

President Idalia Aguilar
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1st Co VP Mary Ann Taylor, Sandra Williams
2nd VP Yearbook/Web Sally Koestler
3rd VP Flower Show Idalia Aguilar
4th VP Hospitality Norma Jean Stokes
Recording Secretary Mary Staffel
Corresponding Secretary Judy Schafer
Treasurer Ellen Pullen
Treasurer Intern Angelika Hoepfl
Reporter Jane Cohen
Co-Historians Helen Quinn/Suzanne Milstead

Newsletter April 2008

Next Meeting

Friday, April 11, 9:30 am (2nd Fri. of month)
Exit Teen Center, 1600 Rock Prairie Road, C.S.
Program - "Roses for the Brazos Valley"

by Dr. Doug Welsh

Activities: Horticulture Sales Table, "What's
New in Horticulture", Bring Butterfly Plants and
Items, Assemble Pot et Fleur, Dues \$15.

Board - Current & Incoming Board met April 2

New Members

* Sharon Jasper, 10820 Deer Run, CS 77845,
Aug. 29, 774-0791, <sj.jasper@mail.utexas.edu>

Pot et Fleur Preparations

After the meeting on April 11, each member may assemble commercial style basket which have "in pot" potted plants. Bring the following, if you have: 2 or 3 small potted plants, your basket, 1 or 2 "bling-blings" (a lady bug, frog, bee, anything whimsical or cute) to decorate your basket, newspapers/tissue paper/foam peanuts to hold the pots, moss to cover the newspapers, card with scientific and common plant names, flower picks/tubes/oasis to insert fresh flowers (thanks to Idalia for the maroon roses), cutter for rose stems, etc.



Traditional style baskets were assembled in a fun workshop last month at America's Country Store, with demonstrations by Anne Daleon. Making baskets were Idalia A., Clarice B, Mary Jane B, Jane C, Suzanne M, Ellen P, Judy S, Mary Ann T, and Sandra W.

Arbor Day Memorial - Friday, April 18

Mrs. Bennie (Evelyn Lois Pullen) Allen
Mar. 10, 1920 - Aug. 1, 2007

Idalia A., Delma C. and Ellen P. are planning the memorial ceremony for Apr. 18, 10:30 am, Bryan Restever Cemetery, 5103 N Texas Ave, B. If you can help, contact Idalia: need printed agenda/program booklet, two dozen red carnations, music, proclamation for Arbor Day from the city of College Station and Bryan, etc. Jane C will provide crepe myrtle. Evelyn was A&M Garden Club President 1982-83 and served in many offices.



President's Letter

Dear Garden Club Friends:

While spring graces our highways with Bluebonnets and many other Wild Flowers, Garden Club members are busy nurturing the soil, planting seeds and transforming their home gardens into individual canvases that contribute to the beauty of our community.

This is also the time of the year when Garden Clubs all over our Nation meet to take care of business and to present awards recognizing activities, projects and outstanding programs. At the District V meeting our A&M Garden Club received a total ten First Places, a Citation for Club Service and the recognition of providing seven donations. Ladies, again you have excelled! Congratulations! As we wait for State and National Conventions in April....again we wonder if we will get an award or two.

This month we are privileged to have a renowned speaker, Dr. Doug Welsh, who will present the program "Roses for the Brazos Valley, this is a unique opportunity for us to learn how to cultivate our national flower. Following the program we will assemble the Pot et Fleurs to be sold during parents day at TAMU. Please mark your calendars for this very special Garden Club day and remember to bring baskets, newspapers, decorations and your lunch. Get ready to have fun!

Idalia Aguilar





Pocket Butterfly Garden

Suzanne Milstead and Judy Schafer are coordinating the development of Pocket Butterfly Garden with the Preschool Classes at First Baptist Church, 2300 Welch, CS, working with Kim Latterman, Preschool Director.

A&M Garden Club members are asked to bring to the April 11 meeting: butterfly host and nectar plants along with other butterfly needs. We will plant our butterfly plants and other native plants in four "barrels", to go in their garden area, possibly the week of April 16.

Suzanne and Judy will present 3 short, interactive age appropriate classes to the students on butterfly needs, life cycle, etc., scheduled in the gardens on April 23 & 25. Each class and teacher will receive packet of seeds and supplies for children to make headbands with antennae, butterfly shapes to color, stickers, and home fact sheets.

TV Star

Congratulation and thanks to Angelika Hoepfl who was the guest on Brenda Simms March 31 Noon KBTX -TV Show, publicizing the A&M Garden Club's upcoming April 12 Pot et Fleurs Show and Sale at TAMU. She was great!

Dues Due

Dues for the GC are \$15 and payable now. Give your check to Ellen P. so she will have them before the state deadline. Calendars are available for \$5.

District V Meeting in Waco

Congratulations to the A&M Garden Club for the honors received at the March 13 meeting. Attending were Idalia A., Kay H., and Angelica H.

TGC Spring Convention in Kileen

"Heroes, Cowboys and Wildflowers" will be the theme April 6-9 at the 80th Spring Convention in Kileen, Shilo Inns. Attending: Idalia A., Delma C., Jane C., Suzanne M., Judy S. One day registrations are available. Come join us.

Calendar

April 6-9, Killeen, 80th TGC Spring Convention
April 11 - Deliver Pot et Fleur to A&M Hort Bldg
April 12, 9 -11:30 am, Pot et Fleur, TAMU Hort. Atrium
A&M Garden Club Spring Show: Baskets, programs, sale
9:00 am to 11:30 am - Display of Baskets
Demonstrations on Making a Pot et Fleur
10:00 Aggie Specials by Idalia Aguilar
10:30 Herbs by Heather White
11:00 Succulents by Delma Cassaro
9:30 to 11:30 Sales and Basket Pick Up
April 18, 10:30 am - Memorial Evelyn Allen
May 9, Regular Meeting, Program Floral Arrangements, Officer Installation
June 1-7 National Garden Club Week
June 5, Killeen, District V Workshop
July 1, TGC Gardener of the Year nomination due



Summary of March 14 Meeting

Sheila McQueen, Brazos Valley Solid Waste Management Agency program coordinator, spoke on "Composting", with tips on nature's recycling system and ways to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rebuy and Rot. A handout covered items discussed. Questions were answered and much beneficial information ensued. A Master Gardener Composting Class - March 19, 20, 23.

Helen Quinn, Horticultural Chairman, presented handouts on two horticultural specimens: Pot Marigold, *Calendula officinalis*, and the Pumpkin Tree, Chinese Scarlet Eggplant. A Mock Tomato, *Solanum integrifolium*, with seedlings from Judy Schafer and Sandra Williams was distributed to members.

The Pot et Fleur show and sale will be April 12, TAMU Horticulture Atrium, from 10 am to 12 noon. Judy Shafer reported on the March 7 basket making demonstration at American Country Store. Norma Jean Stokes brought baskets for use in creating additional pot et fleur baskets at the April 11 meeting. Idalia Aguilar presented a big bouquet of maroon long-stemmed roses, for each member to take one home, and said that her daughter would furnish 100 of these roses for the April basket creations.

A program survey from Suzanne Milstead was distributed to plan for next year. Kay Hamn, Angelica Hoepfl, and Idalia Aguilar attended the District V meeting in Waco and special mention was made of the 13 merit awards earned by our Club.

President Idalia Aguilar's discussed memorials for Polly Hatcher, a longtime member. Seeds were collected for the Seeds for Life basket to help developing countries. Norma Jean Stokes was thanked for the hostess table at each meeting.

Thank you notes were read from Viola de la Garza, the Landscape Design Course (\$200), and Iraq for seeds. President Idalia Aguilar conducted the meeting at the Exit Center with 18 members and 5 visitors. The invocation was given by Vice President Mary Ann Taylor. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag was led by Mary Ann Taylor and Idalia Aguilar. Recording Secretary, Mary Staffel, submitted the minutes of the February meeting. Angelika Hoepfl gave Treasurer's report, reminding members that the annual membership dues are due at the April meeting. Ellen Pullen, Treasurer, distributed design calendars.

Communication

* This newsletter is sent by postal mail by Corr. Sec. Judy Schafer to those without e-mail.
* Send your items and suggestions by the end of each month to <j-cohen@aggienetwork.com>, Newsletter Editor. Newsletter is sent monthly to members and prospective members and friends. <<http://www.sallysfamilyplace.com/Clubs/GardenClub.htm>>