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4th VP Norma Jean Stokes
Rec Sec Mary Ann Taylor
Corr Sec Judith Schafer
Treasurer Ellen Pullen
Historian Sandra Williams
Reporter Jane Cohen

Newsletter October 2006

Next Meeting

October 13, 9:30 am.
Program - "Green House Horticulture"
by Sharon Bannister, Master Gardener.

Sharon will take us on a walk thru tour of the Horticulture Department's plant collection that she maintains for TAMU for identification and propagation. She has representatives of 30+ plant families: 20 different ficus, numerous cactus, ferns (her speciality), some orchids, etc. If you have an unusual plant to share, bring it to her. If she already has it, it can be in the plant exchange after the meeting.

The "Old Greenhouse" (i.e. Floriculture #140) is located at the corner of Lamar and Nagle. Parking is very limited. Meet at Exit Teen Center, 1600 Rock Prairie Road, CS, and car pool to TAMU Greenhouses. When you come up to the gate, tell them you are going to the Old Horticulture Greenhouse. If you have problems at the entrance gate, call Sharon at 845-8553 or 204-2464.

Business Meeting at TAMU after tour.

Award Applications

Several members are working on Awards. Idalia Aguilar & Judy Schafer provided training Sept. 20 on Award Requirements for Mary Stafel - Garden Week, Sally Koestler - Web Page and Yearbook, Sandra Williams - Scrapbook, Jane Cohen - Arbor Day, Civic Development, Plant Texas, Communication and Publicity. Other entries will be History, Membership, etc. See - <http://www.texasgardenclubs.org/awards.html>.

President's Letter

A proposal for the Blue Star Memorial Marker has been sent to Veterans Athlete Complex. So far, everyone agrees that it is a proper way to honor our Military forces and a statement to celebrate our 70 years. We hope our proposal is accepted!

Board meeting is Wednesday, Oct. 11, 9:30 am, Delma Cassaro, 3512 Pioneer Circle, Bryan.

The TAMU Women's Social Club Gardening Interest Group will view the gardens at the Southern Living Idea House - Traditions, off Villa Maria West/1179 on October 17, 9:30 am.

After the tour with Alan King, the show home will be open, by special arrangement, for those who may wish to tour the home. The \$5 fee for the Home Tour helps benefit St. Joseph Foundation. Please let Linda Wickman, GIG President, know how will join their tour at 694-3820 or wickmanohana@hotmail.com.

Celebrating 70 Years of Service 1936/37 - 2006/07

The A&M Garden Club was started in October 1936, with 17 members the first month. Dues were fifty cents. The club met on the A&M campus, speakers were TAMU specialists. Planting redbud tree seeds and trees and plant exchanges were one of their first interests. The Flower show featured chrysanthemums. Federation was granted in early 1937. In May, a garden party was held in the formal gardens of the Administration building with flower arrangement exhibits in the rotunda.

Upcoming Events

Oct 11 Ernesto Velez Koppel of Colombia will lecture on his country's flower industry at TAMU, including formation of the Colombian flower association, current activities and plans for the future. Contact Tammy Landry, program coordinator, at t-landry1@tamu.edu or 845-7342.

Oct 19-21 TGC Fall Convention, El Paso Refer to Lone Star Gardener for program.

Oct 28 Oktober Gartenfest Symposium, Winedale, near Round Top. If you'd like to travel together, contact Sandra Williams. See: <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/southerngarden/GFAnn06.html>

Nov 1 Awards Due to District

Nov 2 Zone II Meeting, 9 am - 3 pm, McGregor Garden Club, The Main Place, 315 Main Street (South Main), McGregor Business meeting in am, Lunch by Catering on Main, Program - Charlotte Weiss, 2nd VP of McGregor GC, Raffle, Door Prizes, Shop at Plants & Things. Pre-registration by Oct 20, Name, Address, Phone #, e-mail, \$16 check, payable to McGregor GC, Lavonne Westbrook, Treasurer, 125 Crockett St., McGregor, TX 76657. Late registration and at the door \$18.

Nov 11 and 12 Texas Gourd Society, 11th annual "Show and Tell" at the Waco Convention Center, 9 am to 5 pm on Saturday and from 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday. Show will include gourd artists, seminars, demonstrations and much more. Admission is \$5 for adults. For information, visit www.texasgourdsociety.org.

Newsletter

Welcome to this first edition of the revised A&M Garden Club newsletter. We're trying a new format; please let us know what you like and suggestions for improvement. Send your items and suggestions each month to Jane by the end of each month. From: Newsletter Editor Jane Cohen, j-cohen@aggienetwork.com

Keep Brazos Beautiful Fall Sale

Brazos Beautiful will offer Trees this fall. The A&M Garden Club planted Redbud Trees and seeds their first year. As a part of our 70th Anniversary celebration, we can make a joint order, if enough members are interested in planting a tree at home or donating for Habitat for Humanity homes or Keep Brazos Beautiful projects. Plants, in 5-gallon containers, are \$17 per plant. If you order five plants from Keep Brazos Beautiful, you'll get one more free. Groups may take orders and receive \$3 per plant ordered. Orders must be placed before the Oct 23 deadline. All plants must be picked up Oct 28, 9 am to 2 pm at the parking lot in Wolf Pen Creek Park. If a member wants to coordinate this, a sign up list could be available at the meeting, which would make the trees about \$15 each, plus the \$3 rebate. For other information about the sale, call 776-6227 or visit www.keepbrazosbeautiful.org.

A&M Garden Club

The A&M Garden Club met on September 8 at the Exit Center. Judy Schafer spoke on Butterflies, using pictures of butterfly, larva, and catapillar, and a live caterpillar feeding on a cassia plant. Members were given two handouts, prepared by Judy Schafer and Sandra Williams: Native & Naturalized Nectar Plants for Butterflies for Brazos County for each season and Brazos County Plants for Butterflies for Caterpillars.

President Idalia Aguilar welcomed members and prospective members. Jo Ann Cermin led the Flag Pledge. Delma Cassaro introduced speaker. Yearbooks, by Sally Koestler, were distributed to 24 members. Ellen Pullen, Treasurer, accepted dues from new members and donations from members' shared plant sales.

Mary Ann Taylor, Secretary, listed continuing projects of Brazos Beautiful, Hospice, Penny Pines, Habitat, and Arbor Day. New projects for the 70th year celebration were accepted. Helen Quinn, Horticulture, showed Tweedia, a milkweed plant for texture, color and butterflies.

Jane Cohen, Reporter, showed new membership brochure. Mary Staffel reported on National Garden Club Week display in two libraries. Ruth Bertrand, Cheers Chair, reported. Judy Schafer, Awards, will provide training on September 20.