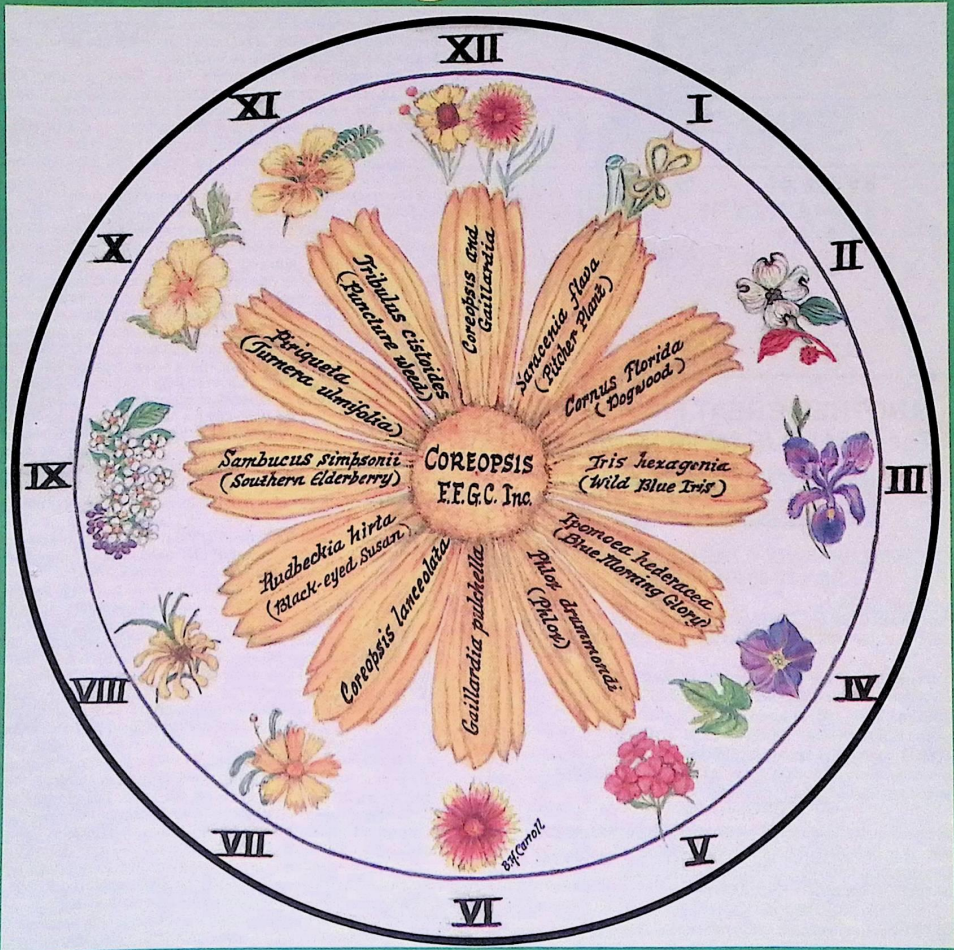


# The Florida Gardener



District Wildflowers - A Celebration of Florida's Wilderness - An Old Fashioned Gardener - Sugar Mill Gardens - Fight Pollution On Your Own Turf



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



## Dear Fellow-gardeners...

"Changes In The Wind" convention was a sensational finale for this past year's exciting and challenging activities and achievements. Every change of the scenery kept us on our toes to attend each "can't miss this" session filled with creative ideas and provocative information.

Hats off to Chairman Cris Cooney and Vice Chairman Vi Thornburg and each member of the committee for a terrific convention.

Horticulture continues to be the members' perennial favorite and is the main attraction when it comes to club programs. At Horticulture Study Courses and Tropical and University of Florida short courses, where the emphasis is on new techniques, plant introductions, and the best of plants for Florida, attendances soared. Mark June 6 - 8 for the UF short course; it is going to be a winner.

The response to "Tomorrow's Trees Today" program has been incredible. It has promoted enactment of tree ordinances, broader use of native and flowering trees, improved planting methods, the locating and protecting of historical and champion trees, and wide-spread tree plantings. Last year you planted nearly 171,000 trees, and from the early reports received we anticipate topping this total...you bet we're keeping our fingers crossed.

Environmental concerns touch our everyday lives. Each time we open the newspaper or magazine, turn on either the TV, or radio, we are confronted with and made aware of the overwhelming and perplexing problems. How fortunate that Garden Clubs are not akin to the ostrich who hides its head in the sand to avoid anything unpleasant or disturbing. Members are making a difference by staying informed, attending meetings, and sharing their talents and knowledge to carefully guard the fragile natural resources of this glorious state. In conjunction with other organizations and interested citizens, there have been some winning rounds: 200 and 300 year old Magnolias and Live Oaks were saved from bulldozers on a seven mile stretch of Bartram Historical Highway near Jacksonville... Members supported the Governor in obtaining a moratorium on offshore oil drilling; supported the acquisition of additional land by the Nature Conservancy for the Big Bend Coast Preserve, increasing it to a total of 69,109 acres; and cooperated with restrictions for relieving water shortages and color-coding of rubbish for pick-ups. Glenn Glitter/Litter Control Chairman, Dot Wilson, is spearheading a campaign to have Glenn Glitter, FFGC's adopted anti-litter symbol, used on Florida DOT highway and roadside signs.

Usually this is the time to enjoy the magnificent and jeweled-toned wildflowers along the highways and roadsides. Please note their locations and send it to Laura Mock, Roadside Development Chairman. She will need this information to enable FFGC to recognize the DOT's maintenance crews for creating the corridors of beauty.

All the long hours of planning, meeting, hammering, painting, loading, and unloading paid off handsomely when the doors opened to "Land Sakes", the State Flower Show. It was an absolutely extraordinary show with many innovative attractions. We appreciate those of you who contributed to the show, exhibited, judged, and came to see it...the attendance was wonderful. We applaud the enterprising Chairman, Virginia Green, Vice Chairman, Osie Rodriguez, and the entire show committee for an outstanding job.

We all welcome our new president Elise Haymans. It is with great anticipation that we look forward to two wonderful years of accomplishments and exciting progress under her capable and well organized leadership. Let us join with her to accept her goals and ideals as the groundwork for furthering the well being, prestige, and aspirations for the Federation.

You, the members, are the reason this Federation is such a distinctive, rare, and exceptional organization...whether your job is small or large, you make it the best. Your caring and support of FFGC activities and projects gave them meaning and assured them of becoming a success. Your loyalty, faith, and being in my amen corner have been my greatest assets. I treasure our time of serving together and hope we did and will continue to...*"TOUCH TOMORROW TODAY"*.

Happily and hugs,

## ANOTHER GREAT FFGC TRIP escorted by *JEAN VILLAREAL*

### GUATEMALA

*COLORFUL...FRIENDLY...THE LAND OF THE MAYA*  
JULY 22-29 FROM MIAMI

The Garden Clubs of GUATEMALA are hosting the XV ANNUAL CENTRAL AMERICAN CONVENTION...and WE'RE INVITED!!!

Eight days...7 nights at the beautiful EL DORADO HOTEL...  
WELCOME PARTY...GALA BANQUET...LUNCH...BRUNCH...  
MUSEUM VISITS...flower arranging demonstrations in  
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ANTIGUA, founded in 1583, with Spanish Renaissance Art  
and Architecture and MARKET day at CHICHICASTENANGO  
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Pricing based on a minimum of 48 double occupancy. Includes  
roundtrip air from MIAMI...\$100 Convention Registration...luggage  
transfers including gratuities. SPACE LIMITED...FUN  
UNLIMITED!!!...PASSPORT REQUIRED!!!

**\$200 DEPOSIT** immediately - Non-refundable after May 15.

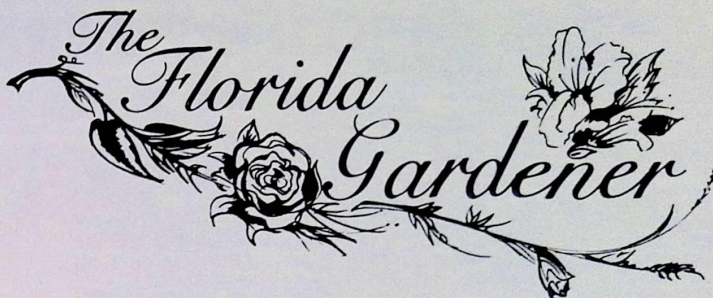
**\$778 BALANCE** due JUNE 1 - Non-refundable

\$66 trip cancellation insurance strongly recommended.

Optional birding day near COBAN\$???

*DETAILS AT DISTRICT MEETINGS OR WRITE:*  
**JEAN VILLAREAL - FFGC TOURS & TRAVEL CHAIRMAN**





**Vol. 35**

**No. 10**

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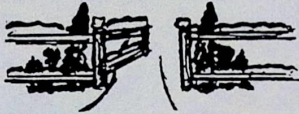
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**COVER:** "Wheel of Wildflowers"...chosen by each of the 12 districts as part of a two year Wildflower Project. Artist sketch by Bette Carroll (Mrs. Fred) of the Gulf Area Garden Club.





# Beyond the Garden Gate

...from the Desk of the Editor

First of all I would like to correct a mistake made by TFG in the March/April issue. On page 17 it was reported that the Alternate Deep South Director was Mrs. Augustus Williams. It should have read Mrs. Edward Jordan. Gini Jordan was elected to serve as Alternate Director at the January meeting of the Board of Directors, 1988. We apologize to both of these lovely ladies.

●●●●●

A few months ago I received from the National Wildlife Federation a Wildlife Habitat Information Package. It contained basic information on how to convert your backyard into a wildlife habitat.

Florida has for several years put out a similar but much more extensive free publication entitled "Planting a Refuge for Wildlife" (See article on Birds, p. 11). This pamphlet lists the trees, shrubs, and vines that can be used in all parts of the state, tells how to get started, and lists (complete with colored pictures for easy identification) the birds and animals that might find a home in your backyard.

It contains many suggestions for attracting the wildlife, including butterflies — such as converting part of your lawn into a colorful meadow, leaving a few dead trees for cavity nesting, keeping some of your hedges informal for easy cover, and using pesticides sparingly and only when needed.

I had a head start in making my yard a wildlife habitat. The acre lot was naturally forested with hardwoods, under which grew an assortment of natives such as beauty berry, red buckeye, wildplum, muscadines, and palmettoes. A stream meandered across the back, providing needed water.

I've added hedges of wax myrtle, pyracantha, nandina, and holly, all of which seem to be liked by the birds. The possums, raccoons, and bluejays, however, seem to prefer my backporch — there's always leftover catfood there.

A few months ago I filled out a simple application to have my yard recognized by the NWF as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat. The application was "reviewed by naturalists" to be sure I had provided the four basic habitat elements — food, water, cover, and reproductive area. Last month I received my "Certificate of Achievement." My yard is now certified as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat — #6764. I interpret this to mean that there are not yet 7000 yards that have qualified. In the midst of unprecedented development, which sometimes leaves rows of treeless lots, we need more places of refuge for our wildlife in urban neighborhoods. National Wildlife Federation is attempting to establish a worldwide network of mini-refuges where wildlife may find a quality habitat.

I'm proud of my certificate. I plan to do more — another colorful annual bed and a bird bath.

Bush-Brown, that ponderous volume which we used to be required to read in order to

become judges, listed a fifth requirement for attracting birds — no cats! Not so. Bush-Brown. Cats that are regularly fed with a food they like can be trained to stay away from the birds. Of course, don't put the feeder too close to the cat's regular hangouts, but birds and cats can co-exist. Tabby is no excuse for not establishing a wildlife refuge. And for extra help, remember that we now have Extension Wildlife Specialists, ready to answer all your questions.

●●●●●

I was recently sent a book "Wildflower Gardening" by John Stevens, which shows how the British use native plants to create natural looking gardens. Country meadows and woodland glades are reproduced in their own gardens, even those in urban settings. The book is filled with color photographs.

The first section of the book describes how you can develop a wildflower garden, and subsequent chapters take us through the wildflower gardens — sunny, partly shady, shady, by the sea, beside a pond, or among rocks. There follows a practical "how to" section on how to start from "scratch" or how to convert a conventional garden into an informal natural one that requires little care.

This book has much good information on collecting seed, sowing, multiplying, and much more. Chapters on Gardening for Wildlife, and Using Wildflowers for food, medicine, dyes, and fragrance conclude this very interesting and beautiful book. It is a volume for all who appreciate the quiet beauty of flowers that grow where and how nature intended.

The names of Stevens' flowers are mostly unknown to us here in Florida. This, however, does not detract from the joy of the book, which will surely inspire us to seek out and cultivate our own native plants that abound here in Florida. From your local bookstore or from The Globe Pequot Press, Box Q, Chester, Conn. 06412; price \$25.95.

●●●●●

I was reminded the other day of Xeriscaping, the concept of water conservation through creative landscaping. (TFG Jan/Feb

1988) after I read an article in the *Golden Gardens* (California) enumerating the seven basic principles of this concept. Having lived in "golden" California for several years, I realize that we here in Florida are blessed by having no totally rainless seasons. But water conservation is something we all need to address. In addition to the good feeling we get for being a practicing environmentalist, we won't have to drag the hoses around the yard quite so much.

Aside from things I probably would do anyhow — soil improvement, mulch, removing the moisture robbing weeds, and irrigating efficiently and only when plants need it — I'm going to try some limited relandscaping — grouping plants together that have the same water needs, going for more natives, converting at least one of my small lawns into a wildflower meadow, and planting more drought tolerant annuals: verbena, celosia, cleome, gazania, and vinca.

●●●●●

Those of us who attended the Deep South Regional Convention in Atlanta and signed up for the tour of the Butterfly Center in Callaway Gardens had a real treat.

The largest, free flight, glass enclosed conservatory in North America for the display of living butterflies, the Cecil B. Day Butterfly Center was established to a large extent by the generosity of Deen Day Smith, President of the Garden Clubs of Georgia. It houses up to 1000 butterflies as well as some birds. Nearly 50 different species of all colors of the rainbow flit amid tropical beauty, including a waterfall, rows of bright annuals, canopies of trees, a pool winding throughout the lush tropical foliage.

I was reminded of the statement by Nathaniel Hawthorne: "Happiness is a butterfly which when pursued is always just beyond your grasp, but which, if you will sit down quietly, may alight upon you." One did!

●●●●●

Happy Gardening, and much rest ... until September—



Day Butterfly Center,  
Callaway Gardens.  
From left:  
Deen Day Smith,  
Charles Smith, Jr.,  
Wini Ekman,  
Eise Haymans



# A CELEBRATION OF FLORIDA'S WILDERNESS

In ancient times, the month of March was celebrated as a time of rebirth and new beginnings. This year, on March 9 in Tallahassee, an Awareness Campaign was launched in an all-day Celebration of Florida's Wilderness — a day filled with intensive seminars for individuals working within the environmental movement, and ending in an evening slide presentation featuring naturalist/photographer James Valentine's fascinating IMAGES OF FLORIDA'S WILDERNESS (see TFG March/April, "Beyond the Garden Gate).

Representatives from Florida's major conservation groups gathered to learn how best to promote an increased public awareness of the need to preserve Florida's magnificent wilderness for all time and generations. Throughout the day, leading environmental spokespeople were filmed, the remarks to be edited and turned into public service announcements which will be channeled through the network of television stations across Florida.

Florida's magnificent wilderness slide presentation will be made available to environmental and conservation groups to use as an educational tool in further promoting an awareness of Florida's wilderness.

The following remarks are condensed from a talk by Marjorie H. Carr, President of the Florida Defenders of the Environment.

.....  
Governor Martinez and the Cabinet of the State of Florida dedicated the month of March as Wilderness Appreciation Month so as to "encourage all citizens to promote our increased awareness of the Florida that has engendered in so many a powerful sense of loving stewardship and to honor Florida's wildernesses through both personal commitment and group involvement to preserve her wild areas and species."

Florida Defenders of the Environment is engaged in two major activities that demonstrate support for the resolution.

It was a powerful sense of loving stewardship that prompted the people of Florida twenty years ago to come to the defense of the Oklawaha River, at that time threatened with massive destruction by the building of the Cross Florida Barge Canal. (The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs was the first state-wide organization to oppose the destruction of the Oklawaha).

The canal construction was halted in 1971 but the federal public works project has never been deauthorized and restoration of the stretch of the Oklawaha River damaged by the partial construction of the canal has not begun.

FDE is vigorously promoting federal legislation to deauthorize the project and assembling relevant information concerning the advantages and costs of restorations of the free-flowing Oklawaha.

A second FDE activity indicates our realization of the importance of local citizen groups becoming involved with the preservation and conservation of wildernesses and natural values in their area. Through an environmental outreach program FDE will promote the formation of coalitions in each county, and make the technical knowledge of FDE's volunteer specialists available to these citizen groups. If Florida is to be a good place to live in the future, men and women today, as individuals or in groups, must make a serious commitment to act in behalf of the environment of Florida.

By Marjorie Carr



TIGER CREEK — wilderness area purchased in a large degree by FFGC through The Nature Conservancy a few years ago

The following resolution was signed that day by Governor Martinez and his cabinet (printed in part).

WHEREAS, Florida's wilderness comprises our most precious natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the life blood of the wilderness, and of all living things, is water; and

WHEREAS, the cycle of water's journey is extensive in Florida, for it courses through porous limestone into the earth's aquifers, and surrounds the state in the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, for millions of years, bountiful water has traveled through Florida's wilderness providing the foundation for the most diverse semi-tropical environment in the continental United States; and

WHEREAS, Florida's vast array of animal, insect, bird, fish and shellfish populations present living examples of the crucial need to preserve their natural habitats so they may continue to thrive and maintain the rich diversity of Florida's wilderness; and

WHEREAS, Florida's wilderness, wildlife habitats and natural resources are under great pressure from development to meet the needs of a burgeoning human population; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has undertaken to forestall this trend by acquiring and protecting sensitive wilderness and coastal lands in the name of all the people; and

WHEREAS, the Governor and Cabinet of the State of Florida have recognized the need for public awareness and education programs to alert Florida's people to the threatened loss of this magnificent wilderness.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor and Cabinet of the State of Florida do hereby declare the month of March, 1989 to be WILDERNESS APPRECIATION MONTH, and encourage all citizens to promote increased awareness of the Florida that has engendered in so many a powerful sense of loving stewardship, and to honor Florida's wilderness through both personal commitment and group involvement to preserve her wild areas and species...



# AN OLD-FASHIONED GARDEN

...and an old-fashioned gardener



The Norwood Garden Club and District XII have a member of which they are very proud — and with good reason.

Lorine Hood is Horticulture Chairman for her garden club, and she literally lives the part. Her garden has been described as a "Grandmother's Garden" — the kind you remember, with flowers blooming everywhere. From the gerberas and roses surrounding the vegetable garden to the wide beds of annuals and perennials along the fencerow, something beautiful is coming up wherever you look!

The landscape designers would not approve — no pavement, geometrically planned beds, or fashionable, expensive plants which one has come to expect in South Florida. But her garden is altogether utilitarian and beautiful — colorful, with pleasing combinations of cannas and coleus, caladiums and kalanchoes, crossandras, salvia, dianthus, and purple petunias, four kinds of pentas, clumps of "willy-nilly" (*Epidendrum radicans*), and more roses.

It includes a vegetable garden — lettuce, tomatoes, peppers, sweet potatoes, and parsley, highlighted by clumps of cosmos, snapdragons, Florida carnations and ageratum.

And all this on a lot in North Miami Beach, 50 by 113 feet, to which she and her husband moved some 35 years ago.

Lorine Hood, a national Accredited Flower

Show Judge as well as a horticulturist par excellence, frequently gives talks on growing flowers and vegetables to district garden clubs. But actual gardening, she says, takes up many hours of her day. Up by 7 every morning she is out in her garden performing such mundane chores as smashing the leaf rollers that attack her cannas, or spraying her many roses (what she "hates about roses").

Lorine's flower garden provides flowers for the sick and weekly bouquets for the Church of Christ in Hollywood Hills. This month the Hialeah Orphans Home is having a plant sale, and you can be sure that Lorine Hood will be one of the chief contributors.

She once grew roses for fragrance and perfume, she says, but now she grows them for their longevity as a cut specimen. The longer they last, she explains, the better bouquet they make. Her favorites: Grace de Monaco, a pink; Grace Two, a white; Angel Face, orchid; Azure Sea, also orchid; and Paradise, orchid surrounded on the edge with red. In front are floribunda roses that bloom continuously — especially an attractive peach-colored one called First Edition. There's Don Juan, the climbing one, and Summer Snow, the white floribunda.

What are her secrets for growing roses? ... Fortuniana stock, weekly sprayings, and fertilization every three weeks.

---

TFG wishes to thank Iva Callman (District XII Publicity Chairman, and Pauline Averitte for sending in the information about Lorine Hood. Mrs. Averitte writes, "Lorine does this activity with utmost skill and generosity. She takes charming arrangements of roses and cut flowers to President's Council meetings, as well as regular club meetings, and she remembers birthdays. She exhibits in flower shows and shares her talent with friends, neighbors, and church. One never leaves her home empty handed.

"She has long been supportive of FFGC objectives, and richly deserves this recognition."

---

Lorine also likes snapdragons in her flower arrangements — the tall ones which she gets from her daughter in Tallahassee. She keeps them upright by surrounding them with tomato rings.

Her vegetables receive much of her time. She once grew an eggplant that measured 11 inches. In January she picked a bushel of pole beans and removed the spent vines, which along with the remnants of other spent winter vegetables she worked into the soil. Black eyed peas and okra will be planted here this summer.

Now for the surprise — Lorine Hood, a widow, moved from Georgia to Miami with her husband John in 1925. She is over 80 years old! Her four children, 11 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren must agree that she is a remarkable person. You can understand why the Norwood Garden club is so proud of this member.

## Your Garden Can Save You Money

GROWING YOUR OWN FOOD can save you hundreds of dollars a year, according to a survey by the nonprofit National Gardening Association. At least 29 million U.S. households grow some of their own vegetables. The typical cost for materials is \$41 a year, and the yield is \$260 for a 325-square-foot garden. Savings \$219.

Devoting more garden space and slightly more money can reap even greater savings. The 200,000 members of the association spend an average of \$82 on materials a year, and the median size of their gardens is 1500 square feet, or five times the average. Typical yield: \$1215. Savings \$1133.



# SUGAR MILL GARDENS

Arborea and Botanical Gardens are proliferating! The newest one, formed this year, is in Volusia County. The Botanical Gardens of Volusia, Inc. was founded in 1984, and after nearly four years of meetings, approval of by-laws, and examination of various sites throughout the county, beautiful Sugar Mill Gardens in Port Orange was chosen for the first botanical garden in Volusia.

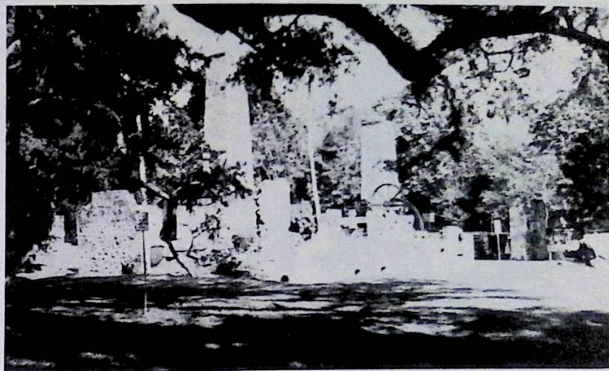
Dating back to 1830, the sugar mill is steeped in intriguing history. It was abandoned as a sugar mill in 1835 because of an Indian uprising and was never restored to operation. The old mills for grinding the juice from sugar cane are still visible, as well as the huge vats for boiling the juice to make sugar and syrup. The syrup also yielded molasses for making rum.

The garden is blessed with an abundance of unique endemic plant life. One of the outstanding natural features of the garden is "Nature's Chapel", a large area completely enclosed with a canopy of greenery provided by huge oaks and other trees arching to form a cathedral-like dome. A "Bride's Walk" on one side appears to have been planned by nature. Natural air conditioning cools this area where couples say their wedding vows.

A Master Plan for the garden will incorporate aesthetic values, educational opportunities, plant testing, and taxonomy into its design. Volunteers have devoted many hours to plantings in free-flowing beds which enhance the already lush look of this most beautiful area.

Sugar Mill Gardens welcomes contributions of time, talents, and materials which will help in this worthwhile effort to preserve the quality of life in that area. It is open Tuesday through Sunday from 8:30 to 4:00 p.m.

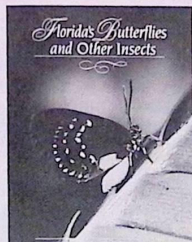
Lois Weissing  
Chairman, Arborea and Botanical Gardens



Ruins of the old Mill — soon to be rebuilt along lines of original structure.



—NEW BOOK—



154 color photos  
8½ x 11  
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## Florida's Butterflies and Other Insects

by Peter D. Stiling, Ph.D.

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**ATTENTION CLUB PRESIDENTS**

During the month of May you will be receiving BOI forms and dues forms to be filled out and the *Florida Gardener* computer membership lists for your verification. Please process as quickly as possible and return to the Assistant Treasurer and Headquarters by **DEADLINE, JUNE 1, 1989.**

...June Fichcreek, Hdqrs.  
Office Manager

**UNWARRANTED FEAR**

The FL Department of Agriculture collected and analyzed 14,492 food samples for pesticide residues. The total study of prepared dishes shows that after cooking, peeling, and cleaning, they have so little residue that the average intake is generally less than .001% of the internationally recognized safety guidelines.

...Lizette Murphy, UF extension

**COOKBOOKS: WHAT IF I BUY ONE AND YOU BUY ONE?**

**OUR WORLD IS PLANTS**

Don't forget to register for the Garden Club Short Course, "Our World Is Plants," before May 24. After that time it will be \$40 instead of \$35. Mark the date — June 6-8. J. Wayne Reitz Union, UF. Use registration form in the last issue of the *Gardener* or write Sherry Harrison, IFAS Bldg. 639, UF, Gainesville 32611.

...Camilla Weems, Chairman

**"BEE" UP-DATED**

All related materials published prior to the new "Handbook for Flower Shows" should be checked for possible changes. If you have not up-dated your copy of BEE A WINNER, please do so. Under "Flower Show Awards" on pages 5 and 6 make these changes: #5 - See new Handbook, pp. 43 and 44; #8 - Read Chapter IX, Handbook; #9 - See Book of Information Supplement, Page 54, or the Sept./Oct. *National Gardener*.

...Elsie Cato

**CONGRATS TO ORLANDO**

Forty Florida cities have earned the National Arbor Day Foundation's designation of "Tree City USA" for 1988. These forty cities are the most to earn the title in Florida since the program began in 1976. Orlando has the best record among Florida Tree Cities. It was designated a Tree City the first year, and except for 1977 has been a Tree City every year since for a total of 12 years.

...Division of Forestry, Tallahassee

**A PROBLEM COMES HOME TO FLORIDA**

Last year, a mid-summer shower in Jacksonville was so acid that it ruined the paint on 2000 high priced foreign cars parked in the city's seaport. On some cars, the paint was dissolved down to the metal. Foreign auto makers have threatened to steer clear of the port if the acid rains continue.

...from National Audubon

**DON'T THROW IT AWAY**

Throwing away a 12-ounce aluminum beverage container wastes the energy equivalent to six ounces of gasoline. Michigan reports saving the energy equivalent of one million barrels of oil per year since the passage of the Beverage Container Deposit Legislation. If Florida enacted BCDL it could save enough energy annually to supply all the energy for a city of 50,000 people.

...Citizens Against Throwaways

**WHERE HAVE ALL THE BUTTERFLIES GONE?**

Maybe Nowhere. Butterflies are most active during bright sunny weather. At other times, they roost. During low light conditions (early morning, late afternoon, or rainy days) look carefully in trees and under leaves for roosting butterflies. By the way, most of our native butterflies live approximately two weeks.

...Day Butterfly Center,  
Callaway Gardens

**HOT MIX**

To moisten sphagnum moss or mixes heavy with sphagnum moss, use hot water instead of cold. The hot water will be absorbed much more quickly. Just be sure to let it cool before planting the seed or plant!

...Leona Venettozzi in *Factual Notes*

**THE HAPPY HIBISCUS**

Your Hibiscus likes the sun, and container specimens can spend the summer outdoors. Water regularly and generously in the growing season, and feed with liquid fertilizer at 1/2 strength during active growth.. If you are repotting use humus-rich, nutritious potting soil, repot in spring, and if your plant is getting too big, cut it back and remove leggy growth.

...Success with Houseplants

**HERBAL HINTS**

Dry herbs in the microwave. Place a few sprigs or 1/2 cup of leaves between paper towels; microwave at HIGH for 1/2 to 1 minute. Remove from microwave and allow to stand for a few minutes. Pack in clean tightly sealed jars.

...Southern Living



# tips for underwater designs

...By Bob Thomas

1. Part of your design should be planned to be underwater for creative effect. Stems visible through clear glass container do not meet this requirement. Be sure a significant focal area is underwater.

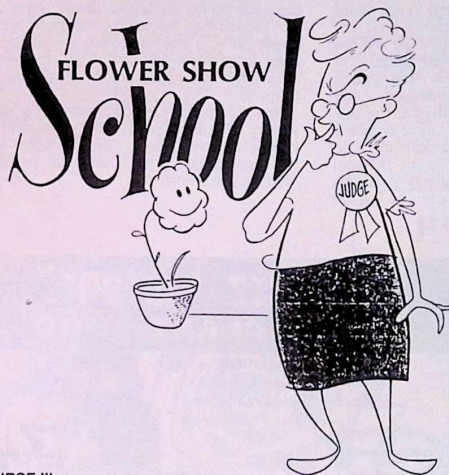
2. Containers may be plain, textured or colored glass for different effects. More than one container may be used, but design must be a unified whole.

3. Suitable materials that hold up well include evergreens (broadleaf and coniferous) tropical flowers and foliage, calla lilies, gerberas, dendrobium orchids, roses, any hard surfaced plant material. Experiment if in doubt.

4. Mechanics - heavy needle point holders, well anchored, coiled fishing lead, lead sinkers of various sizes and shapes, marbles, polished rocks may be used to anchor plant materials. Coiled aluminum clothesline can anchor materials on top edge of container. Colored cellophane, plastics, rods, etc. can add an interesting effect. Arrange in small amount of water and add rest of water when design is in place. This avoids air bubbles and the problem of moving very heavy items. Use a hose to syphon off water at end of show.

5. Don't forget to account for distortion and magnification effects of water and glass when planning your design. Affects scale and proportion.

6. SIMPLIFY! Avoid cutsy or trite imagery such as miniature divers or live goldfish. HAVE FUN!



## COURSE III

Mrs. Hugh Manson, Chairman  
June 13,14,15

District VI  
Cocoa-Rockledge

## COURSE I

Mrs. John A. Ward, Chairman  
September 25,26,27

District III  
Tallahassee

## COURSE II

Mrs. S.M. Campbell, Jr. Chairman  
October 26,27,28

Garden Club of Indian River  
County, Vero Beach

## COURSE V

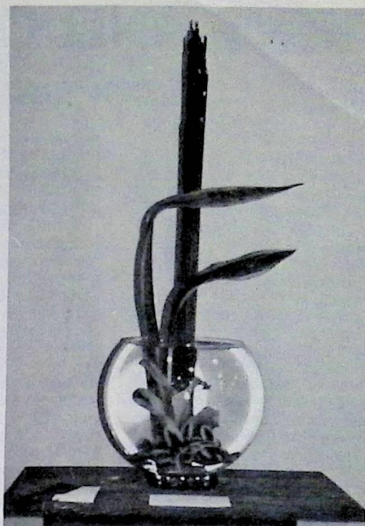
Mrs. John Tabb, Chairman  
October 30,31, November 1

Jacksonville Beach

## SYMPOSIUM

Mrs. Steve Fritch, Chairman Tampa  
November 7 (pre-symposium dinner),8,9

Joanne Dawkins, Chairman



State Flower Show Blue Ribbon Winner, Class 2. "Land Alive" (in and out of water); Entry by Vivian Robinson, Garden Club of St. Petersburg.



The Foliage Garden club of Apopka is sponsoring the advance Design Units - 7, 8 & 9, on April 27, May 11 and 18. TFG regrets that it did not receive this notice in time for the March issue. Those interested in participating in the last two sessions should contact the chairman, Mary Jo Goodwin.



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# PARENT AND CHILD

...A new idea for your flower show

The "Parent and Child" class at the State Flower Show in March was an interesting and innovative idea — one that hopefully will find its way into our local and district shows.

Propagation of your favorite plants is the next step after learning to grow a particular species well, and spring/early summer is the time to do it. Creating babies can provide new plants for sharing with friends, for civic projects, or just for keeping your own home filled with the luxuriance of youth.

In addition to growing from seed, reproducing your plants asexually (vegetatively) can be fun. The baby reproduced in this way is exactly like the parent, a clone — unlike a seeded plant which may be very different from the parent, as your own offspring may be very different from you. And there is no limit to the number of clones which may be reproduced from one plant, as each descendent is an exact replica of the original ancestor. All the Bartlett pears in the world originate from a single seedling that appeared in England around 1770.

Sometimes plants reproduce naturally by vegetative methods in an accidental way — a twig that breaks to the ground or the branch that curves downward may take root and grow. This accidental "groundlayering" is the simplest method of asexual propagation and we can help by making a simple cut on the bottom of the branch and weighting it to the ground with a stone or brick.

The easiest plants to propagate by this method are, of course, those that do it

themselves, such as the spider plant (Chlorophyllum) with its many babies hanging on all sides. Incidentally this is a good plant to start with if you want to teach children about vegetative reproduction.

Another easy method of vegetative reproduction is division. Many plants like aloe, African Violets, certain Cacti, and Bromeliads, produce small replicas of themselves in clumps near or attached to the parent. If the soil is wet, the clump will often fall apart easily, and the babies can be separated and repotted, watered and set in a shady place to develop new roots. Cacti should be left to callus for a few days of weeks before repotting.

Cuttings are a simple means of multiplying your plants. Some plants form "pre-formed roots" along their stems (Pothos, Ivy, Philodendrons, Syngoniums) and cuttings from these will soon fill a glass of water with roots. They should, however, be potted up once new growth has begun.

Other plants (without pre-formed roots) may also be propagated by "wound cuttings". These should be put immediately in soil rather than water (1/3 peat, 1/3 sterile soil, 1/3 perlite). Cuttings should be 3-6 inches and are best taken in the morning when the plant is turgid. Bottom leaves should be removed and large leaves, such as on Dieffenbachia and Aglaonema, should be trimmed to reduce water loss from transpiration. Leave on some leaves, though. (This does not apply to hardwood cuttings taken during the dormant period). For woody plants, cuttings should be taken from new branches after they have

become stiff but are still green. All cuttings root better in a humid atmosphere, and woody ones, especially, should be covered with a plastic dome or bag.

Air layering is like a stem cutting, but in this method you attempt to root the stem without cutting it from the plant. This method is usually used for large plants that may have grown too tall for their locations, such as Dracaena, rubber plant, Croton, etc. Remove leaves for 2 or 3 inches above and below the cut, which should be 1/4 to 1/2 way through the stem. Insert a toothpick to keep surfaces apart, apply a rooting hormone if desired, cover with a ball of damp sphagnum moss, wrap with plastic, and secure each end tightly to prevent moisture loss. Roots should form in 4-6 weeks. If they don't, you haven't lost anything.

Leaf cuttings, especially from the African violet, are familiar to most gardeners. Begonia and most succulents can be rooted from leaves also. Methods differ: the Begonia is rooted by laying the leaf, cut through its many veins, in a STERILE pot of moist STERILE peat and perlite; the leaves of succulents will root better if they are not in contact with soil — simply put in a tray, cover with a newspaper, keep out of bright light, and forget. This might be another interesting project for the Junior Gardener.

You will not have success with every plant you try to propagate. But the excitement of cloning a favorite plant is worth the effort. And let's make a class in the flower show for these "parents and children."



"Parent and Child". Blue Ribbon winner in State Flower Show, Horticulture Division, Class 39. Entry by Elsie Caton of the Tampa Federation. Crotons are easily propagated by softwood cuttings taken in summer.

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# WHAT TO DO IN YOUR GARDEN

Summer is almost upon us here in Florida, though the weather is usually still pleasant enough to enjoy the garden. Try to finish many of your garden chores this month because the summer sun can be most unpleasant, not to mention all the warnings these days about skin cancer.

It is important that your **FRUIT AND SHADE TREES AND WOODY SHRUBS** be fertilized now — one pound of fertilizer for each foot of tree spread. It's better to put the fertilizer in small holes around the periphery of the branches rather than sprinkle it on the soil, which also feeds the weeds and grass.

You can also fertilize your **LAWN** now, though you might wait for the June rains unless you are prepared to water frequently. Mow often (have your old blade sharpened) but not too close. It is recommended that you never cut more than 1/3 of the existing leaf surface. Grass growing in a shady area should be left even longer since it gets less sun on the leaves.

In June your **AZALEAS AND CAMELLIAS** should have their second feeding of the year. Feed with a good azalea and camellia special. This would be a good time to test the pH of the soil around these bushes. A pH of from 4.5 to 5.5 is about right. If the pH is above 6, it should be reduced, and this is most easily and safely done with iron sulphate. Iron sulphate is effective in acidifying the soil, is relatively safe, and provides much needed iron. Remember that an azalea special fertilizer does not reduce the pH of the soil; it only helps to keep the soil from becoming more alkaline. If it made the soil more acid, it could not be used on soils which have the proper pH.

May is usually a dry month, so knowing

**WHEN AND HOW TO WATER** is important. Water only when plants need watering. Use a coring device to dig down in the soil to see if it is wet. If the soil in the root zone feels dry and crumbly, additional water is needed. Keep a close watch on the lawn. Lawns should be watered in the early morning, when winds and temperatures are low. Late morning, mid-day, and afternoon irrigation usually results in loss of water from evaporation. When watering, give the soil a thorough soaking. Frequent, light sprinklings waste water and do little to satisfy the water requirement of a plant. It only promotes shallow root systems; this increases the chance of damage when water is omitted for a few days. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it. A hose turned on full force does more damage than good since fast-flowing water runs off quickly carrying soil with it and exposing plant roots to the sun. Soaker hoses and sprinklers are better.

And remember that a good **MULCH** can help prevent loss of water, suppress weeds, and maintain a more uniform soil temperature. An organic mulch also can improve soil texture and tilth. For best results apply 2-4 inches over the entire bed, but avoid covering crown of low growing ornamental plants, especially gerberas. **CREPE MYRTLE, JASMINE, ALAMANDA, AND QUEEN PALMS** may show a yellowing of leaves because of a Manganese deficiency. Apply Manganese Sulfate to the soil at package recommended rates and water well. Since our soils are deficient in many of the essential elements, a foliage spray of these elements can help your plants. Several are available — needed only in small quantities.

Since many of you will be going on vacation

before the next TFG comes out, here are a few tips from Dr. Bob Black, IFAS Extension Horticulturist, on what to do to ready your home for your absence.

Place your outdoor potted plants in a shady location. This may be near the side of a building having a northern exposure or within the protective cover of a heavy foliage plant. Potted plants may be placed in the ground up to the rim of the container. A thick layer of mulch will conserve moisture and reduce the number of waterings needed while on vacation. If you must leave plants indoors place them in a room which receives indirect light, but not a darkened room because leaf drop will surely result. The last thing to do before leaving is to thoroughly soak the plants. If you are to be gone over two weeks, arrange to have someone water the plants, or move them outdoors and sink in a cool shaded spot.

Mow lawn just prior to leaving, if possible. An unkempt lawn is a tell-tale sign that no one is at home, as well as being bad for the lawn grass to get out of hand. Perhaps mow a little shorter than usual if your stay will be long. Water the lawn well prior to leaving, or make provisions for sprinklers to be turned on.

Give garden beds and plants a final and good soaking; mulch plants with leaves, pine needles, compost, or bark to conserve moisture. Cut flowering annuals just before leaving; annuals which go uncut will soon cease to bloom. Weed the beds well; if weeds are allowed to go to seed while you are gone, you can expect a much harder job of weeding later in the season or next year when the seeds sprout. Weeds also rob desirable plants of food and moisture.

Until September, happy gardening —

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## BC...A Rewarding, Learning Experience

Posing before launching for Lignumvitae Key are, left to right, Floy LaForce, Mickie Westerfelt, Barbara Jones, Gloria Gram, and Saima Takken.

After the 50 participants studied coral ecology and snorkled in the shallow bays during Blanche Covington Nature Study Course '89 on Big Pine Key, the following comments were received: "...a rewarding, learning experience...", "...enhanced my expertise in teaching youth...", "...a very memorable experience...", "...so many experts to share their knowledge was remarkable..."

Jo Fleming, chairman, reported that all 12 Districts were represented at this educational program.



## A BLUE STAR MEMORIAL MARKER

...In Orange Park

A Blue Star Memorial Byway Marker was dedicated by the Garden Club of Orange Park, February 20, 1989 at the Magnolia Cemetery, Orange Park, FL. This Cemetery, established in 1886, was selected, in cooperation with the Town of Orange Park, as an appropriate site for the Byway Marker since it is the final resting place of military veterans of all conflicts since the Civil War.

The Blue Star Memorial Byway Marker, mounted on Carolina Mahogany granite was placed to the left of the cemetery entrance. The area to the right is already tastefully landscaped with a flag pole and granite benches. The chosen area will be the site of future landscaping projects by the garden club.

The dedication ceremony was attended by dignitaries from the Town of Orange Park, the Garden Club of Orange Park, District IV, active and retired military organizations, and interested others.

Mrs. Alex Hilliard, FFGC Treasurer, presided; Chaplains Glynn Oglesby and Robert Schneck gave the invocation and benediction; the Orange Park High School Jr. ROTC and Band provided the Color Guard and the trumpeter for the National Anthem. Mrs. Hal Marr, Chairman of the Blue Star Memorial Marker Committee for the Garden Club of Orange Park; Mrs. Richard Rhodes, Garden Club President of Orange Park; Mrs. Donald Frazier, Director, District IV; Mr. John Hellmuth, Orange Park Cemetery Board; and Mrs. Hilda Varndøe, FFGC Chairman of Blue Star Memorial Highways, contributed to the ceremony. The Honorable Carroll Nix, Mayor of the city, supervised the unveiling of the Byway Marker.

...By Mrs. Hal Marr



## rare plant on exhibit at convention

Convention goes in St. Petersburg were treated to a view of one of the world's rarest plants, the Banara Vanderbiltii, as part of the Endangered Species Exhibit. Just 2 1/2 years ago, there were only six remaining plants in the only known population of this species.

In August 1986, the Fairchild Tropical Garden received 23 cuttings from these six plants. These cuttings, sent by the courtesy of Dr. David Denmsore of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Puerto Rico, came by overnight air express to Miami, in the form of eight to ten inch cuttings of new growth packed in plastic with damp moss.

Banara Vanderbiltii is a very rare shrub or small tree from moist limestone forests. The plant grows up to 30 feet tall. The flowers are yellow. The fruit is about 1/2" in diameter, dark purple, with a persistent style (remaining on

the plant past maturity.) Inside the pulp are many small seeds.

From the 23 cuttings sent, 19 became well rooted and ready for individual potting in a soil mix. The plants grew rapidly, and by the summer of 1987 six were planted outside in the Garden; the rest remained in the nursery in three gallon containers. Both groups grew well; the outdoor population grew taller, but those indoors began flowering in April 1988.

The plant flourishes in the rocky limestone soil of the Miami area, appearing to be free of disease. From further cuttings and seed plants the Garden had more than 250 plants by September. Thus, the world population has increased more than 40 fold! Many of the seedlings will eventually be distributed to other institutions so that this species will have a good chance of survival in cultivation.

Dr. Popenoe, Director of Fairchild Tropical Garden, arranged for the plant to be exhibited in St. Petersburg. It will become the property of The Federated Garden Circles of Ft. Lauderdale for use on their grounds.

...By Eve Hannahs,  
NCSGC Chairman of Endangered Species

**COOKBOOKS: WHAT IF — I BUY ONE FOR A GIFT AND YOU BUY ONE FOR A GIFT?**



# BIRDS, OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS

Birds are important to our environment. Not only do they rid the land of harmful insects that destroy gardens and farmer's crops, but they are entertainers bringing joy with their melodious songs, bright colors, and antics. They are also pollinators (the Hummingbird), and help scatter the seeds of fruit & berries over the land.

If you have not cleaned out your bird houses, put up more houses, put up feeders, and planted bright flowers for Hummingbirds, now is the time.

The Bluebirds, almost extinct, are coming back thanks to many gardeners. Their nesting box should have a 1 1/2" opening, while other birds have larger openings. They prefer the pole that the box sits on to be about five feet; or you may use the average fence post.

Many birds nest in trees or thorny bushes such as the Mocking Bird, our State bird. Dead trees are very important, as some smaller birds nest in the cavities, and Woodpeckers drill in the dead trees for worms as their food.

All feeders should be kept clean, and have a wide rim around the edge for the birds to perch on. This also applies to water fountains. Each bird likes a different kind of food. There is a pamphlet you may order, "Planting a Refuge for Wildlife", which is excellent as it gives in detail what birds like to eat, their nesting habits, and other valuable data. You may order from: Nongame Wildlife Program; Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission; 620 South Meridian Street; Tallahassee, Florida 32301.

After each hatching of the baby birds use a light powder such as Sevin to protect future lodgers from insects. In the summer time watch for wasp nests as they may set up house keeping and the birds will not use the houses. For predators such as snakes make a guard of material like light aluminum, cutting a round piece for a collar and fastening it to the pole. The round plate should be a bit larger than a dinner plate. Snakes will not go over it.

There are many slides and books on birds you may wish to borrow from headquarters in Winter Park. They make excellent programs.

May 1st is Bird Day in Florida. Be a bird watcher and help your children and grandchildren enjoy our feathered friends. Remember birds are important, so please help them. You will be glad you did.

By Jane Horne  
FFGC Bird Chairman



## REPORT BALD EAGLE SIGHTINGS

A new telephone hotline will help The Florida Audubon Society keep track of Bald Eagle sightings and nests in Florida. The public is encouraged to report sightings of eagles by calling the "I C Eagle" (407/423-2453) hotline 24 hours a day.

Incoming calls will be recorded on an answering device. Calls will be checked daily and callers will be contacted only if further information is needed.

Increased awareness and reporting of Bald Eagle sightings by the public will help Florida

Audubon define habitat areas in need of protection and could identify nesting sites not currently on record with either the Florida game and Fresh Water Fish Commission or Florida Audubon. The "I C Eagle" hotline has already been instrumental in locating a previously unknown nest site in Seminole County. There are 400 active Bald Eagle nests in Florida.

Bald eagles are protected by federal and state laws. It is illegal to harass, injure, or otherwise interfere with Bald Eagles or any bird of prey.

For more information about the "I C Eagle" telephone line and how individuals or businesses can help keep this service active, contact Resee Collins at the Florida Audubon Society's Center for Birds of Prey, 407/645-3826.

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# Camp Wekiva Happenings — Needs

A **CAMP DIRECTOR** has been hired by selection committee — Gloria Gram from Ft. White, Florida: prior camp volunteer for 2 years, environmental education teacher and worker, training as camp director and recreation specialist; enthusiastic, hard worker. **6 ADULT VOLUNTEERS** are needed to furnish instruction in nature-trail survival (course presented at Blanche Covington by C. Kearns — instruction booklets provided to participants). We need one nature volunteer per week to offer this course material to campers currently completing the 7th grade. **URGENT NEED FOR EE PROGRAM** instructors for weeks provided for boys and girls currently completing the 8th grade. We also need clubs to sponsor this age camper, as

they are the basis of our CIT selection program for next year. Camper fee is the same for all age levels, including CIT. The 8th grade program is limited to 16 EE campers per week for two weeks offered in both the boys and girls sessions.

**ADULT VOLUNTEERS** should send in their application forms immediately so that all volunteer positions and counselor positions will be filled by May 6, date of our **WEKIVA ORIENTATION RETREAT** for adult leaders and senior counselors. **WE NEED YOUR HELP IN VOLUNTEERING AND RECRUITING COUNSELORS.**

**CABIN COUNSELORS AND CIT's** are urgently needed. Each of the thirteen cabins requires a senior counselor and junior counselor. CIT's will be used one per cabin in order to gain training for the counseling positions in the future, and will assist older counselors and be under guidance and supervision of the camp director for one week, or longer. **APPLICATION FORMS FOR THESE POSITIONS MUST BE OBTAINED FROM WEKIVA YOUTH CAMP CHAIRMAN** — (904) 669-3498. Remember that CIT must pay regular camper fee of \$75.00.

**PAY SCHEDULE FOR 1989:** Senior Cabin Counselors — \$100 per week with \$10 per year increase for each prior year served as a

CIT, JR., and/or Sr. Counselor at Wekiva. This year Junior Cabin Counselors will receive a \$30 per week stipend, but hopefully this can be increased next year with your club's financial support through donations, memorials, and camper fee registrations.

**CAMP BROCHURES MAY BE OBTAINED FROM CAMP REGISTRAR, Mrs. M. W. Bryan, Jr., 995 Avenida De La Bosque, Bartow, 33830, Phone (813) 533-6802 or office 533-2236; or from State Headquarters in Winter Park.** Deadline for registrations or cancellation is June 1, **SO HURRY!**

**CRAFTS COORDINATOR** Marilyn Taylor requests clubs donate disposable pie tins and spray can lids (plastic) to their District Director, or deliver to State Headquarters.

Members living in the nearby Orlando or Sanford area are encouraged to volunteer a week for daytime Nature Leader or Crafts/Nature Assistant as you could return home each day following completion of afternoon learning session. Contact camp chairman if you would like to perform this service. We also welcome a visit from you or your garden group during camping sessions, provided prior notice is given to **CAMP CHAIRMAN AND CAMP DIRECTOR.**

...By *Mickie Westerfelt, Chairman*  
*Wekiva Youth Camp*

## Palm Coast chooses the best for SEEK

*"Imagine a world barren of trees, with only a few remaining species of animals, and an abundance of putrid, polluted water. We should care what happens to our environment so that our world does not end up this way" ... by Chrissy Seugling, from an essay which won for her a scholarship to SEEK '89, from the Garden Club at Palm Coast*

Recently two advance science students were chosen for SEEK '89, sponsored by the garden club. The method by which these students were chosen assured that only the best would be sent — the kind that will be our environmental leaders of the future. Other clubs might like to adopt a similar screening procedure.

In November 1988, The Garden Club invited SEEK Chairman, Mrs. N. Wayne Allen, to speak to their governing board. The next week a check was sent to two scholarships ... names to be submitted later.

The science teacher at Palm Coast High School was contacted and given information



*Adriana Herrera, one of two SEEK scholarship winners at Palm Coast, is being interviewed by members of the Garden Club. From left, Joyce Birrell, Adriana, Bob Funk, and Russell Simmans.*

left by the SEEK Chairman, and a selection committee from the garden club was formed to work along with him.

Four advanced science students entered the competition for the two slots. All of the students submitted a paper on "Why Should We Care About What happens to our Environment." Later they were interviewed by the selection committee and two finalists were chosen in early February.

This September the two students and the SEEK '89 Chairman have been invited to speak to the 180 members of the garden club,

to relate their experiences at SEEK and to stir the interest that will send more students in 1990.

Palm Coast, a relatively new club (federated in 1981), has in a short time developed a program which includes civic improvement, maintenance of community gardens, tree seedling sales, Floral Design Series, flower show, spring plant sale, etc. The Garden Club at Palm Coast has become a leading civic organization, and as a Daytona Beach newspaper stated recently "a source of pride in the community."

## COOKBOOKS: WHAT IF — I SELL ONE AND YOU SELL ONE?



# "TOP PRIORITY: COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS"

The following essay by Mary Kate Parks of Lake Placid, was Florida's and National Council's 1st place winner in the High School Speech Contest. Mary Kate delivered her speech at FFGC Convention in St. Petersburg last month and will have the privilege of speaking again at National Council Convention being held this month in Rochester, NY.

H<sub>2</sub>O — Such an amazingly simple compound, yet the very basis for our continued existence. It should be our top commitment for the environment, but it is not. Preserving what water we have left will lead to a bright future, but just what are we doing to preserve it? Preservation and conservation of our water is all well and good, but if you will excuse the expression, conservation is just "a drop in the bucket" compared to water pollution. You see, although my turning off the shower a little bit quicker will preserve water, it is the large agricultural companies who are literally pouring millions of gallons of chemicals into our Earth. Put more technically, the story goes like this...

Florida's multi-billion dollar agricultural industry is a part of the pollution problem, not from the amount of water they use, but from the amount of chemicals that they sink into Florida's surface soils. The chemicals seep into the soil and get into the surface water after being given to plants, or trees. EDB, dichloroethylene, trichloroethylene, DDT, and even sodium, in large amounts, are highly toxic to humans.

Florida was once primarily an agricultural state, and did not have such a large population. Then there was plenty of time for

Florida's water to purify itself. Basically, there was plenty of water to go around. Recently, Florida has overtaken Pennsylvania to have the honor of being the third most populous state in the nation. When Florida had a lower population, it had enough water for the groves, gardens, and fifty minute showers. Now, Florida has just too many people to regard water as a right instead of a privilege.

Large corporations are also somewhat responsible for the chemical pollution problem, and most accept their responsibility. However, there is the story of one little grandma who took on an awfully BIG corporation, "Uncle Sam" and came out fighting. It was the case of "Clark VS McChord Air Force Base." Mary Clark had to take legal action against McChord Air Force Base before they would accept responsibility for polluting the water on her Washington State farmland. Mary Clark was reported as saying this in the midst of her legal proceedings: "They thought they could sweep this grandma under the rug, well, they picked the wrong grandma." Mary Clark's ordeal of actually suing a military branch of the Federal Government was, admittedly, an extreme case. But water pollution is not rare at all.

Every time you pick up the newspaper, or turn on the television, you see pollution headlines. You see headlines like: "PITTSFIELD, MA — 8,000 people fall ill due to a parasitic pollution in their water." "WOODSTOCK, NY — residents find out that their town's old water pipes have transferred large doses of asbestos into their water supply." "SOUTH CAROLINA — a dangerously high amount of sodium found in the municipal water supply." All of these locations and stories scream out to the American people that something should be done about this pollution problem.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has declared that 20% of all municipal water systems have detectable levels of contaminants. Cornell University completed follow-up research to the EPA report, and declared that 63% of rural household supplies were contaminated, largely because of bacteria. These reports show that somewhere

in America, some 39 MILLION PEOPLE DON'T EVEN HAVE DRINKABLE WATER. A whopping 15% of Americans must depend on bottled water for drinking, cooking, and even bathing, because the "stuff" that is in their wells is unfit for human (or animal) use. Figures are much worse in another agricultural capital - Southern California - where bottled water rates reach a staggering 33%.

California is the second most populated state in the nation. Is Florida to go the way of California's excesses? Let's face the music - Florida will have to get real if we intend to have clean pure water to drink.

You might not think that there is a lot that you can do to aid in controlling this massive problem. An apt phrase fits this situation. "We might not have it all together, but together we have it all." All of us can assist in limiting pollution and excessive chemical usage by taking positive action, such as talking to our State and National Legislators who are in charge of Agricultural Affairs.

Meanwhile, there are several things that we can do to our own water supply to keep it safe for our own personal use. We can use Carbon Treatment - it is the first option. Carbon Treatment traps pollutants in a carbon filter. It is the cheapest process at \$150.00. Distillation is the second option. This process turns water into steam, leaving contaminants behind. It is more expensive at around \$300.00. Reverse Osmosis is the third more sophisticated option. Water passes through a membrane but the pollutants accompanying it do not. However, this process can cost up to \$850.00 and up to \$100.00 per year to maintain.

If you have a question about water quality, I encourage you to call the Water Quality Association. This is a professional group that sets water quality standards.

Keeping our water clean and fit to drink is a basic responsibility that we all have. It should be our top priority as an environmental concern that reaches from Los Angeles to Fort Lauderdale. When the last drop of clean water is consumed, and we are thirsty for just one more glass, we will realize the value of clean water ... I just pray that it doesn't come to that.

...By Mary Kate Parks

## Fight Pollution on Your Own Turf

...By Dr. Robert J. Black

Water pollution is seriously threatening the environment of this state. Yet many do not realize that they themselves could be the cause of that pollution. For example, your garden, lawn or waterfront home could be a source of pollution.

There are two ways pollutants can reach water - through runoff and leaching. Runoff is the physical transport of pollutants over surface lands. Leaching is a process whereby pollutants are flushed out of soil by water as it percolates through the ground. In many areas of Florida, where land is flat, sandy and porous, leaching is more serious a concern than runoff.

The grass on your lawn holds topsoil in place and absorbs nutrients that can pollute water. Yet improper management of turfgrass may cause water quality problems. Some home gardeners, in order to have a lush, attractive lawn, water and fertilize too much. Since most Florida turfgrass is grown on sandy soils that hold water poorly, it is easy to flush out expensive fertilizer with the lawn sprinkler.

Follow these tips to reduce pollution and save fertilizer. Remember, your objective is to keep water and fertilizer in the root zone of the grass for as long as possible.

1. Apply no more than 3/4 inch of water per irrigation.
2. Make sure your sprinkling system applies water uniformly. Don't let the reach of two sprinklers overlap excessively.
3. Adjust your water to the season: in summer you may need to water a few times a week. In winter, you may want to water less. Watch the grass for a bluish-gray color. This indicates grass is wilting and needs to be watered.
4. Look for the words "slow release" or "insoluble" on fertilizer labels. Nitrogen in this type of fertilizer will not wash away as quickly.
5. Don't be fooled by the word "organic". Some organic fertilizers leach as quickly as inorganic.
6. Increase mowing height of lawns; this increased height allows the plant to develop a deep root system.
7. After fertilizing, apply only enough water so that the fertilizer reaches the root zone. If soil is very dry, water your lawn before fertilizing, but allow grass to dry first.
8. Apply nitrogen at low enough rates so that the turf can absorb it readily. Generally about one pound of nitrogen per 1000 square feet per application is adequate and safe.

Pest control of lawns should be done with a great deal of care, because pesticides are often toxic. Avoid applying pesticides as a preventative measure. Instead, scout your lawn weekly for pest infestation. When a problem arises, treat it promptly. Spot treatment of a pest problem is usually as effective as treating the whole lawn.

Water belongs to everybody and protecting it is the responsibility of each of us. If everyone would fight pollution on their turf, a lot could be accomplished. As the saying goes, if you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem. Be part of the solution.



# NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

## NEW BIRD SANCTUARY

...at Switzerland

Five miles of the William Bartram Scenic Highway has been designated a Bird Sanctuary in Northwest St. Johns County, from Julington Creek to Greenbrier Road, from the St. Johns River to the east side of the Scenic Highway is now a haven for birds and small non-game wildlife.

A decade of planning and work by The Garden Club of Switzerland has culminated in this official Bird Sanctuary, and the entire community has become involved in the project. Citizens inundated the County Commissioners (one of whom is a member of the Club but who had no peer support for this project) with petitions, letters and phone calls. Meetings were attended until approval was granted.

The same process was followed until approval was given by the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, with suggested boundaries modified in order to protect the rights of recreational hunters.

Permission for the bird sanctuary was contingent on The Garden Club of Switzerland accepting responsibility for the purchasing, printing, and posting of the signs every 500 feet as required by law. Since 750 signs were deemed necessary, the Club created an "Adopt a Bird Sanctuary Sign" project. Local newspapers, cable television, schools, churches, and civic organizations gave much publicity, and the necessary money was raised.

Students of the Julington Creek Elementary School entered over 100 posters in the "Bird Sanctuary Poster" contest. The two winners received bird houses built and donated by a member of the Audubon Society. Many of the posters were displayed at the local Food Lion Store. This was a remarkable prelude to the educational programs planned by the Club.

Over 100 people showed up to help post the signs. During refreshments, groups were assigned a territory for sign posting. At that very moment, someone looked skyward and called attention to three bald eagles flying overhead.

It was a wonderful day for the community and for the birds.

By Selma Sayre

Julington Creek Elementary School, winners of the Bird Sanctuary Contest.



## A CITY PARK ADOPTED

...in Cedar Key

The slogan "Adopt a Park" is a familiar one to garden clubs — and that is just what the new Cedar Key Garden Club has done.

Organized in October, 1982, and federated January, 1983, the Garden Club of Cedar Key decided to begin a major project, the building of a gazebo bandstand in the city park. We knew we would need to spearhead a fund drive, since the original bid for the bandstand was \$12,744.00. The idea was presented to the community, and a special fund set up for contributions. The idea was well received by

the community and we collected about \$5,000 from the city and various clubs and organizations, as well as some building supplies. Because we were building on public land for public use we had to meet the Southern Building Code and also the 120 mph. hurricane lift load.

The garden club raised an additional \$7,000. Over a 5 year period we had many fund raising events — plant sales, bake sales, a variety music show, a gazebo day at the park, a hearts and flowers ball, a very successful auction, and a sale of badges and tee shirts.

At the half-way point construction began. It took about a month to build. We landscaped around the gazebo with juniper and Texas sage, and planted eight sycamores for fast shade at specific locations. You could say that we have adopted our city park.

The gazebo is a 20'x20' building, and will stand for many years as a monument to unity — people working together in harmony for a common goal.

On Sunday, March 5, 1989, we formally dedicated the gazebo and presented it to the city, dedicated, of course, to all who contributed. Cedar Key Garden Club was honored to have with us, taking part in our ceremony and celebration, our District V Director Emma Jean Painter, who gave the invocation. We had a ribbon cutting and unveiled a plaque to be installed later as a permanent part of the gazebo. The event was well attended by the community.

Cedar Key Garden Club has only just begun in its long term goal for our city park.

...By Annette Haven, out-going president  
C.K.G.C. Club Roster, 33 members



From left, Annette Haven, President of Cedar Key Garden Club and Emma Jean Painter, Director, District V, assist Mayor Bob Edson in cutting the ribbon at dedication of the Gazebo at City Park.



## GARDEN CLUB CURES ILLS OF COMMUNITY

...at Umatilla

The Umatilla Garden Club in Central Florida has not taken up the practice of medicine as the headline indicates; rather they have sponsored a first-ever in the area FREE Garden Fair and Clinic for the gardeners in the community.

It all began during the summer of 1988 when the horticulture committee met to plan the next year's program and reviewed the club object, which included this phrase: "TO SHARE WITH OTHERS THE FRUITS OF OUR KNOWLEDGE."

When some of us returned from summer vacations we learned that this group had already laid the ground work and formulated a plan of action by contacting various gardening companies and our Lake County Extension Agent for assistance. Next, came the process of contacting local organizations such as FFA, 4-H, Lake County VoTech, Library, Chamber of Commerce, District 7 Wildflower Club, Rose Society, etc.

In September we had our groups and interest areas (15) confirmed and we met at the Community Building for a layout/arrangement meeting. One member that had experience in drafting planned the flyer that was given to club members at the first meeting of the year and to local organizations and news media.

When September 22 arrived club members were ready at 7:00 A.M. to set up the building. Shortly thereafter, the civic groups began to arrive, located their interest area, and started to prepare their specialty/interest. By noon the place had been transformed; balloons were attached to the outside of the building, median strip signs, billboard, and anywhere else suitable to provide a festive atmosphere. Bedding plants and household plants were ready and waiting in the hallway for sale to the public at below retail price to encourage beautification of their homes; coffee shop was ready and manned by volunteers from the Chamber of Commerce; and every display was ready to entice the public gardeners to stop and view the information available. Each area was manned by garden club members together with master gardeners, city librarian, and youth members of the organizations, ready to answer any questions posed by the visitors.

People were waiting at the Civic Center Building Doors at opening time. According to our registration book, over 300 people signed in; however, many entered by the rear entrance of the hall and never signed the book to become eligible for the random drawing of prizes donated by many business organizations. Each person was allowed to pick the gift that interested him/her the most, ranging from gift certificates from nurseries and florists to gardening tools and plants.

By 8:00 P.M. the master gardeners had tested tons of soil samples, or so it seemed; our prizes were gone; the plants had been sold; interest had been stimulated in our money making project, the Hope Chest of handmade items by club members which is raffled off each year at our local Fall Festival in November; and everyone had answered at least a million questions from the public regarding their particular display.

Little did we dream that the Lake County Extension Agent, news media, and the public would request that we make this the *FIRST ANNUAL UMATILLA GARDEN FAIR & CLINIC*, or that we would receive the many letters from people thanking our club for such a project — sharing our knowledge and love of gardening for FREE.



*One of the lucky ones .... the minister of the First Presbyterian Church, receives a Rodale's Organic Gardening Book — one of the many prizes given away at the Garden Fair and Clinic.*



*Some members of the New Men's Circle of the Orlando Garden Club.*

## GO FORTH AND MULTIPLY

...In Orlando

One of the goals of the Orlando Garden Club this year has been to increase the membership. Each circle and each member has been actively seeking people who are interested in Garden Club objectives. Twenty new members have been added to the Circle rosters. Also, a new circle has been organized — thirty-one (31) men meet on the third Thursday evening each month at the club house. The officers have been elected,

## COMMUNITY GARDEN

...In Tallahassee

A one-third acre community-wide vegetable garden, sponsored by the Tallahassee Garden Club and several other organizations, is furnishing food to many of the needy in the city and helping TAKE HUNGER OUT OF TALLAHASSEE — the garden club goal for this project.

Along with one of the local churches which furnished the land, the 4-H Club young people, and many other volunteers, Tallahassee Garden Club was able to take an active part in this project, beginning in April of 1988. Over 2000 pounds of fresh vegetables, including tomatoes, squash, okra, watermelon, and green beans were harvested and taken to a local agency for distribution to those in need.

A winter garden was also planted which produced 56 lbs. of turnips and 90 lbs. of collards, radishes, mustard, and carrots. A spring/summer garden is on the way.

This is going to be an on-going project, getting more people involved as time goes on. We hope that we can help groups plant their own vegetable gardens, using ours as an example, and by so doing we feel that we can, indeed, reach our goal of TAKING HUNGER OUT OF Tallahassee.

Perhaps other clubs across the state, because of this publicity, will become more aware of the need for such a project in providing food for countless people within their communities. We can in so many ways "be our brother's keeper."

*By Katherine Ashton  
President of Tallahassee Garden Club*

and two of its members serve on the executive board. The president plans to attend the State Convention.

The programs of the Men's Circle have been outstanding — such as holiday cacti, bonsai, citrus research, and orchids. Some of its members entered horticulture in the club's recent flower show and won some ribbons, too. Everyone is excited about this new circle (the 18th circle now brings the Orlando Garden Club membership to 360) and knows it will be an important addition to the club and the Federation.

*By Lois Nolle, President  
Orlando Garden Club*



# NEWS OF NOTE FROM NATIONAL COUNCIL

## DEEP SOUTH REGION

The following Collect was adopted by the Deep South Convention, March 7, 1989. The author is Deen Day Smith (Mrs. Charles O. Jr.), President of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc., 1987-89.

**Our Heavenly Father, we give You thanks for the privilege of gardening. We thank you for creating a world filled with plants for enjoyment, pleasure, and sustenance.**

**Make us mindful of our responsibility to care for all that You have entrusted to us.**

**Create in each of us a desire to be good stewards of the environment and to work diligently in the protection of all natural resources.**

**We pledge to You the potential that is within us to keep planet Earth intact for future generations.**

**May we hear Your voice, Almighty God, as we seek You in the garden.**

Deen Day Smith

## DEEP SOUTH HISTORY

The Deep South History, originally scheduled for distribution at the Deep South Convention in Atlanta, has been delayed because of an insufficient number of subscribers. Money, however, has been voted from the General Fund, and the History should be ready for the NCSGC Convention in May. For details on this publication, see TFG, Sept./Oct. 1988, page 16.



Florida delegates to the Deep South Convention in Atlanta in March donned their nautical garb to invite other Deep South states to the 1990 Convention, to be held in the port city of Jacksonville in March. The "sea-chant" rendered by the Florida group enumerated all the fun and excitement that will be a part of next year's convention.

## 1989-91 DEEP SOUTH PROJECT

A new Deep South unified regional project, emphasizing "Environmental Balance" has been announced by incoming Regional Director Jean Villareal. This project will include two parts:

- 1) "A Pride in the Deep South" encompassing "Grandmother's Gardens", to be established with environmentally balanced plants such as might have been found in the dooryard gardens of a century ago when housewives grew a variety of native herbs and flowers that could be tended easily and without the chemicals used in today's gardens.
- 2) "Partnerships for Environmental Balance" — through legislative action. Watch for more on this project in the Sept./Oct. *Gardener*.

## NEW DEEP SOUTH CIVIC AWARD

A new Deep South Regional "Community Action Award" is being presented by The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc. honoring Mrs. Louise Vines, Deep South Director 1983-85. A traveling plaque will be given annually to a garden club for the most outstanding program/project relating to garden club objectives, with involvement of community groups to be a major consideration. This may be a continuing project, but the major portion of worthiness must have been accomplished within the year of application.

## SEIWA-EN — garden of pure clear harmony and peace

National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. has established the first full week in June (June 4-10) as "Garden Week" — a special time to appreciate and celebrate the importance of home gardening, with special recognition of the beautiful Japanese garden adjacent to National Council Headquarters in St. Louis.

Located at the Missouri Botanical Garden, Seiwa-En is now the largest traditional Japanese Garden in North America. Work began in 1974, with Dr. Peter H. Raven, director of the Botanical Garden, and Professor Kaichi Kawana, professor of Environmental Design at UCL, who served as Landscape Architect for the garden.

Christened Seiwa-En, meaning "garden of pure, clear harmony and peace," it is bounded on two sides by the grounds of National Headquarters. Glimpses of Seiwa-En are visible from the Headquarters Building.

The garden is at its best in May, and includes three islands and a 4.5 acre lake fed by two waterfalls. On one island stands an authentic Japanese tea-house. Other features of this garden include a Japanese dry-garden, a plum viewing arbor, stone lanterns, and three traditional Japanese bridges — a Yatsubashi (zig-zag) bridge, a Dobashe (earth) bridge, and a Taikobashe (drum) bridge.

Plants are those characteristically associated with the Japanese style of gardening, such as Japanese black pine, mugo pine, Japanese umbrella pine, Japanese cedar, Japanese maple, yoshino cherry, higan cherry, holly hedges, dwarf bamboo, azaleas, mondo grass, and lily turf. These are only a few of the many plants used.

Dedication ceremonies were held May 5, 1977. Special guests were representatives from the Japanese Embassy, local dignitaries, and major contributors. A Japanese festival was held in conjunction with the dedication.



# THE STORY OF A MISTAKE

By Charles Osgood

The following story is reprinted from "Nothing Could be Finer than a Crisis That is Minor in the Morning" (Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, New York, 1979) by Charles Osgood, Journalist and Broadcaster associated with the CBS Morning News. The stories in this book grew out of Osgood's morning "Newsbreak" sessions. It was sent to TFG by Dorothy Smith of the Deltona Garden Club, FFGC Librarian.

Have you ever seen a prairie flower? Most likely not. For one thing, most of you are in the wrong part of the country. And you are probably never going to see one. It is too late for that. Or very nearly so.

William Cullen Bryant, whose statue stands on the Sixth Avenue side of the New York Public Library and whose name is assigned to Bryant Park, lived when the prairies were covered with wildflowers as far as the eye could see. "These are the gardens of the desert," he wrote, "the unshorn fields, boundless and beautiful, for which the speech of England has no name ... the prairies."

Out in Newton, Iowa, a man named Frank Pellett has spent the last four years trying to bring back some of what Bryant knew. Where have all the flowers gone? Well, the first serious setback came in the 1800s, when the steel plow was introduced.

The land was cut, the fields "shorn," in Bryant's word. But the little flowers fought back and found some places to grow until the year 1950. That is when farmers started using a weedkiller called 2-4-D.

They drenched the countryside with it, and in no time at all the prairie flower became virtually extinct.

Pellett was a greenhouse operator, and he dreamed of replanting some of the flowers and making the land beautiful again. Wouldn't it be something, he thought. And from private donors and two universities he got the seeds and acquired a two-acre reserve along an Iowa highway. And in 1967 he received a special waiver exempting his project from the Iowa Highway Commission weed-spraying crews.

The rich land of Iowa is ideal for prairie flowers. Once they get started, barring the interference of man, nature will keep them going for centuries just as she did before we came along.

But it takes time and patience to get them started. Pellett worked hours each day in his preserve. But the first year, no blooms, nor the next year nor the next. That was all right. Pellett knew that in time it would happen. And finally, this summer it did.

In an unbelievably extravagant explosion of colors, Frank Pellett's prairie flowers bloomed with vivid reds, oranges, purples and yellows. People would drive through, come upon it, and simply marvel. It was like nothing they had ever seen before.

They would stop their cars and get out and take pictures. No chemical psychedelic trip could ever surround one's consciousness with

color this way.

One day last week a truck came down the highway with letters spelling IOWA HIGHWAY COMMISSION on the side. A new man was at the wheel. He did not know. And from the truck there came a fine spray in both directions. And for perhaps a minute this cloud of mist spread out and fell like a morning fog. It was 2-4-D.

Frank Pellett's prairie flowers are dead now. The colors are all one — the color of death. He says the seeds are ruined, too. And besides, he cannot bring himself to start again. It took so much time and effort. But that is his problem, of course.

It isn't yours or mine. Is it?

# Good News For Beach Dwellers

Sea-lavender, once abundant on Florida's dunes but now rare, is expected to aid in controlling future beach erosion. Sea-lavender's attractive appearance and unusual tolerance to the harsh coastal climate make it more attractive to landscapers and home owners than many other dune-stabilizing plants. Generally similar in appearance to the traditional garden herb, the coastal cousin produces cream-colored flowers and has a low growth habit that would not interfere with ocean views and sea breezes.

Sea-lavender also meets revegetative requirements set by the Department of Natural Resources to stabilize dune areas disturbed during construction. Until recently, however, the difficult propagation of the plant prevented any commercial development, but experiments with different rooting hormones and planting media have led to a successful method of vegetative propagation, according to George F. Fitzpatrick, water specialist with the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

Work on sea-lavender propagation began in 1986 when one of the few remaining colonies, located at the John D. MacArthur Beach State Park became threatened during a severe storm. County extension agents contacted Fitzpatrick at the Ft. Lauderdale Research and Education Center to work on propagation techniques. However, regeneration, he said, is only part of the problem.

It will be a challenge to successfully re-establish sea-lavender in the dry dune environment. Soil amendments, however, such as compost and wood chips, can temporarily increase soil water-holding capacity until the transplant takes hold.

And for the beach-side homeowner, Sea-lavender should be in a lot of nurseries in about 18 months as a result of this experimentation.

...UF Extension

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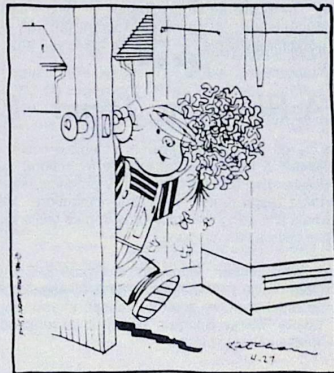
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# EDIBLE WILD PLANTS

...By Jim Notestein

Jim Notestein is a fifth-generation Floridian — a practical horticulturist with fifteen years experience as a plant propagator and landscape consultant. He is a certified adult instructor in vocational horticulture.



Many of Florida's native plants offer edible parts during various times of the year. Roots and shoots, seeds and fruit, leaves and flowers — all present a smorgasbord to the knowledgeable gatherer.

To the Florida Indians, the Coontie were important for their starchy roots that were processed into flour for bread. In treaty negotiations over Indian resettlement from Florida to Western reservations, permission was requested to return periodically for Coontie harvest. Although their request was denied, this food-starch has been prepared commercially as Florida Arrowroot. The Coontie are small tokens of the gigantic vegetation of prehistoric ages — somewhat resembling ferns. Coontie bear large, orange-colored seeds in cone forms that rise from the plant's center. Tolerant of sun or shade, Coontie is slow growing and creates an exotic, evergreen form.

The State Tree of Florida, the Sabal Palm or Cabbage Palm offers a so-called "heart" or bud at the crown of the trunk. With a mild cabbage flavor, palm heart is eaten raw or cooked. Removing this foot-long, cylindrical "heart" does kill the palm. Nevertheless, commercial harvesting and canning operations continue.

One of the most versatile wild food plants is the Cattail — every part can be eaten. One acre of Cattail root will yield over three tons of flour that is some eighty percent carbohydrate and eight percent protein. Greenish-yellow flower stalks can be eaten as a vegetable.

Smilax or Bamboo Briar is found climbing trees with its prickly stems bearing shining leaves of various shapes. The long growing tip of this briar tastes like asparagus. Most varieties of Smilax can be processed to yield Sarsaparilla — used as a mild tonic to improve general health in pioneer days. The young roots can be boiled like new potatoes.

There are several varieties of Wild Plum. White blooms in spring yield small, tart fruit — good for preserves — if wildlife leave you any.



## A Blooming Trend - Edible Petals

One of the leading growers of edible flowers in this country is S. E. Rykoff & Co. They take pride in making available more and more outstanding professional-quality products regularly offered to America's finest restaurants, hotels and institutions. Many of our most famous chefs are using real blossoms to give brilliant color and vibrant flavor to the dishes they prepare.

Roger Coleman, President of Rykoff & Co. states that his company offers edible flowers along with a 16 page cookbook providing you with the most creative gourmet flourish to your cooking, together with their "Edible Flower Bouquet" which is assembled during certain summer months when in bloom.

Not every flower is edible. Flowers from florists contain too many chemicals to be safely consumed.

Portulaca, also called Purslane or Moss Rose is a low annual with spreading, fleshy stems and short, fleshy, narrow leaves. Flowers are small, pink and purple. The entire upper plant is edible fresh or steamed and is eaten throughout the world. Cultivated varieties have much larger flowers of numerous colors.

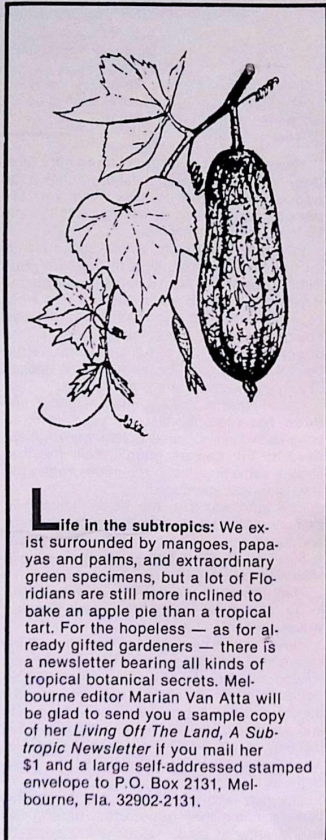
Huckleberries and Wild Blueberries range from sweet to tart and are one of the few fruit crops native to the continental United States.

The Creeping Cucumber is a wild plant that produces edible fruits. They look like miniature watermelon — about one inch long.

I enjoy the large, orange fruits of the Pindo Palm. This tart, fibrous flesh may be eaten raw or made into preserves. Hence, a common name for this palm is Jelly Palm.

Several cautions when gathering wild foods: be sure of what you are eating, and obtain permission to gather from the property owner.

It's Nature's buffet — so, eat and enjoy.



## MARIGOLD RICE

3 tablespoons butter  
1/4 cup minced onion  
1/2 pound rice (a scant cup)  
2-3 tablespoons minced marigold petals  
2 cups chicken stock  
salt and pepper to taste

Melt butter in a heavy pan; saute onion until translucent, add rice and saute until each grain is well coated. Sprinkle the marigold petals on the broth to soften and then add to the rice mixture along with salt and pepper. Cover and simmer about 20 minutes.

...from "The Forgotten Art of Flower Cookery: By Leona Woodring Smith

**L**ife in the tropics: We exist surrounded by mangoes, papayas and palms, and extraordinary green specimens, but a lot of Floridians are still more inclined to bake an apple pie than a tropical tart. For the hopeless — as for already gifted gardeners — there is a newsletter bearing all kinds of tropical botanical secrets. Melbourne editor Marian Van Atta will be glad to send you a sample copy of her *Living Off The Land, A Subtropic Newsletter* if you mail her \$1 and a large self-addressed stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2131, Melbourne, Fla. 32902-2131.

The following flowers can be safely used and grown in your own garden. *Hibiscus* has a mild sweet flavor providing an excellent accompaniment for cheese and sushi. These blossoms can be deep fried in a light batter with cheese for the sushi.

*Marigolds* have a flower like tarragon and can be used in soups, stew, lamb dishes and salads.

*Pansies* have little flavor, but look great sprinkled on a freshly frosted cake. They also add sweetness to salads, dressings and desserts.

*Nasturtiums* taste like radishes and watercress and add a hot pepper taste to salads.

*Borage* has a cool, sweet cucumber taste that's great in salads, punches, soups and desserts.

*Lavender* has green leaves and purple blossoms — used in stews, jellies, punches and marinades.

*Rose Petals* for pastries.

*Mums* for your soups.

...from Assistant Editor



# FROM OUR READERS

ED. NOTE: TFG receives quite a few letters and cards after each issue comes out. Some of these will be printed in the issue following. Please keep writing. We answer all mail that asks for an answer. And we welcome your ideas and suggestions.

## ...from Marilyn Taylor

- St. Petersburg Garden Club

Thank you for my article in the Florida Gardener (My Life at Camp Wekiva, March/April 1989). Thumper is receiving mail addressed to him! I am busy preparing crafts for camp. I hope your garden club is saving 5" and 10" aluminum pie pans and spray can lids...



## ...from Marge Heil

- Apopka Garden Club

It is such a pleasure to read "The Florida Gardener" every two months... My mind and heart are filled with a sense of beauty and warmth, and [the magazine] includes a practical side for new and better ideas, too...



## ...from Mary Mosley

- Garden Club of Tarpon Springs

Since 1989 has been declared "The Year of the Dolphin" by the Humane Society of the United States and intense work is going on to save dolphins from high mortality rates of capture and suffering from captivity, we were quite surprised to read in the Florida Gardener March/April issue that a young SEEK participant was "relieved" to learn "that all the animals at Marineland live happy long lives and are well taken care of."

We are particularly interested in how this young person came to think this misconception is true since we have been intensely involved to have the Marine Mammal Protection Act 1972 enforced as intended. All the evidence we have gathered is in conflict with the above statement...

In the performance of their duties, the National Marine Fisheries Service has given the appearance that their allegiance is to private enterprise instead of to the animals they are mandated to protect...



ED. NOTE: In the interest of presenting all sides of a question, TFG has invited Ms. Mosley to submit a short article for one of the fall issues. We look forward to presenting her views on this controversial subject.

## Correction

Ms. Denise Mariani of the Lake Placid Garden Club points out that Mary Kate Parks, winner of the HS Speech Contest, attends Lake Placid High School, not Sebring High as stated in the March/April Gardener (p.4).

Mary Kate is in fact a member-at-large of the Lake Placid Garden Club.



Tropical Short Course participants and VIP's pose in front of some of the designs created by Ken Stephens, Short Course featured speaker. From left Mrs. Eben Rieger, assistant to the designer; Mrs. Clifton Schandelmayer, TSC Chairman; Mrs. Kenton Haymans, 1st Vice President; Mrs. Dursie Ekman, FFGC President; Stephens; Mrs. O. Edgar Williams, FFGC Recording Secretary; and Mrs. Louis Weissing, who assisted the designer.

## IN MEMORIAM — LT. MARY NUNEZ TEN EICK (1895-1989)

We regret to announce the death of one of the early presidents of FFGC, 2nd Lt. Mary Nunez Ten Eick (FFGC President 1931-33).

Lt. Ten Eick, who served in the Army Nurse Corps in WWI and the Women's Air Force in WWII, was a life member of FFGC. She organized and was a past president of the Hollywood Garden Club, becoming a member of Height's Garden Circle of the Tampa Federation in 1947, where she remained until her move to Ft. Lauderdale two years ago.

An educator, botanist and author, Mrs. Ten Eick wrote a book in 1950 entitled "Florida Plants Checklist" which included 4,200 plant names. She was the founder of the first public library in Hollywood, co-founder of the first chapter of the American Association of University Women in Florida, and State Director of the Florida Historical Society. She was a very busy lady; the world is a better place because of her.

...From Mrs. D. Oelslager,  
President Height's  
Garden Circle  
Tampa Federation

## Cookbook Sales

If I buy, give, and sell one book, and you buy, give, and sell one book, we can soon be re-ordering the re-order. We are talking about thousands and thousands of books and that is quite unrealistic — not impossible, but unrealistic. BUT, if just thirty percent of our general membership would do just one of the three choices listed in this issue of the Gardener — at the new prepaid and consignment prices — Club, Circle, District and FFGC treasuries would benefit. Monies would be available for FFGC Scholarships; Youth Programs; much needed office equipment and furniture replacements at Hdqtrs., etc., etc.

Cookbook profits can be a continuing source of revenue. Now that is REALISTIC, isn't it?

...by Mrs. Raymond Puckett  
Cookbook, Marketing/Promotion Chmn.



# FFGC IN ACTION

## RESUME OF MINUTES

By Mrs. Melville Hall

## BOARD MEETING

State Headquarters, Winter Park  
January 18-19, 1989

### Members of the Board of Directors:

\*Joined with FFGC President Mrs. Dursie Ekman in welcoming Florida's own National Council President Mrs. Carroll O. Griffin and National Council Corresponding Secretary Mrs. J. B. Lawton to the session.

\*Hear President Ekman report on attending the Leadership Seminar, the 12 Fall District meetings, the National Council Board of Directors meeting in Indianapolis, the Horticulture Study Course IV in West Palm Beach, the Fall Symposium in Winter Haven, and dedication of the Centennial Park in downtown Titusville, since the September board meeting. She took pleasure in announcing the appointment by Governor Bob Martinez of Mrs. Woodrow Sayre, FFGC and National Scholarships chairman, as a member of the Commission on the Future of Florida's Environment.

\*Ratified President Ekman's appointment of Mrs. Gustave Harrer, Mrs. John W. Ethridge and Mrs. Eidon D. Corbin as editor, assistant editor and advertising editor, respectively, of *The Florida Gardener* for the 1989-91 administration; and of Mrs. Ira J. Varndoe and Mrs. John H. Howarth as chairman and vice chairman, respectively, of the 1990 Deep South Convention Committee.

\*Elected delegates to the National Council Convention in Rochester, N.Y., May 22-24, 1989, including Mrs. Kenton H. Haymans, Mrs. Robert D. Wilson, Mrs. Edward R. Jordan, Mrs. Augustus F. Williams Jr., Mrs. U. L. Kokenge, Mrs. O. Edgar Williams, Mrs. W. L. Wood, Mrs. R. E. Mills, Mrs. Alex H. Hilliard and Mrs. Edward Schaag. Alternates elected were Mrs. Joe Duncan and Mrs. Joe C. Robinson.

\*Hear other officers report on multitudinous activities in which they represented the Federation and advanced its program; and heard from directors of accomplishments at the district levels. These included Bluewater Bay Garden Club holding its second annual Recycling Celebration which was "written up" in USA Today, I; workshops on the growing and use of herbs, and on surviving in the wild on edible plants and fruits, II; contributions to newly organized youth groups and money to help defray expenses of those wishing to attend the Blanche Covington Nature Study Course, III; holding a first-time District Flower Show and placement of a rose granite Blue Star Memorial Byway Marker in Memory of American veterans in a cemetery, IV; an on-going landscape program at a Woman's Clubhouse where the garden club meets, V; selling 15 cases of FFGC cookbooks, with the director personally selling 70 copies, and promoting the planting of a young oak near an old oak to take its place when the older tree dies, VI; presenting 21 clubs, 25 years or older, with certificates and each of the presidents with an African violet at the Fall meeting, VII; the Garden Club of St. Petersburg celebrating 60 years of FFGC affiliation with a tea, and two of its scholarship students graduating from the horticulture program of St. Petersburg Vocational Institute and finding employment in that field, VIII; a district workshop on Parliamentary Procedure and Floral Design, IX; garden clubs cooperating in maintaining fresh floral designs in the offices of high schools, opening the way for design workshops in which numerous high school students participate with the probability of becoming club members, X; contributing \$500 in memory of Billie Johnson to a "Quiet Place" at Camp Wekiva, and individual donations to the Wildlife Care Center for landscaping its grounds, XI; and sending 1,018 empty medicine bottles to St. Jude's Hospital in St. Lucia, West Indies, by way of participating in the World Gardening program, XII.

\*Federated the McGregor Garden Club of Fort Myers, IX; and heard first readings of resignations of Colony Cove Garden Club of Jacksonville, IV, and Lake Mary Garden Club, VII.

\*Adopted the revised Butterfly Sanctuary Guidelines.

\*Learned the Short Course at University of Florida, June 6-8, 1989, has been approved by the National chairman of Gardening Study Courses as a refresher for Gardening Consultants, with the exception of those who finished the study courses in District VIII in September, 1987.

\*Approved setting the selling price of Florida Flower Arrangement calendars at \$3 each, in orders of 100 or more; \$3.50 each, 50 to 99 copies; \$3.75 each, 2 to 49 copies; and \$5 each for a single copy. Also, setting the price for the 5-year pocket planner at \$2.60 each, for orders of 50 or more; \$2.75 each, 25-50; and \$3 each, 1-25.

\*Ratified expenditures for Headquarters maintenance and approved repairing/replacing wooden benches on the patio, repainting the wooden identification sign, accepting the gift of an oval teakwood conference table and of chairs for the table if such be offered, and granting the office manager vacation time March 22-April 10.

\*Hear a history of FFGC from 1961 to date has been compiled and sent to the Deep South historian. Also, that SEEK 1989 is scheduled June 25-28 six weeks earlier than usual and the deadline for applications in June 10; and that golden rain tree seeds for the project in Haiti may be sent to Mrs. Lori Tucker, 1705 N. E. 5th Street, Ocala, 32670, and coreopsis seed collected have been sent to the Department of Transportation for planting in a field from which seed will be harvested for roadside plantings.

\*Authorized the drafting of a resolution from the board supporting Garden Week.

\*Approved establishing a parks-watch system throughout the state, to be coordinated through the federation's 12 districts.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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EDITOR'S NOTE: We are including in this issue approximately one-half of the roster of State Board members. These will be continued in the Sept./Oct. issue. Please file for future reference.

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