



## NEWSLETTER – MARCH 2020

Proud member of National Garden Clubs, [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)  
South Central Region Garden Clubs [www.texasgardenclubs.org](http://www.texasgardenclubs.org)  
Texas Garden Clubs, and District V [www.scrgardenclubs.org](http://www.scrgardenclubs.org)

The nation plants, designs, and works to help the environment – together!!!

Texas Garden Club of the Year (Bronze) 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016

Texas Garden Club of the Year (Silver) 2016, 2017

Gold Club 2018, 2019

### OFFICERS 2019-2020

Co-Presidents:

Michele Wehrheim &  
Sherry Ellison

VP Programs:  
Khris Thurmond

VP Yearbook:  
Ann Gundy

VP Community Events:  
Jane Cohen

VP Hospitality:  
Martha Green

Recording Secretary:  
Janet Dudding

Corresponding Secretary:  
Linda Kenyon

Treasurer:  
Susie Ohendalski

Reporter:  
Deana Dossey

Co-Historians:  
Idalia Aguilar/Helen Quinn

Board Member at Large:  
Heather White

Parliamentarian:  
Helen Quinn

Immediate Past President: Heather White

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### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

**Starting with NOV.8 REGULAR MEETING, thru \*May 2020 will be held in the Fellowship Room at PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, [2201 Rio Grande Blvd, College Station, TX 77845](#)**

**\*Exception: April 10<sup>th</sup>, Good Friday. SEE CALENDAR FOR APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>, AND “STAY TUNED”**

## MARCH IN REVIEW

### February 13, Planning meeting at Richard Carter Park – report by Sherry Ellison.

Susie Ohendalski, Judy Schafer, Ann Gundy, Jane Cohen, Sherry Ellison of A&M Garden Club met with Mr. Stephen Richardson (Parks Operations Manager) and Mr. Lance Hausenfluck (West District Supervisor). This was a planning meeting for planting of native plants and milkweeds at the park in Spring, 2020. (Jane was the photographer!)



### February 14, Regular Monthly Meeting

29 members and guests enjoyed a great program by Trixie Bonds on The Magic of Cooking and Garnishing with Edible Flowers. (Floral Cocktails & Mocktails, Which flowers are edible, which fillings are best in flowers.)



**February 21 – Workshop – report from Judy Shafer.**

From pre work by Deana and Judy and those who attended the workshop there are 56 blank butterfly fans, 91 4x4 Monarch butterfly tiles and 44 small tile magnets with butterfly stickers attached. Keep in mind the 4x4 tiles are used so some not in perfect condition. There are A&M Garden Club stickers on all. I have applied 1 coat of outdoor Modpodge to the tiles and when dry and weather is warmer so can work outdoors will add a coat of clear plastic spray to ones made yesterday. There are also 72 CD disks with mostly bird pictures on one side and scratch art on shiny side can be used for Earth Day as example of recycling. We had 10 workers, including 2 new members.



## February 24-25 – Landscape Design School

The “Shoppers” met at Sam’s Club on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> and delivered the drinks, snacks etc. to Bush Library. On Monday and Tuesday, members worked in shifts to take care of Registration, Food Stations for morning and afternoon snacks and lunch, Book Sales, and exam grading on Tuesday afternoon. 84 students from Garden Clubs, Master Gardeners and other groups were in attendance. Several people came up and complimented us on how well we took care of the needs of the attendees.

Ctrl + click to view the photos! (and hope it works!)

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn%3Aaid%3Ascids%3AUS%3A96a908c0-128f-4622-a715-756cab60f8ca>

## MARCH IN THE GARDEN (Average last frost date – March 2<sup>nd</sup>)

**PLAN:** Prepare the soil to move mums next month if you divide plants rather than root new ones. Be sure to move each year. Pinch off tops for cutting through May. Fertilize Ligyhtly each month until color shows in the bud. Use Liquid fertilizer to force blossoms..

**PRUNE:** Finish pruning bush roses and dormant shrubs, and any shrubs that have finished blooming. Crape myrtles may still be cut back form 1/3 to ½ their height, but leave several buds to produce new shoots and to insure flowering. Note: The practice of pruning Crape Myrtles to this extent is now frowned upon by some arborists and experts, and is commonly called “Crape Murder”. Some pruning is beneficial to promote better blooming the following season, but take care to prune lightly, to shape the tree, rather cutting right back.

**PLANT:** Cuttings taken from hardwood shrubs that have been pruned. Divide and reset cannas now. Canna beds need thinning every year for quality blooms. Set out plants of coral vine, dahlia, ferns, gerbera daisy, hibiscus, petunia, verbena. See planted after average last frost should grow.

**FERTILIZE & MULCH:** Feed all roses, shrubs and plants with quick acting fertilizer to stimulate rapid spring growth. Ageratum and flowering shrubs should not be too heavily fertilized at this time because overfeeding of these tends to produce foliage at the expense of bloom. Do not allow fertilizer to touch stem or leaves of any young plants or seedlings unless it is a foliage fertilizer; it will cause them to scald or rot. Trees may be fertilized this month. After fertilizing, be sure to mulch well, keeping mulch away from trunk. Also apply copperas or aluminum sulfate to gardenias and other acid-loving plants. DO NOT fertilize grass this month as it is still partially dormant and cannot use the food, but the weeds can!!!

**SPRAY:** Watch for red spider mite, aphids, thrips and bagworms.

**WEATHER PROTECTION:** Watch for late frosts and protect tender plants. Mulch against a hot, dry summer. Water Plants deeply if needed.

**BLOOMING:** All hardy annuals, many shrubs, trees and roses, and many bulbs.

Time to scrub the bird baths, clean the feeders, and store them if you don’t feed the birds year round. The hummingbirds will soon be here, so make sure you are ready for them! Don’t use red food dye – make a solution of 1 part sugar to 4 parts water. Red dye has been known to be toxic, and is not really necessary to attract the hummers to the feeders any more than the red color already built into the design of most feeders these days.

**VEGETABLE START DATES:** (Give or take a few days.)

- \*Cabbage (transplants) 1/1-3/5
- Cabbage, Chinese 2/1-3/10
- Carrot 12/20-3/5
- \*Cauliflower (transplants) 2/15 – 3/20
- Chard, Swiss 2/1-4/20
- \*Collard (transplants) 2/10-3/31
- Corn, sweet 3/5-5/5
- Cucumber 3/20-6/15
- \*Eggplant (transplants) 3/26 -6/10
- Garlic 1/1-3/15
- \*Kale (transplants) 1/20-3/10
- Kohlrabi 1/20-3/10
- Lettuce, leaf 1/15-3/20
- Mustard 1/20-4/15
- Turnip 1/15-4/20
- Pea, Edible Pod 1/25-3/5
- \*Potato, Irish (Seed potatoes) 2/5-3/5
- Radish 1/25 – 5/5
- Squash, summer 3/15 – 6/15
- Squash, winter 3/15-6/15
- \*Tomato (transplants) 3/5 – 4/20

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Treasurer will begin accepting dues for 2020-2021 year on February 14, 2020: \$25 cash, check, no credit card access. Please keep your receipt if you pay cash. Thank you, Susie Ohendalski, Treasurer, [susieo.1976@gmail.com](mailto:susieo.1976@gmail.com)

**MONARCH MARCH – MARCH 22, AT LICK CREEK PARK**

1 – 4 pm with The City of College Station.

Jane will have sign up sheets available at the February and March Meetings for volunteers to help with this event. A&M Garden Club will have a booth with activities for kids and information- members please send your ideas for giveaways/crafts to Sherry E. and the committee.



## CALENDAR THRU MAY, 2020



### MARCH

- 5 District V Spring Meeting, Carleen Bright Arboretum, Woodway, TX
- 6 AMGC Board meeting 1:00 pm at Peace Lutheran Church
- 13 – Regular Monthly Meeting – program by Helen Quinn on Poison in the Flower Beds
- 20 - Pilgrimage to Herb Society Plant Sale at Round Top
- 22 – Monarch March at Lick Creek Park (See separate item)
- 24 – Coffee at The Topsy Bean, 750 Wm. D. Fitch #420, College Station. 9:30 am
- 28 – The Big Event – Richard Carter Park
- 28 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual “Budding Out” Festival, Peckerwood Gardens, Hempstead
- 30-April 2 – TGC Spring Convention, Galveston, TX

### APRIL

- 17 – Regular Monthly Meeting – Program by Craig Jackson, of Peckerwood Gardens, Hempstead. **LARRY RINGER LIBRARY, (DOORS OPEN 9:00 AM, PROGRAM 9:30 AM)**
- 25 – Birthday Party for Wolves 10 – 6, 2759 Beulah Chapel Rd, Montgomery, 77316

### MAY

- 8 – Regular Monthly Meeting and Pot Luck. Installation of officers for 2020-2021.
- 12-16? – NGC Spring Convention in Milwaukee, WI

### Proposed EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES RELATING TO “THE GARDENS”

Garden Club Lunch and Learn: Pavilion 11:30 – 1:00 (3rd Tuesday / month)

March 17

April 21

May 19

Garden Series at Ringer Library: 6:00 – 7:00

March 5

April 2

May 7

Hullabloomers early childhood (ages 3-7) environmental education (kids must register and pay a fee)

March 20 (Show Me the Energy)

April 17

May 15