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Corresponding Secretary – Linda K  
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## NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2026

### **FEBRUARY RECAP:**

**13TH:** February meeting, with great program by our own Suzanne Milstead, on "Where Birds Thrive, People Prosper".



**9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>:** Landscape Design School at The George bush Library, College Station.



**26<sup>th</sup>:** AMGC Coffee at Sweet Eugene's, College Station.



**Come to our monthly “Coffee Socials”, held at a variety of locations in Bryan and College Station – low key meet and catchup with your fellow Garden Club friends!!!!**

## CALENDAR – MARCH, APRIL, MAY

**March 2<sup>nd</sup>: District V Spring Meeting, Temple.**

**\*March 6<sup>th</sup>: AMGC Regular Meeting.** Program by Debbie Brooks, Master Gardener and Professional Florist, Pot Oak Florist Owner. “Environmentally Friendly Mechanics for Floral Designs”. 9:30 a.m.

**\*March 6<sup>th</sup>: Container Planting** at Peace Lutheran, 2:30 p.m.

**March 13<sup>th</sup>: Pilgrimage** to Herb Society Sale, 248 Jaster Rd., Round Top. 8:30 a.m.

**March 21<sup>st</sup>: Big Event,** Richard Carter Park, CS. Plant America with Wildflower Seeds in Wildscape Area. 9:30am.

**March 21<sup>st</sup>: Never Forget Garden Tomb of the Unknown Soldier** Work Day  
Brazos Valley Veterans’ Park, College Station. 8:30 a.m.

**AMGC Coffee,** TAVO Coffee, 419N. Main, #100, Bryan, **Date/Time TBA.**

**April 6-9: TGC Spring Convention,** Marriott Houston North Hotel, 255 Sam Houston Parkway, Houston

**April 10: AMGC Regular Meeting.** Program by Cheryl Lewis, AMGC Member, TAMU BS in Range Science and MA in Horticulture. Member Native Plant Society, Brazos Valley Master Naturalist, Native Prairies Association of Texas on “Invasive and Aggressive Plants”.

**April 17<sup>th</sup>: Pilgrimage** to Chappell Hill Lavender Farm, 2250 Dillard Rd, Brenham. 9:00 a.m.

**April 18:** 9:00am-2:00pm, Sat. Garden Tour and Plant Sale at Robert Martinez’s Garden. Members’ Potluck at noon.

**April 28-29: SCR Spring Convention,** The Menger Hotel, 204 Alamo Plaza, San Antonio.

**April ???: AMGC Coffee at Blue Baker.** Date/time TBA.

**May 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>: NGC Convention, St. Louis, Mo.**

**May 8<sup>th</sup>: AMGC Regular Monthly Meeting.** End of Year Highlights. A&M GC 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party. Potluck -bring a dish to share and guest to help eat it!!!!

**May 23<sup>rd</sup>: Plant Sharing** at The Green at Century Square, 175 Century Square Drive, College Station. Free parking in parking garage. Host booth, share plants and wild seeds.

**May Coffee-Sunbeam Bagels, 315 S. Main St Ste 114, Bryan. Date/time TBA.**

## **MONTHLY GARDENING TASKS FOR THE BRAZOS VALLEY:**

### **MARCH 2026**

**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. Seed 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; it will cause them to scald or rot. 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 mite, 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. It's that time of the year when many

## DID YOU KNOW???

It's that time of year – many of us are out in the garden on our knees, cursing the annual return of the “Spring Weeds”!!! I would (almost) be bold enough to say that they are all useful in their own ways, whether as edibles or topical applications!!! One of my favorite practical uses is for Broadleaf Plantain!!! This Salve is a great defense against bug attacks, bee stings, or brushes with poison ivy!!! It's a bit “fiddly” but has worked wonders for me!!!



1 cup fresh plantain leaves (chemical free!!!), chopped.

1 ½ cups olive oil or melted coconut oil

1 tablespoon+ 1 teaspoon grated beeswax, tightly packed.

½ - 1 teaspoon tea tree oil, optional!!

\*Clean, chop or grind leaves in a food processor. Place ground leaves in a clean, dry pint mason jar and cover with oil, completely covering the leaves.

\*Cover jars with cheesecloth kept in place by rubberbands.

\*Place kitchen towel in the bottom of your crockpot and put jars inside. Add enough water to cover about half the jar on lowest setting for 12-24 hours uncovered, adding water if needed to keep the slow cooker basin from drying out.

\*Strain the oil through cheesecloth or fine mesh sieve. Let oil sit for several hours.

\*Gently heat beeswax in double boiler. When melted, add plantain oil, taking care not to pour in any water that may have collected at the bottom of the jar. Stir until thoroughly mixed.

\*Pour salve into clean, dry containers, and allow to cool. Cover. Now you're ready for the next bug attack, bee sting, or brush with poison ivy!!!!