

April 2022 Board Meeting

Board Chairmen Reports

Note: to access a specific report look it up in the table of contents and note the page number. Go to the box in the upper left corner where it shows 1 of 81 and over key the '1' with the page you want.

Table of Contents

4-5 STAR MEMBERS	4
ADOPT-A-PARK.....	5
AFFILIATES MEMBERSHIP	5
AMAZON PROJECT	6
ARBOR DAY	7
ARBORETA & BOTANTICAL GARDENS.....	7
AWARDS – FFGC.....	8
BEES.....	10
BIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES.....	11
BLUE STAR & GOLD STAR MEMORIAL MARKERS.....	12
BOI Editor	14
BRICK PATHS	15
BYLAWS-STANDING RULES	15
CALENDAR – FFGC EVENTS	15
CHAPLAIN.....	15
CONVENTION COORDINATOR.....	15
CONVENTION COMMITTEE 2022	16
CONVENTION – FLOWER SHOW 2022	16
CORAL REEF RESTROATION.....	16
DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS UNIFIED PROJECT	17
DUES AMBASSADOR	18
EARTH STEWARD.....	19
ENDANGERED PLANTS	20
ENVIRONMENTAL ALERTS.....	20

FFGC 100 th Birthday	21
FINANCE COMMITTEE.....	23
FLORAL DESIGN STUDY	25
FFSJ PRESIDENT.....	25
FLORIDA WILDFLOWER LIAISON	27
FLOWER SHOW EVALUATION/AWARDS	28
FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULES	28
FUN WITH FLOWERS.....	29
GARDEN THERAPY.....	30
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY.....	32
HALL OF FAME.....	33
HEADQUARTERS AND ENDOWMENT (& GROUNDS).....	34
INSURANCE	36
INVASIVE SPECIES.....	37
JUNIOR GARDENERS	38
LIFE MEMBERSHIPS.....	39
MATCHING GRANTS.....	40
MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION	42
MEMBERSHIP	43
MEMBERSHIP RETENTION	44
NGC CONVENTION 2022	45
NGC ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL CHAIRMAN.....	47
NGC GARDEN STUDY SCHOOL CHAIRMAN	49
NGC LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL CHAIRMAN	49
NGC SCHOOLS CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN	50
NGC SPECIAL PROJECT LIAISON	51
NGC & DSGC YOUTH CONTESTS.....	53
PARKS – TRAILS - GREENWAYS	53
PENNY PINES.....	54
PHOTOGRAPHER	55
PILLAR OF PRIDE.....	55
PLANNED GIVING	56

PROGRAMS & SPEAKERS.....	57
PROTOCOL.....	58
RECLAMATION & RECYCLING.....	59
ROADSIDE BEAUTIFICATION/ PATHS OF SUNSHINE	60
SCHOLARSHIP - DSGC, NGC.....	62
SCHOLARSHIP – FFGC.....	63
SCOUTING LIAISON	64
SEEK CONFERENCE.....	65
SHORT COURSE – UF.....	66
SHORT COURSE – NORTH.....	67
SHORT COURSE TROPICAL	68
SMOKEY BEAR-WOODSY OWL.....	69
SOCIAL MEDIA.....	70
SOLAR ENERGY/WIND POWER	71
STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE	72
TOURS & TRAVEL	73
TREES & REFORESTATION	74
TRI-COUNCIL PRESIDENT.....	76
VIRTUAL PLATFORM TEAM.....	77
WATER AND WETLANDS	78
WEBSITE EDITOR.....	79
WEKIVA YOUTH CAMP	80
WEKIVA VOLUNTEER TRAINING.....	81

4-5 STAR MEMBERS

4/5 Star Chair
Sally Flanagan
April 13/14 2022

This chair is reporting on the FFGC members who attained Congratulatory status of 4 or 5 Star since our last report. There are 5 new Four Star recipients namely

Mercy Abrams

Susan Hillson

Emily Kane

Janice Miller

Nancy Miller

And one Five Star recipient

Inger Jones.

We are very impressed with this number of new recipients

This brings the total of Four Star recipients for Florida since the 4 Star Program was initiated by NGC to 37 with 24 in Good Standing

And in Florida the number of Five Star recipients is 13 since inception of the program with 9 in Good standing.

Joan Pryor of Florida was the first recipient awarded 4 Stars by NGC as recorded in the NGC records.

Some of the recipients have passed and others are not recorded in the Florida Garden Club records at this time, but all should be lauded for the hard work that attaining the status entails.

Hopefully with more NGC Schools being planned in person and virtually, we will add to the numbers in these prestigious categories.

Respectfully submitted

Sally Flanagan

ADOPT-A-PARK

AFFILIATES MEMBERSHIP

AMAZON PROJECT

Amazon Chairman Report
Linda Feifarek-Johnson, chairman
April 12-14, 2022

FFGC has received over \$800 through the Amazon Smiles program! Thank all of you who are in this great program. To set up your FFGC Smile account please go to smile.amazon.com and set up FFGC as your Smiles charity or change your current charity to FFGC.

Amazon Prime customers can set up their mobile app accounts to always shop via Smile - Desktop and Mobile App (tablets, phones) are set up separately since they are different entries into the Amazon shopping experience.

Phone - In the phone app there is a menu icon on the bottom right (3 horizontal lines). Click the lines - this opens settings

- Country & Language
- Notification
- Permissions
- AmazonSmile**
- Alexa
- etc.

- Select AmazonSmile
- Select the Charity
- Turn AmazonSmile "On"

Your browser should remember to go to AmazonSmile - and that is the only place you have to "watch" to ensure your orders are "Smiled."

If you have any problems setting it up, please email me at feif@bellsouth.net or call at 352-356-2751. You can also google "how to change your charity on Amazon Smiles". It will walk you through the steps. FFGC receives a percentage of all amazon purchases made through the FFGC "Amazon Smiles" program. Use SMILE.AMAZON.COM rather than AMAZON.COM to log in to your amazon account.

ARBOR DAY

ARBORETA & BOTANTICAL GARDENS

AWARDS – FFGC

April 13, 2022

FFGC Awards Chair

Gwen Carter

All winning awards were reviewed and determined their compatibility with DSGC and NGC Awards using NGC and DSGC new handbooks. NGC applications were sent electronically with NGC cover sheets. DSGC did accept many applications for awards electronically, this year, except BOEs.

A spreadsheet of award winners was created for FFGC Treasurer to prepare checks for winning awards. 12 boxes (42 per box) of 2” Gold seals for pressing FFGC seal on certificates were ordered. Two boxes of seals were mailed to FFGC Floral Units 1-9 Chairman, Carol Lucia and 2 boxes of seals were mailed to Junior Gardener Chairman, Jennifer Barber.

I had the opportunity to work with the Convention Committee on award presentation, protocol, logistics, and securing Southlake ROTC Color Guard for the 95th Annual FFGC Convention opening.

Gathered winning awards from Junior Gardener Chair, Smokey the Bear/Woodsy Owl Chair, Youth/HS Chair, Flower Show Achievement Chair, Flower Show Related Chair, and Tree & Reforestation Chair.

Purchased twelve (12) bags for each District’s winning awards and information for District Director to be given to District Director at Convention when their awards are presented.

Worked with the FFGC Office Coordinator to order additional certificates and covers. Also, worked with the Office Coordinator to print winning certificates, put on embossed gold seal, stamp with President’s signature, place in cover. Later, certificated were put in District’s bag.

Awards Program with FFGC & DSGC winners were typed and emailed to Florida Gardener Editor and FFGC Historian.

Five (5) PowerPoint presentations were prepared for winning Districts on days their awards were presented. Also, FFGC and DSGC Top Honors PowerPoint presentation and speeches for FFGC #2 Outstanding Service Award, FFGC #8 Garden Club of the Year Award ,FFGC #10 Mentoring Award, DSGC #26 Mentor of the Year, and DSGC #30 Member Award of Honor were prepared for the last night of the Convention to honor recipients.

BARTRAM SOCIETY

Bartram Society of Florida

Kalia Baillene

April 12, 2022

The Bartram Society throughout Florida and the seven southeastern states that make up the Bartram Conference are making great strides in the efforts to create a National Corridor, being called the 'String of Pearls', which mark the locations where John and William, 'Billy' Bartram explored, documented, and collected the flora and fauna of the southern states. Each state has ongoing projects to place markers with information about what the Bartrams did and their areas.

The Bartram group in Palatka (Putnam County) has worked diligently to bring onboard other counties and Garden clubs to celebrate and teach others about the Bartram contributions. Volusia, Duval, St. Johns, Nassau, Clay, are some of the counties taking a pro-active stand to incorporate efforts to expand the Bartram legacy. All garden clubs are encouraged to join as an affiliate at no cost, to help boost our statewide credentials.

The Palatka group yearly sponsors the Bartram Frolic. This years frolic is April 23rd-24th. The Saturday event will be the best ever. The Saturday activities are held at the riverfront along Hwy. 17, downtown Palatka. Many interesting activities include: 1. 'Billy' Bartram, 2. the Long Warrior, with an amazing display of American Indian artifacts, 3. trader Joe Wiggins, with his furs/skins, many booths from the community (Garden Club of Palatka- plant sales), food trucks, storytellers, music, and more. Boat rides to areas Billy explored, kayaking, walking tours, bike tours, and more. Friday night is a free concert and reading of Bartram quotes. Sunday is a symposium with in-person and virtual options available. Event schedule attached.

Go to the website for complete details and registration for some events: bartramtrailsociety.com Also: email: bartramtrailsociety@gmail.com or follow on facebook: St. Johns River Bartram Frolic

Look for the Bartram Educational Display at Convention 2022

BEES

Bees
Christy Linke
April 7, 2022

This bee chairman is excited to say that she has been invited to speak at the District VIII spring meeting and will be doing the children's program once again at the Circle B Dirt Days. With places and events opening up once again after Covid it is good to get back out there and spread the word on Bees. This chairman has awarded two bee certificates "Promotion Bees through Knowledge". It is always good to get those in the mail and to know clubs are still doing what they can to pollinate our gardens.

Summary: As always my goal is to promote bees through knowledge and to spread the word of the importance of our native and honey bees.

BIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES

BLUE STAR & GOLD STAR MEMORIAL MARKERS

**Blue Star Memorial Program
Blue Star Memorial Chairman
Rosita Aristoff
April 12, 2022**

1) Pending Blue Star Memorial Markers Dedications

- The Hamlet Garden Club (District X) – Dedication for the new Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker received by this club is yet to be scheduled. (The club is no longer affiliated with the FFGC at this time).
- The Garden Club of Lakeland (District IX) – A new Blue Star Memorial Marker was received for their Veterans Park and a dedication is yet to be scheduled.

2) Completed Blue & Gold Star Memorial Markers Dedications

- Punta Gorda Garden Club (District IX) – Dedication for the new Blue Star Memorial Marker at Veterans Plaza in Laishley Park took place on April 20, 2021.
- Estero Island Garden Club (District IX) – The new Blue Star Memorial Marker at the Fort Myers Beach Library was dedicated on May 22, 2021.
- The Wellington Garden Club (District X) – A Gold Star Families Memorial Marker placed in Wellington's Veterans Park was dedicated on May 31, 2021.
- The Garden Club by the Sea (District VI) – Dedication for the new Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker took place on November 11, 2021

3) Replacement, Restoration or New Memorial Markers Activity

- The Garden Club of Crystal River (District V) – The club restored and relocated their Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker and rededicated it on June 14, 2021 (Flag Day).
- The Pompano Beach Garden Club (District XI) – The club restored to NGC standards their historic (1954) Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker and installed it in the median of US1.
- Okeechobee Garden Club (District X) – The orphaned marker along US 98 adjacent to Okeechobee's Veterans Memorial Park was damaged in a vehicle accident and the City's Public Works Director has inquired about a replacement marker.

- The Garden Club of Middleburg (District IV) – A new Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker has been ordered and a dedication is planned for May 21, 2022 (Armed Forces Day).
- The Destin Garden Club (District I) – A new Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker has been ordered and a dedication at the Destin Library is planned for June 23, 2022.
- The Camellia Garden Club (District VII) has ordered a new Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker for placement at the Eustis Library. Dedication is planned for November 11, 2022.

4) Miscellaneous

- An article related to adoption and refurbishment of orphaned Blue Star markers was submitted by this Chairman and published in the Summer Edition of *The Florida Gardener*.
- In cooperation with NGC staff, this chairman has completed a thorough update of the NGC's Blue & Gold Star online database for the state of Florida. Now the NGC's database is consistent with the FFGC's Blue & Gold Star Markers online database.

5) Summary

During the past year four new markers were dedicated and four new markers have been ordered.

Rosita A. Aristoff

Rosita A. Aristoff
Blue & Gold Star Memorial Chairman

BOI EDITOR

State Convention

BOI Chairman Report
Linda Feifarek-Johnson, Chairman
April 12-14, 2022

This Chairman has been doing updates to the BOI right along and on the 15th of every month I send them to the webmaster to update the BOI online. If you have any corrections or updates, please email them to me at feif@bellsouth.net.

BRICK PATHS

BYLAWS-STANDING RULES

CALENDAR – FFGC EVENTS

CHAPLAIN

CONVENTION COORDINATOR

CONVENTION COMMITTEE 2022

CONVENTION - FLOWER SHOW 2022

CORAL REEF RESTROATION

DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS UNIFIED PROJECT

Deep South Garden Clubs Unified Project
Gina Jogan, Chairman for Florida
Convention, April 20202

Native Plants, both flower and trees, planted at schools, city or municipal areas or in home landscapes...that encompasses just about everywhere our members, clubs and districts are planting....so, you can enter the Deep South Garden Clubs Unified Project and WIN.... Here are some projects you can enter:

Planting Native Trees, Flowers or Vegetables in your City.... Individual clubs, a group of clubs, Councils or Districts can apply

Planting Native Trees, Flowers or Vegetables in your Schools.... Individual clubs, a group of clubs, Councils or Districts can apply

Planting Native Flowers or trees in YOUR landscape.... Individual homeowners can apply

How simple and easy is that? You are working on these projects anyway, so why not take photographs of the 'before and after' of the project, put together the Book of Evidence and submit it to me. I will then submit them to the Deep South Unified Chairman and we'll wait and see if your are the winners.....and I have no doubt that your worthwhile projects are all WINNERS .

Go to the FFGC.org website and download the Deep South Garden Clubs Unified Project Award application for further details or contact me by phone or email.

- Make our President proud when she receives the Deep South Awards in your name next year in Kenner. LA
- Make your club or District or Council proud when you are named winner...and added to your coffers.
- Be proud of yourself when you pocket the winning check for improving your own landscape....then go by and plant more native plants and trees!

By doing any of these things, you are helping Mother Earth by going NATIVE!

DUES AMBASSADOR

Dues Chairman
Sue Roberts
April 12, 2022

On March 15 the new dues renewal letter and form was sent to all club and circle Presidents and put out to the website. Dues for 2022-2023 are due as usual on June 1st. I have already helped several clubs obtain an up to date listing of what FFGC has for their member roster. Since we have corrected so many clubs over the last two years and been busy all year adding new members these lists seem to match the clubs lists accurately.

The dues renewal payments should begin to arrive in late May and June. Processing of them will take place over the summer and plans are for the renewal process to be complete by Sept 1.

We have also been adding many new members (over 1300) this year. We have been keeping a detailed report by the month for the Nell Coe award and will continue to do this through out the next year. The new office coordinator has been trained to add new members and to keep this reporting up to date.

Summary: The dues renewal period is about to begin June 1- Sept 1. Each year the process gets easier as our records are much more accurate and match the clubs' rosters.

EARTH STEWARD

BOD Annual Report

Earth Steward Recognition

Kathy Siena

April 12, 2022

The Earth Steward Recognition was first introduced by FFGC's Tri-Council in 2013. This recognition is given to honor the recipient for outstanding efforts and stewardship of our natural resources. It can be awarded in the field of Gardening, Landscape Design, and Environment. This chairman requests that these efforts be clearly indicated on the application form biography section for the recipient.

The honor may be awarded by a club, district, an FFGC organization or by an individual. The recipient of the Earth Steward recognition is presented with a pin and certificate. The recipient is not required to be an FFGC member. The fillable application is available on the home page of the FFGC website under "Honoring Garden Club Members. The \$100 donation goes to the "Color Our Garden Fund", a part of the Headquarters and Endowment (H&E) budget for the continued stewardship and care of the grounds at FFGC Headquarters.

Summary:

The first Earth Steward Recognition was given in 2013. A total of 131 recognitions have been given out with seven of the 131 given in 2022 so far. An updated list of all recipients is available on the FFGC website at this link:

<https://ffgc.org/page-18059>

ENDANGERED PLANTS
ENVIRONMENTAL ALERTS

FFGC 100TH BIRTHDAY

Annual Report
100th Anniversary
Tina V. Tuttle
13 April 2022, Kissimmee, FL

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

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

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

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

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

*So far, 4 districts have contributed to the fund.

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

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

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

To date we have spent \$1,867.33 on **pins, ornaments and stickers**. Many commemorative items will be ordered in the coming months. The **2024 commemorative calendar** has been given to The Baker Press in Orlando, bidding \$5,761, to begin assembling an 8 ½" x 11" wall calendar featuring covers from all 58 *Florida Arrangement Calendars* since 1953, over 60 FFGC history factoids, important dates for FFGC and the 100th logo on the front cover. Sales of these 2,500 commemorative calendars will begin with the 2023 convention and tour, if not before. Our goal is to sell out! Thanks to Claudia Bates for chairing this project and to Dee Bartcher for gathering the majority of calendar front covers.

After this convention, a small cadre of District I members will conduct a **site visit** to the hotel that will host our 2024 and 2025 conventions in Jacksonville, as well as the site of the 2024 state biennial flower show. The 2024 convention committee is already up and running and promises you a wonderful 100th birthday party! The schedule for the **state flower show**, "Celebrating 100 Years!", has been written and will be turned over to the state judges' council for finishing touches and final execution. As part of the 2024 convention, we will have our *first-ever* **Members Art Show** so get busy creating your best work and win a cash prize! Along that same line, we will be creating a **commemorative quilt** for 2024. The simple

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

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

The 100-year **history articles** for *The Florida Gardener* are complete and will take the place of the proposed published history book. A suggestion from Kitty Wallace is to provide a compilation of the articles 'on request' to clubs, circles or individuals who might be interested. Also, Sue Roberts has created a 'History' tab on the FFGC website under 'Home' for easy access and reference. Thank you, Sue. And we certainly plan to honor our four **founding garden clubs** as well as any member born in 1924! We are hoping that all clubs and circles can plant a tree on **Florida Arbor Day, 19 January 2024**, at exactly 10am so we can get statewide publicity! And so much more is being planned to recognize this milestone in the history of FFGC and for your enjoyment!

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

Tina Tuttle

Summary: Plans are moving forward for our 100th anniversary celebration in 2024. Funds continue to be solicited and many projects are already underway. The goal is to make every member a participant! Make plans now to join us!!

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Finance Committee Report
FFGC First Vice President
Tina V. Tuttle
13 April 2022, Kissimmee, FL

Your Finance Committee met on **6 April 2022** by Zoom. After a welcome and opening remarks from our President, we settled into the business at hand, ratifying four E-Polls (Short Course Gainesville \$10,250 budget, Commemorative Calendar bids, Revised Wekiva Budget and purchase of new computer for Headquarters) and approving the minutes of our 10 January 2022 meeting.

Our fabulous **treasurer**, Jana Walling, reported on the robust fiscal health of the organization. She has prepared a proposed General Operating Budget for your approval. We reviewed our market Investments and the Profit and Loss statement as well as an historical recap of spending for the past 5 years. Jana is working with several of our Districts regarding their use of the FFGC Tax Identification Number. Jana has prepared our IRS 990 and 990T for Board of Directors approval.

Chairman of **H&E**, Sue Angle, shared the status and continuous upkeep of our headquarters building and grounds. Many repairs, upgrades and enhancements have taken place, including the hiring of our new Office Coordinator, Robin Hayes. Sue will share these and plans for the future in her report.

Head of Strategic Planning and Chairman of our **Matching Grants** program, Gina Jogan, shared information about the 11 grants totaling \$4,800 being given Wednesday night at this convention. As chairman of the NGC Convention in May in Orlando, she brought us up to date on how we may profit from that event.

Second VP and Chairman of **Wekiva Youth Camp**, Christy Linke, brought us up to date on plans for camp this summer. With our new Camp Director, Shelby Mander, new construction and numerous camp improvements, we should all be excited about hosting camp this summer!

Our **Insurance** Chairman, Kelley Wood, has renewed our Workers Comp Policy. Kelley continues to scan and post back issues of *The Florida Gardener* to our website. Kelley also ensured we have Membership Cards for distribution at this convention.

Although we are no longer producing an annual *Florida Floral Arrangement Calendar*, Claudia Bates is heading the effort to publish a **Commemorative 100th Anniversary calendar** for 2024. 2,500 copies will be produced and made ready for sale in 2023. The winning bid came from The Baker Press in Orlando for \$5,761.

We had **no budgets** to approve or review at this meeting and only the **financials** (Budget vs Actual) from a successful Tropical Short Course and Wekiva Volunteer Training. Thanks to Michelle McGuire and Mary Whisler for chairing these events!

This chairman gave an update on plans, projects, and fundraising for the **100th Anniversary Celebration** and you can read all about that in the upcoming issue of *The Florida Gardener*! To date, we have raised \$27,127.45 and spent \$1,867.33.

Please join me in extending a heart-felt THANK YOU to all who serve on the Finance Committee and for all the hard work and many hours of volunteer time they freely give.

Tina Tuttle, 1VP and Chairman of Finance

Summary: The FFGC Finance committee is happy to report that our fiscal situation is stable and our future is bright. With Board approval of the proposed budgets, we will continue to move forward as a robust, all-volunteer organization.

FLORAL DESIGN STUDY

FFSJ PRESIDENT

FLORIDA GARDENER

FLORIDA GARDENER – CIRCULATION

Report: Circulation (Florida Gardener Magazine)

Kelley Wood

Chairman

April 1, 2022

The first “mostly electronic” issue of the Florida Gardner was published in December (Winter edition). We reduced the printed number of copies from almost 10,000 to about 2400. This chairman has received very little in the way of feedback regarding the change. One small circle in Lakeland asked that their members receive the hardcopy as they are elderly, and few have access to a computer. A flag was added to the membership database that allows us to do that at an individual level.

We did a campaign in the fall asking all club presidents to update as many email addresses as they could. Membership rosters we made for each club and sent out. We received a good response and added several thousand addresses, thus resulting in the low printed copy numbers mentioned above.

Listed here are the categories that receive the hardcopy magazine.

- All BOD members
- Magazine for Life members
- Paid subscribers
- Members who do not have an email address in the Wild Apricot database
- All District Directors
- All club/circle presidents
- All members with “Send Hardcopy” flag set
- All current advertisers (advertisers added after this time will be sold “digital” only)

The Spring edition of The Florida Gardner was mostly electronic (2059 hardcopies sent) so we continue to gain in the right direction by collecting more and more email addresses.

FLORIDA WILDFLOWER LIAISON

FLORIDA WILDFLOWER

FOUNDATION LIAISON

April 12, 2022

Carolyn Schaag

The Florida Wildflower Foundation Board of Directors meets each third Thursday of the month by Zoom under the very capable leadership of Jeff Castor, Chairman. Currently there are 14 members on the Board. Lisa Roberts who served as Executive Director of the Foundation for 14 years and guided the wildflower program to number One in the nation retired in September. Stacy Matrazzo assumed the position of Executive Director.

Since the plate went on sale in 2000, over \$4,000,000 has been generated in donations from the sale. According to the license plate's statute, the donations must be used to fund wildflower education, research and planting programs. Fifteen percent may be used for administration and the marketing of the tag. Additional funding has been provided by grants, donations, and membership fees.

This chairman along with Anne MacKay and Nancy Bissett will be recognized and honored for envisioning and creating the Wildflower tag and for establishing the Foundation and all that has been achieved since and will be telling our stories in a panel discussion at the Florida Native Plant Society event May 19-22 in Jacksonville. I will stress FFGC's advocacy for wildflowers and conservation, native plants, environmental education, Paths of Sunshine, and other initiatives.

The Foundation is starting to plan for a 25th anniversary celebration in 2024.

FLOWER SHOW EVALUATION/AWARDS

FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULES

FUN WITH FLOWERS

Fun with Flowers

Emilie Palmieri

FFFG Board Meeting

April 7, 2022

This chairman has provided “Fun with Flowers” workshops and demonstrations with several garden clubs in her District X , XI as well as a local condo association. Everyone left with new knowledge of the ease of flower arranging.

This chairman has shared several new ideas after receiving phone calls from clubs interested in adding Fun with Flowers to their programs. Many of these clubs have posted photos on their Facebook page. It is a delight to see them having so much fun with this program.

At the National Garden Club convention this chairman will create several “Fun with Flowers” arrangements for those attending the demonstration.

Summary: Fun With Flowers is well received and a wonderful way to invite new people to join Garden clubs as well as learn how to have fun with flowers.

GARDEN THERAPY

Garden Therapy – Penal Therapy – Avon Park
Pat Shira
April 14, 2022

The Avon Park “Therapy Through Plants” program is moving along smoothly. Our new nursery manager, John Hoskins, is doing a very good job. I visited the nursery on Thursday, April 1, 2022 and was pleased with the progress they are making. We have 11 inmates working on the project at this time. The prison is short six guards and has been pulling John off the nursery part of each week to work in the compound. This is slowing down the progress in the nursery. They are slowly catching up with their weeding and propagating of new plants.

Our spring plant sale is being held at the nursery on May 7, 2022. We have enough plants in the greenhouses to have a nice sale. We have 6 volunteers to work the sale and that will be enough to take care of the crowd and sales.

John and I went shopping for supplies for the nursery. We spent \$1126.12 at Home Depot. John and my Assistant Tommy Sauls will be pursuing the purchase of the shed we have been planning to purchase for some time. This will be a major purchase.

Tommy Sauls is continuing the class for the inmates on Floria Nursery Growers and Landscaping Association studies. They will receive a certificate after they complete the course of study and pass their test. This is an important project for the inmates.

We appreciate the Garden Clubs continuing support. We could not function without all your help. Thank all of you so very much.

Summary: We hope to have the nursery operating on a daily basis soon. The staff shortage has affected our inmates scheduled time in the nursery.

GRANTS

GRANTS

Carolyn Schaag

April 12, 2022

There was little activity this year with no requests from FFGC chairmen.

One small application was granted.

Many companies are struggling financially due to the Covid restrictions and have reduced their budgets for donations. Hopefully there will be changes as we approach the FFGC 100th anniversary.

Carolyn Schaag

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity Landscape Project
Pat Caren
April 12, 2022

Participation in Habitat for Humanity Landscape Projects seems to be lagging due to the after effects of the pandemic. Hopefully, clubs in Florida will be able to be more active this year.

More than one club is involved with HfH Women Build, which builds homes for single mothers, most of the work being done by teams of women. Gainesville Garden Club in District V has completed fourteen houses and the Garden Club of Cape Coral in District IX are planning their tenth.

Cape Coral plants their landscapes from scratch, installing mostly native shrubs, flowers, and groundcovers. The city requires they include three shade trees. They received a grant last year which was adequate to buy plants for two years. Club members also donate plants. In addition, the club attends every HfH home dedication in their area, welcoming each new neighbor with a small plant.

In District IX, The Garden Club of Lakeland is waiting for a Habitat home to be finished so they can begin landscaping. The club allows \$40 for supplies to give hoses, tools, etc. to the new homeowners.

Green Thumb Garden Club in District I has donated funds to their local Habitat affiliate and also sponsored a single mother. The President of Rio Lindo Garden Club in District X reported that although they are not currently participating in HfH projects, they might like to.

Clubs are reporting obstacles. Some affiliates find it easier to hire lawn care companies to install cookie-cutter landscapes than to deal with the creativity and personal attention garden clubs can offer homeowners. This is an issue that needs to be resolved.

Some clubs would benefit from an exchange of ideas with other clubs, which is something this chairman would like to facilitate.

Pat Caren

Habitat for Humanity Landscape Project Chairman

HALL OF FAME

HEADQUARTERS AND ENDOWMENT (& GROUNDS)

Headquarters & Endowment Committee
Sue Angle, Chairman
April 13, 2022

Our Headquarters and Endowment Trustees are responsible for the repairs and maintenance of our 60 year old building and grounds, and this year has been very busy.

We had a grounds clean-up day with several garden club members in the fall and another Outside Work Day is scheduled for May 10th to spruce up the grounds at Headquarters for the tour that will come from the National Garden Clubs Convention being held in Orlando next month. Anyone wanting to join us on the 10th will be welcome.

Renting our building for weddings with Cocktails Catering has been busy this year, many being postponed from the pandemic time, and Cocktails continues to pay \$4,510.00 per month in accordance with our agreement. They replaced our main restroom sink faucets, installed bistro lighting over the outdoor patio area which is a beautiful addition and had speakers installed around the patio area facing toward our building and placed closer to where the people sit so the speakers can have a lower volume and still be heard. All of this was done at Cocktail's expense.

The noise regulations we have agreed upon are working, and although the appeal with the City of Winter Park goes on, we have not had any noise violations now, so we are pleased and continue on.

We now have four heavy-duty outdoor metal benches in place of the old green wooden bench and two more at the building's front entrance. Necessary trimming of trees was accomplished to comply with our insurance at a cost of \$1,800.00 and roof leaks were repaired at \$1,843.00.

On February 1, our new Office Coordinator, Robin Hayes, began working after Jenn Cowin decided to find work that she can do from at home. Robin works from 9:00am to 1:00pm Monday through Friday, and is paid \$15.00 per hour. She is impressed with everything she is learning about our organization and all that our clubs do in our communities. We are very happy to have her with us.

Our eleven-year-old computer had slowed down from old age and much business, so H&E recommended to the Finance Committee and a new computer and monitor was purchased at a cost of \$ 1,230.

The interior of Headquarters is going to be painted and after 3 bids were received, Infinity Handyman Services will begin the painting soon at a cost of \$7,770 of which Cocktails Catering will pay half.

We recently found our way through the joys of owning a beautiful 60-year-old building when a Friday night wedding found the toilets clogged, and with four weddings in five days we saw a 3-Stall air/conditioned Porta-Potty set in our circular drive and Roto-Rooter clog detectors, diggers, and plumbers all doing their jobs to open the drain blockage and make the repair in our 60-year-old iron pipes. Water also found its way to the very-old carpeting in the workroom and office,

Headquarters & Endowment Committee

2.

and after the carpet was removed and the area was disinfected, all was back in working order. This came to a total of \$7,237. Quotes are now being obtained to replace carpeting with vinyl plank flooring to match the assembly room flooring.

Susan Mello, our Grounds Chairman, continues her work in the gardens making sure that our property's landscaping and the native acreage is beautiful and a place of which we can be so proud.

We are fortunate to have such caring and committed Trustees on the Headquarters and Endowment Committee. Many thanks for their service go to President Marge Hendon, 1st Vice President Tina Tuttle, Treasurer Jana Walling, H&E Vice Chairman Sue Roberts, Secretary Gwen Carter, Jo Ann Guise, Cissy Richardson, and 3rd Vice President Mary Whisler, as well as Grounds Chairman, Susan Mello who attends as a guest. Special thanks goes to Cissy Richardson who must go off H&E this year having served the two three-year terms that are allowed at one time. She will be missed. Joanne Mulinare was elected to replace Cissy at our Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday. Sue Roberts had served her first 3-year term and was elected to a second term also at our Board meeting. Since this chairman has served as chairman for 4 years and will finish my second 3 year term next year, at our Tuesday meeting our H&E Trustees voted to elect Sue Roberts as Chairman in this new year and this chairman will still be on for the year to help. Thank you Sue.

All of these Trustees are sincerely appreciated for their dedication --will they all please stand so we can thank them with your applause.

INSURANCE

Report: Insurance

Kelley Wood

Chairman

April 1, 2022

All insurance policies were renewed Oct 1, 2021, except for our Workers Comp policy that was renewed in April of 2021. A new certificate was obtained for Wekiva and the Orlando Garden Club reflecting our policy in effect for 2022.

A review of our “money handlers” shows that we have more than the 7 that are covered by our surety bond. I will work with Corkhill insurance to get a quote to add the required number of people (mostly likely 2-3 more), waiting for the change in Awards Sponsorship to be announced, reducing that number by 1.

Corkhill Insurance has agreed to be a Camellia Level (\$500) sponsor for the 95th Annual convention this coming April in Kissimmee.

We filed a slip-and-fall claim with our Auto Owner’s liability policy related to an injury that happened at an event in February. We also asked that Cocktails file a claim on their insurance as it was their event that the injury occurred at (a wedding).

We checked on insurance coverage for water damage at the HQ building this week as the sewer lines backed up. Scot Corkhill advised that we have a \$5000 deductible which is more than expected costs, and having water damage claims on your insurance is a “black mark” to be avoided unless the amount is significant.

FCBI Worker’s Compensation Insurance policy renewed on April 1, same rates as last year. We also will be audited so that the numbers will be adjusted to take actual salaries paid, which will be lower than normal as camp was cut short, we were without office staff for a while, and new Office Coordinator does not get paid as much as the Office Manager.

INVASIVE SPECIES

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Junior Gardener Chair Report

Jennifer Barber

April 12, 2022

As the year has progressed we have started to see more clubs be interested in starting Junior Garden clubs and actually following through to do so. Dates for award submissions were changed from January 30th to January 2nd for the 2023 year. The change was posted on the website prior to the current Year's submission deadline and may have caused some confusion which in turn may have discouraged some from submitting awards thinking that they were already late. Only four clubs submitted awards. 28 awards were won. Some of the work that was submitted was absolutely tremendous! I have been extraordinarily impressed with the work that the children have been doing and their ability to convey difficult concepts into artistic posters, reports and folders.

Wekiva Volunteer Training in February was an excellent opportunity to get to meet and talk with individuals who are interested in starting a club or who are actively working with Junior Garden clubs. There was also a very large discussion regarding how to incorporate Junior Gardener Awards in Camp Wekiva. The reasoning behind this discussion had a large part to do with the access and numbers of children that we interact with at Wekiva. A lot of discussion centered around the idea of creating awards that would expand awards specific to Camp Wekiva. This discussion is in line with recent steps taken to increase Woodsy Owl and Smokey Bear award submissions that are worked on at Camp. I look forward to discussing this potential with the Camp Director, Camp Wekiva chair person and the nature and crafts directors over the summer while volunteering at Camp Wekiva.

LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS & POLICIES

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

MATCHING GRANTS

Matching Grants Committee Report
Gina Jogan, Chairman
Convention, April 2022

FFGC's **MATCHING GRANTS PROGRAM** is now in its 2nd year!. The FFGC Finance Committee and the Strategic Planning committee established the criteria, made an application form which you can access online and will award up to \$5,000 per year in grant funds for various club and Circle projects: Clubs and Circles are eligible for up to \$500 in **MATCHING FUNDS** for:

- Any activity (workshop, program or other educational event) aimed at **increasing membership** by welcoming interested individuals to your Club/Circle.
-
- An activity to **beautify your community**, such as park plantings, school gardens, a divided road median or roadside beautification.
-
- Any activity to **increase awareness** of our organization's mission, goals and objectives.

"The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc promotes the love of gardening, floral and landscape design, and civic and environmental responsibility, by providing education, resources and networking opportunities for our members, youth and community."

There were seventeen (17) applications for the FFGC Matching Grants program and this year, \$4,800 in Matching Grants is awarded to the following clubs/circles for their projects:

Amount	Club	Project	District	Representative
\$350	Windermere	Municipal Complex plantings	VII	
\$500	Garden Club of Green Cove Springs	Butterfly Derby	IV	
\$500	Destin Garden Club	Library Plantings	I	
\$250	Alamanda Garden Club of Stuart	Native plants/House of Refuge, phase 2	X	
\$500	Satin Leaf Garden Club of Stuart	Butterfly plants, stepping stones, mulch	X	
\$500	Tampa Federation	Arbor Day Tree Project	VIII	
\$500	Buddliea Garden club of Tallahassee	Shade cloth	III	
\$300	Camellia Garden Club of Eustis	Blue Star Dedication and planting	VII	

\$500	Hibiscus Garden Club of St. Augustine	Blue Star rededication and planting	IV	
\$400	Canal Point (Disbanded)	Restoration of Blue Star Marker	X	
\$500	Azalea Garden Club of Pace	Benny Russell City Park plantings	I	
\$4,800				

MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION

MEMBERSHIP

New Membership
Ed Nendick
Apr 1, 2023

Last Year's successes include.

1. Monthly Membership messages from New Membership to Retention. Emphasizing both current and new members.
2. Participation in FFGC board of Directors with new ideas on gaining new members.
3. We reviewed how to use the App Next Door and taught it to the District Directors.
4. When NGC made a 20% increase in membership, we fostered that FFGC take that goal for each Club.
5. We published the steps to start a new club with goals of starting a new club in each district.
6. Publish on our FFGC web Site our membership brochure.

This Year we have.

1. Bring in new members two by two. Every person we encourage to join has in the back of the idea that if only my friend would go it will be easier, and I would feel more comfortable. So, ask if they have a friend to bring with them to the meeting.
2. My beautiful wife started a group of assistant district directors to oversee membership. It has monthly Zoom meetings in which each director brings up what they did in their districts to increase membership. Each meeting has more participation, and each director is praised for their work.
3. The current theme is to go set up a Membership both in at least one county event per year. The Green Thumb Garden Club's Membership director Jan had one person in the crowd inviting people to visit their table and one person sitting with new members filling out their applications and giving out their schedual of events for the year. They signed up 5 new members that day. Congratulations Jan!
4. We have been invited to be membership team for Deep South and the same principles apply and will be fostered there.
5. We also attend an NGC membership meeting. The movement is growing. So, get on board join the team. Help your District Directors.

Summary: In summary with the disappearance of the Welcome Wagon organizations, we are the place new people moving in can go to make friends, learn about their communities, learn what grows in their communities, and make a difference in those communities. There are 1,085 new people moving into Florida every Day!

Sincerely

MR. Ed Nendick

MEMBERSHIP RETENTION

Jane Nendick,
Member Retention
Convention, April 2022

There are several factors that have contributed to a positive FFGC Membership growth from September 2021 through March 2022:

1. The Monthly Zoom Meetings scheduled with the Assistant District Directors (ADDs) of all 12 Districts. This is a time of giving directions on the Membership emphasis for the next month, a time of sharing ideas, and a time for asking questions, especially “Why?” The ADDs are understanding that their title spells their “job” description: They are to ADD to the growth of each Club within their District.
2. A Monthly Membership Message is written and sent out, via FFGC Headquarters, to all Board Members and Club/Circle Presidents. This Message is consistent with the Monthly emphasis with the Assistant District Directors.
3. Both the New Membership Chair and the Membership Retention Chair are available to assist, answer questions, share ideas, and help with concerns. Just email, call, text, or snail mail!
4. Finally, the SPIRIT OF WANTING TO SHARE ALL THE WONDERFUL NEWS that comes with FFGC Membership has resulted in over 1,400+ new members since September 2021 !!!!!

Summary: Constant contact with all the Districts, keeping Membership at the front of all discussions, has resulted in a fabulous growth, that seems to be continuing for a long time!

NGC CONVENTION 2022

NGC 2022 Convention Report
Gina V. Jogan, Chairman for NGC
Convention, April 2022

This is your personal invitation to the 2022 NGC Convention, **A Playground of Possibilities**, hosted by FLORIDA. I am honored to be your Convention chairman along with Claudia Bates and Tina Tuttle.

We will be meeting in **Orlando, Florida from May 16-20** ... those dates are inclusive of the pre-convention meetings and tours and two post-convention tours at the **Rosen Plaza Hotel**, one of the premier hotels in the area, situated at **9700 International Drive**.

We are planning an early arrival night featuring the NGC **Award of Excellence winners** and of course, the last evening will be our **Design banquet**.

We are offering a wide variety of **workshops, speakers and presentations**. Several of our breakout sessions will be hands-on!! We have workshops for those who enjoy design and, not to be left out, we will offer workshops for the horticulture enthusiast, too..... Be sure to mark the sessions you plan to attend when you fill out your registration.

Speaking of registration: something new this year....**all registrations will go through NGC Headquarters and all transactions will be by credit card.....we are going paperless!**

NGC is offering a **Tri-refresher** (and there are 4 tours that count as refresher credits, as do many of our speakers and several of our workshops!)

Tours will go to such places as: Mead Gardens, Old Winter Park, Leu Gardens, Polasek Museum and Sculpture Gardens, Audubon Birds of Prey, Several Nature preserves, Camp Wekiva @ Wekiwa Springs State Park, the Nehrling Gardens and home, Heritage tree trail, the rebirth of Lake Apopka, and the list goes on.... These are local and you may not have had time to enjoy them while at Board meetings!

Outings and smaller tours are planned for your **spouse, guest or travel companions** and there are many things to see and do within walking distance of the hotel. These smaller tours will go to NASA @ Cape Canaveral, Canine Companions, Daytona Speedway, Warbirds Museum and perhaps a visit Don Garlitz' Drag Racing museum....

NGC is also presenting an **NGC Petite Design Specialty Flower Show**. The title includes President Mary's theme of **Playing Outdoors**... the schedule is online.... make your design reservation soon!

We have brought in some new and **unique vendors** for your shopping pleasure...and some of our favorites will be back as well!

This is a unique opportunity for Florida Federation of Garden Clubs....we are the host state....we have an opportunity to experience our parent organization and meet like-minded members from across the USA. Please support our efforts and make Marge proud of us: Come join friends by the pool, learn something new, share your love of all things NGC and experience a **playground of endless possibilities**.

Your 2022 Convention team: Gina Jogan, Tina Tuttle and Claudia Bates.....

NGC ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL CHAIRMAN

NGC Environmental State Chairman

April 12, 2022

Lydia Barbour

As NGC Environmental School State Chairman and Credentials Chairman, my job includes keeping the Environmental School database up-to-date and accurate. The ES Workbook contains a sheets for each type of student (active, inactive, non-member and no-credit), a sheet showing the history of courses held in Florida which remains incomplete as all history has not yet been located. There is also a key for the abbreviations used throughout the workbook. A new sheet includes Tri-Refresher Course information.

As of 4/9/2022 here is a breakdown of entries on the spreadsheet for each type of student.

- 131 active students include: 25 Masters; 59 Consultants; and 47 students still working to complete the four courses within the seven-year (or eight-year with one extension) time requirement.
- 87 inactive students, including: Those who began but did not complete the four courses with the required time period; Former Consultants or Masters who did not refresh before the expiration of their Good Standing Date (GSD); and Masters who have chosen to become Emeritus.
- 50 people who have taken classes but are not members of an FFGC garden club.
- 25 FFGC Garden Club members who have taken courses without credit.

Another aspect of my job is to remind active students of the need to take courses, either to refresh or to become a Consultant. Every Consultant or Master with a GSD of 2022 or 2023 has been notified of the upcoming courses now scheduled in Florida in 2022 and of courses available elsewhere in the US. Every student who began taking classes in 2015 and 2016 has been advised of courses available in Florida and anywhere in the US and advised to schedule themselves or to request an extension in 2022. Notes on the spreadsheet are used to track their responses and to plan additional follow-up.

In addition, as students register for courses, this Chairman verifies the data entries on Forms 6 & 7 and approves the form once complete. There are kinks to be worked out in the NGC processes when Multiple-Refreshers are involved. FFGC's Multiple Refresher Chairman is leading this effort which the State School Chairman are supporting. Another Tri-Refresher is being planned for the FFGC/UF Short Course.

The most important aspect of my job is to work with Districts and Local Chairmen to make plans and successfully deliver a Series of Environmental School Courses. The procedures worked out with Tri-Council for managing budget and financial reports seems to be working. We are still tweaking the processes related to Forms 6 & 7 between the Local, State and Deep South Accrediting Chairmen. The plan to create a Check-list has not yet come to fruition.

The Fort Myers – Lee County Garden Council in District IX, held Course 1 February 24-25, 2022. There were eight students who attended this in-person course, not as many as we had hoped. They have scheduled Course 2 for November 17-18. They are planning Courses 3 and 4, respectively for March and November 2023.

District VIII has scheduled Course 1 for October 11-12, 2022 in Tampa. The Local Chairman is assembling her team and is working on the budget. Their objective is to complete all four courses before May 2023. We are going to develop a time-line and a project plan for the four courses to ensure that all processes can be done with this overlap. We have already worked out a plan with Fort Myers schedule in mind to avoid conflict there.

District IV has begun identifying a team that will help with the planning and delivery of another series of Environmental School courses.

Summary: Assisting, guiding and supporting Local Chairmen and students are the important elements of this Chairman's work. Maintaining an accurate database and supporting documentation supports this work.

NGC GARDEN STUDY SCHOOL CHAIRMAN

NGC LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL CHAIRMAN

NGC SCHOOLS CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN

Credentials Chairman Report
Linda Feifarek-Johnson, Chairman
April 12-14, 2022

This chairman is still helping students with their courses. If they have any questions about what courses they have taken or need to take, I can find the information for them. I have also directed them to the proper chairman for any other problems that I am unable to handle. I am in the process of finding schools to take and notifying the students who need to take courses this year.

NGC SPECIAL PROJECT LIAISON

April 16, 2022
Margaret Chodosh
Liaison for NGC President's/Special Project

Please encourage your district to apply for the Plant America Grant! None were won in FL this year. we hope to have more Districts apply next year. Please District Directors read to see what a winner looks like. Thank you to all of you who did apply.

2021 Plant America Community Grant Recipients

The Garden Club of Alabama, Inc.

- Redstone Garden Club
- Tuscaloosa Garden Club

Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

- Garden Club of Rogers
- Harrisburg Garden Club

California Garden Clubs, Inc.

- Garden Club of Colusa County
- Folsom Garden Club
- Los Osos Valley Garden Club
- Toluca Lake Garden Club

The Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut, Inc.

- Green Farms Garden Club

Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

- Coastal Gardeners

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc.

- Athens Garden Club
- Azalea Garden Club
- Chattooga Garden Club
- Conyers Garden Club
- Crabapple Garden Club
- Cummings Garden Club
- Garden Club of Quitman
- Honey Pond Garden Club
- Marietta Daisies Garden Club
- Seed and Weeds Garden Club
- Spade and Trowel Garden Club
- Stonehedge Garden Club
- Townview Garden Club

Federated Garden Clubs of Iowa, Inc.

- Kossuth Area Garden Club

Garden Club of Idaho, Inc

- Golden Garden Club

Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc.

- Du Quoin Garden Club

Louisiana Garden Club Federation, Inc.

- Baton Rouge Garden Club

The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc.

- Mountain Laurel Garden Club

- St. Mary's Garden Club

Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.

- Mason Sycamore Creek Garden Club
- Williamston Red Cedar Garden Club

The Garden Club of Mississippi, Inc.

- Laurel Garden Club

The Garden Club of New Jersey, Inc.

- All Seasons Garden Club
- Floraphile Garden Club
- Garden Club of Fair Haven
- Garden Club of Tom's River
- Garden Club of Westfield
- Holly Garden Club of Sea Girt

Federated Garden Clubs of New York State, Inc.

- Morsemere Garden Club
- Parkway Homes Garden Club
- Pound Ridge Garden Club

Garden Club of Ohio, Inc.

- Central Park Garden Club

Oklahoma Garden Clubs, Inc.

- Patio Garden Club
- Rose Unit Garden Club

The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania

- Pleasant Hill Garden Club
- Somerset Garden Club

NGC & DSGC YOUTH CONTESTS
PARKS - TRAILS - GREENWAYS

PENNY PINES

Penny Pines Annual Report
Andrea Finn, Chairman
April 13, 2022

NGC and the USDA Forest Service maintain a partnership sustaining our national forests through the Penny Pines project. FFGC members have once again showed their generous support of this worthwhile endeavor.

During the 3 month period from June 1, 2021 through August 31, 2021, FLORIDA was the largest contributor of 45 plantations totaling \$3,060. Congratulations!

We have revised our on-line donation form to reflect the option of receiving a certificate for the contributions, and have also made it possible to type right onto this new form on the website for the Garden Clubs' convenience.

Please use this latest form for your donations. Look for "Rev. 9/2021" in the bottom left corner of the form you use. Let's keep this great momentum rolling – we're doing great things!

Andrea Finn, FFGC Chairman
Penny Pines Project

SUMMARY: FFGC was largest contributor to the NGC Penny Pines project during the Quarter 6/1/21 – 8/31/21. New typable on-line forms now on the FFGC Website. Use form "Rev. 9/2021" in bottom left corner.

PHOTOGRAPHER
PILLAR OF PRIDE

PLANNED GIVING

PLANNED GIVING

April 12, 2022

Carolyn Schaag

The *Gifts Today for Tomorrow* Endowment Fund did not receive any donations during this report period.

Carolyn Schaag, Chairman

Planned Giving

PROGRAMS & SPEAKERS

Report

Chairmanship: Programs and Speakers

Donna Thomas

April Convention 2022 BOD meeting

Sue Roberts tested all the sites on Websites of Interest to Garden Clubs and posted them on the website. An email has been sent to all the District Directors for their input for Attractions for Garden Club visits in Florida. Upon receipt of input these two sites will be further updated. Prior to the clubs resuming in September this chair will send out a request for program information to update the Garden Club Program Ideas.

PROTOCOL

Protocol Committee

Jo Ann Guise

April 12, 2022

The Protocol chairman continues to work preparing for the Annual Convention. This chairman is in contact with the President, Convention Co- Chairmen, Pages, Hostesses, Registrar, Awards chairmen and members to personally contact those being asked to introduce speakers, give the Blessing at meals, participate in the Business Meetings, and sit at either the Head Table or Honors Tables at meals according to the direction and wishes of the President.

All of this activity and verification takes place before the Convention begins. If for some reason a person declines or due to an emergency cannot fulfill the obligation, the President needs to be informed. The President is the one to fill any unexpected open spots; having potential 'filler's names' to suggest to the President makes the last minute decision easier and quicker.

The Place cards for the Head and Honors Tables were made and assembled by Sue Roberts again this year-- with the seating order received from the Protocol chairman. Blank cards are always available for last minute emergencies. Each table is in a well marked individual bag with the rest of the tables for that meal clearly marked: Wed. LUNCH includes (3) individual bags one each for: Head Table, Honors Table One, Honors Table Two (near Podium). The Protocol chairman has the place cards set at least one hour before the meal is scheduled to begin. She is the one who confers with the Banquet Captain that the tables are ready, centerpieces in place, and then alerts the Hostess Chairman when the doors to the Dining Room can be opened.

The Protocol chairman is responsible for making and setting out the individual signs for those participating in the Business Meetings. She checks that there are the correct number of seats for the District Directors, the microphones are working, the United States flag is in the correct position, and the Officers' signs are made and in the correct places.

During the actual Convention, the Protocol chairman is available along with the Pages and Hostesses to ensure and to assist the smooth functioning of the event. It is important to be aware, to be able to make quick decisions, and to continue to smile.

SUMMARY Most of the work of the Protocol Committee is done before the Convention or meeting. At the event, it is necessary to complete all duties before the general membership arrives.

Jo Ann Guise
Protocol Chairman

RECLAMATION & RECYCLING

ROADSIDE BEAUTIFICATION/ PATHS OF SUNSHINE

Roadside Beautification/Pathways of Sunshine

Brenda Luedeman

April 2022

This chairman continued to serve as the Roadside Beautification and Paths of Sunshine (POS) Chairman for a second term 2021-2023 as COVID-19 and its variants continued to prevent or challenge in-person interaction with individuals in garden club activities and all other aspects of life. As with other Florida Federation of Garden Club (FFGC) positions, it has been necessary to adapt and integrate novel ways of fulfilling this position by embracing virtual technologies and digital means of recognition for award recipients.

Throughout the pandemic, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and its landscape architects, managers, and roadside crews etc. have continued to initiate, enhance, and support Roadside Beautification and POS efforts in diverse areas of Florida. Appreciation is shown for all sustainable Florida Friendly practices and any beautiful roadside plantings, but POS Ella P. Woods award especially encourages Florida native vegetation and wildflower plantings that are lovely to see but also beneficial to our environment and supportive of essential pollinators. It has been pleasurable to work with Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) contracting wildflower specialist Jeff Norcini in establishing new ways to recognize FDOT accomplishments with input from recently retired FDOT Landscape Architect Jeff Caster, current Chairman of the Florida Wildflower Foundation (FWF) Board, regarding changes in the awards process necessitated by the pandemic and evolving FDOT ethics perspectives, all the while staying true to goals and objectives of the POS award established in collaboration with former FDOT Landscape Architect Gary Henry. PowerPoint presentations describing and depicting applicant accomplishments was created in 2020, 2021, and 2022 for all to appreciate now and in the future.

Four nomination/applications were received and evaluated for the 2022 Ella P. Woods POS awards. Panelists representing FFGC, FDOT, FWF, and Master Gardeners with different areas of expertise met virtually on February 16, 2022 to evaluate the applications. This chairman appreciates and thanks moderator Jeff Norcini and the jurors including Sue Angle, Christie Linke, Carol Hall, and Brenda Luedeman of FFGC, Dena Wild of Master Gardeners, Jeff Caster Florida Wildflower Foundation (FWF) and retired FDOT, and Jeff Norcini FDOT Wildflower Specialist. The 2022 award recipients are:

1st place - FDOT District 8 Turnpike Enterprise/Turnpike Maintenance Unit/Broward County: For preserving natural & native settings along Sawgrass Expressway at Turnpike Mainline (SR-869) Exit #71, Broward County with existing & augmented wildflowers, royal palms, & live oaks bordering lakes. Sawgrass Expressway at Turnpike Mainline (SR-869) at Exit#71. (FFGC D-XI Director Sharon Bogard)

2nd place - FDOT District 2 Chiefland Maintenance/Gilchrist County: For a 6.4 mile long stretch of beautiful wildflowers from SR-26 from Wilcox to Trenton that are consistently showy each year due to selectively mowing & replanting each fall. (FFGC D-V Director Donna Thomas)

3rd place – FDOT District 2 St. Augustine Maintenance/Clay County: For the best diversity of naturalized wildflowers in this district along a 2 mile segment of SR-21, Middleburg, from CR-215 to Halperns Way even while the roadway is under construction. (FFGC D-IV Connie Gladding)

Honorable Mention - FDOT District 3 Chipley District Office/Washington County For native and non-native wildflower plantings that create a pollinator habitat to support Monarch Butterflies & other other pollinators on SR-77 at the I-10 Interchange. (FFGC D-II Sue Schmitz)

Following formal announcement of the recipients to the FFGC Board, a 2022 POS PowerPoint Presentation describing and depicting accomplishments will be displayed to inform all FFGC members in attendance at the conventions awards presentations. With hopes that FFGC Fall District meetings will take place in 2022, it is preferable that award recipients can once again be recognized in person in their geographical areas, ideally when the FFGC Executive Officers complete their fall tour. I respectfully request that FFGC District Directors allow time on their meeting agendas for brief award certificate presentations if merited by a FDOT maintenance crew within their district, and that I be informed of meeting date, time, and location so that award recipients can be so advised. Award certificates will be created and mailed directly to recipients in lieu of FFGC's customary procedure of presenting them in person at district meetings if deemed necessary.

With Sue Robert's or the FFGC office manger's assistance, FFGC website awards information will be periodically updated to reflect any updated guidelines, procedure, nomination forms, and contact information. This chairman displayed a poster promoting FFGC's Ella P Wood "Pathways of Sunshine" Award, Florida State Wildflower License plate information, and other brochures supporting roadside beautification and scenic pathways at the the FFGC Spring Convention 2021 and will continue to do so when attending garden club functions if and when display space is available.

Please take time to view the 2020, 2021, and 2022 Paths of Sunshine Awards details archived in the PowerPoints on FFGC's website, see the Ella P Woods "Paths of Sunshine" award educational exhibit at gatherings, and enjoy the native plantings and wildflowers along Florida's scenic highways that continue to thrive despite the challenges of the pandemic.

Respectfully submitted, Brenda Luedeman 2021-2023 Roadside Beautification/Paths of Sunshine
Chairman bkluedeman@gmail.com cell or text: 863-207-3330

SCHOLARSHIP - DSGC, NGC

DSGC and NGC Scholarship

Mary Adams

April 5, 2022

I received two 2022 Scholarship Applicants for Deep south Garden Club (DSGC) and National Garden Club (NGC). Both were forwarded to DSGC and NGC. The DSGC Chaiman informed me in January 2022 that the selections were already made. I mailed our applicants anyway. NGC accepted one of our applicants. Her name is Caroline Gordon, a student at the University of Florida, Tallahassee. We hope that she is selected for the NGC scholarship.

The other applicant, Sarah Lavon Collins, is a high school senior and although she has enough credits to be placed at the Junior level, she is ineligible because DSGC and NGC accept only college Classified Juniors, Seniors, and graduate students planning a career related to gardening, landscape design, environmental issues, etc.

I returned Sarah's NGC application explaining why she was not eligible for the scholarship.

I have received other inquires from students interested in these scholarships since February 1.

Mary L. Adams

SCHOLARSHIP – FFGC

Scholarship and Endowment Report
Helen Purvis, Chairman
April 13, 2022

I thought it might be interesting to relate a little bit of history about the FFGC scholarship program.

It was during Elise Haymans administration as FFGC President in 1990 that the scholarship fund was endowed and the goal of \$160,000 was reached. There is a plaque at headquarters in Winter Park that honors those donors. \$50,000 was donated by Mary Jo Clayton Sanders; \$10,000 from Van Blanchard, Alice Hall and Margaret Swann; \$5,000 was donated by Esther and James Freyermuth, Wini Ekman, Bernese Davis, Elise and Ken Haymans, Nadine Stouder and Nan Knox; \$36,000 was raised by \$1,000 donations from districts, clubs and individuals. In 1990 the first scholarships were awarded, 9 scholarships totaling \$12,750.

Now we move forward from that initial amount and the financial records that I have access to start in 2010 and garden clubs and members continue with their contributions. In 2018 a generous donation of \$52,000 was received from Marty Ward's Estate.

Elise would be proud of her club, Punta Gorda Garden Club, that will receive our appreciation for their \$1000 donation in 2022, totaling \$15,000 since 2015 and I'm sure there were other generous donations going back to 1990.

Tallahassee Garden Club will also receive our appreciation for their \$1000 donation, that totals \$9,850 since 2013.

Today we also want to show our appreciation and gratefulness to Mayfair Hydro for her generous donation of \$48,000, which brings the value of the scholarship fund to \$617,843.95, based on the fair market value of the investments as of February 28, 2022.

5% of the last three year's average of the value of Scholarship Funds at the end of May is used to fund the current year's scholarships. Deadline for applying is May 1 and the money will be awarded to the students who meet the approved criteria. Most scholarships are granted at \$3,000 per year or \$1500 per semester.

All of the above has given FFGC members the opportunity to award \$227,218.91 to college students since 2007.

Now, we will hear from this past year's students. (play video)

SCOUTING LIAISON

REPORT FOR FFGC APRIL CONVENTION 2022
SCOUT LIAISON
BARBARA RAO CHAIR

This chair has been pleased to have received invitations to supply Wildflower Badge patches to Brownie troops and a Girl Scout troop here in Florida. The WELLINGTON GARDEN CLUB was anxious to use the patch with Boys and Girls clubs and youth in general. It worked out perfectly for this chair to include the information to the leader there. We find that the patch can be generic and not gender specific.

There has been some more interest in applying for patches as the troops are meeting more and they are doing things in small groups at homes. NGC Chair for Scouts has used the FFGC badge in the past article about Youth (Keeping in Touch Fall 2020). The information was similar to what we use here in Florida. There were some requests following that article for our information and patch. It was supplied and accepted by troops from Pennsylvania and Washington state. They had not heard back from the new NGC Scout Liaison, and I was happy to supply the patches and more information.

The FFGC Solar Chair contacted this chair to work together and prepare a badge, we have not met yet to work on this. Something for the future or a quieter time.

District VIII Director Kitty Wallace sent the Scout information out to the district clubs in the Winter Call and there was response from the various clubs. Interest is gaining strength now that we are approaching a new normal. Fernandina Beach club has also received the patch and are working with their local scouts.

All in all, it is a rewarding program that does not require any extra money on the part of the local clubs unless they choose to take on a more involved role with supplies for the children. The purpose of the Wildflower Patch is to educate and inform youth and their families to the benefits of planting natives and wildflowers. These are so readily available from the members of most of the clubs. A wonderful way to get involved with youth and help to promote our goals.

Barbara Rao

SEEK CONFERENCE

SHORT COURSE - UF

SHORT COURSE – NORTH

Kathy “Kat” Spieker, Short Course North Chairman
spkfreedom@embargmail.com

Short Course North Report Convention
April 12-14,2022

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

Our program kicks off on 11 August 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. and continues 12 August same time. The location of this year’s event is the Okaloosa County Extension Office in Crestview, Florida. Students can sign up for an optional floral design studies class after each day’s classes.

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

Master Gardeners attending both days receive 10 Continuing Education Units.

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy “Kat” Spieker

SHORT COURSE TROPICAL

Michelle Maguire

Chairman Tropical Short Course

April 12, 2022

Tropical Short Course Report

On January 19 and 20, 2022 District X sponsored the 65 annual Tropical Short Course at The Green Acres Community Center in Green Acres, Florida. The theme was "Gardening For Life". The theme was determined by the participation of people around the United States interest in gardening because of the COVID pandemic by going outside. We had many challenges in navigating this educational conference due to the ever changing protocols required by the city of Green Acres.

We had 100 people Zooming from different parts of the United States and 56 people appearing in person at the Green Acres Community Center. A Hybrid meeting was conducted during a most challenging time. Our speaker program was the most comprehensive that I had seen in all the years I have been going to TSC. A team of individuals that worked on their assigned responsibilities was what made this TSC so successful. Thank you again to Donna Berger, Registrar. Barbara Hadsell, Program Speaker Chair. Jane Zezeck, Media and Communication Chair. Blanca Rancourt, Raffle Chair. Barbara Campbell Vendor Chair. Barbara May Refresher Chair and Mary Kaub, Food and Beverage Chair. I also want to thank the husband and wife team of Reina and Greg Snyder for all the camera work for the Floral Designs.

The response we got from NGC about our quality of speakers was overwhelmingly positive. Evaluations turned in gave it a Big Home Run, only one person who Zoomed gave it less than a "5" score out of the 100 people participating. The in person evaluations were very positive, only negative comments pertained to "TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES". Attendees were so impressed with one of our own from District X, Reina Snyder that she will be giving many presentations of her program to others in NGC and FFGC.

A check for over \$1800 will be given to FFGC at the state convention.

Respectfully given,

Michelle Maguire, Chairman of Tropical Short Course

SMOKEY BEAR-WOODSY OWL

Annual Report

Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl

Jill Anderson, Chairman

April, 2021

Several articles were sent to The Florida Gardener during the year to encourage clubs to participate in the 2021 contest. Entries must be sponsored by a garden club and the participant must be a resident of Florida. Deadline for the 2022 poster contest was January 2, 2022.

Students from first through fifth grade were invited to participate in the 2022 Poster Contest! Brought to you by the National Garden Clubs, Inc., and the US Forest Service. The entries must be sponsored by a local garden club and be Florida residents. Three (3) garden clubs participated, and 46 posters were submitted from WEKIVA. A total of 60 posters were entered in the contest this year. One club pre-judged the posters and sent only winners to be judged at the state level, the others sent all posters that were completed locally.

All eligible posters were judged and the winners in each grade level were sent to the Deep South chairman. The Deep South winners were sent to NGC. A State Chairman report accompanied our winners when they were submitted to Deep South.

There were 6 posters that were submitted by 6th graders and were ruled ineligible because the contest is open to grades 1-5.

Winners will be announced at the FFGC 2022 State convention. Certificates of Participation with names on them will be distributed to District Directors at the state convention.

This chairman has purchased Smokey Bear bookmarks (English/Spanish), Woodsy bookmarks, rulers and Smokey stickers for use to promote the poster contest.

This chairman continues to reach out to garden clubs to increase entries for next year.

Summary: 60 posters were received and judged in 2022. Winners were sent to the Deep South Chairman.

Three (3) garden clubs participated, and 46 posters were submitted from WEKIVA.

SOCIAL MEDIA

SOLAR ENERGY/WIND POWER

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Report
Strategic Planning Committee
Gina V. Jogan, Chairman
Convention, April 2022

The 10 members of the Strategic Planning Committee, along with our President, tackled, on your behalf, many issues in the past year:

- Issues regarding the physical Headquarters building, landscaping, legal issues and such.
- Procuring, printing and distribution of Membership Cards
- Pursuing the idea of establishing On-line Garden Clubs as is already done by National Garden Clubs....an Ad hoc committee is investigating getting this set up. These clubs might be special interest such as photography, environmental, Camp or Horticulture....
- Scanning back issues of The Florida Gardener and other such historical documents is continuing so as to preserve fragile paper documents.
- Seventeen Matching Grants applications were judged and eleven grants will be awarded at this convention...projects include community and school plantings, Blue Star memorial markers, Arbor Day Projects, etc.
- Much discussion is ongoing as regards the need to retain Districts, their boundaries or the need for districts at all. The rationale for discussion: Representation is skewed.
- A Phased Replacement Plan at HQ and Camp Wekiva, for items with a value of over \$500 that routinely need replacement, repair or upgrading is in the works ; those are the items in inventory that are depreciated by the IRS.
- Much discussion is ongoing regarding the need to have vice-chairmen for all committees and to have 'job descriptions' and requirements of the various jobs, in detail, filed for use. It was also suggested that we revise the Member Personnel profile to more easily fit jobs to people.
- Terms limits of 6 years (3 terms) for all chairmanships is also on the table for discussion.
- Membership is ALWAYS discussed for retention and recruitment...without members, there is no FFGC.
- Plans for the 100th Anniversary/birthday of FFGC are ongoing.
- Removal of the large 'gift shoppe' to the upstairs meeting room/library will allow that room to become rental space/meeting space. FFGC to carry only pins....
- Of concern is the disbanding of Federated clubs....we need an exit poll and try to have their concerns investigated; many leave due to ageing-out of members...others for 'complaints' against FFGC.

To summarize: YOUR Strategic Planning Committee is addressing issues, suggestions, recommendations, problems, etc. brought to us by YOU, the members, for investigation. We are here to research, discuss and make and take these to various committees in the organization for actions. There is nothing too big or too small to be brought to us. This committee is looking forward to the future of FFGC.

TOURS & TRAVEL

Tours & Travel

Shelley Atkinson

April 12, 2022

This is a report from Holiday Cruises and Tours. We are very happy to be able to give this check to FFGC. We are issuing a check for \$7600.00. this check is the "Boking Bonus" from the Floriade Trip to Amsterdam.

If you have further questions please contact me.

Shelley Atkinson

Holiday Cruises and tours

850-386-7327 x 208

TREES & REFORESTATION

Kathy "Kat" Spieker, Trees and Reforestation Chairman
Trees and Reforestation Report Convention April 12-14, 2022

Trees and Reforestation requested that all garden clubs of FFGC record and report trees that they planted during the period from Mar 1, 2021 through Feb 28, 2022. Thanks to the immense effort and hard work of those clubs throughout the year, **497,087** trees were planted comprised of **335** tree species.

Certificates of recognition are being awarded to the following clubs and/or circles for their extraordinary efforts to restore trees for habitat and beauty throughout the state.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION TO:

Lake City Garden Club	278,050
Tallahassee Garden Club	171828
Live Oak Garden Club	41533

TOP TEN CLUBS

Moringa Circle of Fort Lauderdale Circles	1231
Wellington Garden Club	1083
Homosassa River Garden Club	547
Pioneer Garden Club of Ocala Members at Large	255
Piper's Landing Yacht and Country Club	212
Garden Club of St. Augustine	209
Temple Terrace	196
Jasmine Circle of the Garden Club of Indian River County	139
Garden Club of Fort Pierce	119
Garden Club of Cape Coral	96

Respectfully Submitted, Kathy “Kat” Spieker, Trees and Reforestation Chairman

TRI-COUNCIL PRESIDENT

VIRTUAL PLATFORM TEAM

Report: Virtual Platform Team

Kelley Wood

Chairman

April 1, 2022

Have hosted several committee meetings via ZOOM and am currently preparing to host the Winter 2022 Board of Directors meeting via ZOOM this coming week.

Have been assisting Sue Roberts with website and database work as our office manager left us late in the year. Sue and I have been performing monthly membership and website backups and storing those on our Google drive.

Have hosted several committee meetings and a District Director's meeting via ZOOM in lieu of holding said meetings at the hotel during convention and Board of Director's meeting in April.

Our Wild Apricot membership platform renews for 2 years on April 10, 2022, at a much higher rate than previously. No activity currently by myself or the team to look at a replacement.

WATER AND WETLANDS

WEBSITE EDITOR

Website Editor
Sue Roberts
April 12, 2022

As website editor I have continued to update the webpage as needed. There has been a new BOI added and several FFSJ and Tri-council documents have been updated.

We discovered that several of our lists of useful websites and attractions for garden club visits in FI. were out of date. I have asked for corrected and up to date information from the district directors for their areas and have been updating these lists to be more useful to our members.

I have also added links to as many garden clubs as possible in our find your garden club function. If the clubs have a webpage or a Facebook page I have added them to our list for members and visits to easily get information about our clubs activities.

I am also accumulating a list of club email address to send to NGC to update their garden club search function.

I have also been teaching our new office coordinator many of these updating tasks so she can add and delete information as the requests may come in to her.

Summary: Updating the website is an ongoing function as new documents are added and updates are required. I am trying to keep the webpage relevant to our members so that information and answers can be found more easily.

WEKIVA YOUTH CAMP

Wekiva Youth Camp Report
Christy Linke
April 7, 2022

This Wekiva Chairman has been busy getting ready for Camp to open this June. With camp at 93% full we are striving for 100%. After last summer and the year before not having camp this is a goal that this Chairman feels is reachable. Since last reporting the transition team interviewed for a new Assistant Director. After the interview process David Kleinman was chosen for the position. He comes with having the knowledge of camp from being a Counselor as well as a Fire circle Leader. The past two years he came as a volunteer helping wherever needed. With a new Director, Shelby Mander, and a new Assistant Director comes with a lot of learning. Not just for them but for this Chairman as well. John Morand is helping with the transition which is huge in this process.

Garden Club donations have been coming in and it always puts this Chairman in awe at the generosity of the clubs and what they give. So many campers are able to go because garden clubs step up and say yes we will sponsor them. Garden clubs gave monies for items on the wish list which is on the Wekiva web site. Camp Wekiva is what it is because of the generosity of the garden club throughout the state.

THANK YOU!

With Building and Maintenance monies utility sinks will be added in the craft hall and outside dining hall. Where there are water fountains they'll be replaced with water bottle filling stations. This will make it much more accessible for campers and staff to fill their water bottles throughout the day.

Volunteers are signing up but we still need craft, nature and office volunteers for some weeks. If you've never been to camp I promise it is a wonderful experience and if you do it one time you'll be back year after year. Registered nurses are in need as well.

The snake man is once again going to be at camp this summer for the Wednesday program, which is always a big hit with the campers.

Our new Director, Shelby Mander is excited about her new role as well as our new Nursing Coordinator Nancy Steinbuechler.

Summary: Camp is in a transition year, but with that being said, the team that is behind the new coming in is making this year a smooth transition year. So here's to Camp Wekiva 2022.

Christy Linke

WEKIVA VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Wekiva Volunteer Training Report

April 2022

Mary Whisler/Chairman

Wekiva Volunteer Training for 2022 was a great success. We received positive feedback from our 29 attendees. Our new Director/Shelby Mander was introduced and participated in the weekend training.

This year we catered all our meals and found a substantial savings. However, we thank our volunteer kitchen staff of Carol Wood, Skip and Diane Lamoureux for all their help including bringing home made breakfast casseroles and breads. This coming year we hope to have different volunteers for each meal.

During 2022 WVT we were honored to participate in the Office/Clinic groundbreaking. It was an exciting time to finally see the start of construction. The building should be complete before our 2023 training.

Our crafts this year was making steppingstones and terrariums.

This Chairman looks forward to working with our WVT Volunteers in 2023. Below is an update on the 2023 WVT.

Lease Agreement was completed in April 2022 for the WVT 2023 event. Dates are Feb. 10, 2023, to Feb. 12, 2023. All camp facilities will be available to FFGC during this time.

Registration Flyer and Open House flyer have been created and will be available on the FFGC and Wekiva website by end of April 2022.

Daily schedule is being worked on

Insurance was not included in the Proposed Budget since it was not needed in 2022.

Food will be catered. The Park Service will turn on the stove/oven for our use and the refrigerator will be available.

MHC Cleaning Service has been contacted.

Camp Director has been contacted as well as Nature Coordinator and Craft Coordinator.

Park Service will make the Crosley available to the program on Friday and Saturday evening.

Office/Clinic update: We anticipate the Office/Clinic to be completed and available for the 2023 session

Mary Whisler/WVT Chairman 2022/2023