



A&M Garden Club Newsletter

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

MAY 2011

A&M Garden Club Officers:

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
Reporter: Suzanne Milstead
Historian/Scrapbook: Sheila May & Lenora Patranella
At Large: Clarice Bredthauer
Past President: Jane Cohen

Upcoming Events:

- May 6** 10:00 A&M GC Board Meeting, Hilton Hotel
- May 13** 9:30 A&M GC Meeting Hilton Hotel
- May 27** 9:30 Brazos Valley Designers' Workshop, Reflective Design, Heather White's Home.
- May 28-30** NGC Spring convention Washington, DC
- June 11** NFA-WAFA Convention Boston, MA

TIP OF THE MONTH

Friendship is much like the garden. It must be tended carefully with the nutrients of conversation, laughter, and sharing, and a sprinkling of love. Regular attention must be paid to prevent the infiltration of weeds of indifference and abandonment which can choke it out. Protection from the harm of evil pests is sometimes needed. The poor steward ends up with a sadness and prickly briars. The rewards of tending to friendship is a beautiful blossoming and lifelong contentment. Make a new friend today and remind the old ones how much you value them. And we all know that like plants, you can never have too many friends!

UPCOMING MAY A&M GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Friday, May 13, 2011 9:30 am at the Hilton Hotel
Speaker: Lynda Kramer "Organics Made Easy"
Installation of New Officers
Hostesses: Dutch Treat Lunch

BUTTERFLY CONTAINER GARDEN WORKSHOP

The workshop was held on April 8th at Suzanne Milstead's home with Suzanne leading the workshop. After an informative introductory talk and a handout on host and nectar plants for our area and the butterflies that like them, Suzanne demonstrated a step by step container garden. Club members attending included: Sarah Barrick, Jane Cohen, Carolyn Guillotte, Kaye Hobbs, Hillary Jessup, Sheila May, Suzanne Milstead, Margaret Ann White, Heather White. Each member made their own to take home in their choice of several container styles and plant options. Plant choices included: green fennel (host for black swallowtails), Mexican Butterfly weed (host and nectar plant for monarchs), Penta, Mexican heather, Gregg's mistflower. Suzanne also made pots for Lenora Patronella and Norma Jean Stokes who could not attend. For a mere \$15 and 45 minutes of work we had a delightful container to take home! Kudos to Suzanne for a fabulous job of collecting materials and hosting a great program! Kudos also to Sarah Barrick for bringing potting soil for all to share.



May Birthdays:

Marge Watkins May 3
Sandra Williams May 6
Dian Jones May 8
Sheila May May 11
Idalia Aguilar May 16
Viola DeLaGarza May 29

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.

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

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

The A&M Garden Club celebrated Arbor Day by planting a tree in memory of Martha Wilhoit in the College Station Cemetery. The club was joined by members of Martha's family that included her daughter Marla Robinson, son-in-law Dr. Dane Robinson, granddaughters Christina Slough and Caitlin Robinson and great granddaughter



Coral Slough. Also joining the club were members of the La Villita Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and representatives from both Bryan and College Station city councils.

The celebration began with President Kaye Hobbs welcoming the guests and introducing Dave Ruesick, College Station Council Member Place 6 and Mike Southerland, Bryan Council member-at-large who each read an Arbor Day Proclamation from their respective mayor. Arbor Day Chairman Kay Hamn gave a history of Arbor Day and then invited attendees to speak about the honoree. Club members, Judy Schafer and Margaret Ann White, and family members shared their memories of Martha Wilhoit that included her love of gardening and the valuable contributions she made to the club.



Member Suzanne Milstead shared the history of "Susie's Tree Ministry". This is the story of member Carolyn Guillotte's personal attempts since 2005 to replenish our forests by giving away over 800 seedlings a year. Carolyn was given a conservation award of merit from the Texas Society, DAR for her efforts and has been written up in the *Lone Star Gardener*.

After the Gardener's Prayer and the singing of Amazing Grace a Tuscarora Crepe Myrtle donated by Brazos Valley Tree Farm owned by Barron and Kaye Hobbs was planted with the help of Martha's family.



Helping to plant the tree donated to the College Station cemetery in honor of Martha Wilhoit for the A&M Garden Club's Arbor Day celebration are Martha's great granddaughter Coral with her mother Christina Slough.

2011 A&M GARDEN CLUB FLOWER SHOW - "EASTER PARADE: FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES"

The show was held on April 5th at The Carriage Inn free and open to the public from 12:30-3:30 with The Carriage Inn providing snacks and beverages. Kaye Hobbs was Honorary Chairman and Heather White was the Flower Show Chairman. The theme-primarily by focusing on Peter Rabbit & Alice in Wonderland-was carried through the show from a art poster at the entry by Idalia Aguilar, to the many darling



decorations shared by Eugenia Williams, to the floral arrangements of donated floral material from Sam's Club created by Norma Jean Stokes and Idalia Aguilar. An extensive thank you letter detailing the show and winners was sent by Heather White shortly following the show. She would like to again express her thanks to the entire club for the extraordinary effort of all the Committee members, and for all club members who helped with setting up the show and made entries into horticulture, design, and educational exhibits. The Carriage Inn Residents also supplied some horticulture and Easter Hats and Easter Eggs from Garden Therapy Workshops were on display as Artistic Crafts. Holiday Excellence Award went to Suzanne Milstead, Designer's Choice Award to Sheila May, and Award of Horticultural Excellence to Norma Jean Stokes. There were many 1st place winners and several section winners in Horticulture as well. The show was very well attended.

JUDY SCHAFER SHARES THE HOLISTIC GARDEN WITH BEN MILAM STUDENTS

The Holistic Garden at Texas A&M University, under the direction of Dr. Joe Novak, is a TGC project and supported by our club members monetarily and in sweat equity. Judy Schafer is a regular volunteer and shared her recent



experience on April 20, with 120 students from Ben Milam Elementary in Bryan. Students toured the greenhouses and gardens with an opportunity to smell the herbs, discuss their uses, and taste an herb spread. They also saw the decorative panels in the garden and viewed some wildlife. They tasted fresh English peas and smelled the compost area. They learned about some medicinal plants like yarrow and foxglove, and the culinary orchid that is the source for vanilla bean. Many of the students spoke Spanish as a primary language and the teacher served as an invaluable interpreter to help Judy share her love of the garden.

MEXIA FLOWER SHOW

Judy Schafer, Master Judge, Heather White, and Suzanne Milstead, student judges, were delighted to be invited to judge the Mexia Flower Show on April 30. It was a fabulous show with a School Daze theme staged in their high school library. A&M Garden Club members are encouraged to attend other Flower Shows held in our area.

