



A&M Garden Club Newsletter

President - Kaye Hobbs kphobbs@txcyber.com 936-870-3993

September 2010

President: Kaye Hobbs
1st VP Programs: Carolyn Guillotte
2nd VP Web/Yearbook: Sarah Barrick
3rd VP Flower Show: Heather White
4th VP Hospitality: Rose Smith
Treasurer: Kay Hamn
Recording Secretary: Judy Schafer
Corresponding Secretary: Idalia Aguilar
Treasurer: Kay Hamn
Reporter: Suzanne Milstead
Historian/Scrapbook: Sheila May & Lenora Patrenella
At Large: Clarice Bredthauer
Past President: Jane Cohen

Upcoming Events:

Sept 13 & 14 Landscape Design School, contact Suzanne Milstead 832-746-2875

Sept 17 9:30 A&M Garden Club Mtg, Dr. Joe Novak, Gardening & Contemplation, Hilton (Note - 3rd Friday)

Oct 1 10:00 Board Meeting, Hilton, Board Members

Oct 8 9:30 A&M Garden Club Mtg. Suzanne Milstead "Flower Arrangements Anyone Can Do"

Oct 11 & 12 Gardening Studies School, contact Jane Cohen 690-3500

DESIGN TIP:

Save interesting parts of dried plants - pods, stems, even roots! Check out the sale table at the meetings for unusual design items, and zone/district meetings almost always have great and inexpensive design components.

September 17th 9:30 a.m. - A&M Garden Club Meeting

(Please note that this meeting falls on the 3rd Friday of the month)

Speaker: Dr. Joe Novak - Gardening & Contemplation

Hostesses: Suzanne Milstead, Maryan Manson, Lenora Patranella

KAYE'S KORNER

Kaye Hobbs, President 2010-2011

Hello again A&M Garden Club members, prospective members, and friends: I know we are all looking forward to some cooler weather. Our August Social was wonderful and well attended. Special thanks to Sarah Barrick for hosting the event at her beautiful home. The refreshments were delightful looking and delicious. I was so happy that so many attended and participated. We were glad to have Margaret Lambert Ravey and her husband in attendance, and a guest, Willie May Ramsey.



I hope that everyone in our GC will feel welcome to be involved in whatever activity they enjoy. Everyone working together is the only way we can continue to have a successful club. Please, ladies, I am very concerned about our GC continuing to be an important community service organization, and us learning, sharing our knowledge and enjoying working together toward the betterment of our club and community.

Hope to see all of you at our September meeting which is one week later than usual.

September Birthdays:

Mary Staffel	Sept 2
Kris Walker	Sept 22
Lenora Patranella	Sept 23

SCRAP BOOK ITEMS

Do you have an item to go in the scrap book? Bring it to the monthly meeting.

Please be kind, turn it in on time! It's hard for the ladies to go back and insert late items after the pages have been designed.

WAYS & MEANS TABLE

Don't forget to bring your plants and/or gardening items for the Ways and Means Table available at each meeting.

Please price the items before you bring them to the meeting.

Thank you to all the A&M Garden Club members who sent cards, phoned and prayed for Margaret Ann White. She is scheduled for release from St. Joseph's Rehab center 8/27 and hopes to be at the September meeting.

PREPARING A POTTED PLANT FOR A BLUE RIBBON

Submitted by Suzanne Milstead



I love the blue ribbons that I get from flower show. Hillary liked hers, too, for the mint cutting she got. You, too, can easily get one as they give many in horticulture at the flower shows. And, it's not too early to get started.

One of the easiest ways to do this is to go to a nursery, now, and buy a house plant. Places like Martha's Bloomers have beautiful specimens. There are some simple things to do to keep it growing well until the show and have it for 90 days or more. First, check the growing tag or consult a reference to read the requirements for light, water, and fertilizer. Turn the pot weekly so that the leaves grow in an even manner. If a plant starts leaning toward the window, it is not getting enough light. Find another spot. Water when the soil is dry. Check with your finger about a ½ to 1 inch below the surface. Pour until water runs out the drainage holes. The goal is to thoroughly moisten the growing mix. With plants in a container, weekly or bi-weekly additions of liquid fertilizer might be necessary, but reduce the concentration by making a weak solution of ¼ strength. A trick that a nursery grower told me is they add the weak solution every time they water. Houseplants can thrive in your home environment given attention to their care. Always check for the plant's cultural needs and you, too, can win a blue ribbon!



Awards

If you have information on a project done in the past year that might be eligible for an award, contact Idalia Aguilar. She will need information no later than Sept. 30.

Youth Entries Due Oct 6

Encourage your children, grandchildren, church classes, scouts, 4-H, all youth from kindergarten through high school to enter the contests - poetry, posters, sculpture, essay, speech and distinguished service. More information is on the A&M GC web site at amgardenclub.org, then activities. Also scholarships applications from college students are due Sept 27, Oct 1, Nov 15, and Mar 1. Contact Jane C for more information.

GSS - Gardening Studies School IV is Oct 11 & 12

Several members are taking the series, also, so join us and learn more about Outdoor Identification of Plants - use keys to identifications of plant families. Study gardening styles - from shade to water, hot beds to cold frames, organic to greenhouses, herbs. Learn about growing wooding ornamentals and when and how to plant. Want to grow fruit - variety choices, planting times, training, and more. Learn home irrigation techniques and methods of delivery. Thanks to A&M GC for helping host: Hillary J - Treasurer, Sandra W - Proctor, and Clarice B and Carolyn G - Hospitality. Registration is due Oct 1. Jane C - Chair will have registration forms at the September meeting or they are online at the amgardenclub.org web page, activities.