

SEPT. 2020

 CLUB MEETINGS

Sept-May: 2<sup>ND</sup> Fridays 9:30-11:30am (we are holding virtual meetings via Zoom until further notice)

 CLUB EVENTS

Sept 11 General Member meeting (virtual!) Zoom login details will be sent to members 1 week prior to the meeting.

Sept 11 Drop off plants for Plant Giveaway at Peace Lutheran.

Sept 17 Pilgrimage to Chappel Hill Lavender Farm 10 am

 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](#)

*Upcoming Club Activities*



*There is so much to look forward to in the upcoming club year!*

Pilgrimages – Programs - Coffee

Yearbooks - Projects - Events

*Here is a sneak peek at some of our larger activities:*

**President's Project** to support the Brazos Valley Food Bank (December, 2020)

**A Specialty Show: Horticulture and Botanical Arts** including Photography (March 2021)

**District V Summer Workshop** at Peace Lutheran Church (June 2021)

**September Meeting & Program (via Zoom):**

Friday, September 11, 2020: Meeting of the A&M Garden Club, 9:30-11:30 am via Zoom. Business meeting and "**Getting more Members for the Club,**" program presented by **Heather White**, member of the A&M Garden Club & Board Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

[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

*Sherry Ellison and Michele Wehrheim - Co-presidents*

*From Sherry:*

Last month we had our first-ever virtual Summer Social on Zoom and it gave us a chance to see many smiley faces, hold our Business Meeting, and learn more about our upcoming year. Thank you for participating! We certainly want all members to feel welcome and we encourage everyone to give Zoom a try, while we await news on when we can meet in person again. Peace Lutheran renovations are not completed. We will be notified when they are and check the State's COVID guidelines to determine when we can have in-person meetings.

There are several things we can do to see each other during social distancing times. We could try to get together in small groups to visit local gardens like the Idea Demonstration Garden in Bryan, or The Gardens at the Texas A&M campus, or Richard Carter Park. We always welcome small teams to help care for flower beds there.

This summer and in past years A&M Garden Club members gave free plants, craft projects, or cards to Meals on Wheels for their meal recipients. In August we also gave free plants to people who came for Brazos Valley Food Bank food at Peace Lutheran Church. We would like to do this again. Please know that you can also work on crafts or potted plants as individuals and drop items off at my house or ask me to come pick them up from you.



What are your ideas for helping to make this time more cheerful for others and for us? We look forward to visiting and sharing ideas at our September 11th Zoom meeting at 9:30 a.m.

*Picture: Milkweed at Richard Carter Park now blooming.  
Thanks to Linda, Judy S., Sherry E. & Dale for getting together in a small group to plant them.*

*From Michele:*

Just last week I learned from a Jeopardy episode that the United Nations had issued a resolution declaring 2020 to be the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH). Being curious, I Googled it and read on Wikipedia that the purpose of the IYPH is to raise global awareness on how protecting plant health can help end hunger, reduce poverty, protect the environment and boost economic development. I think it is awesome that our club has been promoting plant health for many years and has been educating the public about the benefits of caring for plants and reducing the use of pesticides long before it became fashionable. Thanks to all of our club members who have so willingly given of their time at the various community events!

It was fun to see so many members log in to our August social on Zoom. We will probably continue to meet via Zoom until the church renovations are completed and local health officials allow gatherings of more than 10 people.

If you are thinking about doing a botanical art entry for the Specialty Show in March, be sure to start pressing flower petals and leaves while they are in bloom right now.



## SUMMER PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS!

### Plants on Wheels!

Following District V Director Charlotte Weis' suggestion for clubs to promote "Sharing with Others" activities, our club members did not disappoint! Judy S and Sherry E have provided 30 plant gifts for recipients of the Meals on Wheels program. Their volunteers happily accepted the plants and they will offer them to beneficiaries along with their meals.



### For the Love of Plants

Members donated plants, vegetables, bulbs, and herbs and set up a giveaway table at Peace Lutheran Church. Many community members who came to get food from the Blessing Box and the Food Bank stopped by our A&M GC giveaway table to adopt plants and we were glad to share tips on how to care for them.



### Landscape Plant Giveaway

Judy Schafer and her husband Dale took 40 various landscape plants to Habitat for Humanity on behalf of the A&M Garden Club. They included Opuntia cacti, yellow daylilies, green fountain grass, passion vine, butterfly vine, candle stick plant, Mexican petunia, white salvia, epazote, and others. These were plants that would have been for July 4th giveaway. In past years the club has worked with Habitat. One year we even hosted a state Arbor Day event of tree planting on the A&M campus because our club had applied and won state award for habitat work and we donated plants to new homes.





## OUR BOARD

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From this point forward, the Board will meet every other month on Oct 2nd, Dec 4th, Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, March 5<sup>th</sup>, and May 7<sup>th</sup>. However, we will be in contact via email to discuss important issues, and we can have special meetings if needed.

Take a look at some of our **Board Members** main activities:

**VP - Programs** Lyndie Lyndie: Helps coordinate programs, which you will find printed in our Yearbook.

**VP – Community Events** Suzanne Milstead: Serves as Chair of the Specialty Show.

**VP - Yearbook** Ann Gundy: Prepares and publishes our annual Yearbook. A digital version is now available on the password-protected section of our website.

**VP – Hospitality** Martha Green: Recruits hostesses and sends reminders prior to meetings. Find our hostess list in the Yearbook.

**Treasurer** Susie Ohendalski handles our financial matters such as preparing budget reports, coordinating an annual audit, reimbursing members for approved club expenses, and others.

**Reporter** Johanna Roman sends meeting reminders, prepares our monthly newsletters, helps publicize events, and shares articles with local media.

**Recording Secretary** Helen Quinn takes the minutes from our Board Meeting and members meetings. Both are posted on our website.

**Corresponding Secretary** Linda Kenyon mails birthday/special occasion cards to members and is our liaison with Peace Lutheran Church.

**Parliamentarian** Susan Williams will advise officers and members on parliamentary procedures such as following Robert's Rules of Order during meetings.



## YOUTH CONTESTS

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Let's encourage youth K - HS to participate in the Youth Contests. Help promote the opportunities for youth to share their skills and interests. Entries will be due by Friday, Oct 16.

Jane Cohen has sent all members a flyer showing opportunities for students in each area and for specific ages, with guidelines for entering –

Grades K-9 & Special Ed - Poetry

Grades 1-5 - Posters (Smokey Bear, Woodsy Owl, Bird)

Grades 4-8 - Sculpture

Grades 9-12 - Essay, Service, Scholarships, Grants

Please refer students and their parents to our AM Garden Club web page - [www.amgardenclub.com](http://www.amgardenclub.com) - for more information and a copy of the flyer. Or you can print and give them a flyer. Additional state and national web links are listed on the flyer.

# Pilgrimage - Sept 17

Chappel Hill Lavender Farm  
2250 Dillard Rd.  
Brenham, Texas 77833  
[\(979\) 251-8114](tel:(979)251-8114)



Club members are invited to visit "an oasis for the soul" and participate in an educational tour of the Chappell Hill Lavender Farm at 10am on Thursday morning September 17th.

RSVP to Michele W by Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. View their Facebook page/website

<https://www.chappellhilllavender.com/>

## Gardening Memories

Sherry E would like to see members sharing Gardening Memories to be published in our upcoming Newsletters. Send yours in to Johanna.

### *My Crinum Lilies and Four O'Clocks (by Sherry Ellison)*

*Two highly successful plants in the partially shady areas of my gardens are Crinum Lilies and Four O'Clocks. These hardy Crinum Lilies remind me of a friend at work who gave me some of her plants when she moved from Texas. Most of my Four O'Clocks have dark pink flowers, but some have yellow blossoms. These were given to me about 34 years ago by another friend and co-worker. These plants give me smiles when I walk near them! What plants continue to make you smile with memories?*



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We are so happy that the A&M Garden Club Yearbooks are ready for distribution! When we can have a face-to-face meeting once again, Ann Gundy will have them for everyone to pick up. However, if someone wants theirs sooner, please contact Ann to make arrangements to pick it up at her house.

*Thank you, Ann Gundy,  
for your diligent work to get the  
Yearbooks ready and printed.*



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*Be a Weed! A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except learning how to grow in rows. - Doug Larson*

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