

A&M GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

NOV 2020

CLUB MEETINGS

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

CLUB EVENTS

Nov 6th, 9:00 am Arbor Day at
Richard Carter Park

Nov 13th Club Meeting from 9:30-
11:30 am via Zoom & Plant
Giveaway at Peace Lutheran from
3:45-5:30 pm.

Nov 17th Pilgrimage (time TBD) Visit
& lunch at Brookwood in Brookshire

Nov 20th, 11:00 am Coffee Gathering
at Peace Lutheran in CS

SOCIAL MEDIA

www.amgardenclub.com

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

Members of National Garden Club;
South Central Region; Texas Garden
Clubs & District V.
Gold Club (TGC Designation)



upcoming Club Meeting & Program

November Meeting & Program (via Zoom):

Friday, November 13, 2020: Meeting of the A&M Garden Club at 9:30 am

10:30 am - "**Companion Plants in Containers**," program presented by
Jonathan Caples, TAMU Doctoral Candidate in Landscape Design

Zoom login details will be sent to members 1 week prior to the meeting.



Co-presidents Thanksgiving Message

Sherry Ellison and Michele Wehrheim - Co-presidents

From Sherry:

Despite the leaves falling from the trees now, I still find it hard to believe that October is here! There are more important events and meetings ahead of A&M Garden Club members.

We look forward to our Nov. 11 meeting on Zoom, when we will learn about Companion Plants in Containers. Jonathan Caples, TAMU Doctoral Candidate in Landscape Design, will be our speaker. We hope you will attend our Zoom meeting by watching or by calling on a regular phone to hear the meeting. You will be able to ask questions if you call on a regular phone, even if you cannot see the person speaking. Watch for Johanna Roman's email a week before the meeting with Zoom and calling details.

Have you ever realized how your liking plants results in sharing with friends and strangers? Such sharing is a large part of what our garden club members do every year. This year you have shared many plants with the residents of Carriage Inn. They even built shelves in their sunroom to hold all of the plants for every resident to enjoy! Your plants have gone to Meals on Wheels recipients, and that made them smile! People, who came to Peace Lutheran Church for food, have also taken your plants and gone away with big smiles! Our members have planted flowering plants and pollinator larvae host plants in our yards and in city parks.

You have a very positive affect on everyone's day through plants, conversations, friendly waves, and smiles. We would like to continue giving plants away on our monthly meeting day in November and also on a Meals on Wheels one day in November. What are your ideas for such beyond November?

From Michele:

The club's pilgrimage to the John Fairey Garden (formerly Peckerwood) was well attended by several club members including Rose Jarnagin, Greta Merritt and Lois Hyndman, Khris Thurmond and Linda Kenyon, Susie Ohendalski, Sherry Ellison and Helen Quinn. It was an overcast, cool and breezy day, great conditions for a leisurely and informative 2 hour walking tour with Craig Jackson, the Garden Director. We were joined by a married couple who learned of our tour plans by viewing our club website. Following the tour, we all had the opportunity to browse and purchase the rare and native plant specimens on display in the Fairey nursery. After posing for photos, we split up into two lunch groups: one group ate at Classic Events Restaurant in Hempstead while the other group ate at the Classic Rock Cafe in downtown Navasota.

Our next pilgrimage is on Tuesday November 17th, for lunch and shopping at the Brookwood Community Nursery Cafe in Brookshire (approx. 40 miles west of Houston). Be on the lookout during the week of November 9th for an email from me (your Co-President) requesting an RSVP and carpool participants.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Zoom on November 13th for our meeting and the presentation by Jonathan Caples, a doctoral candidate and scholarship awardee who will talk about Companion Plants in Containers at 10:30am.





RECENT CLUB ACTIVITIES

Plant Giveaway – We are so happy to continue to bring cheer to community members through our monthly Plant Giveaways at Peace Lutheran Church. Our 3rd Giveaway was held on 10/9 and it was nice to see community members of all ages and Brazos Valley Food Bank beneficiaries stop by our tables to pick herbs, colorful flowers, houseplants, and landscape plants. Some of the little ones got to decorate butterfly picks to add to their potted plants.



Pilgrimage – A group of eight A&M GC members (Sherry, Susie, Rose, Michele, Khris, Linda, Phyllis, and Helen) and two prospective members (Robert and Danita) had a lovely visit at the John Fairey Garden in Hempstead. John was an avid plant collector and brought many plants from Mexico. The garden's collection has over 3,000 plants.



Kids Activities – Johanna Roman used some of the butterfly fans that Garden Club members had created for local events to offer a quick lesson on insect symmetry to kids during our Plant Giveaway. While parents selected their plants to take home, kids decorated their butterflies with colorful stickers.



Scholarship

Jane Cohen presented Horticulture Student William Blaine Whitley with a \$100 scholarship on behalf of A&M GC from money won thanks to awards we submitted to National Garden Clubs.



Youth Contests

Jane Cohen (Chair) and the Youth Contest Committee (Susie, Judy, Eugenia, and Terry) gathered on Oct 20th to grade entries. Results were submitted to District V's Youth Awards Chair and we will probably hear results from District during the spring meeting and from State until after the usual March-April State meeting. Susie will be preparing A&M GC certificates for this year's contestants. We were pleased that we had more schools participate this year. The local committee was more involved in contacting schools, judging, and helping recognize youth. We are glad to help youth participate in Garden Club contests.



TGC Fall Convention

Heather White attended the 2020 TGC Fall Convention held in Kerrville Oct 18-20 at the Y O Hotel and Convention Center. The TGC members had a great time socializing when we weren't meeting. Heather shopped at the James Avery artisan complex, downtown Kerrville, and stopped at Wildseed Farms in Fredricksburg on the way home. Attendees made framed horticulture art in a workshop, and enjoyed a last night dressing up in western wear - Heather was a saloon girl

Photo: Heather White & Donna Talasek on Western night



District V Meeting

Michelle Wehrheim, Susie Ohendalski, and Heather White traveled to Georgetown to participate in the District V meeting on Oct 26th at San Gabriel Park Facility in Georgetown, TX. Jane Cohen sent a Buddha's hand and three beautiful improved Meyer's lemons for door prizes. Program was on backyard chickens by Nathan Fuchs from Ideal Poultry in Cameron. Chickens can clear insects, reduce weeds, spread mulch, and fertilize your soil. However, breed choice is important and location as some can also eat desirable vegetables and plants. Carol Smith will remain Zone II Director for 2021-2023.



October Coffee Social (upcoming)

We are looking forward to having our monthly Coffee Social on **Oct 30th** at 11:00 am at the historic Kyle House in Bryan (800 South Bryan Ave). They will have outdoor tables set for us in the back deck, or a private room with distanced seating.



Future meeting of the AMGC Board will be Dec 4th, Feb 5th, March 5th, and May 7th. Committee Chairs or members wishing to present updates can ask to join our Board Meetings. Let Johanna know if you need the Zoom login information.

Board Members: **Co-presidents** Michele Wehrheim & Sherry Ellison **VP - Programs** Lyndie Lyndie; **VP - Community Events** Suzanne Milstead; **VP - Yearbook** Ann Gundy; **VP - Hospitality** Martha Green; **Treasurer** Susie Ohendalski; **Reporter** Johanna Roman; **Recording Secretary** Helen Quinn; **Corresponding Secretary** Linda Kenyon; **Parliamentarian** Susan Williams.

Nominating Committee

Our Nominating Committee (Lois Hyndman, Judy Anderson, Greta Merritt, and Carolyn Parsons) is doing a great job contacting members to ask how they would like to serve on the Board next year. Please let any of them know if you wish to serve.

Monthly Gardening Tasks for the Brazos Valley - November

PLAN: To rake and collect all dead tree leaves for mulching and winter protection of tender plants or for compost pile. Design and prepare beds for roses and other shrubs.

PRUNE: Flowering perennial stalks that have finished blooming. Trim dead part of leaves from bearded iris. Stop cutting spent rose blossoms off so the bushes will go dormant for cold weather.

PLANT: Lily of the valley and Dutch iris in pots for gifts. Tulips and hyacinths that have been refrigerated may be planted this month and next. Most other bulbs, phlox, poppy, pinks, salvia, scabiosa, sweet peas, sweet William, trumpet creeper, wisteria, clematis, honeysuckle, larkspur, petunia.

FERTILIZE AND MULCH: Dig superphosphate into all bulb beds and around bearded iris. Give extra feeding to bulbs as soon as tops come into view. Sweet peas, pansies and amaryllis need fertilizer.

INSECT AND DISEASE PROBLEMS: Watch for bacterial and soft rot in the rhizomes and crowns of the iris.

WEATHER PROTECTION: Bank soil around shrubs if frost is predicted. Cover smaller plants carefully. Water sufficiently.

BLOOMING: Alyssum, calendula, candytuft, mums, cosmos, Michaelmas daisy, petunias, verbenas, jasmine, lantana, loquat, roses and many other annuals, perennials, shrubs and vines.

VEGETABLES: Sow lettuce, spinach, mustard, turnips, radishes, and English peas.





UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 6th, 2020 – The A&M GC and the College Station Parks and Recreation Dept. will plant trees in memory of Mary Ann Taylor and Kaye Hobbs. On Texas Arbor Day, Friday, November 6, a program in their honor at Richard Carter Park will begin at 9:00 a.m. and last about 30 to 45 minutes. We invite you to come and celebrate their lives. A few family members and friends will attend. Masks and social distancing are required, and there will be reminder signs at the park. Because there will be 10 or more people, there will be a State and City required sign-in sheet for everyone to sign and give contact information for the possibility of Covid-19 contact. There will be no drinks nor any snacks. We will provide hand sanitizer liquid. Be sure to wear a coat or jacket if the weather turns cold by then, since we will be outside.

Nov 20th, 2020 – Coffee Social at Peace Lutheran Church. Bring your snacks, beverages, and chair. We will sit outside or under the awning. Chairman: Heather White.

Pilgrimage Tuesday Nov. 17

Brookwood in Brookshire, TX
www.brookwoodcommunity.org

Brookwood is an educational, residential, and entrepreneurial community for adults with disabilities. Residents grow a variety of plants and make handicrafts for their store.



Enjoy learning about their horticultural project, shopping for unique holiday items, and having a delicious lunch.

Michele W will send an email to members with more details.

New Members

We are happy to welcome Sheila Sagbo & Margaret Godfrey to our club! We look forward to getting to know them and seeing them participate in our programs and events.

President's Project

Our co-presidents have selected to give donations to the Brazos Valley Food Bank as this year's President Project. Please send checks made out to the A&M Garden Club, or to the Brazos Valley Food Bank and mail to our PO Box

Mail checks to:

A&M Garden Club - P.O. Box 10892, College Station, TX 77842

You can also give checks or cash to our Treasurer Susie during Plant Giveaways or Coffee Socials. She will issue receipts for cash.

Thank you for helping food-insecure households in our community through your kind donations.

A&M Garden Club

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

[A&M Garden Club Group: Horticulture, Design, Landscape & More](#)