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3<sup>rd</sup> VP – Community Event – Linda K.  
4<sup>th</sup> VP- Hospitality – Sherry M.  
Recording Secretary – Susan W.  
Reporter – Jane C.  
Corresponding Secretary – Joni E.  
Treasurer – Susie O.  
Historian – Helen Q.



## NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2024

### **AUGUST RECAP:**

**August 9:** A&M Garden Club Annual Membership potluck luncheon. A good time was had by all – getting together with friends we haven't seen during the summer and catching up on the news! There was good attendance, great food, and lots of information as to what we can expect during of our club during the next few months.



1<sup>ST</sup> VP Michele W, President Jan P, Treasurer Susie O

## **CALENDAR**

**September 13** – AMGC Regular Meeting, 9:30 am, Peace Lutheran Church: Program by Lisa Whittlesey, “The Secret Language of Flowers”.

**September 16-17** Landscape Design School, Bush Library, CS \*

**September 17** – joint pilgrimage with members of the G.I.G. to the Antique Rose Emporium  
(watch for more information to come)

**September 27-29** Environmental School, Fort Parker, Mexia \*

**\*Application forms are also available on our website.**

**September 27<sup>th</sup>** – Coffee Social 9:30 am (come and go) IHOP in Bryan, 758 N. Earl Rudder Fwy.

**October 11**- AMGC Regular Meeting, 9:30 am, Peace Lutheran Church: Program by Marie Jenkins, “Roses are Herbs Too!”

**October 19** – Fall Festival at The Gardens at A&M. We will have children’s activities.

**October 30** – District V Fall Zone Meeting, Georgetown Community Center, Georgetown. Come car-pool with us! Registration forms will be available closer to the date.

Monthly activities are included in the Yearbook but are not always current due to changes in speaker schedules, new events being added, etc., but as these changes are made, the website calendar will be updated too!

### **ARE YOU FAMILIAR WITH THIS PLANT?**

According to PlantNet, the app I have on my phone, it is Balloon Vine (*Cardiospermum halicacabum*). I found it happily growing in one of my flower beds this morning. Per Wikipedia, within the United States, four southern states (Alabama, Arkansas, South Carolina, and Texas) have all placed this plant on their individual noxious weed lists, and I’ll be pulling it up first thing in the morning!!! It can easily and rapidly grow to over 30 ft. high, and will start blooming at about 25 ft. It has been used medicinally, the root being diuretic and demulcent. It is mucilaginous, but has a nauseous taste, and is used to treat rheumatism. Sanskrit writers describe the root as emetic, laxative, stomachic, and rubefacient; they prescribe it in rheumatism, nervous diseases, piles, etc. A mother tincture is often made from the flowering parts of the plant. This is also processed into creams and ointments. The green parts of the plant are eaten as vegetables.



**YOUTH CONTESTS:**

The date is fast approaching for the annual Youth Contests – Information was shared at the August meeting by Jane C., who will be needing help with judging etc. For those who weren't at the August meeting, here is a link to the brochure. Link is also on the AMGC web site, along with links to all the various entry forms.



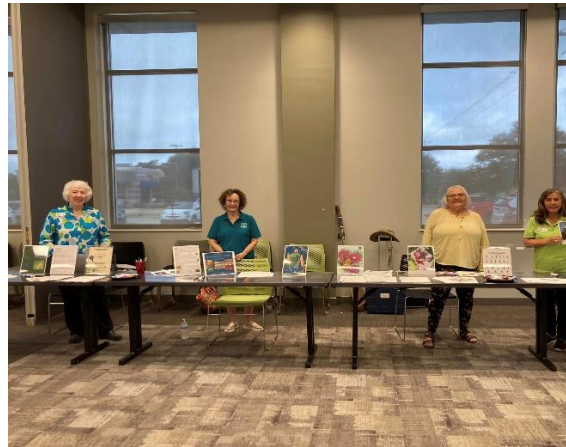
1ContestFlyerA3.pdf

Pass this information to schools in your local area, to any Home School moms you might know, to your grandchildren, next door neighbor's children, your Church's Youth Group/Daycare – to everyone!!!

We have some incredibly talented children in our area – let's give them all a chance to shine!!!

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August 31<sup>st</sup> at Larry Ringer Library, sharing information about Youth Contests during Smokey Bear's 80th Birthday party, and encouraging kids to submit their entries.



Jane, Jan, Linda and Johanna



**You get out of gardens what you put into them – Quote from the BBC on “Gardeners World”** In Texas September is not too late to plant veggies for winter enjoyment – here is a list of September jobs:

**PLAN:** To destroy all old stalks and leaves that shelter insects. Buy and refrigerate tulip, hyacinth, and narcissus bulbs for about two months. Prepare beds for strawberries and for early spring flowers. Divide violets if you have not already done so.

**PRUNE:** Dead stems on all plants.

**PLANT:** Bells of Ireland, cornflower, pansy, calendula, candytuft, carnation, delphinium, hollyhock, larkspur, sweet William, pinks, snapdragon, stock. Divide and replant iris.

**FERTILIZE:** Amaryllis. Give mums a feeding of liquid fertilizer now and keep well watered. Prepare beds for fall planting.

**INSECT AND DISEASE PROBLEMS:** Check for aphids, webworms, black spot and armyworms. Treat fire ants.

**WEATHER PROTECTION:** Keep well-watered to combat hot, dry weather.

**BLOOMING:** Cannas, day lilies, bedding begonia, hibiscus, roses, zinnia and many others.

**VEGETABLES:** Sow beets, carrots, chard, radishes, spinach, cucumber, lettuce, mustard, kale, turnips, collards and onions, basil and other herbs.

**REMEMBER: Our area has been “promoted” from Planting Zone 8b to 9a!!!**

It is also time to start planning for Spring Flowering bulbs such as Narcissus, Tulips, Hyacinths, etc. Try to order those that are specifically recommended for our area and remember that Tulips in particular need to be pre-chilled for a few weeks prior to planting. “Species Tulips” are not as picky, and are more reliable than the hybrids, but of course are not as flamboyant or showy!!!

