**APRIL 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTOR’s MEETING**

**OFFICER AND DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS**

**CONVENTION MEETING CANCELLED**

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## PRESIDENT’S REPORT

## 1ST VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

1st VP Report

Marjorie H. Hendon

April 16, 2020

This 1st VP has a very heavy heart knowing all that has been planned for and now cancelled due to COVID-19. Around the state of Florida flowers shows, garden club meetings, the Deep South Convention, FFGC’s state convention, and the list of activities goes on and on, as to activities that have been cancelled.

We do have some bright spots within our State that this VP has enjoyed taking part or has enjoyed hearing about. Our Boca Raton Garden Club has been making and shipping hundreds of face mask to first responders around the nation. Money that was budgeted for our Board’s ‘thank you’ dinner at convention was donated to provide 1,000 meals to Winter Park and Orlando’s first responders and families in need. Many members said that they have not worked this hard in their gardens in some time.

Our State Convention’s Flower Show committee had worked hours on the show theme which was, Sounds of Music. This VP contacted the show chairman to ask if she and her committee would consider putting on this show at the convention in 2022. So many of our members had already bought material for their designs, the staging had been printed, the program layout was completed, and it was cancelled. The show chairman was pleased to be asked and said she and her team would be excited to be able to present this show.

## Summary: All garden club events around the state of Florida had to be cancelled. The garden clubs are stepping up to help first responders. This VP will reuse the flower show theme from this year’s cancelled convention for her state flower show in 2022.

Sincerely,

Marjorie H. Hendon

## 2nd VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

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FFGC 2VP Annual Report

Tina V. Tuttle

16 April 2020

~~Tampa Hilton Downtown~~

25-26 April 2019 Wekiva clinic and office building burned to the ground. Attributed to electrical causes.

April- May (ongoing) Financial aid to parents (processed over 30 requests for money—gave no more than 50% or $120 per camper), fingerprinting volunteers/kitchen staff/park host—processed over 80 resubmissions or screenings), ordered necessary items for camp through Amazon, etc.

2 May Attended NGC installation in Biloxi, MS.

10 May Met with Wekiwa Springs State park personnel about burned down clinic/office building. Discussed replacing building and preferred site.

12-13 May NGC 2022 convention site visit to Orlando, St Augustine and Jacksonville with Mary Warshauer, 2VP NGC.

May 11 EPCOT Mother’s Day at Flower and Garden Festival participant creating take-home designs for guests.

June 9-11 Attended FFGC/UF Short Course Gainesville.

June 11-17 Wekiva Youth Camp Orientation and opening day for boys’ week 1, purchased washer and dryer for dining hall (B&M account for $800), 7th grade tent camping supplies (over $800), clinic star-up supplies (over $350), etc. Canteen spent (over $900 for starting weeks)

June 15 Attended Blue Star Memorial Marker dedication in Tampa and gave Military Tribute

June 17-18 Attended one day of SEEK at Chinsegut Hill as chaperone/counselor

June 30-July 13 Wekiva Youth Camp weeks 3 and 4, Coed/Critter/LIT and girls’ week. Helped with Naturalist Program all of week 4.

July 17 Burned/destroyed 2007 Camp medical and personnel records.

July 20-27 Wekiva Youth Camp girls’ week 6 and pack out

July 22 End of Camp meetings with program coordinators/directors and state park personnel.

July 24 Attended FFGC Finance meeting at HQ. Presented a 10% raise in registration fee to Wekiva and 10% raise for all Wekiva staff personnel.

August 8-9 Attended Short Course North. Provided door prizes and plants.

August 19-20 Attended and taught FSP for Flower Show School II in Gulf Breeze, FL and provided all meal service.

8-12 September Attended September Board of Directors, Finance, Strategic Planning and Wekiva Youth Camp meetings at HQ.

11 September Met with President of Florida Sculptures Association, Jene Omens, to consider possibility of commissioning a sculpture to commemorate our 100th anniversary.

13 September Met with LaToya Jerido at Lexington Hotel in Jacksonville and took a tour in consideration of host hotel for 2024 and 2025 conventions.

24 September and 27 October Gave power point program to Pintado Park Garden Club and Honeysuckle Garden Club on “What Garden Club is Really all About”.

26 September Met with local Horticulture Study Group about NGC Flower Show classification/sub-classification rules.

7-25 October FFGC Officer’s Tour of 12 Districts. Prepared Power Point presentation for the officers and presented 2 main topics (Wekiva, 100th anniversary/strategic planning). Made arrangements for rental cars and drove over 2,500 miles.

24 October In coordination with Cissy Richardson and Stacey Helms, signed contracts for 2024 and 2025 conventions at Lexington Hotel in Jacksonville.

30 October Signed, notarized and returned contract paperwork with Jacksonville Tourist Development Council for 2024 and 2025 conventions

31 October Gave Invocation at Blue Star Marker Re-dedication in Fort Walton Beach for Garnier Beach Garden Club

November Reviewed all old state flower show schedules for 2024 state flower show. District 1 Judges Council will write the schedule to be held at Garden Club of Jacksonville building.

November-December Worked with Treasurer, Jana Walling, on Wekiva’s nearly $200K Budget for 2020.

16 November Personally recognized by National DAR and received Founder’s Medal for Education!

18 November Attended Blue Star Marker Dedication and gave ‘acceptance’ in Milton hosted by Milton Garden Club.

20 November Spoke to Department of Health, Karen Sikes, regarding Wekiva camper situation: Connor LaSure. Sent letter on behalf of Nurse J. Motsinger. Follow up call and provided more information on 16 December.

1-4 December Gave a series of 3 programs for Naples Garden Club.

4 December Made reservation and attended Officer’s Christmas dinner in Altamonte Springs.

5 December Attended Award Winners Day at HQ. Judged top awards with executive officers.

7 December Prepared agenda for 8 January 2020 Wekiva Youth Camp meeting.

10 December Attended Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs Christmas luncheon. Introduced entertainment and procured Salvation Army Red Kettle, netting $142.55.

11December Judged holiday flower show in Valparaiso. Attended their Christmas luncheon.

21 December Gave program on “Colonial Plants” to members of the DAR, Pensacola chapter.

27 December Prepared 6 contracts for Wekiva employees for President Latina’s signature and sent for camp t-shirt bids to 2 businesses.

28 December Sent in 3 written reports for January 2020 BOD meeting. Prepared article for *The Florida Gardener,* “Our Third Decade—FFGC History”.

6-9 January 2020 Attended January Board of Directors, Finance, Strategic Planning and Wekiva Youth Camp meetings at HQ. Secured restaurant reservation for Officer’s Dinner.

January-March Worked on Deep South Garden Club Convention for 12-16 April in Tampa as Co-Chairman. *This convention was canceled*.

24 January Program/Power Point on “Seven Plants that changed the World” for Dogwood Garden Club.

26 January Participated in tree planting for Arbor Day at Barrineau Park Community Center.

7-9 February Attended Wekiva Volunteer Training. Prepared and provided all materials to conduct the 2-day Stepping Stone craft session for 32 volunteers.

9 February Attended Wekiva Youth Camp Open House.

February 10 Attended Floral Design Program at Deland Garden Club.

February 11-14 Worked at Headquarters with LC Blass to reconcile membership rosters with membership platform names by club. Rearranged kitchen cabinets. Cleaned grounds near dumpster.

February 14 Met with **new** president of the Florida Sculptors Guild to work out timeline and contract for creating 100th anniversary sculpture for headquarters garden.

February 17-19 Taught Flower Show Procedure, provided horticulture specimens, ways and means and provided all meals for Flower Show School III in Gulf Breeze.

February 15-March 15 Continued to work at home on reconciling membership names and numbers with administrative access to the membership platform.

10 March Program/Power Point on “What Garden Club is all About” for Milton Garden Club.

15 March -present Working on Wekiva Youth Camp: Created a spreadsheet for volunteers by week and session, ordered required materials for camp including T-shirts, EnviroScape, cameras, binoculars, photo holders, seals, etc. Began to process expiring background checks with DCF. Began processing campership Financial Assistance requests. To date, have given over $1300 in camperships.

19 March Reacted to COVID-19 restrictions as pertain to Wekiva Youth Camp. State Park is closed until 15 May and will make a decision to open or continue to be closed at that time. Following recommendations of the American Camp Association regarding communicable diseases. Communicating with parents, volunteers and staff as to “wait and see” mode for now.

Tina V. Tuttle, 2VP, Wekiva Youth Camp Chairman

**Summary:** The past year has been busy and fruitful with travel and attending/giving programs, educational events, workshops, etc. The main duty of the 2VP is the operation of our Wekiva Youth Camp. While summer camp 2019 went well, summer camp for 2020 is in limbo due to COVID-19. Planning continues even though the outcome is uncertain at this time.

## RECORDING SECRETARY

## CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

DISTRICT 1

## District 2

## DISTRICT 3

## DISTRICT 4

## DISTRICT 5

## DISTRICT 6

## DISTRICT 7

District VII Director

Gwen Carter

April 16, 2020

District VII Clubs, over the past several months, have supported our communities with Fundraisers for youth scholarships, educational workshops, and civic beautification programs.

To encourage a love of gardening and environmental education in tomorrow’s leaders, clubs sponsor Junior Gardener Clubs in Orlando and Longwood. A High School Garden Club is located in Clermont where students grow vegetables on a 40,000 sq. ft. garden and donate vegetables to Second Harvest Food Bank and local families.

Community outreach is standard practice for District VII Clubs. Clubs promote scholarships to Edible Schoolyard, Green Schools Grant Program, Lake Cares Food Pantry, children in a day nursery receive new toys, art supplies, and food for their pantry, University and College Scholarships, Wekiva Youth Camp, and SEEK.

In addition to monetary donations, District VII Clubs landscape and maintain several town parks, maintain a Butterfly Garden in a local elementary school, and honors a residential garden each month. A monthly plant or floral design is placed in city government buildings, public libraries, and nursing homes to share the beauty of horticulture and design. A decorated holiday tree is given to a lucky family and a decorated holiday tree is displayed at a city’s planning office.

When a garden club member is no longer able to maintain their garden, clubbers create container gardens, bring to the member's home, and help the member set up a patio garden in their home.

District VII gained new members after the completion of District VII and the Judges Council NGC Floral Design Study Units 1-9.

District VII planted 1262 trees this year. 200 volunteers planted 1000 trees for 1000 years in one day at Tucker Ranch in Winter Garden.

Camillia Garden Club, Clermont Garden Club, and Lakes and Hills Garden Club celebrated 70 continuous years in FFGC, receiving Emerald Certificates. Robinswood Garden Club has been in FFGC for 60 continuous years, receiving a Ruby Certificate.

Clubs throughout District VII hosted theme flower shows to educate members and public in horticulture, floral design, and photography.

We are looking forward to gathering for District VII's Spring General Meeting on May 7, 2020, hosted by Winter Park Garden Club.

In conclusion, Mr. President, through our Club’s benevolence, District VII continues to build positive community relations within our neighborhoods. With our 18 individual clubs, 1 advanced club, and 1 district club, District VII strives to promote "A Melting Pot Garden that Sprouts Creativity and Depth."

## DISTRICT 8

## DISTRICT 9

## DISTIRCT 10

## DISTRICT 11

District XI Director

JerylAnn B Decker

April, 2020

It has been a busy Time for District XI. Our District has been buzzing with activities ,speakers, and

field trips

Wow! they will be buzzing around in schools, neighborhoods, and community planting, educating

District XI and District XII Judges Council will finish Flower Show school course IV March 15-19.

Fort Lauderdale is continuing their work with their youth gardening and floral design. They will

again be and sending campers to camp Wekiva. Guest speaker Kurt Jablonski, 2017 National

winner spoke on African Violets. Their annual Flower Show and Secret Garden Tour, and Plant

Sales. March and April meetings have temporarily been put on hold.

The Coral Springs club plans on hosting the Environmental School in November of this year. If

everything clears up. They’re busy collecting bottle caps to help repair wheelchairs for the

handicapped, empty medicine bottles for doctors without borders, old eyeglasses as well as corks

to help our trees and oceans. Their annual Garden fest in conjunction with the cites Art Festival

has been cancelled due to Coronavirus. Speakers included at club meetings BeesMatter and

Recycling.

Parkinsonia Circle visited the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens and worked at sensory

garden at a Boys and Girls Club.

Three of our clubs Lauderdale By the Sea, Pompano Beach, and Lighthouse Point joined together

to have a Flower show. Some magnificent designs are in the works.

In February our Hollywood club had their annual home and Garden Tour . Their president Susan

was awarded lifetime membership.

The ladies of Pompano Beach were models during their annual Fashion Show and homemade soup

luncheon.

Beautiful and unique hats where on display during Light House Points, annual Mad Hatter

luncheon and Chinese Auction.

Cordia Garden Circle sponsored a Day of Games, a fundraiser to procure funds for Camp Wekiva

Camperships.

Our gardens and clubs are being diversified and growing both in size and culture.

Our Spring District Meeting will be hosted by Fort Lauderdale Garden Club, but is temporarily put

on hold until news of virus clears.

We will be contributing scholarship funds to future SEEK, and Camp Wekiva.

We are looking forward to learning with our informative speakers, classes and

sharing our knowledge with our youth and each other.

## DISTRICT 12

District 12

District XII Report

Jean Hawa, District Director

April 2020

**Coral Gables Garden Club**: Program highlights were as follows: “Every Landscape Matters for Insect Pollinators” with Dr. Jaret Daniels, Associate Professor of Entomology at UF and the Ferns of South Florida, “Up Close and Personal” with Plant Biologist Jennifer Possley of Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. Mayfair Hydro conducted a workshop: Designing for the Metropolitan Miami Flower Show. Unfortunately, a major fundraiser, the Annual Coral Gables GC Garden Tour had to be cancelled due to COVID-19.

**Coral Pines Garden Club**: On January 27, 2020 club members, spouses, and the unbeknownst honoree began planting an endangered butterfly habitat in the shape of a butterfly with endangered butterfly plants at East Ridge at Cutler Bay. Two weeks later, on February 10th, it was dedicated to Nancy Fehr for her many years of service to NGC (67 years), FFGC and Coral Pines GC.

The garden was developed with the help of Dr. Jaeson Clayborn (president of Miami Blue, the local chapter of North American Butterfly Association, and professor at FIU and Miami Dade College) and his students, who worked with the club in choosing the right plants and designing the space. “Connect to Protect” (Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden Pine Rockland conservation group) assisted with guidance on establishing a watering schedule for the garden’s plants. Local businesses contributing to the project.

**Ken Pines Garden Club**: Meeting in members’ homes, the following programs were thoroughly enjoyed by all: “Bees and Flowers/Make a Beehive”, “Re-Potting Orchids”, and the annual “Plant Exchange”.

**Marathon Garden Club:** On February 17th a “Decoupage a Clay Pot” workshop was held in collaboration with The Art Studio in Marathon. The pots were all beautiful and it was (relatively) easy to decoupage. Meteorologist Jon Rizzo shared his knowledge on Climate & Change– sea Level Rise at the February 21st meeting. The program of February 26th was “Plight of the Monarch”. Speakers, Jim West and Sookie, entertained the group with captivating videos of the monarch lifecycle and interesting facts of migration patterns that include the Florida Keys. Jim spent a generous amount of time fielding questions and then hosted a butterfly plant sale.

**Miami Beach Garden Club**: The shutdown of Miami-Dade County was looming. But, by taking a leap of faith, the Flower Show Preview Friday evening and the March 14th Flower Show and Garden Tour were huge successes. President Leticia Delatorre Gunn went home with three ribbons. The wonderful weather helped make the six gardens the perfect places to tour.

**Pinecrest Garden Club**: On Tuesday, February 18, 2020 a Blue Star Memorial Marker was unveiled to honor veterans at Wayside Park on the corner of U.S. 1 and Killian Drive in Pinecrest. The dedication co-chaired by Christian Armstrong and Cecilia Prahl was very well planned. The Pinecrest Police Department Honor Guard raised the American and POW/MIA flags, the invocation was given by a Ret. US Navy Commander and Chaplain of American Legion Post 31, Julie Todaro (Miami Beach GC) sang the “Star-Spangled Banner”, and District XII Director Jean Hawa gave a brief history of the Blue Star Memorial Markers. A very proud President Kelley Schild spoke of the importance of the importance of the day and the club’s pledge to help Pinecrest maintain the marker. FFGC Blue Star Memorial Chair Rosita Aristoff made several impassioned comments. Also participating were the Mayor of Pinecrest and several Council Members. Ending the ceremony were a Palmetto Middle student playing “Taps” on trumpet and a bagpiper playing “Amazing Grace “. A reception followed.

The “Once in a Blue Moon” Fundraiser on Sunday, March 8, 2020 was well attended. The early evening event had plenty of delicious food, tasty beverages, and much camaraderie.

**South Dade Garden Club**: “Love was in the air at the South Dade Garden Club...A Love of Flowers, that is!” The featured February 13th speaker was Jennifer Marsh, a Florida native who has owned and operated a flower shop for 15 years. She showed the mechanics of floral design offering tips and tricks to making creative and beautiful flower arrangements. Then, the well-renowned “Mango Man”, Dr. Richard Campbell was a guest speaker at the March 12th meeting.

**South Miami Garden Club**: In February, home-grown roses were brought by guest speaker Barbara LaPladd of the Tropical Rose Society to teach the audience how to grow hardy old garden roses in the zone 10 environment.

On Saturday, March 14th, “*An Evening in a Tropical Garden*” was a delightful fundraising experience the attendees who enjoyed a sumptuous buffet and libations while listening to a violinist. Vice-President Sandy Oltz said that Mother Nature cooperated with a picture-perfect South Florida evening in a beautiful outdoor setting. Auction Items were limited to items reflecting the Tropical Theme such as hand painted pots, original tropical artwork from noted artists, plants, and gardening items.