



Spring is time to Get Involved!!

Spring is the time for blossoming. The Austin Herb Society is blooming with new ideas to fit our ever changing lives and interests. In our March Board Meeting, we discussed how to make our club more vital to all our members. Some of the changes include regular Field Trips, better volunteer efforts in our gardens, and replacing the Study Group with an Herb Tip of the Month at the regular meetings.

We will be asking YOU to share your skills by signing up for these opportunities to learn and grow. At the next meeting we will be vigorously recruiting you, so please be thinking of what you have to offer. You could study an herb, write a handout, and be the next Herb Tip of the Month presenter. You might call members once a month to work in the Zilker or Mayfield Gardens, think up and organize a field trip, or become an officer. These things are easy, fun, and great learning opportunities.

We have openings for the following officers – AAGC representative, Treasurer, and Membership Chair. AAGC representative meets with the Garden Council on the 2nd Tuesday morning of each month and relays pertinent information to the general meeting. Membership compiles the address lists, hosts the membership table each month, and keeps the membership lists updated. Treasurer is responsible for keeping the books, paying our dues to the Garden Council, issuing money for expenses, and paying our taxes. These are all key positions that YOU might help us with. We will be installing new officers in May, so please contact us if you feel this is where your skills lie.

When you join us, you agree to participate, and we as a group agree to participate in the Austin Area Garden Council events as well. You have some great opportunities the remainder of this year and next. If you try volunteering once, you will do it again. It's fun, you meet great people, you learn a lot, and give something back. The principal thing that we need now is your energy. You are the nurturing life force of our group. Don't let us wither on the vine.

"Gardens are not made by singing "Oh, how beautiful" and sitting in the shade." – Rudyard Kipling

Growth and happiness,
Cindy Phillips and Andra Millian
Co-Presidents AHS

Tuesday, April 3, Monthly Meeting, 9:30am-12:00 at Zilker Garden Center

The Lemon Herbs

Henry Flowers, Director of Gardens and Grounds at the International Festival Institute at Round Top, Texas will come and tell us about all the wonderful lemon-scented herbs, including the International Herb of the Year, Lemon Balm.

Wednesday, April 11, Study Group, 7 to 9 PM at Zilker Garden Center

Andra Millian, AHS co-president, Doctor of Oriental Medicine and licensed Chinese Herbalist will be talking about easy Chinese herbs for the Texan medicine cabinet. Andra says there will be party favors!

Friday, April 20, Culinary Group will meet from 10am until 12 at the American Botanical Council, 6200 Manor Road.

It's all about Indian food and spices this month. Come learn how to put a little zing in your meals. Call Sandra at 258-4643 for more information.

Tuesday, April 10, Zilker Park Herb Gardening Day is the 2nd Tuesday of the month starting at 9:30am.

Come out and enjoy this lovely spring weather while it lasts. Contact Judith at 944-2787 for more information.

Tuesday, April 24, Mayfield Park Gardening Day is the 4th Tuesday of each month starting at 9:30am.

The Mayfield Garden really needs your help so call Julie at 339-0193 about helping beautify this lovely central Austin garden.

Your help is desired and needed in both our gardens so come on out and help.

AHS Business, Updates and Related Announcements

Thank You!

A special thank you to Molly Ogorzaly for packing up all her gear and bringing it in to show how to dye eggs with natural materials in March. They are a lovely alternative to all those colors not found in nature that we usually see this time of year.

AHS Members Garden Tour Saturday, April 28 8:30am until . . .

This year the garden tour will start with breakfast at AHS sponsor American Botanical Council. After that we will visit Lucinda Hutson's beautiful little hideaway in Rosedale. We'll end up at Ellen Zimmermann's lovely country garden. Sign up at the monthly meeting or call Robin Carter for more information at 288-2296.

Books for Sale

We want to remind current members and let new members know about the great deal we have with Book Marketing Plus. We get a great selection of gardening, cooking and herbal health books at 35% off retail, plus some specialty books such as gardening with kids as they are available. Our wonderful book maven, Susan Norwood, is also looking for more sources for an even broader selection. Since Henry Flowers will be telling us about lemon herbs in April, we will have on hand copies of *Lemon Herbs* on growing and using 18 lemon-scented and flavored plants and *Southern Herb Growing* by Round Top's own Madalene Hill and Gwen Barclay. This is a classic for the central Texas area that we all should have on our gardening shelf. For the kitchen, we have a little cookbook, *More of What's Cooking*, has good, heart-healthy, fun-to-make recipes originally developed for the Cooper Clinic in Dallas. Check them out at the merchandising table in April.

Acupuncture Medical & Research Centre Open House

On April 27th from 3:30pm until 8:00pm, the Acupuncture Medical & Research Centre will be having it's Grand Opening Celebration. They are Austin's only acupuncture medical center that was built using green, eco-friendly, non-toxic products. The open house will be held in conjunction with Earth Day (April 22) and Arbor Day (April 27) and they will be presenting an honorary award to former mayor, Gus Garcia for his contributions to Acupuncture insurance coverage for City of Austin employees and his service to the Texas State Board of Acupuncture Examiners. They will also be collecting canned goods and monetary donations to benefit Caritas of Austin.

There will be food & drinks, and fabulous conversation and every half hour they will give away door prizes. These will

include certificates for acupuncture, facials, massage, non-surgical facelifts, movie tickets, tote bags, t-shirts, and blue-jean shirts.

Celebrate with them and meet the newest members of their team at 11673 Jollyville Road, Suite 201. (512) 336-7424. Map: <http://www.acupunctureaustin.com/map/directions.pdf>.

Mary Dickson Albrecht June 4, 1930 – March 24, 2007

Everyone was saddened to hear of the passing of Mary Albrecht last month. Mary was the sister of AHS member, Pat Lewis and the sculptor responsible for the Rosemary statue in the AHS herb garden at Zilker.

Mary passed away peacefully at home in the presence of loving family members. She was born in Dothan, Alabama to parents Leon Lowe and Luella James Dickson. Mary was preceded in death by her daughter Channa Marie and her parents. She is survived by husband Robert of Austin, Texas; daughter Kathleen Alicia Crayton, Garland, Texas; son Gregory James Albrecht and wife Susie of Austin, Texas; son Scheel Allen Albrecht and wife Tina of Ladonia, Texas; grandson/son Kyle Lane Albrecht of Austin; brothers, Leon and wife Miriam Dickson of Lufkin, Texas and Robert and wife Betty Dickson of Houston, Texas; sister Patricia and husband Corky Lewis of Three Rivers, Texas; four other grandchildren, three great grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews. Mary's great passion, aside from family, was her interest in art and things creative. She had a long career as an artist, sculptor and designer. For many years she was active in various art organizations in the Dallas area, including the Texas Fine Arts Association and the Texas Society of Sculptors (of which she was a founding member). Her interests also extended to writing with memberships in Sisters in Crime and the Austin Writers League, to television production through the Austin Community Access Cable television facility, and to learning activities with the Austin Bonsai association and the Austin Herb Society. However, all of her activities were cut short by her progressive illness. Mary's passing will leave a significant void in the lives of her family. The family will receive friends and relatives at an informal gathering at Mary's home, 10104 Rocking Horse Road, Austin, Texas, from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday evening, March 28, 2007. The family conveys its appreciation and gratitude to the staff of Girling Hospice for their kind, compassionate and supportive assistance during these difficult months, with special thanks to the regular visitors, Adria, Kim, Sabiha and Father Bob. In lieu of flowers, please make memorial donations to the charity of the donor's choice.

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