



## A&M GARDEN CLUB

www.amgardenclub.com  
Facebook: @AMGardenClub  
Members of National Garden Club; South Central Region; Texas Garden Clubs & District V. Gold Club (TGC Designation)

### 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



# MARCH 2021

## NEWSLETTER

**CLUB MEETINGS** HELD SEPT-MAY – 2<sup>ND</sup> FRIDAYS 9:30-11:30 AM

### AMGC Board Meeting (via Zoom) –with Incoming Board Members

Friday March 5 at 9:30 am

### March Club Meeting (via Zoom)

Friday March 12 at 9:30 am – Business Meeting followed by Suzanne Milstead & Heather White's presentation on how to prepare horticultural entries for our Texas Our Texas Specialty Show.

### CLUB EVENTS

#### PILGRIMAGE to Brookwood

Potential date – March 19<sup>th</sup>. Details will be sent by email.  
(Chair: Michele Wehrheim)

#### PLANT GIVEAWAY at Peace Lutheran Church

Friday March 12 from 3:45-5:00 pm – Bring plants to share!  
Chair: Linda Kenyon

#### COFFEE SOCIAL

Coffee Socials are on hold.  
(Chair: Heather White)

### SMILE!

Spring will be here before you know it!

## CO-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*From Michele Wehrheim & Sherry Ellison*

*From Michele...*

Pete and I draped much of our landscaping and flower beds with frost covers but it seems we mostly ended up preserving the weeds. Now we are waiting to see what will come back to life and regrow in the coming weeks.

Hoping that all of you came through the deep freeze with no broken pipes or serious property damage. I am looking forward to watching the spring season unfold and getting back to my outdoor exercise routine.

The Brookwood luncheon trip plans fell victim to the wicked weather. I am going to try and reschedule for Friday March 19th at noon and will send an email to the entire club membership in the next week or so.

*From Sherry...*

The weekend before the Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> snow, I watched as one mockingbird tried to drive I robin and approximately 20 cedar waxwings from a clump of yaupon trees in my yard. It was a lost cause. All of the berries were eaten that afternoon.

On Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> I covered most of the vegetables in my raised beds. They stayed covered until Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>. Amazingly the mustard greens, spinach, and swiss chard stayed healthy! Most of the uncovered iris in the yard came through the cold just fine.

On Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> while walking in Richard Carter Park, I counted 68 robins between the flower beds and Brazoswood Rd. They were finding things to eat! Pink yarrow was blooming in the snow by the Information Center. Bluebonnet plants were healthy, and a large one was growing between the sidewalk and the cement edge of the flower bed. Plants in other beds showed the effects of the freeze and the snow and sleet.

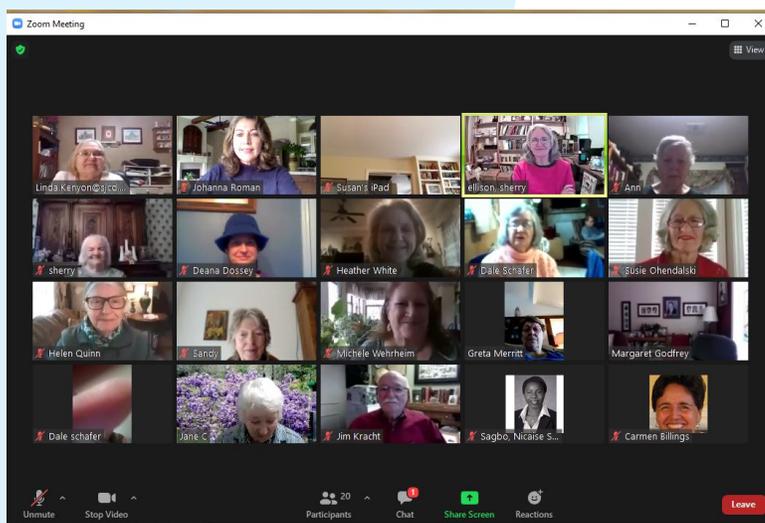
Observe your plants to see which ones are able to withstand the extreme cold weather. We can use that to predict which plants can survive both heat and freezing cold. That is important for choosing what to plant next at home and at the park.



*Sherry's covered raised beds helped protect her mustard greens and Swiss chard from the snow.*

## RECENT CLUB ACTIVITIES

More pictures of our activities are posted on our Facebook Page – See <https://www.facebook.com/AMGardenClub/>



**Club Meeting & Presentation** – We had a great turnout for our last meeting. Thanks for participating! Jim Kracht's presentation on Meditation Gardens was inspiring, especially now that we are thinking of helping renovate a prayer/meditation garden at St Joseph's Cancer Center in Bryan. You may see several pictures of that Meditation Garden on our Facebook page, shared by Linda Kenyon.



**Helping each other** – Cheryl Lewis asked for help moving native plant seedlings into a greenhouse before the icy storm hit! Three A&M Garden Club members and one friend worked together to save the seedlings from the snowstorm.

*Having fun moving plants to shelter!*

### What's growing on? –

Susie Ohendalski will now be monitoring our club's [AMGC4U@gmail.com](mailto:AMGC4U@gmail.com) email. We thank Susie for volunteering and thank Jane Cohen for all the years she spent doing this and for making this transition go smoothly.

We look forward to our next **Plant Giveaway** on March 12th at Peace Lutheran. Please bring your plants around 3:45 pm. We encourage our members to be creative and decorate plants (or bring materials to decorate them) for St. Patrick's Day, just to wish extra luck to those adopting our plants. You may use very simple materials like stickers, bows, green pipe cleaners, etc.



Our elected **new officers** will be installed on May 14, 2021. Thanks in advance to each of you for your service. It's not too late to volunteer to be Reporter or Historian. Please let us know if you are interested in any of these positions.

President  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Programs  
2nd Vice President - Yearbook  
3rd Vice President - Community Events  
4th Vice President – Hospitality  
Recording Secretary  
Corresponding Secretary  
Treasurer  
Parliamentarian

Michele Wehrheim  
Sherry Ellison  
Ann Gundy  
Sheila Sagbo  
Heather White  
Felicia Bacon  
Linda Kenyon  
Susie Ohendalski  
Susan Williams



## Garden Calendar – March

**PLAN:** Prepare 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 cuttings through May. Fertilize lightly each month until color shows in the bud. Use liquid fertilizer to force blossoms.

**PRUNE:** Finish pruning bush roses and dormant shrubs. Crepe myrtles may still be cut back one-third to one-half their height, but leave several buds to produce new shoots and to insure flowering. Prune any shrubs that have finished blooming.

**PLANT:** Cuttings taken from hardwood shrubs that have been pruned. Divide and reset cannas now. Canna beds need thinning every year for quality bloom. Set out plants of coral vine, dahlia, ferns, gerbera daisy, hibiscus, petunia, verbena. Seeds planted after March 10 should grow.

**FERTILIZE:** 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, since it could scald the plants. Trees may be fertilized this month. After fertilizing, be sure to mulch well. Also apply copperas or aluminum sulfate to gardenias. **DO NOT** fertilize grass this month as it is still partially dormant and cannot use the food, but the weeds can!

**INSECT AND DISEASE PROBLEMS:** Watch for red spider mites, aphids, thrips and bagworms. Begin looking for early-season leaf-feeding pests by the end of February and during March.

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

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

**VEGETABLES:** Sow directly radishes, lettuce, snap beans, dry beans, sweet corn, cucumber, okra, watermelon, and cantaloupes. Set out plants of tomato, eggplant and pepper plants and protect against frost.