**January 2021 Board Meeting**

Board Chairmen Reports

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# ADVISORY COUNCIL

# ADOPT-A-PARK

# AFFLIATES MEMBERSHIP

# AMAZON PROJECT

 Amazon Affiliates Chairman Report

 Linda Feifarek-Johnson Chairman

 January 13-14, 2021

 Board of Director’s Meeting

There has been some confusion about the Amazon Affiliates Program. It is in NO way connected to the Amazon Smile Program. FFGC does not belong to the Smile program because we do not get as much money back from that program. Some members have tried to use the Smile Program and were informed that FFGC does not belong to it and it has created a bit of confusion. The Amazon Affiliates Program can ONLY be accessed through the FFGC.com website. I will ask Jenn to please send an eblast to everyone and also write up an article to be put in the next issue of the Florida Gardener and if it is alright with the officers, all subsequent issues of the Florida Gardener. Also, if Sue could add that information to the bottom of the home page where the Amazon link is located. I also ask all you District Directors to please inform your Presidents and ask them to pass it along their members.

Today, I have included the instructions again to make FFGC.org an icon on your phone or tablet. This report will be posted with the other reports and you will be able to access and print a few days after this meeting.

To set FFGC as an app in iPhone or iPad – google and pull up FFGC home page on your iPhone or iPad. On bottom of the iPhone page find a square with an arrow pointing up. This square is at the top of the screen on an iPad. Tap this icon. A menu screen comes up. Scroll down to and tap on “add to home screen”. Rename the icon if you wish.

To set FFGC as an app on android - open your browser. Tap the browser icon on your home screen or app drawer. open the menu (press the menu button on your device or tap the menu button icon in the upper-right hand corner of the browser window). Tap settings, tap general, tap “set home page” and then tap OK to save.

Once you have set FFGC home page as an app, tap on it, scroll down to the bottom and tap Amazon. Once the Amazon home page comes up, you will have to sign in ONLY the first time you use it. After that, Amazon will remember you and you will automatically be signed in.

How easy is that! Easy, peasy. Now I want to see our sales soar!

# ARBOR DAY

# ARBORETA & BOTANTICAL GARADENS

# AWARD, DONORS

#

# AWARDS – FFGC

January 13, 2021

FFGC Awards Chair

Valerie Seinfeld

September through January are busy months for the Awards chair. Phone calls, emails with

questions about award writing. Contacting Judges to set up online judging groups. Creating

interactive point score and tally sheets with Sue Roberts. Creating Awards Spreadsheet to

include Award #, Name, Award amount, club name, individual name, District, person submitting,

their email address, Club President and email, confirmation of emailed submissions, corrections.

Each application must be documented, checked to see if the awards won last year by the same

club, digital photo submissions did they fulfil requirements. Checking each application for class,

category and if the entire award application form was filled out completely. Joanne Mulinare

double checks the submissions for accuracy of all the above details. The information on award

applications is crucial for the Awards typed Program and Certificate creation that Joanne begins

on in January.

Emailing to head judge each award with a listing of all the awards sent to be double checked.

Creating and Emailing head judges all the forms and instructions on how to judge and how to fill

out forms to be returned by email. Head Judges consisted of FFGC BOD Members, they were

asked to have 2 other judges they could work with distantly on Zoom, teleconferences, or email.

Reviewing all pointscore and tally forms.

Creating Forms for NGC and Deep South Awards, printing all awards that must be mailed in.

Deep South requires 2 copies of everything at this time, which creates more expenses for the

awards program, Deep South started requiring 2 copies in 2019. Also started requiring Club

Presidents name and addresses in 2019.

Contact FFGC Chairs about NGC Awards to be submitted.

Contact FFGC Executive Board about pins needed for Awards Presentation, contacting FFGC

Headquarters inquiring about certificates and certificate folders quantities.

Holding Zoom Meetings. Working with the Executive board on Top 10 Awards BOE.

172 FFGC Adult Awards including Flower Show Achievement Awards with Barbara May and

Flower Show Related Awards with Jan Griffin. Yearbook Awards with Christy Linke. As of

December 30th. We had 4 exclusively NGC Awards submitted.

This is our first year for Awards 1-80 J1-J6 online submissions, except BOE, Publications,

Yearbooks, Publicity.

It requires a great deal of time for the Awards Committee, but more efficient for passing on

awards to NGC and Deep South Awards.

Awards chair and Awards Donor chair working closely together and sharing awards that were

won.

NGC Awards were printed, mailed and emailed to the correct NGC chairs. Deadline January

15th.

# AWARDS – NGC & DSS

# AWARDS – YOUTH

# BACKYARD HABITATS

#

# BARTRAM TRAIL

#

# BEES

 Bees

Christy Linke

January 5, 2021

This Chairman is proud to say that two bee certificates were awarded from last report. Deland Garden Club and Garden Club of Coral Springs. Congratulations to both clubs for promoting bees through programs and bee gardening. This Chairman presented a hands on bee house making workshop and talk at the Apollo Beach Garden Club in October. The same workshop will be done this month January at The Clearwater Garden Club.

With COVID clubs are still finding way to have programs on bees. Especially planting plants that attract bees. Gardening is outside and you can social distance easily.

Summary: As always promoting Bees through Knowledge is and always will be my goal in this Chairmanship.

# BLUE STAR & GOLD STAR MEMORIAL MARKERS

**Blue Star Memorial Program**

**Blue Star Memorial Chairman**

**Rosita Aristoff**

**January 13, 2021**

1. New and Pending Blue Star Memorial Marker Activity
* Punta Gorda Garden Club (District IX) – Dedication for the new Blue Star Memorial Marker at Veterans Plaza in Laishley Park was postponed again.
* The Hamlet Garden Club (District X) – Dedication for the new Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker is yet to be scheduled.
* Garden Club of Cape Coral (District IX) – The Blue Star Memorial Marker in Cape Coral’s Eco Park was dedicated on November 30th, 2020.
* Garden Club by the Sea (District VI) – A Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker for Indialantic’s Lily Park has been received. The dedication planned is yet to be scheduled.
* Members of District IV – The new Gold Star Families Memorial Marker at the National POW-MIA Memorial and Museum at Cecil Field in Jacksonville will be dedicated on February 27, 2021.
* Garden Club of Coral Springs (District XI) – The new Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker for Veterans Park in Coral Springs was dedicated on November 11th, 2020.
* Gulf Coast Garden Club (District IX) - The new Blue Star Memorial Marker has been placed along Old US 41 in downtown Bonita Springs. Dedication was postponed with date to be determined.
* Estero Island Garden Club (District IX) – A new Blue Star Memorial Marker has been ordered for placement at the Fort Myers Beach Library. Dedication has been rescheduled for May 22, 2021.
* St. Lucie West Garden Club (District X) - The new Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker has been placed in the median of Crosstown Parkway and was dedicated on November 11th, 2020.
* No new markers have been ordered since the last report.
1. Summary

Since last September’s report three new markers have been dedicated.

Two dedication ceremonies have been scheduled and four remain pending.

Rosita A. Aristoff

Rosita A. Aristoff

Blue & Gold Star Memorial Chairman

# BOI Editor

# BRICK PATHS

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# CALENDAR DISTRIBUTION

FFGC 2021 CALENDARS

Pat Danahy

January 14,2021

I am the new FFGC Calendar Distribution Editor.  Please contact me for your calendar needs.  The annual calendar is photographs of floral designs created by Club members from all over the State. And MRGC is always well represented.

It is wonderful to look at and wonderful for gifts even if not a designer. And it is also great to use as a calendar, places to jot notes, important dates and the always present “to do list”.

It is a big fundraiser for FFGC and as we all know, a necessary effort for all clubs this year.

Please send an e-mail to me at danahy2010@gmail.com for your needs.  The price is $8.00 plus tax of .52 for a total of $8.52.  Checks should be made out to FFGC.  I do not know the shipping charge but I will find out. Or we could meet someplace between our homes and I can get them to you that way.

Thank you.  As the first year at this job, and picking it up mid stream, it would be great to be able to say “Sorry, we are sold out”.

Pat Danahy 716-622-1219

# CALENDAR – FLORIDA FLOWER ARRANGEMENT EDITOR

CALENDAR REPORT

Claudia Bates, Chairman

January 13, 2021

FFGC Finance Committee voted to eliminate the annual publishing of the FFGC FLORAL DESIGN CALENDAR for the 2022 edition.  This was decided, in part, due to the cancellation of the state flower show which historically was the largest supplier of beautiful and suitable floral designs for our calendar each year.  We literally had only 3 pictures that were outstanding examples of Florida’s floral designers left in our inventory. The costs involved to photograph 50 designs for consideration were prohibitive and would have required we almost double the purchase price.

As you know, we attempted to publish NGC specific & named design types in our calendar, making it an instructional tool as well as inspirational.  We thank Florida’s NGC INSTRUCTORS for approving the designs as to conformance to type, and then we had a Master Panel choose those designs worthy (90 +) for inclusion in our calendar.

We thank NGC President Gay Austin for allowing FFGC to buy a full-page ad that was just published in the Winter edition of THE NATIONAL GARDENER in the hope it will help us sell our final (for a while) FFGC FLORAL DESIGN Calendars.

FFGC is indebted to all who participated in any way over the years to help publish the vehicle which showed everyone how TALENTED and CREATIVE FFGC’s designers have been for over 50 years.

It is this chairman’s hope that a future administration might entertain ideas on how to showcase Florida’s very talented and enthusiastic designers and nature photographers.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve FFGC.

Claudia Bates, Chairman

#

# CONVENTION CHAIRMAN 2021

# DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS UNIFIED PROJECT

Report

Deep South Garden Clubs Unified Project

Gina V. Jogan, Chairman

January 2021 Board of Directors Meeting

Thank you to the clubs, who have sent their Books of Evidence and applied for the award monies offered by the Deep South Garden Clubs Unified Project.

Your Books of Evidence have been forwarded to the Deep South Chairman for final judging.

You will be notified of your status by this chairman or whenever the Deep South Executive Board/Board of Directors meets again.

You may want to check online at [www.dsgardenclubs.com](http://www.dsgardenclubs.com) to see if you are a winner.

In Summary: Many projects were worthy of the Deep South Garden Clubs Unified Project awards. Three books of Evidence were sent from Florida to the Deep South Project chairman..

Gina V. Jogan, Chairman

# DUES AMBASSADOR

Dues Ambassador

Sue Roberts

Jan. 13, 2021

The dues renewal form will be available in mid March. I am updating the form to make it simpler, but the process will stay the same.

As of today we still have 9 clubs that have not renewed for 2020. Most say they are waiting to have their first meeting hopefully after the first of the year. At present their membership is suspended. Our present membership is 10200.

I would appreciate it if you know anyone in your club who has moved or passed away please let us know. The clubs often forget to let us know this know info and it helps us clean up our database. This is especially true for lifetime members – we have no way of finding them except for club’s reporting their status.

# EARTH STEWARD

 BOD Report

Earth Steward Recognition

Kathy Siena

January 13-14, 2021 (via Zoom)

The honor for the Earth Steward Recognition began in 2013 to recipients for their outstanding efforts and stewardship of our natural resources. Recognitions can be given in the areas of Gardening, Landscape Design and Environment. These efforts should be clearly stated on the application form biography section for the recipient.

Garden Clubs, Districts, the FFGC organization or private individuals may send in an application for this special recognition. The recipient is presented with a pin and certificate by the group or individual awarding it. The fillable PDF application form is available on the home page of the FFGC website under “Honoring Garden Club Members”. A $100 donation goes to the “Color Our Garden Fund” of FFGC for the continued stewardship and care of the grounds at FFGC Headquarters.

This chair would like to state that a total of 121 recognitions have been given out up to and including June 2020. The chair wants to encourage interested individuals and groups to consider giving this honor to a worthy recipient. We can all continue being earth stewards even during a pandemic as the one we have been experiencing for almost a year. An updated list of all recipients is available on the FFGC website.

Summary:

A total of 121 Earth Steward Recognitions have been given to various individuals in Florida. A current list of all recipients is available on the FFGC website. Go to “Honoring Members” link or here:

https://ffgc.org/page-18059

 **FFGC Earth Steward Recognition Recipients**

**Presentation Date**

**April 2013 – June 2020**

**April 2013**

Alice Changstron, District VII, #1 (deceased)

Joan Pryor, District V, #2 (deceased)

Marion Hilliard, District IV, #3

Pat Carver, District VIII, #4

Bernese Davis, District I, #5 (deceased)

Jo Williams, District XI, #6

**October 2013**

Jerry Lower, District X, Ocean Ridge GC, #7

Mary Dipboye, District VII, Winter Park GC, #8

**January 2014**

Anita Neal, TSC Speaker District X, #9

Stan Doerr, TSC Speaker District X, #10

Melissa Martin, TSC Speaker, District X, #11

**February 2014**

Bob Graham FFGC Tri-Council, #12

Nathaniel Pryor Reed FFGC Tri-Council, #13

Lee Constantine FFGC Tri-Council, #14

**March 2014**

Barbara B. Jones, District VIII, #15

Pat Welch, District X, Oleander GC, #16

Barbara Lape, District XII, #17

Kristi Moyer, District X, Wellington GC, #18

Ken Nedimyer, District XII, #19

Mike Echevarria, FFGC 2014 Convention, #20 2

Jill Wiemer, District VIII, Dade City GC, #21

Judy Anne Clark, District XII, #22

Jo Ann T. Guise, Deep South Region, #23

Lois Weber, District VIII, Palm Harbor and Tarpon Springs GC, #24

Evelyn Somerville, District X, Boca Raton GC, #25

**April 2014**

Dale DeFeo, District IX, Calusa GC of Marco Island, #26

Jane Brewer, District II, Gulf Beach GC and Panama City GC, #27

**September 2014**

Nancy Fehr, District XII, #28

**October 2014**

Marie Harrison, District I, Valparaiso GC, #29

Ft. Lauderdale GC, District XI, given by FFGC Wekiva Youth Camp, #30

Li Roberts, District X, #31

Sue Angle, District VIII, given by Wellington GC, District X, #32

**November 2014**

Rob Northrup, FFGC Wekiva Youth Camp, #33

Katherine Beamon, FFGC Wekiva Youth Camp, #34

Michaele-Ann Quigley, FFGC Wekiva Youth Camp, #35

**Jan. 2015**

John Moran, Tri-Council by Pat Carver, #36

Dr. Lesley Gamble, Tri-Council by Janice Hamlin, #37

Jim Stevenson, District V, #38

Dr. Robert Knight, District V, #39

Eric Cline, Speaker District X’s Tropical Short Course, #40

**Feb. 2015**

Gloria Blake, District VI, #41

Tina Tuttle, District l, Honeysuckle GC, #42

Susan Mello, FFGC Landscape Design Consultants Council, #43

Louise White, District X, GC of Stuart, #44

Jean Foley, District X, GC of Stuart, #45

Kathy Echevarria, District VIII, Tampa GC, Old Fashioned Circle, #46

Martha Ann Ronsonet, District VIII, Lake City GC, #47

**March 2015**

Molly Sims, District X, West Palm Beach GC, #48

Norma Walker, District VIII, Temple Terrace GC, #49

Barbara Hadsell, District X, Wellington GC, #50

Carolyn Schaag, District VII, FFGC Tri-Council, #51

Jayne Hemstreet, District VIII, given by Pat Carver & Kathy Echevarria, #52

Gwen Swertfager, District VI, #53

Ann Schandelmayer, District XI by Ft. Lauderdale GC, #54

Jean Hansen, Sarasota GC, #55

**April 2015**

Vanita Handlon, Punta Gorda GC, District IX, #56

Carolyn Honour, Punta Gorda GC, District IX, #57

June Beers, GC of Ft. Pierce, District X, #58

Marylou Ruiz, District XII, given by Judy Anne Clark, #59

**June 2015**

John Morand, Chairman, FFGC Wekiva Youth Camp, given by FFGC Wekiva Youth Camp, #60

**July 2015**

Lynn Arntz, Chairman SEEK, given by SEEK staff and students, #61

Audrey “Mother Nature” Swindal, given by FFGC Wekiva Youth Camp, #62

**October 2015**

Dorothy Bornemann, given by Dorothy Bornemann, #63 4

**November 2015**

Drew Martin, given by Welllington GC, #64

Dr. Ray Bellamy, given by Friends of the Dade City GC, #65

**January 2016**

Robert Barron, given at TSC by District X, #66

**April 2016**

Gale Dickert, given by Madison GC, #67

Catherine and Richard LaBrie, given by Sarasota GC, #68

Sandra Robinson, NGC President, given by Oleander GC of the Palm Beaches, #69

Jackie Host, given by FFGC Tri-Council, #70

Maureen Hendershot, given by Founders Circle of Lakes and Hills GC, #71

Kitty Wallace, given by Old Fashioned Circle of Tampa Federation of GC, #72

Tancy Rapp, given by GC of Stuart, #73

Carlton Ward, given by Tampa Federation of GC Circles, #74

Lamont “Monty” Andrews, given by Venice Area GC, #75

Pat Richardson, given by Clermont GC, #76

Diane Rice, given by Barbara Hadsell, #77

**May 2016**

Rose Bechard-Butman, given by Ft. Lauderdale GC, #78

**July 2016**

Albert A. Latina, given by FFGC Wekiva Youth Camp, #79

**October 2016**

Barbara McGuinness, given by Lauderdale by the Sea GC, #80

Dr. Kimberly Moore, given by District XII Gardening Study Sch Course 3, #81

**November 2016**

Dean Lavallee, given by GC of Stuart, #82

**December 2016**

Alan C. Alford, late husband of Lenore Alford, given by Friends & Admirers of Alan C. Alford, #83

**January 2017**

Robert “Rob” Robbins, given by Tropical Short Course, District X, #84

Susan Lerner, given by Tropical Short Course, District X, #85

Lisa Roberts, FL Wildflower, given by FFGC, #86

**April 2017**

Tim Hadsell, given by Oleander GC of the Palm Beaches, #87

Maggy Hurchalla, given by GC of Stuart, #88

Lois McLane, given by Town and Country GC Circle, #89

Inger Jones, given by FFGC Tri-Council, #90

Bernadette Hamera, given by Pat Grulke, #91

Carol Bullard, given by Friends of the Deep South Region, #92

Kay Weber, given by Sarasota GC, #93

**May 2017**

Lisa Ferrano, given by Wellington GC, District X, #94

Mary Yeomans, given by Punta Gorda GC, Pat Sandler Co-President, #95

**November 2017**

Ramona Johnston, given by Friends of Karen Gott, in her Memory, #96

**January 2018**

Linda Young, given by FFGC Tri-Council, #97

Jason McCobb, given by Tropical Short Course, District X, #98

Teresa Watkins, given by FFGC Gardening Consultants Council at TSC, #99

**February 2018**

Ginger Eisele, given by Navarre GC, District l, #100

**April 2018**

Rosita Aristoff, given by GC of Stuart, #115

**May 2018**

Nancy Hargroves, given by FFGC Tri-Council, #101

**June 2018**

Mary Kaub, given by Boca Raton GC, #102

Kate Kouba, given by Wellington GC, District X, #103

**July 2018**

Marjorie Hendon, given by FFGC Wekiva Youth Camp, #104

**October 2018**

Carol Moore, given by Anonymous, #105

**December 2018**

Norma Kisida, given by Karen Eckert, #106

**February 2019**

Kath Rigling (Birdie), given by Friends of FFGC Wekiva Youth Camp, #107

Lauren Butcher, given by West Palm Beach GC, #108

**March 2019**

Mark D. Perry, given by GC of Stuart, #109

Nancy Cavnar, given by Boca Raton GC, #110

Sue Roberts, given by Lakes & Hills GC Membership, #111

**April 2019**

Margaret D. Jacobs, given by Wellington GC, District X, #112 7

**May 2019**

Brian Hopper, given by Wellington GC, District X, #113

Jeannette Schmidt, given by Oleander GC of the Palm Beaches, Dist X, #114

Roswitha Sidelko, given by Fort Lauderdale GC Board of Directors, #116

**January 2020**

Dr Don Spence, given by FFGC Tri-Council, #117

Martha Roesler, given by FFGC District X TSC 2020, #118

**April 2020**

Gay Austin, given by FFGC 2020 Convention (cancelled COVID-19), #119

Chelsea Johnson, given by Tampa Fed of GC Circles, #120

**June 2020**

Rebecca Stallard, given by Boca Raton Garden Club, Dist X, #121

Rev June 2020 kts

# ENDANGERED PLANTS

Endangered Plant Advisory Council

Jane Villa-Lobos

Winter Park, 29 December, 2020

The state Endangered Plant Advisory Council was not able to meet in person in October due to the coronavirus. However, five grant applications were reviewed and ranked for funding by council members and evaluation sheets were emailed to Jason Stanley, Assistant Chief of Plant Inspection at the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in Gainesville. Grant submissions were received from: Bok Tower Gardens, Fairchild Tropical Garden, Archbold Biological Station, Key West Botanical Garden Society and Keep Alachua County Beautiful.

A virtual meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2021 to review the status of 13 plants on the *Regulated Plant Index* and establish the date of the next scheduled meeting in October 2021.

 Respectfully submitted,

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Jane Villa-Lobos

 FFGC Endangered Species Chairman

**Summary**: The October EPAC meeting was not held in person due to COVID-19. Members reviewed grant applications and submitted evaluations via email. A virtual meeting will be held on January 26, 2021 to update certain plants on the Regulated Plant Index.

# ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS COUNCIL REPORT

**Environmental Consultants' Council's Report**

**Jackie Host, President**

**January 14, 2021**

It is a new year and we go into it enthusiastically and hopeful for many environmental

triumphs in 2021. The top 10 environmental threats to the planet and Florida last year and

will remain this year are:

•1. Over-Population

•2. Climate Change

•3. Loss of Biodiversity

•4. The Phosphorus and Nitrogen Cycles

•5. Water

•6. Ocean Acidification

•7. Pollution

•8. Ozone Layer Depletion

•9 Over-fishing

•10. Deforestation

While most environmentalists would agree on this list they may not agree over which problem

is the most harmful to the planet. Since over-population is driving the other problems most of

us would agree that is the biggest problem.

However, we know all of our natural resources are connected. As consultants we have a

great opportunity to take this message to our fellow garden club members, friends and

families and have a real voice for conservation. We need more public education and NGC

Environmental Schools throughout our state. We especially need to make sure our Districts

and Garden Clubs have Environmental Chairmen that keep a watch on local environmental

concerns..

Even though we have Covid limitations, we can still share information about conservation and

environmental issues through social media and some outside programs following safety

guidelines for Covid. You would be surprised at how many people would check out something

you thought was important enough to send them, versus getting it from a corporate mail-out.

This year this Chairman challenges you to do at least one thing for the environment that you

are proud enough to tell us about it. Maybe you will write a letter to the governor or sign a

petition against fracking or off the coast oil drilling. That is great. Every little thing you do

counts, including not running the water when you brush your teeth. Inspire others to help you

clean up a road, remove air potatoes from park or plant native trees and flowers. Teach

others to protect the things we love most by learning as much about the environment as we

can and then vote for government leaders who are sworn to protect the jewels of Florida, her

natural resources.

Summary: The top 10 environmental problems in the world & Florida are: 1. Over-Population,

2. Climate Change, 3. Loss of Biodiversity, 4. The Phosphorus and Nitrogen Cycles, 5. Water, 6.

Ocean Acidification, 7. Pollutio, n 8. Ozone Layer Depletion, 9. Over Fishing, and 10. Deforestation.

Environmental consultants have an opportunity to advocate for conservation and teach others about how important it is to maintain balance of our natural resources to have a healthy planet.

# FFGC FINANCE COMMITTEE

 Finance Committee Report

 Marjorie H. Hendon

 January 13, 2021

Goodbye 2020. Whoever would have thought that our communities, state, Nation, and the world would have to endure such changes as we have experienced this last year? And yet, so many wonderful changes have taken place, some permanent, some not. FFGC’s finances are in a good place and in good hands with Jana Walling as our Treasurer.

Have your credit cards seen less activity? With Zoom taking over as the way to have meetings, our Board members are temporarily saving an average of $150-$200 per Board meeting. The prices of NGC schools, with no buildings to rent, papers to be copied, and lunches to be provided, have been reduced. With this reduction in price our schools have seen many more of you attending these online classes.

But, FFGC has also experienced a reduction in other areas. Our Headquarter rentals have been reduced in number and in the number of participants that attend those functions. Cancelled were Short Courses, Symposium, flower shows, Blue Star Dedications, WVT, Wekiva Youth Camp 2020, and NGC/Deep South Conventions. Attorneys are still needed to help us fight to keep our headquarters.

However, rays of sunshine keep popping its head out. Our headquarters building is looking better than ever, a sizeable donation to benefit Wekiva Youth Camp was given by Troy and Ann Todd, and our new Matching Grant has more applicants than we have money to give. All show the hope that FFGC members have for our future. We miss seeing each other in person, but will have cats, dogs, and walk by spouses to visit about.

 Sincerely,

 Marjorie H. Hendon

Summary: Zoom meetings have saved money. Money has been lost in rentals. Donation of $750,000 was made to Wekiva Youth Camp from the Todds.

# FFGC NOMINATING COMMITTEE

2020 Nominating Committee

Jo Ann Guise

January 14, 2021

The FFGC Nominating Committee is charged to select one candidate for each elected office considering the following: requirements in the Bylaws; weigh each candidate’s merits; the duties of the office; and, the ability of the candidate to do well in that Office. The committee endorses the candidate who has the best qualifications to fill the Office. The Committee is composed of a Delegate and Alternate from each of the twelve Districts within FFGC and a chairman appointed by the current President. The current 1st Vice-President becomes President elect on October 1st in the even numbered years.

The first meeting of the Committee as required was held on ZOOM during the Fall Board of Directors meeting. The Committee met 1/7/2021 on ZOOM to interview candidates and to finalize its decisions.

All candidates completed the required documentations in the established time frame: a Letter of Endorsement from the candidate’s Club, an overview of Garden Club and community activities, three (3) Letters of Recommendation, a recent photo and a personal interview.

The 2020 Nominating Committee presents the following Slate of Officers for the 2021-23 Administration:

 1st Vice President – Tina Tuttle

2nd Vice President – Christy Linke

3rd Vice President – Mary Whisler

Treasurer – Jana Walling

Recording Secretary – Sue Roberts.

The Nominating Committee especially thanks the ZOOM Host- members for assisting us with our meetings.

Serving on this Committee were:

Jo Ann Guise, Chairman

District I – Gina Jogan District VII – Susan Mello

District II – Sue Schmitz District VIII – Jan Griffin

District III – Jana Walling District IX – Laura Jibben

District IV – Kalia Baillene District X – Donna Berger

District V – Margaret Chodosh District XI – Inger Jones

District VI – Valerie Seinfeld District XII – Sharon Trbovich

Jo Ann Guise, Chairman

# FFGC 100th Anniversary

FFGC 100th Anniversary Report

Tina V. Tuttle

13 January 2021

**Fundraising:** The fundraising campaign as announced at convention 2019 and as published in *The Florida Gardener,* had raised $15,250 by September 2019 and $17,841.07 by January 2020. We were unable to solicit donations at the cancelled 2020 convention. To date, 38 donations have been made in varying amounts totaling **$21, 941.07.** We have so much to do but we can’t make headway without required funding.

**History Book**: “*The First Fifty Years: Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. 1925-1975*” was retyped so it could become the ***new*** history book for the Federation. If funds are available to publish this book, it is hoped that it will also include a history of Wekiva Youth Camp, which turns 50 in 2024, a history of the Blue Star Markers in Florida and a history of SEEK. If funds are not available, the magazine articles will have to suffice as recording our history.

**Publicity:**  This chairman continues to place historical articles on FFGC decades in *The Florida Gardener*. Decades 6-10 will be featured in each of the next 5 issues. Additionally, an informational article created by Valerie Seinfeld was published on the FFGC Facebook Page to alert members of plans and to ask for their financial support so all plans can come to fruition. The 100th was discussed at 3 Zoom District meetings as part of the Officer’s Virtual Tour.

**2024 Convention Venue:** The venue for the 2024 anniversary convention changed its name to **Southbank** and is now a Marriott hotel.

**2024 State Flower Show:** Our biennial state flower show will be held in 2024 at the Garden Club of Jacksonville. A site visit will take place in March of 2021 to determine staging requirements. District I FFSJ will write the schedule based on the 6 main goals and objectives of FFGC.

**Commissioned Commemorative Sculpture**: The Florida Sculptors Guild submitted 11 concept designs on 3 August 2020. Selection of a design has not been made and this chairman was asked not to enter into a contract with the artist until HQ is certain of the outcome of ongoing legal proceedings. Plans are being made for a dedication ceremony to take place at HQ on 24 April 2024.

**Dedication Luncheon and Dinner**: 24 April 2024 will be the day to celebrate and finish out our year-long celebration of our 100th anniversary with a ticketed buffet luncheon and plated dinner at HQ catered by Cocktails Catering. If possible, the dedication of the sculpture will take place between the meals.

**Opportunity Quilt**: The pattern for our Centennial Opportunity Quilt has been designed and will be introduced in kit form on the officers’ tour in 2022. Members will create the blocks, which will be collected and assembled into our opportunity quilt by this chairman.

**FFGC Song**: Members will be asked to learn the official FFGC Song for the celebration. Music and lyrics can be found on the FFGC website.

**Member Art Show:** The rules and sections for the anniversary Art Show have been drafted and entry blanks designed. A room at the venue has been designated for the show and cash prizes will be awarded in each category.

**100th anniversary Logo items for sale**: Thelogo items will become available at convention 2023. Obtained price quotes on anniversary items to sell or give away: a pin, ornament, shirts, Candy Jars with 100th logo, sticky note pads, plus 50th anniversary items for Wekiva Youth Camp (Bracelets, lanyards).

**Tree Plantings:** A plan is being developed that will allow each garden club throughout the state to plant a tree at the same time on Florida Arbor Day in January 2024 to provide maximum publicity for our anniversary and continued efforts to beautify the state.

**Officer’s Tour 2023:** Districts have been alerted that each Fall District meeting in 2023 will be a **FFGC Birthday Party!**

Tina V. Tuttle, 2VP and 100th Anniversary Chairman

**Summary**: Plans are coming together for a year-long celebration of our 100th anniversary. Fundraising is slow but steady. Our 2024 convention venue has been contracted. An exceptional variety of activities and related anniversary items are being developed. A timeline for rolling out the parts and plans has been developed for the next 2 years.

# FLORIDA GARDENER CIRCULATION

Report: Circulation (Florida Gardener Magazine)

Kelley Wood

Chairman

January 2021

There has been no activity during this past reporting period. The Florida Gardener editor has been busy working on cleaning up the mailing address list which will be a big help in reducing our costs.

# FLORIDA WILDFLOWER LIAISON

#

# FLOWER SHOW SCHOOL JUDGES

 Report

Florida Flower Show Judges

 December 14, 2020

 Jan Griffin

The Florida Flower Show Judges met on December 14, 2020 via Zoom. We were all excited to hear of the two Flower Shows that were held and the many shows that are planned for the future. The judges are finding ways to meet and study and practice designing. This president has been especially blessed to be able to attend District meetings via Zoom.

Susan Hillson our Flower Show Schools Chairman reported the two student judges who took the October, Handbook Exam passed. We have two new Accredited Flower Show Judges. Joyce Waters-Smith from District I and Lynn Jones, District X. We are proud of their accomplishments.

We have two Flower Show Schools planned. Both schools are Course IV. District I is holding their Course IV on February 18-20, 2020 and District XI & XII are holding their Course IV on March 21-24 in Ft. Lauderdale. Both these schools had been postponed. The students are excited about completing their classroom work. There is a need to begin another Flower Show School Series. It is important to continue training new judges and growing the interest in having flower shows. We have a school started in the Jacksonville Beach area of District IV, but they have not scheduled their course II as of this report.

Our next Symposium will be held on November 2-3, 2021 in Pensacola, FL. Tina Tuttle will give the Allied Topic, Sue Kirkman is the Horticulture Instructor and Shirley Tetreault will be the Design Instructor. For registration information go to the FFGC website.

FFSJ Board Members voted to establish a committee to publish a “How To” design book for floral designers of all abilities and to provide ‘seed money’ for the project. Great enthusiasm was shared for this project with many wonderful ideas. The chairman will be appointed by this president and approved by the executive board. Further information to come.

Jan Griffin

FFSJ President

Summary:

Student Judges Joyce Waters-Smith and Lynn Jones passed their Handbook Exam to become Accredited Flower Show Judges. Two Course IV Flower Show Schools are to be held in February and March. Flower Show Symposia will be held in November of 2021 in Pensacola. FFSJ voted to establish a committee for a “How To” design book for floral designers of all abilities and the ‘seed money’ for the project.

# GARDEN THERAPY

Garden Therapy

Patricia A. Shira, Chairman

January 4, 2021

Garden Therapy-Penal Therapy-Avon Park

The nursery is now open on  a limited basis.  Our inmates are working in the nursery 5 days a week.  There are 12 inmates who regularly work in the nursery.

I visited the nursery on November 23, 2020.  Officer John Meeks, Tommy Sauls, Don Shira and myself toured the nursery then went shopping for nursery supplies.  We spent $1,782.42.  This is a shopping trip we do twice a year to supplement nursery supplies.

The nursery looks very nice.  They have the weeds under control and plants repotted with regular maintenance to the  greenhouses ongoing.

The training classes for FGNLA tests are continuing.  Tommy Sauls continues to teach classes on plant identification.  This training helps our inmates seek employment in the nursery and landscape industry upon release.

We hope to hold our annual May plant sale.  The Covid-19 epidemic will determine if this is possible.  Our Garden Club Members will be notified if this is possible.

We have had two greenhouse heaters go out; these have been repaired.

We have received several donations from Garden Clubs around the State.  Officer  Meeks has made some plant sales to employees of the Prison.  We still have a sufficient balance of funds.  If we do not have an emergency, we will be ok financially until we can resume our plant sales.

We  appreciate the Garden Clubs keeping us in their budgets.  All donations are welcome.  Please continue to support this worthwhile program.

SUMMARY:

Our education program is now continuing and is very important to our inmates.  We hope to have the May plant sale.  Hopefully we will not have to go into lockdown again.

# GARDENING CONSULTANT’S COUNCIL

#

Gardening Consultants Council President’s Report

 Brenda Luedeman

Tri-Council ZOOM Meeting

January 5, 2021

This President is honored to continue serving on behalf of the members of the Gardening Consultants Council (GCC) and working collaboratively with Tri- Council (TC) President Inger Jones and the other 2019-2021 TC Executive Board officers. Due to the global pandemic, the TC Board has continued to interact as possible via phone or internet this fall as face-to-face meetings continue to be prohibited.

While gatherings with fellow gardeners has been restricted for most of 2020, time for personal priorities and gardening projects increased as we harbored close to home. As always, this president appreciates hearing about you’ve been able to safely participate in while practicing recommended social distancing and sanitation measures.

This Presidents hopes all GCC members continue to be in good health and that health care advances will soon allow us to gather in person again. Until such time, the Gardening Schools, Consultant Refreshers, Garden Club meetings, Master Gardeners programs, Botanical Gardens events, or other safe garden learning venues continue to be offered within Florida and throughout the country. Please be aware of your good standing date and avail yourself of opportunities to stay current by participating in virtual Gardening Schools or Consultant Refreshers when opportunities present. Refer to the Florida Gardener or National Gardener publications or check FFGC and NGC websites for current dates, details, and registration information.

This President encourages all consultants and provisional consultants to become members of Tri- Council. Plans for Tri-Council Spring 2021 Meeting and Annual Tri-Council Luncheon at FFGC Spring 2021 Convention are evolving. Please watch for updates on plans as the year progresses.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Luedeman

Gardening Consultants Council President 2019-2021

bkluedeman@gmail.com

Cell or text: 863-207-3330

# GRANTS

 REPORT

 GRANTS

 Carolyn Schaag

 January 13, 2021

There were no requests for funding during this report period from the FFGC Board Members or the 2021 Convention Committee.

 Carolyn Schaag, Chairman

 Grants

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# HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

 Report

 Habitat for Humanity Landscape Project

 Pat Caren

 January, 2021

Habitat for Humanity Landscape Projects do not lend themselves well to Zoom. Since most garden club members are of a certain age, they have restricted their community involvement and put landscaping projects on hold during the pandemic. Even building new houses has been put on hold in some areas.

Garden clubs have made up for it by contributing financially. District XII donated $200.00 to the Miami chapter of Habitat for Humanity for landscaping purposes in Miami-Dade County. Coral Pines Garden Club, donates annually to the Miami Chapter and donated $100.00 for landscaping purposes in Miami-Dade County in October 2020. I’m sure others have contributed as well, just have not reported their donations.

Many garden clubs are invested in the Habitat for Humanity program and plan to resume activity when it is safe to do so. The availability of vaccines will be a game changer.

Once Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, this chairman will contact clubs and districts and urge them to become involved again.

Pat Caren

Habitat for Humanity Landscape Project Chairman

# HALL OF FAME

# HEADQUARTERS AND ENDOWMENT

Headquarters & Endowment Committee

Sue Angle, Chairman

January 13, 2021

Even though we can’t be together to see things ourselves, this Chairman is happy to report that all is well and running smoothly at our beautiful headquarters and grounds in Winter Park.

As you know Jenn Cowin started work on September 8 and Sue Roberts & I went to Headquarters to train Jenn that day and I went back the next day. By that time as you can imagine, she needed some time alone to digest everything. Jenn has been a quick learner, is not afraid to ask questions, and from all reports from those who have worked with Jenn have passed on very favorable reviews. If you have any input about your contact with headquarters, our H&E Trustees would love to hear from you. Jenn is being paid $30,000 per year or $14.42/hr. H&E voted to give her a bonus of $100 for Christmas, and the office was closed from Christmas Eve until January 4.

Events continue to be held at headquarters but in smaller quantities and attendance numbers. There have been no issues with noise violations since all events taking place after 5pm are primarily indoors except for the wedding ceremonies and dinners without DJ amplified music or speech. This continues to be monitored with a decibel reader and an off-duty policeman is on our property throughout the events.

After we last met on Sept. 16 & 17, later in September & in October Susan Mello, our Grounds Chairman, and this Chairman worked in the gardens four different days - One of the times I stayed overnight so I could work longer since my travel is more than 5 hours each day going back and forth. We planted Crinum Lily bulbs from Susan’s garden into the raised bed on the patio and a load of bromeliads from my house that filled my car were planted in the bare beds to the far left of the front entrance. Also planted were variegated liriope, arboricola, fox tail fern and blue daze, and mulch was put down.

After we had the city of Winter Park officials come to inspect our laurel oak just outside the Assembly Room, which by the way they found to be one of the better ones in the entire city, they sent crews to trim our trees whose limbs were near our power lines.

Century Link is the new provider of our phone and high-speed internet service now. We previously, with Spectrum, had two phone lines and have found we can do with one. Overall, the change in provider has represented a cost savings of almost $100 per month.

Last Wednesday H&E had our zoom meeting, and this Chairman zoomed from Headquarters in order to check out the building and grounds at the same time. Everything is in good condition there.

We have received requests for use of our parking lot for events at Mead Gardens and are working with them to be able to help. We all feel with the situation we are in right now with the City, it will be neighborly, not only to Mead Gardens, but to the City and its residents to be able to share our parking lot, so we will do all we can to help.

At this meeting we prepared a list of work items needed for our building and grounds that will be reviewed for our approval to be accomplished in January and February.

Lastly, we also prepared information about the Patron and Guardian of Gardening Honors which have not been defined in our Bylaws or Standing Rules and sent that information to the Bylaws Committee. You have just voted on that and we thank you.

We are so fortunate to have dedicated and caring Trustees on the Headquarters and Endowment Committee. They are:

President Al Latina, President Elect Marge Hendon, Treasurer Jana Walling, H&E Vice Chairman Sue Roberts, Secretary Karen Smith, Jo Ann Guise, Cissy Richardson and Mary Whisler. Headquarters Grounds Chairman, Susan Mello, completed two terms last year, so attends as a guest. They are sincerely appreciated for their service.

We are very pleased with the work of Office Manager Jenn Cowin and voted a $100 Christmas bonus for her; also closed the office between December 24 and January 4. Grounds Chairman and this Chairman provided and planted Crinum lilies & bromeliads & City of Winter Park workers trimmed tree limbs near power lines. Phone & high-speed internet service was changed from Spectrum to Century Link saving about $100/mo. Patron & Guardian of Gardening Honors info was prepared and sent to Bylaws Committee, and list was made of work items needed.

# HELP DESK - COORDINATOR

# HIGH SCHOOL/INTERMEDIATE GARDENERS

#

# HISTORIAN

# HORTICULTURE

# INSURANCE

Report: Insurance

Kelley Wood

Chairman

January, 2021

There were several insurance activities during this reporting period as our policies all renewed October 1, 2020 for the next year.

We have received 2 refund checks for over-payment of premiums because of changes in coverage. Our worker’s compensation insurance went down as we did not pay as much in salaries with Wekiva Youth Camp not being held, and our general liability policy was reduced as a result of no in-person activities.

# INVASIVE SPECIES

Report: Invasive Plant Species

Parke Finold

Chairman

January, 2021

This Director would like to enter an Educational Exhibit for the 2021 FFGC

Convention in Daytona Beach

Parke Finold

# JUNIOR GARDENERS

# LANDSCAPE DESIGN CONSULTANT’S COUNCIL

Sheryl L. Perkins, President, Landscape Design Consultant’s Council (LDCC), Report January 11, 2021

LDCC sponsored a ZOOM program on October 7, 2020 topic: Stormscaping, Landscaping to Minimize Wind Damage    Speaker:  Barbara Hadsell.  The presentation was based on the research she and Pamela Crawford did on how hurricanes deal with plant life in Florida. Pamela published the book, *Stormscaping*. They talked with Max Mayfield, Director of the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida; saw pictures of downed trees and gardens from ground zero for Hurricanes Frances, Jeanne, Charlie, and Ivan; consulted with botanical gardens; sent surveys to county extension agencies in affected areas; and contacted garden clubs hit by recent hurricanes in Florida. Barbara talked about Five StormScaping Principles: 1. Understanding hurricane basics. 2. Know your plant’s wind tolerance. 3. Understand other reasons why trees fall. 4. Design to minimize wind damage. 5. Proper storm maintenance and aftercare are important steps in saving your garden and your money.

LDCC opened an invitation to all NGC Landscape Design Consultants in Florida, the Environmental Consultant Council, and the Garden Consultant Council.  The ZOOM program was a success and individuals requested more ZOOM programs and provided topics to present in the future.

LDCC hopes to receive nominations from FFGC Districts and select an LDCC Unsolicited Landscape Design Awards in April 2021.  The nominations should be received from FFGC Districts in March 2020.

LDCC President is contacting Gail Hansen, University of Florida, who teaches courses on evaluating your landscape, to help LDCC Consultants to refresher on scoring landscapes and filling out the NGC Landscape Design Standard for Evaluating Landscape Design, LDS Form 14.   I was hoping to schedule a ZOOM Program in February, so members and Districts learn about how to score the form.  Last year, when I called the members about the awards, some of our consultants mentioned they needed a refresher on the form.  Please contact Sheryl Perkins for more information.

LDCC is working on a LDCC Scholarship for members to continue members education to become a NCG Landscape Design consultant or for them to refresh.

Sheryl Perkins

Tri-Council (TC) of Florida Federation of Garden Clubs (FFGC)

# LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

# MEAD GARDENS

**Mead Garden Liaison**

**Cynthia Pesch**

**January, 2021**

 Mead Botanical Garden, in their partnership with Dubsdread, has done some extensive interior updates to Azalea Lodge (our old clubhouse): they replaced light fixtures in all main rooms, repainted the walls, and opened the wall between the conference room and large meeting room with two large openings with barn doors to close off the space when needed. Their devoted volunteers are still busy working in the gardens, so the grounds are looking great. They held “Haunted Hikes” for two nights, Oct. 29 and Oct. 30, which was very successful with a great turnout.

 Mead Botanical Garden is still hopeful about the future. They are pleased at the coordination with FFGC to use their parking lot when organizations such as the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, etc. are performing in the park and are introducing many people in the community to MBG. With money promised from the City Commission, MBG is hoping to put on a small addition (including ADA bathroom and changing room for brides), improve the drainage in parking lot near building, improve parking areas near pavilion, improve walking path surface to be ADA compatible, to make gate house more accessible, and to add outdoor lighting. MBG is working with Creative City Projects helping to stage an Alice in Wonderland inspired “Down the Rabbit Hole,” a walking theater production to take place later this spring. Many impressive changes and plans are in the works!

Cynthia Pesch

Chairman of Mead Garden Liaison

 Mead Botanical Garden is looking forward to the future and has big plans for improving the building and grounds. They continue to find creative activities to draw people into the garden.

# MEMBERSHIP

# MEMBERSHIP RETENTION

 Report: Membership Retention

Jane Nendick

Chairman

What a year!  What a year of learning and growing in knowledge!  Thank you to all the BOD for sharing ideas with us!  We have emphasized these past months the need to COMMUNICATE with Club/Circle Members, especially since most are not meeting in person. COMMUNICATE via Zoom, face time, hand written notes, email , Newsletters, phone calls, etc.  The less a Member hears from other Club Members, the less the Member thinks about Garden Club!  COMMUNICATION = A sense of belonging! A Sense of Belonging = A heart of wanting to re-commit to Garden Club!  A re-commitment to Garden Club = a Garden Club that is stable and growing!

As of this writing , FFGC welcomes 9132 individual members, 762 Life members, 364 spouses...for a total FFGC Membership of 10,258.  A positive increase over 2019!

SHARING THE JOY OF GARDEN CLUB,

Jane Nendick, FFGC Membership Retention Chair🌴

January, 2021

# NGC’S 4-5 STAR MEMBERS

FFGC 4/5 Star Chair Committee Report

January 2021

**NGC’s Four/Five Star Program**

National Garden Club’s **Four/Five Star Program** encourages members to attend NGC’s

four study schools and achieve Consultant and Judge Status.

NGC offers a very prestigious National recognition to members who complete the four

national study schools—Environmental, Gardening, Landscape Design, and Flower Show.

Members are eligible to apply to become NGC Four Star Members after they have successfully

completed all schools and have become a Flower Show Judge. Members who continue

refreshing and go on to attain Master Status in all four disciplines including Master Flower

Show Judge, may apply for NGC Five Star Membership, the highest of NGC honors.

On the Application Form, which is available on the NGC website, applicants are asked

to choose whether they wish to be presented with their certificate at the National Convention or

their State Convention.

Applications are due to the **FL State 4/5 Star Chairman by Feb 1, 2021**.

Please contact the State Chair with any questions.

Jacqueline Connell

FFGC 4/5 Star Chairman

themusesgarden@netscape.net

413 229-9977

# NGC ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL-FFGC SCHOOL CHAIRMAN/CREDENTIALS

# NGC GARDENING SCHOOL-FFGC SCHOOL CHAIRMAN/CREDENTIALS

NGC Gardening School State Chairman

Barbara Hadsell

Jan., 13, 2021

We will complete Series 9, GS Course 4 on January 26-27, 2021 sponsored by the Garden Club of Deland, Jennifer Condo Local Chairman. As of Jan. 1, 2021 we have 48 registered for this Zoom Course with 12 coming in from out of state. Series 9, Course 3, Zoom, also sponsored by the GC of Deland had 39 attending with 10 of those refreshing.

At present time Florida has:

84 GS Consultants (completed all four courses)

3 LDS Emeritus consultants (Master consultants approved to become emeritus)

11 GS Consultants Good Standing Dates expired on 12/31/2020. They will be notified again, and have their GSD’s extended to 12/31/2021 because of the cancellation of GS Courses due to the Pandemic. They will be notified of the GS Zoom Courses now available over the next year so that they have a number of options to Refresh and will also be notified if any local Courses that are scheduled later in the year.

Clubs and Districts are encouraged to hold in-person Courses later in the year when it is safe to do so and to ask for assistance if they wish to hold a Course using the Zoom platform

Free Workshops are being offered to all NGC Members during January and February at no cost by the Michigan Federation of Garden Clubs on how to use all aspects of Zoom.

SUMMARY: NGC Gardening Courses continue to be offered via Zoom

# NGC LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL-FFGC SCHOOL CHAIRMAN/CREDENTIALS

NGC LDS State Schools Chairman

Sue Roberts

Jan., 13, 2021

We completed LDS Course 4 on Oct. 24, 2020 sponsored by District IX and fort Myers Lee County council. We congratulate 21 new LDS consultants in Florida. This fourth course was completed on ZOOM very successfully and with many lessons learned.

At present time Florida has:

90 LDS Students (completed one course)

59 LDS Provisionals (completed at least 2 courses)

84 LDS Consultants (completed all four courses)

41 LDS Master Consultants (completed all four classes and at least four refreshers)

5 LDS Emeritus consultants (Master consultants approved to become emeritus)

We have one series to complete in 2021 in Lakewood Ranch. Course 3 and 4 are still to be completed. No other series are scheduled at this time.

# PASSWORD PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Password Protection Ad-Hoc Committee

Sue Roberts, Chairman

January 13, 2021

It came to our attention last September that some of our members personal address/phone/email information was exposed on our website. President Al asked Tina Tuttle, Christy Linke, Cissy Richardson, Ingrid Velez and myself to look at the website and decide what and how we could and should protect that information.

Our website is really a large repository of information about FFGC. Almost all of this information is available to anyone who wants peruse it. None of it is secret and can be used and seen by anyone interested in the subject matter. Wild Apricots is the tool that we used to house the website and its files as well as house a database of our members. WA protects the profiles of our members. No one can see any address info and if you want to send an email to a member you can do so without seeing their email address.

FFGC has always published many different directories. All of these directories had been added to the website for the convenience of our members. We also publish yearbook information and other informational files with names and addresses of the appropriate people to contact with questions.

We discussed reorganizing the website to put all the directory information on one area and requiring a password to get to it. But WA allows us to restrict access to individual files and website pages. It would entail a major reorganization of the website to put all the critical member information in one place. So we took a shorter term approach to a correction. Every member has a login id created when they are added to our database. The login id is their email address and when they first login they can create their own password. All files with personal information in them now require you to login to see them. This means that it is your id and personal password that gives you access to this information rather than a new specific login/password that you would have to remember.

The files that are presently behind this login ‘door’ are the BOI, the list of chairman and chairmanships, the tri-council directory, the FFSJ directories, the Year book information, and several other files that list names and addresses. At this time we decided that other files that are just information such as our bylaws and minutes are not really secret. If we decide to protect them we can easily update their access protection.

I have tried as I work on the website to note where an email is provided for contact to change those references to just a name and a link into the WA database for ability to send an email to the person. I know that I have not found all of these instances, but will continue to make these updates. We have also discussed and implemented in many cases a generic email for certain functions (such as Wekiva registrar or FFGC office manager). We may want to look further at this option to avoid the use of personal emails whenever possible.

Please be aware that you cannot change your email in the user profile because it is your userid. You can change your password at any time and update some of the information in your own profile. But if your login does not work you will have to call Jenn Cowin in the office or myself to have your email updated. Also please remember that when you change your email address, put FFGC on your list of functions to update. Many of our members have bad emails in the database and do not realize it because we have never required a login.

As we go forward and look more closely at the organization of our files, databases, and the website this approach may change but for now we are not exposing your personal information to the public. It is only available to our members.

# PENNY PINES

Penny Pines Report

Andrea Finn, Chairman

January 13, 2021

This Chairman does not have a report at this time, due to COVID-19.

I have had a few requests for donation forms, which have been sent. I will have a report in April, 2021.

Andrea Finn, Chairman

Penny Pines Project

**SUMMARY**: No report at this time.

# PLANNED GIVING

 REPORT

 PLANNED GIVING

 Carolyn Schaag

 January 13, 2021

No donations were received for *The Gifts Today for Tomorrow*  Endowment Fund during this reporting period.

 Carolyn Schaag, Chairman

 Planned Giving

# PLANT AMERICA WITH TREES

PLANT AMERICA WITH TREES PROCLAMATION

FFGC District X’s Plant America with Trees Committee’s Gardening Consultants, at the request of the Ocean Ridge Garden Club, has created a generic Proclamation to be used in conjunction with cities and municipalities, to declare support for the NGC initiative Plant America with (native)Trees. This Proclamation can be used in conjunction with various tree planting events such as Arbor Day or Earth Day. It can be found on our FFGC website on the Home Page. Scroll down to the list of documents available and you will find it listed alphabetically under Proclamation certificate.

Barbara Hadsell

FFGC District X PAT Committee Chairman

# PROTOCOL

Report

Protocol

Jo Ann Guise

January 13, 2021

Since the cancellation of the 2020 FFGC Convention back in early 2020, the Protocol Committee has not been active.

This chairman was invited to attend on Friday, January 8, 2021, a ZOOM 2021 FFGC Convention Committee meeting. She attended along with many of the other chairmen to receive an overview of the current accomplishments.

It was decided that some decisions will be better determined by ZOOM meetings in smaller group settings. This chairman will be meeting again on Friday, January 22, 2021 with Al Latina, Cissy Richardson, Karen Hall, Zetta Gillespie, and Jennifer Condo to discuss Pages, Hostesses, meal and Head Table seatings and registration needs.

Plans are moving forward to have an actual 2021 Convention, depending on the possible restrictions of the CDC and Covid -19 virus and mutations.

Jo Ann Guise

Protocol Chairman

# PUBLICITY & PUBLIC RELATIONS

# ROADSIDE BEAUTIFICATION/ PATHS OF SUNSHINE

#

# SCHOLARSHIP AND ENDOWMENT

Scholarship and Endowment Committee

Board report January 13-14, 2021

Helen Purvis, Chairman

All 11 scholarship winners were able to maintain their 3.0 GPA to make them eligible to receive their second half of the $3000 scholarship awarded to them in September! The checks have been sent to the universities for the following:

Gabriella Whisler, freshman at Santa Fe College – focused on environmental issues with a major in Marine Biology and minoring in communications. Attended Critter Camp, Wekiva, LIT, CIT, Junior Counselor at Wekiva and had planned on being Senior Counselor in 2020.

Sophia Pearce – freshman at College of the Florida Keys – majoring in marine biology/zoology, wants to work in coral restoration.

Blaire Kleiman- 2nd year Masters at Florida International University. Research on possible benefits of weeds as insectary plants in mango farms to aid biotic pollination and fruit yield of a valuable exotic fruit. Also received National Garden Club and Deep South scholarships.

Clara Arrate – freshman at Florida State University. Her parents immigrated from Cuba when she was nine. Wants to major in biology and attend medical school.

Aubrey Lanier – Sophomore at Florida Gulf Coast University, degree in civil and environmental engineering. Attended Wekiva, LIT and CIT.

Wade Collins –Junior at Warner University, majoring in Agricultural Studies. Grew up in Plant City on family farm, works at tractor dealership, interning at citrus nursery.

Caroline Gordon – freshman at University of Florida, focus on landscape architecture to create inspiring outdoor spaces that foster community and promote the conservation of nature.

Bentley Maddox – sophomore at Florida State University, majoring in Biology and minor in Chemistry. Recipient of 2019-20 FFGC scholarship.

$1000, distributed $500 for each semester to:

Joseph Vernon, freshman at Tallahassee Community College, wants to major in architecture city planning.

Emily Schaag – senior at Nova Southeastern University, wants to be aquatic veterinarian. Recipient of 2018, 2019 FFGC scholarships.

SUMMARY: $1500 for spring 2021 semester to Gabriella Whisler, Sophia Pearce, Blaire Kleiman, Clara Arrate, Aubrey Lanier, Wade Collins, Caroline Gordon and Bentley Maddox. $500 for fall 2020 semester to Joseph Vernon and Emily Schaag.

# SCOUTING LIAISON

 **FFGC BOARD REPORT**

 **SCOUT LIAISON**

 **WINTER 2021**

 **BARBARA RAO**

**This chairperson has had the pleasure of being able to provide new experiences for many girl scout troops in Florida and across the country. With an endowment from a local member of Sarasota Garden Club, the monies provided an opportunity to create a new state badge a few years ago which prompted the teaching of Wildflowers and Native Plants in local areas. Teaming up with Youth Gardeners we were able to deliver a program at State Convention which explained how to coordinate the principles of Youth Gardening and work with Scouts to further reach more of the school age population. The Youth Gardener Program was expanded with the addition of Scouts as it had been difficult to enter classrooms because of time limitations on the part of the schools. Unless a teacher or administrator seeks out the local Garden Club members to work with the students, participation is not sanctioned. With the addition of Scout troops, after school programs are benefited and the Garden Club members can be more active. They need not to devote the entire school year to organizing and running programs. Specific lessons and plans have been shared with clubs that are geared to the development of native plants and wildflower knowledge.**

**Here in Florida, there were additional funds allocated to provide trees to plant on Florida’s Arbor Day. This was another way to allow the troops to work within the community or school grounds. Schools in the Sarasota County area with Girl Scout troops working with local Garden clubs had the advantage of funds provided for native trees and wildflower bushes to commemorate Florida Arbor Day.**

**The Florida program was a hit at NGC and the Native Plant Badge was replaced with a Wildflower Patch that carried more information for the troops to learn about both Wildflowers and Natives. It also allowed for the states to incorporate their own wildflowers or natives on their patches and focus primarily on the local aspect. The troops were learning both generalized facts about natives and wildflowers but concentrated on their own indigenous plant material. This was beneficial to all the states and was not focused on just one area of the country. Just as here in Florida there are many types of wildflowers and natives that have different growing requirements.**

 **Scout Liaison is an interesting and positive experience for this chairperson. A great way to be sure that Garden Clubs have an entrance to the student’s education of all things native and wild and are able to bring the expertise of years of experience and love of imparting this knowledge to the young minds is the best way to be sure that the legacy of nurturing and caring for native plants and wildflowers will be sustained.**

# SEEK CONFERENCE

 SEEK 2021 Report

 Mary Ann Whisler/Chairman

 January 2021

Save Earth’s Environment through Knowledge (SEEK 2021)

We are pleased to announce SEEK 2021 will be hosted at the University of Florida/Gainesville Campus. Together with the University we will have a very comprehensive environmental program. SEEK Students for 2021 will visit labs to understand new studies in conservation and the environment, meet with a panel of UF speakers to understand environmental science careers and offerings at UF, and live in dorm housing to get an understanding of college life. Our SEEK goal is to encourage a lifetime commitment to a cleaner world and possible careers in Environmental Sciences. The Committee feels the university can offer a place to achieve these goals.

The date of SEEK 2021 is tentatively set for June 28 to July 1, 2021. The cost remains at $300 per student. We are working with the University to provide our students with a healthy environment. If for any reason the University decides the environment is not healthy due to the Covid Virus, the program will be cancelled and all registration fees will be refunded. Look for updated information as it comes available on the FFGC.org website.

The SEEK Committee would like to thank all the Districts, Garden Clubs and individuals that have contributed to SEEK by sending students and providing donations. The committee ask that clubs and garden club members contact their local high school counselors and science teachers to identify interested students. Without YOU this program would not exist. Please contact this Chairman if you have questions or need help finding the registration forms. We are here to help.

Thank you to FFGC Garden Clubs for giving this committee the opportunity to provide this valuable program to our high school youth. With your support FFGC will make a difference. The Committee is excited about this year’s program. We thank you FFGC!

Summary:

SEEK 2021 University of Florida

Finding students to attend SEEK

Thank you to all the Clubs and Districts

Mary Ann Whisler/SEEK Chairman

(mary.whisler66@gmail.com)

# SHORT COURSE – UF

# SHORT COURSE – NORTH

You are cordially invited to attend FFGC’s Short Course North (SCN) 2021. This year’s theme “Defend Florida: Its Beauty, Resources, and History” was inspired by past Federation President Blanche C. Covington’s (1941-1945) theme “Defend Home and Country—Its Beauty, Morale and Bounty” (from *The Florida Gardener* Winter 2019 edition). Though a different war was waged in the 1940s, her theme inspires us as to defend Florida against pollution, Global Warming, and other challenging issues.

Our program kicks off on 12 August 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. and continues

13 August same time. The location of this year’s event is to be determined.

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

Master Gardeners attending both days receive 10 Continuing Education Units.

Effective April 2021, Kat Spieker will be the SCN chair and will conduct the course.

For more information or questions email: sjngc@mchsi.com.

Submitted by:

Sharon Johnson

FFGC Short Course North Chairman.

**Summary**: Short Course North is scheduled for 12 and 13 August 2021, location to be determined. This year’s theme is “Defend Florida: Its Beauty, Resources, and History.” Profit is shared with FFGC.

# SHORT COURSE – TROPICAL

# SMOKEY BEAR-WOODSY OWL

# SOCIAL MEDIA

# S**OLAR ENERGY/WIND POWER**

# STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Strategic Planning Committee

Gina V. Jogan, Chairman

January Board of Directors’ Meeting, 2021

Your Strategic Planning Committee continues to look at issues facing FFGC as we go forward in our ADVISORY capacity, looking at and assessing the immediate and long range needs of the organization.

The new **MATCHING GRANTS PROGRAM** is off to a great start for its inaugural debut ….you will hear from Marge Hendon, 1st VP and Chairman of the Finance Committee on what has taken place….Grant winners will be announced at the upcoming 2021 Convention in Kissimmee.

**MEMBERSHIP RETENTION AND RECRUITMENT** remains an issue with this organization. Do you read and use the membership messages the Membership team sends out? Do you have a member chairman in your club? Without members, we have no organization! Please actively recruit new members!

Do you prefer to have your ***FLORIDA GARDENER* MAGAZINE** in print or would you liketo receive it two weeks early and on line? You can let the FFGC HQ office know that you want to ‘opt out’ of getting the printed version…..just give them a call…..and spread the word.

All the official **FORMS** listed on the FFGC website have been updated. These forms must have the official FFGC logo on them and be in a consistent format. Those belonging to other entities, such as FFSJ (Judges) or TriCouncil (LD, GS or ES) have their own logos and are linked to those entities. The team (Carol Wood and Ingrid Velez) is working to have all forms fillable online as well.

**Please note** that all monies are to go directly to the FFGC Treasurer with notation as to what the money is for in the MEMO line….Our FFGC Insurance and liability limits the number of people in the organization who can legally handle the monies of the organization. The Treasurer will inform chairmen of funds received.

Donations to the **100th ANNIVERSARY of FFGC** are slow coming in. Please consider this in your club’s 2021 budget…or give from your personal budget for the coming year…..you can now donate directly using the **DONATE** button on the FFGC website. Some items planned for the celebration may have to be sidelined for lack of funds.

**FIND-A-CLUB** is a new initiative created so that folks looking for a garden club can simply type in their zip code and find a club near them.

President-elect, Marge Hendon, is re-organizing and re-sizing the FFGC **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** for her administration….. combining/deleting/adding some chairmanships to come more in line with those of National Garden Clubs as well as the needs of FFGC.

In Summary: The STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE continues to be here for YOU and this organization and will research issues that you bring to us…don’t be shy….no suggestion is to small or to big!

Gina V. Jogan

# TOURS & TRAVEL

# TREES & REFORESTATION

# TRI-COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Inger Jones

 **FFGC BOARD MEETING**

**President Tri-Council**

**Zoom Meeting**

**January 14, 2021**

**Good afternoon President Al Latina and Board Members,**

**Due to covid-19 the activities of councils have slowed down. Some of the NGC school have converted to Zoom, while others have postponed their courses until further notice. Most NGC schools are being offered via zoom which allows all members to avail themselves of these schools, no matter the states location.**

**Next week we have Environmental School Course II in District XI and Gardening School Course IV in District VI. As of this date we do not have any new schools being offered in Florida so check the website for the latest information.**

**Our Landscape Design Consultants Council hosted a webinar about StormScaping based on the book b well-known author Pamela Crawford, which was well received.**

**It is my feeling that NGC schools will continue to use the Zoom platform and will be the choice even after covid-19.**

**Environmental alerts are still being sent by this President to keep members apprised of what is going on in our state as many things do not make the papers or the TV..for instance the current “Land and Recreation Grants Program? – Promotes and fosters partnerships to enhance and sustain Florida’s natural and cultural resources and provide increased outdoor recreational opportunities for Florida’s citizens and visitors.**

**Translated this program allows for acquisition or development by private enterprise of land for public outdoor recreation sites and facilities for the general public.**

**Tri-Council will continue to spread words of encouragement to garden clubs, circles and districts to host ZOOM NGC Schools, remembering that:**

**WE ARE ALL CONNECTED SO WE ARE ALL AFFECTED.**

**Thank you,**

Inger Jones

# VIRTUAL PLATFORM TEAM

Report: Virtual Platform Team

Kelley Wood

Chairman

January, 2021

Our newly formed team was very busy during this reporting period. We were brought together ahead of the September Board of Director’s meeting to learn how to use Zoom, train all the board members, and hold meeting.

The effort was a great success and we were able to hold all of the needed committee meetings ahead of the board meeting.

The 2-day board of director’s meetings were held via zoom with great success.

The team is now working on setting up and holding committee meetings in preparation for the January board of director’s meeting as well as investigating the possibility of using Zoom to augment the upcoming spring convention.

# WEBSITE EDITOR

FFGC Website Editor

Sue Roberts

Jan. 13, 2021

I have continued to update the website and make organizational changes since the last board meeting. The ‘Privacy’ committee evaluated the site and recommended several files that we should protect as they contain individual’s address and phone information. In order to access these files you must now login to the FFGC website. Most of our files and informational and remain accessible by anyone without a login.

In order to login you must have an accurate email in your FFGC profile. If you do not have one or do not know if you do, please contact me or Jenn Cowen in the office. We can update your profile. Your email is your id on the system so you cannot update it yourself. You can change or add a password using the ‘forgot password’ option on the login screen.

I also am working on cleaning up the website. There are many old files that are no longer needed. Kelley Wood and I are defining a naming convention and organization plan so that we can track and manage the files on the website. I have deleted many as old brochures and course flyers are no longer needed for events that have passed. Also I have been deleting old copies of files when there are more recent ones on the site.

Please remember to submit a calendar form to the corresponding secretary for any new events you schedule. Also include an brochure or flyer that want to be available through the website event listings. This is the way they get to the events calendar and for courses they also will be added to the Education page. If you need a form updated or would like to have your chairmanship’s form made enterable please let me know. I have the software to create enterable pdf forms. This will become important as we change chairman over the next few months.

# WEKIVA YOUTH CAMP

 FFGC Wekiva Youth Camp Report

Christy Linke

January 11, 2021

This Chairman is excited about holding WVT, Wekiva Volunteer Training February 5-7th. Open House is scheduled for the 7th from 11:00 – 1:00 p.m. Things will be a bit different but the atmosphere of being at camp will be the same. Masks will be worn inside buildings, social distancing whenever possible to be in effect, hand sanitizing and portable hand washing stations will be outside buildings and temperatures will be taken upon arriving at camp. What will not change are the daily activities that are planned for the volunteers where we will follow the camp schedule as campers do. Saturday the 6th we will have a dedication in honor of Ed Schaag where a plaque will be revealed above Tequesta. Carolyn and her family will be present for this honor.

With COVID we all understand that volunteers will be leery to help this year. We are doing everything possible to take that fear away. We at camp Wekiva want everyone to stay safe and healthy not just for volunteers but for all who make this camp work.

Tina and I will hold a workshop at convention about volunteering at camp 2021 where we will explain a day a camp. Volunteer can sign up there for volunteering at camp this summer.

This chairman is excited about being the Wekiva Chairman the next two summers of camp. Tina will be a hard act to follow. She has made the hand down of camp to this chairman a smooth transition and I thank her for that. Camp starts the week of June 20 and runs through the week of July 25.

So here’s to Camp Wekiva!!!

Christy Linke

Wekiva WVT and Critter Camp Chairman

SUMMARY: WVT will be held February 5-7 with open house being on the 7th. COVID protocol will be in place for the safety of all who attend WVT. The same will be our goal for camp 2021.

FFGC Wekiva Youth Camp Report

Tina V. Tuttle

13 January 2021

By now many of you realize that planning for the Wekiva Youth Camp is a year-round sport!

Early in October this chairman drove to headquarters to drop off and pick up various camp items including the newly published 500 copies of the *Wekiva Song Book*, a future fundraiser. This chairman made final updates to the Virtual Officers’ Tour Powerpoint. Many slides related to different phases of camp including WVT, Open House, useful forms, a recap of virtual camp, and dates of camp, etc. This information was made available to all districts and is on the FFGC website. This chairman brought back and went through boxes of old (2007-2010) financial files from Wekiva Youth Camp before disposing of them. Added new information to the existing Wekiva inventory and shared it with the treasurer and next WYC Chairman.

In November this chairman began preparing a Powerpoint about the 6 different programs held at Wekiva. This chairman has been invited to present this new program at a combined meeting of all clubs and circles in the Garden Club of Jacksonville in March 2021. An outline/handout was also prepared to accompany the Powerpoint. This will also be presented at a convention workshop along with a bird-related craft idea. This chairman was notified by President Latina that Ann and Troy Todd, of Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club and former Wekiva Wheels coordinators, wanted to make a ‘sizeable’ donation to the Youth Camp. We set up a meeting in December with the Todds, their daughter Cindy Zimmermann and husband Peter, and the VPs. Also invited were Robert Brooks of Wekiwa Springs State Park, Candace Marshall from Wells Fargo and philanthropy specialist and the President of Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club.

The first week of December we held the Wekiva Youth Camp Committee Zoom meeting at 6pm CST. We had a full agenda of items to discuss including a review of the proposed budget, COVID related issues for WVT and camp, repairs and the wish list, staggering registrations in January, and other items. The Wekiva donation meeting with Ann and Troy Todd and their daughter Cindy/Peter Zimmermann, Candace Marshall from Wells Fargo, Robert Brooks and the 3 VPs with President Latina was held on 16 December at 11am at Wekiva in the Craft Hall. We were surprised and thankful that the size of the donation was $700,000 with more to come when the estate is settled. This chairman presented ideas for a multi-purpose classroom space and needed renovations to camp but that idea, although approved by the family, was too small in scope and they expressed a wish that the donation be used for new structures, not renovations or rehabilitation to existing buildings. While at camp this chairman retrieved old staff health files to destroy and dropped off new Track Cards for nature and the Ed Schaag plaque for installation on Tequesta. The Euchee shower door was measured for replacement. This chairman turned over 3 boxes of Wekiva related files and a thumb drive to the next chairman, Christy Linke. Upon arrival back home, this chairman began the first steps to get a new building for WYC underway with conceptual drawings, timeline and cost estimates. Working with Devon V-Dabbs and other program coordinators, we brainstormed on more ideas for how to best use the WYC donation, including a conference room/recreational complex with seating for 200, that incorporates the duplex classroom building, storage, a kitchen, restrooms and more. This larger scale plan meets with the State Park’s 10-year Unit Management Plan. Also, the idea of dining hall expansion and Primitive’s pole barns, a gazebo, and dock with bat house were discussed! We are working with the Make Design Studio architects in Orlando, Matt Kelly and Zach Hovarth to prioritize the space requirements. Another meeting with the Todds and our architects is tentatively set for 5 February 2021. An article for *The Florida Gardener* has been submitted to inform our members of this generous donation and plans for the new building.

This chairman started off the new year by completing all paperwork and applications for NGC Award # MP-4-7-C-iv (Membership and Promotion Video) with a video on CD provided by the Wekiva Webmaster outlining and recognizing our team effort to create the virtual camp for summer 2020. All was sent to the FFGC Awards Chairman. Early in January this chairman sent a Building Program to Make architects for concept drawing and pricing. Hoping to use many LEEDS Certification examples in our new building. January 2nd saw 144 out of the available 160 online, EasyReg registrations to the camp special programs (Critter Camp, 7th grade naturalist, 7th grade tent camping and 8th grade canoeing) and the next night, January 3rd, registrations for grades 3-6 totaled 140 in the first hour! The registrations were staggered this year to prevent overloading the EasyReg system. Volunteers and staff began to register as well. Camp Registrar and Camp Director monitored the progress and were able to solve problems in real time.

This chairman plans to attend the Wekiva Volunteer Training February 5-7, 2021 and help present a workshop about Camp at the 2021 convention in Daytona Beach.

 Tina Tuttle

Wekiva Youth Camp Chairman 2019-2021

SUMMARY: Plans are in place for the summer 2021 session of Wekiva Youth Camp and registrations are underway. Week 1 begins 20 June. A generous donation by the Ann and Troy Todd Charitable Fund will be used to build a 200-person conference center/recreation building at camp in the near future.

# WILDFLOWER REPORT

 FLORIDA WILDFLOWER

 FOUNDATION LIAISON

 Carolyn Schaag

 January 13, 2021

While the world reeled because of COVID-19 many people who had never gardened turned to their landscapes for distraction and the demand for wildflower plants and seeds soared. Visits to the FWF website and requests for information and participation on the social media channels accelerated and the in-person engagements were replaced with online webinars which thousands of people attended. FWF published a new book, *Native Plants for Florida Gardens,* worked with grant recipients to revise deadlines, and retooled the Seedlings for Schools program when schools closed.

FWF deepened their partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation and even began hosting its official Wildflower Program pages on the FWF website. FWF signed a new partnership agreement with the Florida Native Plant Society and surveyed roadsides for naturally occurring wildflowers in 13 counties. FWF is supporting the city of Gainesville in certification as a Bee City USA affiliate.

FWF Board Members have volunteered to assist the FFGC Path of Sunshine Chairman in judging their award applications.

Sale of the new Wildflower Tag continues to increase. Proceeds from the sale of each Wildflower Tag strengthens the ability to grow and conserve Florida’s native wildflowers. The vision of many FFGC members is blooming throughout our beautiful state of Florida.

 Carolyn Schaag, Liaison

 Florida Wildflower Foundation

SUMMARY: The vision of many FFGC Members is blooming throughout our beautiful state

 of Florida.