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1st VP Programs Heather White
2nd VP Web Sally Koestler
3rd VP Flower Show Suzanne Milstead
4th VP Hospitality Eugenia Williams
Treasurer Angelika Hoepfl
Recording Sec. & Yearbook Sarah Barrick
Corresponding Sec. Idalia Aguilar
Reporter Millie Parrack
Historian Kay Hamm
Parliamentarian Mary Ann Taylor
Ways & Means Hillary Jessup
Co Publicity Kaye Hobbs
Co Historian Geneva Eubanks

Newsletter October 2009

October 9 Meeting

Cynthia Mueller, retired TAMU Horticultural Dept., speaks on "Growing and Giving Bulb Plants for the Holidays", 9:30 am, Senior Circle Rooms, 2nd floor, CS Professional Bldg II, 1651 Rock Prairie Road, CS.

Melanie Welch, Texas Bluebird Society, Mini Topic is "Bluebird Nesting". Hostesses are Mary Ann T, Sheila M, and Judy S.

Business: Yearbooks are available - pick your book up at the meeting from Sarah B. The Polly Hatcher Memorial Scholarship recipient, Taylor Paine, will be introduced.

Survey for officer positions for next year will be done. The job descriptions are listed in the yearbook on page 33-34.

Events

Sept 29 Zone mtg turkey decorations, Lenora P
Oct 1 Scrapbook committee meeting
Oct 2 Daffodils, 2nd grade Forest Ridge School
Oct 5 Bluebird & Pink Birdhouses presented at Men's Garden Club and Ladies' Evening Club
Oct 13 Zone III meeting in Gonzales
Oct 14 Pilgrimage to Bluebonnet Herb Farm
Oct 15 & Nov 1 Scholarship applications due
Oct 15-16 GSS - 19 have signed up. Late registrations accepted until October 9.
Oct 21-24 TGC in Texarkana
Oct 27 Bluebird Committee meeting
Oct 29 Zone I meeting in Temple
Nov TBA Zone & Board Committee meeting
Nov 13 Bluebird Order Forms due
Nov 17 Zone II meeting - A&M GC hosts

President's Letter

Dear Garden Club Friends,

Happy Birthday to the A&M GC.



Congratulations to Suzanne M, Sheila M, & GC member helpers on the successful Landscape Design School in September. Suzanne and Sheila coordinated the school for 148 gardeners, and, as Idalia said - "reorganized, activated and introduced new "changes" that were for the betterment of the Landscape Design School. Idalia said several commented on the great camaraderie that is evident in our GC and how much we enjoy working together, from making coffee to helping correct the exams, it was an example of good friends working together. This teamwork is the definition of the GC movement and it still amazes me, for it is a true showcase of what volunteerism is all about!"

If you are willing to serve on the nominating committee to be appointed Oct 9, please notify me. If you are willing to serve as an officer next year, please let me know. We always want volunteers for officer and committee positions. If you are considering serving, talk with the person in that position now. They will be glad to train you to follow them during this year.

Thanks again to Idalia A for all of the GC Award packets. Thanks to Lenora P, the committee and members who helped do the turkeys for Zone. Idalia A will present Holistic Garden and Jane C will present Daffodils at the Governor's Mansion at the TGC Board in Texarkana Oct 21-23.

Jane Cohen, A&M Garden Club President



Meet Sarah Barrick

Sarah Renee Barrick is married to Murray, has 2 daughters, Jennifer 18 and Courtney 21, both in college.

Sarah has her own business, Sites by Sarah, doing web design and maintenance. The family moved to College Station 3 years ago from Iowa when her husband accepted a position at TAMU Mays Business School, Dept. of Management.

Sarah learnt to appreciate gardening at an early age. Her family owned a farm in Iowa, and she helped pulling weeds. Her favorite part was eating freshly picked tomatoes and carrots. She still prefers vegetable gardening over flowers and is specially fond of Cherry Tomatoes.

By Angelika Hoepfl



Judges Symposium

Judy S and I dalia A attended the Symposium for Handbook Updates for flower shows, study of creative designs using frames; panels & pave; begonias, cacti & succulents in San Antonio Sept 20-22.

Daffodils

The yellow-yellow daffodil variety recommended for this area is Carlton. We decided not to order Golden Harvest, since it is not recommended for our area. I dalia A donated daffodils for the pots for the Zone meeting, Jane C to Wellborn Landscaping Project, and Suzanne M, Judy S, Jane C and Geneva E to the 2nd graders project at Forest Ridge Elementary.

Community

Elmer Krehbiel (Assoc. GC Member) & Judy S (right) judge horticulture, Burluson County Fair, Sept. 24th.

Margaret Ann W presented the A&M GC Horticulture



Award to Emily Smith, Wixon Valley 4-H, on Sept 13 at the 2009 Brazos County 4-H Achievement Banquet at Brazos Center. Rachel Mohr also attended. Emily's parents are John & Dana Smith.

Responsibilities Defined

Hostess Responsibilities, Membership and Honorary Categories and Courtesy Guidelines were approved by the Board and announced at the Sept GC meeting. Questions - contact Eugenia W about Hostess, Ellen P for Membership, and Ruth B about Courtesy needs.

"Coffee Ground Compos

By Suzanne Milstead, Master Gardener



Many of us start the day with a cup of brewed coffee or tea. But, you don't throw away the leftovers. Recycle the grounds, filters, bags and all into your garden.

So, what's in the coffee for use by plants or the soil? It's a slow release fertilizer with nitrogen and other minerals and slightly acidic - a boon for our alkaline soil.

How might you use them? Sprinkle the damp grounds around plants. Add them to the compost pile to increase the nitrogen balance. It can also be mixed into the soil in vegetable gardens or flowering beds. Use the grounds as mulch around plants, especially those acid loving ones and container grown plants. Dilute the grounds with water for a liquid fertilizer. Use a half-pound can of wet grounds to 5 gallons of water. Let it sit outdoors for a couple of days and then water your plants. Some even dilute their left-over brewed coffee each morning and add to plants.

Doing this simple act makes you a 'green' gardener and a model recycler for family, neighbors and friends. Brew up a cup and take the leavings to the plants!

Zone Decorations

Thanks for making the turkey decorations for the Zone mtg to Lenora P and GC members Sarah B, Kaye H, Angelika H, Hillary J, Judy S, Mary Ann T, Heather W, Margaret Ann W, Sandra W.



Happy Birthday - October

20 Ruth B, 25 Mary Jane B, 29 Martha W, 31 Millie P
A&M GC started Oct 1936, federated early 1937.

Happy Birthday - Summer

Please tell the following happy birthday, since we didn't have summer birthday greetings. June 25 Sally K, 26 Angelika H; July 13 Ellen P, 22 Hillary J; Aug 4 Heather W, 11 Delma C, 17 Rose S, 28 Norma Jean S.

Gardening Study School

Dr. Joe Novak will teach Course II of the GSS October 15-16. Registration form is on the A&M GC web page. Sign up by Oct 9. Sign up list on Friday to help with hostess duties and sit in on the classes.

Communication

* This newsletter is sent by postal mail by Corr. Sec. I dalia Aguilar to those without e-mail.

* Send your items and suggestions before the end of each month to <j-cohen@aggienetwork.com>. Newsletter is sent to members, prospective members, friends.