

President 2022-2023
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1st VP-Programs Michele Wehrheim
2nd VP-Yearbook Linda Kenyon
3rd VP-Community Event Sherry Ellison
4th VP-Hospitality Greta Merritt
Recording Secretary Susan Williams
Corresponding Secretary Carmen Billings
Treasurer Susie Ohendalski
Reporter/Newsletter Jane Cohen
Historian-volunteer needed

Newsletter
January 2023



January 13, 2023 Meeting

Business: 9:30 am. Fellowship Room, Peace Lutheran Church, 2201 Rio Grande Blvd, CS
Program: 10:30 am, "Right Tree, Right Place" by Mickey Merritt, urban tree planting with an emphasis on native trees. Merritt was honored as the 2021 Texas Arborist of the Year, working in the industry for nearly 40 years and the last 20 or so as Urban & Community Forester for Texas A&M Forest Service. Native plants occur naturally in a particular region, ecosystem, or habitat without human introduction



Resources -
* <https://texasreeplanting.tamu.edu/viewalltrees.aspx>
* <https://brazosvalleygcd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Suggested-Landscape-Plants-for-Brazos-Robertson-counties.pdf>
* <https://www.wildflower.org/plants/>
Graphic from TFS

A&M Garden Club President's Message

As I write the message this month, I am observing my yard after a hard freeze for several days and much of it looks bad. Lots of dark dead areas on plants and most of my bulb foliage is a collapsed green mess. We are fortunate in the Brazos Valley to have these events rarely, and we had much less infrastructure damage and power outages than other areas of the country.

This month, we will have our usual meeting on January 13, 2023, and will have an Urban Forester from the Texas Forest Service do a program on "Right Tree, Right Place". If you have lost trees this past year due to our prolonged drought, or are landscaping areas in your yard, you don't want to miss this one. We will also feature the NGC Minute, and the Horticulture Tip as well as a Door Prize.

The coffee on 1/24/23 will be at Gogh Gogh Coffee, 2501 Texas Avenue S., in the strip mall at Southwest Parkway and Texas Avenue. There is no scheduled pilgrimage for January currently.

January is a good month to take stock and many folks commit to New Year Resolutions. I hope you will consider some resolutions to help your garden, your community, and your environment. Resolve to reduce, reuse, and recycle whenever possible. Resolve to minimize the chemicals you use for fertilizer, pesticide, and herbicide. Resolve to use the bare minimum of water for irrigation whether you live in a rural area with your own "well" or rely on a commercial provider because fresh water is one of our most precious resources worldwide. Resolve to plant native species whenever possible to prevent invasive species taking hold, and to prevent the loss of natural habitat and food sources for native animal species like birds and butterflies. Resolve to make every effort to be kinder, more forgiving, and more sensitive to the struggles of others - we do not walk their path and we all have our struggles. Finally, resolve to try at least one thing in garden club you haven't done before so that you can GROW & ENGAGE in 2023.



Heather White
AMGC President

Proposed Slate of Officers 2023-2024

The Nominating Committee (Sherry Ellison, Linda Kenyon, Susan Williams) propose the following members for officer positions in A&M Garden Club 2023-2024. Additional nominations from the floor will be taken at the 1/13/23 General Meeting, followed by voting. Thanks to the Nominating Committee for their hard work to those members who have agreed to serve.

President Linda Kenyon
1st V Pres: Programs Michele Wehrheim
2nd V Pres: Yearbook Ann Gundy
3rd V Pres: Community Event Sherry Ellison
4th V Pres: Hospitality Jan Porter
Recording Secretary Susan Williams
Corresponding Secretary Carmen Billings
Treasurer Susie Ohendalski
Reporter and Newsletter Jane Cohen
Historian Open, volunteer needed

Birthdays

7 Ann Gundy
11 Judith Schafer
13 Deana Dossey

21 Lou Hodges
29 Sherry Ellison

National Garden Club Ideas

NJ GC shared "Deck The Halls" with a Mistletoe Market, with an emphasis on fresh greens, flowers, handicrafts, natural materials, creatively re-purposing everyday items. The variety of trees could be an idea for next year - make and decorate small round trees and share with assisted living residents and community contacts.



December Pilgrimage to Old Fort Parker

Old Fort Parker has an annual "Christmas at the Fort" celebration. Old Fort Parker's Director is past TGC President Sara McReynolds. She hosts the Conservation School at Old Fort Parker, sharing conservation and the history, so that more local native (and imported) Texans will know the stories and why Old Fort Parker exists. Helen Quinn has a book about the park and the life of Quanah Parker and his life (extremely interesting)



December A&M GC Meeting

Michelle Wehrheim conducted business meeting and led the Gift Exchange. Jane Cohen gave the NGC minute - Merry Christmas. Khri Thurmond gave horticulture tip - strong trays for repotting. Door prize was Willow Tree Garden Angel donated by Judy Schafer and won by Lois Hyndman. Contact Khri if you can donate door prizes. Thanks to Helen & Johanna for mtg pictures.

