

# A&M GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

## AUG. 2020

### CLUB MEETINGS

Sept-May: 2<sup>ND</sup> Fridays, 9:30-11:30am at Fellowship Room at Peace Lutheran Church – 2201 Rio Grande Blvd, College Station (might change to virtual meetings, depending on the COVID-19 situation)

### CLUB EVENTS

**UPCOMING EVENTS** – Watch for updates via email & social media.

Aug 14th Join our **virtual** Summer Social via Zoom! Login details will be sent to members.

Aug 7th Board Meeting (via Zoom) – Board members will receive an invite



### SOCIAL MEDIA

WEB: [www.amgardenclub.com](http://www.amgardenclub.com)

FACEBOOK:  
[@AMGardenClub](https://www.facebook.com/AMGardenClub)



A&M Garden Club Group: Horticulture, Design, Landscape & More

## Summer Bounty!

*Celebrate summer's long sunny days and warm balmy evenings with the season's most colorful fruits and vegetables! Check out our new Summer activity pictures – **Share your Backyard Bounty!** On this newsletter*

*Friendships grow here!*

[www.amgardenclub.com](http://www.amgardenclub.com)



### OUR CLUB

*We promote the love of gardening, floral design & horticulture through garden-related projects and educational programs*

Members of National Garden Club; South Central Region; Texas Garden Clubs & District V.

Gold Club (TGC Designation)

# Co-presidents Plot

There is so much to look forward to in the coming club year, starting with **Friday August 14<sup>th</sup>** when we have our first-ever virtual Summer Social on Zoom. It will be good to see everyone's smiling faces on our home computer/phone/laptop screens, but we confess we will miss the yummy snacks from our usual face-to-face gatherings.

The Club has two really big events in the upcoming year of 2021: **A Specialty Show: Horticulture and Botanical Arts** including Photography on March 12<sup>th</sup> with all of us bringing cuttings from our home gardens and showing off botanical arts exhibits or garden photographs. Suzanne Milstead met with us in June to talk details surrounding the specialty show; she is the creative spirit behind the show schedule with a theme of **"Texas Our Texas"** while we (Sherry and Michele), are searching for 16 club volunteers to chair the committees necessary to make the show happen. Regarding the second event: Heather White is spearheading our hosting, in early June, the **District V Summer Workshop** at Peace Lutheran Church.

During the past few months, Michele has been researching places for pilgrimages or field trips. Due to the pandemic, most businesses are operating under modified hours and are unwilling to schedule group tours. Even as our yearbook goes to press, we are still trying to pin down specific dates and we are always open to suggestions from club members at any time. The only confirmed pilgrimage at this time is our reservation for a luncheon group of 10 at the Brookwood Community Café in Brookshire.

Our **President's Project** this year will be providing food to the Brazos Valley Food Bank and to their Backpack Program for Children. We will do this through donations of vegetables and fruit and shelf stable/canned donations.

Last week I saw a copy of the Texas Gardener Magazine on display at the Clara Mounce Library in Bryan and it had an interesting article on **Infused Waters for Summer Hydration**. It was a pleasant surprise to learn that you can read the whole article from the current issue by using the search box at the upper right side of the page and entering the words "infused water with fruit"; it took me to a page with links to a bunch of other interesting garden articles as well.

Keep cool and start drying your flower petals and foliage in between absorbent blotting paper for use in botanical arts entries in the March 12th specialty show!

Be on the lookout for an email from Johanna; it will contain the Meeting ID and Password.

Try to download the Zoom app onto your device or computer/laptop at least a day or two ahead of the meeting.

Hoping to see you all on Zoom on the 14<sup>th</sup>!

*Sherry Ellison and Michele Wehrheim*  
*Our co-presidents*





## GREEN THUMBS UP!

Here we grow again! This will be a unique **Garden Club** year, full of creative ideas for programs & activities!

*Remember, gardening is NOT cancelled, so we will find ways to keep enjoying what we love to do, while following health official guidelines for our county.*

*Zoom Meetings — Be prepared!*

We will be using Zoom for our meetings, so please get familiar with Zoom. Here is a great tutorial:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iagJnvy6ILY>

Congratulations to Helen & Johanna for representing the A&M Garden Club & winning 1st place with their Horticulture entries at National Garden Clubs Inc. Perfect Vision virtual Flower Show! Helen's *Cucumis sativus* & *Crinum asiaticum*, and Johanna's *Lantana camara* were all winners in the Horticulture Division!



*Crinum asiaticum* by Helen Quinn - A&M Garden Club – 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Section B: Perennials



*Cucumis sativus* by Helen Quinn - A&M Garden Club – 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Section F: Fruits, Nuts & Vegetables



*Lantana camara* 'Dallas Red' by Johanna Roman- A&M Garden Club – 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Section B: Perennials

*Check out the full list of winners at NGC's Facebook page. Congratulations to all winners!*



## FROM THE BOARD

During our July **Board Meeting** our officers provided updates and discussed ideas on how to make this upcoming Garden Club year a great one, given the challenges we are facing due to the health pandemic. Instead of cancelling the August Social, we will use that time to greet our members via Zoom and give a glimpse of programs and activities.

Our **VP - Programs** Lyndie Lyndie has lined up a list of exciting programs based on members' recommendations. This list of programs will be included in the Yearbook, as well as a couple of potential pilgrimages.

Our **VP - Yearbook** Ann Gundy will plan to have our colorful Yearbook ready by our September meeting. A Digital version of the Yearbook will be available to members in case we are unable to meet.

Our **VP – Hospitality** Martha Green will be providing new suggestions for hostesses, including simple snacks and optional decorations. She is checking the new sanitation/food serving rules at our meeting place. Please sign up if you haven't.

Our **Treasurer** Susie Ohendalski gave a budget report to the Board and reported on results of the Audit Committee. We thank Michelle Wehrheim, Sherry Ellison, Susie Ohendalski, and Judy Anderson for serving on that committee. We have 47 members (4 are Honorary members.)

Our **Reporter** Johanna Roman will be sending meeting announcements to The Eagle when we are able to have in-person meetings. She encourages members to watch for social media or email notifications about events that may need to be modified or cancelled. Deadline for newsletter submissions will be the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Our **Recording Secretary** Helen Quinn took minutes from our recent Board Meeting and has posted them on the password-protected Members Only page on our website. Helen is our website manager & Facebook co-admin.

Our **Corresponding Secretary** Linda Kenyon mailed out birthday cards to members who had provided their DOB, and she already got started with August cards. With the new list of current members, she will be able to send many more cards! Please inform her of any special occasions.

We thank Susan Williams for accepting the nomination to be our **Parliamentarian**. Welcome to the Board, Susan!

## WHAT'S GROWING ON?



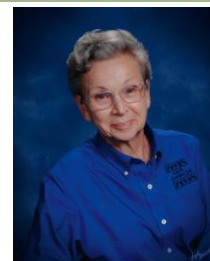
District V Director Charlotte Weis suggested a project for clubs to participate from now until the end of October. Club members could be "**Sharing with Others**" by helping a neighbor with an existing flower bed, or planting flower pots for a nursing home, or adding plants in a small bed where people sit and relax. We are ahead of the curve since Judy Schafer and Sherry Ellison brought joy to seniors residing at The Carriage Inn. Over **40 potted plants** were donated and are now decorating common areas at the senior resident facility located in Bryan. Seniors are enjoying the proven benefits of plants. Let us know what you are **Sharing with Others**.



A hungry caterpillar of the Eastern Black Swallowtail is happily feeding on Sherry Ellison's fennel plant. This is one of seven caterpillars that Carolyn Parsons shared with her, since Carolyn's fennel plant was too small to feed all of the caterpillars on it!

## REMEMBERING OUR FRIEND

We dedicate this section to our friend Mary Ann Taylor (1933-2020). Judy Schafer met her in the first Master Gardener Class that was held in Brazos County in 1990. She happily joined the A&M Garden Club and helped with many club projects. She served as President of the A&M Garden Club during three terms. You may read her obituary at <https://callawayjones.com/obits/mary-ann-taylor/>



We will be planting a tree during a special ceremony on **Arbor Day** to celebrate her life and remember all the moments we shared together. Rest in Peace, Mary Ann.

- Check out our **Garden Calendar** by month here: <https://amgardenclub.com/education/garden-newsletter/>
- See other pictures sent by club members on our Facebook page [@AMGardenClub](#) and share pictures of your garden in our group: [A&M Garden Club Group: Horticulture, Design, Landscape & More](#)



## 'Peas' sign up!

Please contact our **VP for Hospitality** Martha Green if you have not signed up to bring snacks during 1 meeting. Being a hostess is easier than ever! You will only need to bring a fruit/veggie tray, or a cookie/pastry tray. A simple table decoration is optional.



## SUMMER ACTIVITY!



## August 29th is National **More Herbs, Less Salt Day**. Substituting **herbs** for **salt** can

increase the flavor and health benefits in your meals. So, hide the salt shaker & go harvest some delicious fresh herbs from your garden!



## Share your Backyard Bounty!

We posted on our Facebook page a fun activity for us to do, encouraging members to share fruits, flowers, vegetables or seeds with neighbors, friends, and family. Look below for pictures submitted by some of our members who have been sharing their backyard bounty. We hope you feel inspired to do the same!

More pictures will be posted on our Facebook Page. Remember you can post your own in our Facebook group: [A&M Garden Club Group: Horticulture, Design, Landscape & More](#)

## Thyme to Share!



(From left to right)

Tomatoes left at church door for volunteers managing online services to take home.

Dill seeds shared with another A&M Garden Club member for her to grow.

Iris bulbs dug in the morning were ready to be picked up by a friend.

Moringa leaves shared with son to prepare a healthy tea.

A bag of tomatoes & fresh basil shared with a neighbor, including a caprese salad recipe.

Please your bounty and share your pictures!