our storytelling so please stop by on Saturday October 5th from 9am to 4:30/5pm just to say hello.

The October Checklist by William C. Welch, excerpted from the Southern Living magazine, October 2013 issue, The Texas Gardener's Almanac for the north, central and east:

*Buy Bulbs-Established spring flowering bulbs such as snowflakes (*leucojum aestivum*), hardy amaryllis and narcissus are busily growing fresh roots underground. Buy bulbs of these dependable, heat tolerant selections to plant now. Good choices include 'Grand Primo,' 'Golden Dawn,' and 'Chinese Sacred Lily' narcissus. Snowflakes are easy and will form colonies. Amaryllis are cold hardy in the southern half of the state; elsewhere use them indoors. Try Johnson's amaryllis an old hybrid that has naturalized across the South. Order online at southernbulbs.com.*



LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL FALL 2013

I want to say thank you to all the people who made the hosting the Landscape Design School such a success for the A&M Garden Club. Heather Williams, Ceci Matthews, Belinda Love, Myrna Wright, Hillary Jessup, Jane Cohen, Norma Jean Stokes, Millie Parrack, Johanna Roman, Mary Staffel,, Carolyn Guillotte, Geneva Eubanks, Sandy Williams, Helen Quinn, and I helped buy supplies, set up the kitchen/serving area, signed in attendees and gave them packets, sold gardening books, managed the snack breaks and lunch, handed out exams, graded exams, gave out certificates, and then cleaned up. Sarah McReynolds, the TGC President, Helen McCoy, and Eleanor Floeck joined us to carry out our duties and to hand out smiles throughout. Attendees thanked us for making their school a very pleasant event.



TAMU GREEN GARDENS TOUR

We have scheduled a tour of green gardens at TAMU for Thursday, October 31. We will have a sign up at the Oct 11 GC mtg.

Tentative plans - TAMU Green Gardens - Tour on Thursday, October 31 8:40 am Meet at Sams, Hwy 30 and Rudder Hwy 6. Carpool with those who have TAMU parking permits and park in Northside Garage and walk to buildings. See map below. The garage is in blue. Physics Building is nearer University and Architecture is further South.**9:00 am - Green Roof Project** at the Langford Architecture Center, TAMU. The 2012-2015 research project is an experiential learning program to turn the roof green in the months and years to come.



A&M GARDEN CLUB CONTRIBUTES FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS TO COLLEGE STATION 75th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION EXHIBIT AT GEORGE BUSH PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY



A&M Garden Club formed in 1936 and was federated in 1937. It was originally formed by the wives of Texas A&M (College at that time) and was thus called A&M Garden Club. College Station was a community but not incorporated until 1938. The club has contributed to many College Station civic projects including cemetery plantings of trees and roses, the Keep Brazos Beautiful Flower Show, and is currently working on the restoration and beautification of the Richard Carter Park, the city's only

historical park. The A&M Garden Club has won Garden Club of the Year twice in the past 5 years, most recently in 2013. This year, College Station is celebrating its 75th birthday, and A&M Garden Club was asked to assist in the exhibit which will be at the George Bush Presidential Library in College Station from October 21 through January 4. For the Museum exhibit, floral arrangements were requested to accompany furniture pieces contributed by Linda Harvell, owner of Texas Trading Post, and longtime College Station resident. The pieces were Victorian and turn of the century. Floral arrangements at that time were traditionally arranged and in mass. Due to the nature of the exhibit, only dried or artificial material could be used. Although NGC designs for competition do not permit artificial material, some silk chrysanthemums and greenery were required to complete the designs and provide color. The designers contributing to the exhibit were Suzanne Milstead, Norma Jean Stokes, and Heather White.



BRAZOS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER'S AUTUMN GARDEN TOUR

The Brazos County Master Gardener's Autumn Garden Tour will be held on Saturday, October 12, 2013 from 9 am until 2 pm. Tickets are \$10 per adult and are good for all four gardens. You may get tickets ahead of time from :

1. **Brazos County Master Gardener exhibit** at the Brazos Valley Fair and Expo <http://www.brazosvalleyfair.com> from September 5-8 (CASH OR CHECKS)
2. **Brazos County Extension** Office located at 2619 Highway 21 West, Bryan (CHECKS ONLY)
3. **On the day of the tour at any garden home** (CASH OR CHECKS)

The tour will showcase four types of gardens-all examples of good gardening practices that have been beautifully executed and are owned by Brazos County Master Gardeners. Looking for ideas or just like to look, there should be something for everyone.

Note: Gardens may be visited in any order that is convenient but are NOT stroller or handicap accessible.



A&M Univ Rec Sports Programs

Edible Wild Plants Clinic

Event Date: Nov. 3

Time: 8am - 12pm

Clinic: The grocery store isn't the only place you can find food. Join Outdoor Adventures as we explore the nourishment that Mother Nature has to offer. Our local expert from Primitive Living Skills of Texas will spend time on wild plant identification, characteristics, edible plant parts and available season of harvest. Become a wild gourmet and hedge your bets with this key wilderness survival skill.

Cost: Instruction and all supplies are included in the price of \$25*/\$30**.

Enrollment Limit: 20

Notes: Clinic meets at Lick Creek Park in College Station. Transportation is not provided.

*Rec Members, **Non Rec Members

Details at:

http://recsports.tamu.edu/programs/outdoor_adventures/schedule/