

President 2025-2027 – Jan Porter  
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## NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2026

### **DECEMBER RECAP:**

**12<sup>TH</sup>:** December meeting, potluck lunch, gift exchange



## CALENDAR

**9<sup>th</sup> January:** Regular Monthly Meeting. Program by Clint Weaver of R Weaver Apiary, Navasota on “Beekeeping for Pollination and Honey Production”.

**\*Coffee** at Stella Southern Café, 4040 Hwy 6 S, College Station. Date TBA.

**\*Community Concern Workshop** at Retirement Home, date and location TBA.

**9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> February:** **LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL, BUSH LIBRARY**

**13<sup>th</sup> February:** Regular Monthly Meeting. Program by Suzanne Milstead on “Where Birds Thrive, People Prosper”

**\*Coffee** at Sweet Eugene’s, 1702 George Bush Drive CS. Date TBA.

### MONTHLY GARDENING TASKS FOR THE BRAZOS VALLEY:

**PLAN:** Now is the time to order gladiolus and dahlia bulbs. Get seed beds ready for such seed as nasturtium, petunia, pinks, scabiosa and snapdragon. Start plants of snapdragon, stock and tomatoes in flats if you have a sunny spot where you can protect them from freezes.

**PRUNE:** If plants were injured by freezing, wait until all danger of further frost has passed before pruning.

**PLANT:** Shrubs, roses and seedlings. Gladiolus after Jan. 20, being sure to cover lightly with 4" soil.

**FERTILIZE AND MULCH:** Iris, crepe myrtle, trees, strawberries, day lilies

**INSECT AND DISEASE PROBLEMS:** Any plants showing scale should be sprayed with dormant oil. Hand pick bagworms to remove eggs that will hatch in May and June to re-infect host plants. Watch for aphids. Remove piles of plant debris which may harbor pests such as sow-bugs, pill-bugs, millipedes, caterpillars and beetle larvae.

**WEATHER PROTECTION:** If a freeze is predicted, cover tender plants and shrubs with boxes or plastic trash cans [not metal]. Heavy paper also works well. After the freeze, remove cover promptly. If some frost has touched the leaves, spray with water before the sun shines on them.

**BLOOMING:** Calendula, narcissus, pansy, jasmine, loquat, flowering quince, roses, many hardy annuals, perennials and Spring bulbs.

**VEGETABLES:** Sow directly in the garden: spinach, mustard, turnips, beets, English peas, carrots. Set out plants of cabbage and onion. Start inside plants of pepper, eggplant and tomato.

## **“SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW, SOMETHING BORROWED, SOMETHING NEW”**

Are you planting anything new this year? In a pot, in the ground, indoors, outside – now’s the time to search for seeds and make a start.

For me, something “old” which turned out to be too much maintenance and time- consuming would be Luffa so I probably won’t be planting them again this year. (If anyone would like seeds, let me know – I have thousands!!!)

Something “new” might be Aleppo Peppers, which are now in fashion, spicy but not so much that after one mouthful you have to make a dash to the bathroom for an ice-cold shower!!!

Something borrowed suggests that you might be expected to return it, so “does not apply”.

Something blue, for me, would have to be flowers. Last year I planted Camassia bulbs but none of them came up. However, this year I have a lot of unidentified bulbs beginning to break ground ..... “fingers crossed!!”.



Another favorite blue flower is Himalayan Poppy, but as the name suggests I don’t think it would do too well in our climate, so I haven’t even tried.



**HAPPY NEW YEAR**