

A&M GARDEN CLUB

February 2015

February A&M Garden Club Meeting

Friday, February 13th - 9:30 a.m.

College Station WW Facility, 2200 North Forest Parkway
(Training Room)

SPEAKER: Monte Nesbitt "Home Citrus"

Hostesses: Kelly Kimple, Debbie Puetz, Teri Greig

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

Upcoming Events

- Feb 6 10:00 am A&M Garden Club Board Meeting
Feb 7 1-4 pm Texas Camellia Show for the public
Walker Education Center, 1400 19th St, Huntsville
Feb 8-10 TGC Env. Studies School,
Feb 13 9:30 am A&M Garden Club Meeting
Feb 14 BCS Home & Garden Show, Expo Center, Bryan
Feb 20 AMGC Coffee Get Together
Feb 20-21 Round Top Herb Festival
<http://festivalhill.org/calendar/dayItinerary.php?id=572>
Feb 23-24 TGC Landscape Design School

A&M Garden Club's 2015-2016 Officers

The new 2015-2016 officers were announced to the members and voted on at the January Meeting:

President: Helen Quinn

VP Programs: Johanna Roman (Pat Ritchey Co-Chair)

VP Web & Yearbook: Sarah Barrick (Sherry McKenzie Co-Chair)

VP Community Events: Sherry Ellison

VP Hospitality: Carmen Billings (Greta Merritt Co-Chair)

Recording Secretary: Ceci Matthews

Corresponding Secretary: Marianne Maxwell

Treasurer: Debbie Puetz

Historian: Jane Cohen

Reporter: Teri Greig

District V Meeting @ Zilker Botanical Gardens

The District V meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 4th at the Zilker Botanical Gardens in Austin, TX this year. These meetings are open to all club members and we hope you will consider participating. We will be car pooling, so if you are interested, please contact Michele Wehrheim michelewehrheim@yahoo.com so she can put you on the car pool list. Michele has volunteered to lead all the road trip sing along songs, so if you have a favorite road trip song, let her know...

Peckerwood Gardens Day Trip

The club is planning to spend a day at the Peckerwood Gardens. We are looking at a couple dates. If you are interested in going along, please email Helen Quinn hortiq@gmail.com with your date preference. Helen will notify everyone of the date that works best for the largest number of members. Here is a link to Peckerwood Gardens: <http://www.peckerwoodgarden.org/>

Saturday, March 14

Saturday, April 11

Sunday, April 19 or

Sunday, May 10 (Mother's Day)

Ways & Means ideas/Projects

AmazonSmile. You shop. Amazon gives. When you shop at <http://smile.amazon.com>, Amazon donates to your favorite charitable organization. Amazon is giving .5% of every sale that is made through the amazon smile link. You get to choose from a variety of charities. (use search box). It is a very small % but with the amount of sales volume that Amazon does, it could add up quickly. Go to Texas Garden Club and then to A&M Garden Club

Need your help: The club is looking for other Ways and Means ideas. Please let the Board know if you have any suggestions.

Moments from the January Meeting



Ron Billings, husband of member Carmen, gave us a great program on Photography in the Garden. As well as showing us some wonderful slides of landscapes and flowers. Ron explained to us the principles of good composition, using light and lines, and other tricks of the trade to ensure we take the best photographs possible. Members brought “a few” of their favorite photos to display and share with others. There was an amazing response to this request, and the quality of the shots was outstanding. Ron stated he was glad he didn’t have to judge!! Next time we hold a Flower Show we definitely need to include a special section for garden photography!



The Big Event at Carter Park is right around the corner

Saturday, March 28th the club will be holding our annual event at Carter Park. There are a number of flower beds there that are in need of plants. These beds are not on an irrigation line, so they need to be hardy native plants that can handle that type of environment. We are asking our member to please donate any native plants you might have in your garden or even purchased to be planted on the big event day. If you have plants to donate, please contact Sherry Ellison ellison@txcyber.com by the end of February so she can determine what plants she will have to purchase prior to the big day.

Handbook Highlights with Suzanne Milstead, NCG Flower Show Judge



After the formal Club meeting last month, Suzanne lead many members in the easy to understand features of the Flower Show Handbook so they are more familiar with aspects of a flower show. Members were drawn to the horticulture section with extensive information on how to best grow a blue ribbon winner. Subsequent meetings are determined by the interests of the members. The next meeting will focus on conditioning plant material and design elements.



Garden Club Coffee Time

More than just meetings - members of the A&M Garden Club like to have fun. Ten of us met At 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 16th at Mugwalls for coffee and non-gardening fun and conversation. Then four of us went to Napa Flats for lunch. We will try to organize a regular coffee get together on the 3rd Friday of the Month at Mugwalls or Sweet Eugene's. Stay tuned.

Garden Therapy Location & Ideas

The club needs your help. We are looking for new Garden Therapy ideas. If you have some suggestions as to what activities the club might be able to do for this, or locations that we could provide Garden Therapy activities please contact Ceci Matthews at cecimntx@gmail.com. In the past we have met at some of the local retirement homes and worked with the residents on garden themed activities. These are so fun and fulfilling for all involved! Let Ceci know your ideas!

National Garden Week June 7 - 13



Each year for National Garden Week, the College Station and Bryan Libraries reach out to our club and ask for our help to set up a display in their entrance area to get people excited about gardening. We love to help them, but we need volunteers to help with this project. This is a fun, simple way to help the community and the club. Please consider volunteering this year to help with the display. It's a lot of fun. If you can help, please contact Sherry Ellison ellison@txcyber.com

February Gardening Calendar

PLAN: Start a garden diary with places for botanical names, dates for planting, fertilizing and blooming. Decide what to plant for constant color in the garden and to coordinate with your interior decoration.

PRUNE: Roses, grape vines, summer-blooming shrubs.

PLANT: Dahlia, Dutch Iris, cornflower, cosmos, daisy, larkspur, nasturtium, petunia, phlox, pinks, scabiosa, water lily seeds, cuttings of hardwoods, chrysanthemums, ivy and climbing fig. Perennials may be divided and set in their new positions.

FERTILIZE: Figs, gardenias, blooming bulbs, nandina and other shrubs, trees.

INSECT AND DISEASE PROBLEMS: Plants showing scale not sprayed in January. Spray infested trees with dormant oil if not sprayed in January. Look for white grubs in the garden.

WEATHER PROTECTION: Keep plants in good condition by watering, but not enough to activate growth.

BLOOMING: Flowering quince, pansies, pinks, snapdragon and sweet pea.

VEGETABLES: Sow directly radishes, spinach, lettuce, chard, mustard, turnips, beets, carrots and sweet corn. Set out plants of onion, cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower. Plant potato eyes. Move tomato, eggplant and pepper plants to cold frame. Start rooting sweet potatoes inside.

Birthdays

February

Jane Marsh Feb 5

Greta Merritt Feb 6

Kay Hamn Feb 15

Norma Read Feb 15

Shirley Baker Feb 17