



NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER, 2019

Proud member of National Garden Clubs, www.gardenclub.org

South Central Region Garden Clubs www.texasgardenclubs.org

Texas Garden Clubs, and District V 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

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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

www.amgardenclub.com

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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 10th, Good Friday. Stay tuned for more information!

NOVEMBER IN REVIEW

November 8 – Regular Monthly Meeting

22 members attended our November meeting, held at the new location of Peace Lutheran Church on Rio Grande. After the business meeting we enjoyed treats from a festive table, and then learned all about vegetable gardening from our speaker, Mike Vidrine. The new location is great – spacious, and with lots of parking around the side. Peace Lutheran Church, 2201 Rio Grande, College Station.



November 8 – District Meeting in Temple



Michele was present from our club; photo from TGC Dist. V Facebook group. Program on Monarchs, a Pollinator Jeopardy game, "how to" make a Kokedama, and loads of good food, according to Charlotte Weiss, District Director, who reported there were 68 in attendance. Spring Meeting is March 5 in Woodway (at Carleen Bright Arboretum.) Mark your calendars in advance!!

November 9 – Texas Arbor Day celebrating the lives of Viola de la Garza and Carole Hopp

6 members and the families of Viola and Carole gathered at Richard Carter Park where we planted a Texas Persimmon and a Possumhaw Holly (actually planted by the City of College Station the afternoon before!) but we had a little ceremony and shoveled mulch around the trees. Carmen chaired the event, seen below with the ceremonial shovel!



November 21 – Field Trip to Brookwood Community

Five members enjoyed checking out the plants in the retail shop and the wonderful Christmas decorations, followed by a superb lunch in the acclaimed Brookwood Café.



Gardenista trip to Guatemala, Oct. 27- Nov. 5, 2019

18 Garden Club members and other garden enthusiasts traveled to Guatemala on our 5th Gardenista trip. Visitors toured organic gardens, tropical crop plantations, landscape gardens and learned to prepare traditional vegetable-based recipes and salsas. Join us next year!



A&M Garden Club members led gardening activities using funds from two Seeds for Life grants. One was a workshop to teach kids how to transplant mint and plant other herb seeds. The second project was to create a traditional produce carpet to promote consumption of fruits and vegetables.



DECEMBER IN THE GARDEN

Don't forget to feed the birds and wildlife – we have had our first freeze, and there will probably be more to come! Be consistent – either feed regularly, or don't feed at all! The critters soon learn to rely on their human protectors!!!

PLAN: For cold weather protection. Collect large cardboard boxes for plant covers. Clean up beds and prepare new ones. Burn diseased or bug-infested debris.

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, 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.

SPRAY & DUST: 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 plants watered enough to keep them in good condition, but not enough 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.



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

*Brussels Sprouts (transplants) 12/20-1/15

*Cabbage (transplants) 9/15-12/31

*Carrot 12/20-3/5

If you have a warm greenhouse or warm, light place in the house, you can start tomatoes etc., but don't be tempted to set them outside too early.

CALENDAR THRU FEBRUARY, 2020



DECEMBER

13 AMGC Christmas Pot Luck Meeting. Program on "Botanical Arts" Pressed Flowers and More" by Deana Dossey. Deana and Judy are planning a display of items that might be exhibited in a Botanical Arts Division of a flower show. There are a lot of examples on line and also some in the Vision of Beauty calendar. Members are welcome to bring examples to add to what we will have if they wish. Optional participation in Gift Exchange. Service Project – gift baskets of spices & condiments for Bryan Firefighters (we did College Station last year.)

20 Coffee at Martha's home in Navasota, then time to enjoy last minute Christmas Shopping in beautiful downtown Navasota!



DECEMBER COFFEE – MARTHA'S HOME IN NAVASOTA (With Elf Helen)
SAVE THE DATE: FRIDAY DECEMBER 20TH – 9:30 AM – 11:00 (or as long as the conversation lasts),
“COME AND GO”

411 East McAlpine, Navasota 77868
Phone: 936-443-8441

Directions:

From College Station: Take the Navasota exit off of Highway 6; (the one that points to Hwy 90/Hwy 105). Turn right onto Washington Avenue. Proceed down Washington Avenue. Turn left onto Church Street from Washington Avenue; then turn right onto McAlpine Street. Martha's yellow house is located next to a vacant lot at the corner of Church and McAlpine across the street from St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

- Pilgrimage to Old Fort Parker Date TBA – **WATCH FOR AN EMAIL FROM MICHELE!!**

Christmas at the Fort is a special time of year. Activities/events include Mountain Man Rendezvous, Indian Drum from Oklahoma, Kenny Lookingglass, many pioneer reenactors, petting zoo, cast iron cooking, weaving, fire starting and pirates, quilters, gardeners, fire oven baking, pioneer women, gunfighters and more!!!

JANUARY

3 Board Meeting

10 Regular Monthly Meeting – program by Beth Erwin on constructing an irrigation system. Election of Officers for 2020-2021 Garden Club Year.

24-26 Environmental Studies School at Old Ft. Parker, Groesbeck, Tx. Class 1. Intro into Environmental Scienc. Limited to 30 people. Sleep in a cool German Barracks, enjoy neat crafts and very interesting tours. Learn, and get credit for taking the class!

- Pilgrimage to Bee Weaver Honey Farm, Navasota TBA

FEBRUARY

14 Regular Monthly Meeting – program by Trixie Bond on The Magic of Cooking and Garnishing with Edible Flowers.

24-25 Landscape Design School