

A close-up photograph of a coleus plant. The leaves are dark purple with intricate patterns of bright green and yellow. The leaves have a scalloped or serrated edge. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the plant's foliage.

The Florida Gardener
Summer 2022

President's Message

Funny You Should Ask!!!

Dear Friends,



I was asked to attend the former FFGC Presidents' meeting. It is really called the Advisory Committee. The meeting was to be by Zoom and I needed to let the Former Presidents know what I had been doing in my first year as President of FFGC. Well, just having finished the WOW convention I felt that was all that I had worked on all year, but then I started thinking of all the people I'd met, places I'd visited, and events I had attended. It was an amazing list. I'd like to share these events with you.

I love attending Short Courses, so I attended Short Course North in the Panhandle, later I Zoomed Tropical short Course in West Palm. They were both full of great speakers and information.

I attended four Blue Star Marker Dedications. Bonita Springs, Fort Myers Beach, Wellington, and Crystal River all had beautifully thought out services. Attending my first Gold Star Memorial was almost too much to take in. If you haven't attended a Gold Star Memorial service, I encourage you to do so. I can say no more.

Then it was back to District I for symposium. I passed, who would have thought?

A clean-up day at headquarters in Winter Park, with eleven other garden club members and husbands, filled a September day. Next, replacing the old green benches with new iron ones was another job for my friend John to complete. Another day was a visit to a Zoning meeting at Winter Park City Hall. Finally, a day of interviews for the new office manager. Robin Hayes was hired and welcomed to her new position at Headquarters.

Waved to the crowd while riding in a cute little convertible Mercedes, with members of the Gainesville Garden Club, for the University of Florida's homecoming parade. My dad was turning over in his grave, having been on the first football team at Florida State University.

Attended District IV and V's Fall meetings, Sebring's 75th birthday celebration, groundbreaking for Wekiva's new office building, and two convention meetings in Kissimmee.

Back to the Panhandle to view District I's Southern Charm flower show. They had been working on it for over a year and it showed. It was charming. I also judged in Bradenton twice, Ft. Lauderdale, and St. Augustine. My goal is that NGC Five Star Honor by April 2023. Had fun exhibiting at Bradenton twice, Gainesville, Crystal River, the FFGC State Flower show and NGC's National Flower Show.

Celebrations of Life were attended for Former FFGC Presidents Al Latina and Joan Oaks. UF Short Course Chairman, Florence Kline's family and friends filled the room for her service. Finally, Pat Carver's memorial service, in Dade City, brought back her pastor from decades ago.

Conventions attended were Deep South in Mississippi, FFGC in Orlando, and NGC in Orlando. So many new people to meet and greet.

In the meantime, you all have been busy. FFGC, you, have almost 2,000 new members, you've given out almost \$180,000 in educational scholarships, and planted 490,000 trees.

Time for a long break? No way. Wekiva Youth camp, Seek, UF Short Course, and more people to meet and greet are in the days to come. Enjoy your life.

Marjorie H. Hendon, FFGC President



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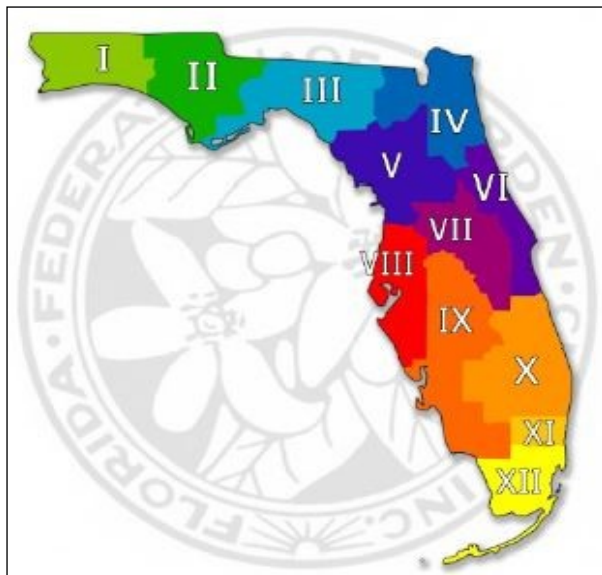


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From Your Editor

Dave Spaulding, Editor "The Florida Gardener"

Thanks again to all for your continued support and interest in our FFGC magazine content.



Thanks to Barb Jacobson for supplying the information & pictures regarding the 2022 FFGC Convention Flower Show (see pg. 21-22). I also want to note that Carol Friedman was responsible for the design, layout, and staging of the Convention Flower Show event.

Also, thanks to all article contributors and advertisers for their help in making this magazine a viable information resource to our members, guests, and subscribers.

Please welcome Barbara Hadsell to "The Florida Gardener" our magazine core structure. As "Continuing Education Liaison", she will be responsible for the accuracy of the "Continuing Education" article. We have an experienced and well-qualified core team to help produce "The Florida Gardener" magazine. - (Core): Marge Hendon, Dave Spaulding, Sue Roberts, Barbara Hadsell, Inger Jones, and Kelley Wood.

Our future looks bright!

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs

UPCOMING TRAVEL

We are excited to be traveling again, and we would love if you would join us in the future! We have multiple trips that offer you the opportunity to travel within the US as well as over seas! Here are our unique trips.



Christmas Market Cruise
December 7, 2022 - Danube River

Experience timeless holiday traditions and elegant pageantry along the Danube River on this 7 night river cruise and two night stay in Munich.



Michigan Tulip Fest & Mackinac Island
May 2023 - Dates to be announced

Tulip Time celebrates tulips, Dutch heritage, & the Holland, Michigan community. Since 1929, the city of Holland has blossomed with hundreds of thousands of tulips.



Douro River Cruise
October 4, 2023 - Portugal

Join us on this 7 night river cruise with a 2 night stay in Lisbon. Taste wines from historic wineries & soak up the genuine beauty of one of Europe's most unadulterated landscapes on this sailing.



Coastal Cruise
April 2024 - Amelia Island to Charleston

Join us on a coastal cruise sailing out of Amelia Island! This trip will be in conjunction with the FFGC 100th anniversary celebration convention!
Dates to be announced.

Visit our website to learn more about our upcoming trips:

<https://www.funseas.com/ffgc>



Contact Shelley Atkinson,
your Garden Club Travel Advisor
(850) 386-7327 ext. 208
SATkinson@FunSeas.com



DISTRICT I NEWS

Joyce Waters-Smith, Director



Counties: Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton

District I held a district-wide Flower Show entitled "Southern Charm" which was held at St Sylvester's Catholic Church in Navarre, FL, March 21-23, 2022. Linda Henderson was the Flower Show Chairman. I want to say once again what a fabulous, "over the top" show this was. Each and every Committee Chairman did their assigned job and did it very well. This flower show was deemed a huge success due to everyone jumping in and working hard with total commitment. We were a first-class working machine! The membership booth in the lobby, designed by Jane and Ed Nendick, carried the theme with stately columns.

Dressed to the "nines" were mannequins dressed as southern belles by



Jenny Weber. A team including Catherine Ryan, Charlotte Croft, Judy Keliher, and Kat Spieker painted and decorated bicycles with contrived flowers that were sold following the show. Even the church manager commented on how well so many women worked with no raised voices - only smiles and laughter. The Staging Committee, chaired by Kat Spieker and assisted by Rose Racz was so well organized and followed their floor plan as much as possible and the whole room was ready by 2 pm for welcoming entries.

Sweepstakes Horticulture Winner was Valparaiso GC and Sweepstakes Design Winner was Pick n' Poke GC of Pensacola. There were numerous other awards given out to honor the beautiful horticulture entries and the wonderful designs.

The **Defuniak Springs Garden Club** members have been very active in our community gardens weeding, transplanting, planting new plants, mulching and replacing landscape timbers. One of our members is planning a new butterfly garden in our Library Reading Garden. We have had great programs and activities this year, such as pressed flowers used in various crafts, an informational talk on the invasive Cogon grass, a presentation using succulents in a floral design along with growing and propagating tips.

We will soon visit the Crestview Nursery for a demonstration of how to create a Fill and Spill hanging basket, plus we will be given advice on seasonal shade plants to purchase and use in our new Shade Garden which will complete the grant requirements from FFGC, District 1.

We will participate in Lakefest in May which brings many visitors to our Library Gardens which includes our new Shade Garden and will offer children's activities, tour of our gardens, and plant and floral items for sale.

We are excited about our 75 years with FFGC and plan to celebrate in the fall with an ice cream social and music in our garden. We would love for any garden club members to come and join us in our celebration.

Garnier Beach Garden Club reports the club has had a great year! We have signed up eight new members, and we are so excited to welcome them into the club.

We had wonderful presentations from some very skilled gardeners; many who are Okaloosa County Master Gardeners. We had a presentation on attracting pollinators, how to grow a Victory Garden, and how to propagate plants.

We had a great Holiday Floral Arrangement presentation and a chance to try our own skills at creating a lovely arrangement for our homes.

Our propagating lesson was particularly important toward getting ready for our plant sale in April. It is the club's only fundraiser, and we have so much fun. We sell a lot of plants to each other as well as get great participation from our community. This sale allows us to fund scholarships to SEEK, Wekiva Youth Camp and two awards in the Tri-County Science Fair where we meet the young scholars and evaluate their science projects before presenting our awards.

Two of our members were participants and winners in the "Southern Charm" Spring Flower Show hosted by the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, District 1. Lee Vanderpool won five blue ribbons and two grower's choice ribbons, and Margaret Russell won second place for both of her design entries.

The Club also entered a display in the Succulents Section with five members contributing a total of seven succulents for the category. The club took a first-place blue ribbon as well as a Club Competition award. We were a reluctant group to get involved, but now we are hooked on Flower Shows!

We had a fun Saturday at a local garden shop which held a spring festival for families to come enjoy the beauty of nature. Our club helped young gardeners plant sunflower seeds and get butterfly tattoos. We were also able to spread the word about the club and our upcoming plant sale. It is wonderful to have the community embrace the beauty of plants and the bees and butterflies that help the plants grow.

We are in the process of "updating" our club and have chosen a new club tree - the Live Oak - and a new club flower - the Coreopsis. And, we are working on a new club emblem. We thought a little updating would help us reach some of the younger members of our community.

We are finally making some strides toward better social media exposure, and it seems to help bring in new members - "Better Late Than Never."

Milton Garden Club was very fortunate to have the City of Milton assist us in the repaving of the patio on our grounds. We embarked on Phase II of our Legacy Project which concluded our re-landscaping of the club grounds. The gardens feature native plants apart from Japanese Yews which provide privacy around the patio.

We achieved over 1,000 followers on our Facebook page. We welcomed three new members.

We were pleased to participate in the District 1 Flower Show, "Southern Charm". President Pat Cummins received the Award for Botanical Arts Photography and won a beautiful bowl.

And, the very best thing that happened this quarter:

We secured our 501(c)3 status!!!

Dogwood Circle of the Pensacola Federation

surprised our retiring volunteer Office Manager, Bernice Reboulet, with a portrait of her beloved dog, Savannah, painted by artist Rachael. Presenting the framed portrait were Marian Hendrix, Dogwood Treasurer, and Lynn Manthei representing the office. Bernice has been a devoted volunteer for many years managing the office and training new volunteers. Although she will be greatly missed in the office, we are so happy that she will continue as a member.



On a very cold, windy but sunny Saturday in October, Dogwood Circle members met at the Garden Center building to plant ten Japanese maple trees and a cherry tree which were donated by Peggy DeArmon. Bundled in heavy jackets, wool caps and work gloves, Connie Marshall-Williams, Sandy Crisostomo and Pansy Breazeale, brought their shovels and successfully planted the trees which we will all enjoy through the years.

DISTRICT I NEWS - (cont'd)

The Valparaiso Garden Club returned to in-person meetings with an Ice Cream Social. In July. It was a "sweet success." The regular monthly meetings began September, 2021, but with smaller attendance numbers. The new slate of officers determined goals for their term increasing attendance at meetings and inspiring new membership as well as increasing security of club records.

New activities included assisting Fisher House with a home cooked meal for the holidays, Arbor Day planting of four pollinator friendly trees at Paradise Pollinator Garden, a Hypertufa Workshop taught by Jenny Weber, participating with the Yule of Yesteryear at the Heritage Museum at a Christmas meeting featuring a Dirty Santa game. One additional workshop, a "Mother's Day Flower Design Class", will be held in May. Each participant will go home with a floral design suitable to give to mom.

The Paradise Garden Restoration Project is ongoing. Two areas that will be completed by May will have new host plants, a short retaining wall and an area for a Meditation Bench. A viewing window will be installed in the fence, and the area outside of the garden will eventually have native plants added to its perimeter.

Also in a development phase is a "member's only" Facebook page, an email address for the club to use on its public Facebook page, and a commitment to create officer handbooks to assist new officers with their responsibilities of their office. Those that are familiar with digitizing records will be encouraged to keep their records in a digital form.

DISTRICT II NEWS

Sue Schmitz, Director



Counties: Holmes, Washington, Jackson, Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Liberty, Gadsden

District II members are grateful that we have the beauty of nature to cheer us as we face the difficulties of our world today. Unfortunately, we have lost four of our clubs, but the six we have are doing admirable work to bring joy to everyone.

Gulf Beach Garden Club enjoys having diverse agendas each month. The latest one featured member Gisela Donahue as she instructed members and guests how to create Kokedama, a Japanese plant display. Everyone left the meeting with their own creation.



Chipley Garden Club spent last fall working on the butterfly garden at Falling Waters State Park. They were joyously assisted by the local Boy Scout troop. The club always looks forward to the annual visit to Kate Smith Elementary School to share their love of gardening with our "Junior Gardeners". They share lessons on horticulture, gardening and floral design.

The children, 462 this year, love finding out which ribbon they won after their projects are entered in the Washington County 4-H Youth Fair each March.



Kirby Holt of Blossom's provided a program on fast-and-easy floral designs. During his visit, he was awarded the status of Honorary Member by the Chipley GC President, Gail Exum. Kirby, a member of the American Institute of Floral Designers, has provided floral design showcases and instruction, not only for many local clubs, but also nationwide.



Have a wonderful summer and Keep Growing!

Lynn Haven Garden Club has been busy working on our next District Meeting which will be held on April 28th. We are looking forward to a very rewarding meeting.

Port Saint Joe Garden Club recently held one of their famous plant sales. They are well known for presenting a huge selection of plants that thrive along the Forgotten Coast. Port St. Joe is District II's largest club. We are proud to have them for many reasons.

Panama City Garden Club is still working to replace their meeting building that was severely damaged by Hurricane Michael. Their new facility will have more space and very nice gardens so the grounds can be used for weddings.

Sneads Carlisle Rose Garden Club has graciously accepted the duty of presenting our fall District Meeting and they are looking forward to having the state officers as guests.

DISTRICT III NEWS

Marilyn Larson, Director



Counties: Franklin, Wakulla, Leon, Jefferson, Madison, Taylor, Hamilton, Suwannee, Lafayette

Bees are 'a buzzing', as was congenial conversation of District III members at Sherlock Springs on May 11, site of the District III Spring meeting hosted by **Wakulla County Garden Club**. The Program speaker, Rob Diaz Villegas, WFSU ecology blogger, spoke on the topic of bees which was timely due to ecological importance of protecting and encouraging our bee population. Sherlock Springs, a large facility with

dining area and large front porch, is located near Wakulla Springs State Park, a beautiful natural setting.

Spring programs held by the seven clubs in the district included a range of topics and activities. **Madison Garden Club** held a "Natural tablescapes" program. **Live Oak Garden Club** continues to grow with 64 total members and they celebrate 85 years of affiliation with FFGC and NGC, the Precious Metal "Yellow Diamond" status. Their caladium bulb sale and Spring Bazaar were both successful. They planted over 41,533 trees this past year.

Tallahassee Garden Club held its general membership meeting March 9 with 134 members attending. A highlight of the meeting was the "50+club" where 32 members were each recognized for their 50 years or more of membership in the garden club. Their Spring Extravaganza was held on the grounds of the historic Rutgers House April 23rd. The Extravaganza features circles participation through plant sales, garden art, food, and kid's activities. A 'just for fun' flower show was held inside the Clubhouse. Both Live Oak and Tallahassee Bazaars attract the general public for the unique plant sales and garden art.

Perry Garden Club ended their program year with a covered dish luncheon and a plant to share. The Fall District III Meeting will be hosted by the Perry Garden Club, so planning is underway for the October 13 event, featuring the FFGC officers on their state-wide tour of the twelve districts.

Steinhatchee Garden Club annually sends local children to Camp Wekiva and SEEK and **Tallahassee GC** is providing scholarship support for a SEEK leadership fellow.

DISTRICT III NEWS - (cont'd)

Networking between district clubs occurred when Monticello Garden Club hosted a program on orchids and invited Tallahassee Garden Club members to participate in their spring program.

As the 2021-22 Club program year ended in May, Club's wasted no time as they begin preparation of their budgets and 2022-23 programs. Club directories are filled with valuable information and Perry Garden Club directory includes a full-page list of butterfly plants and a one page "easy to grow wildflowers" page to attract bees and butterflies. And clubs have added new Attractions to the list of parks, botanical gardens and museums to visit in their communities, which can be found on FFGC web page.

Taking time off for summer isn't necessarily true for all clubs in the district as several clubs continue educational and garden-related field trips and special activities during the summer.

DISTRICT IV NEWS

Connie Gladding, Director

Counties: Baker, Union, Nassau, Duval, Clay, St. Johns, Putnam

This Spring, District IV commemorated two significant Club achievements:

Garden Club of Middleburg celebrated its 40th year of Federation with FFGC, a '**Gold'** year.



On March 25, 2022 the Garden Club of Jacksonville celebrated its **100th anniversary**. Jacksonville has centennial anniversary programs with festivities planned for the entire year.

District IV grew by 116 members since September. Special events were held with membership drives. For example, The Garden Club of Orange Park and Middleburg Garden Club held Seed Swaps. Both Clubs gained new members during these events. The Bartram Garden Club has welcomed twenty (20) new members, making the total membership 77, a proud accomplishment for a club only 6 years of age. Alligator Creek held a Spring Meet and Greet in April to help the community learn more about the Garden Club and encouraged individuals to join.

District IV began 2022 with several educational offerings for our members and communities in addition to the Clubs' monthly ongoing programs.

January 25th to 28th, District IV Judges Council sponsored the NGC Flower Show School (FSS) Course 3 at the Ribault Garden Club. The instructors were Penny Decker and Jan Griffin. The FSS Course 4 is scheduled at the Ribault Clubhouse in May with Claudia Bates and Darlene Newell as instructors.

February 23rd and 24th, District IV held NGC Landscape Design School (LDS) Course 1 in Orange Park with over 50 registrants. LDS Course 2 is planned for September 28th and 29th at the Ribault Garden Club. Registration will open this summer.

March 3rd, The Garden Club of Jacksonville partnered with the Duval Audubon Society, Northeast Florida Sierra Club, the Ixia Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society for a "Grow Your Own Park", with Doug Tallamy of the Homegrown National Park project. This program was offered both in person and zoom.

March 18th, the Garden Club of Orange Park hosted "Color Your Landscape", a horticultural program. The 53 attendees appreciated the four speakers' topics: Turf Grass (Less is Best), Bromeliads in the Garden, Sustainable Roses, and Hybridization of Coleus.



Two flower shows were offered. The Garden Club of St. Augustine in May and Ribault Garden Club's "Bucket List" late April. Ribault's show included a plant sale. Additionally, The Garden Club of St. Augustine announced the return of the Tour of Homes. Mark your calendars for December 4th and tour these six holiday-decorated homes.

Bartram Garden Club's Therapy chairman compiled, published, and delivered 20 interactive nature workbooks to children living in a local shelter for victims of domestic abuse. The workbook, W.O.W. "World of Wonder", included pages to color, dot-to-dot, and word search activities designed to instruct the children about the Florida state flower, bird, and tree, as well as Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl. The project's objective is to help children achieve emotional balance through the healing powers of nature.



After several years of declining membership and no meetings, The Garden Club of Switzerland held its first meeting in April. One of the club's major undertakings is the Freedom Butterfly Garden at Alpine Groves Park. The Garden Club is partnering with St. Johns County Master Gardener Volunteers to reinvigorate the garden and demonstrate the value of using native plants as wildlife habitat.

Clubs and Circles held fundraisers, plant sales, and 'spring flings'. Callahan and St. Augustine held successful plants sales in March; Green Cove Springs in April; and Middleburg in May. Ribault held a record-breaking Trash to Treasure sale in March. Over 70 attendees paid \$10 for the Preview Party on Friday evening with wine and appetizers served in the (kitchen) Bistro. Excess items were donated to area thrift shops. Jacksonville held their annual flea market in February and in April held their Blooms Galore and More plant sale. The Garden Club of the Lakes sponsored a "Spring Fling" in honor of Earth Day. The garden club sold plants and handed out membership information. Fleming Island held their annual Butterfly Release event in April and the "Art and Garden Party" in May. The Garden Club of Palatka held a March Plant-o-Rama at Ravine State Park, participated in the Bartram Frolics on the Riverfront in April and hosted a May 'Afternoon Tea'. All events were community engagements and opportunities to gain new members.

Last year, District IV planted 354 trees, 68 varieties. The Garden Club of St. Augustine planted the most trees among District IV Clubs. This Director challenged all Clubs to celebrate Arbor Day 2023 with a tree planting and special tree give-away events, partnering with the local Soil and Water Conservation District leaders.

There are four District clubs with Blue Star Marker projects. Jacksonville gained approval to refurbish and move the Marker from Roosevelt Blvd to the Florida Welcome Center. Jacksonville and Bartram are coordinating with the Welcome Center to ensure a smooth move for the marker's new home. St. Augustine's Blue Star Memorial Marker beautification project received permit approval and design planning is progressing for an installation this summer and a ceremony next November. The Garden Club of Middleburg had a dedication ceremony May 21st, Armed Forces Day. This Director and FFGC President, Marge Hendon, were honored to attend.

DISTRICT IV NEWS - (cont'd)



Bradford County and Clay County Garden Clubs participated in the Clay County Fair 2022 and its catchy theme "Big Wheels and Pig Squeals". Each Club built displays that highlighted their activities and provided membership information. All Clubs received Superintendent Ribbons, as judges found it impossible to select just one

The Bartram Garden Club hosted the District IV Spring Meeting May 13, 2022 in Fernandina Beach which included a celebratory awards ceremony. St. Augustine will host the District IV Fall Meeting October 25, 2022 and we look forward to the FFGC Officers' visit.

DISTRICT V NEWS

Donna Thomas, Director



Counties: Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Alachua, Citrus, Hernando, Levy, Marion

If Winter is the best time of the year to live in Florida, then Spring must be the second best. The entire country is envious of our amazing weather. We've had our spring leaf showers and the new green buds are bursting forth just as our clubs are with activity. Covid is no longer restricting our activities. Consequently, this spring feels almost normal once again.

Without exception every district 5 club from Lake City to Homosassa are having bulb or plant sales. Our communities are taking advantage of the opportunity to get plants at fantastic prices that are guaranteed to survive in their yards as the bulk of the plants are either from our yards and gardens or are natives.

As the snowbirds are preparing to leave for cooler climates we are gearing up for the vacationers. They visit the museums and gardens that our club's volunteer much of their time and monetary contributions to maintain.

By the time this issue is published the 2022 Convention which was hosted by District 5 will be a beautiful memory. We hope everyone who attended not only had fun and met lots of new friends but that you acquired a lot of new information that you will share with your fellow club members. We all look forward to another wonderful year under the guidance of District 5's own Marge Hendon, president of FFGC.

The **Garden Club of Crystal River** will be hosting the Spring district meeting May 11th and it should be amazing as they have plans for a fabulous speaker and lots of vendors and baskets. The meeting will be not only interesting and informative but just lots of great fun with friends.

Brooksville, Citrus, Crystal River, Floral City, Four Seasons, Gainesville, Homosassa River, Inverness, Lake City, Newberry, Pioneer, and Seedling Garden clubs, as all clubs across the state, are preparing to celebrate the end of this year with parties and luncheons marking the end of another productive year. You'd think that would be the end of the activities until September, but no, garden clubbers in our district are making plans for next year. Some are going off to Wekiva to volunteer in introducing a lot of campers to the wonder of the natural world and some are planning programs and field trips for their members.

"Spring is nature's way of saying, 'Let's party!'"

DISTRICT VI NEWS

Suzi Bailey, Director



Counties: Flagler, Volusia, Brevard

This director is so excited to report growth and excitement in all 14 clubs in District VI in Brevard, Flagler, and Volusia counties.

Membership growth as of September 2021 has added 179 NEW members in District VI. As of February 2022, the total numbers have grown to a total 1,048. Very exciting news!

The **Garden Club of DeLand** has launched a new nighttime group, the Wild Coffee Circle which promotes and encourages the use of Florida native plants that invite and attract wildlife to our green spaces, with an emphasis on birds and pollinators. Lance Harding will be the new President of this Circle. The larger DeLand group with Marshall Rawson, President, continues discussing gardening fiction. She also states that currently Creative Corner is offering origami lessons and Nature Strolls, which takes them out to explore different parks and to learn more about nature. They are also presenting speakers addressing ways toward a more sustainable future.

The **Ormond Beach Garden Club** will be sending two foster children to Wekiva Summer Camp this year, thanks to the generosity of some of their members. Zetta Gillespie, member and former District VI Director, is volunteering for the third year. Members will again be at the Enviro Camp at the Environmental Discovery Center. The club also plans on working on a planting/recycling project with the children.

Spring has sprung at the **Titusville Garden Club** with lots of events and activities. They participated in the Annual Astronaut Memorial Services at Sand Point Park and presented donated flowers. President, Donna Martin, was a featured speaker at the annual Arbor Day Celebration at the Historic Pritchard House. Successful plant sales were held in February for the main club and March for the Tree Farm. Monthly educational programs including Floral Magic by Judi Jodoin, Flower Show Judge and former District VI Director. "What you Plant Matters", a Native plant landscaping program topic, was presented by Tim and Anna from Native Butterfly Flower, LLC. All About Owls was another program by Sam Fried who is with Fancy Adventures, LLC.

Sandi Dix, President, **Melbourne Garden Club** reported their club will celebrate 90 years in the FFGC. A celebration is being planned sometime in the fall with speakers, refreshments and a raffle. This club is in the process of landscaping their newly re-installed Blue Star Marker with all native plants. The club participated in Earth/Arbor Day with the City of Melbourne. They support Penny Pines project and Habitat for Humanity with their Garden Baskets to new homeowners. They have partnered with Habitat for Humanity since 1999.

De Leon Garden Club has reported they have a good number of new members. Their weekly work morning at De Leon Spring State Park's Heritage Plant Nursery has made their club more visible when local visitors see their work and are intrigued and decide to join their Garden Club. Programs for the first part of 2022 covered local bees and honey, and hydroponics. They held their popular and successful 1 annual "Make It-Bake It-Grow It" auction to benefit their treasury. The remaining club year will be visiting the Volusia County Ag Center for a tour, led by a Master Gardener and club member. New officers will be installed soon. May is the month set aside for their first tea party (reviving a tradition dating back to the -60s), and in June they will relax, celebrating member birthdays with cake, and hold a plant exchange.

Garden Club at Palm Coast has had a busy Spring. They held their first Fashion Show Luncheon fundraiser on February 5th, which was a great success bringing in \$4,200.

DISTRICT VI NEWS - (cont'd)

Garden Club at Palm Coast - (cont'd)

Those proceeds will benefit their activities, programs, and scholarships. The Arrangers Guild, held a class on Ikebana. Their Propagation Guild participated in a local plant swap in February. Club membership has grown considerably in the last two years to 207. March, their "Treasures in the Attic" sale brought in \$2,000 at the event with another \$1,000 made in support of other fundraisers. In April, the club will be highlighted by the Palm Coast Library and will be displayed for the entire month. Their last fundraiser will be the 9th Annual Spring Festival and Plant Sale. It is a fun community event with over 65 vendors, nurseries, food trucks, and entertainment. All proceeds go to the Scholarship Program of their Garden Club. On May 7th, the Club will participate with a booth for the City's Arbor Day Celebration. On May 13th, their Club will be celebrating Arbor Day. The Club year will end in May with installation of new officer's and the club's annual membership barbecue.

South Peninsula Garden Club held its April meeting at the Ormond Memorial Art Museum and Gardens gazebo. The museum is still under construction and once complete, will be the new home for their club. Amber Green gave an overview of the museum and described the interior of the new building. She also explained the options and benefits of joining the museum, one of which is membership in the American Horticultural Society. The garden club is looking forward to having a permanent meeting place in the next year.

Cherry Laurel Garden Club just concluded yearlong celebrations of its 70th Anniversary as a FFGC federated garden club. They celebrated the legacy of the many women who have contributed so much to the community over the past seven decades. In particular, the club appreciates the continuing affiliate participation of Margaret Callon Lyon, a founding member who joined in 1948! During the summer, the club is preparing to meet in its new home, the Ormond Memorial Art Museum & Gardens, which has recently completed and extensive renovation. Gallery events, flower shows, educational and artistic are in the planning stages. Cherry Laurel held a NGC Small Standard Flower Show. Sending students to both Wekiva and SEEK this year and congratulates one their past SEEK attendee who now moves on to study botany at the college level.

Indian Harbour Beach Garden Club has been in the process of electing new officers. Robin Chang and the current board has served for three years. The new officers will serve one term so they will be able to get back on track. Many members were lost due to Covid restrictions but as meetings are returning, they are growing their membership.

DISTRICT VII NEWS

Charlotte White, Director

Counties: Sumter, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole



The **Winter Park Garden Club** is celebrating their 100th anniversary with a luncheon at Interlachen Country Club on April 27, 2022. A slide presentation of our history will be shown. The early garden club was started by Grace Edwards along with some members of the Winter Park Women's Club in April of 1922. The founders held a flower show in the club's first year. The ladies were tree huggers who resisted the removal of large trees in Winter Park. The objective of the club continues to be the education of members and the public in the fields of gardening, horticulture, botany, landscape design, conservation of natural resources, civic beautification, public sanitation, and nature studies.

In 1924, the Winter Park Garden Club with three other garden clubs in Florida founded the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs. FFGC was in the Orlando-Winter Park area since it was a central location in Florida.

Lakes and Hills Garden Club members had a wonderful tour of Leu Gardens in March. Our earlier scheduled trip was rained out and this one was also. We tiptoed through the wet and humid day and missed most of the Camellia blooms, but still had a wonderful time.



Camellia Garden Club's spring meetings have been thwarted by Lake County weather conditions. We were going to pick strawberries in Feb. and go on a nature hike in March. On both days it rained. April's meeting is an indoor meeting with a presentation on environmental issues in Lake County. Indoor plans guarantees that it will be a beautiful day! Our last meeting of the season is our annual plant exchange - we all know how much gardeners love to share their favorite plants. Our plans for a Blue Star marker have been solidified and we will be adding one to Eustis, Fl. in the fall.

Clermont Garden Club's Membership Chair, Alice Barrows, and President, Cindy Simon, were asked by Marge Hendon to participate in a membership workshop at convention. Cindy Simon shared details about the New Member and Prospective Member Orientation that she hosted in August 2021. The CGC welcomed 19 new members this program year.

Clermont Garden Club hosted their 3rd annual Spring Garden Festival on Saturday, May 7, 2022, (2020 was cancelled due to Covid-19). The club welcomed over 20 vendors to their grounds and along the shore of Center Lake adjacent to the CGC property. Vendors ranged from free trade baskets from Guatemala, specialty plant nurseries, garden art, to Wriggle Tea, made from worm castings. Member made and vendor donated items were raffled in the clubhouse. The Lake County Master Gardeners were on hand to answer garden pest and other garden related questions. This fundraiser assists the club in sponsoring camperships to Wekiva Youth Camp and to SEEK.

Palm Garden Club is small, but we have been visiting nurseries and having speakers at each meeting. Our next meeting, we have a speaker on Gardenias and camellias. We really enjoy each meeting at our homes. President June Parrish reports that there is NOTHING GREATER THAN FELLOWSHIP AND FRIENDSHIP.

District VII Flower Show - District VII will host a fall Flower Show the first weekend in October, (October 7/8th). "Mask Up" is the theme. There will be a variety of floral design entries. The **Lake County Council of Garden Clubs** will also hold a fall flower show on November 4 and 5 at the historic Lake County Courthouse.

DISTRICT VIII NEWS

Kitty Wallace, Director

Counties: Pasco, Hillsborough, Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota

District VIII clubs are emerging from the pandemic with festivals and flower shows and NGC schools. Some clubs' members are progressing slowly and carefully. Six clubs have hosted Flower Shows. Plant City GC held their Flower Show in the fall. Manatee River GC, Tampa Fed GC, and Sunset Park GC have held their Flower Shows this spring. Garden Club of St. Petersburg and Venice Area GC will be holding their Flower Shows later in April. Clubs have reached out to their sister clubs to assist in their developing their own flower shows next year.



DISTRICT VIII NEWS - (cont'd)

Lemon Bay GC, Sarasota GC, and Tampa Fed GC have each held very successful garden tours. People are thrilled to get out and see beautiful gardens. There have been Plant Festivals at Sarasota and Tampa. The Garden Club of St. Petersburg participates in the long-awaited return of the Green Thumb Festival, planned for April 23/24th.

District VIII clubs are making every effort to bring training to our members. Temple Terrace GC and Davis Islands GC both held the Basic six classes in Floral Design. As a result, the creative passions have been ignited in our members! Four out of seven Design categories were awarded to DVIII members at the State Flower Show at the FFGC Convention. Pretty cool!

Congratulations to Christy Linke, Plant City GC; KC Jeronimo, & Rita Mixer, Manatee River GC; Clair Milligan, Sarasota GC. In addition, Jan Griffin, Parke Finold, Kathy Meyers, & Carol Lucia all were awarded blue ribbons for their designs. Picture is Christy Linke's winning design titled 'Itsy Bitsy Yellow Polka Dot Bikini'.



District VIII will be hosting NGC schools at Lakewood Ranch (Landscape Design) this year and Tampa (Environmental School) beginning in October.

Stay tuned for more information.

DISTRICT IX NEWS

Dale W. DeFeo, Director

Counties: Polk, Hardee, DeSoto, Highlands, Charlotte, Lee, Collier



Spring provided clubs an opportunity to meet and hold activities live once again. We even saw mask-free friends' faces for the first time in a long time. Projects have been myriad and highly successful.

Most clubs have installed Blue Star Memorials (21 of our 24 clubs - some more than one) and they are back refurbishing and maintaining the accompanying gardens.

Three clubs, (Arcadia, Avon Park Founders and Gulf Coast Garden Club), are planning installation of new gardens around their Blue Star Memorials.

Lake Placid Garden Club members resumed their Garden Therapy project at the Orchid Cove Nursing Facility. They also hold a 'Fun with Flowers' program for students grade K and up to teach them floral design. Weeding around seedling oaks in the Florida Fish and Wildlife conservation land is regularly done to help the Florida Scrub Jay survive. A floral arrangement contest is planned for the annual Caladium Festival to be held July 22-24, 2022. Summer months will also be spent working on a Holiday Home and Garden Tour planned for December 3rd.

Naples Garden Club held their large annual flower show at the Naples Botanical Garden. More than 5,000 people attended. They followed this major event with hosting our first in-person District IX General Meeting in two years in April. A new water feature was also installed in their Idea Garden at the Naples Botanical Garden. They are hard at work on their Holiday Home and Garden Tour.

Gardenia Garden Club held a fabulous day with six centers of gardening for "their" Junior Gardeners. They had various activities, including planting seeds, a reading center with the Hungry Caterpillar, picture paintings, and making faux mud pies complete with gummy worms.

Poinciana Garden Club has a new "Cups of Cheer" project where members create small designs in tea cups and deliver them to local healthcare centers to cheer both patients and visitors. They also have a "Trash off Trails" project where members walk trails and remove trash from trails in Lee County's Conservation 20/20 properties.

Other activities include Sebring Garden Club's tram tour of Hammock State Park, Gulf Coast Garden Club's monthly tours of members gardens throughout the summer and Arcadia Garden Club's trip to the Peace River Botanicals and Sculpture Garden. Flower shows were abundant: Royal Palm, Punta Gorda, Cape Coral held standard flower shows, Horticulture Specialty Flower Shows were held by District IX Judges Council and Lakeland Garden Club, and 'Art in Bloom' and a Strolling Flower Show were sponsored by the Fort Myers Lee County Gardening Council.

This has certainly been the season of annual meetings and luncheons. Every club that reported noted that they were holding special luncheons and how wonderful it was to be able to celebrate garden club camaraderie once again.

District IX is very generous when supporting scholarship programs, including college and vocational scholarships, SEEK, Camp Wekiva and others. Our donations for this season total over \$55,000.

District IX exemplifies our slogan, "TEAM - Together Everyone Accomplishes More".

DISTRICT X NEWS

Michelle Maguire, Director



Counties: Okeechobee, Indian River, St. Lucie, Glades, Martin, Hendry, Palm Beach

District X has had a very successful year. We have increased our membership and held a successful Tropical Short Course.

Many of the clubs held Plant Sales and we had two Garden Tours, one held by The **Stuart Garden Club** and the other from The **Wellington Garden Club**. The Stuart Garden Tour had over 800 attendees and three members donated paintings that were raffled off. The Wellington Garden Club had over 200 attendees.

I had the pleasure of visiting The West Palm Beach Garden Club and installed their officers. I attended three garden Clubs for their monthly meetings. They were Saint Lucie West Garden Club, Oleander Garden Club of the Palm Beaches and Rio Lindo Garden Club.

Garden Club of Indian River County had a very successful GARDEN FEST in February, and they also had a plant sale in March.

Rio Lindo Garden Club participated in the Port Saint Lucie Botanical Gardens annual rummage sale, "Junk in the Trunk". The members worked for two days gathering items that took up four parking places.

Oleander Garden Club recognized April as the NGC Plant America month by dedicating their newly planted native garden called "The Infinity Pollinator Garden" for Earth Day. The Garden was funded by an NGC Plant America grant.

The **Garden Club of Fort Pierce** held their annual Plants in the Park Sale featuring plants and Gardening accessories. All gardening organizations in the area participated. All year long this garden club grows vegetables that they donate to Mustard Seed.

Ocean Ridge Garden Club held a "Plastics Free Day" on April 2 in conjunction with the Town of Ocean Ridge. This club is the host for the Spring District X meeting in conjunction with a Standard Flower Show. Rebecca Stallard, our FFSJ chair for District X is coordinating the flower show.

Pipers Landing Garden Club held a successful Butterfly Program conducted by "The Butterfly Guy", Jim West, with plants for our butterfly garden. Pipers Landing also celebrated Garden Week early with floral arrangements made by members and given to the local library, fire station and two nursing homes. A copy of the proclamation from NGC was left at each location.

Wellington Garden Club planted over 1,000 slash pine seedlings in September for National Public Lands Day.

DISTRICT XI NEWS

Sharon Bogard, Director

Counties: Broward

"WOW" is what this District Director has to say about our recent state convention and our District XI garden clubs and circles.

Kudos to our President, officers, chairpersons, and committees of the 2022 convention for their hard work which was evident in every way and manner at this great event.

Members, please do yourself an immense favor and plan to attend a convention - the sooner the better.

Kudos to **Fort Lauderdale Garden Club and its Circles** for their dedication to their respective organizations and to FLGC. Moringa, Bayberry, Cordia, Parkinsonia Circles and Members-at-Large supported the 2022 successful Garden Tour, the beautiful annual Standard Flower Show and the amazing Youth Flower Shows (please note the plural - two Youth Flower Shows). The team effort was also evident at Moringa's Arbor Day memorializing those lost to COVID-19 and honoring Broward Hospital's health care workers.

Kudos to **Coral Spring Garden Club**, a community-minded, creative, craft"y", and non-stoppable group of gardeners who will take on as much as they can, and more, oftentimes, was the host of the Spring 2022 District meeting. It was a lovely event at a lovely location hosted by the lovely members of the club.

Pompano Beach Garden Club justifiably rested (for a moment) on the laurels of their successful floral design school, which was well-instructed, well-attended and well-received. Repeat performances would be welcomed.

Lauderdale-by-Sea Garden Club's fundraiser was pleasantly diverse with the sale of plants, books and baked goods that made for an all-around wonderful day. Featuring beautiful horticulture, scrumptious sweets and vintage and collectible state calendars and gardening, LBTS had a winning trifecta!

The Garden Club of Lighthouse Point has always sponsored a child with a scholarship to Wekiva Youth Camp. This year they were delighted to sponsor the son of one of its members to attend Wekiva Youth Camp. In June the club's one and only fund raiser, the Salad Luncheon, was a success. This event allowed the club to continue to donate to Wekiva Youth Camp, Natural Disasters, Penal Garden Therapy and The Nature Conservancy. Taryn Palo, club president, reports that she is looking forward to working with a local Girl Scout Troop who plans to plant a butterfly garden in the city's local De Groff Park.

Hollywood Garden Club took its meetings outdoors. Beautiful TY Park was the location of the first in-person meeting in two years. These members share their love of horticulture, each other, and their club monthly (but informally more often) and create a positive influence in their lives and in their environment.

DISTRICT XII NEWS

Leticia Gunn, Director

Counties: Dade, Monroe

As I prepared the reports of Club Presidents, I started to realize just how many ways our District Garden Clubs interact with the community and various notable organizations within our District. This realization reminded me of the wonderful places we have to boast about in District XII.

Two of our Clubs are currently working to fulfill Fairchild Botanical Gardens lofty yet achievable One Million Orchids Project. The project entails the placement of 1 million native orchids throughout the Miami Dade area.



The beautiful and Historical Deering Estate is now home to two of the districts Clubs and their Artists in Residence program has presented painting of Nature programs for our Clubs.

South Miami Garden Club is working with University of Florida and their Conserving the Earth's Resources thru landscape program. Other Clubs have visited the University of Miami's Gifford Arboretum.

The District has Clubs working with The Underline - a transformation of the land below the Metrorail into a 10 mile linear park, urban trail and public destination.

Coral Gables Garden Club hosted a Fashions and Florals at the stately and historical Biltmore Hotel and is now in the midst of conducting their second annual Photography contest that they have opened to Everyone and anyone that fancies themselves a photographer. Please be sure to check out their "As I See It Photography Competition - A Juried Nature and Wildlife Photo Competition".

Miami Beach Garden Club hosted their annual Standard Flower Show and Home and Garden Tour In March in conjunction with their "jewel in the concrete jungle" of a home, The Miami Beach Botanical Garden. The Botanical Garden and the Club have also hosted other District Clubs with guided tours and lunch after at the bustling Lincoln Road. If you are ever in Miami Dade I encourage you to visit that lovely Garden. Miami Beach is also looking forward to celebrating their 95th year of incorporation at their upcoming Spring Luncheon hosted at the venerable and exclusive Indian Creek Country Club.

Pinecrest Garden Club will be hosting our District Meeting in May in their lovely home of Pinecrest Gardens. If you are further down South in Miami Dade, I encourage you to visit THAT garden.

In closing, It is with great pleasure that I stand here to announce the reinstatement of the **Miami Lakes Garden Club**! Welcome Back!

Please join me in celebrating growth for District XIII!

Short Course North

Kathy "Kat" Spieker, Short Course North Chairman

You are cordially invited to attend FFGC's Short Course North (SCN) 2022. This year's theme "Our Worlds of Wonder: Enjoy-Teach-Save-Restore" was inspired by Florida Federation of Garden Clubs President, Marjorie Hendon's Theme, WOW-Worlds of Wonder. This year's classes will emphasize all the natural wonders we are privileged to be a part of in the Florida Panhandle.

Our program kicks off on August 11, 2022 from 8 am. to 3 pm. and continues on August 12, same time. The location of this year's event is the Okaloosa County Extension Office in Crestview, Florida. Students can sign up for an optional floral design studies class after each day's classes.

Registration is available on the FFGC website. Tickets cost \$65; however, Garden Club Members receive a discount for a cost of \$50. Lunch is included both days.

Master Gardeners attending both days receive 10 Continuing Education Units.

The course of study this year contains ten presentations from area experts on: plant propagation, how to grow vegetables in Florida, the history and future of 4H, Choctawhatchee Bay and Oyster Bed restoration and preservation, the Importance of trees, Blackwater River protection and preservation, lawn grass in your landscape, the Florida Trail Association and Nokuse Reserve and its importance to wildlife, and the efforts on the Eglin Reservation in restoring natural watersheds.

And of course there will be vendors there with all kinds of treasures for students to buy, particularly plants, garden and yard art, a little "bling" for fun, and tasty treats!



VIBRANT WATERWAYS

17TH ANNUAL WATERLILY CELEBRATION



SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2022 | 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM

WATERLILY REPOTTING DEMONSTRATIONS | PLANT SALES | PLEIN AIR ARTISTS

Celebrate what has been McKee's most striking plant collection since its beginnings in the 1930s. Join us for our 17th Annual Waterlily Celebration and enjoy one of the state's largest collections of waterlilies, comprised of over 80 varieties with more than 300 potted and 100 free-range plants, including night-blooming and day-blooming varieties. Enjoy plein air artists creating original works of art, plant vendors and repotting demonstrations.

The Garden will open early at 8:30 am for visitors to enjoy the night-bloomers before they retreat.

McKEE BOTANICAL GARDEN

330 US HIGHWAY 1 | VERO BEACH, FLORIDA 32962 | 772-794-0601

ADMISSION: \$15 ADULTS | \$12 SENIORS (65+) / YOUTH (13-17) | \$10 CHILDREN (2-12) | MOKE MEMBERS AND CHILDREN UNDER 2 FREE

HOURS: TUE-SAT 10 AM-5 PM | SUN NOON-5 PM | LAST ADMISSION TICKET SOLD AT 4 PM | CHILDREN'S GARDEN CLOSES 4:30 PM

CLOSED MONDAYS AND MAJOR HOLIDAYS

www.mckee garden.org

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CONTINUING EDUCATION

NGC ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOLS:

Lydia Barbour, (703) 282-8924
Email: LydiaBarbour@hotmail.com

District VIII

Course 1 **Oct. 11, 12, 2022**
in-person & **ZOOM** hybrid

Tampa Federation of Garden Club Circles
2629 Bayshore Blvd., Tampa 33629

Theme: "The Living Earth"

Host Club Chair: *Kitty Wallace*
(813) 992-0940

Email: KittWal@aol.com

Registrar: *Pam Slagg*
(813) 767-2710

Email: PamSlagg@hotmail.com

District IX

Course 2 **Nov. 17, 18, 2022**
in-person ONLY

Fort Myers - Lee County Garden Council
2166 Virginia Avenue, Fort Myers 33901

Theme: "Land & Related Issues"

Host Club Chair: *Judy Francino*
(248) 425-8713

Email: JFrancino@att.net

Registrar: *Bernadette Hamera*
(239) 233-1166

Email: BHamera@outlook.com

NGC GARDENING SCHOOLS

Mercy Abrams, (973) 255-0134 (c)
Email: Mercy313@me.com

Course 3 **Jul. 28-29, 2022**
ZOOM Only!!!

Akron, OH

Registrar: *Mary Ann Ferguson-Rich*
(330) 630-9625

District X

Course 1 - Series 10 **Nov. 14-15, 2022**
in-person ONLY

Mounts Botanical Garden Auditorium
West Palm Beach, FL

Chairman: *Carol Stender*
(610) 297-1224

Email: Carol.Stender@gmail.com

Registrar: *Toni Cvetko*

Email: CLCvetko@gmail.com

District IX

Course 1 - Series 11 **Fall 2022**
in-person ONLY

Chairman: *Mercy Abrams*
(973) 255-0134 (c)

Email: Mercy313@me.com

NGC LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOLS

Susan MacPherson, (781) 249-8905 (c)
Email: RMacpham@me.com

District IV

Course 2 - Series 38 **Sep. 28-29, 2022**

Ribault Garden Club
705 2nd Ave. N, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

Event Chair: *Linda Broadrick*
(404) 281-8991

Email: Linda.Broadrick@gmail.com

NGC FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS:

Susan Hillson, (561) 333-0740

Email: Susan.Hillson@gmail.com

District IV

Course IV **May 24-27, 2022**

Instructors: *Claudia Bates* (D)
Darlene Newell (P, H)

The Ribault Garden Club
705 2nd Avenue North
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

Chair: *Carolyn Stevens*

(904) 247-8269 (h)

(904) 631-3395 (c)

Email: CarolynHStevens@gmail.com

FLORAL DESIGN STUDY UNITS

Carol Lucia, FFGC Chairman

(727) 393-8276 (h)

(727) 656-3207 (c)

Email: CLucia02LUC@aol.com

Basic Units (1-6) and Advanced Units (7-9)

Information packets for Floral Design Study
will be sent to Chairman, including handouts.

All Floral Design Study Units must be Registered

District VIII

Basic Units (1-6) **Beginning Jul. 13, 2022**
Ending Aug. 17, 2022

First United Methodist Church

303 N Evers St.

Plant City, FL 33563

Time: (Wednesdays) 10 AM. - 2:PM

Chairman: *Jan Griffin*

(813) 716-6691

Email: billjangriffin@gmail.com

Basic Units (1-6) **Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25, (2023)**
Feb. 1, 8, (2023)

Garden Club of St. Petersburg

500 Sunset Dr. S.

St. Petersburg, FL 33707

Time: (Wednesdays) 10 AM - 2 PM

Chairman: *Jill Anderson*

(727) 798-1970

Email: JjillAndersn@aol.com

Co-Chairman: *Barbara Kirkconnell*

(727) 360-2211

Email: Indigo9933@gmail.com

SHORT COURSE - Central (UF)

NGC Tri-Refresher

Carol Binello, (352) 215-9190

Email: CarolAnnBinello@gmail.com

District V

Jun. 5-7, 2022

Gainesville Garden Club
1350 NW 75th Street
Gainesville, FL 32605

Theme: "Protecting the Life That Sustains Us"

Co-Host: *Lois McNamara*:

(352) 283-8556

Email: LoisMcNamara1@gmail.com

Co-Host: *Carol Binello*

(352)-215-9190

Email: CarolAnnBinello@gmail.com

SHORT COURSE - North

Kat Spieker, (850) 687-6381

Email: spkfreedom@embarqmail.com

District I

Aug. 11-12, 2022

Theme: "Our Worlds of Wonder:
Save, Restore, Teach, & Enjoy"

Okaloosa County Extension Office

3098 Airport Road

Crestview, FL 32539

Hosts:

Joyce Waters-Smith

(850) 217-4888

Email: JoyceWS@cox.net

Okaloosa County Master Gardeners

(850) 689-5850

FFGC FALL BOARD MEETING (2022)

Pre-Board Meeting **Sep. 5-6, 2022**

Board Meeting **Sep. 7-8, 2022**

FFGC Headquarters

1400 S. Denning Dr.

Winter Park, FL 32789-5662

FFGC WINTER BOARD MEETING (2023)

Pre-Board Meeting **Jan. 9-10, 2023**

Board Meeting **Jan. 11-12, 2023**

FFGC Headquarters, Winter Park, FL

96th FFGC CONVENTION **Apr. 18-20, 2023**

Embassy Suites by Hilton

Lake Buena Vista South

Kissimmee, FL 34746

SYMPOSIUM

Nov. 6-8, 2022

Registrar: *Bessie Morse* (727) 215-6666 (c)

Email: Trophy540@runbox.com

Day Spring Episcopal Conference Center

8411 25th St E,

Palmetto (Bradenton Area), FL

Design & Allied Topic: *Lynn Fronk*

Horticulture: *Jan Griffin*

“2021” - FFGC, & DEEP SOUTH, AWARDSS

FFGC Awards Chair, Gwen Carter

Awards Team: Mary Adams, Leslie Montwid, Barbara Rao

Awards Mentor: Valerie Seinfeld

2021 FFGC Award Winners

- #2 Outstanding Service Award**
Kathy Siena, Wellington Garden Club - (Dist. X)
- #8 Garden Club Of The Year Award**
Gainesville Garden Club - (Dist. V)
- #10 Mentoring Award**
Penny Decker, Cherry Laurel Garden Club - (Dist. VI)
- #11 Yearbook Award**
1. *Satin Leaf Garden Club/Garden Club of Stuart - (Dist. X)*
2. *Garnier Beach Garden Club - (Dist. I)*
3. *Cherry Laurel Garden Club - (Dist. VI)*
4. *Clermont Garden Club - (Dist. VII)*
5. *Lake Placid Garden Club - (Dist. IX)*
6. *Garden Club of Stuart - (Dist. X)*
- #12 Newsletter/Magazine/Bulletin Award**
1. *Daisy Circle/Gainesville Garden Club - (Dist. V)*
3. *Punta Gorda Garden Club - (Dist. IX)*
4. *New Smyrna Beach Garden Club - (Dist. VI)*
5. *FFGC District VI - (Dist. VI)*
- #13 Publication Award**
1. *Daisy Circle/Gainesville Garden Club - (Dist. V)*
- #14 DePalma/Sellick Website Award**
2. *Rio Lindo Garden Club - (Dist. X)*
4. *Garden Club of Cape Coral - (Dist. IX)*
- #14A Facebook Award**
4. *Garden Club of Stuart - (Dist. X)*
5. *FFGC District IV - (Dist. IV)*
- #15 Garden Therapy Geriatric & Exceptional Award**
1. *Old Fashioned Garden Circle/
Tampa Federation of Garden Circles - (Dist. VIII)*
2. *Plant City Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)*
3. *Lake Placid Garden Club - (Dist. IX)*
4. *Green Thumb Garden Club, Inc. - (Dist. I)*
- #18 Historic Preservation Award**
1. *Allamanda Circle/ Garden Club of Stuart - (Dist. X)*
- #29 Community Service Design Award**
A. *Windermere Garden Club - Dist. VII)*
B. *Bartram Garden Club - Dist. IV)*
- #30 Community Gardens Award**
2. *Founder's Circle/
Tampa Federation of Garden Circles - (Dist. VIII)*
- #31 The Madira Bickel Civic Achievement Award**
*Old Fashioned Garden Circle/
Tampa Federation of Garden Circles - (Dist. VIII)*
- #32 Park/ City Planting Award**
2. *Garden Club by the Sea - (Dist. VI)*
3. *Temple Terrace Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)*
5. *Linda Steele-Green Plant City Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)*
- #33 Clyde D. Ware Award For Civic Development Award**
2. *Floral City, Garden Club - (Dist. V)*
- #36 Community Service Award**
1. *Old Fashioned Garden Circle/
Tampa Federation of Garden Circles - (Dist. VIII)*
2. *Clermont Garden Club - (Dist. VII)*
3. *Garden Club of Cape Coral - (Dist. IX)*
4. *Gainesville Garden Club - (Dist. V)*
- #37 School Grounds Beautification Award**
1. *Gardenia Garden Circle/
Tallahassee Garden Club - (Dist. III)*
- #38 Civic Beautification/Garden Of The Month Award**
4. *The Garden Club at Palm Coast - (Dist. VI)*
- #39 Arbor Day Celebration Award**
2. *Miami Beach Garden Club - (Dist. XII)*
4. *Tampa Federation of Garden Club Circles - (Dist. VIII)*
- #40 Arlington Dolly Morris Award**
Wellington Garden Club - (Dist. X)
- #43 Blue Star Or Gold Star Families' Memorial Marker Award**
A. *Garden Club by the Sea - (Dist. VI)*
D. *Temple Terrace Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)*
- #44 Native Plant Landscaping Award**
4. *Garden Club of Cape Coral - (Dist. IX)*
- #46 Garden Tour Award**
4. *Lemon Bay Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)*
- #47 Habitat For Humanity Award**
4. *Green Thumb Garden Club, Inc. - (Dist. I)*
- #48 Flowering Tree**
1. *Old Fashioned Garden Circle/
Tampa Federation of Garden Circles - (Dist. VIII)*
- #50 Environmental Education Award**
A. *Boco Raton Garden Club - (Dist. X)*
- #51 Environmental Education Involving Youth Award**
2. *Windermere Garden Club - (Dist. VII)*
- #52 Wildlife Survival Award**
2. *Founder's Circle/
Tampa Federation of Garden Circles - (Dist. VIII)*
- #55 Eloise Sniffen Conservation Award**
3. *Lake Placid Garden Club - (Dist. IX)*
4. *Gainesville Garden Club - (Dist. V)*
- #56 Butterfly Conservation Award**
2. *Clermont Garden Club - (Dist. VII)*
3. *Lake Placid Garden Club - (Dist. IX)*
- #64 Library Award**
A. *Clermont Garden Club - (Dist. VII)*
B. *Temple Terrace Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)*
- #65 Convention Delegate**
Joyce Drew, Garden Club of St. Petersburg - (Dist. VIII)
- #66 National Garden Week**
2. *Clermont Garden Club - (Dist. VII)*
3. *Citrus Garden Club - (Dist. V)*
4. *Garden Club at Palm Coast - (Dist. VI)*

'2021" - FFGC, & DEEP SOUTH, AWARDS - (cont'd)

2021 FFGC Award Winners - (cont'd)

- #69 **Digital Photography Award**
A. **Little Blue Heron** - Linda Quisenberry,
*Founder's Circle/
Tampa Federation of Garden Circles - (Dist. VIII)*
B. **Butterfly Habitat** - Lois Kershner,
Temple Terrace Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)
C. **Goldenrod** - Holly Yocum,
Daffodil Circle/Pioneer Garden Club - (Dist. V)
D. **Flowering Tree** - Sue Killion,
Lemon Bay Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)
E. **Passion Flower** - Holly Yocum,
Daffodil Circle/Pioneer Garden Club - (Dist. V)
F. **Plants In a Specific Garden** - Sue Killion,
Lemon Bay Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)
- #71 **The Ella Joyce Boals Program Award**
The Garden Club of Green Cove Springs - (Dist. IV)
- #75 **"Fun With Flowers" Program**
Clermont Garden Club - (Dist. VII)
- #76 **"Fun With Flowers" Series Award**
Gainesville Garden Club - (Dist. V)
- #78 **Parks & Grounds Program**
Garden Club of Green Cove Springs - (Dist. IV)
- #80 **Art In Bloom Award**
Arjuna Dusherla & Shirin Nurami,
Windermere Garden Club - (Dist. VII)
- #D-8 **District Horticulture Award**
FFGC District IV - (Dist. IV)

Flower Show Achievement Awards

- FFGC #107 **Standard Flower Show Staged In A Public Building**
B. Theme: "Wild and Wonderful Florida"
Plant City Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)
- FFGC #107 **Club Standard Flower Show**
D. Theme: "Garden to Table"
Sarasota Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)

Flower Show Related Awards

- FFGC #120 **Flower Show Focal Area Award Class A**
A. Plant City Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)
- FFGC #122 **NGC Standard Flower Show Schedule**
C. Plant City Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)
- FFGC #124 **Floralia II Designer's Choice Award**
Garden Club of St. Petersburg - (Dist. VIII)
- FFGC #126 **Esther Brosche Educational Exhibit**
Judy Der, Plant City Garden - (Dist. VIII)
- FFGC #127 **Table Artistry Award**
Barb Jacobson, Lemon Bay Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)
- FFGC #131 **Dish Garden Award**
Lucille Nelson, Garden Club of St Petersburg - (Dist. VIII)
- FFGC #133 **Floralia VI Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award**
Karen Purdue, Lemon Bay Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)

Junior Gardener Awards

- J-10 **Classroom Project**
A. Ms. Booth's Class
Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)

- C. Sprigs Junior Gardener Program
Citrus Garden Club - (Dist. V)
- J-11 **Litter Control Poster**
B. David Quinn,
Citrus Garden Club - (Dist. V)
C. Audrey Langenmayr,
Citrus Garden Club - (Dist. V)
- J-13 **Junior Gardeners/Pre-School Nature Posters Award**
A. Pine Island Academy
Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)
B. Pine Island Academy
Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)
C. Sprigs @ Rock Crusher
Citrus Garden Club - (Dist. V)
- J-14 **Water Conservation-Environmental Poster Contest**
A. Pine Island Academy,
Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)
B. Mason Miller, Star Child Academy,
Sweet Water Oaks Garden Club - (Dist. VII)
C. Cindy Lei, Star Child Academy,
Sweet Water Oaks Garden Club - (Dist. VII)
- J-16 **Field Trip Report**
A. Citrus Garden Club Sprigs
Citrus Garden Club - (Dist. V)
- J-20 **Junior Horticulture**
B. Star Child Sweet Water
Sweet Water Oaks Garden Club - (Dist. VII)
- J-23 **Children's Gardens**
B. Sophie Child, Pine Island Academy. STEM
Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)
- J-24 **Wildflower Folder**
D. Everett Giannoscoli, Citrus Garden Club Sprigs
Citrus Garden Club - (Dist. V)
F. Oliva Hensley, Star Child Academy
Sweet Water Oaks Garden Club - (Dist. VII)
- J-26 **Native Trees Of Florida**
B. Everett Giannoscoli, Citrus Garden Club Sprigs
Citrus Garden Club - (Dist. V)
- J-27 **Tree Award**
D. Abbagail Ogawa, Star Child Academy
Sweet Water Oaks Garden Club - (Dist. VII)
- J-30 **Margaret Pace Birds Seen In Florida Award**
A. Kaiden Watkins, J. Allen Axson Montessori
Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)
B. Jackson Paschall, J. Allen Axson Montessori
Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)
- J-31 **Aquatic Birds In Florida**
E. Braxton Sutton, J. Allen Axson Montessori
Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)
F. Michael Olsen, Citrus Garden Club Sprigs
Citrus Garden Club - (Dist. V)
- J-32 **Butterfly Conservation Folder**
B. Ms. Astran's 1st Grade Class, Pine Island Academy STEM
Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)
- J-33 **Protecting Pollinators**
C. Ms. Satterfield's 1st Grade Class, Pine Island Academy STEM
Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)
G. Makaya Marshal, Pine Island Academy STEM
Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)

"2021" - FFGC, & DEEP SOUTH, AWARDS - (cont'd)

Junior Gardener Awards - (cont'd)

- J-35 **Garden Insects Found In Florida**
B. Abbigail Ogawa, Star Child Sweet Water Sweet Water Oaks Garden Club - (Dist. VII)
- J-36 **Shells In Florida**
C. Hailey Goodwin, Star Child Sweet Water Sweet Water Oaks Garden Club - (Dist. VII)
- J-40 **Junior Achievement**
A1. Robinson Elementary Junior Gardeners Plant City Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)
A2. Robinson Elementary Junior Gardeners Plant City Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)

NGC - Youth Poster, Poetry & Sculpture

- FFGC **NGC Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest**
1st Grade - Kaelynee Ringle Garden Club of Crystal River - (Dist. V)
2nd Grade - Olivia Delarco Garden Club of Crystal River - (Dist. V)
3rd Grade - Jose Perez "Joey" Garden Club of Crystal River - (Dist. V)
4th Grade - Liam Galloway Garden Club of Crystal River - (Dist. V)
5th Grade - Alexis Mc Bride Garden Club of Crystal River - (Dist. V)
- FFGC **NGC Poetry Contest**
2nd Grade - "Everyday"
Benjamin McCollum Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)
3rd Grade - "The Songbirds Sing with You"
Jocelyn Nowak Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)
6th Grade - "Following the Sun"
Joseph Zaden Fort Lauderdale Garden Club - (Dist. XI)
8th Grade - "Migration"
Marian Zaden Fort Lauderdale Garden Club - (Dist. XI)
- FFGC **NGC Sculpture Contest**
6th Grade - Joseph Zaden Fort Lauderdale Garden Club - (Dist. XI)
7th Grade - Valentina Navarro Fort Lauderdale Garden Club - (Dist. XI)
8th Grade - Jonathan Espinoza Fort Lauderdale Garden Club - (Dist. XI)

2021-2022 - Deep South Award Winners

- DS-#2 **Historic Preservation and/or Restoration in Landscaping**
Small (20 members and under)
1st Allamanda Circle of the Garden Club of Stuart Garden Club of Stuart - (Dist. X)
- DS-#3 **Public Relations**
Small (20 members and under)
3rd Old Fashioned Garden Circle/ Tampa Federation of Garden Circles - (Dist. VIII)
Large (51 members and over)
2nd Clermont Garden Club - (Dist. VII)

- DS #7 **Tree Planting**
Small (20 members and under)
2nd Old Fashioned Garden Circle/ Tampa Federation of Garden Circles - (Dist. VIII)
- DS #8 **Special Achievement**
Large (51 members and over)
3rd Boca Raton Garden Club - (Dist. X)
- DS #10 **Landscape Design**
Large (51 members and over)
2nd Garden Club of Cape Coral - (Dist. IX)
- DS #13 **Environmental Education**
Medium (21 to 50 members)
HM Windermere Garden Club - (Dist. VII)
- DS #14 **Butterfly Conservation**
Large (51 members and over)
HM Clermont Garden Club - (Dist. VI)
- DS #16 **Adopt-A-Park**
Medium (21 to 50 members)
3rd Garden Club By The Sea - (Dist. VI)
Large (51 members and over)
3rd Temple Terrace Garden Club - (Dist. VIII)
- DS #21 **Conservation**
Large (51 members and over)
2nd Lake Placid Garden Club - (Dist. IX)
- DS #23 **Arbor Day**
Large (51 members and over)
3rd Miami Beach Garden Club - (Dist. XII)
Councils: (Large)
1st Tampa Federation of Garden Clubs - (Dist. VIII)
- DS #25 **Roadside Beautification**
Large (51 members and over)
2nd Gainesville Garden Club - (Dist. VI)
- DS #26 **Deep South Mentor of the Year (Plaque)**
Penny Decker Cherry Laurel Garden Club - (Dist. VI)
- DS #30 **Member Award of Honor (Plaque)**
Mary Whisler Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
- DS #31 **DSGC (Deep South Garden Club) Yearbook**
1. Club (Under 20 Members)
2nd Satin Leaf Circle Garden Club of Stuart - (Dist. X)
2. Club (20 - 29 Members)
2nd Garnier Beach Garden Club - (Dist. I)
3. Club (30 - 44 Members)
1st Cherry Laurel Garden Club - (Dist. VI)
6. Club (100 - 299 Members)
2nd The Garden Club of Stuart - (Dist. X)

Youth Poetry Contest "Sing with the Songbirds"

- 2nd Grade 3rd Benjamin McCollum Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)
- 3rd Grade 3rd Jocelyn Nowak Ribault Garden Club - (Dist. IV)
- 6th Grade 1st Joseph Zaden Fort Lauderdale Garden Club - (Dist. XI)
- 8th Grade 2nd Marian Zaden Fort Lauderdale Garden Club - (Dist. XI)

"2021" - FFGC, & DEEP SOUTH, AWARDS - (cont'd)

Youth Sculpture Contest

6th Grade	2nd	<u>Joseph Zaden</u> Fort Lauderdale Garden Club - (Dist. XI)
7th Grade	2nd	<u>Valentina Navarra</u> Fort Lauderdale Garden Club - (Dist. XI)
8th Grade	1st	<u>Jonathan Espinoza</u> Fort Lauderdale Garden Club - (Dist. XI)

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

1st Grade	3rd	<u>Kaelynee Ringle</u> Garden Club of Crystal River - (Dist. V)
4th Grade	3rd	<u>Liam Galloway</u> New Smyrna Beach Garden Club - (Dist. VI)

FFGC's 100th ANNIVERSARY PLANS!

Tina Tuttle, FFGC 3rd Vice President

When you think of a Birthday Party, what comes to mind? Balloons and decorations? We will have them! Party Games? We will have them!! Festive food including ice cream and cake? We will have it!! Party favors? We will have them!! Party dresses? We will give you the opportunity to wear your finest outfits!! All you have to do is accept the invitation being given to each and every one of you! Please join us in 2024!

When we first started talking about the 100th anniversary celebration, we all thought we had plenty of time to raise the funds needed to make this a real party, but then COVID happened and we were unable to meet and tour and generate enthusiasm for the projects planned.

Fundraising is never a favorite thing but with your help, we have managed to raise \$27,127.45 to date.

The state judges' council contributed, as have 2 of the 12 district judges' councils.

To date 16 individual clubs (out of over 150 clubs and circles) have donated. One disbanding club gave all that was left in their treasury!

And 24 generous individuals (out of a membership of over 10,000) have donated. People are donating in memory of others, gifting money to honor others, donating stipend payments, and in other unique ways. So far, 4 districts have contributed to the fund.

From the Advisory Board of former FFGC presidents came the idea of getting the district directors from each administration to donate together as a group to the fund. So, we are reaching out to all the 'Angels', 'Gems', 'Chicks', 'Classy Lassies', etc. for a donation or pledge.

Special thanks to Michelle Maguire, DD from District X, for giving the district directors the idea to contact clubs and circles and asking them to auction something or hold a special fundraiser and donate the proceeds to the fund.

Sadly, it is becoming clear that not everyone shares in the enthusiasm for this special event. Some think it will only take place at the 2024 convention in Jacksonville or at our FFGC headquarters. NOT TRUE!! We are bringing the party to your districts so everyone can participate and celebrate!! We truly hope to involve EVERY member in some way! Please note that much of the money raised will be returned to the districts in the form of birthday party gifts, grants and discounts. The more you give, the more we can give back!!

To date we have spent \$1,867.33 on pins, ornaments and stickers. Many commemorative items will be ordered in the coming months. The 2024 commemorative calendar has been given to The Baker Press in Orlando, bidding \$5,761, to begin assembling an 8 1/2" x 11" wall calendar featuring covers from all 58 Florida Arrangement Calendars since 1953, over 60 FFGC history factoids, important dates for FFGC and the 100th logo on the front cover. Sales of these 2,500 commemorative calendars will begin with the 2023 convention and tour, if not before. Our goal is to sell out! Thanks to Claudia Bates for chairing this project and to Dee Bartcher for gathering the majority of calendar front covers.

The 2024 convention committee is already up and running and promises you a wonderful 100th birthday party! The schedule for the state flower show, "Celebrating 100 Years!", has been written and will be turned over to the state judges' council for finishing touches and final execution. As part of the 2024 convention, we will have our first-ever Members Art Show so get busy creating your best work and you could win a cash prize! Along that same line, we will be creating a commemorative quilt for 2024.

The simple block pattern and instructions will be given out on tour this year! We will also be bringing back Tambola!! You can win 100 somethings!! How fun!

Yes, we are still planning to hold a catered luncheon and a separate dinner at headquarters on 24 April, 2024, our actual birthday. Remember, those who have donated \$1,000 will receive a special invitation to the dinner!

The 100-year history articles for The Florida Gardener are complete and will take the place of the proposed published history book. A suggestion from Kitty Wallace is to provide a compilation of the articles 'on request' to clubs, circles or individuals who might be interested. Also, Sue Roberts has created a 'History' tab on the FFGC website under 'Home' for easy access and reference. Thank you, Sue. We definitely plan to honor the founding clubs (Winter Park, Garden Club of Jacksonville, Halifax Country and Miami) as well as any member born in 1924!!

We hope that all clubs and circles can plant a tree on Florida Arbor Day, 19 January 2024, at 10am so we can get statewide publicity!

And so much more is being planned to recognize this milestone in the history of FFGC and for your enjoyment!

Make plans now to join in the celebration!



OPEN 24 HOURS

SOCIAL MEDIA NEVER CLOSSES

"JOIN OUR FFGC TEAM"

Contact
Valerie Seinfeld
FFGC Social Media Chair

[ffgcfacebook@gmail.com](https://www.facebook.com/ffgcfacebook)

PLASTICS POLLUTION

Written By: Jackie Reed, Ocean Ridge Garden Club

Submitted By: Barbara Hadsell

Approved By: Inger Jones,

FFGC Chairman: Environmental Alerts

The Ocean Ridge Garden Club and the Town of Ocean Ridge joined together to hold a community event on April 2, 2022 to increase awareness and maybe change a few minds about single-use plastics.

It was two years in the planning due to Covid, but we finally held our "Save the Seas - Plastics Free" event at the Ocean Ridge Town Hall and Ocean-front Park. Everyone had a lovely day with good weather, camaraderie, music, food, and FUN!

People came from the beach, the neighborhoods and drove from other towns to attend the event throughout the day, and all of them cruised the eleven exhibitor booths set up in the shade around the green with music, water and our merchandise booth set up on the patio.

The exhibitors, most of which are non-profit organizations, provided educational materials and loads of information about their mission to preserve the natural environment of the beaches and oceans. We received lots of good feedback from our partner exhibitors - "We had a blast!, and thank you so much for inviting us" said Aaron, Surfrider Foundation.



A feature of the event were the environmental presentations presented by Bryan Galvin, founder of Plastic Symptoms, Inc. and Tom Warnke, founder of the first Surfrider Foundation chapter in Florida and the Surfing Florida Museum in Delray Beach.

Both environmental presentations ("Microplastics!") were well received by the audience.

Many of the attendees participated in a large beach clean-up led by Surfrider Foundation, with Plastic Symptoms and Beach Bucket Foundation adding their equipment to the clean-up.



Afterward, a dozen or more people worked on the critical job of sorting the plastics (lots of really small pieces) into relevant categories for recycling for over 2 hours. Everyone looking on learned something new.

Over 30 garden club members volunteered to work the event through the day serving food, selling merchandise, checking on our exhibitor partners. Everyone learned more about the issues and what we can do, in a spirit of camaraderie, to Save the Seas.

The Town of Ocean Ridge provided police personnel onsite, directing traffic and pedestrians crossing to the beach; keeping the event safe and secure the whole day.

Breakfast and lunch were provided for the exhibitors and volunteers thanks to Pizza Rustica and Bond St. Ale & Coffee. Waste Pro sponsored the event and donated the recycling and sort area.

In addition to donations from corporate sponsors, our merchandise booth raised money that contributed to defraying the cost of the event, so that we met all the costs of the event.

After a very successful day, this may have been the first annual "Save the Seas" event..

We have put a stake in the ground and a line in the sand about our point of view on plastics pollution!



Mickey Farley Austin, ORGC President
Elected: Bryan Galvin, Mary Ann Cody
(Plastic Symptoms, Inc.)



Surfing the "Sick Plastic Wave"
Sylvie Glickstein, Christina Benisch,
& Bryan Galvin

GARDENING WITH NATURE! - A New NGC Program

Submitted by: Barbara Hadsell

Author: Victoria Bergesen,

NGC's Gardening with Nature Co-Chairman

VictoriaBergesen@gmail.com

Edited Article Reprint Authorized By: Victoria Bergesen & Bud Qualk,
NGC's Gardening with Nature Co-Chairman

Gardening with Nature addresses many concerns shared by garden club members. This initiative is designed for your home garden or gardens your club cares for in the community. We hope to protect our local ecosystems, plants and animals by Planting Smart, Planting More and Planting Natives.

The project is chaired by Horticulture Coordinator, Bud Qualk, and Environmental Concerns Coordinator, Victoria Bergesen. We will have the expertise of two large committees to create content and to address your questions. Our NGC Committee members are here to answer your questions relating to horticulture or environmental issues, to help you plan projects or suggest projects that might be right for your club, your area and your resources.

Gardening with Nature promotes the planting of native plants as the base of the food chain that supports all wildlife including pollinators vital to our agriculture. The native ecosystems in the Western Hemisphere have developed independently for over 80 million years. Microorganisms in the soil, plants and animals evolved together to create a balanced system. The balance has long been disturbed by overdevelopment, pollution, insecticides, and the planting of lawns which require mowing, irrigation and chemical inputs.

What Gardeners Can Do:

- * Increase planting space by restricting lawn to foot traffic and play areas. Mow at 3-4 inches and do it less often. Taller grass has deeper roots and needs less irrigation.
- * Remove exotic invasive species as they do not contribute to the native biome and threaten native species. Please note that a native plant may be 'aggressive' and not suitable for the home garden, but only exotic plants may be termed 'invasive'.
- * Plant keystone genera that support local ecosystems by feeding insects. Native oaks, cherries, willows, birches, cottonwoods, elms, goldenrods, asters, and perennial sunflowers are often good choices, but find the best species for your garden.

GARDEN WITH NATURE! - (cont'd)

What Gardeners Can Do: - (cont'd)

- * Plant generously in large beds.
- * Plant in layers: trees, understory trees, shrubs, and perennials.
- * Protect vertebrate pollinators. More than 1,000 pollinators are vertebrates: birds, bats, and small mammals. Hummingbirds especially need our help as they must daily visit fifteen hundred flowers and eat six hundred to seven hundred insects. Red sugar water is not enough to sustain them!
- * Plant for insect pollinators. Over 200,000 pollinators are beneficial insects: flies, beetles, wasps, ants, butterflies, moths and bees. We need to support our lepidoptera (butterflies and moths), our 4,000 species of native bees, and these other insect pollinators.
- * Network with neighbors. Share seeds, seedlings and cuttings. Take photos of pollinators in your garden and share them on social media.
- * Build conservation hardscapes: cover window wells, use motion detector outdoor lights at night, create bird-friendly baths with bubblers, place small bee hotels around the garden.
- * Create caterpillar pupation sites under your trees. 90% of caterpillars drop to the ground pupating in the duff or burrowing into the soil. While you will want to clear diseased leaves from under shrubs, a scoured-earth fall clean up approach is not insect-friendly.
- * Avoid insecticide spraying and non-organic fertilizers. Don't treat for disease unless you are certain it is treatable. For example, many gardeners whose shrubs exhibit fungal diseases start spraying with fungicides. These will not work unless they are applied *before* the fungus appears. Ask your local Extension agent for advice.
- * Participate in your Neighborhood Civic Associations, Tree Commissions etc. Explain the benefits of planting native trees and planting many different species. The loss of millions of ash trees in some states during the last two decades left many neighborhoods without any street trees. We must assume that new exotic invasive insects will continue to challenge us. Planting more species gives us a better chance of not losing everything in the neighborhood at once.

Garden Club's Role:

You are not alone! Your garden club, FFGC, and NGC all provide resources to aid you. They can provide programs on native plants, pollinators and related subjects. These may include virtual programs that enable you to hear speakers otherwise too busy or expensive for you to bring in person and may also provide links to articles on websites, social media, and publications. **We are here to help you!**

AMAZON SMILES!!!

By: *Kathy Spaulding*

Approved By: *Linda Johnson*, Amazon Project Chairman

*"This is the quarterly notification to inform you that AmazonSmile has made a charitable donation to the charity you've selected, **Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Inc.**, in the amount of **\$254.44** as a result of qualifying purchases made by you and other customers who have selected this charity."*

Thanks to customers shopping at [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) or using the Amazon app with AmazonSmile ON, everyday purchases make an impact.

So far, the AmazonSmile program has donated:

\$801.54 to Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Inc.

Over \$334 million to US charities

Over \$377 million to charities worldwide

Visit your AmazonSmile impact page to track donations generated or change your charity.

NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK

By: *Vivian Kobe*, NGW District X Chairman

Approved By: *JoEllen Allen*,

FFGC National Garden Week Chairman

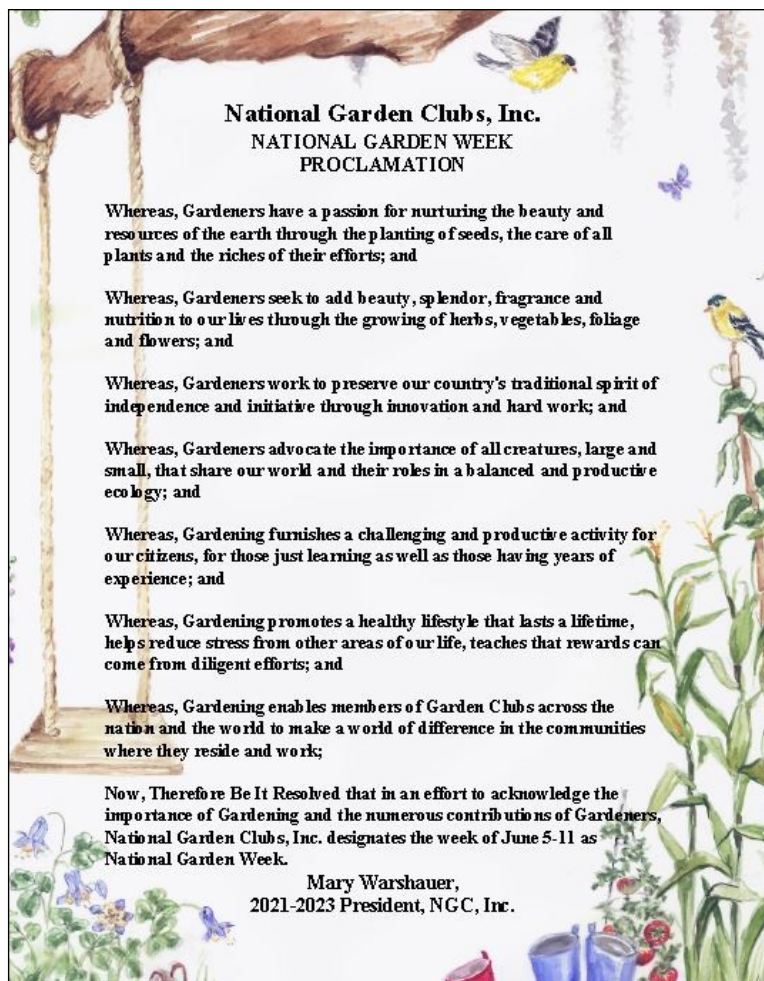
Excerpt from The NGC Web site, [GardenClub.org](https://www.gardenclub.org), Programs/National Garden Week.

"Celebrate National Garden Week in Your Community!"

Join NGC clubs across the country and celebrate National Garden Week, June 5-11, 2022. This week is an opportunity to encourage pride in your community, interest new members, and work with other groups to be part of those efforts."

Ideas to Consider:

- * *Plan an educational program and/or workshop at your local library, public garden or garden center.*
- * *Sponsor a hands-on "How Do You Select Flowers/Shrubs for Your Garden" workshop at an area nursery.*
- * *Plan a garden tour. This is a great time to share your knowledge of growing while sharing ideas.*
- * *Beautify a manageable blighted area or enhance an existing garden. This would be a good opportunity to work with other groups.*
- * *Plan an activity with a youth group or school students.*
- * *Place a plant or flower arrangement at public facilities, along with one of the beautiful National Garden Week posters."*



The following photos portray activities of the Garden Club of Fort Pierce & other FFGC District X Clubs relating to the National Garden Week.

NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK - (Cont'd)



Fort Pierce, FL City Council
National Garden Week Proclamation



Mayor Hudson
Accepting Floral Design



Wellington Garden Club - Planting Trees



Lakewood Park
Assisted Living Center



Local Police Department



Oleander GC of the Palm Beaches



Creative Floral Arrangement
Displayed at our library
entrance



Floral Design & Poster
Alzheimer Care Center

FFGC STATE FLOWER SHOW

Carol Lucia, 2022 FFGC Convention Flower Show Chairman

The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs State Flower Show "The Sounds of Music" was a huge success. The focal area greeted everyone as you came into the show. Having a piano tucked into the focal area amongst the created palms was an added touch of surprise. All 84 designs were filled, along with the 12 Botanical Arts Designs, 12 Botanical Arts Crafts, and approximately 20 Botanical Arts photos. The Horticulture was also well represented with 166 Horticulture entries including 5 Collections. Botanical Arts Horticulture was also plentiful with 14 miniature gardens and 10 manipulated plants. All top awards were given including the Design Excellence Award won by Mayfair Hydro with her Low-Profile Design and the Award of Horticultural Excellence won by Darcy Stottlemeyer with an award winning Mammillaria cactus.

The theme "The Sounds of Music" had a special meaning for us as it was to be the flower show in Al Latina's presidential reign. However, due to Covid restrictions our FFGC Convention was not held in 2020. Our current president, Marge Hendon, felt it would be very fitting to incorporate the "Sounds of Music" theme for our 2022 convention in memory of Al.

2022 Convention Flower Show Chairman, Carol Lucia, and Vice-Chairman, Lori Richie, put together a great team of volunteers. We sincerely thank them all for a job very well done.



Presentation of Books & Floral
Design to Library



Library:
Floral Display & Donated Books

NGC - TOP EXHIBITOR AWARDS

Photos By: Barb Jacobson & Carol Friedman

Horticulture Division

Award of Horticultural Excellence - **Top Award**

Darcy Stottlemeyer

Grower's Choice Awards:

Lori Richie

Mary Collins

Carol Friedman

Darcy Stottlemeyer

Helen Purvis

Collector's Showcase Awards:

Mary Collins

Jan Griffin

Arboreal Awards:

Amy Wilson

Glenda Dawson

Award of Merit:

Carol Friedman

Elfin Awards:

Kalia Bailene

Carol Friedman

Design Division

"My Fair Lady" - Grouped Mass Design

Tricolor Award

Margaret Kirkpatrick

"Easter Parade" - Low Profile Design

Designer's Choice Award &

Award of Design Excellence - **Top Award**

Mayfair Hydro

"Yellow Polka Dot Bikini" - Creative Line Design

Designer's Choice Award

Christy Linke

"Surfin' USA" - Floor Design

Award of Distinction

KC Jeronimo

"Stars and Stripes Forever" - Picnic Buffet Table

Table Artistry Award

Clare Milligan

"Stayin' Alive" - 10" Transparency Design

Petite Award

Rita Mixer

"Summertime" - 12" Low Profile Design

Petite Award

Penny Decker

Botanical Arts Division

"Hello Dolly" - Decorate a Hat

Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award

Viki Williamson

"Salsa" - Exploration - Freedom of Style

Botanical Arts Design Award

Penny Decker

"Teach Your Children" - A child or children with flower/s and/or fruit and/or vegetables

Botanical Arts Photography Award

Bessie Morse

Education Division

"I Will Survive" - Restoration of Florida Native Orchids

Educational Award

Bianca Longo Rancourt

FFGC FLOWER SHOW PICTURES



AN NGC MAJOR FLOWER SHOW
THE 38TH BIENNIAL STATE FLOWER SHOW
 Presented by the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
 April 13-14, 2022



Focal Area - Piano & Bamboo Towers
Elaine Schweitzer



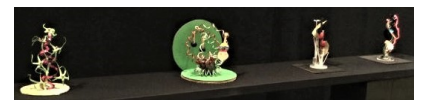
Carol Lucia - Chairman,
 Lorie Richie - Vice Chairman



Grower's Choice Award
 Award of Horticultural Excellence - **Top Award**
Darcy Stottlemeyer



"I Will Survive" - Restoration of Florida Native Orchids
 Educational Award
Bianca Longo Rancourt





Youth Exhibits



"Stars and Stripes Forever"
Picnic Buffet Table
Table Artistry Award
Clare Milligan



Horticulture Exhibits



"Hello Dolly" - Decorate a Hat
Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Award
Viki Williamson



Botanical Arts Photography Award
Bessie Morse



"My Fair Lady"
Grouped Mass Design
Tricolor Award
Margaret Kirkpatrick



"Yellow Polka Dot Bikini"
Creative Line Design
Designer's Choice Award
Christy Linke



"Easter Parade" - Low Profile Design
Designer's Choice Award &
Award of Design Excellence - **Top Award**
Mayfair Hydro



"Surfin' USA"
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The Florida Gardener

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