

A&M GARDEN CLUB

December 2014



2014-2015 Officers

President:

Michele Wehrheim

VP Programs:

Helen Quinn

VP Web/Yearbook:

Sarah Barrick

VP Community Events:

Johanna Roman

VP Hospitality:

Ceci Matthews

Secretary:

Sherry Ellison

Treasurer:

Debbie Puetz

Historian:

Hillary Jessup

Reporter:

Jane Cohen

Members-at-Large:

Mary Aasterud &

Myrna Wright

December A&M Garden Club Meeting

Friday, December 12th - 9:30 a.m.

The Home of Hillary Jessup

115 Lee Avenue, College Station, TX

Hostesses: All Members to bring a dish to share

Upcoming Events

Dec 5 9:00 am A&M Garden Club Board Meeting

Dec 12 9:30 am A&M Garden Club Meeting - Hillary's House

Dec 15 9:30 am Awards Meeting - Home of Debbie Puetz

NOTE: Our **December** meeting date has returned to the original date of **Friday, December 12**. All members are asked to provide finger foods/dish to share. We will also be doing our holiday gift exchange. Please bring a garden related item in the \$10.00 - \$15.00 price range. We will also be asking for volunteers to help with set up and clean up. If you have any Holiday music you would like to share, bring your cd (please mark your name on it). We would like to have some holiday music while we exchange gifts.

Garden Therapy Workshop



On November 10th the A&M Garden Club members got together with the lovely residents from Bluebonnet House and made pine cone angels as a garden therapy activity.

Garden Therapy Workshop (continued)



Trip to Brookwood

On November 20, members car pooled from College Station & Navasota to Brookwood Community to tour two



of the thirty production greenhouses with 1610 poinsettias in each, guided by Mr. Bill Smart, Horticulture Manager. Some 50,000 poinsettias are shipped mainly to Houston and other Texas cities, many of them to "special interest" groups to sell as fundraisers. We ate a delicious lunch at the Cafe, and did a little Christmas shopping and plant

shopping in the Retail Greenhouse. Brookwood is a Texas Garden Club contributing project. Be watching for a return visit around Easter to see all the beautiful spring flowers."



December Wreath Class



Jane Cohen attended the College Station High School Wreath Class taught by CS Horticulture Student (guided by Teacher Sheridan Clinkscales) as a part of her class project. About 14 attended, making individual wreaths. Choice of basic deco mesh and a second accent color tied to a 12 to 15" wreath base, a roll of ribbon, and a few accent "picks" had very varied and interesting wreaths. Jane says she had glitter everywhere, but enjoyed creating the wreath and tried it in three rooms to decide where we'd see it the most.

December Gardening Calendar

PLAN: For cold weather protection. Collect large cardboard boxes for plant covers. Clean up beds and prepare new ones. Bag and trash diseased or bug infected debris. Do not put debris from mums in the compost, leave bagged at curbside. **NO BURNING ALLOWED WITHOUT SPECIAL PERMITS!**

PRUNE: Perennials that have finished blooming. Keep sweet pea and pansy blooms picked for longer blooming period. Cut dahlia stalks not quite to the ground because the eyes for next year's growth are in the stalk. Lift, dry for 24 hours and store with the tuber inverted to avoid shrinkage. **DO NOT** prune ornamentals this month.

PLANT: Jonquils, narcissus, daffodils, hyacinths and Dutch iris. Dormant trees, shrubs, and roses. Amaryllis, anemones, tulips, pansy, petunia, carnation, poppy, snapdragon, larkspur, verbena and many others.

FERTILIZE: Only sweet peas.

INSECT AND DISEASE PROBLEMS: After hard frost, treat figs for borer and mealy bugs as recommended by the County Agent. Spray for scale on shrubs and trees.

WEATHER PROTECTION: Be prepared to cover tender plants if freeze is predicted. Keep watered enough to keep plants in good condition, but not so much as to start new growth. If the ground is dry and a hard freeze is predicted, water well.

BLOOMING: Alyssum, calendula, forget-me-nots, pansy, dianthus, salvia, verbena, violet, roses. Pyracantha, yaupon, holly and nandina berries.

VEGETABLES: Sow lettuce, spinach, and English peas.

Birthdays

December

Jane Cohen Dec 16

Helen Quinn Dec 20

Helen King Dec 24

Mary Hamlin Dec 28

Kay Hobbs Dec 29