

There's a new president in the garden this month! Can you believe it is July already? I'm feeling the heat of summer on the tennis court. And yes...Judy Childress is still kicking my bum all over the court!!! I have found the secret to beating her... play on her side and with her instead of against her.

It's now been 15 long weeks since my home became my office, my gym, and my restaurant, and frankly I'm tired of eating here! I've been walking each day and our yards are looking amazing. No wonder there are (2) YOM's selected these past couple of months.

The Garden Club was slowly coming out of COVID Isolation and now with the latest uptick...I think it is going to be awhile before we can gather. Better to be safe than sorry. With that said, I am still cautiously optimistic about the upcoming year's events. Trixie is getting our programs in order. Ann is planning the annual dinner and auction and I am starting to develop my own plans for the upcoming season. The past board of directors and the new board of directors met on May 28th to start the planning cycle. Ann has scheduled and is working on the Annual Dinner & Auction for October 3rd. It will be at my house; outside with plenty of social distancing. It will have a bit of a different vibe this year. We will scale back significantly. No raffle or silent auction however some great new Live Auction items. Wine Pull too will be back! We will be more about Chippin' and Dippin', Margaritas and Sangria!! Ann's theme is NACHO-ORDINARY GARDEN CLUB PARTY! Of course, the Friendship Tea is on the books as is a Joint Home Tour with SCWA and an early May Backyard Tour.

This year we will not be soliciting for directory advertisements or asking small business sponsorship support for the backyard tour. We do not feel that it is right to ask for help from businesses that have suffered great losses during this COVID pandemic and are now trying to recover. I will also be looking into applying for a grant from the City of Sugar Land and the Federation to enhance our beautification efforts.

My theme for the 2020-2021 term will be HOME SWEET HOME: BLOOM WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED. Susan Taylor sent me the perfect picture for my theme. One proudly blooming little flower in the middle of a concrete sidewalk...just blooming where she was planted. I have chosen this theme because we are staying closer to home this year. We need to focus on our health and helping others. We have several projects which

need our attention. We need a light at Searls Park. We need esplanade beautification in several areas. The club entrance bed do-over still needs our attention. These are capital projects on which we want to partner with the HOA and SCCC. We attended an HOA meeting on June 23rd to kick off a pilot partner project. Our discussion was well received and the first project is already in play. A light will be put in at Searls park. We are partnering with the City of Sugar Land and CenterPoint to get this light in. With COVID... it may take a bit of time but the wait will be worth it. We also plan to do some tree pruning work at the park. The second project will be working to beautify the Guard House. Keep your eyes open for these changes. I'm very excited about both of them.

Right now, the club couldn't open in June for event gatherings. We were shooting for July but that is now out as well. The May Luncheon and Installation of Officers will not happen at all. No Problem: Miriam and I have already been working on turnover as is Mignon and JoAnne for treasurer duties. Whenever we do finally meet we will be practicing social distancing. We plan to kick off the new season in September. **Mark your calendar for September 17th for the first General Meeting.** Trixie has a grand program planned for us.

Tentatively, we are planning an executive board meeting in August at Miriam's house. **Save the date: August 20th.** The September board meeting will be held at Marie Fuller's home on Thursday September 10th.

Our main focus is the membership drive and growing our membership. I am all about growing friendships and adding new gardeners to our garden club. Get your check to Patsy ASAP!! Dana and I will be working on the directory and we need your contact information.

I'm looking forward to a great year with my current garden family and getting to know all the new blossoms.

Remember – BLOOM WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED!

Linda Edmiaston

President, Sugar Creek Garden Club