

Pilgrimage

Christmas Festival

Benefit Kingsville Garden Club

King Ranch

Sunday 4 to 7 P.M. December 14, 1952

Kingsville Garden Club

Kingsville Texas

HISTORY

KINGSVILLE GARDEN CLUB

Membership - 92

Organized March 9, 1948

Organizing Committee

Mrs. Chas. H. Flato III Mrs. E.N. Jones
Mrs. Joe Keepers, Jr.

1948-1949:

Conservation:

Lecture by Mr. C.B. Nieswanger, Corpus Christi, Texas, 1st Vice-President, Texas Chemurgic Council.

Lecture by Mrs. Jack Hager, Rockport, Texas, State Chairman Sanctuaries and Birds.

Horticulture:

Lecture by Mr. Herbert Reck, McAllen, Texas, Landscape Architect and Horticulturist.

Roundtable Discussion "How Does My Garden Grow" by Club members.

Pilgrimage to Winners of Yard Improvement Contest sponsored by Kingsville Garden Club.

Sale of Barbara Karst Bougainvillea, Tulips, Iris, Ranunculus, November; Roses, December; Trees, January; Gardenias, February.

Plant Exchange monthly.

Stimulate interest in identifying and planting native shrubs and trees.

Monthly articles written by members for local newspaper.

Flower Arranging

Analysis and Demonstration by Mrs. Paul Frinzell, Donna, Texas, 1st Vice-Councillor, Rio Grande Council, District 6.

Clinic-Mrs. Frank Huwieler, Houston, Texas, President 1945-47, Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

Every Member Compost Heap
Display entry in Town and Country Flower Show
Audubon Camp Scholarship
Sponsoring newly organized Clubs for Bishop, Robstown and Kingsville.

Civic:

A & I College Boulevard Landscaping Project
Plant Sales of bulbs, roses, shrubs and trees
Plant Exchange, November and April
Miss Mame Roberts, Howe, Texas, State Chairman, Civic Beautification.

spring council show

Practice clinics and Mary Kittel Flower Demonstration
Flower Show School No. 3

Civic

Tree, shrub, bulb and tropical plant sale
Co-operate with city clean-up campaign
Co-operate with Kleberg County Council of Garden Clubs
Pilgrimage to Donna Flower Show and South Texas Nurseries.

State Projects

Christmas gifts for Goree Prison Farm
Contribution to Restoration of Old Homes
Contribution to Garden Clubs for the Blind

* * * * *

Assisting with Public Landscaping Projects
Promoting and Cooperating with City-wide Clean-up Campaign
Tree, Shrub and Tropical Plant Sales

State and National Projects

Garden Therapy
Contribution to Garden Club of the Blind

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Homemade cookies, fruitcake, Christmas punch will be served in the dining room. This hospitality is extended through the kindness of the Kleberg family.

All publicity will be issued by the general chairman, Kingsville Record, Corpus Christi Caller-Times, Kleberg (of Commerce, Corpus Christi Tourist Agency, Rio Grande Valley Agency, Valley Chamber of Commerce, Bishop News, Robstown News, Falfurrias News. Radio broadcasts five times daily previous to pilgrimage, courtesy Kingsville Radio Station. Special fifteen minute broadcast, "Talk of the Town", Co-Station KSIX, Dec. 9th, fifteen minute broadcast "Good News the Week", Dec. 12th, KSIX, Corpus Christi. Spot announcements seven Valley stations, courtesy Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Chairman and Committees

Mrs. Charles Flato III. General
Mrs. John D. Finnegan, Jr. Co-chairman

Outside:

Mrs. Ted Remling. Chairman
Mrs. Henry Converse Mrs. George D.
Mrs. Eugene May Mrs. J. S. Cage
Mrs. D. B. Ballard Mrs. Bud Piper

Tropical Room:

Mrs. F. R. Jones. Chairman
Mrs. James Whitener Mrs. William B. Cr
Mrs. G. R. Edwards

Stairway:

Mrs. JoRene Gibson. Chairman
Mrs. William Ewert Mrs. Chester Dunn

Entrance:

Mrs. J. A. DeMauri, Jr. Chairman
Mrs. A. J. Turcotte Mrs. W. C. Hines
Mrs. Clyde Gonyo

Living Room:

Mrs. W. E. Sells. Chairman
Mrs. E. W. House Mrs. D. W. Peace
Mrs. Ben Oris Sims Mrs. John Cypher
Mrs. N. M. Harrel Miss Edith Cousins

Music Room:

Mrs. Allen Smith. Chairman
Mrs. Joe Keepers

GENERAL RULES (continued)

Chairman and Committees (con't)

Library:

Mrs. Earl Gaston. Mrs.
Mrs. John Arvin Mrs. H.
Mrs. Charles Foster

Dining Room:

Mrs. Melvin Wood.
Mrs. Herbert Andrews. Mrs. F.
Mrs. Leonard Walker

Christmas Tree:

Mrs. Bob Hope. Mrs.
Mrs. Sam H. Rabon Mrs.
Mrs. Claud West

Dining Room Hostess Committee:

Mrs. R. S. Muil.
Mrs. C. Meek.
Mrs. E. S. Roberts, Mrs. Ben F. Wilson,
Mrs. Homer Ferguson, Mrs. W. E. Hopkins
Mrs. J. L. Jones, Mrs. E. H. Haun, Mrs.
Mrs. Jack Ferguson, Mrs. A. L. Kleberg,
Mrs. Leo Kaufer, Mrs. May H. Dickens.

Entry & Club Placement:

Mrs. J. R. Scales.
Miss Ann Kirvin
Mrs. John Langley
Mrs. Ramsey Womack

Hospitality:

Mrs. R. M. Kleberg, Jr.

Traffic:

Mrs. N. M. Harrel, Jr.

Finance & Contributions:

Mrs. A. C. Jones
Mrs. Frank Cheatham

Invitations & Schedules:

Miss Ann Kirven.
Mrs. H. C. Wilson.

Invitations designed by Me

KINGSVILLE GARDEN CLUB

District Seven

Organized March 9, 1948

Sixty-six Active Members

Twenty-six Associate Members

The Kingsville Garden Club is a member of:

Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.
National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.
Kleberg Council of Garden Clubs.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Santa Gertrudis Home

King Ranch

Kingsville, Texas

December 14, 1952

4 - 7 p.m.

General Chairman. . . . Mrs. Charles Flato, III. (1880)
Co-Chairman. . . . Mrs. John D. Finnegan, Jr. (745-J)

Finance & Contribution Chairman. . . Mrs. A.C. Jones (296)
Schedule and Invitation Chairman. . . Miss Ann Kirven (2132)
Entry & Club Placement Chairman. . . Mrs. J.R. Scales (1406)
Chairman of Judges. . . . Mrs. Homer Wilson
Hospitality Chairman. . . . Mrs. Richard Kleberg (842)
Traffic Chairman. . . . Mrs. Nick Harrel (1078-M)
Art Consultants. . . . Mr. Melvin Wood (A & I College)
Mr. Ben Bailey (A & I College)
Dining Room Hostess Chairman. . . Mrs. R.S. Muil (345)
Co-Chairman. . . Mrs. C. Meek (810-W)
Chairman of Navy Wives. . . Mrs. Francis Jones, wife of Commanding Officer of Kingsville Naval Auxiliary Air Station
Chairman of Posters. . . Mrs. J. W. Howe (170-M)
Chairman of Christmas Carols. . . Mrs. W.G. Eubanks of the Kingsville Music Club

GENERAL RULES

The purpose of this annual pilgrimage is to raise money for the Kingsville Garden Club Garden Center.

No tickets will be sold. Contributions of \$1.00 for adults and 25¢ for children under 12 will be requested. Receipt cards will be issued prior to the pilgrimage and at the door of the ranch house. No courtesy receipts will be issued in Kingsville. All garden club members are requested to contribute.

Invitations to all clubs in Kingsville and all affiliated Garden Clubs in a three hundred mile radius will be extended in October. Three Christmas arrangement classes will be exhibited: (1) Religious, (2) Novelty, and (3) Sprays, Wreathes and Swags. Classes (1) and (2) will be placed on covered bridge tables, furnished by exhibitor. Separate schedules including all directions will be included with the invitation. Invitation show will be staged on three galleries around patio. Standard judging by qualified amateur judges will allow one first, one second, and one third ribbon in each class. A sterling silver compote will be awarded the judges' choice. Decision of the judges final.

Ten chairmen and committees will be selected from Kingsville Garden Club members to decorate the Santa Gertrudis home, including the entrance hall, living room, music room, library, dining room, patio, tropical room, stairway, and 14 ft. Christmas tree, and outside decorations. These decorations will not be judged due to the wide variety necessary to stage a placement show.

As Courtesy Members of the Kingsville Garden Club, the wives of Kingsville Naval Auxiliary Air Station personnel will be invited to decorate the Tropical Room.

Each committee will meet three times at the King Ranch at designated times to plan decorations, complete list, number and description of arrangements must be turned into general chairman before December 1st.

Two programs will be presented and should be attended by all chairmen and committees. October 10, 1952, Mr. Ferris Booth from Tie-Tie Paper Co. will give all afternoon clinic in uses of ribbon in decoration. November 18, 1952, Mr. Pat Collins of Frederick's Florist in Corpus Christi, Texas will give a demonstration and lecture on "What's New in Christmas Decorations".

All decorating must be completed before twelve noon, Dec. 14th. All decorating will be removed not later than noon, Dec. 15th.

Each chairman and her committee will act as hostesses in the area they decorated. Afternoon or short cocktail dresses will be worn. Christmas corsages are requested. All hostesses must be in Living Room for group picture at 2 p.m., December 14th.

Mr. M. C. English
1029 West Yoakum
Kingsville, Texas
Evening Garden Club

November 1, 1952
Kingsville, Texas

Dear Club President and Members:

The Kingsville Garden Club extends a cordial invitation to your club to participate in their annual Christmas Festival at the King Ranch House on Sunday, December 14th, from four until seven p.m. Hostess members will provide in-door and out-door arrangements for the home. Wives of the naval personnel of the Kingsville Auxiliary Naval Air Station will decorate the Tropical Room. Special carols will be a feature by the voice ensemble of the Kingsville Music Club and a chorus from the Young Musicians' Club.

Your Special Invitation Class is for one display or arrangement from each club to be entered in either of the following classes:
a. Religious. (please name); b. Novelty (please name); c. Spray or wreath. (Accessories, painted, dried, artificial material allowed).

Judging Points for
Religious and Novelty

Appropriateness to occasion & title - - - - -	25
Distinction & Originality - - - - -	35
Design and color - - - - -	25
Suitability of combination of accessories - - - - -	10
Condition - - - - -	5
	<u>100</u>

Judging Points for
Sprays and Wreaths

Perfection of design & workmanship - - - - -	25
Suitability of Combination of materials - - - - -	25
Distinction and Originality - - - - -	25
Durability - - - - -	20
Condition - - - - -	5
	<u>100</u>

Please supply your printed title card approximately 4"x12" but omit your club name which will be supplied when you make your entry. You are requested to supply your own standard size bridge table with a harmonious material as a cover, preferably floor length. Sprays and wreaths will be hung by our committee and will not need a table. Ribbons will be awarded in each of the three classes at the National Judges discretion and a sterling silver compote will be awarded the Judge's choice. Each entry will receive special care but the committee can not assume responsibility for breakage or loss.

Arrangements must be entered from 9:30 to 12 noon, Dec. 14th, and judging will begin at 12:15. Please leave your arrangements in place until 7:15 p.m. and remove them not later than 8:30 p.m. the same evening. Two complimentary admission receipts will be presented each club as you enter your arrangement.

The Kingsville Garden Club's annual Christmas Pilgrimages have been enthusiastically received in the past. With the famous King Ranch open house as their project this year, contributing visitors are expected from all parts of Texas. Contributions of \$1.00 per person for the Kingsville Garden Center and 25¢ for children will be accepted Sunday, December 14th. With these contributions and your cooperation the Garden Center Project will take care of an urgent community need and will give you and your friends the opportunity to enjoy the gracious hospitality of the Kleberg family.

Sincerely,
Ann Kirven
Christine S. Wilson
Invitation Committee

Refreshments: 4--7 p.m.
Please acknowledge acceptance by December 7th.
Regarding any further information write:

Christmas Festival, General Chairman, Mrs. Charles Flato, III
714 W. Lee St.
Phone 1880

Co-Chairman, Mrs. John D. Finnegan, Jr.
418 E. Warren
Phone 745-J

General Chairmen Schedule
of Picture & Meeting Dates

October 7, 1952 :-

Sixteen (16) chairmen met at the King Ranch home to make plans.

Picture taken of general chairman, co-chairman, hospitality chairman, and President of Kingsville Garden Club

October 17, 1952:-

Pictures taken and meetings of:

Tropical Room Committee
Stairway and Music Committee
Entrance Committee
Invitations and Schedules Committee
Finance and Contributions Committee

October 24, 1952:-

Pictures taken and meetings of:

Living Room Committee
Music Room Committee
Library Committee

November 14, 1952:-

Pictures taken and meetings of:

Dining Room Committee
Christmas Tree Committee
Outside Decorations Committee

November 28, 1952:-

Meeting of the Dining Room Hostesses Committee and the Entry and Club Placement Committee

December 12th and 13th:-

Last meeting of all chairmen and their committees.

Publicity Channels

1. The Kingsville Record
2. Corpus Christi Caller-Times
3. Kleberg County Chamber of Commerce
4. Valley Chamber of Commerce
5. Bishop News
6. Robstown News
7. Alice News
8. Falfurrias News
9. Radio Station KINE, Kingsville
10. Radio Station KSIX, Corpus Christi
11. Spot announcements on seven Valley stations, courtesy Valley Chamber of Commerce
12. Valley Chamber of Commerce News Service
13. Corpus Christi Tourist Agency
14. Rio Grande Valley Tourist Agency

Keen Interest Is Shown In Christmas Festival Of Local Garden Club

Contribution checks for the Dec. 14 Christmas Festival to be held at the King Ranch House by the Kingsville Garden Club have already been received from Dallas, Houston, San Antonio, as well as other South Texas cities.

Decorating committees are busy with plans to make this festival one always to be remembered in this area. At the entrance of the Ranch House, Mrs. Ted Remling and her committee will provide a real Christmas welcome to the hundreds of guests.

In the past, outdoor lighting and decoration have been outstanding features of each Garden Club Christmas Pilgrimage. One year, the Al Kleberg home was flood-lighted to illuminate unusual wreaths and sprays. Another year, an effective Nativity Scene was staged by children of club members, who were in costume with the amusing and unexpected scuffle between two small boy angels, which became a major attraction.

Santa Claus in person has also visited pilgrimage homes to welcome children. Mrs. Remling was chairman of an elaborate lighting display depicting the theme "Christmas for Young Moderns," at the Rabon home two years ago. An element of surprise is a part of the plan of Mrs. Remling's committee for this festival, and they promise an effective and appropriate "Welcome" to all who attend.

Invitations are in the mail to a hundred out of town and Kingsville clubs to participate in the large invitation class. Religious, novelty, sprays and wreaths will be featured and judged with ribbons awarded. A trophy will be given the most outstanding club entry.

Festival General Chairman, Mrs. Charles Flato III, and co-chairman Mrs. John Finnegan, Jr., are expecting all committees to attend the Christmas Clinic to be held at the Episcopal Parish House, 2:30 p.m., Nov. 18, by Mr. Pat Collins, an outstanding floral



MRS. TED REMLING, chairman of the outdoor lighting committee of the Kingsville Garden Club's Christmas Festival, stands on a ladder at the entrance door of the famous King Ranch House to try a large bell for size and design. Her committee who assist her include Mrs. Eugene May, Mrs. Sterling Cag, Mrs. Henry Converse, Mrs. Bud Piper and Mrs. Darrel Ballard. Mrs. George Dietz is also a member who will work on the elaborate outdoor "Welcome" to South Texas visitors December 14th from 7 to seven p.m.

designer from Corpus Christi. New ideas, decorating tricks, painting and spraying of unusual material will be explained, and these new techniques will be used in staging the festival.

Mrs. A. C. Jones, contributions chairman, is busily engaged in cashing her checks and returning receipt invitation cards to out of town visitors who have requested them. One dollar for adults and twenty-five cents for children will help finance the Kingsville Garden Club's Garden Center Project.

Local Garden Club's Open House At King Ranch for Contributors Draws National Attention

Plans for the Kingsville Garden Club's Open House for contributors to their Garden Center Project are well under way. Several committees from the club are planning the decoration of the different parts in keeping with the beauty of the famous King Ranch House and the chosen theme.

The entrance hall at the north side of the Ranch House has always been considered a symbol of hospitality and welcome. In the early days, as legend has it, there was never a night but what the north window held a light to welcome the traveler and guide him. Today this light is still kept aglow and will be treated in a festive holiday fashion to welcome the contributing guests to the Open House to be held there on Dec. 14 between the hours of 4:00 and 7:00 in the evening. Carrying the thought into the entrance hall the holiday spirit of Christmas extends a jovial greeting in true South Texas fashion.

All Garden Club members are

expected to attend the Christmas clinic to be held by Mr. Pat Collins from Frederick's Flowers and Gifts Shop in Corpus Christi, on Nov. 18 at 2:30 p.m. The information given there will be of advantage in planning for their own homes and for the Open House.

The Kingsville Garden Center Project will fill a vital community need. The expenses will be heavy and can be met only with community help. Please contact the Contributions Chairman, Mrs. A. C. Jones, 730 W. Lee St., phone 296, who will give you a receipt for your contribution of a dollar. The receipt will entitle you to visit the Open House.



MRS. J. A. DE MAURI, JR., Chairman of the entrance hall committee is on the table figuring possible heights for the decoration. Other committee members working with her are Mrs. Clyde Gonyo, extreme left, Mrs. A. J. Turcotte, and Mrs. W. C. Hines. Not shown was Mrs. John Henderson.

Garden Clubs District 7 Meet In Kingsville

The Garden Clubs in the southern section of District 7 held their meeting in Kingsville Friday, Nov. 7, at the Student Union building at A&I College.

Mrs. C. Meek, president of Kleberg County Garden Council, welcomed the members and visitors. Mrs. W. E. Sells, president of the Kingsville Garden Club, presented Mrs. Charles McGeehee, District 7 Counselor, with a corsage.

Mrs. McGeehee presided during the business meeting at 11:00 a.m., when presidents or representatives of clubs from Corpus Christi, Alice, Robstown, Bishop, Falfurrias and Kingsville made their reports. She also gave a talk on the district work. The business meeting was held in the Conference Room of the Student Union Building.

A luncheon, followed by the program for the afternoon, was held in the Ball Room of the Student Union Building at 12:30 p.m. The Thanksgiving theme was carried out in decorations.

Those at the speakers' table were Mrs. McGeehee; Mrs. Charles Flato III, program chairman; Mrs. Meek and her officers of the Kleberg County Council, Mrs. Jack Anderson, vice president; Mrs. J. R. Scales, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Howard Cook, historian; Mrs. W. E. Sells, president of Kingsville Garden Club; Mrs. Stephen Warren, president of the Agarita Garden Club in Kingsville; Mrs. John H. Breining, president of the Garden Gate Club also of Kingsville; Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Howe.

A mimeograph sheet with articles by Penny Peckenpaugh, "The Garden," Mrs. Lee K... be guest speaker.

culture Program at A&I College."

Mrs. Flato introduced Mrs. McGeehee who gave a talk with demonstrations on "Christmas Decorations." She stressed how to utilize and prepare materials for Christmas wreaths and decorations for tables.

Chairmen for the meeting were Mrs. J. R. Scales, registration; reservations, Mrs. Claud West, Mrs. Ben Oris Sims, Mrs. Homer Wilson of Kingsville and Mrs. Charles, Corpus Christi; favors, Mrs. M. B. Hope and Mrs. V. B. Jarrett; tables, Mrs. Charles Foster; Mrs. JoRene Gibson and Mrs. Herbert Andrews.

Mrs. W. House Speaks To Evening Garden Club

Mrs. Walter House was guest speaker at the regular meeting of the Evening Garden Club Monday, Nov. 10, in the home of Mr. D. B. Ballard. She was introduced by Mrs. Jim Ragan. Her subject was "Fall Gardening."

Hostesses were Mrs. Bill Rainbolt and Mrs. H. W. Wallner.

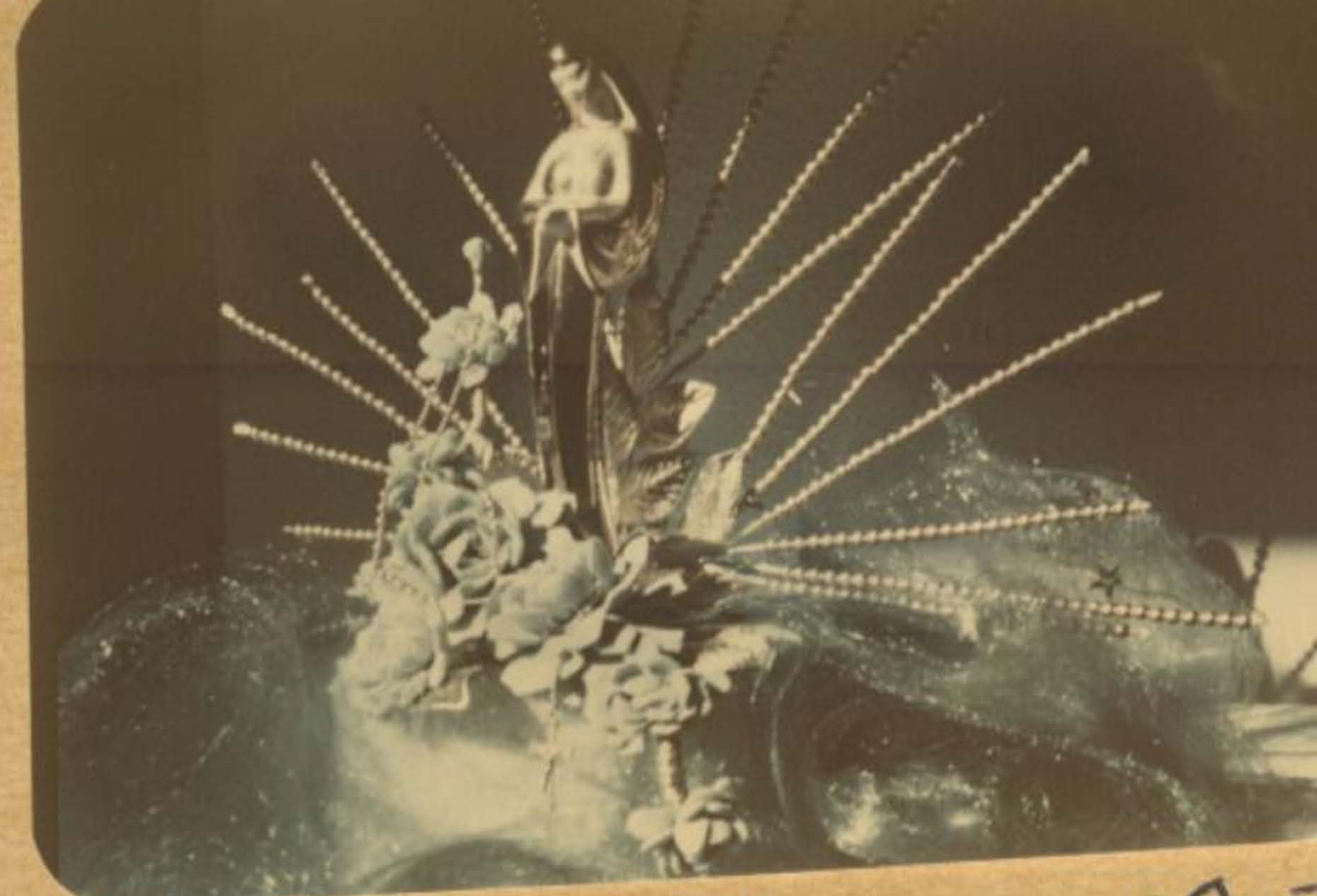
Mrs. Rainbolt announced that the club members were invited to be guests of the Kingsville Garden Club's regular meeting Tuesday, Nov. 18, when Pat Collins, Fredericks of Corpus Christi, will be guest speaker.

Religious Class:

- "Rose of Mysteries". St. Gertrude's League
Kingsville, Texas
- "Meditation". Cenizo Garden Club
Kingsville, Texas
- "We Three Kings". Azalia Garden Club
Corpus Christi, Texas
- "The Christmas Story". Womens' Club
Taft, Texas
- "Ave Maria". San Benito Garden Club
San Benito, Texas
- "Oh Vision Bright". West Brownsville Garden Club
Brownsville, Texas
- "The Perfect Gift". A & I Home Economics Club
Kingsville, Texas
- "Heavenly Tribute". Beta Sigma Phi
Kingsville, Texas

Novelty Class:

- "Sugar & Spice". Alice Garden Club
Alice, Texas
- "Silver Symphony". Bon Aire Garden Club
Victoria, Texas
- "Christmas at Valley Forge". D.A.R.
Kingsville, Texas
- "Christmas Casual". Evening Garden Club
Kingsville, Texas
- "Navidad Tropical". McAllen Garden Club
McAllen, Texas
- "Rangeland Christmas". Bougainvillea Garden Club
Corpus Christi, Texas
- "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town". La Rosa Garden Club
Woodsboro, Texas
- "Blue Noel". Hibiscus Garden Club
Aransas Pass, Texas



"Rose of Mys"



EXHIBITORS IN INVITATION CLASSES

Novelty Class (con't)

- "White Poinsettia". Kleberg County Council
Garden Club
Kingsville, Texas
- "Berry Christmas". Agarita Garden Club
Kingsville, Texas
- "S for Santa Claus". Weslaco Garden Club
Weslaco, Texas

Sprays & Wreaths

- Iris Garden Club. Bishop, Texas
- Poinsettia Garden Club. Robstown, Texas
- Evergreen Garden Club. Bishop, Texas
- American Association of University Women. Kingsville, Texas
- Lindale Garden Club. Corpus Christi, Texas
- Harlingen Garden Club. Harlingen, Texas
- Garden Gate Garden Club. Kingsville, Texas

JUDGES

- Mrs. Harold Dreeke
Mrs. Logan Stephenson
Mrs. John Rowan



Wednesday, October 22, 1952

Women in the News

MRS. PAUL DACKE

TELEPHONE 2075

Kingsville Garden Club Plans King Ranch Christmas Tour Sunday Evening, December 14th

To many of the people of Kingsville and the nearby cities the Main House of the world-famed King Ranch is a familiar spot. For thousands of others, it is a fabled, romantic place of legend and history. There are few who have not heard some of the speculative and often contradictory rumors of high fences, watchful guards, large hospitality, aloofness and friendliness, austerity and luxury, and of the rich, notable, and sometimes noble visitors who come and go there.

For those who are interested in Texas history, floral arrangements, interior decorating, architecture, and painting as well as for those who are curious or romantically inclined there will be an opportunity to study this famous home and add their names to the visitors' lists. They can also help the Kingsville Garden Club with its fine community project.

The Kleberg family has graciously offered the use of the King Ranch House for the Kingsville Garden Club's annual Christmas Festival. Between the hours of four to seven, Sunday evening of December 14th, those people who have contributed a dollar to the Kingsville Garden Club's special garden center project are cordially invited to attend the open house. Each contributor will be given a receipt which will entitle him to visit the King Ranch House during these hours. A twenty-five cent contribution will enable a child to attend this festival. Coffee and cookies will be served in the dining room.

The members of the Kingsville Garden Club will provide the indoor Christmas decorations and floral arrangements for the home. Special Christmas carols will be a feature by the voice ensemble of the Kingsville Music Club and a chorus from the Young Musicians Club.

Mrs. Richard Kleberg, Jr., met with Mrs. Charles Flato III, general chairman, Mrs. John D. Finnegan, Jr., co-chairman, and Mrs. W. E. Sells, president of the Kingsville Garden Club, on Oct. 8 at the Ranch House to discuss with the ten special decorating chairmen the general theme, special colors and lighting effects. Each of their ten committees will have a particular room or display.

The other decorating committees will hold meetings within the next week and committee lists and plans will be announced.

In December 1948, the Kingsville Garden Club's first holiday Open House was held at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Al Kleberg and Mr. and Mrs. Ben Oris Sims with songs, stories, and symbols in

Christmas arrangements. National Flower Show judges from Houston judged the arrangements. For the 1950 Open House held by the Garden Club, three types of Christmas were symbolized in the style and decoration of three homes. That of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kleberg, Jr., showed the Provincial Christmas for children. Dr. and Mrs. D. W. Peace presented in their home the Traditional Christmas for Mother and Dad. Dr. and Mrs. Jack Rabon's home expressed Christmas for Young Moderns.

In the 1951 Garden Club's Open House, the homes of Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Poteet and of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wells were featured Christmas table settings. Sprays, wreaths and novelty arrangements were displayed at the Missouri Pacific Boosters Hall.

The Garden Club's annual Christmas Pilgrimage Open House has been enthusiastically received in the past. With the famous King Ranch House as their Open House this year, the contributing visitors will come from far and near. With their help, the Kingsville Garden Club's Special Project will take care of an urgent community need while its utility and beauty will be a valuable asset to Kingsville's reputation.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS plan Kingsville Garden Club King Ranch Christmas Tour. Mrs. Charles Flato III and Mrs. Richard Kleberg, Jr., standing; Mrs. John D. Finnegan, Jr. and Mrs. W. E. Sells, seated, plan the committees for the Christmas show.



Mrs. Kleberg, Hostess

Mrs. Finnegan Cochairman

Mrs. Flato General Chair

Wednesday, October 29, 1952

Kingsville Garden Club Members Make Plans For Christmas Festival

Meeting in the tropical patio of the King Ranch House members of the Kingsville Garden Club made plans for their annual Christmas Festival to be held there Dec. 14 from four to seven p.m.

One hundred club invitations, designed by Melvin Wood, art professor of Texas A&I College, have been made by Miss Pauline Wells, Miss Mary Wells, Mrs. Melvin Wood and other committee members.

Mrs. Homer Wilson, Jr., co-chairman, and Miss Ann Kirven, chairman of the out-of-town invitations to participate in the Festival are addressing the cards to club presidents. Each club is invited to enter, on a card table, an arrangement depicting a Christmas song, legend, or custom. Judges will award three ribbons in each of these three classes which will be displayed around the covered loggias surrounding the patio in the King Ranch House.

Mrs. A. C. Jones, as chairman of the contributions committee, will return a receipt for each dollar contribution to the Club Garden Center Fund, as a special invitation to the Festival. Children are invited to make a twenty-five cent contribution in order to attend.

Mrs. Nick Harrel, Jr., and her

THE KINGSVILLE RECORD



Wednesday, October 29, 1952

Garden Clubs District 7 Meeting

The Garden Clubs of District 7 will hold their district meeting in Kingsville Friday, Nov. 7, at the Student Union Building at A&I College.

Mrs. Charles McGeehee, District 7 counselor, will be speaker for the occasion. Her subject will be "Christmas Decorations." Mrs. McGeehee is a National Judge and Lecturer.

The business meeting will take place at 11:00 a.m., at which time all club presidents are to attend and give their reports.

Luncheon is to be served at 12:45 p.m. at the Student Union building. Reservations are \$1.40. They may be obtained from Mrs. Glad West in Kingsville. Mrs.

Women in the News

MRS. PAUL DACKÉ

TELEPHONE 2075

The ... Club Woman

Kingsville Music Club To Meet With Mrs. Cole

The Kingsville Music Club will meet in the home of Mrs. C. H. Cole, 402 East Doddridge, on Tuesday, Nov. 25, at 3:30 p.m.

Mrs. E. R. Bogusch will direct the program on the Classic Period of Music.

Mrs. W. G. Eubanks announces that the organization meeting of the Voice Ensemble will be held at 2:30 preceding the regular meeting of the Music Club on Nov. 25. All members are urged to be present. The Voice Ensemble will sing at the Christmas Festival of the Kingsville Garden Club to be held on Dec. 14 at the King Ranch home.



KINGSVILLE RECORD

Wednesday, November 26, 1952



THE COMMITTEE IN CHARGE of decorating the Tropical Room at the King Ranch for the Garden Club's Open House is shown standing in the doorway. Left to right are Mrs. Francis Jones, chairman, Mrs. W. B. Craig and Mrs. G. R. Edwards. Not shown is Mrs. I. Cushman.

Exotic Hawaiian Theme Feature at Garden Club's Open House December 14

Tropical flowers flown in from Hawaii will be the feature of the floral arrangements in the Tropical Room at the King Ranch House Open House. The committee in charge of the room is composed of wives of Navy personnel who are honorary members of the Kingsville Garden Club. Mrs. Francis Jones is chairman.

When the local Navy station was reactivated the Kingsville Garden Club extended honorary membership to wives of Navy personnel, through the wife of the Base Commander. This is the second year that these honorary members have participated in the Open House plans.

As Hawaii and Navy are nearly synonymous to most people the Hawaiian display will attract much attention. The Tropical Room will stress contemporary decoration rather than Christmas. Each part of the house stresses a different Christmas color motif or theme.

The hostesses who will welcome visitors to this room changing each hour, will wear flowers from Hawaii. The following women will be on duty, four at a time: Mrs. W. M. Dierker, Mrs. M. R. Doughty, Mrs. J. F. Sill, Mrs. L. E. Sloan, Mrs. G. C. Simmons, Mrs. D. K. Olson, Mrs. M. J. Gaddis, Mrs. J. N. Tuttle, Mrs. L. S. Ellison.



MRS. J. GIBSON, chairman (on the left), is shown with her committee, Mrs. Wm. A. Ewert and Mrs. S. Chester Dunn, seated, who will help her decorate the staircase at the King Ranch House. Behind Mrs. Dunn is Mrs. W. G. Eubanks, President of the Kingsville Music Club, who will direct the music.

Garden Club's Open House Will Draw Music Lovers

For those who love good music the Kingsville Garden Club's Open House on Dec. 14 at the King Ranch House will be a real treat. The Christmas music will be planned by Mrs. W. G. Eubanks, president of the Kingsville Music Club.

The choir, composed of members of the Kingsville Music and Federated Junior Music Club, will stand on the landing of the majestic staircase. With the stained glass windows behind them and the decorations of the double staircase leading up to them, the choir members will be surrounded with beauty to match their songs. A delight for the ear as well as the eye is promised to the visiting contributors.

Those who wish to contribute a dollar to the Garden Center Project which the Kingsville Garden Club is sponsoring may contact any member of the Garden club. All of the club members can accept the dollar contributions and give a receipt for it which will entitle the contributor to visit the Garden Club's Open House at the King Ranch.

Those who cannot make plans early may make their contribution at the door and receive their receipt then. Any child who contributes a quarter may also visit the Open House.

Wednesday, November 26, 1952

Women in the News

MRS. PAUL DACKÉ

TELEPHONE 2075

Mrs. E. R. Bogusch Directs Program Of Kingsville Music Club

Mrs. C. H. Cole was hostess to the Kingsville Music Club Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 25, in her home on East Doddridge. Mrs. W. G. Eubanks presided.

Mrs. E. R. Bogusch was director for the afternoon. She gave a talk on the life and works of Beethoven from the Classic Period. Mrs. C. M. King played excerpts as illustrations of his sonatas and symphonies. Mrs. H. E. Fischer sang "I Love Thee" by Beethoven. She was accompanied by Mrs. James Colvin. Mrs. Anna Dechman played as a piano solo, "Saraband" by Rameau-MacDowell.

Mrs. C. M. King announced the hymn of the month as a Thanksgiving hymn, "O, Lord of Heaven, Earth and Sea," written by Bishop Christopher Wordsworth. Mrs. J. D. Stone and Mrs. Robert French sang the hymn.

Announcements were that a Voice Ensemble will be organized Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 2, at 4:00 p.m. in the home of the president of the club, Mrs. Eubanks. Mr. Charles Bounds of the Kingsville High School Music Department, will direct the Ensemble, and it will furnish the music at the Kingsville Garden Club's Open

House at the King Ranch Sunday, Dec. 14, from 4 to 7 p.m.

The Music Club will be one of the hostesses to County Federation Day at the Woman's Club building Monday, Dec. 8th. Another announcement was the next program of the Music Club will be International Day Tuesday, Dec. 9, at the Santa Gertrudis School on the King Ranch with Mrs. Jim Scarborough as director of the program. A tea will be held in the home of Mrs. J. K. Northway immediately after the program.

Mrs. Eubanks appointed Mrs. Frank Johnson as legislative chairman of the club.

Guests were Mrs. Lloyd Babcock from Arkansas; Mrs. Thornton Thacker of McAllen, chairman of History of Music in the Texas Federation of Music Clubs. Hostesses will be Mrs. C. H. Cole, Mrs. E. E. Stone, Mrs. Truman Kay, Mrs. J. W. Cross, Mrs. Glen Earhart, Mrs. J. F. Ellis and Mrs. Anna Dechman.

The buffet arrangement was a big turkey surrounded by fruit and nuts. The table centerpiece was an arrangement of purple chrysanthemums.

THE KINGSVILLE RECORD

Pat Collins, Guest At Kingsville Garden Club

Mr. Pat Collins and his assistant, Mr. Bob Nicholson, of Fredericks Florist in Corpus Christi, were guests of the Kingsville Garden Club Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 18, at the Episcopal Parish House. Mr. Collins presented contemporary Christmas decorations demonstrating the use of the newest stylized material.

Before coming to Corpus Christi, Mr. Collins was manager of Tenyson Florist in Dallas for Mrs. Lena Slayton for four years. He previously attended the Tommie Bright School of Design in Chicago, after which he was with the Royal Hager Catalog Co. doing color pictures for them.

Keen interest was shown in this clinic held in Kingsville as it will be of great assistance to the members working on the Kingsville Garden Club Christmas Festival to be held at the King Ranch on Dec. 14. It was also of great interest to those who desire unusual Christmas arrangements for the home.

Contribution cards for the Festival may be purchased from any Kingsville Garden Club member, or at the door of the King Ranch House on Sunday, Dec. 14, from 4:00 until 7:00 p.m.

History Given At D. A. R. Meeting

The history and activities of the Isaac Gilbert Chapter of the DAR were given at the Wednesday, Nov. 19, meeting in the home of Mrs. Leslie O'Connor.

Mrs. R. D. Fullerton, past regent, was the leader of the program. She stated why the chapter was named after Isaac Gilbert and gave the first year's history. Mrs. Charles Flato III told of the financial organization, and Mrs. W. A. Francis described the first George Washington Tea. Mrs. H. T. Collins gave an entire summary of the chapter.

Joel O'Connor played a piano selection, "Pomp and Pageantry."

Mrs. Walter Kay, vice regent, presided in the absence of Miss Elizabeth Ann Oliphant, regent, who has been called out of town due to illness in her family.

It was voted to present a flower arrangement in the Kingsville Garden Club Christmas Festival at the King Ranch. Mrs. M. L. Korges was appointed chairman to make the arrangement. Other members of her committee appointed were Mrs. Frank Ogden, Mrs. Charles A. Ford, and Mrs. Mae Dickens.

The DAR members in Kingsville will sell subscriptions to the "Holland's Magazine" to promote funds for the year's project. The sale will start Dec. 1, and any member may be contacted for a subscription, whether renewal or a new one.

Mrs. James McCrocklin, Mrs. Mae Dickens, Mrs. Frank Ogden, and Mrs. Walter Kay gave reports of their attending the district meeting of the DAR Chapters in Corpus Christi on Nov. 6.

Co-hostesses for the afternoon were Mrs. I. J. Collier, and Mrs. W. A. Francis.

Fall flowers were in arrangements throughout the home.

Mrs. Walter Kay, served the

Valley Residents Invited To King Ranch Open House

WESLACO — Rio Grande Valley residents and winter tourists are invited to attend an open house at the Santa Gertrudis headquarters of the King Ranch, near Kingsville, Sunday from 4 until 7 p.m.

Through the courtesy of the Kleberg family, owners of the million

-acre ranch, the Kingsville Garden Clubs are staging the open house which will give visitors a chance to see the inside of the famous 50-room "big House" on the King Ranch.

Mrs. T. H. Boyce of Donna, chairman of the beautification committee of the Valley Chamber of Commerce, and Lloyd B. Langston of Pharr, chairman of the chamber's tourist committee, have authorized to extend a general invitation to all valley citizens and winter visitors to attend the open house. Mrs. J. Connally Kelly of Pharr, counselor of the Federation of Valley Garden Clubs, also has extended a special invitation to all garden club members and their families to attend the Sunday affair as a gesture of cooperation with the garden clubs of Kingsville.

Contributions will be accepted at the door by the Kingsville Garden Clubs of \$1 for adults and 25 cents for children. The money will go into the Garden Center Fund, a project sponsored by the Kingsville Garden Clubs.

L. F. Connell, manager of the Kingsville Chamber of Commerce, said, "Because of the general desire of the people to see this fine ranch home and also because of the worthy purpose to which the contributions will be used, we believe that many tourists, as well as valley residents, will be glad to visit the Ranch this Sunday." Connell added that those desiring to see a part of the ranch, the livestock and race horses may do so either before or after the open house.

Wednesday, December 3, 1952

Kingsville Garden Club Ready for Open House

Everything is in readiness for the annual Open House and Christmas Festival held by the Kingsville Garden Club. This year for the donation of one dollar to the Civic Garden Center, which the Kingsville Garden Club is sponsoring, one is invited to attend the Open House at the King Ranch Guest House Sunday, Dec. 14, from 4 to 7 p.m.

For weeks the members have been planning and working on this project to make it one of the most entertaining events of the year for people in South Texas. Mrs. Charles Flato III is chairman and Mrs. John D. Finnegan, Jr. is co-chairman. More than fifteen committees of the club are participating in arranging the inside of the famous house and the outside of the mansion.

The Voice Ensemble of the Music Club will sing the Choral Music for the occasion.

Numerous clubs in South Texas will present their arrangements for judging. Invitations have been sent to hundreds of towns. It is to be one of the most gala occasions in Kingsville.

Chairmen of the outstanding committees are Outside, Mrs. Ted Remling; Tropical Room, Mrs. Francis Jones; Staircase, Mrs. Jorene Gibson; Entrance, Mrs. J. A. DeMauri, Jr.; Living Room, Mrs. W. E. Sells; Music Room, Mrs. Allen Smith; Library, Mrs. Earl Gaston; Dining Room, Mrs. Melvin Wood; Christmas Tree, Mrs. Bob Hope; Hostess, Mrs. R. S. Muil and Mrs. C. Meek; Invitations and



THE KINGSVILLE GARDEN CLUB'S OPEN HOUSE AT THE KING RANCH, planned for contributors to Garden Center Project, is bringing together much talent from the area. With the event planned for the late afternoon of December 14th most of the plans are completed. The committee in charge of decorating the library at the King Ranch is shown above in conference there. Mrs. Earl Gaston, chairman of this committee, is also chairman of the Garden Club's Garden Therapy project. The library committee shown above, from left to right: Mrs. Ted Campbell, Mrs. John Arvin, Mrs. Charles Foster, Mrs. Earl Gaston, chairman, and Mrs. H. E. Fischer.

Out-of-Town Arrangements, Ernest Poteet, Refreshments, R. M. Kleberg, Jr.; Traffic, M. Harrel, Jr.; Invitations, designed by Melvin Wood, Miss Annven and Mrs. H. C. Wilson; Tickets, Mrs. A. C. Jones.

Donations to the Kingsville Civic Garden Center may be secured by sending \$1.00 for adults and 25c for children to Mrs. A. C. Jones, Kingsville, Texas, or at the door on the Open House Day, Sunday, Dec. 14, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the King Ranch House.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

Wednesday, December 10, 1952

THE KINGSVILLE RECORD



THE COMMITTEE WHICH IS DECORATING THE DINING ROOM at the King Ranch for the Open House Christmas Festival is shown above. Left to right are Mrs. Melvin Wood, chairman, Mrs. Frank Dotterweich, Mrs. L. F. Walker, and Mrs. Herbert Andrews, co-chairman.

Evening Garden Club Holds Clinic Monday

Mrs. D. B. Ballard held a clinic for the Evening Garden Club in her home Monday at 7:30 p.m. The theme was "Christmas Decorations."

Each member brought material for the decorations she chose to make. Mrs. Ballard assisted the members in their work. Decorations were placed on display.

Hostesses were Mrs. Bill English and Miss Frances Porter.

Garden Gate Holds Xmas Luncheon Tuesday

The Garden Gate Club held its monthly luncheon at Stratton Hall Tuesday, Dec. 9, at 1 p.m. Hostesses were Mrs. T. J. Tilley, Mrs. Claude DeWees, Mrs. Troy Tompkins, and Mrs. Mary Ella Matthews.

Each guest brought a Christmas tray favor to be sent to the Kleberg County Hospital.

Mrs. JoRene Gibson had charge of the program and workshop. The afternoon's program topic was "Ideas on Christmas Decorations."

The hall was decorated with the things made in the workshop.

Wednesday, December 10, 1952

THE KINGSVILLE RECORD



THE KINGSVILLE RECORD

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Single Copy Ten Cents

KINGSVILLE, TEXAS, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1952

Twenty-Four Pages

Number 19



DISCUSSING THE DECORATING PLANS for the Christmas tree at the Kingsville Garden Club's Open House on December 14th are Mrs. Bob Hope, Chairman, Mrs. Claud West, Mrs. Otis West, Mrs. Richard Green, Mrs. Jack Rabon, Mrs. J. R. Scales, another committee member was not at this meeting.

Garden Club Open House At King Ranch Sunday To Draw Many Visitors

By MARIAM T. LOVELAND

On Sunday evening, Dec. 14, between 4:00 and 7:00 o'clock, the Kingsville Garden Club will hold its Christmas Festival Open House honoring contributors to its civic Garden Center project. The Open House will be at the King Ranch, famed in the legends and history of South Texas.

No other event in recent years has stirred so much interest and speculation. From Brownsville to Laredo and up to San Antonio and Aransas Pass the contributors to the project are cherishing their receipts for their donations so they can be sure to enjoy the glamour and beauty of this occasion.

Many South Texans who are familiar with the King Ranch House and hundreds who never dreamed of having the opportunity of visiting this famous haunt of notable and noble visitors will mingle in its rooms to admire the architecture, enjoy the Christmas punch and cookies, delight in the dreamy splendor of the great tree in the living room, and compare the floral arrangements through the house.

The chimes will greet the visitor as he parks his car in the ample lot. Clusters of garlanded hurricane lamps along the path will show him the way, past the carriage Mrs. Richard King used so long ago, up to the great entrance doors. Here two little boys in the famous brown and white Running W racing silks will open the enormous entrance doors. The numbers 1853 and 1952 on the lanterns flanking the doors will again remind the visitor that this is the eve of the historic ranch's centennial.

Brands from the various ranches (See OPEN HOUSE, Page 8)

THE KINGSVILLE RECORD

Wednesday, December 10, 1952

Open House—

(Continued from Page 1)

will arouse curiosity among newcomers and stir up many a "Remember When—" among oldtimers.

In the decorated foyer the visitor will meet the hostesses and an amazing Santa Claus specially designed by Garden Club members and made up by the display department of Lichtenstein's in Corpus Christi. Each room will present a different motif or color scheme and yet all of it will be keyed to the ranch and South Texas life.

The Christmas tree will dominate the living room. Its ornaments, designed and made by club members, will stir the hearts of the children if they are nine years old or ninety.

The sweet religious theme of the floral arrangements in the mu-

sic room will call to mind the reason for Christmas. The library will stress the ranch theme and as further proof of the serious side of the club's work, it will have a display of handmade aprons, table mats, rugs and other items made by some of the 34 Texas Garden Clubs for the Blind which are the sponsorship of the Texas and National Garden Clubs.

Since there are many things, including aprons for little girls with cooking utensils in the pockets, and shop aprons for boys with tools in the slots and pockets, many a Christmas gift problem can be solved there.

The Christmas punch and cookies will be served in the dining room which will employ native materials for most of the decorations. A hand carved candelabra depicting the Christ Child will please the connoisseur and the religious person.

In the patio, the invitation class

and entries from out-of-town Garden Clubs will be an outstanding attraction. The invitation entries will be religious, or novelty to be named, a Christmas spray or wreath. There is a choice. These will be judged by national judges. In each of the three classes, first, second, third awards will be made. The judges choice for the outstanding entry will receive a special award. Among the clubs entering are: Falfurrias, Corpus Christi, Alice, Robstown, Bishop, Refugio, Victoria, Premont, McAllen, Brownsville, Harlingen, San Benito, Weslaco, Woodsboro, and Aransas Pass.

The garlanded double stairway, backed by stained glass windows will lead the eye to the landing where the vested choir from the Kingsville Music Club and the chorus from the Federated Young Musicians will sing.

At the exit, the Tropical Room will feature the modern, contem-

porary Christmas with tropical flowers flown in from Hawaii for the committee of Navy Wives, guest members of the Kingsville Garden Club. This committee is in charge of decorating the Tropical Room. Texas and Hawaii, share many plants, many Navy people, and many customs of friendly hospitality and relaxed living so it is appropriate that the Navy Wives use the Hawaiian theme in this room.

If Captain Richard King, back in 1853, could have looked ahead into this evening in 1952 to see the beautiful King Ranch House of today, a great mansion glowing with the beauty and spirit of this Christmas festival, thronged with people from far and near, where once stood a lonely little ranch house by Santa Gertrudis Creek he wouldn't believe it. Or he would think he was seeing all of Alladin's fabulous wishes rolled into one.

Contributors may give their dollar donation to Club representatives and members at Harrel Drug Store, which will be open on Sunday except from 12:00 noon till 4:00 p.m. that day, or from Finnegan's Humble Station at 6th and King. Late contributors may give their dollar at the door, obtain their receipts and enjoy the Open House. Children will get a receipt for their quarters and be able to visit too.

All Garden Club members must turn in their contribution receipts no later than Thursday, Dec. 11, to Mrs. A. C. Jones.

The committees responsible for the success of this lovely Christmas Festival Open House and the chairman are:

General, Mrs. Charles Flato III, with Mrs. John D. Finnegan, Jr., co-chairman; traffic and parking, Mrs. Nick Harrel; outdoor decorating, Mrs. Ted Remling; foyer and greeting, Mrs. John DeMauri,

Jr.; staircase, Mrs. Joreen Gibson; living room, Mrs. Helen Sells; Christmas tree, Mrs. Bob Hope; music room, Mrs. Allen Smith; library, Mrs. Earl Gaston;

Dining room decorating, Mrs. Melvin Wood, with Mrs. Herbert Andrews, co-chairman; dining room hostesses, Mrs. R. S. Muil, with Mrs. C. Meek, co-chairman; refreshments, Mrs. R. M. Kleberg, Jr.; invitations, Miss Ann Kirven, with Mrs. J. R. Scales, co-chairman; tropical room, Mrs. Francis R. Jones.

Wednesday, December 10, 1952

Kingsville Garden Club Ready for Open House

Everything is in readiness for the annual Open House and Christmas Festival held by the Kingsville Garden Club. This year for the donation of one dollar to the Civic Garden Center, which the Kingsville Garden Club is sponsoring, one is invited to attend the Open House at the King Ranch Guest House Sunday, Dec. 14, from 4 to 7 p.m.

For weeks the members have been planning and working on this project to make it one of the most entertaining events of the year for people in South Texas. Mrs. Charles Flato III is chairman and Mrs. John D. Finnegan, Jr. is co-chairman. More than fifteen committees of the club are participating in arranging the inside of the famous house and the outside of the mansion.

The Voice Ensemble of the Music Club will sing the Choral Music for the occasion.

Numerous clubs in South Texas will present their arrangements

2-C Corpus Christi CALLER-TIMES, Sun., Dec. 14, 1952

Christmas Festival at King Ranch: It will look a lot like Christmas today at Santa Gertrudis, main house at the King Ranch, where the Kingsville Garden Club will be receiving hundreds of South Texas callers at the club's annual Christmas festival. Visitors between the hours of 4 and 7 o'clock will be greeted in the traditional ranch manner, and at the entrance will be standing the carriage that belonged to Mrs. King, wife of Capt. Richard King, founder of the famed ranch, which, in 1953, will mark its centennial anniversary.

Visitors will view the entire first floor with its Christmas decorations offered as a placement show by the Kingsville Club, while under the covered loggias of the patio around which the house is built will be an invitation show of entries from garden clubs throughout South Texas, all in a Christmas theme.

for a Christmas festival is an event anticipated by hundreds of South Texans for next Sunday afternoon, Dec. 14. Visitors will be received from 4 to 7 p.m.

The festival has been arranged by the Kingsville Garden Club, which is undertaking the most intriguing and extensive Christmas-time event of this very active club's history.

In the nomenclature of garden club members, the decorations of the home will be a placement show. Yet there will be more than a placement show. The Kingsville Garden Club also has arranged a club invitation show, to be staged in the Santa Gertrudis patio, and has



SANTA GERTRUDIS PATIO—Members of this group, pictured in the patio of Santa Gertrudis making plans for the Dec. 14 Christmas Festival at the King Ranch, are (left to right, seated in chairs), Mrs. Homer C. Wilson, Sr., Mrs. A. C. Jones, and Mrs. Nick Harrel, Jr.; Miss Pauline Wells (left) and Miss Mary Wells are seated on the grass.



TO DECORATE TROPICAL ROOM—Navy wives will decorate the tropical room of Santa Gertrudis with flowers flown from Hawaii. Pictured are (left to right) Mrs. Francis Jones, chairman; Mrs. W. G. Craig and Mrs. G. R. Edwards.



the most intriguing and extensive Christmas-time event of this very active club's history.

In the mood of an early American Christmas etching, the first sight that will greet callers will be a carriage at the ranch house entrance. This carriage, which belonged to the wife of Capt. Richard King, founder of King Ranch, is a familiar sight to most Kingsville residents, who have often seen it in parades and on other special occasions. But for them, and also to callers unfamiliar with the ranch, the carriage with its Christmas decoration will be a mellowing welcome.

Also in the tradition of the ranch, visitors, as they approach the drives to Santa Gertrudis in their automobiles, will be directed to designated parking areas.

Racing Colors

Young sons of Kingsville Garden Club members, wearing the famed brown and white racing silks and the familiar Running W of the King Ranch stables, will be a more modern touch to the welcome. These boys, saying "Merry Christmas" greetings, will be at the door, the north entrance to Santa Gertrudis, where all guests will be received.

Callers then will proceed through the entrance hall, down the staircase hallway, into the living room, through the music room and the library, into the dining hall for refreshments, circle the large enclosed patio, and then depart, through the sun room, by way of the east terrace.

Christmas Music

A choir, made up of Kingsville Music Club and Young Music Lovers Club members, will be assembled on the landing of the staircase. Stained glass windows in the background and Yule decorations of the double stairway, will make this an impressive scene. There will be a continuous program of Christmas songs, a program which has been planned by Mrs. W. G. Eubanks, president of the Kingsville Music Club.

All of Kingsville Garden Club members will be hostesses during the afternoon, and so will a number of honorary members, wives of personnel at the Naval Air Auxiliary Station, Kingsville.

Mrs. Flato Chairman

Mrs. Charles Flato, III, is chairman of the Christmas festival, and Mrs. John D. Finnegan, Jr., is co-chairman.

The outside decoration of Santa Gertrudis is being arranged by a committee of which Mrs. Ted Remling is chairman, with Mrs. Henry Converse, Mrs. Eugene May, Mrs. D. B. Ballard, Mrs. George Dietz, Mrs. J. S. Cage and Mrs. Bud Piper as other members.

Tropical Room

Only in the tropical room, where visitors may turn back for a farewell view of the stairway and an arched vista of the patio, will the decorations be contemporary. Flowers to be flown from Hawaii will be used by Navy wives decorating this room, under the direction of Mrs. Francis Jones, wife of Capt. Jones, commander of NAAS Kingsville.

Committee members assisting Mrs. Jones include Mrs. William B. Craig, Mrs. G. R. Edwards, and Mrs. I. Cushman.

Mrs. JoRene Gibson is chairman of the staircase decorations, assisted by Mrs. William Ewert and Mrs. Chester Dunn.

Mrs. J. A. DeMauri, Jr., as chairman; Mrs. John Henderson, Mrs. W. C. Hines and Mrs. Clyde Gonyo are the committee on entrance decorating.

Christmas Tree

A Christmas tree, between the living room and music room, will be a focal point of decorations for the living room, a room of simple, elegant formality with a picture of the Alamo over the mantel. Members of a committee of which Mrs. Bob Hope is chairman have designed and made the



DECORATING MAIN HOUSE ENTRANCE—Mrs. Ted Remling, chairman of the outdoor lighting and decoration committee for the Kingsville Garden Club festival, is standing on a ladder at the entrance to Santa Gertrudis. Assisting her are (left to right) Mrs. May, Mrs. Sterling Cage, Mrs. Henry Converse, Mrs. Bud Piper and Mrs. Darrel Ballard.

GARDENS
PENNY PECKENPAUGH, Editor

J. A. Howe are serving on the ticket committee, and Miss Ann Kirven and Mrs. H. C. Wilson were chairmen of invitations. The placement chairman for the patio show is Mrs. J. R. Scales.

Contributions

The Kingsville Garden Club is not selling tickets for the festival, but instead has requested that persons making the Christmas festival pilgrimage contribute to the club's garden center fund, \$1 for adults, and 25 cents for children.

"We feel that the Christmas festival at Santa Gertrudis is a timely event for 1953 is the centennial year of the King Ranch," said Mrs. Flato, festival chairman. "The Kingsville Garden Club is making every effort on an occasion of every one paid added. 'In a way our expression of the contributions garden center fund we hope, this year real nucleus fund justify planning the centennial of the future.'"

Not only have contributions received from the Texas, but responses from Dallas, Houston and other larger cities in the Dec. 14 pilgrimage to Santa Gertrudis.



CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL CHAIRMEN—Leaders in the planning for next Sunday's Christmas festival at Santa Gertrudis, main house of the King Ranch, include these Kingsville Garden Club members: (left to right, standing), Mrs. Charles Flato, III, general chairman; Mrs. Richard Kleberg, Jr., hospitality chairman; (seated) Mrs. John D. Finnegan, Jr., Mrs. Flato's cochairman; and Mrs. W. E. Sells, president of the Kingsville Garden Club.

tree decorations. Working with Mrs. Hope are Mrs. Sam H. Rabon, Mrs. Claud West, Mrs. Richard L. Geen and Mrs. Otis West.

Mrs. W. E. Sells is chairman of the living room committee. Other members are Mrs. E. W. House, Mrs. Ben Oris-Sims, Mrs. N. M. Harrel, Mrs. D. W. Peace, Mrs. John Cypher, and Miss Edith Cousins.

A religious theme will be expressed in decorations in the music room, which are being arranged by Mrs. Allen Smith and Mrs. Joe Keepers, and a committee headed by Mrs. Earl Gaston will decorate the library in a ranch

theme. Mrs. Gaston's assistants are Mrs. John Arvin, Mrs. Ted Campbell, Mrs. Charles Foster, and Mrs. H. E. Fischer.

South Texas Greens

"Traditional greens" of South Texas, including the cenizo, the century plant, the cactus and the agarita, will be the native materials stressed in the decoration of the dining room, where visitors will be served Christmas punch and cookies.

Mrs. Melvin Wood is chairman of dining room decorations; Mrs. Herbert Andrews is cochairman, and Mrs. Leonard Walker and Mrs. Frank Dotterweich are other assistants.

Mrs. R. M. Kleberg, Jr., is hospitality chairman, and Mrs. R. S. Muil and Mrs. C. Meek are cochairmen of a large hostess committee that will be assisting with the dining room hospitality.

Mrs. N. M. Harrel, Jr. is traffic chairman; Mrs. A. C. Jones, Mrs. Frank Cheatham and Mrs.

Almost 8,000 Attend King Ranch Festival

By MAURINE EASTUS
Call-Times Women's Editor

KINGSVILLE—Almost 8,000 visitors from all parts of Texas and several states in the union thronged to the Christmas festival Sunday at the main house of the King Ranch.

The Kingsville Garden Club, sponsor of the festival, announced calling hours were 4 to 7 p.m. Before 3 p.m. long lines of people stretched from the ranch house front door. Because of the many visitors, the show was extended until 8 p.m.

The house was decorated by the Kingsville Garden Club in traditional Christmas fashion. The Kingsville Music Club choir sang carols from the landing of the double stairway and in the hall Mrs. Charles Flato III, general chairman of the festival provided music from an electric organ.

In the patio was an invitational Christmas show in which all garden clubs from this area participated.

Judges' choice of the show and winner of the gold ribbon and sterling silver compote was a table arrangement entitled "Navidad Tropical" entered by the McAllen Garden Club. It also won the novelty class arrangement blue ribbon.

Second place in the novelty class was won by the Alice Garden Club entry and third by the Bouganvillea Garden Club of Corpus Christi.

In the religious class arrangements, Saint Gertrude's League of Kingsville took first; Azalea Garden Club took second; and the Association of American University Women of Kingsville, third.

Judges for the event were Mrs. John V. Rowan, Mrs. H. C. Wilson, Mrs. J. R. Scales, Mrs. J. A. Howe, Mrs. J. D. Finnegan, Jr., Mrs. W. E. Sells, Mrs. R. M. Kleberg, Jr., Mrs. R. S. Muil, Mrs. C. Meek, Mrs. N. M. Harrel, Jr., Mrs. A. C. Jones, Mrs. Frank Cheatham and Mrs.

FESTIVAL

Continued from Page 1

den Club of Corpus Christi, second, and Cenizo Garden Club of Kingsville, third.

In the spray and wreath division, Garden Gate Garden Club of Kingsville took first; Evergreen Garden Club of Bishop, second, and the Association of American University Women of Kingsville, third.

Judges for the event were Mrs. John V. Rowan, Mrs. H. C. Wilson, Mrs. J. R. Scales, Mrs. J. A. Howe, Mrs. J. D. Finnegan, Jr., Mrs. W. E. Sells, Mrs. R. M. Kleberg, Jr., Mrs. R. S. Muil, Mrs. C. Meek, Mrs. N. M. Harrel, Jr., Mrs. A. C. Jones, Mrs. Frank Cheatham and Mrs.

Garden Club Open House Sunday Afternoon At King Ranch Huge Success with 8,000 A

The world famous King Ranch Guest House was resplendent in holiday color and decoration as thousands from Texas and other states thronged the portals of the mansion Sunday afternoon, Dec. 14, at the Kingsville Garden Club's Open House from 3 until 8 p.m.

The house was decorated in the traditional Christmas fashion with each room depicting its use. From the hall through the spacious living room and library with the dome ceilings, a guest felt the hospitality equalled only in the South as he was greeted by the smiling hostesses. In the hallway leading to the large dining room Mrs. Charles Flato III, general chairman of the festival, provided music from an electric organ.

The Kingsville Music Club Choir sang carols from a landing of the double stairway. Charles Bounds directed.

Members of the choir are Mrs. Garland Medders, Mrs. G. W. McCulley, Mrs. W. G. Eubanks, Mrs. C. R. Stahl, Mrs. J. S. Scarborough, Jr., Mrs. D. A. Mayhew, Mrs. L. A. Fritts, Mrs. E. V. Yeagan, Mrs. E. R. Bogusch, Mrs. Ray Counts, and Mrs. C. M. King. Mrs. J. V. Chandler was organist.

Carolers were sung from 4 to 6 p.m.

As the guest viewed the many arrangements in the different rooms, and received ideas of interior decoration King Ranch style, he came to the patio where the invitational Christmas show was held. All garden clubs from this area participated.

Judges' choice of the show and winner of the gold ribbon and sterling silver compote was a table arrangement entitled "Navidad Tropical," entered by the McAllen Garden Club. It also won the novelty class arrangement blue ribbon.

The Saint Gertrude's League of Kingsville took first place in religious class arrangement.

The Garden Gate G of Kingsville won first place in the spray and wreath class; Evergreen Garden Club second; and the American Association of University Kingsville, third.

The Alice Garden Club and place in the novelty class the Bougainvillea Garden Club of Corpus Christi received.

Judges for the event were John V. Rowan, Mrs. Dreeke and Logan L. Stephens, all national flower show judges from San Antonio.

The proceeds of the Open House will be used to promote the Garden Club Center in the Kingsville.



RELIGIOUS CLASS WINNER—Mrs. Charles Flato III, general chairman of the Kingsville Garden Club's Christmas Festival, (left) takes note of the blue ribbon award won by the St. Gertrude's League of Kingsville for this invitation show arrangement in the religious class. 'Rose of Mysteries,' is the name of the arrangement, a study in blues and golds. The flowers at the base of the golden madonna are blue flocked cactus blossoms. Mrs. John D. Finnegan, Jr., (right) was co-chairman for the festival.

beside a long L-shaped table, at way picture with its stained window background. Cup candles and beside silver trays of holiday cookies wreathed in slices of fruit cake. Those who inquired, learned that two of the bowls were racing trophies won by King Ranch horses.

In interest, the Kentucky Derby cup, won by Assault in the 72nd running of that event, and the dining room mural of the finish, far overshadowed the traditional Christmas arrangements.

There were Christmas entries of some 30 South Texas garden clubs placed around the patio, but the center of interest was the large round fountain that centers the patio. Sunday, there were pointsettias floating on the water. Many visitors paused to admire the passion vines that were climbing to the second floor balconies around the patio.

Entering and departing, visitors paused long for the double stair-



JUDGES' CHOICE—This Christmas arrangement, 'Navidad Tropical,' entry of the McAllen Garden Club was the judges' choice, winner of a gold ribbon and a silver compote, as well as blue ribbon winner in the novelty class, at the invitation show that was staged in the Santa Gertrudis patio Sunday as a part of the Kingsville Garden Club's Christmas Festival at the King Ranch. Pictured with the McAllen entry are the show judges, (left to right) Mrs. John V. Rowan, Mrs. Harold Dreeke and Mrs. Logan L. Stephenson, all of San Antonio.



BOYS IN SILKS—Four young boys, including John DeMauri and Frank Flato (above) wearing the famed brown and white riding silks of the King Ranch stables, were at the entrance to Santa Gertrudis Sunday to say 'Merry Christmas' to the 8,000 visitors for the Kingsville Garden Club Christmas Festival. John and Frank, easily identified by the King Ranch brand, the running W, are in the foreground of this group, the festive third boy is young Mark Flato, who, wearing a suit that was first worn by his father, Charles Flato III, had posed as a part of the family group in the holiday decked carriage that stood at the ranch house entrance.

Santa Gertrudis Tour Memorable

By MAURINE EASTUS
Caller Women's Editor

KINGSVILLE — There was a touch of Christmas everywhere one turned at Santa Gertrudis on Sunday afternoon, and the nearly 8,000 visitors who came to share a garden club festival at the main house of the famed King Ranch became a part of the holiday scene.

For nearly five hours, there were long lines of men, women and children at the approaches to the entrance, and the setting there must have been as impressive as any which greeted them. Shiny black was the carriage which had belonged to Mrs. Richard King, wife of the ranch founder, and colorful were the wreaths and festoons on the carriage doors and the gaily wrapped packages stacked inside. Giving life to that entrance scene was a family group, in costumes of an early day, enacted by Miss Dawn Riebel, Benjie Goodman, Markie Flato, Ann Dietz, Pat Piper, Margaret Gaston and John D. Finnegan III.

Then at the door were young Tres Kleberg, Hayden Rabon, John DeMauri and Flato, young boys wearing the brown and white racing silks. Overhead was a wreath in the colors, the running W brand through the center.

The browns in Christmas arrangements, an unprecedented placement show arranged by the hostess Kingsville Garden Club, were dominant through much of the house, even though less colorfully striking than some other effects. Nowhere was the subtle use of the browns more effective than in the music room. There were brown candles on the piano, with softly frosted, but natural wreaths as the candle base. These were sunflower leaves, which curl and frost when allowed to dry naturally.

The mantel, with a candle arrangement with a cross in the center and two tall wooden monks at either end, was hung with a swag of brown magnolia leaves, dried seed pods and berries.

For holiday glamour, no piece probably drew more comment than

a hand made candelabrum on a living room fireside table. White tapers burned in the ten branches which extended in curves from a center shaft of white gladiolus blossoms, while adding color and glitter were handmade butterflies and crystal snowflakes. This was the work of the Christmas festival chairman, Mrs. Charles Flato III.

A creche, nestled in silver moss, had a colorful Della Robia frame, and some may have missed this in the living room if the towering white Christmas tree with its blue trim held the eye too long. The music notes were handmade, of eggshells and pipe cleaners, all wrapped in silver and gold foil and glittered. The angels, with foil wings, had skirts of deep blue cellophane beverage straws, ping pong balls as the base for their handpainted faces.

Candles burned in a mesquite log candleholder to light an open Bible with leather marker, miniature cowboy chaps, on a wall desk in the den, the desk itself giving many visitors pause.

Many may have missed a gardening book beside a massing around a tall, rough red candle on a coffee table in the den. That was a Miss Frances Osgood's gardening book, 'Floral Offering,' written and edited by her 106 years ago.

In the dining room, guests paused

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'Big House' Pilgrimage Sets King Ranch Record

Caller-Times News Service

KINGSVILLE—Over 8,000 visitors stood in line in the cold here Sunday afternoon to get into the Santa Gertrudis Ranch house (the big house on the King Ranch) to see it and the Kingsville Garden Club's Christmas festival. It was the biggest crowd that the big house, famous for its hospitality, had ever entertained, more than doubling the number of those who had attended any previous event.

Several years ago Kingsville church women held a silver tea at the big house, but it did not get much publicity play nor a very big crowd in comparison to this.

There were 7,000 paper cups of punch filled and served and many did not drink punch. At the beginning there were 4,000 home-made cookies and 30 fruit cakes, but they did not last long. Soon bought cookies made their appearance and punch was being hastily made in the kitchen. The open house was scheduled to start at 4 p.m. but there was such a long line waiting at 3 p.m. that the doors were opened then and kept open until 8 p.m., an hour after the scheduled closing.

Members of the Kleberg family who helped greet many of the visitors were Mrs. Richard M. Kleberg, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Kleberg, Jr. No one here had any idea of the tremendous interest there would be in seeing the ranch house. The Santa Gertrudis division has been open to tourist visitors for several years, but many had not ever made the trip to visit, and of course, tourists are not allowed to disturb the Klebergs, who live in the big house.

The house was beautifully decorated through the untiring efforts of all the garden club members and the music club choir sang carols from the landing of one of the stairs. There was also organ music, but there was mainly the big house on the King Ranch, a fabulous place to many people, for they stood in line four abreast at times waiting until they could get in. If there ever was any doubt about the attraction the King Ranch is to people, it is now dispelled. By noon Sunday you could spot the carloads of visitors on the streets, browsing around and waiting for the show to begin.

can publish this letter in the Kingsville Record so that all concerned may realize how deeply we have appreciated the assistance given us in regard to the use of the Ranch home, publicity, cooperation from other clubs and our own loyal workers.

Sincerely,

You have already been so gen-

KINGSVILLE RECORD Wednesday, December 24, 1952

Garden Club Voices Thanks

For a number of years the Kingsville Garden Club has been decorating one or more Kingsville homes for a Christmas Pilgrimage and this December we were most fortunate in that the Kleberg family were so gracious as to offer us the use of the Santa Gertrudis Ranch home for this purpose. We were sincerely grateful to the Klebergs and we felt that an opportunity to decorate and visit this home was an unusual privilege which should be shared beyond the borders of Kingsville.

The Kingsville Record and Radio Station KINE were most cooperative in giving us excellent coverage both before the Pilgrimage and in reporting it. The large attendance at the Ranch home could never have been achieved without the assistance given us in our effort to initiate the raising of

funds for our proposed Garden Center. We feel greatly indebted to the visitors for their contributions.

As you know, the Ranch home offers so many and varied opportunities for presenting floral arrangements that this could not have been done without the enthusiastic and artistic participation from the many garden clubs in South Texas who shared both our responsibility and our success. Therefore, to all of these clubs, we wish to express our heartfelt thanks.

Finally, there were the Kingsville Garden Club chairmen of our various committees who assumed the burden of directing the various activities and who worked so long and so hard.

You have already been so gen-

Letters From Our Readers

Christmas Pilgrimage

Editor, the Caller:

For a number of years the Kingsville Garden Club has been decorating one or more Kingsville homes for a Christmas Pilgrimage and this December we were most fortunate in that the Kleberg family was so gracious as to offer us the use of the Santa Gertrudis ranch home for this purpose. We were sincerely grateful to the Klebergs and we felt that an opportunity to decorate and visit this home was an unusual

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You have already been so gen-



(7)



(3)



(3)

OUTSIDE DECORATIONS

Committee:

Mrs. Ted Remling, Chairman
Mrs. Darrell Ballard
Mrs. Henry Converse
Mrs. Sterling Cage

Mrs. George Dietz
Mrs. R.H. Piper
Mrs. Eugene May

* * *

To Entrance

- (1) Six red lighted Christmas bells over entrance gate with Christmas chime records amplified.
- (2) Forty hurricane lamps decorated with pine cones and red bows grouped from gate to doorway.
- (3) Carriage on right of door drawn by two white horses. Carriage with colorful wrapped Christmas packages, Christmas tree and wreaths on doors. Riding in the carriage dressed in old fashioned costumes: Miss Dawn Riebel and Mr. Bennie Goodman, and children: Mark Flato, Ann Dietz, Pat Piper, Margaret Gaston and John D. Finnegan, III.

Entrance

- (4) An eight foot running "W" wreath of painted magnolia leaves in the Ranch racing colors of brown and white over double doors of entrance.
- (5) Century plants five feet tall and four feet wide on either side of doorway bronzed and glittered, and topped with bronze Christmas balls.
- (6) Family brands of the Ranch cattle and horses bronzed and glittered on double doors of entrance.
- (7) Boys in brown and white satin jockey suits of the Ranch racing colors opening entrance doors: Tres Kleberg, Hayden Rabon, Frank Flato and John DeMauri. These jockey suits were especially made in Florida and air mailed to the Club.

Exit

- (8) At right of exit terrace a life size deer with a two feet tall elf beside him dressed in green and red; deer has a bright red nose.
- (9) Marble top table on terrace has large arrangement of pine, pine cones and Christmas balls in brass container.

THE KINGSVILLE RECORD



(7)



(8)





(2)

STAIRWAY AND ALCOVE

Committee:

Mrs. Jo Rene Gibson, Chairman
Mrs. Wm. M. Ewert
Mrs. Chester Dunn

* * *

(1) A swag of magnolia leaves and fresh pomegranates touched with bronze, formed a pedestal for a large bronzed red candle at the foot of the stairway.

(2) Double stairway decorated with clusters of magnolia leaves touched with bronze spaced at intervals along wrought iron grill work. Candles in small red glasses on the ends of every other step formed a line of light to accent the beauty of the staircase. Additional candles brightened the landing where a vested choir, members of the Kingsville Music Club, sang Christmas carols. Stained glass windows formed a background.

(3) In the alcove a swag of magnolia leaves and red-orange pyracantha, brushed with bronze, formed the background for a hand carved alabaster statue, "Rebecca at the Well", imported from Pizze, Italy. The scene was framed by French windows and accented by more candles in red glasses. Low twin arrangements of magnolia leaves and pyracantha were placed on identical chests on either side of the alcove.

(4) Two models wore their handmade evening dresses which received awards at the Mission, Texas Citrus Festival. One was made of Bougainvillea petals solidly massed with a trim of red cabbage. The other model wore a dress created from Spanish moss with a trim of the white inner skin of the grapefruit. These dresses had matching mittens. These costumes had been kept in cold storage for two weeks to preserve them.



(2)



(3)



(4)



(2)



(2)



ENTRANCE HALL AND FOYER

Committee:

Mrs. J.A. DeMauri, Jr., Chairman Mrs. Clyde Gonyo
Mrs. A.J. Thrcotte Mrs. John Henderson
Mrs. W.C. Hines

* * *

(1) Table at north window near entrance - Large 3½ foot candle fashioned from center of palm, flanked with holly; handmade parchment scroll as accessory in religious motif.

(2) Center table - Large Santa on green felt cloth designed by committee and fashioned by Lichtenstein's, boots, Stetson, lasso proclaiming "Welcome". Painted white cactus accessory.

(3) Fireplace - Six foot swag, running "W" design, made of native materials in tones of brown and red.

(4) Center column - Deer head wearing black Stetson with red ribbon, holly decorated.

(5) Side table - Three foot brass urn containing four dozen red roses, asymmetric design



TROPICAL ROOM

Committee:

Mrs. Francis R. Jones, Chairman Mrs. G.R. Edwards
Mrs. W.B. Craig Mrs. I. Cushman

Hostesses:

Mrs. M.M. Dierker Mrs. J.N. Tuttle
Mrs. M.R. Doughty Mrs. L.B. Ellison
Mrs. J.T. Sill Mrs. P. Mattei
Mrs. L.E. Sloan Mrs. D. Walker
Mrs. G.C. Simmons Mrs. L.J. McNeill
Mrs. D.K. Olson Mrs. T. Bays
Mrs. M.J. Gaddis

* * * * *

Entrance to Tropical Room

- (1) Two copper urns on each side of stairway filled with rubber plant, loquat and pyracantha.
By Mrs. Craig and Mrs. Edwards
- (2) Two huge pottery urns filled with rubber plant and loquat.
By Mrs. Craig and Mrs. Edwards
- (3) Large Tapa hanging on wall from Samoa Islands.
- (4) Woodroses on coffee table in large pewter bowl ordered from Hilo, Hawaii and arranged by Mrs. S.H. Rabon.
- (5) Heads from Bali on end table belong to Lt. Comdr. and Mrs. Graber.
- (6) On the radio - Huge wooden bowl filled with torch ginger, ti leaves, anthurium from deep red to shell pink.
By Mrs. Cushman
- (7) Greens massed in corner - Huge green glass urn with red ginger and ti leaves. Parrots belong to Lt. Comdr. and Mrs. Gesell.
- (8) Long coffee table designed and made out of Monkey Pod by Lt. Cushman.
- (9) Delicately tinted chinese bowl with sprays of orchids
By Mrs. Francis Jones
- (10) End table - Large pewter bowl with huge piece of coral, green glass fish net balls with Vanda orchids and anthuriums.
By Mrs. Francis Jones



(6)

Ordered from Hawaii -

Anthurium, pale pink to deep red
Torch Ginger
Orchid Sprays
Wooden Roses
Croton Leaves
Ti Leaves
Anthurium Leaves
Red Ginger

Leis - Spice pink carnation
Red carnation
White carnation
Vanda orchid

(10)



LIVING ROOM

Committee:

Mrs. W.E. Sells, Chairman Mrs. Ben Oris Sims
Mrs. E.W. House Miss Edith Cousins
Mrs. John Cypher Mrs. N.M. Harrel
Mrs. Charles Flato III Mrs. D.W. Peace

* * * * *

Occasional Table

- (1) Variety of dried materials, large mass design, in antique container.

Coffee Table

- (2) Swedish candle mobile surrounded with magnolia and Christmas balls.

Occasional Table

- (3) Arrangement on antique English kettle compote of gilded grape clusters with vertical symmetrical design of white gladiolus.

Occasional Table

- (4) White and gold handmade plaster 10-branch candelabra 30 inches tall with white gladiolus, handmade butterflies of pink skeletonized magnolia leaves with diamond dust and glittered plastic snowflakes.

Fireplace

- (5) Swag of coppertoned magnolia leaves over mantle.

Occasional Table

- (6) Gold and white wreath circling a lamp, spiked with white gladiolus.

Occasional Table

- (7) Della Robia frame for colorful Nativity Scene. Small concealed flash light to light Mary's face. Gold sprayed excelsior for hay.

Occasional Table

- (8) Mass arrangement of magnolia leaves, cones and gilded...



(9)



(4)



(4)



Committee:

Mrs. Earl Gaston
Mrs. Ted R. Campbell
Mrs. J.C. Arvin

Mrs. H.E. Fischer
Mrs. Chas. L. Foster

* * *

SPECIAL EXHIBIT - Lighthouse for the Blind Garden Club, loaned through courtesy of Mrs. John Berry, National Chairman of Garden Therapy

- (1) Items made in Texas Institute for the Blind display for sale. Garden Therapy Book for the blind, especially designed garden tools for the blind and Garden Book in Braille exhibited.

Fireplace

- (2) Gilded lariat forming wreath and flowing into a running "W", decorated with cedar and pyracantha berries.

Hearth

- (3) Left side - 30 inch papier mache bronzed cowboy boots filled with colorful packages against large cactus which had been decorated with bronze glitter.

- (4) Right side - 24 inch bronzed camp coffee pot against cactus which has been accented with bronzed miniature pair of bright red leather cowboy boots.

Coffee Table

- (5) Arrangement of greens centered by a tall rough red handmade candle and accented by small painted figures of cowboys, horses, etc. Accessory: Gardening book, 106 years old "Floral Offering" edited by Miss Frances Osgood.

Desk

- (6) Above desk - Real horse collar, gilded and jeweled, supporting colorful cowboy angel, "Howdedy", with wings and a halo.

- (7) On desk - Small mesquite log, brushed with snow, as candle holder for 3 tall white tapers, gilded horseshoe and snowtipped greens. Candles lightly brushed with gold paint. Bible opened at Chapter 2, Book of Luke, marked with miniature chaps.

End Table

- (8) Gold moss bird's nest in wreath of cedar, pyracantha and small bronze burrs. China quail on nest.

Bronze horse model with garland of red satin ribbon roses around neck. Small gilded race horseshoe with pyracantha and snowed greens in small arrangement.

Library Table

- (9) Christmas tree candle holder with 24 small red candles and triangular banked poinsettia arrangement.



(6)



(4)

MUSIC ROOM

Mrs. Allen Smith, Chairman
Mrs. Joseph Keepers, Co-chairman

* * * *

Piano

- (1) Madonna arrangement using grey driftwood and dried sunflower leaves with a black candle. This arrangement is on a built-up brown plaque.

Door

- (2) Large green wreath decorated with holly, wood roses and pine cones. By Mrs. Keepers

Mantle

- (3) Candle arrangement with cross in middle and two tall wooden monks on either end. Under this arrangement is hung an eight foot swag of magnolia leaves, dried seed pods and berries.

Table

- (4) Two handmade three tiered candle trees of wood and wrought iron holding sixteen candle cups with handmade candles in yellow, red and green, decorated with holly, on either end of table with a mass arrangement of red gladiolus, red carnations, red roses, gilded canna leaves, gilded castor beans, green grapes, green bananas and pomegraintes.

Committee:

Mrs. Melvin Wood, Chairman
Mrs. Herbert Andrews, Co-chairman
Mrs. Frank Dotterweich

Two Buffets

- (1) Twin line-mass arrangements of loquat, pineapple guava, spiral eucalyptus and echeveria in handmade black ceramic urns.

Table

- (2) Oval silver container with line-mass arrangement of century plant foliage, assorted succulents and red gladiolus - Silver punch bowls on red felt - Two branch candelabra.

Recessed Niche at End of Room

- (3) Handcarved Christ Child, three feet tall, holding two candles.

Mantle

- (4) Display of Trophies

Outstanding are the Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont Stakes trophies won by "Assault" (bred by and raced by King Ranch) in 1946, the year he won the so-called Triple Crown represented by the above races; and, the Flamingo Stakes trophy won by "Disposed", raced by King Ranch, in 1941 at Hialeah Park, Florida.

End Windows

- (5) Italian Cypress Christmas tree festooned with cranberries.



(2)



(1)

CHRISTMAS TREE

Committee:

Mrs. Bob Hope, Chairman
Mrs. Claud West
Mrs. Richard Green

Mrs. Otis West
Mrs. Jack Rabon
Mrs. J.R. Scales

- (1) A 14 ft. white tree, glittering with snow
35 - 12 inch handmade blue straw angels with silver wings
Glittering handmade gold foil music notes made of blown eggs and pipe cleaners
Handmade gold reflectors around blue lights
Tree festooned with 2 inch wide strips of gold mesh



PATIO

Mrs. L.A. Walker, Jr., Chairman
Mrs. Frank Cheatham, Co-chairman

Fountain

- (1) Fountain encircled with 300 red poinsettias with floating spiral design of poinsettias in pool.

Background



Mrs. Charles Flato, III
Kingsville, Texas

Dear Mrs. Flato:

It was a privilege and a pleasure to judge the Flower Pilgrimage at the Santa Gertrudis Ranch House in Kingsville on December 14, 1952, sponsored by the Kingsville Garden Club and we enjoyed it very much.

We thought the decorations throughout the house were not only appropriate to the Theme of A Ranch Christmas but showed much thought and originality and the use of the brown and white color scheme, indicative of the racing colors of the famous King Ranch Stables, lent an unusual atmosphere to the whole.

The invitation to surrounding towns to enter afforded the clubs an opportunity to emphasize the flowers characteristic of each area, resulting in unusual and outstanding exhibits.

We are enclosing herewith our Scale of Points on the Pilgrimage and hope you see fit to apply for a National Award as feel that aside from being a successful show it did much to publicize the entire Southwestern area of our State.

Sincerely,

(signed)

Mrs. Harold Dreeke
Mrs. Logan Stephenson
Mrs. John Rowan

Judges

COPY

SCALE OF POINTS

STAGING	30
SUITABILITY TO OCCASION	30
DISTINCTION & ORIGINALITY	20
COLOR	10
CONDITION	7
	97

We felt we had to take off a few points on Condition as some of the material was damaged from the drought.

Naval Auxiliary Air Station
Kingsville, Texas
16 January 1953

CHARLES H. FLATO III, Pres.
BEN A. GLUSING, Treas.

L. F. CONNELL, Mgr.

Kingsville Chamber of Commerce

DIRECTORS
Curtis Arthur
W. E. Cumberland
Dr. Frank Dotterweich
E. B. Erard
Norman J. Hobrecht

P. O. Box 1030
KINGSVILLE, TEXAS

January 8, 1953

Mrs. Charles H. Flato III, General Chairman
Kingsville Garden Club Christmas Festival
Box 832
Kingsville, Texas

Dear Mrs. Flato:

Our Chamber of Commerce wishes to commend the Kingsville Garden Club and you personally as General Chairman for the most excellent Christmas Festival which your club held. The amount of planning and work that went into the preparation for this Festival was evidenced by the Festival decorations throughout the Ranch and the efficient handling of the great crowd of people who attended.

The response of other garden clubs throughout this area in sending exhibits is to be commended also. The large number of out-of-town guests shows the interest that had been created by the literature sent out to these surrounding towns.

The Festival itself was a great civic contribution to our community and to this whole area, and the use of the net proceeds in the building of a Garden Club Center will yield untold benefits throughout the years ahead.

Please accept our congratulations on the success of this Festival.

Very truly

L. F. Connell

L. F. Connell
Manager

Mc

ROBT. J. KLEBERG, JR., PRES.

KING RANCH
KINGSVILLE, TEXAS
RICHARD M. KLEBERG, JR., SEC. Y

R. M. KLEBERG, CHM.

13 January 1953

Mrs. Charles H. Flato III,
General Chairman
Kingsville Garden Club Christmas Festival
Kingsville, Texas

Dear Mrs. Flato:

By means of this letter I wish to leave in the record certain opinions and conclusions regarding your Christmas Festival held last December 14th, at the Santa Gertrudis Ranch home, the use of which, for this purpose, was offered by the Kleberg family.

I visited the home several times during the days while your organization was decorating it and placing the floral arrangements, and also was present for several hours during the Festival so am a witness of the thoughtful planning and hard work that preceded the Festival and the impressive success, so richly deserved, on the day of the occasion itself.

The way in which so many other clubs contributed with exhibits, the great number of visitors who came from a distance and their most complimentary opinions, showed that the Festival attracted first attention and finally praise from a large area. There were many remarkable features about your Festival but, in my opinion, these facts were the most outstanding.

I am sure the thousands who visited the Ranch on December 14th, would join me in congratulating you and all of those in your group for staging an event that was such a credit to Kingsville and South Texas. December 14, 1952, will remain a memorable day.

Very sincerely,

Robert C. Wells
Robert C. Wells

RCW:lr

LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

R. C. (TOMMY) TOMPKINS
GENERAL MANAGER

RIO GRANDE VALLEY, TEXAS

Mailing address: P.O. Box 356, Weslaco, Texas

December 8, 1952

Mr. L. F. Connell, Manager
Kingsville Chamber of Commerce
Kingsville, Texas

Dear Mr. Connell:

As requested in your letter of December 5, it was a real pleasure for us to distribute the enclosed news release on the open house to be held at the King Ranch on December 14. It was sent to seven Valley radio stations, six Valley daily papers, and sixteen Valley weeklies. The release was also mailed to some thirty garden clubs, the seventeen local chambers of commerce, forty members of the Valley-wide Beautification Committee, and some thirty-five members of the Valley Chamber's Tourist Committee.

We are happy to cooperate for several reasons. One is because of my personal interest in Kingsville; two, the worthiness of the Garden Center project, which was in the "dreaming" stage when we left Kingsville; three, because we receive numerous inquiries here in the Valley as to how one may see the inside of the "Big House"; and four, I think this is a wonderful way to build good will for King Ranch.

Although the Tompkins family has visited in the Santa Gertrudis ranch home a good many times, we plan to try to make the open house, as it will be a wonderful opportunity to shake hands with old friends, as well as to enjoy the hospitality of the wonderful Ranch family.

Sincerely,

Tommy
R. C. TOMPKINS
General Manager

RCT:fmh

VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
P.O. Box 356
Weslaco, Texas

All Dailies, Weeklies and Radio Stations

Dear Member:

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OPEN HOUSE

We congratulate the Kingsville Garden Club on its very successful Christmas Festival Open House. The people of Kingsville and surrounding areas as far away as the Valley towns responded in large numbers to make this an outstanding success.

The ladies of the club are to be commended on the beautiful decorations and on the planning which made possible the efficient handling of such a large crowd.

Thousands of people each year ask the question, "Is it possible to see the inside of the famous fifty-room 'big house' of King Ranch at Kingsville?"

Through the courtesy of the Kleberg family, owners of the million-acre ranch, the Kingsville Garden Clubs are holding open house at the Santa Gertrudis (the official name of the 'big house') headquarters home of King Ranch, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. next Sunday, December 14.

Yes, you are invited, and you'll be as welcome a guest of the hospitable Kleberg family and the gracious members of the Kingsville Garden Clubs as perhaps the many notables who have visited there.

Mrs. T. H. Boyce, chairman of the Beautification Committee of the Valley Chamber of Commerce, and Lloyd B. Langston, chairman of the Tourist Committee, have been authorized to extend a general invitation to Valley citizens and Valley winter visitors and tourists to take advantage of this rare occasion to visit inside the big house of fabulous King Ranch. Mrs. J. Connally Kelly, counsellor of the Federation of Valley Garden Clubs, also extends a special invitation to all garden club members and their families to attend the open house as a gesture of cooperation with the garden clubs of Kingsville.

Contributions will be accepted at the door by the Kingsville Garden Clubs of \$1.00 for adults and 25¢ for children, for the Garden Center Fund, a project sponsored by the Kingsville Garden Clubs.

L. F. Connell, manager of the Kingsville Chamber of Commerce, stated, "Because of the general desire of the people to see this fine ranch home, and also because of the worthy purpose to which this money will be devoted, we believe that many of the tourists, as well as Valley residents, will be glad to visit the Ranch at this time." Connell also stated that those desiring to see a part of the Ranch, the fine livestock and race horses, may do so either before or following their visit to the open house.