

The Austin Gardener

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REMINDER: Time to pay your 2018 dues -- \$25 for an individual, \$40 for family.

JANUARY 25 MEETING, ZILKER AUDITORIUM 6:30 TO 9:30 PM

Board of Directors meeting 4:30 to 6:30, Zilker Auditorium

The first meeting of the New Year will feature a Silent Auction with the proceeds benefiting the Scholarship Fund. Plants and other gardening accessories with a minimum value of \$5.00 are welcome. Contributors will declare an opening bid for each item. Please no seeds for the auction.

Also a short presentation will be given by Kathryn Dictus, a 2018 TGCOA scholarship winner. She is enrolled in the Master of Landscape Architecture program at the University of Texas and interested using plant design to improve urban ecological sustainability. We look forward to meeting Kathryn. Doors open at 6:30, the meeting starts with snacks and visiting at 7:00.

FEBRUARY 22 MEETING, ZILKER AUDITORIUM 6:30 TO 9:30 PM

Board of Directors meeting 4:30 to 6:30, Zilker Auditorium

Topic to be announced. We look forward to seeing you. Doors open at 6:30, the meeting starts with snacks and visiting at 7:00.

THE DECEMBER HOLIDAY DINNER AND AWARDS MEETING

Snow fell that evening so everyone was bundled up and in a holiday mood. After dinner Christie Rodgers presented the annual awards. Robert Day received the Horticulture Award for his work with the annual plant sale. Retiring TGCOA president, Dick Peterson, received the Service Award. The amaryllis bulb service awards were given to Robert Day, our incoming president; Dick Peterson, our retiring president; Elizabeth Wong, our hospitality chair extraordinary; Laura Holland, our plant contributor; Annie and Wilburn Hackebell, our treasurer and AAGC rep; Sher Neeley, our master communicator; and Joe Yura, our master plant propagator.

CLUB CULTIVAR CHANGES

The club cultivar process is changing this year. To offset the cost of some of the seedlings, club members who choose to participate in the cultivar competition will be charged \$1. This fee will entitle participants to receive five plants for the competition, two tomatoes and three flowers. You can sign up at the January meeting or contact Joe Yura (yura@mail.utexas.edu) to reserve your plants. This year the tomato cultivar will be Red Robin, a dwarf plant only twelve inches high, and we will be displaying the entire plant in 10 in. pots. You will also have the option to display only the tomatoes that are about an inch in diameter. Since this tomato can be grown indoors, we are hoping there will be greater participation in our competition. It will be distributed at our February meeting. The flower for this year will be announced at the January meeting and distributed at a later meeting so it will be at its peak for the June Show.



Kathryn Dictus
January speaker



Dick Peterson
retiring president



Robert Day
incoming president



Elizabeth Wong
hospitality chair



Joe Yura
plant propagator