

THE

Florida
GARDENER

Summer 2018

President's Message



Dear FFGC Members:

I want to congratulate all the AWARD WINNERS - both FFGC and DEEP SOUTH - we'll have NGC winners announced in the next issue of *The Florida Gardener*. For all of you who applied for an Award - we congratulate and thank you for carrying on the mission and goals that FFGC, DS and NGC inspire in all of our Clubs and Circles.

I want to let all of you know, clubs and botanical gardens sponsored by various garden clubs in their communities received over \$39,000 from NGC's NATURAL DISASTERS RELIEF fund for damages caused by HURRICANE IRMA.

These monies are donated by garden clubs all over the country to help clubs and gardens repair and re-plant in the wake of devastation caused by natural disasters. There was \$75,000 in the fund, and clubs who applied in Florida received \$39,000. If you are so inclined, I would take a great deal of pride if you would send a note or email of thanks to NGC - attention, Nancy Hargroves. I would also ask you to help replenish the NATURAL DISASTER RELIEF fund by sending a donation to NGC Headquarters in St. Louis, MO., if you are able. The address is: **NGC, Inc. 4401 Magnolia Ave. St. Louis MO, 63110-3406.**

If you attended our convention - **VIVA LA FLORIDA!** in St. Augustine, I hope you enjoyed it as much as your Officers and members did! We had 424 registered to come and enjoy the Flower Show, Fabulous Florida!, (thank you to Kathleen Hawryluk and SO MANY helpers), to observe and participate in doing the business of FFGC, (thank you, BOD members, Directors and delegates) to learn so much about applying for AWARDS (thank you, Valerie and Jennifer) and to just meet new people, greet old friends and enjoy it all in a beautiful, relaxing venue. If you see Mary Whisler, convention chairman, Sandra Messer, Susie Berryhill, Jeanice Gage or Lorene Junken, please thank them personally.

A truly great big 'thank you' to Cissy Richardson, FFGC Convention Coordinator - she is definitely invaluable to all Convention Chairmen and Presidents. We COULD NOT host a great convention without her and her guidance and experience. All worked so hard to make it informative, educational and FUN! There were so many who pitched in to help make this a great convention for all of you. If you didn't come this year - **'Y'ALL COME TO PLANT, BLOOM & GROW with us NEXT YEAR.** You will get a great slate of speakers, workshops, and an INSTALLATION - your 1st Vice President and my friend, Al Latina, will be installed as President - a first as he's a GUY !!

Again, I can't thank all of you enough for your help, kind words and hard work on behalf of FFGC. YOU all are the reason that FFGC is as successful and brag-worthy as it is. I will be doing just that at the NGC Convention next week in Philadelphia. Thanks for all you do!

Claudia

Claudia Bates, President, FFGC



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 Winter Issue: October 15



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Photographs:

Cover: Florida Wildflowers (from Award submission, FDOT District II Lake City Maintenance)

Page 3: Sandra Lagana - Red peonies

Page 11 -Sandra Lagana, Li Roberts

Page 13: Sara Kearney

Page 15-19: Patricia Shira

Awards ~ 92nd Annual Convention ~ April 2018

- 1 Blanche Capel Covington Leadership Award**
Albert Latina, District VIII
- 2 Outstanding Service Award**
Jackie Rapport, District VII
- 3 Leadership Award**
Valerie Seinfeld, District VI
- 5A Special Achievement Award**
Tillandsia Garden Club, District VI
- 6 Medal for Individual Achievement in Horticulture**
Buddy Lee
- 8 Garden Club of the Year Award**
Gainesville Garden Club, District V
- 9B Special Membership Incentive Award**
Estero Island Garden Club, District IX
- 11 Yearbook Award**
(1) Azalea Garden Club of Pace, District I
(2) Poinciana Garden Club, District IX
(3) Piper's Landing Garden Club, District X
(4) Tillandsia Garden Club, District VI
(5) Winter Park Garden Club, Inc., District VII
(6) Temple Terrace Garden Club, Inc., District VIII
- 12 Newsletter Award**
(2) Clermont Garden Club, District VII
(3) Punta Gorda Garden Club, District IX
(4) Temple Terrace Garden Club, Inc., District VIII
- 13 Publication Award**
(1) Garnier Beach Garden Club, District I
(2) Clermont Garden Club, District VII
- 14 DePalma/Sillik Website Award**
(2) Clermont Garden Club, District VII
(3) Live Oak Garden Club, Inc., District III
(4) The Garden Club of DeLand, Inc., District VI
(5) District IV, Florida Federation of Garden Clubs
- 15 Garden Therapy Geriatric & Exceptional Award**
(1) Camellia Circle, Garden Club of St. Augustine, District IV
(2) Miami Beach Garden Club, District XII
(3) Manatee River Garden Club, District VIII
- 17 Decoration of Historic Buildings Award**
(1-A) The Four Seasons Garden Club, District V
(3-B) Windemere Garden Club, District VII
- 18 Historic Preservation Award**
(4) The Garden Club of Crystal River, District V
- 20 Year's Horticulture Programs Award**
(2) Navarre Garden Club, Inc., District I
(3) Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club, District VII
- 21 Horticulture Achievement Award**
(2) Pompano Beach Garden Club, District XI
(4) The Garden Club of Palm Coast, Inc., District VI
- 29 Community Service Design Award**
(A) Garden Club of St. Augustine, District IV
(B) Garden Club of Cape Coral, District IX
- 30 Community Garden Award**
(4) New Smyrna Beach Garden Club
- 31 The Madira Bickel Civic Achievement Award**
Satin Leaf Circle, The Garden Club of Stuart, Inc. District X
- 32 Park/City Planting Award**
(1) Azalea Circle of Lakes and Hills Garden Club, District VII
(2) Floral City Garden Club, Inc., District V
- 33 Clyde D. Ware Award for Civic Development**
(1) Port St. Joe Garden Club, District II
- 36 Community Service Award**
(1) Garnier Beach Garden Club, District I
(2) Floral City Garden Club, Inc., District V
(4) New Smyrna Beach Garden Club, District VI
- 38 Civic Beautification/Garden of the Month Award**
(2) Clermont Garden Club, District VII
(4) the Garden Club of Palm Coast, Inc., District VI
- 39 Arbor Day Celebration Award**
(2) Moringa Garden Club of Fort Lauderdale, District XI
(3) Garden Club of Orange Park, District IV
(4) Lemon Bay Garden Club, District VIII
- 40 Arlington Dolly Award**
Jennifer Condo, the Garden Club of DeLand, Inc., District VI
- 43 Blue Star Memorial Marker Award**
(A) Homosassa River Garden Club, District X
(A-1) Gardeners Out East, District VIII
(A-3) Lakes and Hills Garden Club, District VII
(A-4) Gainesville Garden Club, District V
- 46 Garden Tour Award**
(2) Clermont Garden Club, District VII
(3) Manatee River Garden Club, District VIII
- 48 Flowering Tree**
(1) Pine Castle Garden Club, District VII
(4) Tampa Federation of Garden Club Circles, District VIII
- 51 Environmental Education Involving Youth Award**
(1) Oleander Garden Club of the Palm Beaches, District X
(2) St. Lucie West Garden Club, District X
(4) Temple Terrace Garden Club, District VIII
- 55 Eloise Sniffen Conservation Award**
(2) Floral City Garden Club, Inc., District V
- 56 Butterfly Conservation Award**
(4) Temple Terrace Garden Club, District VIII
- 57 Bird or Butterfly Sanctuary on School Grounds Award**
(4) Wellington Garden Club, District X
- 58 Promoting Bees Through Knowledge**
Punta Gorda Garden Club, District IX
- 62 A Mary S. Compton Award for Publicity**
The Garden Club of Palm Coast, Inc., District V
- 65 Convention Delegate Award**
Sandra E. Arnold, Gainesville Garden Club, District V
- 66 National Garden Week Award**
(4) Tampa Federation of Garden Club Circles, District VIII
- 69 A Digital Photographs Award - Birds and/or Butterflies**
Sue Killion, Lemon Bay Garden Club, District VIII
- 69 F Digital Photographs Award - Other Plants**
Patricia Steck, Homosassa River Garden Club, District V
- 71 The Ella Joyce Boals Program Award**
Garden Club of Orange Park, District IV
- 74 B Year's Program Award**
Gainesville Garden Club, District V
- 75 Fun With Flowers Program Award**
Winter Park Garden Club, District VII
- 78 Parks and Grounds Program Award**
Garden Club of Cape Coral, District IX
- 81 Floral Designer's Award**
Margaret Chodosh, Gainesville Garden Club, District V
- 82 Florida Flower Arrangement Calendar Cover**
Claudia Bates, Micanopy
- 83 Florida Flower Arrangement Calendar Crystal**
Lise Baklid, Delray Beach
- 84 Florida Flower Arrangement Calendar Back Cover**
Barb Jacobson, Englewood
- D-8 District Horticulture Award**
Tampa Federation of Garden Club Circles, District VIII

Awards ~ 92nd Annual Convention ~ April 2018

Flower show Achievement Awards, Barbara May, Chairman

- 101 A **Council Standard Flower Show**
Ft. Meyers Lee County Garden Council, District IX
- 102 A **Holiday Standard Flower Show**
Cocoa Rockledge Garden Club, District VI
- 105 A **Patriotic Standard Flower Show**
Plant City Garden Club, District VIII
- 106 A **Standard Flower Show Staged in a Public Building**
Garden Club of St. Petersburg, Inc., District VIII
- 107 D **Club Standard Flower Show**
Lemon Bay Garden Club, District VIII
- 120 A **Flower Show Focal Area**
Manatee River Garden Club, District VIII

Flower Show Related Awards, Mary Silas, Chairman

- 120 B **Flower Show Focal Area**
Lemon Bay Garden Club, District VIII
- 121 B **Flower Show Staging**
Lemon Bay Garden Club, District VIII
- 122 C **Standard Flower Show Schedule**
Lemon Bay Garden Club, District VIII
- 123 **FFSJ Tricolor**
Barbara Beury, Manatee River Garden Club, District VIII
- 124 **Flora II Designer's Choice**
Jill Anderson, Garden Club of St. Petersburg, Inc., District VIII
- 126 **Esther Brosche Educational Exhibit**
Crystal Herold, Manatee River Garden Club, District VIII
- 127 **Table Artistry**
Mary Pat Troy, Garden Club of St. Petersburg, Inc., District VIII
- 128 **Petite Award**
Susan Swain, Garden Club of St. Augustine, District IV

Junior Gardener Awards, Marci Wilcox, Chairman

- J - 1 **Junior Design Award**
A Tampa Federation of Garden Club Circles, Inc., District VIII
- J - 3 **School Ground Beautification**
B Oleander Garden Club of the Palm Beaches, District X
- J-10 **Classroom Project Award**
B Gadboys Gardeners Junior Garden Club (Navarre Garden Club), District I
C Legacy Junior Garden Club (Poinciana Garden Club), District IX
- J-11 **Litter Control Poster Award**
A Jay Rose (Poinciana Garden Club), District IX
B Sora Whitby (Navarre Garden Club), District I
C Alex Lorin Shaw (Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club), District VII
- J - 12 **Land Trust Essay Award**
B Thomas Davis (Navarre Garden Club), District I
C Shivin Varanasi (Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club), District VII
- J - 13 **Nature Poster Award**
A Theresa Gainey's Pre-K Class, (Alligator Creek Garden Club), District IV
B Gadboys Gardeners Junior Garden Club (Navarre Garden Club), District I
- J-14 **Water Conservation Poster Award**
A Layla Utley (Ribault Garden Club), District IV
B Josie Rosauer (Poinciana Garden Club), District IX
C Mia Rigali (Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club), District VII
- J - 15 **Louise Adams for Wekiva Youth Camp Report**
A Randy Russell (Navarre Garden Club), District I
- J - 16 **Field Trip Report Award**
B Melissa Barnes (Navarre Garden Club), District I
C Amelia Gierke (Plant City Garden Club), District VIII
- J - 20 **Junior Horticulture**
B Gadboys Gardeners Junior Garden Club (Navarre Garden Club), District I
C Greenacres CARES Junior Garden Club (Oleander G C of the Palm Beaches), District X
- J - 21 **Poisonous Plants Award**
B Gadboys Gardeners Junior Garden Club (Navarre Garden Club), District I
- J - 22 **Pitcher Plant Preservation Award**
B Gadboys Gardeners Junior Garden Club (Navarre Garden Club), District I

Junior Gardener Awards, Marci Wilcox, Chairman

- J - 23 **Children's Gardens Award**
A Lily Hutcherson (Ribault Garden Club), District IV
B Mason Blunk (Ribault Garden Club), District IV
- J - 25 **Wild Plant Specimens Award**
B Carlin Benns (Navarre Garden Club), District I
C Ashley May (Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club), District VII
- J - 26 **Native Trees of Florida Award**
B Emma Griffin (Ribault Garden Club), District IV
- J - 27 **Tree Award**
B Jake Griffin (Ribault Garden Club), District IV
C Noah Cochran (Garnier Beach Garden Club), District I
D Ian Cochran (Garnier Beach Garden Club), District I
E Samuel Magee (Garnier Beach Garden Club), District I
F Lily Simmer (Ribault Garden Club), District I
G Addison Cudney (Garnier Beach Garden Club), District I
- J - 30 **Margaret Y. Pace Birds Seen in Florida Award**
B Evelyn Byers (Navarre Garden Club), District I
- J - 30 **Birds in Florida Award**
D Gadboys Gardeners Junior Garden Club (Navarre Garden Club), District I
E Stars Junior Garden Club (Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club), District VII
- J - 32 **Butterfly Conservation Award**
A Mrs. Hernandez' K Class (Ribault Garden Club), District IV
B Greenacres CARES Junior Garden Club (Oleander GC of the Palm Beaches), District X
- J - 33 **Butterfly Award**
A Camden Reese Bear (Ribault Garden Club), District IV
B Emerson Lawhom (Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club) District VII
C Kira Simmer (Ribault Garden Club), District IV
D Melissa Barnes (Navarre Garden Club), District I
E Lily Simmer (Ribault Garden Club), District IV
F Emmalea Sidorsky (Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club), District VII
- J - 34 **Reptile and Amphibians Found in Florida Award**
A Lily Hutcherson (Ribault Garden Club), District IV
- J - 35 **Garden Insects Found in Florida Award**
A Brennan Byers (Navarre Garden Club), District I
- J - 36 **Shells in Florida Award**
A Anjali Patel (Ribault Garden Club), District IV
B Cullen Saylor (Navarre Garden Club), District I
- J - 40 **Junior Achievement Award**
Stars Junior Garden Club (Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club), District VII

Smokey Bear Woodsy Owl Poster Contest, Cindy Rieger, Chairman

- Second Grade James Friel III, New Smyrna Beach Garden Club, District VI
- Third Grade Rihanna Ramb, Clearwater Garden Club, District VIII
- Fourth Grade Sam Cottrell, New Smyrna Beach Garden Club, District VI
- Fifth Grade Brook Robertson, Clearwater Garden Club, District VIII

National Youth Poetry Contest, Sandra Lynch, Chairman

- Kindergarten Vivian Bell, Ponte Vedra/ Palm Valley/Rawlings Elementary Ribault Garden Club, FFGC, District IV
- Second Grade Kirra Simmer, Valley Ridge Academy Ribault Garden Club, FFGC District IV
- Fourth Grade Lily Simmer, Valley Ridge Academy Ribault Garden Club, District IV - Deep South - First Place
- Sixth Grade Jad Alsaghab, Sunrise Middle School, District XI
- Seventh Grade Micah Barrett, New River Middle School Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc., FFGC, District XI
- Eighth Grade Kaitlyn Espinosa, St. Jerome Catholic School Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc., FFGC, District XI
- Ninth Grade Natalie Batista, Wellington High School, FFGC District X

National Youth Sculpture Contest

- Sixth Grade Jad Alsaghab, Sunrise Middle School Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc. FFGC, District XI - Deep South - First Place
- Eighth Grade Kaitlyn Espinosa, St. Jerome Catholic School Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc., FFGC, District XI - Deep South Second Place

National High School Essay Contest

- Tenth Grade Gabriela Molina, Ft. Lauderdale High School Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, Inc., FFGC District XI - Deep South - Honorable Mention

DISTRICT VI NEWS

Zetta Gillespie, Director

Counties: Flagler, Brevard, Volusia

Flower & Wildflower: Yellow Hibiscus, Gaillardia (Indian Blanket)

Butterfly: Orange Barred Sulphur

Garden Clubs in District VI: Cocoa Beach, Cocoa-Rockledge, Daytona, Cherry Laurel, Halifax, Magnolia, South Peninsula, Tillandsia, Volusia, Ormond Beach, Deland, DeLeon Springs, In-Har-Bee, Melbourne, New Smyrna, Palm Coast, Titusville, Garden Club By-the-Sea

The Garden Club of the Halifax Country held a Spring Flower Show. The club also works at a Sensory Garden at the Museum of Art and Science in Daytona Beach. In the Spring they also worked in the Ormond Memorial Art Museum and Gardens with third grade students who are just discovering the joys of horticulture and conservation. This year they also awarded two scholarships to local high school seniors. At present this garden club is also looking for a new location having sold their Finney House property.

Tillandsia Garden Club hosted the Spring District Meeting. And celebrated their 70th anniversary in March with a very beautiful luncheon. They went on two field trips, one to Myrna Moore's to create succulent wreaths for the holidays, and a trip to EFG Orchid Farm in Deland. They also gave a scholarship to a horticulture major student at Daytona State College. They also work with students and teachers at Westside Elementary in Daytona Beach. The children grow and harvest vegetables to take home weekly to their families. All the clubs are looking forward to some rest and relaxation for the summer, although, some will be working with summer day camps and city programs in their areas. It is always wonderful working with children and watching them progress through the year.

In February, DeLand was named a Monarch Butterfly City, USA due to the combined efforts of the Deland Garden club, local city officials, and members of other organizations in the area. Read the story of how DeLand became Florida's first Monarch City on page 13.

Titusville Garden Club's 85th year was out of this world--literally--with a NASA scientist presenting "Gardening in Outer Space!" Our February meeting celebrated TGC's 85th Anniversary by presenting red roses to past presidents and carnations to members who had earned special FFGC awards. Even more exciting was the celebratory article on TGC's 85th Anniversary with the banner headline in Florida Today: "STILL Blooming - TGC Going Strong!" Plans are to enable 8 students to go to camps.

In Memoriam

Native Miamian **Betty Moss**, longtime dedicated member of Sunset Park Garden Club, passed away December 27. Betty served two terms as District XII Director, was a long time board member of the Metropolitan Miami Flower Show, Friends of Chapman Field, and Council of Garden Club Presidents of Dade County, Inc. She served as Editor of the *Florida Gardener* and later other FFGC Board positions. Betty was a Life Member of FFGC and its Hall of Fame

DISTRICT IX NEWS

Laura Jibben, Director

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

Flower & Wildflower: Red Hibiscus & Sambucus Simpsonii

Butterfly: Monarch

Garden Clubs in District IX: Arcadia, Bouquet, Calusa, Estero Island, Fort Meade, Founders, Gardenia, Gardens of the World, Gulf Coast, Hibiscus, Jasmine, Lake Placid, Lake Wales, Lakeland, Naples, Periwinkle, Poinciana, Port Charlotte, Punta Gorda, Royal Palm, Sebring, Wauchula, Winter Haven

District IX has kept moving forward after Irma. **Lake Placid GC** was determined to hold their Holiday House Tour. It was magnificent, even with the cooler weather and sprinkling of rain. **Punta Gorda's GC** Holly Day Home Tour was not to be missed. They also held their flower show on March 13th, 2018. They are continue throughout the year to work at the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center, where they are edging around the butterfly and rain gardens. In addition, they hosted District IX's Spring Meeting on May 2nd, 2018. Our very own, "**Mother Earth**," **Audrey Swindal**, won the Cox Conserves Hero Award. As a result, Camp Wekiva received \$10,000. **Avon Park Founders GC** continued to support the Avon Park Correctional Institute's Plant Therapy Program, hosted their annual flower and plant sale, and sponsored campers to Camp Wekiva. **Bouquet GC** held their annual Fashion Show and Taste-n-Tell, which attracted a huge crowd to attend. **Arcadia GC** postponed their annual spring plant sale which is usually held in January until May due to freezing temperatures. **The Camellia GC of Winter Haven** sponsored a pollinator garden project with the special needs school in which 100 of our children attended, and the money raised will be used for beautification to the island. **The Lakeland GC** celebrated Arbor Day, planting two native Walters Viburnum Withlacoochee trees, landscaped three homes for Habitat for Humanity and was named Volunteer of the Year by the Habitat Board. **Cape Coral GC** held their major fundraiser in March, entitled March in the Park. Funds raised support the Marty Ward Merit Awards given to high school students. In April they held their biennial flower show, an annual garden walk touring several members gardens, and a tea to honor new members. **Port Charlotte GC** celebrated their 60th anniversary and **Periwinkle GC** celebrated their 90th anniversary. **Gulf Coast GC** held a Standard Flower Show and are also working with the town of Bonita Springs and local veterans to locate a Blue Star Highway marker. **Calusa GC** faced many challenges due to Irma. Their Christmas Home Tour and Luncheon, which benefits scholarships, camperships, and the Marco Island Nature Preserve and Bird Sanctuary had to be postponed until November 2018. 'Tea by Design', a major fundraiser, was held, as well as a Standard Flower Show entitled 'Lights, Camera, Action'. They continue to maintain their Blue Star Memorial Garden and other gardens across Marco Island. District IX in conjunction with the Ft. Myers-Lee County Garden Council will hold Class 1 Landscape Design School. The first course is scheduled for October 26-27, 2018. This is the first time District IX has hosted a Landscape Design class.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

NGC GARDENING SCHOOLS:

Barbara Hadsell 561-439-4607

Email: barbarhasell@cs.com

NGC GARDENING SCHOOLS

Course I, Series 6 **OCTOBER 1-2, 2018**

Course II **October 29- 30, 2018**

Course III **February 4-5, 2019**

Course IV **March 4-5, 2019**

Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250

Contact: Carolyn H. Stevens

Email: carolynhstevens@gmail.com

Phone: 904-247-8269

Course III, Series 5 **November 8, 9, 2018**

Course IV **February 12-13, 2019**

Time: 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

New Smyrna Beach Garden Club

2000 Turnbull Road

New Smyrna Beach,

Contact: Sally Flanagan 386-428-3170

Email: sfflan@aol.com

Course I **January 28-29, 2019**

Course II **January 30-31, 2019**

Course III **April 1-2, 2019**

Course IV **April 2-4, 2019**

Bradenton, FL

Contact: Sheryl Perkins 941-708-2963

Email: Sl_Perkins@hotmail.com

LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOLS

Pat Richardson 407-469-7082

Email: orgrampat42@yahoo.com

NGC LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOLS

Series 35, Course IV **Sept. 26-27, 2018**

District VII Time: 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Winter Park Garden Club Building

1300 S. Denning Drive

Winter park, FL

Registrar: Sue Roberts

Email: sue@georgesueroberts.com

Series 36, Course I **Oct. 26-27, 2018**

DISTRICT IX **Time:** 9:00 am - 4:00pm

Ft. Myers - Lee County Garden Center

2166 Virginia Avenue, Ft. Myers 33901

Chairman: Vickie Williamson

Email: vbwilliamson47@gmail.com

Contact: Kathy Wooklock

Email: kywbio@gmail.com

FLORAL DESIGN STUDY UNITS

Contact: **Carol Lucia** Phone 772-393-8276

Cell: 727-656-3207 Email: clucia02@aol.com

FLORAL DESIGN STUDY

Basic 1-6 **Oct. 8, 15, 22,29, Nov.5, 12, 2018**

District I

Green Thumb Garden Club

Location: Christ The King Episcopal Church

480 N County HWY 393, Santa Rosa Beach

Time: 9:00 am - 2:00pm

Chairman: Joyce Waters-Smith

Phone: 850 - 217-4888

Email: JOYCEWS@COX.NET

Advanced Units 7-9 **March 11, 18, 25, 2019**

District IV

FFJS District Judges Council

Location: Ribault Garden Club,

Jacksonville Beach

Time: 9:00 am

Registrar: Beverly Williams

Phone: 404-312-8530

Email: bevthepatriot@gmail.com

FFGC SHORT COURSES

FFGC/UF Short Course

District V **June 11-13, 2018**

June 11 - 5-7 pm, June 12, all-day,

Design Program 6-9 pm,

June 13, 830 am -3 pm

Short Course North - 10th Anniversary

"10 Things I Want to Know"

Escambia County Extension Office

4-H Building

3740 Stefani Drive

Cantonment, FL 32533

Contact: Email sjngc@mchsi.com

FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL COURSE I

District XI & XII **Nov. 12-14, 2018**

Time: 8:30 am (Registration 8:15 am)

Ft. Lauderdale Garden Center

Hugh Taylor Birch State Park

3109 East Sunrise Blvd.

Ft Lauderdale, FL 33304

Contact: Joanne Nelson 954-786-3274

Email: jwwnelson04@aol.com

2018 FLORIDA FALL SYMPOSIUM

District X **Nov. 4-6, 2018**

Time: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Palm Beach Gardens Marriott

4000 RCA Boulevard

Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Contact: Emily Kane 561-575-3887

Email: captgfk@aol.com

(more information on page 22)

NGC STANDARD FLOWER SHOW

District VIII **OCT. 26, 27, 2018**

"The Happiest Place on Earth"

Time: Saturday 9:00 Am - Sunday 3pm

Garden Club of St. Petersburg

500 Sunset Drive South, St. Petersburg

Co-Chairmen: - Jill Anderson 727-798-1970

Or Carol Lucia 727-656-3207

FLOWER SHOWS

Port St. Joe Garden Club **June 9th, 2018**

Time: 9am - 3pm

A Standard Flower Show

"By the Sea . . . By the Sea"

The Garden Center 216 8th Street

Port St. Joe, FL 32456

Contact: Barbara Conway 850-227-8096

Email: bconway@fairpoint.net

Sarasota Garden Club **Oct. 13, 2018**

Time: 9 am - 4 pm

A Standard Flower Show

"Pirates in Paradise"

Free to the Public

1131 Blvd of the Arts, Sarasota, FL

Contact: Dianne Beaver 941-780-2949

Email: diannebeaver@gmail.com

For Continuing Education submissions to this page, please contact the Chairmen listed in each category:

NGC Gardening: Barbara Hadsell

NGC Landscape Design: Pat Richardson

Environmental Study: Nancy Richards

Floral Design Study: Carol Lucia

Garden Club Tune-Up and Repair: A Tool Kit for Struggling Clubs



By Tina Tuttle, 3rd Vice President FFGC
Claudia Bates, President FFGC

While it is true that for some years FFGC has been experiencing a decline in membership, we are turning that trend around and **adding value to our member services and programs**. Yet, there will always be some attrition. In this article, we have tried to **identify the reasons why clubs fold** or leave the federation and **give logical options/viable solutions to offset those reasons for leaving us**. Please use these and other ideas to try and prevent a club or member from separating themselves. For some time, the concept of an "exit interview" has been discussed and District Directors were asked to contact clubs and members *after the fact* to determine why they are leaving. We have taken the **most cited reasons** and hope to provide you with an alternative solution for a club or member continuing their relationship with FFGC **before** they separate.

***If the club is disbanding or dissolving:** Clubs disband or dissolve for a variety of reasons: Help us determine the reason they have decided to take this step and ask **what we can do to prevent this from happening now?**

Refer them **to FFGC Bylaws Article III-Members, Section 3, Resignation:** "A club wishing to resign shall submit a written notice to its District Director and Headquarters. Following further contact by the district director, the resignation shall be presented to the Board of Directors by the district director at the next Board of Directors meeting. In the event a club does not submit written notice to the district director and notification is received from Headquarters of non-payment of dues, the district director shall make contact with the club to verify membership standing. If contact is unable to be made or confirmation of resignation is received, the district director will present this information at the next Board of Directors meeting as Notice of Resignation."

1. **Aging of our members:**

a. **Members no longer drive:** We would hope that other members would offer to come and pick up an older member so he or she could attend meetings regularly.

b. **Clubs met in homes but members now are moving into smaller homes or to assisted living facility:** Why not start a garden club in your assisted living facility? Why not *move your meeting to a public space* such as the library or community center or church. Many places allow civic organizations such as ours use of the space for free.

c. **Club is insular or restrictive in membership:** Too many clubs limit membership and the size of their club to fit a certain facility or space. If this is the case, move your meeting to a place that can accommodate more people. Or, start a new club from those you have on a waiting list. Too many clubs restrict membership to certain qualifications such as address or income. We want to welcome all people to join our organization! Remove the restrictions!

d. **Cannot maintain membership of 10 people:** Recruiting new members is a must for any club to remain viable. FFGC can provide many tools and ideas for recruiting new members. FFGC can provide membership brochures, can tell you where to find new members (church, family, other organizations, etc) and will happily ask knowledgeable members to help mentor new clubs and/or ask District Directors and other members to visit.

e. **Members can't meet regularly:** Your club *Bylaws determine how often your club needs to meet*. You do not have to meet monthly if that poses a hardship on your members. Meet every other month or quarterly. The **meetings need to serve your needs**, not those of other clubs or what's been done in the past.

2. **No or Reluctant leadership:**

a. **Other ways to govern:** According to *Roberts Rules of Order*, clubs can be governed in a variety of ways: You do not need a named president! Use a chairman or moderator instead of a president, govern by committee, or by a monthly meeting sponsorship, etc. All FFGC needs is a **point of contact for the club**, someone to keep your records and to collect dues. Leadership positions can be combined: Secretary/Treasurer or President/Secretary... however you wish to structure your club leadership. People can rotate planning/moderating a meeting - in some clubs - that might mean to do this once per year - in other clubs (with more than 10 people) it might be once every two years a member would be in charge of the meeting. Please figure out what *works for your club/members*.

b. **No position description and no pass down of their job:** Jot down what needs to be accomplished each month or year for each position held by your members. Many of the jobs are described in your club Bylaws. Expand the job description with a timeline so all that needs to be done, gets done. This shouldn't shift responsibility to ONE member - Ask various members to work together to help plan and execute ONE MEETING per year. This is EASY!

c. **Leaders are not trained:** FFGC provides a variety of workshops at conventions and at the district level to train new club presidents and treasurers. Many clubs and experienced garden club members would love to mentor and share ideas with a struggling club and help them back to success. There is no need for a club to try and fill every job and try to do too much. You can still be a club without making a fancy Yearbook or applying for awards each year. You do not have to provide refreshments at meetings.

3. **Lack of programs/projects:**

a. **Can't find speakers to give interesting programs:** A new board position **FFGC Resources** has been created to provide speakers and program topics to each district. It is now easier than ever to decide on a program topic and then find a speaker willing to come and present that topic. Offering a stipend to a speaker may entice them to come - many speakers are thrilled to receive a local restaurant gift card. Opening your program up to the public may be a good recruiting tool. Publishing your program topics to the community will also draw a crowd.

b. **Programs no longer relate to FFGC/NGC goals and objectives:** It is often easy to lose sight of what our organization is all about. But, many topics of interest can be tweaked to conform to the areas our organization wishes to focus upon. Your 7 to 9 programs a year may include field trips, workshops, power point presentations, hands on participation and could touch on the topics of birds, bees, butterflies, horticulture, trees and shrubs, the environment (land, air, water, natural resources), recycling (the 4 Rs). FFGC offers a plethora of schools, programs, workshops and speakers from which you can choose.

c. **Our members are not interested in Design/ Horticulture or want to only design or play in the dirt:** Clubs are welcome to "specialize" in horticulture or design or even the new Botanical Arts. Make the club **yours** and change your Bylaws to reflect your tailored policies and procedures. We would rather have your club members **happy** than have them adhere to some outdated or restrictive policy!

***If the club is leaving the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs:** Clubs leave the federation for a variety of reasons. Help us determine the reason they have decided to take this step and ask them to help us understand what we could have done to prevent this from happening. A priority is to let clubs know that in our Bylaws there is a provision for **Reinstatement: Article III, Members, Section 4, Reinstatement:** "A club which resigns while in good standing may be reinstated upon payment of the current dues and a reinstatement fee of \$5".
(Continued on page 9.)

Garden Club Tune-Up and Repair: A Tool Kit for Struggling Clubs (continued from page 8.)

1. **Lack of FFGC involvement:** FFGC has realized the value of our members and our clubs and we have transitioned our way of thinking and how we can be more involved in our members' activities. We put our members first and have stated in our mission statement that **we are here to serve our members** by providing resources and information so they can become more involved and inspired. FFGC is an advocacy organization with stated positions on environmental issues. FFGC believes in the good works our clubs are doing in the community. We recognize these good works with annual awards and support through national financial grants.

2. **Distance and isolation:** Florida is a *LARGE* state! Driving distance to and from our Headquarters or even from one end of your district to another may be long and arduous. Frequently, meetings, programs, courses, etc. are available in a variety of locations throughout our state or in neighboring states.

3. **Confusion over what they get for their \$12 dues to FFGC:**

- a. Quarterly magazine: *The Florida Gardener*
- b. Headquarters resources including the Gift Shop and Headquarters staff
- c. Membership in National Garden Clubs
- d. Website information at www.FFGC.org and www.Gardenclubs.org. Find a complete calendar of events, descriptions of our most popular educational opportunities, annual convention, short courses, schools, workshops and programs.
- e. Discounts to our educational opportunities
- f. *If a club or community has an issue they need to bring to their elected officials-and influence a decision - we have 11,000 members who can and will support those issues - you can write to your legislator and use the strength and influence of over 11,000 citizens to address your concerns -- **THERE IS STRENGTH IN NUMBERS !!***

4. **Failure to participate in FFGC offerings:** FFGC prides itself on providing 'something for everyone' no matter your interests. The 6 main areas of involvement include **Horticulture, Design, Youth, Community, Education and Environment**. Many events are held at our Headquarters, but most events are held within the district and cater to the needs of the local clubs. Additionally, in the case of the 4 NGC schools, a garden club member can take these courses anywhere in the USA and transfer accreditation to Florida. In-House Scholarships are often available to offset the cost of attending these courses. Florida is unique in that we provide many educational opportunities that are not national (Floral Design Study, Digging It, Fun with Flowers, Short Courses, etc). FFGC cannot force you to participate, but programs, workshops, and hands-on opportunities abound!

5. **It was the decision of a few members to leave FFGC:** Often the decision to leave the Federation is only the opinion of a few serving club board members and not the desire of the membership. Some past grievance went unresolved and caused bad feelings so clubs left the Federation. FFGC is no longer the same organization it was even 10 years ago, and is now very willing to work to keep clubs from leaving and to be responsive to problems when brought to our attention. **We cannot respond if we are not aware that a problem exists! Please keep the lines of communication open!**

6. **An un-federated club is just as effective as one federated with FFGC: There is strength in numbers!** While your club may serve your neighborhood, FFGC strives to represent and serve the entire state as we voice our position to protect our environment, offer environmental camps and scholarships for our youth, do good works within our communities, offer educational programs and recognize our veterans. No single club can do the work our Florida Federation of Garden Clubs accomplish together! We are the 'bigger picture' and have been for nearly 100 years!

We sincerely hope this article has provided you with tools to conduct an **exit interview**. Depending on the circumstances for a club or individual making the decision to leave the federation, please take the time to assist FFGC in determining what we can do to better serve our members, clubs and the organization.

In conclusion, if you feel a visit from one of the Executive Officers to explain FFGC's position, or to answer questions/concerns that your members have - please contact us and we will make arrangements to visit and at least let your membership know how important they are to FFGC. **We NEED YOU!!**



**The 2019 Edition of the
Florida Flower Arrangement Calendar
is on sale now.**

\$8.00

(plus sales tax)

Proceeds go to the FFGC Scholarship Fund.

Order forms are available online

<https://ffgc.org/> or contact

Lori Richie; loririchie@cs.com

Deep South Awards Winners ~ 2018

Gainesville Garden Club, District V

Award # 3Aiv Historic Preservation, First Place
Award # 24 Deep South Garden Club of the Year, Second Place

Clermont Garden Club, District VII

Award #5 Aii Public Relations, First Place

The Garden Club of Palm Coast, Inc. District VI

Award #5Aiv Public Relations, First Place

Pine Castle Garden Club, District VII

Award #9ai Tree Planting, Third Place

Moringa Garden Club of Ft. Lauderdale, District XI

Award #9aii Tree Planting, Second Place

Garden Club of Orange Park, District IV

Award #9aiii Tree Planting, First Place

Lemon Bay Garden Club, District VIII

Award #9Aiv Tree Planting, First Place

Tampa Federation of Garden Club Circles, Inc. , District VII

Group of Members Garden Clubs, Councils, Districts Award

9Biv Tree Planting, First Place

Award #19Bi Community Action, Second Place

Satin Leaf Circle, Garden Club of Stuart, District X

Award # 10Ai Special Achievement, First Place

Tillandsia Garden Club, District VI

Award #10 Aiii Special Achievement, Second Place

New Smyrna Beach Garden Club, District VI

Award #10Aiv Special Achievement, First Place

Jennifer Condo of the Garden Club of Deland, Inc. District VI

Award #12Aiv Landscape Design, First Place

Garnier Beach Garden Club, District I

Award # 15Ai Environmental Education, First Place

Saint Lucie West Garden Club, District X

Award #15Aii Environmental Education, Second Place

Punta Gorda Garden Club, District IX

Award #15Aiii Environmental Education, First Place

Temple Terrace Garden Club , District VIII

Award #15Aiv Environmental Education, First Place

Award #16 iv Butterfly Conservation, First Place

Award #33-A6 Yearbooks (100-299 members), First Place

Floral City Garden Club, District V

Award #18 Aii Adopt-A-Park, First Place
Award #21Aii Historic Trails, Second Place

Azalea Circle of Lakes & Hills Garden Club, District VII

Award #19Ai Community Action, First Place

Clermont Garden Club, District VII

Award # 19 Aii Community Action, Second Place

Garden Club of Orange Park, District IV

Award #19Aiv Community Action, Second Place

Garden Club of St. Augustine, District IV

Award #19Aiv Community Action, First Place

Port St. Joe Garden Club, District II

Award # 28Ai Roadside Beautification, HM

Award #28 Deep South Mentor of The Year, District VIII

Albert Latina of Temple Terrace Garden Club, First Place

Award #32 Member of Honor, District VIII

Albert Latina of Temple Terrace Garden Club, Third Place

Azalea Garden Club District I

Award #33-A2 (20-29 Members) Yearbook, Third Place

Piper's Landing Garden Club District X

Award #33-A3 (30-44 members) Yearbook, HM

Winter Park Garden Club, District VII

Award #33-A2 (20-29 members) Yearbook, Second Place

New Smyrna Beach Garden Club, District VI

National Garden Club Poster Contest

Smokey Bear Woodsy Owl -

Deep South First Place Winner

4th Grade, Sam Cottrell

Clearwater Garden Club, District VIII

National Garden Club Poster Contest

Smokey Bear, Woodsy Owl -

Deep South Second Place Winner

5th Grade, Brook Robertson

Please Note: Awards presented at the National Garden Clubs convention held in May will be listed in our Fall 2018 Issue.

2018 Green Schools Recognition Program – FFGC District X

By Sandra Lagana

This is a record year for the Green Schools Recognition Program with 121 applications from schools at the elementary, middle and high school levels. This program encompasses schools from both the public and private sectors, and over \$14,000 in prizes are awarded to participants in Martin and Palm Beach Counties. At present, three Garden Clubs in District X are both award sponsors and participants in the Green Schools judging process.

Schools must meet specific criteria, and this year, 59 schools were deemed Green Schools of Excellence, 41 Green Schools of Quality, and 21 Green Schools of Promise. Awards were presented at the Carole and Barry Kaye Performing Arts Auditorium at FAU's Boca Raton Campus on May 16th, 2018. Florida Federation of Garden Clubs District X was proud to sponsor a Judge's Choice Award in the amount of \$250 for Habitat Improvement. Crystal Lake Elementary, in Martin County, was this year's recipient of the District X award for *Habitat Improvement* for their SEEDS Project (Student Environmental Education Discovery Site). This school is unique in that they have a nature trail and three distinct native ecosystems: a wetland, an upland area, and a pine flatwood area which their students help to maintain. Their activities are grade specific and cover many aspects of the environment and habitat restoration. This is an on-going project for 20 plus years.



Li Roberts, (far left) FFGC Wekiva Treasurer, presented the Judges Choice Award for Gardening on behalf of the Garden Club of Stuart to representatives of Seawinds Elementary School in Martin County.



Pictured on the left is FFGC District X Coordinator of the Green Schools Program Sandra Lagana, presenting the Judges Choice Award to Crystal Lake Elementary School representatives. Also pictured are Anne Henderson, (Education Director) (2nd right) and Lauren Butcher, Green Schools Recognition Program Coordinator for Florida Atlantic University's Pine Jog Environmental Education Center. (far right)

In the photo on the right: Barbara Hadsell (left) and Tim Hadsell (second to the left) presented the Judges Choice Award for Outstanding School Garden to Jupiter Middle School in Palm Beach County. The award was sponsored by the Oleander Garden Club of the Palm Beaches.



A Judges Choice Award in honor of Molly Sims for the Best Butterfly Learning Garden was presented by District X Director Lynn Jones (far left) to Gove Elementary School in Palm Beach County. Sponsor of the Award was the West Palm Beach Garden Club.



FFGC ELLA P. WOODS “PATHS OF SUNSHINE” AWARD

By Glenda Dawson

The FFGC Ella P. Wood “Paths of Sunshine” awards are for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Maintenance Units who are doing the vitally important work to re-establish Florida native wildflowers on our roadsides. The people who work in these units take great pride in winning these FFGC awards and it is important that we acknowledge their “superior efforts”. At the January 2018 Board meeting, changes to the 29-year old procedural guidelines were announced. These changes are ‘user friendly’ for the FDOT Maintenance Units, and will help to increase public awareness of their projects within Florida’s communities, thus increasing local support and promotion of our common goals.

The information about this award including the nomination form is online at ffgc.org under ‘Awards’. The form requires only basic information, and no longer requires photographs. The nominations can be mailed or e-mailed to this Chair by January 31st. These beautiful areas are a delight to see and it could not be simpler to show our appreciation to those who work so diligently to provide this special beauty in our world. Members are encouraged to take notice as they travel the Florida Highways and to support this long-standing award by submitting nominations.

The 2017 competition for the Ella P. Woods “Paths of Sunshine” Award was incredible!

Three of the Nominated FDOT Districts submitted applications exemplifying professional excellence with projects worthy of a First Place win. Each used a different FDOT protocol and submitted applications that documented fully “... superior efforts, ... special pride ... and improved, enhanced, and or added visual quality to Florida’s highways, while emphasizing the beneficial use of Florida native plants and practices deemed Florida Friendly.

There was no way to choose only one when each was superior in their own way so, this year, FFGC is pleased and honored to recognize the following FDOT Districts as First Place Winners:

DISTRICT III CHIPLEY MAINTENANCE – State Road 20 west; 7 mile section from Geddie Road to Ft. Braden School. Leon County requested that FDOT District III set aside this portion of highway as a **Naturally Occurring Wildflower Area**, to specifically conserve and protect the Pinewoods Milkweed, *Asclepias humistrata*. This iconic species is now reaching a crisis and is a critical larval food source for the Monarch Butterfly in its early spring migration. An additional 20 native species were identified and targeted for conservation within this area. The project uniquely increases the abundance of the highest value plants and plant community. The public interest, need for increased understanding and environmental awareness, and global urgency to conserve milkweed and monarch habitat makes this a winner. Most Florida Counties have Wildflower Resolutions in place and could do much to promote the FDOT Wildflower program and conservation of Florida natives.

For more information on the Ella P. Woods Paths of Sunshine Award visit: ffgc.org and look in the Awards section. Photograph was submitted as part of the awards application from FDOT District II, Lake City Maintenance

DISTRICT II LAKE CITY MAINTENANCE –The medians within a two-mile section of US 41 South in Columbia County exemplify a successful project that includes *Naturally Occurring and Seeded Florida Wildflowers* coexisting and flourishing. A beautiful mix of *Coreopsis basalis*, Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*), Moss Verbena (*Verbena tenuisecta*), Showy Primrose (*Oenothera speciosa*) Rain lily (*Zephyranthes candida*) and Fleabane (*Erigeron quercifolius*) benefits pollinators and delights travelers each spring.

Two Naturally Occurring Wildflower projects; one a 34-mile section of Hwy US 27 from Branford to the Alachua County Line and the other US Hwy 27 from the Ichetucknee River Bridge through Fort White, highlight District II projects where mowing schedules have been carefully planned to allow native wildflowers time to seed and space for continuing naturalization year after year. Yellow *Coreopsis basalis* and pink *Phlox drummondii* are visually beautiful for many miles. Each project is a noteworthy example of professional roadside management. Leading by example, Lake City Maintenance shows that roadsides can be safe and appear cared for without destroying wildflower areas. The Lake City approach to conserving roadside wildflowers is impressive and repeatable nearly anywhere along the state highway system.



US 41 S. in Columbia County from CR-252 to St. Margaret's Street may be short in length; but not in species of Wildflowers!

Florida’s Turnpike Maintenance Okahumpka Service Plaza – This project protected native plants and plant communities and established new wildflower plantings within existing landscapes. The site (10 acres in all) highlights existing legacy trees, pines, oaks, cedars, and sabal palms in and around the Plaza. Seeded wildflower species were *Coreopsis basalis*, *Coreopsis lanceolata*, *Gaillardia*, *Phlox Drummondii*, *Rudbeckia hirta* and *Ipomopsis rubra*. The program protects native plant communities, integrates Florida wildflower species and uses management practices to maintain the appearance, sustainability and ecological integrity of native plants and wildflowers. This wildflower site is stunningly beautiful and visually exciting to thousands of Floridians and visitors each spring. Okahumpka is a showy example of the Florida Turnpike’s system-wide wildflower program.

DELAND: MONARCH CITY USA

It all started with a talk about flowers and plants and it turned into a spark that ignited interest for the city of DeLand. John Hatfield, a member of the Rotary Club of DeLand, heard a lecture at his church from DeLand's former City Manager Mike Abels about the decline of the Monarch butterfly population. John and Mike talked later about John's growing concern and interest about the Monarch butterfly and what he could do to help. John got connected to Jim West, the butterfly guy, a former teacher and butterfly enthusiast and Karen Hall from the Garden Club of DeLand.

John found many more supporters and the Monarch City USA website. He attended a City Commission Meeting and brought the idea to Mayor Robert Apgar and Assistant City Manager Mike Grebosz. Before he knew it, the City registered DeLand as the first *Monarch City USA* in the state of Florida on February 5, 2018.



The Garden Club of DeLand is also certifying local resident's gardens to become a Certified Butterfly Sanctuary. The requirements are to be a DeLand resident, have a minimum of five milkweed plants, three different larval plants, and a minimum of 20 plants total. A group from the Garden Club will come out to certify your garden and they give you the option to purchase an aluminum Certified Butterfly Sanctuary sign for \$20 for your garden.



The Sensory Garden was re-dedicated on Saturday, May 5, 2018, with several Garden Club members, the Mayor, City of DeLand employees, and many other interested citizens.



One of the qualifications to be a Monarch City USA is to hold a festival for butterflies, so when DeLand hosted its annual Wildflower Festival in March, they decided it would be a perfect opportunity to include their growing group of concerned butterfly lovers to educate the public. Mariellen Calabro, City Forester with the City of DeLand, passed out wildflower seeds at the event promoting awareness of the now named "DeLand Butterfly Society".

They, along with many other butterfly supporters, decided to revamp the Garden Club's Sensory Garden located at Bill Dreggors Park, 230 North Stone Street, in DeLand. The Garden Club designed the garden in 1998 as a benefit for the visually impaired with Braille signs and pathways accessible for the physically challenged where plants were selected for their fragrance, color, and texture. Jim West created the plans for a butterfly-friendly garden. In March 2018 over 1,000 plants were planted and 200 were relocated to their new home in the butterfly garden. A few of the larval plants added were milkweed, passion vine, Cassia, Dutchman's pipe, parsley, dill, fennel, and Penta. The nectar plants included were lantana, Buddleia, Salvia, porterweed, plumbago, fire-bush, Alstroemeria lily, daylily, Vinca, African iris, firecracker, bottlebrush, Mexican sunflower, impatiens, sky vine, bush daisy, and Mexican flame vine.

Many City of DeLand employees have been a part of the Sensory Garden whether in planting or maintaining the garden or promoting education. A Garden Club member's husband created a Facebook page called *DeLand Monarch Butterfly City USA* for interested people to follow progress and future possibilities for creating more butterfly-friendly gardens. A local business owner, Rosa Meddaugh, created a Monarch butterfly T-shirt and sells them in her shop in downtown DeLand.



The idea and efforts of one interested person sparked a change for the whole community. It is awe-inspiring to see so many citizens come together and work toward a common goal. You can feel the excitement in the air around DeLand and see the beauty of the many butterflies they have brought to their community.

Photos by Sara Kearney: Pictured clockwise from right to left: Jim West, Dedication Ceremony, Sensory Garden, Planting the Sensory Garden, Monarch City, USA, John Hatfield - where it all began!

Miami Beach Garden Club

Outreach Program - Geriatric Therapy

Submitted by Marylou Ruiz
(On behalf of the Miami Beach Garden Club Outreach Program)

Garden Club Members are known for the lovely projects they create to connect the wider community with the mission to promote gardening and camaraderie within the community.

Many of these projects are directed towards the youth; however, the Miami Beach Garden Club has been taking that one step further and is spending some time to enrich the lives of our senior citizens. Even though these residents live in high rise housing, the joys of gardening are being brought to them by the members of the Miami Beach Garden Club.

Patricia Wendell, Community Outreach Chair for the Miami Beach Garden Club has created an ongoing project for the senior members of the community who live in the government assisted housing. Each program takes place prior to a holiday. The residents have planted succulents in pumpkins for Halloween, Christmas plants in little red planters for Christmas and they decorated red pots with Valentine's stickers and planted coleus for Valentine's Day. The most recent project was for Easter.

The Miami Beach Garden Club Outreach is reaching to our neighbors at senior facilities whose physical limitations may make it difficult to go out to visit their local Gardens. This gives them the opportunity to stay connected with the Garden and Nature. Our senior neighbors' dependability and our caring for others make them important members of our volunteer community. In addition, we are delivering hands on projects, which are not overly physical but are fun. Our outreach program also has an educational role, raising awareness of the existence of nature in Garden Therapy. So, outreach is rocking n' rolling garden therapy to seniors.

Patricia started the one facility, Rebecca Towers, and has expanded to now three housing developments. The program is well attended by the residents and it is an ongoing project and one which we plan to continue for a long time as the joy it brings its participants is evident in the photos below. It also is very rewarding for the garden club volunteers who aid Patricia in this wonderful project.



2018 State Flower Show “Fabulous Florida”

By Kathleen Hawryluk, Chair

The NGC Major Flower Show “Fabulous Florida” was held on April 22-24, 2018 at the World Golf Village Renaissance Resort in St. Augustine. The ribbon cutting by Nancy Hargroves, National Garden Club President was at 4PM and served to open the 92nd FFGC Annual Convention activities. There were 96 design, five Education, 36 youth 12 Botanical Arts Design and 12 Botanical Arts Artistic Crafts Exhibits. Horticulture had 246 entries. Botanical Arts Horticulture featured nine Fairy Gardens, seven manipulated plants and 18 dried specimens. There were 16 photos displayed, chosen from 60 entries.

Working with a committee with members from all over the state presented a challenge. Meeting twice in St. Augustine at the venue was essential for our early planning and then we relied on our digital capabilities to complete the planning electronically. The large schedule adhered to the new Handbook for Flower Shows and was carefully constructed so that it could serve as a model for shows to come--in Florida and elsewhere. It was carefully checked and re-checked with experts and required many re-writes. But when the final version was presented to the Judging Panels it required no editorial changes!

So many members worked diligently on this show that it would be impossible to name everyone, but I would like to acknowledge the dedication and imagination of Carol Friedman who was the Staging Chair--and so much more--and the hours and hours of work on the schedule by Elaine Schweitzer.

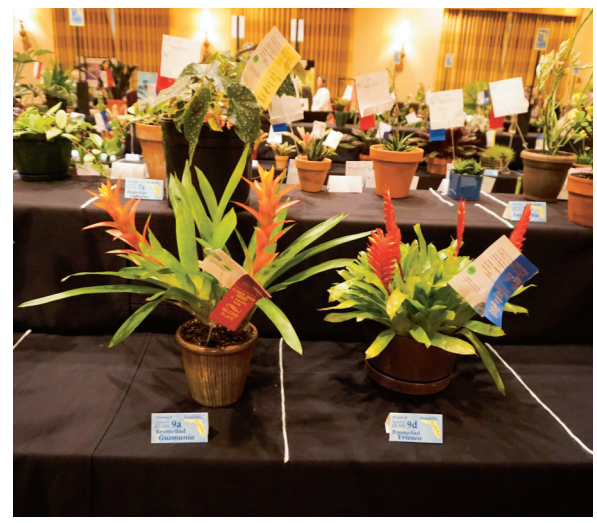
The “Fabulous Florida Flower Show” was evaluated and scored high enough to qualify to apply for an award. What a pleasure it was to work with the team that presented this special show.



NGC President Nancy Hargroves (left) pictured with Kathleen Hawryluk moments before the ribbon cutting.



A Glimpse of the 2018 State Flower Show "Fabulous Florida"



92nd FFGC Convention Highlights!



Award -winning Flower Arrangement



NGC President Nancy Hargroves speaking about project "Plant America"



Early Arrivals Dinner guests were treated to a delightful presentation by Bruce Cavey - Flower Designer Extraordinaire -- using backyard flowers and greenery



Members of the Flower Show Committee pose at the entrance to the 'Fabulous Florida' flower show



Bonnie Satterwaite from Espoma Company "They Didn't have Miracle-gro in the Garden of Eden"

92nd FFGC Convention Highlights!

NGC FOUR & FIVE STAR MEMBERS

by Jacqueline Connell

The 4/5 Star Committee urges all gardeners to attend National Garden Club's very fine study schools—Landscape Design, Gardening, Environmental and Flower Show. Participating in these schools is one of the greatest advantages of being an FFGC member.

Members who have successfully completed all four of NGC's Educational Schools and have become Accredited Flower Show Judges, are eligible to be honored as **NGC 4-Star Members**.

Members who complete all four NGC School Programs and continue on refreshing their certificates to become Master Consultants as well as Master Flower Show Judges within a 20-year period are eligible to be honored as **NGC 5-Star Members**.

Four/Five Star Membership represents a significant individual achievement and entitles eligible members to be recognized by NGC and their state garden club as members of a small minority of garden club members who have successfully completed demanding requirements. They are knowledgeable beacons of their clubs and very treasured members of NGC. These distinguished candidates may choose to be honored at an NGC National Convention or their State Convention.

Applications are available on the NGC Website: gardenclub.org
To submit applications or for more information please contact FFGC 4-5 Star Chairman **Jacqueline Connell** at themusesgarden@netscape.net or by phone 413 229-9977.



Four-Star Memberships were presented to Mary Kaub (center) and Gloria Blake (right) by NGC President Nancy Hargroves (left)



FFGC First VP Albert Latina was honored as the Deep South Mentor of the Year and also as a Member of Honor. FFGC President Claudia Bates, (left) and Awards Chairman Valerie Seinfeld (right) made the presentation.



Carolyn Schaag captured by our photographer, Pat Shira, at the Early Arrivals Dinner.

FFGC FLOWER ARRANGEMENT CALENDAR

The FFGC Florida Flower Arrangement Calendar is an engagement calendar featuring professionally photographed designs created by some of Florida's very best floral designers.

Floral designers are encouraged to submit designs for consideration in future calendars. All types of designs are needed; traditional, creative, holiday themed, and exhibition tables. To submit a design, email or send a picture to the editor. Selected designers will be invited to recreate their design at a professional photography session. A panel of judges selects the designs and cover awards to be included in the next edition of the FFGC Flower Arrangement Calendar. Those not chosen will be kept in the archives for future consideration.

Horticulture will be included in a section of the upcoming calendars. Only photos submitted by email will be accepted. Please send to

Submission forms for both designs and horticulture are listed online and in the back of the current calendar. Deadlines for submission are included in both.



FFGC President and 2019 'Cover Girl', Claudia Bates unveiled the 2019 Florida Flower Arrangement Calendar at the 92nd Annual FFGC Convention in St. Augustine.



The 2019 'Calendar Girls' pose with a photograph of the Calendar.

Garden Club Members Everywhere Let's Travel Together!

You all have been asking, and your requests have been heard and heeded. As the Chair of Travel and Tours for the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, I and your president, Claudia Bates, have made some exciting plans.

I have taken the time to go over your responses and tailor trips to the places that you all want to see! Unfortunately due to time, we are only able to offer one trip in 2018, but we think that you will be excited with that choice and the options that we have provided for you for 2019. I have been working closely with a few companies to learn the ins and outs of their payment schedules to ensure that you will have the proper time to plan and choose your desired trips.



As we announce the options, please keep in mind that the space on these trips will be held based on an active show of interest. It is important for me to reserve these spots as soon as I can. Help me help you by booking your trip as early as possible. The quicker we can fill up these trips the more places we can go!

I have done my best to provide a variety of choices for 2019 based off of your requests; however, the fun does not stop here. Continue to send me suggestions so that I can look into future trips; this way the travel opportunities never end.

I am excited to provide everyone with the opportunity to chase their travel dreams. My aim is to make hassle free, safe, and pocket book friendly trips! Take advantage of my 25 plus years of travel professional

experience and let me be your travel guide.

Please look at the six trips that we are featuring and give me a call. Be sure to check the website for more details. I look forward to getting to know each of you!

Upcoming Florida Federation Garden Club Trips:

- **Rose Bowl Parade: December 29, 2018 - January 3, 2019:**
 - Price: \$1,950 pp dbl; \$100 deposit; Deposit due: Aug 1st
- Philadelphia Flower Show: March 1- March 4, 2019:
 - Please contact for further details
- **Holland Michigan Tulip Festival: May 9 - May 15, 2019:**
 - \$2189 pp dbl; \$200 deposit; Deposit due: June 15th
- Chelsea Flower Show: May 22 - May 30, 2019:
 - Contact for pricing; \$200 deposit; Deposit due: July 1st
- **Autumn Colors of New England: Sept. 29 - Oct. 7, 2019**
 - \$2,855 pp dbl*; \$200 deposit; Deposit due: June 25th
- Northern Italy: Cinque Terre: Sept. 28 - Oct. 6, 2019
 - \$2,590 pp dbl*; \$200 deposit; Deposit due: June 25th

For more information go to:
www.FFGCTravel.com



Call Shelley at **(850) 386-7327 x208**
Or email: SAtkinson@FunSeas.com
Contact for single occupancy rates
*2019 rates are subject to change

WHAT KIND OF GARDENER ARE YOU?

By Kalia Baillene
State Horticulture Chair

If you are like Gina Jogan, you “garden with a tractor and a chainsaw”, (as she has often said) or, like others, you mow the weeds “because they are green”. Or, maybe you pack as many species of fruit or flowering trees, berries, herbs, veggies and flowers as you can into a small space, removing all the mow-able ‘stuff’ along the way. However you choose to plant; it’s OK, as long as you grow some plants in your garden. The more varieties of flowers, herbs, and trees you grow--especially natives--the more birds and butterflies you will enjoy watching.

The world is yours to behold. You have probably tried growing some herbs and flowers from seed. It is thrilling to watch those little sprouts emerging magically through the soil, changing every few days. You can control the varieties you buy; maybe organically produced, non-genetically modified types (GMO) so you can use natural and homemade means to control pests and diseases. You might prefer to buy starter plants and have only one or two varieties if space is an issue. You might want to ask if the plants are already treated with pesticides versus being organically grown. Look around your community for an individual farm source or private nursery. Try your local Extension Office or master gardeners. In North/Central Florida there are several farm sources in Hastings, Gainesville, and Ocala. Search the internet and ask your gardening friends for sources in your area.

When you do encounter pests, try using natural means such as ladybugs, homemade mixes and natural products such as Neem oil. Ladybugs do a fine job of eradicating aphids on flowers and blossoms. Use a dish detergent and vegetable oil mixture to rid plants of whiteflies. Protect fruit with Neem oil. Neem oil is made from the seeds of the neem tree (*Azadirachta indica*) which is native to India. The oil is non-toxic but has a powerful insecticidal ingredient (azadirachtin) which makes it effective as an organic means of controlling a variety of garden problems including aphids, mites, whiteflies, snails, gnats, nematodes, mealybugs, moths, cockroaches, flies, termites, mosquitoes and scale. In addition it fights fungal diseases like black spot, anthracnose, rust and mildew. It is not toxic to beneficial garden insects as long as it is not applied directly on them and can be used on fruits, vegetables and flowering plants. If you have the “Tidbits” book from FFGC, look up some recipes for healthy plant control, like the recipe listed for whitefly control:

Whitefly spray: Mix 1tsp. Regular dish detergent with 1 C of vegetable oil. Shake well, then add 1 1/2 tsp of the mixture per cup of water in a spray bottle. Shake after each few sprays and soak the effected area. This may take several applications over a few days. It works.

Some reliable internet sources for seeds and organic pest control are:

Seeds: sowtrueseeds.com, burpee.com, parkseed.com, gumeys.com, edenbrothers.com

Ladybugs: planetnatural.com, groworganic.com, Arbico-organics.com

When Spring is bursting out in all its glory, try buying a couple of ready to show baskets or pots of fully blooming varieties, that you don’t already have. That’s OK too. It is fun to place a fresh basket on the patio or by the entry. It is more than just a pretty plant; it is soothing and cheerful for your psyche. Go ahead, indulge a bit; you deserve it.

As for methods, choose any you like, and maybe you will be so excited and experienced you will grow more from seed, recycle baskets and pots, and save a lot of money; then buy more seeds to plant. It is a marvelous cycle. You’ll enjoy the fresh taste of produce from your garden and have fresh herbs to clip. The culinary delights of freshly grown vegetables and herbs is so enticing, you may never want to buy certain things from a grocery again! For all the foods you enjoy, find a reliable farm source nearby, if you don’t grow it. Try freezing or canning a few items while supplies are available, so you can still eat them after the season is over.

You may think these methods are ‘old fashioned’ or too difficult; but, they can be quick and easy. Use plastic freezer bags or storage bowls; label, date, and organize them in the freezer and pantry. Make only a few batches at a time. Lightly blanch veggies adding just a ½ teaspoon of salt. Use a large stew pot for sealing jars. Put a folded drying towel on the bottom of the pot to replace the rack used in commercial canning pots. Use berries and cut up fruits in batches that can cook down in a 4-quart pot and you can make 6-8 pints of jam. Use lemon juice instead of pectin and cut calories by using half sugar and half stevia. The results will still be delicious. (For those who like a special twist; try adding an ounce of a flavored liquor that will enhance the fruits you choose.)

Or try some of these flower recipes:

- * *Use the tender leaves and flowers of wax begonia to add a sharp, citrusy taste to salads and rice dishes*
- * *The petals of calendula add a peppery, spicy flavor to herb butters, soups, salads, rice or pasta*
- * *Dianthus petals have a sweet, clove-like taste and are used to decorate cakes and candy*
- * *Cilantro blossoms provide a sharp, grassy flavor when eaten raw in salads, and with bean or vegetable dishes*
- * *Impatiens petals lend a sweet flavor to salads, or as a drink garnish*
- * *Marigold petals with their citrusy, lemony flavor can be used as a substitute for saffron, or in salads*
- * *Violet blossoms with their sweet, aromatic characteristics flavor drinks, ice cubes, salads or on cakes*

Or, try these:

Flower Sugar: Mix 2 C sugar and 1 C chopped flower petals. Let it stand for a week and use to rim drink glasses or mix in cake or muffin batters, or decorate the tops of cakes or muffins.

Flower butter: 1/2 C flower petals 1/2 lb. sweet butter. Stir the petals into softened butter, form into a log, wrap well in plastic wrap and twist the ends, chill until firm and slice into sections to top warm foods or mix into recipes. This keeps two weeks in the refrigerator.

Flower Syrup: 1 C water 3 C sugar 1 C flowers. Boil all for 10 minutes, strain. Store in refrigerator for up to two weeks. Use in cocktails or other drinks or on pancakes, ice cream, etc.

So many plants, so few hours to work in the garden!

The best of life is found outside on a warm, sunny day. If you garden, you can enhance your enjoyment... Seed by seed, pot by pot, may you and your lovely garden bloom gracefully together.

Essential advice for the gardener: grow peas of mind, lettuce be thankful, squash selfishness, turnip to help thy neighbor, and always make thyme for loved ones.

~Author Unknown

BOTANICAL ARTS

Botanical Arts is a new Division in the Handbook for Flower Shows, Revised 2017. It provides additional opportunities for exhibiting and creativity. This Division is separate from the usual Horticulture and Design Divisions. There are four Sections in this Division with exciting possibilities for new exhibits.

Botanical Horticulture

- ARBOREAL - Fall color, Winter interest (deciduous) or naturally large branches
- DRIED AND PRESERVED SPECIMENS
- LANDSCAPES – Gardens, container-grown miniature gardens like fairy gardens or dioramas
- MANIPULATED PLANTS – espalier, topiary, grafted cacti, Lucky Bamboo

Botanical Design

- BONDED DESIGNS – collage, plaque
- HANGING DESIGNS
- POT-ET-FLEUR
- TOPIARY
- EXPLORATION- Freedom of Style, using more modern or International interpre-

tations

Artistic Crafts

1. JEWELRY AND ORNAMENTAL ACCESSORIES
2. WEARABLE APPAREL
3. DECORATIONS – packages, pictures, ornaments, bird houses, etc.
4. TREES FEATURING DECORATIONS

PHOTOGRAPHY

ATTENTION GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
BOTANICAL ARTS at the FALL 2018 SYMPOSIUM

EXPERT INSTRUCTORS

**CLAUDIA BATES – BOTANICAL DESIGN DOT
YARD – BOTANICAL HORTICULTURE**

**Sunday, November 4, 6 PM, Palm Beach Gardens
Marriott**

**Registrar: SUSAN HILLSON, [su-
san@thehillsgroup.com](mailto:susan@thehillsgroup.com)**

**Or check the FFGC website for Symposium
brochure**

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