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### 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

# A&M GARDEN CLUB

January 2015

## January A&M Garden Club Meeting

Friday, January 9th - 9:30 a.m.

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

**SPEAKER:** Ron Billings "Garden Photography"

**Hostesses:** Sandy Williams, Helen Quinn, Marianne Maxwell

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## Upcoming Events

Jan 2	10:00 am A&M Garden Club Board Meeting
Jan 9	9:30 am A&M Garden Club Meeting
Jan 12	10:00 am Awards Meeting - Home of Debbie Puetz
Jan 16	10:00 am Member Coffee at Mugwalls

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## New Member

We have a new member. Her name is Sylvia Rabson. Be sure to give her a warm welcome when you see her at the next meeting. Welcome Sylvia!

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## A&M Garden Club's Holiday Party



The A&M Garden Club Holiday Party was a success. A big thank you to Hillary Jessup for holding the gathering in her beautiful home. We had a wonderful turn out and all the members brought delicious snacks and goodies to share. The afternoon ended with our annual gift exchange game. Lots of fun and laughs.





## Landscape Design School Volunteers - February 22-24

Thanks to all who have signed up as volunteers to work at the Landscape Design School! Once again you are going to make it a fun and successful service project for the A&M Garden Club!

Those who have already signed up to work at some time during the School are: Marianne Maxwell, Sherry Ellison, Michele Wehrheim, Debbie Puetz, Belinda Love, Sandy Williams, Myrna Wright, Geneva Eubanks, Angelika Hoepfl, Ceci Mathews, Sarah Barrick, Helen Quinn, Mary Aasterud, Kay Hamn, Johanna Roman, and Greta Merritt.

On Sunday, Feb 22nd, we need one more volunteer to help us pick up supplies at Sam's, take them to the George Bush Museum, and set up between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m. That will make four of us working.

On Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 24th, we need 2 or more to help us pass out and grade exams (using answer sheets), hand out certificates, and remove Club supplies from about 2:30 to 5:00 p.m.

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## Global Gardening Report & Pictures by Johanna Roman

### Brief summary and objectives of project:



World Gardening activities allow us to expand our work beyond our borders and help children and adults from developing nations that live in extreme poverty learn new techniques for cultivating crops or caring for their environment. On Nov 29th, Johanna Roman, Chair of our Global Gardening Committee, offered a horticulture workshop for children and adult volunteers.

The objectives of the project were to use fun and interactive games to teach plant science and nutrition science concepts. Some activities were

based in the *Learn, Grow, Eat & GO!* Program that the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and Texas A&M University are promoting. Some of the

main concepts that kids learned included: a) plants are made up of different parts, such as roots, stems, and leaves; b) we can eat many different parts of plants; c) some vegetables that we eat do not come from the part of the plant that we thought they did; d) plants provide many of the nutrients that our bodies need; and e) we need to eat different kinds of foods to get all the nutrients that our bodies need to live, grow,



learn, and play. Participants included 15 kids from a small rural village in the highlands of Guatemala, and their parents. These Mayan families live under poverty conditions. Most of the dads are employed at a coffee plantation and the mothers stay at home caring for their children. Most of the kids will grow up to be farmers, so workshops like this one help expand their knowledge of horticulture and promote a love for gardening.

### **Involvement of club members, other organizations, etc.:**

A&M Garden Club members assisted with ideas for workshop activities and provided some of the materials and supplies used for the workshop, including books, posters, placemats, and stickers. Some creative ideas brought forth by club members were very valuable during the workshop. With donated materials, children were able to create cowboy hats and placemats showcasing fruits, insects, vegetables, and things that belong in a farm. Johanna Roman served as the instructor and prepared all the activity guides in Spanish. Educational materials from the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service were used.



### **Project expenses and means of funding:**

The AMGC Board and members had approved a \$50 budget for this Global Gardening activity. In addition, club members donated \$120 in cash, plus training materials to be used in the workshop. Funds were used to purchase workshop supplies and educational materials to conduct several learning activities, including foam hats, stickers, plastic insects, posters, markers, crayons, etc. Funds were also used to provide a traditional Guatemalan snack to children and parents that participated in the workshop.



### **Continuing involvement, follow-up, maintenance:**

The AMGC has plans to continue offering Global Gardening activities when members have the opportunity to travel abroad and can organize an activity as part of their travel plans. Expanding our work beyond our borders helps us share our love for gardening with other countries. Not too many garden clubs have the opportunity of working internationally, but we do!

## January Gardening Calendar

**PLAN:** Now is the time to order gladiolus and dahlia bulbs. Get seed beds ready for such seed as nasturtium, petunia, pinks, scabiosa and snapdragon. Start plants of snapdragon, stock and tomatoes in flats if you have a sunny spot where you can protect them from freezes.

**PRUNE:** If plants were injured by freezing, wait until all danger of further frost has passed before pruning. Finish pruning bush roses and dormant shrubs, and any shrubs that have finished blooming.

**PLANT:** Shrubs, roses and seedlings. Gladiolus after Jan. 20, being sure to cover lightly with 4" soil.

**FERTILIZE AND MULCH:** Iris, crepe myrtle, trees, strawberries, day lilies

**INSECT AND DISEASE PROBLEMS:** Any plants showing scale should be sprayed with dormant oil. Hand pick bagworms to remove eggs that will hatch in May and June to re-infect host plants. Watch for aphids. Remove piles of plant debris which may harbor pests such as sow-bugs, pill-bugs, millipedes, caterpillars and beetle larvae.

**WEATHER PROTECTION:** If a freeze is predicted, cover tender plants and shrubs with boxes or plastic trash cans [not metal]. Heavy paper also works well. After the freeze, remove cover promptly. If some frost has touched the leaves, spray with water before the sun shines on them.

**BLOOMING:** Calendula, narcissus, pansy, jasmine, loquat, flowering quince, roses, many hardy annuals, perennials.

**VEGETABLES:** Sow directly in the garden: spinach, mustard, turnips, beets, English peas, carrots. Set out plants of cabbage and onion. Start inside plants of pepper, eggplant and tomato.

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## Birthdays

### January

Sarah Barrick Jan 8

Judith Schafer Jan 11

Eugenia Williams Jan 14

Margaret Ann White Jan 15

Mary AnnTaylor Jan 25

Sherry Ellison Jan 29

Marianne Maxwell Jan 30