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JANUARY 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

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Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Winter Board of Directors Meeting

January 11-12, 2023

Call to Order:

The regular Winter Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. was called to order at 12:32 P.M., January 11, 2023, by President Marge Hendon. President Hendon extended a warm welcome to all members.

Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America:

Pat Strawn, FFGC Chaplain, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

REGULAR BUSINESS IN ORDER

Appointment of Committees:

The Chair named the following committees who were appointed with no objections.

Committee to Approve the Minutes – Tina Tuttle, Christy Linke, Mary Whisler

Teller of the Meeting: Pat Caren

Timekeeper for this meeting: Sally Flanagan

Introductions

Carol Hall, Deep South Director was introduced. Deep South Garden Club board members were asked to stand and be recognized.

Neither past president, Lois Shuster or Barbara May were in attendance. NGC Board Members were recognized.

FFGC officers were introduced. Jana Walling (Treasurer), Linda Feifarek-Johnson (Corr. Secretary), Carolyn Lowry-Nation (Parliamentarian), Sue Roberts (Rec. Secretary), Mary Whisler (3rd VP), Christy Linke (2nd VP), Tina Tuttle (President-Elect), and Marge Hendon, President.

Report of the Committee to Approve the Minutes of the September 2022 Fall Meeting of the Board of Directors:

Joanne Mulinare reported that the minutes were approved as corrected.

Early Appointments

Mary Whisler was appointed Wekiva Youth Camp Chairman.

Connie Gladding was appointed FFGC Convention Coordinator.

Betty White will be representing District 1 for District Director Joyce Waters-Smith.

REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS:

Mary Whisler, 3rd VP: report was filed

Christy Linke 2nd VP: report was filed

Tina Tuttle President-Elect: report was filed.

Sue Roberts Recording Sec: report was filed

Linda Johnson Corresponding Sec: announced EA dinner invitation for convention and request for Calendar entries be sent to her.

Carolyn Lowry-Nation Parliamentarian: Read standing rule on speaking at board meeting.

Marge Hendon, President: postponed to tomorrow.

Both Officer, District Directors and Board members' reports can be found on the website under 'reports and minutes' under this meeting date.

We then Sang the FFGC song and Marge handed out gift plants to everyone.

Treasurer: Jana Walling reported on Statement of Activity for June 2022- November 2022. This report is filed with these minutes and can be found on the website in the "reports and minutes" section under this meeting date. Report was also sent to all board members before the meeting.

Treasurer's comments:

June 2022-Nov. 2022 report:

Line 9: Dues amount is 7/12ths of total amount collected for old fiscal year.

Line 14: Will be on budget by end of Dec.

Line 24: Money from district 9 as Avon Park Correctional Institute garden therapy project is turned over to FFGC

Line 41: We are earning interest from money for new building at Wekiva Youth Camp as construction has been delayed.

Line 48: Money received on insurance claim for fallen tree/ President's office

Line 69-72: No money has been received for Hall of Fame, Color our Garden, or Earth Steward

Line 73: Penny Pines proceeds

Line 160: through Nov. 66,801.85 has been paid out on President's office repairs. Total now at \$85,932.98.

Line 162: HVAC replacement project now complete at \$27,250.00.

Line 164-169: Grounds expenses, due to hurricanes we have incurred extra expenses

Line 177: no budget amount was included for utilities, will be corrected in a motion.

Line 186: Website software incurred large increase

Line 201: SEEK over budget.

Jana Walling, treasurer, made the following motions:

MOTION: I move to amend the approved Budget for Account 8966 Utilities, which were approved at the Fall 2022 FFGC Board of Directors Meeting, to budget \$13,200 for 2023 and to retroactively budget \$7,700 for the June 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 interim period. The budget amount for this account was inadvertently omitted in the budget for both periods.

MOTION PASSED

MOTION: I move that the duly elected FFGC President, FFGC First Vice President, FFGC Second Vice President, FFGC Third Vice President and FFGC Treasurer be approved as authorized signors on all FFGC bank accounts during their terms of office. This authorization shall continue until such time as it is revoked or amended by this FFGC Board of Directors.

MOTION PASSED

The treasurer asked, that due to IRS regulation to file a form 990, we fill out a report on our average volunteer hours per week. This is for two periods 6/1/21-5/31/22 and 6/1/22-12/31/22. Report is circulating around the room.

Mary Whisler, Wekiva Youth Camp chairman, made two budget amendment motions:

MOTION: to approve a 26% raise in the Wekiva food budget for summer session 2023. Current food budgeted \$34,500; Raise of \$7500 to bring total to \$42,000.00.

Motion passed.

MOTION: to approve a budget increase for labor (\$3,360.00) to provide for an additional part time kitchen food certified staff member (\$26,860).

Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Note: all committee reports are included in the book of Board Chairman Reports. This is kept with the minutes and resides on the website under Reports and Minutes by the date for this meeting. Only motion items are reported in these minutes as all the reports have been filed.

Finance Committee – Tina Tuttle

The FFGC Finance Committee met in January by ZOOM. We considered submitted budgets and financials for FFGC related educational programs and projects and HQ repairs.

Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee - Cissy Richardson

BYLAWS & STANDING RULES COMMITTEE
BOD REPORT
Cissy Richardson, Chairman
January 11, 2023

ADOPT AS POLICY - "HOW TO CREATE CLUB BYLAWS" The Policy titled "How To Create District Bylaws" was adopted at the September 6, 2022, BOD meeting. We are requesting adoption of the policy titled "How to Create Club Bylaws". A copy of this policy was included on the email you received Sunday, January 8th. Both policies will be available for use by Districts and or Clubs and posted on the FFGC website.

ADOPTED 1/11/23

ON BEHALF OF THE BYLAWS & STANDING RULES COMMITTEE, I MOVE -

ART IV Dues and Fees Sec 1 e. **STRIKE: e and (1) in entirety. Dues shall be payable to FFGC and shall be remitted to Headquarters by June 1. Dues of members enrolled after June 1 shall be payable immediately.**
(1) Dues shall be delinquent if not received by June 30, and a notice shall be sent. If not received by November 1, membership and all privileges shall be forfeited unless and until reinstated.

INSERT: Dues shall be payable to FFGC and shall be remitted to Headquarters by May 1. Dues of members enrolled after May 1 shall be payable immediately.
(1) Dues shall be delinquent if not received by May 1 and a notice shall be sent. If not received by June 1, a notice shall be sent. If not received by June 30, membership and all privileges shall be forfeited unless and until reinstated.
PROVISO: Effective Jan 1, 2024
(2) No change.

- RATIONALE: - Address the issue of club members/officers leaving for the summer without having paid dues for the upcoming garden club year.
- Submission of updated information for the Book of Information which is compiled over the summer for fall distribution including current contact information for the Officers and members.
- The NGC dues are payable June 1 and delinquent October 31. FFGC dues are delinquent after November 1 which does not allow FFGC dues/membership numbers to NGC to be accurate without being delinquent.

PROCEDURE: The Membership Chairman would send Dues Notice out the middle of March.
The revised date for the FFGC dues collection would be May 1 instead of June 1.
With Bylaw revision, the dues would be delinquent June 1 and a notice sent.
Dues not received by June 30, would result in forfeit of membership privileges.
This allows for collection of FFGC dues prior to the summer hiatus that many clubs observe.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

ART III, IV and XI ESTABLISHING ONLINE (E) CLUB
ART III MEMBERS Sec I Voting Membership
a. Eligibility, Admission **INSERT: (4) ONLINE (E) CLUB**
An Online (E) Club shall have a membership of not less than ten (10). Application for membership shall be submitted

to the FFGC Board of Directors through the FFGC 3rd Vice President. The application shall be accompanied by per capita dues and an alphabetical list of names, District number, mailing address and email address of all members. A majority vote of the Executive Committee shall elect the club which shall immediately be entitled to all rights and subject to all responsibilities of membership. Ratification shall follow at the next Board of Directors meeting.

ART IV DUES AND FEES

Sec 1 **INSERT: ONLINE (E) CLUB** If adopted, this will read: The annual dues of each Garden Club, **Online (E) Club** and each Garden Club organized on the Circle Plan.....

d. **INSERT: including Online (E) Clubs** If adopted, this will read: Annual FFGC dues of members belonging to two or more Garden Clubs **including Online (E) Clubs** and Garden Clubs organized.....

ART XI REPRESENTATION Sec 1 b. Garden Clubs **INSERT: including Online (E) Clubs**

RATIONALE: Formation of Online (E) Clubs are being considered in the state. One existed a number of years but was never formally identified as a FFGC Club. Above will make Online (E) Clubs legal with procedure to follow.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: **YES** LOST: COMMITTEE:

STANDING RULES

REVISED STANDING RULES WILL BE CORRECTLY NUMBERED & REVISIONS POSTED ON THE WEBSITE.

8 BOOK OF INFORMATION – subsection d. **Six (6) One (1) copies copy** shall remain in the files for the use of the succeeding *Book of Information* Chairman.

If adopted this will read: One copy shall remain in the files..... **RATIONALE:** Files are stored electronically.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: **YES** LOST: COMMITTEE:

9 *The Florida Gardener* **STRIKE: RED** **INSERT: GREEN**

a. Each Club shall be responsible for maintaining a current membership list and shall notify the FFGC Office **Manager/Coordinator** promptly of changes of names, address, zip code, **email address** and **telephone number**, members added and members dropped. **Most** members shall receive the Florida Gardener **online**. **If mailed, a legally married couple will receive one copy of The Florida Gardener.**

RATIONALE: Published online for members. If a printed copy is mailed, one copy for legally married couples.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: LOST: COMMITTEE: **TO COMMITTEE**

10 and # 11 **STRIKE IN ENTIRETY** combining # 10 and # 11 **INSERT: new SR # 10**

10 OTHER PRINTED MATERIALS/PUBLICATIONS

Any printed material or publication produced by an appointed Chairman must be approved by the President. All materials shall become the property of FFGC and may be copyrighted or trademarked. Consent is required by FFGC to reproduce materials/publications. Originals will be kept at Headquarters in the Cloud .

(1) FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (FFGC) CALENDAR

- a. Material selected for the FFGC Calendar may appear in local news media prior to being published in the FFGC Calendar. Material having appeared in books, magazines or other copyrighted or trademarked and national media shall not be accepted for the FFGC Calendar.
- b. Disposition of calendars not sold will return to Ways and Means and become the responsibility of the FFGC Third Vice President.

RATIONALE: Combining of rules regarding publications.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: LOST: COMMITTEE: TO COMMITTEE

12 FLORIDA FLOWER SHOW JUDGES INSERT: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs.

The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve as a chairman on the FFGC Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and STRIKE: COUNCIL FFSJ. INSERT: FFGC, FFSJ

If adopted this will read: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs. The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve as a chairman on the FFGC Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and FFSJ.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: LOST: COMMITTEE: TO COMMITTEE

14 PROTECTED PLANTS STRIKE: in entirety RATIONALE: The list of protected plants etc is not required in Bylaws. FFSJ has list.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

15 ENDORSEMENTS FOR FFGC OFFICERS INSERT: d. submitted Letter of Endorsement

INSERT: e. All qualified candidates will be interviewed by the FFGC Nominating Committee.

STRIKE: f. The Resume Form (pdf) file may be downloaded from the FFGC website.

NOTE: The Standing Rule for ENDORSEMENTS FOR FFGC OFFICERS will be rearranged in correct order of procedure. This change will not affect the verbiage with exceptions for Insertion and strike listed above.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

16, # 17 and # 18 STRIKE: in entirety combining 16, 17 and 18

INSERT: SR # 16 FFGC PRESIDENT'S PINS/JEWELRY

- a. The FFGC President's pin/jewelry shall be presented at the installation ceremony by the retiring President. The immediate former President representing the FFGC at the National Garden Clubs Convention that same year shall wear the FFGC President's pin/jewelry.
- b. Each Vice President shall be presented with an FFGC pin/jewelry. The FFGC First Vice President's pin/jewelry shall be presented to the incoming First Vice President at the installation ceremony by the outgoing First Vice President. The FFGC Second Vice President's pin/jewelry shall be presented to the incoming Second Vice President at the installation ceremony by the outgoing Second Vice President. The FFGC Third Vice President's pin /jewelry shall be presented to the incoming Third Vice President at the installation ceremony by the outgoing Third Vice President.
- c. Each executive officer (President; First, Second and Third Vice President) shall sign a Letter of Agreement to return the FFGC pin/jewelry if a situation arises that he/she can no longer perform his/her duties. A copy of this letter shall be kept in the presentation box bearing the pin/jewelry and at Headquarters.
- d. Former President's pins/jewelry shall be presented at the installation ceremony by the incoming President. Former Presidents' pins/jewelry are the property of FFGC and should not be altered. The Chairman of the Advisory Council shall be responsible for the inventory of former FFGC Presidents' pins/jewelry. The Chairman of the Advisory Council, prior to the installation ceremony, shall insure that the immediate former President and a member of his/her family sign a Letter of Agreement to return this property to FFGC upon death or when no longer able to represent FFGC. A copy of the letter shall be kept in the presentation box and at FFGC Headquarters.
- e. The NGC pin worn by Mrs. Carrol O Griffin may be worn by the FFGC President on occasion and shall be

maintained in the safe at FFGC Headquarters.

f. Any additional Former Presidents' pins/jewelry shall be maintained in the safe at FFGC Headquarters. Former President pins/jewelry shall be fabricated by a jeweler of choice in a timely manner as the budget allows. Usable mold for the pin shall be maintained in the safe at FFGC Headquarters.

g. All FFGC pins/jewelry shall be insured under the FFGC insurance policy and periodically appraised.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

19 ADVISORY COUNCIL STRIKE: In entirety

INSERT: The Advisory Council shall be composed of FFGC Former Presidents. The immediate former FFGC President shall be the Chairman of the Advisory Council. The Chairman shall be responsible for the inventory of former FFGC Presidents' pins. The Advisory Council is charged with advising the current FFGC President or as requested by the Board of Directors. The Advisory Council shall meet at the Fall and Winter Meetings of the FFGC Board of Directors or as requested.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

**# 20 PRECIOUS METAL AND GEMSTONES STATUS INSERT: 95 years – Blue Diamond
100 years -Centenary Diamond
125 years- Blue Star Sapphire**

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

21 AWARDS STRIKE: existing Standing Rule

INSERT: # 21 FFGC AWARDS One application is required for each award found on the FFGC website.

a. ADULT and YOUTH AWARDS

1. An FFGC Awards Program shall be developed and maintained. Award descriptions including eligibility therefore, shall be published on the FFGC website. The website shall include the award processes and procedures.
2. FFGC shall include in its General Fund budget an amount to fund all FFGC Awards during the fiscal year except as noted for the Flower Show Related Awards.
3. The FFGC Awards Committee may secure any FFGC member or other expert in the subject of the award to judge award applications.
4. All presentations of FFGC Awards are the responsibility of the FFGC Awards Committee as directed by the FFGC President.
5. Proposed awards and award changes shall be presented to the Board of Directors for approval and if adopted, published in *The Florida Gardener* and the FFGC website. Proposed new FFGC awards shall not bear the name of a person, place or organization.
6. Awards having no activity for four (4) successive calendar years may be discontinued. The awards proposed for discontinuation shall be announced at the Winter Board of Directors Meeting. Input from the Board shall be solicited at this meeting and taken into consideration by the Awards Committee prior to the final discontinuation of such awards. The final list will be announced at the Pre-Convention Board of Directors meeting.

b. FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

1. FFGC Flower Show Achievement Awards See the FFGC website - Awards for specific details. Application requires a Book of Evidence and three (3) Flower Show Evaluations following NGC Rules.
2. FFGC shall include in its General Fund budget an amount to fund all FFGC Flower Show Awards during the fiscal year.
3. Proposed awards and award changes shall be presented to the Board of Directors for approval and if adopted, published in *The Florida Gardener* and on the FFGC website. Proposed new awards shall not bear the name of a person, place or organization.

c. FLOWER SHOW RELATED AWARDS

1. See the FFGC website - Awards for criteria. These awards may not be altered without consultation with the FFSJ Executive Committee.

2. FFSJ accepts the financial responsibility for these awards.

RATIONALE: Clarify the Adult, Youth, Flower Show and Flower Show Related Awards including financial responsibility.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

23 POLICIES OF FFGC, INC. Minor spelling, punctuation corrections in A and B.

c. WHISTLE BLOWER POLICY STRIKE: Board INSERT: FFGC

If adopted this will read: If a member has a reasonable belief that a member has engaged in any action that violates any applicable law, or regulation, including those concerning accounting and auditing, or constitutes a fraudulent practice, the member is expected to immediately report such information to the (Board) FFGC President. If the member does not feel comfortable reporting the information to the (Board) FFGC President, he or she is expected to report the information to the First Vice President.

INSERT: d. VISITORS TO THE FFGC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Visitors in attendance at an FFGC Board Meeting must sign in with the Parliamentarian prior to the Call to Order. Non-members of the Board of Directors may not speak or vote on any issue since they are not a member of the Board of Directors.

e. Photographs, videos or recordings of FFGC meetings or activities must be pre-approved and/or announced to participants.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

24 FFGC E-MAIL VOTING GUIDELINES

d. At the end of the time period for debate, the FFGC Recording Secretary/~~STRIKE: Chair~~ INSERT: Committee Recording Secretary shall e-mail a ballot on which the motion is stated and a "for" or "against" box is provided, to be returned using ~~STRIKE: reply all.~~ INSERT: reply.

~~STRIKE: i and j.~~ INSERT:

i. At the end of the voting period, the FFGC Recording Secretary/Committee Recording Secretary shall send a Teller's Report to the FFGC President/Committee Chairman that will include:
(1) Date and time the motion was sent and the polls were open; (2) Number of votes cast; (3) Votes necessary for adoption (majority); (4) Votes for motion; (5) Votes against; and (6) Illegal votes.

Remaining letters will be corrected.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

25 FFGC GUIDELINES FOR ELETRONIC/TELEPHONE MEETINGS

~~STRIKE: Many free services are available with telephone and/or video conferencing for this purpose.~~

INSERT: (new paragraph within description) Many free services are available. All charges incurred are the responsibility of the group scheduling the meeting. FFGC hosts are limited to FFGC Board of Directors, Executive Committee or Standing Committees meetings unless approved by the President. All other called meetings including District meetings, etc. will have a private host selected by persons scheduling the meeting.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

26 DEEP SOUTH REGIONAL DIRECTOR & ALTERNATE REGIONAL DIRECTOR ~~STRIKE: title in entirety~~
INSERT: DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (DSGC) DIRECTOR AND ALTERNATE DIRECTOR

~~STRIKE: a.~~ STRIKE: Regional INSERT: Region

a. (3) Have attended two (2) of the three (3) previous Deep South Regional Conventions at time of election.

INSERT: a. (3) Have attended a minimum of two DSGC Conventions and may include the DSGC Convention when installed.

~~STRIKE: a. (4) Have attended a minimum of two (2) NGC Conventions and may include the NGC Convention at which they are~~

installed.

STRIKE: b. (1) permanently The offices of Deep South Regional Director and Deep South Alternate Director shall be **permanently** rotated among the Deep South Region states

b. (1) – (5) and c. (3) **STRIKE: Regional** **INSERT: Region**
The **Regional/Region** Director and the Alternate **Regional** Director

NOTE: The Bylaws adopted by DSGC refer to the REGION DIRECTOR and the ALTERNATE DIRECTOR respectively. All references to Regional Director or Alternate Regional Director are incorrect. Correct: REGION DIRECTOR and ALTERNATE DIRECTOR.

b. (4) **INSERT: their** prior to duties; **INSERT: or until their successors are elected**
STRIKE: NGC **INSERT: DSGC**

This will now read: The Director and Alternate Director shall assume their duties of office for a two-year term at the close of the DSGC Convention in the odd-numbered year or until their successors are elected.

RATIONALE : All of the above revisions have been adopted by DSGC. FFGC Standing Rules revised to reflect DSG revisions.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

27 MEMORIALS/EULOGIES POLICIES **STRIKE: c. Pillar of Pride will be presented as a memorial to the family of deceased FFGC Presidents.**

RATIONALE: Person serving as FFGC President would have already received the Pillar of Pride at some point in time.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

28 GIFT ACCEPTANCE POLICY Last sentence **STRIKE: Organization** **INSERT: Corporation**

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

29 REQUEST TO BYLAWS COMMITTEE **STRIKE: in entirety**

INSERT: Requests should be received at least two weeks prior to the Board of Directors or Convention meeting. All requests will be addressed as soon as possible with emergency requests taking precedence. A response to the person/committee making the request will be made by email/telephone or in person to indicate action taken or continued review. Persons acquainted with the subject matter may be asked for input.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

30 CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY **STRIKE: The Conflict of Interest Policy of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.: (1) defines conflict of interest (2) identifies classes of individuals within the Organization covered by the policy; (3) facilitates disclosure of information that may help identify conflicts of interest; and (4) specifies procedures to be followed in managing conflicts of interest.**

INSERT: The Conflict of Interest Policy is intended to protect the Corporation’s interests, is designed to help directors, officers and employees of FFGC identify situations that present potential conflicts of interest and provides the FFGC with a procedure that, if observed, will allow a transaction to be treated as valid and binding even though a director, officer or employee has or may have a conflict of interest with respect to the transaction.

RATIONALE: Updating the Policy to protect the corporation.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

32 INSERT: AMENDING STANDING RULES

The Bylaws of FFGC govern the structure and operation of the Corporation. FFGC Standing Rules amplify the Bylaws, clarifying procedures and practices followed in carrying out the corporation’s activities. Standing Rules are more flexible and can be created, amended or stricken after presentation by the Bylaws Committee to the Board of Directors followed by a majority vote of the FFGC Board of Directors.

RATIONALE: A stated policy for Standing Rules amendments needs to be clearly stated in print.

DATE: 1/11/23

ADOPTED: YES

LOST:

COMMITTEE:

Bylaws Committee: Cissy Richardson, Chairman; Marge Hendon, Arlene Rand, Tina Tuttle, Rosita Aristoff, Margaret Chodosh, Judi Jodoin and Carolyn Nation, Parliamentarian.

Membership and Membership Retention Committee – Jane Nendick

FFGC Headquarters and Endowment Committee – Sue Roberts, Chairman

Election of the Nominating Committee for H&E Committee

President appointed **Sue Angle** to Chair this committee

Helen Purvis and Linda Johnson were elected by the Board of Directors to serve on this committee.

The President brought in the Office Coordinator, Robin Hayes, to officially thank her for her first year of employment.

Strategic Planning Committee – Gina Jogan

FFGC Matching Grants – Gina Jogan

Election of Delegates to 2023 DSGC Convention in LA

Deep South Garden Club board members are automatically delegates. We may have 10 delegates and 10 alternates.

Linda Johnson was elected and others were asked to submit their names if they decide to attend this convention.

District Reports

District IX – Dale DeFeo

District X – Michele Maguire

District XI – Sharon Bogard, absent, report was read

District XII – Leticia Gunn

Convention 2023 – Susie Berryhill/ Kelley Wood

Blue Star markers – Rosita Aristoff

Bees – Christy Linke

Florida Gardener – Lisa Packard

Motion: Motion was made by Lisa Packard and seconded by Donna Thomas that the Florida Gardener go to total electronic distribution with printed editions only available to those who subscribe (\$3.75 per issue or \$15 per year) effective in the Fall of 2023.

Motion failed.

Election of New Members of the Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee

Brenda Luedeman, chairman of the nominating committee for Bylaws and Standing Rules committee submitted **Inger Jones** and **Linda Johnson** for election to this committee. Both were elected.

Election of Delegates and Alternates to the 2023 National Garden Clubs convention

Convention is May 2-5, 2023, in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. All NGC Board members are automatically delegates. We are entitled to 10 more delegates and 10 alternatives. The following BOD members were elected: **Andrea Finn, Carol Hall, Connie Gladding, Tina Tuttle, Christy Linke, Rosita Aristoff, and Lisa Packard.** Others can submit their names if they decide to attend this convention.

The President introduced **Kathryn Sickling**, hospitality chairman and thanked her for the reception to follow when meeting adjourns for the day.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40PM and to resume at 9:00AM tomorrow.

Minutes of the FFGF BOD meeting 1/12/2023 continued

Reconvene at 9:10 AM

President's Report – Marge Hendon

Marge spoke of FFGC, the garden clubs and members using the analogy of the Christmas Cactus, that she gave us all, relating us to the segments and the stems and flowers of the plant.

By-laws – Cissy Richarson

Brought back the three items that were sent back to committee for rewording.

THE FOLLOWING STANDING RULES WERE SENT BACK TO COMMITTEE FOR REPORT 1/12/23:

SR # 9 *The Florida Gardener* STRIKE: RED INSERT: GREEN

- a. Each Club shall be responsible for maintaining a current membership list and shall notify the FFGC Office **Manager/Coordinator** promptly of changes of names, address, zip code, **email address** and **telephone number**, members added and members dropped. **Members shall receive may access *The Florida Gardener* digitally. If mailed, a legally married couple will receive one copy of *The Florida Gardener*.**

If adopted, this will read: a. Each Club shall be responsible for maintaining a current membership list and shall notify the FFGC Office Coordinator promptly of changes of names, address, zip code, email address and telephone number, members added and members dropped. Members may access *The Florida Gardener* digitally. If mailed, a legally married couple will receive one copy of *The Florida Gardener*.

ADOPTED: 1 12/23

SR # 10 and 11 STRIKE IN ENTIRETY

INSERT: # 10 OTHER PRINTED MATERIALS/PUBLICATIONS

Any printed material or publication produced by an appointed Chairman must be approved by the President. All materials shall become the property of FFGC and may be copyrighted or trademarked. Consent is required by FFGC to reproduce materials/publications. Originals will be stored at Headquarters electronically.

(1) FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (FFGC) CALENDAR

- a. Material selected for the FFGC Calendar may appear in local news media prior to being published in the FFGC Calendar. Material having appeared in books, magazines, or other copyrighted or trademarked and national media shall not be accepted for the FFGC Calendar.
- b. Disposition of calendars not sold will return to Ways and Means and become the responsibility of the FFGC Third Vice President.

ADOPTED: 1/12/23

SR # 12 FLORIDA FLOWER SHOW JUDGES (FFSJ)

INSERT: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs, Inc.

The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve as a chairman on the FFGC Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and FFSJ. STRIKE: as a chairman INSERT: FFGC, FFSJ

If adopted, this will read: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs, Inc. The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve on the FFGC Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and FFSJ.

ADOPTED: 1/12/23

District IV – Connie Gladding

District V – Donna Thomas

District VI- Suzi Bailey

Ratify evote held on 9/9/22 to accept the membership of Deltona Garden Club

Amazon Smiles – Linda Johnson

FFGC Nominating committee – Helen Purvis

Presented the following slate of nominees for FFGC Officers for 2023-2025.

1st Vice President – Christy Linke

2nd Vice President – Mary Whisler

3rd Vice President – Leticia Gunn

Recording secretary – Jennifer Barber

Treasurer – Jana Walling

Tri-Council – Pat Caren

District I – Betty White for Joyce Waters-Smith

District VIII – Kitty Wallace

District VII – Charlotte White

Penny Pines – Andrea Finn

DSGC Convention – Carol Hall

FFSJ – Parke Finold

Wekiva Volunteer Training – Mary Whisler

S.E.E.K. – Mary Whisler for Jennifer Seymour

100th Celebration – Tina Tuttle

MOTION: Move that FFGC modify its existing logo by adding an outer ring “One Hundred Year 1924-2024” and replace our current logo on all stationary, forms and documents beginning April 20, 2023.

Motion made by Tina Tuttle, seconded by Dale DeFeo

Motion Passed.

Short Course North – Tina Tuttle

8/9-10/2023, not a tri-refresher, Pensacola area

Wekiva Youth Camp – Christy Linke

Tropical Short Course – Michele Maguire

1/26-27/2023, not a tri-refresher

FFGC Scholarships – Helen Purvis

Environment – Lydia Barbour

Presented new Category 1 and 2 Invasive species list

Would like to see Control Invasive Species position paper dated 5/10/2012 updated

Announcements

Opportunity Drawing Tickets

Reports due to Sue Roberts

Benediction – Pat Strawn

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Susan Roberts
Susan Roberts, Recording Secretary

Attest:

Marjorie Hendon *Marjorie Hendon* _____

Marjorie Hendon, President

Committee to approve the minutes: Tina Tuttle, Christy Linke, Mary Whisler

Looks great. Pat Caren has two spots where her name is spelled Pat Caren. 1st page as Teller and next to last page for Tri-Council. Other wise perfect. Marge

Minutes approved with corrections by Tina Tuttle, Christy Linke, and Mary Whisler

Reports Electronically filed with minutes:

Book of Officer and DD Reports

Book of Board Reports

Financial Report

How to Create District Bylaws

How to Create Club Bylaws

Letter from Florida Department of State – FFGC Articles of Amendment to the Article of Incorporation file on 7/25/2022

	A	B	C	D
1	Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Inc.			
2	Statement of Activity			
3	June - November, 2022			
4				
5		Actual	Budget	Actual Over (Under) Budget
6	Revenue			
7	100 100th Anniversary celebration!	5,695.00	\$33,248.00	(27,553.00)
8	6000 GENERAL INCOME			
9	6001 Dues - Members	63,775.00	\$66,000.00	(2,225.00)
10	6003 Dues - Affiliate member	150.00	\$100.00	50.00
11	6004 FFGC Life Memberships	1,200.00	\$2,000.00	(800.00)
12	6005.1 Undesignated Donations	583.00		583.00
13	6008 Headquarters Rental (H&E)			0.00
14	6008.2 Taxable Rentals	24,962.28	\$29,200.00	(4,237.72)
15	Total 6008 Headquarters Rental (H&E)	\$ 24,962.28	\$29,200.00	(4,237.72)
16	Total 6000 GENERAL INCOME	\$ 90,670.28	\$ 97,300.00	(6,629.72)
17	6100 PROGRAM SERVICES (FFGC)			
18	6101 FFGC/UF Short Course	518.38	\$500.00	18.38
19	6102 F/S Schools & Symposiums		\$500.00	(500.00)
20	6103 Floral Design/Educ activities		\$250.00	(250.00)
21	6107 Travel Tours		\$2,000.00	(2,000.00)
22	6106 Tropical Short Course		\$500.00	(500.00)
23	6108 Short Course North	582.25	\$500.00	82.25
24	6109 Avon Park	20,705.89		20,705.89
25	6201 TFG Subscriptions	135.00	\$150.00	(15.00)
26	6202 FI Gardener Adv.Income	1,560.00	\$1,750.00	(190.00)
27	Total 6100 PROGRAM SERVICES (FFGC)	\$ 23,501.52	\$ 6,150.00	17,351.52
28	6300 SERVICE ITEMS (FFGC)			
29	6302 Flower Arr Calendar			0.00
30	6302.01 2021 Calendars	210.00		210.00
31	Total 6302 Flower Arr Calendar	\$ 210.00		210.00
32	6308 WAYS AND MEANS-SALES (FFGC)			
33	6308.1 Square Inc	1,100.06		1,100.06
34	Total 6308 WAYS AND MEANS-SALES (FFGC)	\$ 1,313.93	\$250.00	1,063.93
35	Total 6300 SERVICE ITEMS (FFGC)	\$ 1,523.93	\$250.00	1,273.93
36	6400 INVESTMENT INCOME			
37	6401 Interest Earned - Gen Fd (FFGC)	54.47	\$30.00	24.47
38	6403 Interest Earned Grant Account	15.25		15.25
39	6407 Int earned- Scholarship	21.11		21.11
40	6410 Int Earned H&E	17.56	\$7.00	10.56
41	6424 Interest on Wekiva B&M	2,394.66		2,394.66
42	Total 6400 INVESTMENT INCOME	\$ 2,503.05	\$37.00	2,466.05
43	6500 MISCELLANEOUS INCOME (FFGC)			
44	6307.4 Amazon.com	132.28		132.28

	A	B	C	D
5		Actual	Budget	Actual Over (Under) Budget
45	6308.3 Credit Card Points	938.19	\$750.00	188.19
46	6507 Miscellaneous Revenue	0.00	\$1,000.00	(1,000.00)
47	6507.2 Sales Tax Collection Allowance	48.12		48.12
48	6507.3 Insurance Claim Proceeds	50,610.11		50,610.11
49	Total 6500 MISCELLANEOUS INCOME (FFGC)	\$ 51,728.70	\$1,750.00	49,978.70
50	6600 WEKIVA INCOME			
51	6604 Wekiva Critter Camp	3,200.00	\$3,200.00	0.00
52	6605.2 Campership Donations	6,245.00	\$5,000.00	1,245.00
53	6605.3 Undesignated Donations	15,990.92	\$15,000.00	990.92
54	6605.34 In Memory of Carol Wood	3,710.00		3,710.00
55	Total 6605.3 Undesignated Donations	\$ 19,700.92	\$15,000.00	4,700.92
56	6605.4 Designated Donations	3,475.00		3,475.00
57	6607 Interest and Dividends	62.14	\$25.00	37.14
58	6609 Wekiva Misc Income	3.00	\$50.00	(47.00)
59	6610 Wekiva Registrations			
60	6610.2 GC Sponsored(\$250)	29,925.00		29,925.00
61	6610.4 Parent Paid Registrations	118,590.00		118,590.00
62	Total 6610 Wekiva Registrations	\$ 148,515.00	\$156,000.00	(7,485.00)
63	6612 Wekiva 9th Grade(LIT)	11,500.00	\$10,500.00	1,000.00
64	6614 Logo Sales	4,570.81	\$3,400.00	1,170.81
65	Total 6600 WEKIVA INCOME	\$ 197,271.87	\$ 193,175.00	4,096.87
66	6700 CONTRIBUTIONS			0.00
67	6005 Pillar of Pride	300.00	\$500.00	(200.00)
68	6007.1 bricks/garden path (H&E)	200.00	\$350.00	(150.00)
69	6009 Hall of Fame Income(HQ)		\$200.00	(200.00)
70	6307.10 Coral Reef Restoration	242.76		242.76
71	6307.2 Color Our Garden (H&E)			
72	6307.21 Earth Stewardships (H&E)		\$100.00	(100.00)
73	6307.3 Penny Pines	3,128.00		3,128.00
74	6504 Scholarships	3,500.00		3,500.00
75	Total 6700 CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 7,370.76	\$1,150.00	6,220.76
76	7000 SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS/PROJECTS			
77	7004 Convention Awards	50.00		50.00
78	7019 SEEK Youth Envir. Conf.	4,400.00	\$12,000.00	(7,600.00)
79	Total 7000 SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS/PROJECTS	\$ 4,450.00	\$12,000.00	(7,550.00)
80	Total Revenue	\$ 384,715.11	\$345,060.00	39,655.11
81	Gross Profit	\$ 384,715.11	\$345,060.00	39,655.11
82	Expenditures			
83	200 100th Anniversary Celebration		\$43,712.00	(43,712.00)
84	8000 GENERAL EXPENSES			
85	8001 NGC Dues -Members	10,006.00	\$10,500.00	(494.00)
86	8002 NGC Dues Youth Gardeners		\$10.00	(10.00)
87	8008 HQ RENTAL EXPENDITURES (H&E)			

	A	B	C	D
5		Actual	Budget	Actual Over (Under) Budget
88	8008.6 Janitorial (SYMM Svcs)	0.00		0.00
89	Total 8008 HQ RENTAL EXPENDITURES (H&E)	\$ 0.00		0.00
90	Total 8000 GENERAL EXPENSES	\$ 10,006.00	\$10,510.00	(504.00)
91	8100 PROGRAM SERVICES EXPENSES			
92	8101 State Convention			0.00
93	8202 FI Gardener-Circulation	6,382.29	\$6,400.00	(17.71)
94	8202.1 Florida Gardener Postage	1,694.23	\$1,600.00	94.23
95	Total 8100 PROGRAM SERVICES EXPENSES	\$ 8,076.52	\$8,000.00	76.52
96	8600 WEKIVA EXPENSE			
97	8601.1 Chairman's Expense		\$300.00	(300.00)
98	8601.2 Tour Team Expense	2,000.00	\$2,000.00	0.00
99	8604 Wekiva Bldg & Maintenan	455.13		455.13
100	8604.10 Wekiva Bldg. Expenses	3,982.30		3,982.30
101	8605 Wekiva Camp Supplies	417.05		417.05
102	8605.1 Nametags	111.22	\$100.00	11.22
103	8606 Wekiva Canteen	10,407.18	\$8,200.00	2,207.18
104	8607 Wekiva Critter Camp		\$160.00	(160.00)
105	8609 Wekiva Clinic	1,015.12	\$600.00	415.12
106	8610 Wekiva Crafts	2,039.87	\$2,540.00	(500.13)
107	8611 Wekiva Depreciation	1,500.00	\$1,500.00	0.00
108	8612 Wekiva - Food	34,237.80	\$33,000.00	1,237.80
109	8612.5 Cleaning Supplies and Maint.	2,480.17	\$2,100.00	380.17
110	8613 Wekiva Insurance	5,919.86	\$4,500.00	1,419.86
111	8613.01 Wekiva Workers' Comp. Insurance	2,945.70	\$2,750.00	195.70
112	8614 Wekiva Miscellaneous	402.95	\$400.00	2.95
113	8614.1 fingerprinting	2,308.62	\$2,300.00	8.62
114	Total 8614 Wekiva Miscellaneous	\$ 2,711.57	\$2,700.00	11.57
115	8616 Wekiva Office Exp	604.64	\$600.00	4.64
116	8617 Salaries	75.00		75.00
117	8618 Wekiva -Payroll Taxes	5,806.58	\$5,585.00	221.58
118	8619 Wekiva Postage	511.67		511.67
119	8622 Wekiva 7th Gr Program	376.97	\$560.00	(183.03)
120	8623 Wekiva 8th Gr Program	964.92	\$864.00	100.92
121	8624 Wekiva 9th Gr Prog(LIT)	8,430.00	\$9,000.00	(570.00)
122	8624.1 Camper Pictures & Dogtags	319.55	\$900.00	(580.45)
123	8625 Wekiva Wages - Staff	52,340.03	\$51,000.00	1,340.03
124	8627 Wekiva-Wages-Kitchen	23,385.01	\$22,000.00	1,385.01
125	8627.1 Wekiva Waterfront Expense	366.23	\$1,700.00	(1,333.77)
126	8627.2 Wekiva Website Hosting	134.40		134.40
127	8628 Wekiva Telephone & Internet	1,237.88	\$700.00	537.88
128	8629 WYC designated donation purchas	2,216.23		2,216.23
129	8630 Wekiva Park Fees	22,320.00	\$17,500.00	4,820.00
130	8631 Wekiva Nature	490.31	\$500.00	(9.69)

	A	B	C	D
5		Actual	Budget	Actual Over (Under) Budget
131	8632 Wekiva Transportation	2,020.00	\$1,000.00	1,020.00
132	8633 Wekiva Legal and Accounting	1,200.00	\$1,200.00	0.00
133	8636 Wekiva - Bank & CC Fees	5,556.57	\$4,500.00	1,056.57
134	8638 Wekiva Registration Expense	515.00	\$400.00	115.00
135	8639 Amer. Camp Assoc. ACA	2,743.00	\$1,271.00	1,472.00
136	8641 Opening/Closing/set up camp	294.25	\$600.00	(305.75)
137	8642 Volunteers	590.09	\$1,000.00	(409.91)
138	Total 8600 WEKIVA EXPENSE	\$ 202,721.30	\$ 181,330.00	21,391.30
139	8900 OPERATING EXPENSES			
140	8901 BOD Meeting Hospitality	186.64	\$250.00	(63.36)
141	8901.1 Hospitality Other		\$250.00	(250.00)
142	8902 Bank Charges-General Fd	0.13	\$50.00	(49.87)
143	8907 District Mtg Tour Expenses	1,035.75	\$3,000.00	(1,964.25)
144	8911 Gifts/Memorials/Courtesies		\$25.00	(25.00)
145	8915 Floral Design Study		\$25.00	(25.00)
146	8920 Engraving/Bricks/Plaques		\$175.00	(175.00)
147	8921 Insurance	18,773.82	\$5,000.00	13,773.82
148	8921.1 Workers' Compensation	1,086.00	\$92.00	994.00
149	Total 8921 Insurance	\$ 19,859.82	\$ 5,092.00	14,767.82
150	8923 Legal & Accounting	930.50	\$20,000.00	(19,069.50)
151	8927 MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	164.81	\$1,000.00	(835.19)
152	8927.1 1st Time Conv. Attendees Party	0.00		0.00
153	Total 8927 MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	\$ 164.81	\$ 1,000.00	(835.19)
154	8929 OFFICE SUPPLIES	2,169.73	\$1,300.00	869.73
155	8943 Postage	287.27	\$300.00	(12.73)
156	8945 Printing & Stationery	0.00	\$600.00	(600.00)
157	Total 8929 OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 2,457.00	\$ 2,200.00	257.00
158	8932 Major Repairs & Renovations		\$10,000.00	(10,000.00)
159	8933 REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE		\$200.00	(200.00)
160	8932.1 Insurance Claim Expenditures	66,801.85	\$17,716.00	49,085.85
161	8933.1 Pest Control - JC Ehrlich (H&E)	0.00	\$240.00	(240.00)
162	8933.3 HVAC (H&E)	18,797.00	\$28,500.00	(9,703.00)
163	8953 Repairs & Maintenance - Bldg.	5,740.15	\$5,000.00	740.15
164	8954 Repairs & Maintenance - Grounds	7,815.00	\$5,344.00	2,471.00
165	8933.4 Security Monitoring	368.70	\$315.00	53.70
166	8954.1 lawncare (Grandtopia (H&E)	7,455.00	\$7,000.00	455.00
167	8954.2 irrigation(Poole/Fuller)(H&E)	758.73	\$1,500.00	(741.27)
168	8954.3 Q F (lawn/shrub/pest)(H&E)	550.00	\$875.00	(325.00)
169	Total 8954 Repairs & Maintenance - Grounds	\$ 16,947.43	\$ 15,034.00	1,913.43
170	8957.2 Color Our Garden		\$ 300.00	(300.00)
171	8959 Supplies - Janatorial	97.00	\$200.00	(103.00)
172	Total 8933 REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	\$ 108,383.43	\$ 77,190.00	\$ 41,493.43
173	8947 Presidents Official Exp	2,360.23	\$5,000.00	(2,639.77)

	A	B	C	D
5		Actual	Budget	Actual Over (Under) Budget
174	8957.2 Color Our Garden		\$300.00	(300.00)
175	8964 Licenses and taxes	160.00	\$250.00	(90.00)
176	8965 Telephone/ISP	556.96	\$800.00	(243.04)
177	8966 Utilities (H&E)	6,365.05		6,365.05
178	8969 Vice-Presidents Exp			0.00
179	8969.1 First VP	154.30	\$950.00	(795.70)
180	8969.2 Second VP	84.65	\$950.00	(865.35)
181	8969.3 Third VP		\$950.00	(950.00)
182	Total 8969 Vice-Presidents Exp	\$ 238.95	\$ 2,850.00	(2,611.05)
183	8971 WAYS AND MEANS	0.00	\$300.00	(300.00)
184	8951.1 Credit Card Fees	109.24	\$300.00	(190.76)
185	Total 8971 WAYS AND MEANS	\$ 109.24	\$ 600.00	(490.76)
186	8973 Website/membership software	\$ 4,284.00	\$2,625.00	1,659.00
187	8974 Donor NGC & DS Awards		\$300.00	(300.00)
188	8977 FFGC Promotion	258.63	\$1,500.00	(1,241.37)
189	9100 SALARIES			
190	8909 Payroll	7,432.57	\$11,300.00	(3,867.43)
191	8963 Payroll Taxes	568.59	\$868.00	(299.41)
192	Total 9100 SALARIES	\$ 8,001.16	\$ 12,168.00	(4,166.84)
193	Total 8900 OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 155,352.30	\$ 135,350.00	\$ 31,077.30
194	8957 CONTRIBUTION EXPENSES			
195	8914 FFGC Scholarships	10,500.00		10,500.00
196	8957.3 Penny Pines	1,836.00		1,836.00
197	Total 8957 CONTRIBUTION EXPENSES	\$ 12,336.00	\$ 0.00	12,336.00
198	8958 H & E Miscellaneous	26.72	\$100.00	(73.28)
199	9000 SPECIAL PROJECTS EXPENSES			
200	9006 Avon Garden Therapy	1,001.24		1,001.24
201	9019 SEEK Youth	17,362.49	\$12,000.00	5,362.49
202	Total 9000 SPECIAL PROJECTS EXPENSES	\$ 18,363.73	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 6,363.73
203	Total Expenditures	\$ 406,882.57	\$391,002.00	\$ 12,727.46
204	Net Operating Revenue	-\$ 22,167.46	-\$ 45,942.00	\$ 26,927.65
205	Other Expenditures			
206	Reconciliation Discrepancies-1	-0.17		(0.17)
207	Total Other Expenditures	-\$ 0.17	\$ 0.00	-\$ 0.17
208	Net Other Revenue	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.17
209	Net Revenue	-\$ 22,167.29	-\$ 45,942.00	\$ 26,927.82
210				
211				
212				
213	Monday, Dec 26, 2022 11:53:59 AM GMT-8 - Accrual Basis			

BYLAWS & STANDING RULES COMMITTEE
BOD REPORT
Cissy Richardson, Chairman
January 11, 2023

ADOPT AS POLICY - "HOW TO CREATE CLUB BYLAWS" The Policy titled "How To Create District Bylaws" was adopted at the September 6, 2022, BOD meeting. We are requesting adoption of the policy titled "How to Create Club Bylaws". A copy of this policy was included on the email you received Sunday, January 8th. Both policies will be available for use by Districts and or Clubs. **ADOPTED 1/11/23**

ON BEHALF OF THE BYLAWS & STANDING RULES COMMITTEE, I MOVE -

ART IV Dues and Fees Sec 1 e. **STRIKE: e and (1) in entirety. Dues shall be payable to FFGC and shall be remitted to Headquarters by June 1. Dues of members enrolled after June 1 shall be payable Immediately.**
(1) Dues shall be delinquent if not received by June 30, and a notice shall be sent. If not received by November 1, membership and all privileges shall be forfeited unless and until reinstated.

INSERT: Dues shall be payable to FFGC and shall be remitted to Headquarters by May 1. Dues of members enrolled after May 1 shall be payable immediately.
(1) Dues shall be delinquent if not received by May 1 and a notice shall be sent. If not received by June 1 , a notice shall be sent. If not received by June 30, membership and all privileges shall be forfeited unless and until reinstated.
PROVISO: Effective Jan 1, 2024
(2) No change.

RATIONALE: - Address the issue of club members/officers leaving for the summer without having paid dues for the upcoming garden club year.
- Submission of updated information for the Book of Information which is compiled over the summer for fall distribution including current contact information for the Officers and members.
- The NGC dues are payable June 1 and delinquent October 31. FFGC dues are delinquent after November 1 which does not allow FFGC dues/membership numbers to NGC to be accurate without being delinquent.

PROCEDURE: The Membership Chairman would send Dues Notice out the middle of March.
The revised date for the FFGC dues collection would be May 1 instead of June 1.
With Bylaw revision, the dues would be delinquent June 1 and a notice sent.
Dues not received by June 30, would result in forfeit of membership privileges.
This allows for collection of FFGC dues prior to the summer hiatus that many clubs observe.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: **YES** LOST: COMMITTEE:

ART III, IV and XI ESTABLISHING ONLINE (E) CLUB

ART III MEMBERS Sec I Voting Membership

a. Eligibility, Admission **INSERT: (4) ONLINE (E) CLUB**

An Online (E) Club shall have a membership of not less than ten (10). Application for membership shall be submitted to the FFGC Board of Directors through the FFGC 3rd Vice President. The application shall be accompanied by per capita dues and an alphabetical list of names, District number, mailing address and email address of all members. A majority vote of the Executive Committee shall elect the club which shall immediately be entitled to all rights and subject to all responsibilities of membership. Ratification shall follow at the next Board of Directors meeting.

ART IV DUES AND FEES

Sec 1 **INSERT: ONLINE (E) CLUB** If adopted, this will read: The annual dues of each Garden Club, **Online (E) Club** and each Garden Club organized on the Circle Plan.....

d. **INSERT: including Online (E) Clubs** If adopted, this will read: Annual FFGC dues of members belonging to two or more Garden Clubs **including Online (E) Clubs** and Garden Clubs organized.....

ART XI REPRESENTATION Sec 1 b. Garden Clubs **INSERT: including Online (E) Clubs**

RATIONALE: Formation of Online (E) Clubs are being considered in the state. One existed a number of years but was never formally identified as a FFGC Club. Above will make Online (E) Clubs legal with procedure to follow.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: **YES** LOST: COMMITTEE:

STANDING RULES

REVISED STANDING RULES WILL BE CORRECTLY NUMBERED & REVISIONS POSTED ON THE WEBSITE.

8 BOOK OF INFORMATION – subsection d. **Six (6) One (1) copies copy** shall remain in the files for the use of the succeeding *Book of Information* Chairman.

If adopted this will read: One copy shall remain in the files..... RATIONALE: Files are stored electronically.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: **YES** LOST: COMMITTEE:

9 *The Florida Gardener* **STRIKE: RED INSERT: GREEN**

- a. Each Club shall be responsible for maintaining a current membership list and shall notify the FFGC Office **Manager/Coordinator** promptly of changes of names, address, zip code, **email address** and **telephone number**, members added and members dropped. **Most** members shall receive the Florida Gardener **online**. **If mailed, a legally married couple will receive one copy of The Florida Gardener.**

RATIONALE: Published online for members. If a printed copy is mailed, one copy for legally married couples.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: LOST: COMMITTEE: **TO COMMITTEE**

10 and # 11 **STRIKE IN ENTIRETY** combining # 10 and # 11 **INSERT: new SR # 10**

10 OTHER PRINTED MATERIALS/PUBLICATIONS

Any printed material or publication produced by an appointed Chairman must be approved by the President. All materials shall become the property of FFGC and may be copyrighted or trademarked. Consent is required by FFGC to reproduce materials/publications. Originals will be kept at Headquarters in the Cloud .

(1) FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (FFGC) CALENDAR

- a. **Material selected for the FFGC Calendar may appear in local news media prior to being published in the FFGC Calendar. Material having appeared in books, magazines or other copyrighted or trademarked and national media shall not be accepted for the FFGC Calendar.**
- b. **Disposition of calendars not sold will return to Ways and Means and become the responsibility of the FFGC Third Vice President.**

RATIONALE: Combining of rules regarding publications.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: LOST: COMMITTEE: **TO COMMITTEE**

12 FLORIDA FLOWER SHOW JUDGES **INSERT: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs.**

The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve as a chairman on the **FFGC** Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and **STRIKE: COUNCIL FFSJ.** **INSERT: FFGC, FFSJ**

If adopted this will read: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs. The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve as a chairman on the FFGC Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and FFSJ.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: LOST: COMMITTEE: **TO COMMITTEE**

14 PROTECTED PLANTS **STRIKE: in entirety** RATIONALE: The list of protected plants etc is not required in Bylaws. FFSJ has list.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: **YES** LOST: COMMITTEE:

15 ENDORSEMENTS FOR FFGC OFFICERS **INSERT: d. submitted** Letter of Endorsement

INSERT: e. All qualified candidates will be interviewed by the FFGC Nominating Committee.

STRIKE: f. The Resume Form (pdf) file may be downloaded from the FFGC website.

NOTE: The Standing Rule for ENDORSEMENTS FOR FFGC OFFICERS will be rearranged in correct order of procedure. This change will not affect the verbiage with exceptions for Insertion and strike listed above.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: **YES** LOST: COMMITTEE:

16, # 17 and # 18 **STRIKE: in entirety** combining 16, 17 and 18

INSERT: SR # 16 FFGC PRESIDENT’S PINS/JEWELRY

- a. The FFGC President’s pin/jewelry shall be presented at the installation ceremony by the retiring President. The immediate former President representing the FFGC at the National Garden Clubs Convention that same year shall wear the FFGC President’s pin/jewelry.
- b. Each Vice President shall be presented with an FFGC pin/jewelry. The FFGC First Vice President’s pin/jewelry shall be presented to the incoming First Vice President at the installation ceremony by the outgoing First Vice President. The FFGC Second Vice President’s pin/jewelry shall be presented to the incoming Second Vice President at the installation ceremony by the outgoing Second Vice President. The FFGC Third Vice President’s pin /jewelry shall be presented to the incoming Third Vice President at the installation ceremony by the outgoing Third Vice President.
- c. Each executive officer (President; First, Second and Third Vice President) shall sign a Letter of Agreement to return the FFGC pin/jewelry if a situation arises that he/she can no longer perform his/her duties. A copy of this letter shall be kept in the presentation box bearing the pin/jewelry and at Headquarters.
- d. Former President’s pins/jewelry shall be presented at the installation ceremony by the incoming President. Former Presidents’ pins/jewelry are the property of FFGC and should not be altered. The Chairman of the Advisory Council shall be responsible for the inventory of former FFGC Presidents’ pins/jewelry. The Chairman of the Advisory Council, prior to the installation ceremony, shall insure that the immediate former President and a member of his/her family sign a Letter of Agreement to return this property to FFGC upon death or when no longer able to represent FFGC. A copy of the letter shall be kept in the presentation box and at FFGC Headquarters.

- e. The NGC pin worn by Mrs. Carrol O Griffin may be worn by the FFGC President on occasion and shall be maintained in the safe at FFGC Headquarters.
- f. Any additional Former Presidents' pins/jewelry shall be maintained in the safe at FFGC Headquarters. Former President pins/jewelry shall be fabricated by a jeweler of choice in a timely manner as the budget allows. Usable mold for the pin shall be maintained in the safe at FFGC Headquarters.
- g. All FFGC pins/jewelry shall be insured under the FFGC insurance policy and periodically appraised.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

19 ADVISORY COUNCIL ~~STRIKE: In entirety~~

INSERT: The Advisory Council shall be composed of FFGC Former Presidents. The immediate former FFGC President shall be the Chairman of the Advisory Council. The Chairman shall be responsible for the inventory of former FFGC Presidents' pins. The Advisory Council is charged with advising the current FFGC President or as requested by the Board of Directors. The Advisory Council shall meet at the Fall and Winter Meetings of the FFGC Board of Directors or as requested.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

20 PRECIOUS METAL AND GEMSTONES STATUS INSERT: 95 years – Blue Diamond
100 years -Centenary Diamond
125 years- Blue Star Sapphire

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

21 AWARDS ~~STRIKE: existing Standing Rule~~

INSERT: # 21 FFGC AWARDS One application is required for each award found on the FFGC website.

a. ADULT and YOUTH AWARDS

1. An FFGC Awards Program shall be developed and maintained. Award descriptions including eligibility therefore, shall be published on the FFGC website. The website shall include the award processes and procedures.
2. FFGC shall include in its General Fund budget an amount to fund all FFGC Awards during the fiscal year except as noted for the Flower Show Related Awards.
3. The FFGC Awards Committee may secure any FFGC member or other expert in the subject of the award to judge award applications.
4. All presentations of FFGC Awards are the responsibility of the FFGC Awards Committee as directed by the FFGC President.
5. Proposed awards and award changes shall be presented to the Board of Directors for approval and if adopted, published in *The Florida Gardener* and the FFGC website. Proposed new FFGC awards shall not bear the name of a person, place or organization.
6. Awards having no activity for four (4) successive calendar years may be discontinued. The awards proposed for discontinuation shall be announced at the Winter Board of Directors Meeting. Input from the Board shall be solicited at this meeting and taken into consideration by the Awards Committee prior to the final discontinuation of such awards. The final list will be announced at the Pre-Convention Board of Directors meeting.

b. FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

- 1. FFGC Flower Show Achievement Awards See the FFGC website - Awards for specific details. Application requires a Book of Evidence and three (3) Flower Show Evaluations following NGC Rules.
- 2. FFGC shall include in its General Fund budget an amount to fund all FFGC Flower Show Awards during the fiscal year.
- 3. Proposed awards and award changes shall be presented to the Board of Directors for approval and if adopted, published in *The Florida Gardener* and on the FFGC website. Proposed new awards shall not bear the name of a person, place or organization.

c. FLOWER SHOW RELATED AWARDS

- 1. See the FFGC website - Awards for criteria. These awards may not be altered without consultation with the FFSJ Executive Committee.
- 2. FFSJ accepts the financial responsibility for these awards.

RATIONALE: Clarify the Adult, Youth, Flower Show and Flower Show Related Awards including financial responsibility.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

23 POLICIES OF FFGC, INC. Minor spelling, punctuation corrections in A and B.

c. WHISTLE BLOWER POLICY STRIKE: Board INSERT: FFGC

If adopted this will read: If a member has a reasonable belief that a member has engaged in any action that violates any applicable law, or regulation, including those concerning accounting and auditing, or constitutes a fraudulent practice, the member is expected to immediately report such information to the (Board) FFGC President. If the member does not feel comfortable reporting the information to the (Board) FFGC President, he or she is expected to report the information to the First Vice President.

INSERT: d. VISITORS TO THE FFGC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Visitors in attendance at an FFGC Board Meeting must sign in with the Parliamentarian prior to the Call to Order. Non-members of the Board of Directors may not speak or vote on any issue since they are not a member of the Board of Directors.

- e. Photographs, videos or recordings of FFGC meetings or activities must be pre-approved and/or announced to participants.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

24 FFGC E-MAIL VOTING GUIDELINES

d. At the end of the time period for debate, the FFGC Recording Secretary/~~STRIKE: Chair~~ INSERT: Committee Recording Secretary shall e-mail a ballot on which the motion is stated and a "for" or "against" box is provided, to be returned using ~~STRIKE: reply all.~~ INSERT: reply.

~~STRIKE: i and j.~~ INSERT:

- i. At the end of the voting period, the FFGC Recording Secretary/Committee Recording Secretary shall send a Teller's Report to the FFGC President/Committee Chairman that will include:
 - (1) Date and time the motion was sent and the polls were open; (2) Number of votes cast; (3) Votes necessary for adoption (majority); (4) Votes for motion; (5) Votes against; and (6) Illegal votes.

Remaining letters will be corrected.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

25 FFGC GUIDELINES FOR ELETRONIC/TELEPHONE MEETINGS

STRIKE: Many free services are available with telephone and/or video conferencing for this purpose.

INSERT: (new paragraph within description) Many free services are available. All charges incurred are the responsibility of the group scheduling the meeting. FFGC hosts are limited to FFGC Board of Directors, Executive Committee or Standing Committees meetings unless approved by the President. All other called meetings including District meetings, etc. will have a private host selected by persons scheduling the meeting.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

26 DEEP SOUTH REGIONAL DIRECTOR & ALTERNATE REGIONAL DIRECTOR **STRIKE:** title in entirety

INSERT: DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (DSGC) DIRECTOR AND ALTERNATE DIRECTOR

STRIKE: a. **STRIKE** Regional **INSERT:** Region

a. (3) Have attended two (2) of the three (3) previous Deep South Regional Conventions at time of election.

INSERT: a. (3) Have attended a minimum of two DSGC Conventions and may include the DSGC Convention when installed.

STRIKE: a. (4) Have attended a minimum of two (2) NGC Conventions and may include the NGC Convention at which they are installed.

STRIKE: b. (1) permanently The offices of Deep South Regional Director and Deep South Alternate Director shall be permanently rotated among the Deep South Region states

b. (1) – (5) and c. (3) **STRIKE:** Regional **INSERT:** Region

The Regional/Region Director and the Alternate Regional Director

NOTE: The Bylaws adopted by DSGC refer to the REGION DIRECTOR and the ALTERNATE DIRECTOR respectively. All references to Regional Director or Alternate Regional Director are incorrect. Correct: REGION DIRECTOR and ALTERNATE DIRECTOR.

b. (4) **INSERT:** their prior to duties; **INSERT:** or until their successors are elected

STRIKE: NGC **INSERT:** DSGC

This will now read: The Director and Alternate Director shall assume their duties of office for a two-year term at the close of the DSGC Convention in the odd-numbered year or until their successors are elected.

RATIONALE : All of the above revisions have been adopted by DSGC. FFGC Standing Rules revised to reflect DSG revisions.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

27 MEMORIALS/EULOGIES POLICIES **STRIKE:** c. Pillar of Pride will be presented as a memorial to the family of deceased FFGC Presidents.

RATIONALE: Person serving as FFGC President would have already received the Pillar of Pride at some point in time.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

28 GIFT ACCEPTANCE POLICY Last sentence **STRIKE:** Organization **INSERT:** Corporation

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

29 REQUEST TO BYLAWS COMMITTEE STRIKE: in entirety

INSERT: Requests should be received at least two weeks prior to the Board of Directors or Convention meeting. All requests will be addressed as soon as possible with emergency requests taking precedence. A response to the person/committee making the request will be made by email/telephone or in person to indicate action taken or continued review. Persons acquainted with the subject matter may be asked for input.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

30 CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY STRIKE: The Conflict of Interest Policy of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.: (1) defines conflict of interest (2) identifies classes of individuals within the Organization covered by the policy; (3) facilitates disclosure of information that may help identify conflicts of interest; and (4) specifies procedures to be followed in managing conflicts of interest.

INSERT: The Conflict of Interest Policy is intended to protect the Corporation’s interests, is designed to help directors, officers and employees of FFGC identify situations that present potential conflicts of interest and provides the FFGC with a procedure that, if observed, will allow a transaction to be treated as valid and binding even though a director, officer or employee has or may have a conflict of interest with respect to the transaction.

RATIONALE: Updating the Policy to protect the corporation.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

32 INSERT: AMENDING STANDING RULES

The Bylaws of FFGC govern the structure and operation of the Corporation. FFGC Standing Rules amplify the Bylaws, clarifying procedures and practices followed in carrying out the corporation’s activities. Standing Rules are more flexible and can be created, amended or stricken after presentation by the Bylaws Committee to the Board of Directors followed by a majority vote of the FFGC Board of Directors.

RATIONALE: A stated policy for Standing Rules amendments needs to be clearly stated in print.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

THE FOLLOWING STANDING RULES WERE SENT BACK TO COMMITTEE FOR REPORT 1/12/23:

SR # 9 The Florida Gardener STRIKE: RED INSERT: GREEN

- a. Each Club shall be responsible for maintaining a current membership list and shall notify the FFGC Office Manager/Coordinator promptly of changes of names, address, zip code, email address and telephone number, members added and members dropped. Members shall receive may access The Florida Gardener digitally. If mailed, a legally married couple will receive one copy of The Florida Gardener.

If adopted, this will read: a. Each Club shall be responsible for maintaining a current membership list and shall notify the FFGC Office Coordinator promptly of changes of names, address, zip code, email address and telephone number, members added and members dropped. Members may access The Florida Gardener digitally. If mailed, a legally married couple will receive one copy of The Florida Gardener.

ADOPTED: 1 12/23

SR # 10 and 11 STRIKE IN ENTIRETY

INSERT: # 10 OTHER PRINTED MATERIALS/PUBLICATIONS

Any printed material or publication produced by an appointed Chairman must be approved by the President. All materials shall become the property of FFGC and may be copyrighted or trademarked. Consent is required by FFGC to reproduce materials/publications. Originals will be stored at Headquarters electronically.

(1) FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (FFGC) CALENDAR

- a. Material selected for the FFGC Calendar may appear in local news media prior to being published in the FFGC Calendar. Material having appeared in books, magazines, or other copyrighted or trademarked and national media shall not be accepted for the FFGC Calendar.
- b. Disposition of calendars not sold will return to Ways and Means and become the responsibility of the FFGC Third Vice President.

ADOPTED: 1/12/23

SR # 12 FLORIDA FLOWER SHOW JUDGES (FFSJ)

INSERT: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs, Inc.

The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve **as a chairman** on the FFGC Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and FFSJ. **STRIKE: as a chairman INSERT: FFGC, FFSJ**

If adopted, this will read: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs, Inc. The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve on the FFGC Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and FFSJ.

ADOPTED: 1/12/23

Bylaws Committee: Cissy Richardson, Chairman; Marge Hendon, Arlene Rand, Tina Tuttle, Rosita Aristoff, Margaret Chodosh, Judi Jodoin and Carolyn Nation, Parliamentarian.

January 2023 FFGC BOARD OF DIRECTOR's MEETING

OFFICER AND DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS

Note: to access a specific report look it up in the table of contents and note the page number. Go to the upper left corner of the screen and over key the '1' of 31 with the page number you want.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1ST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Report
FFGC President-Elect
Tina Tuttle
11 January 2023, Winter Park, FL

A very busy fall quarter kept this now President -Elect on her toes! The scope of work continues to broaden and there is so much to learn with each passing day!

The highlight of this quarter was the **Officer's Tour** of the state. We attended 11 districts and it provided a wonderful opportunity to talk to the members and ask if they would like to continue or serve on the 2023-2025 Board of Directors. Many readily committed to serve but a few positions are still open. The PowerPoint used for the FFGC presentation was created over the summer and completed in time for the Tour. This VP attended the District IX meeting by Zoom and provided the PowerPoint information to them.

Judging by the Executive Board for **Awards #1, 2, 3, 5 and 8** was challenging with so many worthy submissions. Our comments were combined and related paperwork turned in on time to the Awards Chairman.

Serving on the **Headquarters and Endowment** Committee allowed for involvement in the decisions regarding repairs, replacement, and rehabilitation of the roof, the President's Office, the floors, and the HVAC! Three Plant America Grants applications were written and submitted to improve the grounds at our Headquarters. Various clubs in District VII allowed use of their names for projects described. To date, no word on if we won or not. Providers were researched for a portable stage at HQ and a motion made to purchase an 8'x24' stage in 4'x4' sections.

Working on the **Bylaws** committee has proven challenging. A complete review of the Bylaws and Standing Rules is nearly complete. Input on issues relating to Wekiva, SEEK, president's pins, NGC schools, dues, online clubs, and other areas have proven to be a notable contribution. Not much has been happening with the **FFGC Legal** ad hoc committee but this VP was able to secure a former judge to serve on that committee.

On the **Strategic Planning** Committee, serving as their secretary, the issues of redistricting, online clubs, disposal of physical materials at HQ, and much more gives a glimpse into the future of our organization...and the future is looking bright. The membership flyers and rack cards, both in English and Spanish, were reprinted by FSI Group and are now in inventory.

Plans continue for the upcoming **Centennial Celebration!** The 2024 Commemorative Calendar has been produced and is awaiting sale at the 2023 convention. 110 Quilt block kits were handed out on Tour and a few have already been returned. The Centennial Quilt will be a beautiful reflection of every club in the state and will be raffled at the 2024 convention. To date, 3 convention 2024 planning meetings have been held and the skit, installation, reception, flyers, program ad, educational exhibit, etc. have been developed.

Plans are in place to host the **new District Directors Orientation** in February at HQ. The *DD Manual* has been completely revised and is ready for publication. Directors will have a full agenda and visit Wekiva Youth Camp.

By default, this VP is setting up the 2023 Short Course North until a new chairman can be found. One Pillar of Pride and two Earth Steward recognition awards have been written by this VP and co-sponsored by the 2VP. And, to top

off the year, this VP got to play Santa Claus at the Christmas Party for the Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs!
What fun!

It has been such an honor and a thrill to serve as the 1VP for FFGC! It has been a pleasure working with so many knowledgeable and willing volunteers. I look forward to the 2023-2025 administration with hope and happiness in my heart!

Tina Tuttle

FFGC President-Elect

Summary: The President-Elect has continued to serve in various capacities as required by the Bylaws (H&E, Bylaws, SPC, etc.) and in other areas as needed. Plans are in place for the next administration and all that entails.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2nd Vice President
Christy Linke
January 12, 2023

This 2nd Vice President has completed her two years of being Chairman of Camp Wekiva. Working to finish up loose ends and turning all paperwork over to the in-coming Chairman, Mary Whisler.

Attending meetings as part of the Finance Committee as well as Strategic Planning Committee.

This Vice President was also a part of the point scoring process for awards done by the Executive Board.

Summary:

It has been an honor to serve as 2nd V.P. and all the duties it entailed. Looking forward to the next responsibilities as I climb the ladder of The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.

3rd VICE PRESIDENT

FFGC 3rd Vice President
Mary Ann Whisler/3rd VP
January 2023

Our first FFGC October Tour since COVID was completed October 2022. What a great experience for this 3rd VP. Having the opportunity to meet and talk with eleven districts of our twelve districts was an honor. It was a disappointment we missed meeting with District IX since the hurricane caused the District Meeting to be cancelled. However, we know we'll see them next year and make up for the cancellation. This VP was surprised how many garden club members I've already met though working on conventions and SEEK. I'm looking forward to October 2023 and our next tour.

Ways and Means pins were requested at every district and our inventory had to be replenished after the first week. Many members participated in the "order ahead" option and their orders were waiting for them at the meeting. The framed FFGC ornaments were a big hit for Christmas gifts and thank you gifts as well as the coffee cups.

Wekiva Volunteer Training plans are almost complete. We have twenty members registered to date. We will be introducing our incoming Junior Gardener Chairman and both former and incoming Junior Gardener Chairmen will be at camp to discuss the program. We have scheduled great speakers for the weekend as well as some "education walks" around the camp. A fun and educational program is anticipated. There is still time to register before all the "warm" cabins are filled. However, if you can't come for the entire weekend plan to come to Wekiva Open House on Sunday, February 12th at 11 am to 1 pm. You will have the opportunity to walk around camp with a experienced counselor, see a video of a "day at camp" and meet our Director Shelby Mander.

Camp Wekiva is again in Chairman transition. As Chairman Elect this VP has been working closely with the outgoing Chairman to make a smooth turnover. A great deal has changed this year with hiring a new chef and working with a new registrar. We are disappointed that the Office/Clinic will not be completed on time for camp.

It continues to be a great honor to serve FFGC. As a member of the H&E Committee, Strategic Planning, Wekiva Board, and Secretary of the Finance Committee, this VP continues to learn and understand the complexities of the organization.

Mary Ann Whisler/3rd VP (mary.whisler66@gmail.com)

Summary:

Executive Tour October 2022

Camp Wekiva and Wekiva Volunteer Training

Ways and Means

RECORDING SECRETARY

Recording Secretary
Sue Roberts
January 10, 2023

The recording secretary completed the minutes of the last board meeting and compiled all the BOD member reports into two books, one for officers and directors and one for board chairman.

These files were all posted on the website under report and minutes for the Sept 2022 board meeting. Also the financial reports, approved Wekiva budget and bylaw changes were posted to same section of the website.

All the files associated with this meeting were written to a flash drive and will be put out to the FFGC Google drive for archive storage a the end of this President's term.

An evote was held shortly after the last meeting and several emails were sent to board members since September.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

REPORT

Corresponding Secretary

Linda Feifarek-Johnson

September 12, 2023

Working with the Tour Group, making the reservations, and talking to all the different chairmen in each district was such a wonderful experience. I have learned a lot and continue to learn each day.

I also manage the event calendar so any events your club or district is doing, please send your events information to me. There is a form to be filled out that can be found on the FFGC website. On the home page, scroll down until you find "For all FFGC forms – click here". I also can add flyers and registration forms for the event.

DISTRICT 1

FFGC DISTRICT I
JANUARY 2023
BOARD MEETING REPORT
JOYCE WATERS-SMITH, DISTRICT I DIRECTOR

I am pleased to announce that we have put together a Scholarship Workshop for Thursday, January 26 from 10:00 a.m. to NOON at the Destin Public Library. We have two presenters; club members who each have several years' experience awarding scholarships for their respective clubs. The presenters are Debbie Michel of the Green Thumb Garden Club and Gail Baker of the Valparaiso Garden Club. There will be handouts for those in attendance. We will have a ZOOM option if you are unable to travel to Destin for the workshop. Please send an email to Joyce if you would like a ZOOM link. JOYCEWS@COX.NET

I have copies The tentative agenda with me if you would like one. If you do not have a scholarship committee in your garden club, then be sure to send some of your board members who can relay this information to your club. Do not worry that your club may not have enough \$\$\$ to award a big scholarship. We'll talk about ways to "fund" a scholarship.

Now on to club news:

DEFUNIAK SPRINGS – Has added 3 new members since September, and now total 35. Their Christmas Tree entry decorated with dried fruit ornaments took 3rd place at the City Festival of Trees. Upcoming programs include making seed bombs, and natural fire colorants and a field trip to the Florida Pioneer Family Heritage Farm to view the Cotton Geese. Spring will bring plans to redo the entrance garden in front of the DeFuniak Springs Library. In May the club will participate in Lake Fest with children's activities, garden tours, and plant and floral sales.

DESTIN GARDEN CLUB – Our newest member of FFGC installed their new officers at their January meeting, and we welcome Lee Vanderpool as the new president. Included with this article are some pictures from their annual make and take workshop held in the fall where they made these lovely pumpkin decorations hosted by member Anne Collins. The club will host their annual plant sale in April at the Destin Library, and are tentatively planning their first flower show for June 6 & 7. Velda Dougherty applied for and won a \$1,000 Plant America Grant from NGC for a new Japanese Memorial Garden at the library.

GARNIER BEACH Garden Club, located in Fort Walton Beach will be planting an Elm Tree at their namesake park, Garnier Beach Park to celebrate their Emerald Precious Metal 70th anniversary with FFGC and Arbor Day in January. Maria Wilson, the county Forestry Agent will be the speaker, and she will instruct the planning of the tree.

The club will host their plant sale on April 15.

GREEN THUMB

We are proud to report that last year was a banner year for membership growth. Our club is now **124** members strong, with **22** NEW garden club friends joining us during May 2022 thru December 2022. A special thank you Kathy Edge, GTGC Treasurer who also chairs our Publicity and Website activities getting the word out to the Walton County community. Kathy works hard daily to get the GTGC news out through:

- Monthly news releases
- Website -- 80% of new members are signed up through the website
- Word of mouth -- GTGC best advertising and bringing in new members
- Guests coming to the monthly meetings
- Monthly programs that appeal to potential new members are advertised in news releases and on the website

Congratulations and thank you to Kathy, all the board members and our members!

MITLON GARDEN CLUB will host the May 9 Spring District Meeting, when their own Jenny Weber will be installed as the District Director. The theme of the meeting will be "Momma Mia" and we are assured there will be laughter, singing and dancing. In addition, the club will host a field trip to The Soundside Foundation Nature Preserve in Gulf Breeze, to include a walk thru the Camellia Trail and enjoy a picnic.

PENSACOLA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS received a District I Grant of \$250 to assist with their foundation planting as part of their recovery from Hurricane Sally. They were pleased to return to their annual hosting of "Gardening in the Panhandle" a full day of workshops and lunch, always a sell out event and cancelled the previous 2 years due to the pandemic. March 14 and 15 will again see their "Tour of Tables" event provided to nurture interest in floral design and the art of tablescares with themes from around the world. May 20 and 21 will feature the return of their annual "Secret Garden Tour", open to the public.

VALPARAISO GARDEN CLUB – Gail Baker, programs chair organized a field trip to Elgin Air Force Base/Jackson Guard where they were provided a tour of the native garden, museum, and enjoyed feeding the deer. In the spring the club will host a make and take workshop on self-watering planter buckets. They will also host a plant sale April 29 at the Heritage Museum Garden, in conjunction with "Saturday in the Park." May they will host a 70th Anniversary Emerald Precious Metal celebration party. May 12 & 13 the club will host a flower show.

DISTRICT 2

Absent, no report

DISTRICT 3

FFGC District III Report
District Director
Marilyn Larson
January 10, 2023

Clubs are glad to be back to a more normal way of life after living with the Covid pandemic for the past two years. They are meeting in person again and have monthly meetings and programs planned.

District III successfully held the FFGC Officers Tour Fall meeting, hosted by **Perry Garden Club** on October 13. In addition to spending lots of time organizing and planning for the fall meeting, the Club had their regular monthly meeting six days after hosting the District III meeting. The club is proud to announce an increase in membership of 8 new members with more expected during the year. Their program was a “make and take seed bomb”, not the exploding kind, but the growing/blooming kind. Their November club program was a slide presentation by award-winning photographer Cindy Moore, on native plants and wildlife. The Club ended 2022 with a Christmas luncheon and their floral design auction, an annual fundraiser for the club. The regular monthly meetings planned for 2023 are equally as educational, inspiring and fun.

Live Oak Garden Club reported an increase in membership for a total of 65 members and growing! At the September club meeting, the two SEEK students shared their summer camp experiences and thanked the club for sponsorship. A workshop was held to make holiday cards for a local nursing home. The annual Fall Bazar was held October 29 with plants, vendors, yard and baked goodies for sale. Proceeds from the event are used toward two local gardens: Hearthstone Gardens and Heritage Park & Gardens and to help 4Hers and the Suwannee High School Green Team. The club keeps members informed through a monthly newsletter as well as their website and Facebook page.

Steinhatchee Garden Club was in the holiday spirit to end 2022, with club members decorating their community center where meetings are held. They also have a “money tree” to raise money for kids to attend Camp Wekiva and SEEK. January is another busy month with their annual spaghetti dinner, a fund-raiser for kids to attend Camp Wekiva and SEEK. And another annual event is the preparation of valentine floral arrangements for the local nursing home residents.

Wakulla County Garden Club began their new program year with newly recruited group of board members who set educational and informative monthly programs such as “A guide to fall planting”. The club arranged to have not only daytime meetings but alternative evening programs to accommodate working members. One of the club’s challenges is how to ensure meeting content is timely and relevant to new members. They plan to feature a native plant of the month and identify what’s blooming and why it’s significant and developing graphics to help new members grasp available opportunities and how they can participate.

Madison Garden Club held their annual Christmas party in December with a “dirty Santa” gift exchange. In addition, a timely program topic for their December meeting was a short demonstration by the fire department on the correct way to use a fire extinguisher. Each of their meetings features a plant of the

month with information about the featured plant. A big undertaking for the club in November was election of officers for the upcoming year and approval of amended By-Laws.

Monticello Garden Club plans include a program by the Audubon Society and a timely topic on Amaryllis planting so that they bloom for the Christmas holiday. They also decorated the Christmas tree at the Monticello Opera House, and made Christmas ornaments. Plans are in the works to organize a new garden circle if there is enough interest otherwise encourage potential new members to join the existing club/circles. Monticello will be the host club for the Spring District III meeting planned May 1, 2023.

Tallahassee Garden Club successfully hosted a December House Tour as one of the houses featured in the Tallahassee Symphony Tour of Homes. The Rutgers House was decked out with live greenery and creative, festive and beautiful holiday decorations for the event. The club held its annual Christmas tea and Petite Flower Show the following week as a way of inviting the community to say thank you for support received throughout the year. January activities include caladium bulb sales and a special program "Creating Art for the Garden" by artist Karen Robertson. Members will be helping with "My night to shine" by making boutonnieres for special needs 'prom night' attendees. The event is sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation

DISTRICT 4

Report
District IV Director
Connie A. Gladding
December 26, 2022

Fall, winter, and holiday events were widespread across District IV and a time for celebrating with the recent notification that three of our District IV Garden Clubs were National Garden Club Plant America Grant winners.

Thank you to the St. Augustine Garden Club for hosting the Fall District IV Meeting and FFGC Officers' Fall Tour at the St. Johns County Extension Center with the program "Gardening for Health and Well Being." The more than one hundred attendees enjoyed the camaraderie and training. Attendees appreciated the lovely table centerpiece floral arrangements which were highly sought-after door prizes. Members look forward to the Spring District May 2023 meeting chaired by the new District Director and hosted by the Garden Club of Middleburg in Orange Park.

The Garden Club of Fleming Island organized a Fall Garden Club Bazaar at the Paul C. Armstrong Park in Middleburg on Saturday, October 29th from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. Clay County Garden Clubs Fleming Island, Orange Park and Middleburg participated. This is the first time this event will be held; it is hoped to be an annual event serving as a membership drive and fundraiser.

The bad weather from Hurricane Nicole did not keep the Hibiscus Circle of the Garden Club of St. Augustine from rededicating Florida's second oldest Blue Star Marker with its renewed living memorial garden. The ceremony was extra special with Presidents of both the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs honoring our Nation's Veterans.

For the Garden Club of Jacksonville, November brought the Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair and Horticulture Show. Together with the Duval County UF/IFAS Extension Center and Men's Garden Club of Jacksonville, the Garden Club created an array of educational exhibits for display throughout the Jacksonville Fairgrounds. The members coordinated and judged the Horticulture Fair.

The Garden Club of Green Cove Springs sponsored two November community events: Winter Vegetable Gardening with Master Gardener Volunteer speaker. Also, the Club partnered with Camp Chowenwaw Park for the "Holiday Photos" event to lead kids craft creations, such as bird feeder pinecones. The Garden Club of Palatka held their first Afternoon Woodlands Autumn Tea at the Ravines State Park in Palatka. It was open to the public and a real treat for the community. The Garden Club of Orange Park held a rummage sale, built wreaths to lay at a Veterans Day ceremony and manned booths in the local Farmers Market to sell crafts, plants and promote the Garden Club.

The Bartram Garden Club Garden Therapy Committee conducted two workshops in November to the Nassau County Council of Aging. Special needs members of the Adult Day HealthCare Program made autumn wreaths with used wine bottle corks which the club collected to repurpose. Similarly, in December the club held a conservation project called "Corks for Charity." Members transformed wine bottle corks into small wreaths to enhance the local "Meals on Wheels" (MOW) program. Each MOW family received a wreath with a holiday meal, bringing seasonal cheer to disadvantaged families, while at the same time keeping corks out of the landfills.

District IV continued to offer members and non-members a range of educational opportunities. The NGC Landscape Design School Course 2 was held at Ribault Garden Club in Jacksonville Beach, November 1-2, 2022. A team of top-notch, horticulture, landscape design, and preservation professionals provide instruction. District IV's annual GardenFest, a day of horticulture education for the public, was November 18th at the Ravines State Park in Palatka. The State Park proved to be a perfect venue although a trek for our northern garden clubs; it easily accommodated parking and seating for more than 120 attendees, garden clubs' sales tables, and refreshments. Thanks to the planning committee, club members, and the University of Florida speakers who produced such an enjoyable learning and shopping experience. Feedback and evaluations noted the theme "Naturally Connected" was timely and of great interest and the event an opportunity to gather garden club members and master gardener volunteers.

The District Social Media Chair published the third issue of "District Runner", the District IV newsletter. Many thanks to this District Chair for working tirelessly to keep the website, Facebook site, and our newsletter information current and timely. For the best and most up-to-date events, see the news at the home page on the district website, www.district4ffgc.org. Our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/district4ffgc/>, features postings from our clubs' Facebook pages, FFGC, NGC, and Deep South. Clubs follow our Facebook Page to stay up to date on Federated Garden Clubs happenings.

December in the District was filled with holiday offerings. At The Garden Club of Jacksonville's Budding Gardeners Program, children created floral arrangements using holiday greenery. The Ribault Garden Club hosted their holiday kickoff event "Home Décor Demonstration Morning Tea". The return of a holiday tradition and to the delight of locals, The Garden Club of St. Augustine 51st Tour of Homes was Sunday December 4th. The Tour showcased amazing horticulture and holiday inspired decorations and designs.

And for spring events, the Landscape Design School Course 3 will be January 31 and February 1. The Garden Club of Jacksonville is sponsoring the Floral Design Study Units 1 through 6 during January, February, and March. Mark your calendars for the Garden Club of Jacksonville's annual Flea Market on February 24 and community favorite - Blooms Galore Plant Sale on April

8. The Garden Club of the Lakes is planning a Junior Garden Club Day, February 25th. The Club, partners with the local Ace Hardware Store and offers many horticultural activities, including worm adventures, for children. The event is free and for children ages 2 to 13. The Garden Club of Orange Park Annual Horticulture Program is March 17th. It is a day of training with the opportunity to purchase items offered by the Garden Club. The program is open to the public and this year's theme is "Gardening as Therapy". And in April, the Bartram Garden Club will present their first NGC Small-Standard Flower Show titled "Down the Rabbit Hole" to be staged at the Fernandina Beach library. Horticulture, Design, and Botanical Arts divisions will be judged by NGC Accredited Flower Show Judges. The show will include a judged nature photography section which will be extended as a community art exhibit in cooperation with Friends of the Library. Mark your calendars for a sure-to-be amazing event.

It is great time to be a garden club member in District IV. There are so many opportunities to enjoy gardening with friends and serving our communities. This District Director is enjoying sharing time with members. 2023 looks to build upon the good times, celebrations, and successes of 2022.

DISTRICT 5

District V News
Donna Thomas, Director
January 11, 2023

As you read this the holidays will be long behind us, and Spring will have sprung. Every club in district five is frantically preparing for the annual plant sales for the gathering throngs of gardeners who know that we have the best plants at the best prices.

All the clubs in this district will be working on the upcoming 2023 Convention that we expect to be spectacular. Marge Hendon has been a phenomenal president and we are all grateful for the continuing improvements in FFGC under her stewardship.

I am pleased to announce that District V's new director for 2023-2025 who will be installed at the 2023 convention is Carol Stevens who hails from the Lake City Garden Club.

Carol was born and raised in Moultrie, Georgia. Met husband at Valdosta State College and moved to Lake City, FL in 1972. Has two adult sons and one grandson. After teaching school for 38 years, she retired and joined the garden club. "I have enjoyed learning about the care of plants, arranging flowers, photographing plants and meeting so many wonderful people. I served as President of the Lake City Garden Club for three years and am very excited about having the honor to serve as District V Director".

Thank you, to all the members of District V, for your belief in me, your support and your friendship. It's been a pleasure and a privilege to have served as your director.

DISTRICT 6

District VI Director
Suzi Bailey
January 11, 2023

In the last few months, Covid, flu and hurricanes impacted Florida. Some Districts were hit very hard. Board members, club officers and members were also impacted by illness or surgeries.

BUT.... The Garden Clubs of Florida are resilient, strong, and a determined group. After two hurricanes, District VI bounced right back and started activities again. Flower Shows, plant sales, fundraising festivals, attending schools, special interest groups, meetings and took field trips. Clubs are growing to grow their membership with fresh new ideas and personal contact.

The Fall District VI Meeting was held in-person for the first time in 2 years. New Smyrna Beach Garden Club planned an Ocean of Opportunities theme. Reports by FFGC Officers, Club and Committee Chairs were given. A special program by NSB Marine Science Center was on protecting our environment.

Indian Harbour Beach Garden Club, Suzy Hodge, President, offered to sponsor six Wekiva Campers to District VI. This Director forwarded their generous offer to our 17 clubs and had three responses. As a result, 4 new campers are registering for Wekiva camp. New Smyrna Beach Garden Club (two camperships), Melbourne GC (one campership), and DeLand Garden Club (one campership) are able to use these scholarships. Our Theme for our District VI Fall Meeting was "Oceans of Opportunity". It is exciting that Indian Harbour Beach Garden Club decided to use this opportunity to share. Their investment in these children will be educating new gardeners. They have really "Planted for the Planet"! WOW!

Our Spring District meeting will be held at Garden Club at Palm Coast, Denise Garcia, President on May 9th, 2023 at Hammock Dunes Country Club.

After two years of service, this Director will step down as the District VI Director. At our FFGC Convention, we will welcome our new District VI Director, Valerie Seinfeld, DeLand Garden Club.

SUMMARY: District VI is thriving and growing, ready to look for more opportunities to "Plant for the Planet".

DISTRICT 7

DISTRICT VII DISTRICT
DIRECTOR REPORT
1/11/2023



We had a wonderful Fall District meeting in October with the FFGC Board Tour Team members present, filled with facts and pertinent information. Clairmont prepared a beautiful meal, presentation, and perfect location. Thank you.

Clubs were so busy planning a huge spring summer filled with events as you will read about in the upcoming Florida Gardener

District VII's Orlando Garden Club, partnered with Palmer's Garden and Goods, **its "Sip N' Stroll" events on November 3. Beautiful wine and cheese event.**

As district director's visits included installing officers and visiting a beautiful setting in October of the home of our Sanford Garden club. It was a beautiful home on Saint John's River. The setting was enhanced by the warmth and friendliness of all the members and learning all about a Confederate Rose. It was a bit of paradise.

The members of the Bloom and Grow Garden society continued their 25th anniversary celebration with two social events for our members and guests. In **January, we had our Denim and Diamonds event**, up close and personal with nature, for **a bar-b-que dinner and guided nature walk on Williamson Island**. In February, we put on our fancy clothes for a **formal dinner celebration with champagne, dinner, and dancing at Leu Gardens in Orlando.**



I walked approximately 2 miles and saw 56 Heritage trees along the route. The trees are labeled with the name of the tree plus a QR code that offers

insight into the tree species as well as information on the history of Winter Garden and its people. For more information on the Heritage Tree Walk go to: <https://www.bloomandgrow.club/treeproject>

Clermont Garden Club will host: Emerald Magick, Flower Show at Clermont Garden Club **March 17-18, 2023**. A separate Wine Stroll on March 17 from 6-8 PM, details at our website: clermontgardenclub.com and on FFGC.org Open to Public A Garden Walk, **April 15, 2023**, Ticket information available on website: clermontgardenclub.com

SWEETWATER OAKS GARDEN CLUB

Game Day Under the Pines, Jan 31. Gather your friends, organize a table to play your favorite game. Tickets are \$27. Wekiva Youth Camp. Includes breakfast items and lunch.

The Camellia Garden Club of Eustis & The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Cordially Invite You to Attend Friday, February 17, 2023, 11:00 A.M. The Dedication of the: **BLUE STAR MEMORIAL BY-WAY MARKER**, A Tribute to our Armed Forces Given to the City of Eustis from the Camellia Garden Club Eustis Memorial Library, 120 N. Center St., Eustis, FL. 32726.

Apopka Garden Club is busy planning its annual Fashion Show on February 18th. Follow “The Garden Path.”



Orlando Garden Club will be hosting a spring Flower Show on April 13th and 14th. Silvia the planning coordinator visited LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL, CAMELLIA, LADY LAKES, AND PALM GARDEN FLOWER SHOW and was helped by Teri and Susan

on the ins and outs of a Flower show. The Council Flower show was another unique event in its museum location.

Orlando GC News: Our Very Own **Joanne Mulinare participated in an upcoming episode of Emily Tells All**. The original **Emily Tells All** show premiered on June 3, 2021, and features fresh episodes weekly. Join Emily as she gets up close and personal in her community. Joanne represented wildflower and gardening organizations in central Florida and will **air on April 6, 2023**. Be sure and tune in and hear Joanne answer Emily’s questions and presentation highlighting Gardening organizations in central Florida. Thank you and Congratulations Joanne for representing FFGC, District VII, Orange County Garden Clubs and Circles. **Show Distribution** ...You can view the list of episodes at <https://emilybonilla.com/emily-tells-all/>, it will be available on ROKU at <https://my.roku.com/account/add/EmilyBonilla>, YouTube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4FeNEYkTk6PRg-uNPOlrjw?sub_confirmation=1, and other social media platforms.

Audio track from the interview will be part of the **Emily Tells All** podcast available soon on Spotify. Once the show is live, we will email you a link along with our social channels and hashtags.

DISTRICT 8

Report

District Director, District VIII

Kitty Wallace

January 11, 2023

This District VIII Director is reporting solid gains in membership in our 21 clubs. Membership/Educational events were held throughout the district this past fall. The District sponsored a Horticulture Extravaganza in October. This Event was chaired by DVIII Horticulture Chairman, Bessie Morse and was held at the lovely Garden Club of St. Petersburg. Topics included native ground cover alternatives to turf, supporting our pollinators, and a pictorial tour of local gardens termed "Hidden Gems."

The Flower Show Judges Symposium was held this fall at the Day Spring Conference Center in Parrish, Florida. Symposium was hosted by the Florida Flower Show Judges District VIII, Susie Cochran, Director. It was organized by Barb Jacobson, DVIII Credentials Chairman.

District VIII newsletter editor, Karen Smith, produced another wonderful newsletter, the Great Eight News, promoting various grant opportunities such as Plant America from NGC as well as informing of upcoming DVIII events, such as:

Clearwater Garden Club was the perfect host to the DVIII Fall meeting, organizing a selection of baskets and vendors and a lovely lunch. Upcoming events include: Floral Design Basic Series, offered January to February 2023 by the Garden Club of St. Petersburg. Venice Area Garden Club plans an Adventure Tour in February, touring the Palma Sola Botanical Gardens and Selby Gardens' Spanish Point in February. In March, wonderful Flower Shows are planned at Dade City Garden Club, Manatee River Garden Club and Tampa Garden Club. Plant City Garden Club hosted Garden Fest and Fun with Flowers this fall and will be holding their Flower Show in conjunction with the Strawberry Festival in Plant City in March. NGC Environmental School, Course 1, will be held at the Tampa Garden Club April 11 and 12th. Venice Area Garden Club hosts their "By the Beach" NGC standard flower show in April

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster contest, chaired by DVIII past Director, Jill Anderson, was supported by DVIII by offering clubs the poster paper needed by the children to create their posters and enter the contest.

This director visited several clubs, including the Tampa Bay Golf and Country Club Garden Club, the Palm Harbor Garden Club, Dunedin Garden Club and is scheduled to visit three unaffiliated garden clubs to discuss the benefits of joining FFGC: New River Garden Club, Riverview Garden Club and Safety Harbor Garden Club. Let's see if we can grow a few more garden clubs in District VIII.

DISTRICT 9

Report
District I Director
Dale W. DeFeo
January 12, 2023

District IX has faced many obstacles since fall. Hurricane Ian laid waste to much of the district. Some club members lost everything they had, while others still face incredible challenges in putting their lives back together. Throughout it all, members have continuously demonstrated their drive, resolve and ability to move forward. The following is just a small glimpse of what has been going on.

Our scheduled and much anticipated Fall General Meeting at the Embassy Suites in Estero, sponsored by Cape Coral Garden Club and the Fort Myers Lee County Garden Council, was postponed due to the members losses and damage to the hotel itself. We missed having our FFGC Officers visit with us. We rescheduled the meeting via Zoom in early December to conduct necessary business. Tina Tuttle graciously agreed to attend and share information from FFGC. Between Covid19 epidemics and hurricanes, District IX was able to only hold one live meeting during the entire term, but our Zoom meetings were lively and informative.

Royal Palms Garden Club decided to make a donation to another club lost all of their plants the night before their plant sale fund raiser.

Poinciana Garden Club held a 60th anniversary celebration and festive holiday banquet even though some members could not bring a covered dish because they have no habitable homes. They have also continued their Trash Off Trails project, walking Lee County trails and preserves to remove trash. Six Mile Cypress Preserve is a frequent recipient of their efforts. Members of several other clubs have been inspired to join them in this effort.

Lake Placid Garden Club held an incredible Holiday Home and Garden Tour that included wild turkeys and Sand Hill Cranes strolling around gardens. Young people in period costume were also present to meet and greet guests.

Port Charlotte held a very moving dedication of a Gold Star Memorial Marker just two weeks after the storm. Many dignitaries and visitors attended. Their Veterans Park sustained damage, but they decided to hold this positive event for the community anyway. High School

Band members showed up in black shorts and white tee shirts because all of their uniforms were destroyed. Fewer than 20 had instruments to play but the whole band showed up in support.

Many other events are scheduled. Flower shows, Environmental and Landscape Design Schools, garden restorations and other events are planned. Checkout our Facebook page for details.

It is an honor and privilege to serve as District Director of such a strong and dynamic group.

DISTRICT 10

Michelle Maguire
District X Director
January 10-12, 2023

Zach Web, head of education for The Florida Oceanographic Society will be giving a presentation on Quality of our Water as it pertains to Florida on February 20, 2023 to the Pipers Landing GC. Pipers Landing GC I will also be going to the Society of Four Arts to visit the Botanical Gardens in Palm Beach which includes many sculptures by local artists.

Oleander GC of the Palm Beaches is holding a cocktail Party and fundraiser on March 21, 2023.

The Garden Club of Stuart is holding its semi annual Flower show, "A Symphony of Beauty" at the Indian River State College, Chastain campus on Salerno Road. Hours for the show are Friday March 3 from 1 to 4pm and Saturday from 9 to 3pm on March 4, 2023. This event is open to the public.

The Wellington GC is hosting a Specialty Flower Show called " EARTH DAY- EVERY DAY " as well as a plant sale April 22, 2023. The Flower show will be at the Wellington Community Center at 12150 Forest Hill Blvd.

Boynton Beach GC is featuring two Brown Bag Speaker Events at the two of the city's libraries Feb, 6 and March 6, 2023 from 12 to 1pm. On March 10 and 11 at the Boynton Beach Cultural and Arts Center, Boynton Beach GC will hold their annual "ART IN BLOOM".

Once again The Garden Club of Indian River County will be hosting " GARDENFEST" at Indian Riverside Park in Vero Beach, Florida on February 4 and 5. Hours for Saturday are 9 to 5pm and Sunday for 9 to 4pm. Bring your own bags or garden carts to haul all the plants you want to buy. The Bougainvillea Circle of The Garden Club of Indian River County is holding an Antique Show at their garden club's main location at 2526 17th Ave. in Vero Beach, Florida from 10 to 4pm on February 18 and 19, 2023.

Michelle Maguire, District x Director

DISTRICT 11

Report for FFGC Board Meeting
District XI
Sharon Bogard
January 2023

As this is this Director's last report to the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs' board of directors, she wishes to thank this organization for its support and friendship during her term. The clubs of District XI have also shown their support through cooperation and service during these last two years and this report personifies their contribution to the mission of our garden clubs.

The Garden Club of Coral Springs, District XI's super-energized garden club, has "irons in every fire". Working on its 1,000,000 Orchid project, mentoring three youth groups, planting trees in its city, working with senior citizens on garden therapy, petitioning big box stores to sell native plants, and hosting Saturday meetings for its working members while maintaining its normal evening meetings. Led by the fearless and tireless former schoolteacher, President, Jeri Decker. who has served in this capacity for three years, leads by example. Her membership is engaged and forever growing – a model for all garden clubs.

Fort Lauderdale Garden Club is led by Susie MacPherson who is always present and a great communicator. This Club and its Circles are facing tumultuous times with the loss of its agreement with the State of Florida to continue its arrangement to occupy the Garden Center. The hard work put in by Susie, and the Club's former Presidents was formidable, but the State would not budge. Undaunted, the Club will continue to meet on a Special Permit only basis but will look for a new permanent home elsewhere. As FFGC President Marge Hendon reminded all, a garden club is about people and not places, and Fort Lauderdale Garden Club embraces this sentiment. One door may close, but another will open to an opportunity yet to be realized. FLGC strong!

Hollywood Garden Club's President Susan Berry recently received the coveted Florida Friendly Landscapes' Gold Level Award presented by representatives of the University of Florida/IFAS. Heartfelt congratulations to Susan for her dedication to the principles of sustainable gardening and this award epitomizes the mission of FFGC garden clubs.

Lauderdale-by-the-Sea has a plethora of talent, as witnessed by their successful hosting of District XI's annual fall meeting. This club meets in their Town Hall and because of that, it is very attuned to the needs of its community. A Commissioner is a member of the Club and the Mayor and Town Manager often attend the meetings. Lauderdale-by-the-Sea Garden Club is a great example of community outreach.

The Garden Cub of Lighthouse Point's member, Inger Jones, received the well-deserved Five-Star Membership award for completing all four NGC-sponsored schools and where the level of Master is obtained. Inger continues her mentorship to new members and is a role model to all.

Kudos to **The Pompano Beach Garden Club** members who give their time and expertise at the Sample-McDougald Garden - a kitchen garden the club helps maintain. There are three team leaders who recruit members from the club monthly. This garden produces vegetables that are given to the local fire departments. This kitchen garden is an example of how vegetables are grown and how people lived before grocery stores. The team leaders are integral to the success of this project.

DISTRICT 12

District XII Report
Leticia Gunn
01/11/2023

District XII is excited to have added three more judges to our Council of Judges! We are also excited to have Clubs that haven't had a Flower Show in 30 plus years, such as Coral Gables, putting on a show this April. Speaking of Flower Shows, Miami Beach is hosting their 7th consecutive Flower Show in conjunction with their 20th Garden Tour. In addition to all the Flower show excitement, the District's Council of Judges is planning on bringing the Floral Design Study Basic Units to District XII and opening it up to all the Clubs. At this time I would also like to acknowledge the passing of long time member and NGC Accredited Judge, Sallye Jude.

Funds have been raised by various Clubs to aid various worthy organizations, our smallest Club, Miami Lakes, raised funds to donate to the Marian Center Special Education School. South Miami Garden Club raised over 2000 dollars to donate to Miami Water Keepers, an organization that monitors water quality in Miami.

Sadly FFGC, District XII and Marathon Garden Club have lost a major member, Flower Show Judge and past District XII Director, in Nancy Miller and while we mourn her loss deeply, the club is poised and in the process of establishing the whole island of Marathon as a Butterfly Sanctuary because of their butterfly garden initiative!!! How cool is that?? I am sure Nancy will be very proud of that up in heaven!!

South Dade Garden Club is bringing in the big guns and having speakers that require evening engagements with Speakers like Dr. Jeffrey Block, an expert in Botanical Medicine and Pharmacology. They also created a very successful fundraiser which included the whole District.

Pinecrest Garden Club continues their collaboration with renown eco-artist Xavier Cortada to promote the importance of mangroves in our barrier islands. He has planted over a million mangroves and continues his effort with help from our Clubs.

District XII continues to be involved with the community through civic engagement, most notably the members of Coral Pines Garden Club continues to volunteer at the venerable Deering Estate.

Education is ever the pursuit of all of the Clubs of District XII and Ken Pines will be delving deep into all things bromeliads by going on a behind the scenes tour of a Bromeliad nursery. Miami Lakes donated books to the Miami Lakes Library.

Incoming District Director Susan Rodriguez and Coral Gables Garden Club continue to expand their "As I See It" Photography contest and I cant wait to see what beautiful photography comes in to be judged and what a fantastic job Susan will do as District Director.

Lastly, I would like to say that as I deliver this, second to last report, I am filled with a mixed sense of what more could I have done to assist my District's Clubs and also a sense of WOW and amazement at how much a District of 9 Clubs has achieved through a pandemic and all! Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

January 2023 Board Meeting

Board Chairmen Reports

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4-5 STAR MEMBERS

ADOPT-A-PARK

AFFILIATES MEMBERSHIP

Report
Affiliate Membership Report
Donna Berger, Chairman
January 10-12, 2023

FFGC has an Affiliate Membership Program where like -minded organizations, such as conservation organizations, plant societies, floral design clubs, etc., may join FFGC for \$50. They receive a subscription to the Florida Gardener and an invite to FFGC Convention, as well as a listing on the FFGC website and in the Florida Gardener.

I'm pleased to inform you that Mounts Botanical Garden of Palm Beach County is now an affiliate member through The West Palm Beach Garden Club. They joined in October 2022.

We now have four (4) Affiliate Members.

The Florida Wildflower Foundation - Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

The Institute of Regional Conservation - FFGC District X Plant America with Trees Committee

McKee Botanical Gardens – The Garden Club of Indian River County

Mounts Botanical Gardens - The West Palm Beach Garden Club

The Affiliate Membership Application and Renewal Forms are on FFGC website under FORMS. They are enterable forms.

As your Membership chairman I hope that this coming year we can have more of our clubs willing to have Affiliate members.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact this chairman.

Donna Berger
FFGC Affiliate Membership Chairman
Phone: 772-214-8629
Email: bergerdx2015@gmail.com

AMAZON PROJECT

Board of Directors Meeting
Amazon Chairman Report
Linda Feifarek-Johnson, chairman
January 11-12, 2023

Thank you all for all your smiles! Amazon has made \$1019.25 from the Amazon smile program.

To sign up on your computer: type in smile.amazon.com. Log in and in the upper left is three horizontal lines. Click on those lines, scroll down 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 (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

January 11, 2023
FFGC Awards Chair
Gwen Carter

The entire Awards page was updated to reflect Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. as Awards donator. New Deep South Garden Club Awards change updated and 2022 Smokey Bear/ Woodsy Owl information updated.

A statewide Awards Workshop was held, via Zoom, September 23, 2022. The Team reviewed the Awards page, discussed FFGC awards, and answered questions from participants. The Zoom video was shared with participants and those who requested the video.

On November 4, 2022, we gathered for our Judges' Workshop, via Zoom. The Team enlisted the assistance of FFGC members from various districts, Executive Board and a professional photographer to judge awards this year. Judges were emailed all documentation needed to judge awards before the workshop. Forms were reviewed and explained during the workshop by Team members and questions were answered to our best ability. The Judges' Workshop Video was shared with judges to view later.

Lead judges had applications to start judging awards by December 1, 2022. Constant communication went on between judges and the Awards Team. Judges worked to complete awards correctly, quickly, and objectively.

One Hundred Forty (140) Adult Awards Applications were received this year. Mary Whisler, FFGC 3rd Vice-president, received thirty (30) Yearbook Awards for judging.

Thanks to all of the FFGC members who gave up their precious time to judge Awards so we can celebrate clubs and individuals at the Convention in April.

Typing, printing, and embossing certificates for winning clubs/individuals is scheduled for March.

Now, it's time to gear up and submit FFGC Awards to the National Garden Club and Deep South Garden Clubs with required documentation. All applications and state chairman reports are due to NGC Awards Chairman or designated Chairman by January 25, 2023. The Team expects more NGC and DSGC winners, this year.

Thank you.

BARTRAM SOCIETY

BEEES

Bees

Christy Linke

January 9, 2023

This Bee Chairman is still educating on the topic of native and Honey bees. In November, 2022 at the Jackson Elementary School, in Plant City I was invited to American Teach In to speak on bees. Presenting the curriculum needed to fulfill the requirements to do an interactive program with all the 5th grade students. There were 87 in all and there was a craft and interactive workings of all the Bee jobs within the hive. Acting out these jobs of bees help our youth understand how hard a bee's job really is. Also teaches them team work as they must work together to protect the hive, the queen, and also teaches them that each job is important to make the hive run. The teachers play an important role in this activity. They are the predators attempting to get into the hive. The kids love the fact that they have to keep their teacher out.

This Chairman is also speaking at the Native Plant Society on all pollinators. Bees, Birds, and Butterflies. This Chairman has taking speaking engagements through March and looking forward to each and every one of them.

Summary: From the very beginning that this Chairmanship started under Jan Sillik, my goal was and always will be to Promote Bees Through Knowledge.

BIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES

BLUE STAR & GOLD STAR MEMORIAL MARKERS

**Blue Star Memorial Program
Blue Star Memorial Chairman
Rosita Aristoff
January 11, 2023**

1) Completed Blue & Gold Star Memorial Markers Dedications

- Destin Garden Club (District I) – The new Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker at the Destin Library was dedicated on October 11, 2022.
- Port Charlotte Garden Club (District IX) - The new Gold Star Families Memorial Marker was dedicated at William R. Gaines, Jr. Veterans Memorial Park on November 5, 2022.
- Garden Club of Lakeland (District IX) – The new Blue Star Memorial Marker was dedicated at Veterans Park on November 15, 2022.

2) Pending New Memorial Markers Activity

- Camellia Garden Club (District VII) - The new Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker dedication at the Eustis Library is planned for February 17, 2023.
- Milton Garden Club (District I) - The new Gold Star Families Memorial By-Way Marker to be dedicated at Santa Rosa County Veterans Memorial Plaza is still planned for May 29, 2023.
- Gardeners Out East Garden Club (District VIII) – A new Gold Star Families Memorial Marker was ordered for placement at the new East Manatee County Library. A dedication is planned for November, 2023.

3) Miscellaneous

- District X has refurbished the orphaned Blue Star Memorial Highway marker in Canal Point assisted by a matching funds grant from the FFGC.
- The St. Augustine Garden Club created a new living memorial garden around Florida's longest standing Blue Star marker. A rededication ceremony on November 11th, 2022 was attended by FFGC President Marge Hendon, who gave a history of the Blue Star program, and by NGC President Mary Warshauer, who presented the actual dedication.
- In late September, Hurricane Ian caused significant damage along a wide swath of Florida's Gulf coast and inland across the state. Within the western

coastal area most seriously impacted were at least 14 Blue Star markers. Fortunately, all but one of these markers are known to have survived. We still await news on the Blue Star Memorial Marker dedicated at the Fort Meyers Beach Library in 2021.

- After conducting extensive research, this Chairman has published a booklet documenting an extended history of the NGC's Blue Star Memorial program including developments in Florida. The extended history (without the Florida segment) has been posted on the NGC's website within the tab on the Blue Star Markers Program.

4) Summary

Since the last report three new markers were dedicated and one new Gold Star Memorial Marker was ordered. A detailed history of the Blue Star Memorial program is now available on the NGC website.

Rosita A. Aristoff

Rosita A. Aristoff

Blue & Gold Star Memorial Chairman

BOI EDITOR

Board of Directors Meeting
BOI Chairman Report
Linda Feifarek-Johnson, chairman
January 11-12, 2023

Being the Book of Information Editor has been a very busy and wonderful experience. I have learned so much about FFGC, its procedures and its wonderful clubs. I have been doing updates to the BOI right along and once a month I send them to the webmaster to update the BOI online. If you have any corrections or updates, please email them to me: feif@bellsouth.net.

BRICK PATHS

BYLAWS-STANDING RULES

How To Create Club Bylaws

Club Bylaws may not be necessary. If you have Club Policies and Procedures and you operate under the FFGC Bylaws, you can obtain a TIN and 501c3 designation with tax exempt status. Check with your bank and the SUNBIZ website to see what applies.

If you wish to construct Bylaws or Articles of Incorporation and have your club membership vote on them, please remember that your parent organizations, FFGC and NGC, are the law and you cannot go against those established bylaws.

Robert's Rules of Order (RRO) Newly Revised, 12th edition, should be your guide and reference when constructing bylaws, however, you are welcome to use the FFGC Bylaws as a template. Chapter XXVI in *RRO* gives step-by-step procedures to forming a Bylaws Committee, gives things to consider for each situation, and finally, let's you know what to put in each Article and in what order. A sample Bylaws is given at the end of the Bylaws chapter. Some Articles and titles are optional or you may wish to add additional Articles for your particular situation. Remember not to make your Bylaws too restrictive. These are the rules. How to enact the rules will come in your *Policies and Procedures*.

Article I: Name. Please use the following so your name will appear close to FFGC in the listing on SUNBIZ—**Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, District _____, _____ Garden Club.**

Article II: Object. Please use the same statement given in the FFGC Bylaws as to our purpose (may require a bit of revision under (c)). This is basically our mission statement: *Specifically, the purposes of the club are as follows:*

- (a) To further the education of the members and the public in the fields of gardening, horticulture, botany, floral design, landscape design, environmental awareness through the conservation of natural resources, civic beautification, nature studies, and to instill in our youth the love of gardening and the respect for and protection of the environment;*
- (b) To encourage the erection of memorials to veterans of the United States armed forces;*
- (c) To co-ordinate the interests of the Garden Club in the State of Florida to the extent such co-ordination represents a furtherance of the activities specified in (a) and (b) above provided always that such purposes shall be effectuated by activities which are within the scope of Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.*
- (d) To do and perform all other acts and things necessary to carry out the purposes of this Corporation as a Corporation not for profit in accordance with the law in such cases made and provided.*
- (e) Membership in the _____ Garden club and the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. is open to all regardless of gender, age race, ethnicity or religious affiliation.*

Article III: Members. Please use the same description of members as found in the FFGC Bylaws. We have **voting members** and **non-voting members** and a definition is given for each.

Voting membership shall consist of members of Garden Club, Garden Clubs organized on the Circle Plan, Councils, and FFGC Life Members and Honorary Members of FFGC who are members of a Garden Club.

Non-voting membership shall consist of Life Members and Honorary Members of FFGC who are not members of a Garden Club; Affiliate Member Organizations; and individuals and groups of Junior Gardeners, Intermediate Gardeners, High School Gardeners, College Clubs and Vocational-Technical School Garden Clubs.

If you have **club dues**, you may state that information here. You may wish to include how your club became a part of FFGC and the district and how your club/circle may, unhappily, resign from the organization.

Article IV: Officers. You will have your elected President, and Vice President plus Secretary, Treasurer, and an appointed Parliamentarian...Other officers, such as Chaplain, do not need to be listed. Be sure to clarify which officers are elected by the members and which are appointed by the President. List them in rank order, each with its own Section. Here you can address nominating procedure, ballot voting, term limits and filling vacancies. You can even address removal from office for cause!

Article V: Meetings. Most of you hold monthly meetings on a regular basis for 9 months or so, taking off the summer months. You may wish to provide a Section for a Called or Special meeting or a meeting of only the executive board. Here you will need to set your **quorum** to conduct business. Typically, a quorum is 2/3 of the majority eligible to vote if the membership was given 4-weeks' notice of the issues being considered. If no advance notice is given, the vote must be unanimous.

Article VI: Executive Board (or Board of Directors). Be sure to define who will make up your Executive Board as opposed to who makes up your Executive Committee.

It might read: *The Board of Directors (Executive Board) shall consist of the officers of (your club), Former club presidents, Chairmen and appointed Board members.*

It might read: *The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers of (your club), the Corresponding Secretary and certain chairmen. The Parliamentarian shall attend meetings of the Executive Committee as advisor.*

Usually, the elected and appointed officers of the club are entrusted with administrative authority and responsibility. When will they meet? What authority will they have in decision making? Will everyone on a committee be eligible to vote?

Article VII: Committees. Here you will list your **Standing Committees**, each in its own Section. Examples may include Finance Committee, Festival Committee, Plant Sale Propagation Committee and so forth. Be sure to state the composition of these committees, how appointed and what is their responsibility to the club. Remember, the President is an *ex-officio* member of all committees except the nominating committee.

Article VIII: Parliamentary Authority. This one is easy....*Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, 12th edition is our authority of choice!

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the proceedings of (your club) in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Article IX: Amendment of Bylaws. Prescribe the method by which your Bylaws may be amended. Give the amount of advance notice given to members and by what manner, at which assembly the amendments may be voted on and how many votes it will take to pass the amendment (usually 2/3 of the registered delegates).

These bylaws may be amended at any Club meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting, provided the proposed amendments shall have been presented in writing to the Board of Directors for approval, and a copy of the approved amendments shall have been sent to each club member at least four (4) weeks prior to meeting.

Without the prescribed notice, these Bylaws may be amended at any club meeting by unanimous vote.

And there you have it!! Do not make it harder than it needs to be and please do not add or take away anything that is in conflict with the FFGC or NGC Bylaws. If you need help, please do not hesitate to contact the FFGC Parliamentarian or the FFGC Bylaws Chairman.

CONVENTION COORDINATOR

CONVENTION COMMITTEE 2023

Convention 2023
Susie Berryhill
January 11, 2023

Are you ready for convention?

We just want to go over some convention highlights for you.

Starting with registration. You can now register online as well as do a mail-in registration.

To register online: go to the home page on the FFGC website and scroll down to convention and then register online there. You can also download a paper copy if you want to mail your registration in. and, there is also a registration form in the winter edition of The Florida Gardener.

And remember: Registration deadline is March 27.

At the bottom of the registration form is the hotel reservation information. You can register online or call the hotel directly. There again the deadline is March 27.

You can also get the information to place an ad in the convention program there.

Early Arrivals Dinner: as board members you will receive a complimentary invitation to the Early Arrivals dinner on Tuesday night.

And important: you must RSVP to this invitation!

And if you RSVP to come and do not show up -- you will be billed \$45.

And you will of course need to make a reservation and pay for your spouse or companion.

You won't want to miss the Trashion Fashion Show. It should be quite entertaining.

Opportunity Drawing and 50/50 Drawing: I know the holidays were on everyone's minds and these tickets may have been forgotten.

Please sell your tickets and send your money to the Chairmen, Barbara and Valerie. Their names and addresses are on the tickets.

And impress upon your club Presidents and members to purchase these tickets.

This money supports the convention over and above your registration fee which basically covers our meals.

We do not want to wash dishes to pay for the hotel services! I will round you all up and take you to the kitchen to help!!

President's Reception: this will be for first time attendees again this year. So encourage members who have not attended a convention to attend this year.

We have some wonderful and interesting speakers and workshops lined up for you this year.

Invasive Plants/ Edibles in your yard/ sea Turtles/ sea oats Plants. Adaptive Gardening Tools/ Photography Club/ Bonnet Springs Park. How Plant cultivars are Created

And of course, we get free breakfasts and happy hour drinks!

And most important: Our State and district Officer installation will be on Thursday night. And Miss Tina will be installed as our new President and she has a fun reception planned!

DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS UNIFIED PROJECT

Deep South Garden Clubs Unified Project
Gina Jogan, Chairman for Florida
Winter Board Meeting, January, 2023

This Chairman is sad to report that not a single application was submitted for the Deep South Unified Project!

It should have been easy:

Native Plants, both flower and trees, planted at schools, in city or municipal areas or in home landscapes...that encompassed just about everywhere our members, clubs and districts are planting....so, you could have entered the **Deep South Garden Clubs Unified Project:**

- **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 at your School/s....** Individual clubs, a group of clubs, Councils or Districts can apply
- **Planting Native Flowers or trees in YOUR landscape....** Individual homeowners can apply

Admonishing you: This was not the way to honor the Deep South Regional Director from Florida, Carol Hall, nor make our President, Marge proud of us, or make FFGC shine at the Deep South Convention in Kenner, LA in the spring.

Gina V. Jogan,

DUES AMBASSADOR

Dues Chairman/Ambassador
January 10, 2023
Susan Roberts

The dues renewal process completed in September. New members are now added as they come in and tracked for the Nell Coe Award.

The new dues renewal process will begin on March 15, 2023 when the new form and letter will go to the club presidents. By-law changes affecting the due dates and late dates will be discussed and possible added at the April convention.

Summary: This job will recommence in March 2023 for the 2023-2024 season.

As of 1/5/2023

Clubs – 155

Individual members 9104

Life members 651

Spouses – 432

Total 10187 plus 248 life at large

5 non-renewing clubs – Mariana, Riverhaven, Sanford Wildflowers, Garden Gate, St. Lucie West

3 returning clubs – Palm Harbor, Miami lakes, and Tampa Bay G and CC

3 new clubs – Destin, Deltona and Port Malabar

EARTH STEWARD

Earth Steward Recognition
Kathy Siena
January 11, 2023

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

This recognition 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 form 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 Earth Steward Recognition is a great honor recognizing outstanding members or friends that have shown care and stewardship for our natural resources. An updated list of all recipients is available on the FFGC website at this link:

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

[Click on Earth Steward Recipients.](#)

ENDANGERED PLANTS

Endangered Plant Advisory Council

Jane Villa-Lobos

Winter Board meeting January 11-12, 2023

The state Endangered Plant Advisory Council was held virtually by consensus of its members on October 20, 2022. Prior to the meeting, members submitted evaluation forms ranking the four organizations that applied for funding in 2023. Richard Moyroud, moderator of the meeting, announced the grant recipients. Archbold Biological Station (\$61,055.81), Fairchild Tropical Garden (\$63,009.59), Bok Tower Gardens (\$61,625.66), and Key West Botanical Garden Society (\$30,308.93).

Members reviewed the status of plants on the Regulated Plant Index since the last review. The date for the next meeting will be in late October 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Villa-Lobos

FFGC Endangered Species Chairman

Summary: The October EPAC meeting was held virtually by consensus of its members. Members reviewed grant applications and submitted evaluations via email. The next meeting will be held in late October 2023.

ENVIRONMENTAL ALERTS

FFGC 100TH BIRTHDAY

Report
FFGC Centennial Celebration
Tina Tuttle
11 January 2023, Winter Park

Our organization has some of the most generous and genuine volunteers in all the world! It was a pleasure to talk with so many members while on the Officer's Tour and to receive financial, administrative and personal support for the upcoming Centennial Celebration!

To date, we have collected just over **\$33,700!** That amount came from the donations of fourteen \$1,000 individual donors and \$970 other individual donations, four district \$1,000 donations and \$1,271 other districts, \$3,100 from judges' councils donating \$1,000 and another \$300 from other judges' councils' donations, \$7,936 from clubs and circles and another \$1,880 from other donations. This is wonderful! But there is still time if you wish to participate by donating to the fund. The simplest way to give is by your credit card on the ffgc.org website, go to Donate and scroll down to Centennial Celebration. Easy, peasy!

The *2024 Commemorative Calendar* has been printed and **it is awesome!!** It features every cover of *Florida Floral Arrangement Calendar* since 1953 plus 70 historical factoids about FFGC. The commemorative logo ornaments and pins have been procured and they are, in fact, beautiful! These items and more will be available for purchase on 20 April 2023! Kits of fabric and directions have been distributed to clubs to create quilt blocks that will make our centennial quilt. Several blocks have already been returned and they are unique and amazing! Plans for an elegant 100th birthday brunch and dinner are underway for 24 April 2024 here at headquarters. Plans to celebrate the 19 January 2024 Arbor Day will garner publicity throughout the state! And, so many more delightful events are being planned in every district and for every member who wishes to partake! And although separately funded, plans for the 2024 centennial convention in Jacksonville are underway promising you an unforgettable convention experience!

I can't thank you enough for your support of this **once in a century event!** How lucky we are to be a participant in this part of FFGC history!

Tina Tuttle

Summary: Funding is needed to support planned events commemorating our 100 years! Please donate!

I have a motion:

I move that FFGC adopt the new 100-year logo and replace our current logo on all stationery, forms, documents, etc. beginning April 20, 2023.



FINANCE COMMITTEE

Report
FFGC Finance Committee
Tina Tuttle, Chairman
11 January 2023, Winter Park, FL

The FFGC Finance Committee met on 4 January by Zoom and the committee was joined by **Scott Corkhill** for an update on our property and liability insurance policies; Lloyds of London for the FFGC Headquarters building and contents and Nautilus for Wekiva Youth Camp and SEEK Conference. We felt the building contents were overvalued and will verify the inventory and perhaps lower that part of the \$18,773 annual policy. We also need to have appraisals for the jewelry we own in the form of the Presidents' pins. After the committee ratified two e-polls relating to a Wekiva Budget Amendment and the Gardening School in West Palm Beach, we tackled **budget reviews** for Environmental School in Tampa (\$3400) and Landscape School in Jacksonville (\$4225). Both were favorably reviewed. We reviewed financials of budget versus actual for **SEEK 2022 (\$5589 over budget)** and the **Fall 2022 Flower Show School Symposium** held in November in District VIII (profit of \$1893 for each of the 3 sponsors). We appreciate our all the hard work that went into these sponsored school and the profit share contribution to the operating fund. We voted to approve the budgets presented for **Short Course North** in August in Pensacola for \$4300, and an E-poll was held on 5 January regarding the proposed budget for the UF/FFGC Short Course in Gainesville in June for \$10,450. A **Wekiva Budget amendment** requesting a 26% increase in the food budget and kitchen staff pay for a fourth worker at \$12/hour, plus several necessary equipment repairs will be brought to this board by the camp Chairman later. We conducted our review of our **service contracts** and found many were outdated, not on file or on a month-to-month vice annual basis. We are in the process of rectifying that situation!

Treasurer, Jana Walling, reviewed our **Statement of Activity** and answered questions from the committee and the BOD who received a copy last week. Jana noted that we received the approximately \$20,000 in funds for the **Avon Park Correctional Institute** previously held by District IX **and the expenses related to the damage to our building** last June, including our deductible of \$17,761. And, yes, our **investments** continue to lose money, but such is the way of the world now.

Our **Headquarters and Endowment** chairman, Sue Roberts, informed us that all work related to that wind damage was completed but we have additional insurance claims to file and that our new \$27,500 air conditioning unit was being installed. Sue submitted a request from H&E regarding a **pay increase for our part-time, hourly Office Manager**. Second Vice President and outgoing **Wekiva** Chairman, Christy Linke, and Third Vice President and incoming Wekiva Chairman, Mary Whisler, together gave us an update on how camp registrations and program plans were proceeding for summer 2023.

This chairman gave a report on the progress of the **Centennial Celebration** funds amounting to \$33797 and related planned projects and expenses. The Baker Press in Orlando completed the production of our 2024 *Commemorative Calendar* for \$5,695.

The FFGC **Matching Grants** program continues to be well received. Applications are due 15 January and up to \$5000 will be awarded at convention. We briefly discussed updating our FFGC information on **SunBiz.org**, including modifying our **logo trademark** to recognize our centennial year, which adds an outer ring to our existing medallion. Additional English and Spanish membership rack cards and brochures were printed and are available in the work room if you need to replenish your supply.

As you know, the officers took our **Tour** this past fall. Jana tells us the expenses were about \$8500 including car rental, gas, and hotels. We thank you for allowing us this invaluable opportunity to visit the membership. Mary sold approximately \$1200 in Ways and Means on the trip and has ordered additional member pins totaling \$1013 to last another year.

The committee plans to **meet by Zoom** prior to the April convention so we can take our time to discuss each agenda item completely without time constraint. We are blessed to have such a dedicated, knowledgeable and vocal Finance Committee including Marge Hendon, Christy Linke, Mary Whisler, Jana Walling, Kelley Wood, Sue Roberts, Claudia Bates, and Gina Jogan. We work hard and are brutally honest but we all strive to be good stewards of your funds!

Tina Tuttle, Chairman, FFGC 1VP

Summary: The FFGC Finance Committee met in January by Zoom. We considered submitted budgets and financials for FFGC related educational programs and projects and HQ repairs. It is our mission to investigate every aspect of the fiscal health of our organization and make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding expenditures, investments and avenues of revenue.

FLORAL DESIGN STUDY

FFSJ PRESIDENT

PARKE FINOLD REPORTED ON THE 'WHAT'S MY TYPE' BOOK. IT HAS BEEN UPDATED AND WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE CONVENTION.

The Winter 2023 edition of *The Florida Gardener* is now one for the books. Approximately 1800 issues or so were mailed out for a combined cost of \$3,600 printing + postage. Apparently, we have 15 subscribers who pay \$3.75 per issue for a total of \$225. The cost per issue is about \$2. We earned about \$1,360 in advertisement fees and ran at a **deficit of \$1,900** given that printing and postage was \$3,600. The printed copies are distributed to:

- All BOD members (~70)
- Magazine for Life members (?)
- Paid subscribers (15)
- Members who do not have an email address in the Wild Apricot database (?)
- All District Directors (12)
- All club/circle presidents
(~ 150 clubs total, with circles it is likely to be a minimum of 500 copies)
- All members with “Send Hardcopy” flag set (?)
- All current advertisers (6)

This accounts for ~600 copies but we’re printing ~1800 copies so the “?” categories—magazine for life members, and probably club circles—are making up the difference.

The layout was changed for better legibility and included content with emphasis on FFGC to better inform members about opportunities that exist for their clubs and themselves. The reception to that was very positive. The whole process ran smoothly between the editor, the printing staff, Kelley Wood (circulation), Inger Jones (sales), and Barbara Hadsell (education).

The focus will continue to include more content providers and expand the message of what FFGC does and less emphasis on less compelling information from district directors. We are holding a photo cover contest, but it’s been difficult. We will have some good options.

SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

This edition was attractive, well presented, and included more FFGC content. The intention is to expand on that, include more content providers, and limit the district director reports to key and vital information to provide more space for vibrant content.

RECOMMENDATION

My recommendation is to cease all printing and go online only, a national trend that will save considerable funds. If FFGC moves to an online version only, we do away with postage and will not be restricted to 24 pages. If we move to a subscriber basis only, here are the cost breakdowns provided by the current printer:

Quantity Printed	Price @ issue	Total Print	# Subscribers	Subscriber Cost	Net Revenue (minus print)	Subscriber Cost	Net Revenue (minus print)
650	\$3.19	\$2,075.00	650	\$3.75	\$2,437.50	\$4.00	\$2,600.00
1200	\$2.02	\$ 2,421.00	1200	\$3.75	\$4,500.00	\$4.00	\$4,800.00
1500	\$1.75	\$ 2,625.00	1500	\$3.75	\$5,625.00	\$4.00	\$6,000.00
2500	\$1.31	\$ 3,278.00	2500	\$3.75	\$9,375.00	\$4.00	\$10,000.00
4000	\$1.06	\$ 4,221.00	4000	\$3.75	\$15,000.00	\$4.00	\$16,000.00

TODAY:

We have 15 subscribers @ \$3.75 each issue for a total of \$225

We print copies for hundreds of people at no cost; it’s a gift.

I don’t know how many Magazine for Life recipients there are.

Currently, \$1.80 from FFGC Dues is for the magazine. The individuals don’t pay that, the clubs do. Would people have a problem with re-allocating that \$1.80 to a worthy cause?

PROPOSED:

- Join the national trend to end printing and distribution across the board except for Magazine for Life people (quantity unknown but guessing it can’t be that bad); would be subsidized by paying subscribers
- Offer subscription at the current or increased rate of \$4 but sell it four issues so accounting doesn’t have to process orders every quarter – so \$20 for four

issues.

- Encourage all to subscribe, but if you only got 2,500 people, you would still earn between \$9-10,000 instead of spending \$1900.

RATIONALE:

- (1) As a nonprofit, we are not here to lose money. We are currently subsidizing the magazine – it is always online for free.
- (2) We can produce a magazine that offers more engaging content that informs and excites the membership.

FLORIDA GARDENER – CIRCULATION

Report: Circulation (Florida Gardener Magazine)

Kelley Wood

Chairman

January 10, 2023

0We are holding steady at about 2100 printed hardcopies of The Florida Gardener and have not been getting many requests to be added to the list.

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

** We remove “Do Not Send Hardcopy” from all categories if the member has requested not to get a copy.

FLORIDA WILDFLOWER LIAISON

FLOWER SHOW EVALUATION/AWARDS

FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULES

FUN WITH FLOWERS

GARDEN THERAPY

January 11, 2023

Garden Therapy-Penal Therapy-Avon Park
Patricia A. Shira, Chairman

GARDEN THERAPY-PENAL THERAPY- AVON PARK

The "Therapy Through Plants" program at the Avon Correctional Facility is still being very successful. We have 11 inmates working in the Nursery most days of the week.

Our funds have been transferred to FFGC and the program is working very well.

John Hopkins, the manager, has a successful program in action. The training program is continuing to be successful. The inmates are starting to propagate new plants for our spring sale, May 6, 2023 9:00 to 2:00. They are interested in growing night blooming plants for the sale. I have ordered seeds for them. I believe this will be a successful project and a fun new plant option for our sales.

The nursery is still working around an occasional shortage of staff. This affects the time they are able to work in the nursery. Most weeks they are able to be in the nursery 5 days which helps greatly with their production of new plants to sell in May.

A notice will be sent out to the Club Presidents about the May plant sale. Hopefully we will have great participation. This event helps with funds to help purchase the necessary supplies to operate the nursery successfully.

The donations we receive from the Districts throughout the State are greatly appreciated. Without everyone's financial help we could not be successful.

We have had a number of repair expenses with our mowers. We will be ordering the fiberglass sheets to repair our greenhouses damaged in a hail storm. This will be a large expense. Prices have gone up on all our supplies.

SUMMARY:

We hope the relief of the staff shortage will help the nursery with their production. Our training program is continuing. They have many beautiful plants and will have more with the addition of our night blooming collection.

GRANTS

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity Landscape Project

Pat Caren

January 10, 2023

Last year, this chairman began contacting clubs and affiliates around the state to encourage more cooperation between the parties and more involvement in landscape projects. The response was overall positive and a long-term plan was made to accomplish this goal. Unfortunately, other responsibilities have taken up much of this chairman's time and little actual work on the plan was accomplished. However, this is the New Year, time to go forward.

Participation in Habitat for Humanity Landscape Projects had lagged during the pandemic, but business seems to be picking up. With spring coming, we should see more activity.

Melbourne Garden Club did a Habitat for Humanity house dedication in August. They provided a garden basket filled with gardening tools, gardening information, and a plant. The local affiliate had two ground blessings in August and September, so the club looks forward to two more house dedications in the coming months.

District IV budgeted \$200 to assist clubs with their Habitat for Humanity projects. Requests from clubs for this grant money was such that it became apparent that more money is needed to be dedicated to this fund in the future.

The Garden Club of Orange Park reported they are making plans to collaborate with Clay County Habitat. Fifteen homes have already been built but do not have much in the yards except grass that was placed there upon completion of the house. The affiliate's Family Services Coordinator asked the club to get involved and do what they could for the homeowners. The club asked the District for funds and for advice on how to proceed if they could not get grant money. The District provided \$100 which allowed them to purchase pear trees. The homeowners were so excited with their trees, the club applied for a Plant America Grant in order to do more. They give each new homeowner an option of a fruit tree or a raised vegetable garden. For the next set of homes, their goal is to get the trees in during the winter and start the vegetable gardens in the spring, as the weather allows.

Shamrock Circle of the Garden Club of St Augustine is looking forward to landscaping Habitat for Humanity homes. They reported struggling with follow up maintenance for previous community projects and hope that Habitat homeowners would be inspired to maintain their own yards. They plan to use Florida Friendly landscape principles, which would be both attractive and low maintenance.

Clubs around the state face various challenges. Many have found creative solutions to problems such as the need for funds and the age of club members. This chairman is in a position to share these ideas with those looking for advice. Efforts to connect clubs with local Habitat for Humanity affiliates will continue.

Pat Caren

Habitat for Humanity Landscape Project Chairman

HALL OF FAME

HEADQUARTERS AND ENDOWMENT (& GROUNDS)

H&E Committee
January 10, 2023
Sue Roberts, Chairman

A tremendous amount of work has been accomplished at FFGC Headquarters since we last met in Sept. 2022. Before I give you the details, I want to thank our Office manager, Robin. This list would not be as complete if were not for her help in getting the estimates and in staying on top of all the workers. I could not have done this without her being onsite and her dedication and follow through with all the details. Sue Angle and I review Robin's performance at one year and gave her an outstanding rating and a \$2 per hour raise.

Projects Completed:

1. Tree damage to President's office has been completed. As you can see the office is now usable again. The damaged wall and roof were repaired, the floor replaced and the ceiling light fixtures were replaced and updated to LED bulbs. The building entire roof was replaced with approval of the insurance company (excepting the two flat areas by the kitchen). There was a small leak in the assembly room which has been corrected. We are still negotiating with the insurance company because more structural work had to be done than originally estimated.
2. All the brick work around the building has been cleaned, repaired or replaced as needed. Also many of the cement walls and some sidewalks were repaired. This job has taken a long time due to weather delays but is now complete.
3. The white gate has been replaced. The red gate and crumbling brick wall has been repaired and now needs to be painted.
4. The large air conditioning unit for the assembly room has been replaced.
5. All the blinds have been cleaned.
6. The sign out on Denning Drive has been cleaned.
7. The pots by the front door have been replanted.
8. Storm damaged trees after Ian and Nicole swept through have been trimmed or removed.
9. Kitchen Refrigerator was replaced during the meeting. Cost of \$801 from Lowes.

New Projects

1. Landscaping plans as weather improves
2. Possible Parking lot repaving
3. Reconfiguring the round stepping stones area

INSURANCE

Report: Insurance

Kelley Wood

Chairman

January 10, 2023

We had significant damage to our HQ building caused by a falling tree. We filed an insurance claim and have received a check for a bit over \$50,000. The work has been completed at a total cost of over \$85,000. I have Scott Corkhill in conversation with the adjuster from the insurance company to see what more we can claim based on actual replacement costs.

Scott Corkhill of Corkhill Insurance was a speaker at the January Finance Committee that I could not attend. He reviewed our insurance policies and answered questions.

No update on the slip-and-fall claim that we received from Morgan and Morgan.

INVASIVE SPECIES

Environmental Report
Lydia Barbour
January 10, 2023

FFGC adopted a position statement on May 10, 2012 entitled Control Invasive Species. In it there is a statement that says that “Invasive species pose a serious threat to ecological integrity by reducing biodiversity and degrading habit and forage.” Elsewhere it says that only a fraction of the plants in Florida are invasive.

I have found that many gardeners and members of our organization do not know how to identify or to handle species that have been deemed by the Florida Invasive Species Council as either Category 1 or Category 2 invasives. As of 2019 those lists included 81 Category 1 and 85 Category 2 invasives. However, using those lists is problematic for most gardeners, I being one of them, because I am not well versed in equating all scientific names to their common name.

To solve that part of the problem for me, I took those lists and resorted them by common name. Then I shared that new version with all garden club members and others in my community. This list is now posted on the webpage of the Conrada Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society. Most recently I provided it to the Florida Wildflower Foundation and hope to see it posted on their website soon. And not too long ago I attended a presentation by a local native nursery who was using my version to help attendees recognize invasives, while telling them how to handle any they find. It is working!

I propose that FFGC’s position paper be revised to include these lists as attachments and to provide guidance about the handling of invasive plants.

When I talked with Marge about this she suggested that I provide it to Devon Villareale-Dabbs and Pat Caren. Pat asked me to make the presentation to the Tri-Council, which I did 1/10/23 and they are considering adopting it. Devon has my documents and recommendation and hopefully we will have something to present at Convention.

Lydia Barbour

January 12, 2023

[Control of Invasive species Position Paper](#) –May 2012

[Category 1 Invasive Species](#)

[Category 2 Invasive Species](#)

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Report
Junior Gardener
Jennifer Barber
January 11-12, 2023

Junior Gardener award submissions are due January 2nd. At this time there are only a handful of registered Junior Garden Clubs. The hope was that the number of clubs would increase this year but unfortunately, that has not been the case. The lack of registrations does not necessarily mean that there are no FFGC clubs working with youth. Based on my conversations over the past few months I do believe garden clubs are engaged and committed to introducing our Youth to the joys of gardening and the importance of the natural world but many are choosing different avenues to reach this audience.

We have had several submissions for awards and are eager to begin the process. Awards will be announced at the 2023 Convention.

Wekiva's Volunteer Training Weekend will be February 10-12. Anyone who would like to learn more about Camp, the Junior Gardener Program, FFGC Youth Programs, and how to volunteer is encouraged to attend. For more information about the weekend please visit www.wekivayouthcamp.org

It has been my privilege to serve as the Junior Gardener Chair and I thank President Marge Hendon for the opportunity. I am confident the next Chair of the Junior Gardener Program will bring her expertise and vision to the program along with her passion for children and do a truly remarkable job!

LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS & POLICIES

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

MATCHING GRANTS

Matching Grants Program Report
Gina Jogan, Chairman
Winter Board Meeting, January 2023

FFGC has a **MATCHING GRANTS PROGRAM**. There is an application form which you can access online (FFGC.org; Forms) and the committee will award up to \$5,000 per year in grant funds. Clubs and/or 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."*
- **NOTE THAT THERE IS SOMETHING NEW ON THE APPLICATION FORM....YOU NEED TO LET THE COMMITTEE KNOW HOW YOUR PROJECT FITS INTO THE CRITERIA FOR THE GRANTS**

Some groups have had to step back from their projects during the pandemic; some have been given extensions to get back on track with their projects....

To date, only seven **new applications** have been submitted for this calendar year. Be sure to get your applications in soon! Deadline is 15 January! Winners will be announced at the upcoming Convention 2023. If you aren't in, you can't win.....and we KNOW that your clubs and circles are doing wonderful projects in all the award categories.

Not all the clubs who won and were awarded Matching Grand funds last year have sent in the REQUIRED report on their finished project. Please do so...it is overdue!

SUMMARY: New applications are being received and judging of the applications will take place so winners can be announced at Convention 2023 in Kissimmee.

MEMBERSHIP

Report

New Membership

Ed Nendick

Sept. 7th,2022

Since January of 2022 successes include.

1. A tremendous increase in new members.
2. The programs of 2 by 2 have been a success.
3. All districts are encouraging adding members using all or most of the things suggested in the past

Please keep up the good work and remember a smile and a polite greeting are your very best tools to bringing new members in. Just smile and ask if the person would like to meet more people like minded ,which should allow the conversation to go toward your Garden Club

MEMBERSHIP RETENTION

Report
Membership Retention
Jane Nendick, Chair
January BOD, 2023

Congratulations to everyone for your outstanding recruiting efforts. Since September 2021, YOU have added upwards of 2600 new Members! That's an average of 177 per month! (As President Marge would say, "WOW"!) We are all so proud of you!

HOWEVER.....

We really must work on our RETENTION of those new Members! It's defeating our purpose if folks simply come in your front door, to only disappear out the back door!

Now we all know we cannot solve a problem unless we can accurately define that problem(s). One easy way to do this is to give your Members the Satisfaction and Suggestion Survey which can be found on our ffgc.org/membership website in the Membership Handbook. However, it will not do any good unless the Club Officers/Board take all suggestion to "heart" AND plan how to overcome the problem! Your Members will greatly appreciate having their voices heard! So LISTEN, LISTEN, LISTEN to them! Then take ACTION!

Remember that the 3 main "keys" to Membership Retention are:

- 1. Appreciate: What is your Club doing to show appreciation, thus value, to your Members? Perhaps a certificate of appreciation, even for the "little" things done? What about running some of your Members as a "feature" in your Monthly Newsletter or on your website (with permission, of course). Always give credit where credit is due!!!**
- 2. Communicate: How often does your Club send out communications to the Members? What about Thank You notes? Get well cards? We missed you at or last meeting? Communicate as a group and as individuals! Members will offer great Program ideas too!**
- 3. Listen: If a concern arises in your Club and the Officers are unaware the problem even existed, the odds are, the Officers were NOT listening to the Membership!!!**

Summary: Membership Retention starts the first second a prospective member enters the Club environment! APPRECIATE , COMMUNICATE, LISTEN!

NGC ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL CHAIRMAN

NGC ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL – FFGC SCHOOL CHAIRMAN/CREDENTIALS

NGC Environmental State Chairman

January 9, 2023

Lydia Barbour

As NGC Environmental School State Chairman and Credentials Chairman, my job includes keeping the Environmental School database up-to-date and accurate.

As of 1/8/2023 here is a breakdown of entries on the spreadsheet for each type of student.

- 118 active students include: 31 Masters; 46 Consultants; and 41 students still working to complete the four courses within the seven-year (or eight-year with one extension) time requirement.
- 99 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 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. Those who began taking classes in 2015 and those whose GSD was 2022, have been alerted that they were in danger of losing the credits or their status as a Consultant or Master with information about upcoming courses or an offer to provide an extension. Notes on the spreadsheet are used to track their responses. Sadly 10 of those students chose to become inactive at the end of 2022.

In addition, as students register for courses, this Chairman verifies the data entries on Forms 6 & 7 and approves the form once complete. Because Form 7 has now replaced the cards that NGC formerly sent students alerting them to their GSD, this Chairman forwards the approved Form 7 to each student when notified of successful completion of a 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. Currently there are two active schools, Fort Myers in District IX and Tampa in District VIII. District I is considering beginning a school in the latter part of this year.

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.

Respectfully submitted:

Lydia Barbour

NGC GARDEN STUDY SCHOOL CHAIRMAN

NGC LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL CHAIRMAN

NGC SCHOOLS CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN

Report
Credentials Chairman
Linda Feifarek-Johnson
January 11-12, 2023

This chairman is still helping students with their NGC Landscape Design and Gardening courses. If they have any questions about what courses they have taken or need to take, I find the information for them. I have also directed them to the proper chairman for any other problems. I am finding NGC schools available and notifying the students who need to take courses or to file extensions if necessary.

NGC SPECIAL PROJECT LIAISON

Special Project Liaison
Margaret Chodosh
January 10,2023

District IV received 3 Plant America grants. The garden clubs were Green Cove Springs, Orange Park, and Switzerland. Congratulations! Continue to foster grant applications and provide deadline information.

NGC & DSGC YOUTH CONTESTS
PARKS - TRAILS - GREENWAYS

PENNY PINES

Penny Pines Report
Andrea Finn, Chairman
January 11, 2023

I am frequently asked by Garden Clubs why the donations have to be in \$68 increments for Penny Pines. Here's the answer:

When the program started, seedlings cost about a penny each. About 680 seedlings were enough to plant an acre; so \$68 could plant 10 acres. The Forest Service now calls the 10 acre parcel a "plantation". The amount of \$68 increments is set by the US Forest Service in a Memorandum of Understanding – a contract with NGC. And that's the Answer! It's in our contract. Of course at the rate of inflation right now, we are getting about 200 seedling (depending on the size and variety) per acre. But the \$68 increment still stands.

Our Clubs were very generous for the period June through November 2022. We collected \$3,128.00 for that time frame. I am thrilled with that number. I hope we can keep the momentum going.

Andrea Finn, FFGC Chairman
Penny Pines Project

SUMMARY: The \$68 increment for donations is set by the US Forest Service in a Memorandum of Understanding - a contract with NGC. FFGC contributions from June – November, 2022 totaled \$3,128.00.

PHOTOGRAPHER
PILLAR OF PRIDE

PLANNED GIVING

PROGRAMS & SPEAKERS

Donna Thomas
Speakers/Program Chairman
Jan. 11, 2023

Donna supplied an updated list of Attractions, Programs, and websites for the website.

PROTOCOL

Report
Protocol
Jo Ann Guise
January 11, 2023

This chairman was invited and attended all the Zoom meetings for the 2023 FFGC State Convention. Kelley Wood and Susie Berryhill have accepted the lead Chairmanships working with Marge Hendon, FFGC President.

A list of questions, and data needed by the Protocol Committee was sent to Marge Hendon, Kelley Wood, Susie Berryhill, Cissy Richardson, and Connie Gladding who has accepted the position of Convention Coordinator, following the retirement of Cissy Richardson.

There is a lag in receiving the needed information from the President re Speakers, assignments and Workshop personnel. There are still areas of discussion needed to be cleared and determined for the Installation. Sue Angle and Sue Roberts have agreed to work with this chairman assisting the Protocol Committee.

An in person meeting is scheduled for Wednesday evening January 11 in the President's office after the BOD ends that afternoon.

SUMMARY: Meetings have been held to determine the details for the FFGC 2023 Convention. Information is slow in being updated.

Jo Ann Guise
Protocol Chairman

RECLAMATION & RECYCLING

ROADSIDE BEAUTIFICATION/ PATHS OF SUNSHINE

SCHOLARSHIP - DSGC, NGC

BOD Report – Jan. 11, 2023
DSGC/NGC Scholarship
Mary Adams

The online application option is now available on the NGC Scholarship webpage. According to NGC Scholarship Chairman, all updates have been made to the webpage, including forms, guidelines, 2022 award list and State Contact roster. Eligible students can apply online by scrolling down to the list of links. Students may click on the application form and download and/or print.

They also have the option to complete application online and upload the necessary documents, i.e., personal letter list of achievements, letter of recommendation, completed financial aid form and transcripts. When the NGC Chairman receive the online applications, they are forwarded to the State Chairman of NGC/DSGC. The system was tested and is working properly.

SCHOLARSHIP – FFGC

Report
Scholarship and Endowment Committee
Helen R. Purvis
January 11, 2023

Checks have been written in the amount of \$1500 and mailed to the following schools for the second semester.

Madison Ryan, Florida State University, freshman with environmental law in her future.

Miller Maddox, Florida State University, working on her masters in science education.

Caroline Gordon, University of Florida, majoring in landscape architecture and urban planning.

Ailee Odom, University of Florida, graduating with a degree in Forest Resource Conservation.

Cayla Smith, University of Florida, a degree in Agriculture Education and Communications.

Cassie Valenti – Florida Gulf Coast University, ecological research on connections between wildlife and their habitats. She will graduate in May.

All of the above students were able to maintain their required GPA of 3.0 and above.

Sadly, one of the students that received a scholarship in September was not able to maintain a GPA of better than 3.0 and was not eligible to receive the remainder of her monies.

But my report gets happier. Donations to the scholarship fund were made as follows:

\$3000 from Garden Club of Ft. Pierce.

\$2000 from Jean Hawa

\$10,000 from Gulf Beach Garden Club

Recognition will be given at our annual convention in April.

Now is the time to go home and encourage students to apply for a scholarship. Deadline for FFGC is May 1 and information is on the FFGC website.

Summary: 6 scholarships for second semester students in the amount of \$1500 each were awarded. Donations of \$15,000 were acknowledged from Garden Club of Ft. Pierce, Jean Hawa and Gulf Coast Garden Club.

SCOUTING LIAISON

SEEK CONFERENCE

SHORT COURSE - NORTH

Short Course North August 10 & 11, 2023
Short Course North Chairman, To Be Determined
FFGC Winter BOD January 10-12, 2023

The thirteenth annual Short Course North was held August 11 & 12, 2022 FOR THE FIRST TIME at the Okaloosa County Extension Office in Crestview FL. This course was sponsored by FFGC District I. The theme for this year was **“Our Worlds of Wonder: Enjoy-Teach-Save-Restore”** Topics relating to this theme were selected by extension agents in cooperation with the committee so Master Gardener Advanced Training credits (CEUs) would be granted. We had 53 registered this year. We were honored to have our President, Marjorie Hendon join us both days.

We are looking forward to another exciting and educational program coming up in August, 2023. Plans are already underway so stay tuned for further updates and announcements!

Dates for this year's Short Course are August 10 & 11, 2023, meeting at the Escambia County Extension office in Cantonment, FL.

SHORT COURSE TROPICAL

Michelle Maguire
Tropical Short Course
January 10-12,2023

Tropical Short Course Report

Tropical Short Course is being held on January 25 and 26, 2023 at the Greenacres Community Center. Registration starts at 8:00am with introductions starting at 8:30am. There are two speakers each morning, followed by one Floral Designer in the afternoon. There will be plenty of time to participate in the District Raffle and to visit with Vendors of all kinds. Two of the speakers are bringing Butterfly plants and Native Orchids relative to their presentations.

So far we have 50 registrants and need a lot more if we are to make any money for this District fundraiser.

Thankyou,

Michelle Maguire, TSC chairman

SMOKEY BEAR-WOODSY OWL

Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

Jill Anderson, Chairman

January 29, 2023

This chairman continues to receive posters for this year's contest. They will be judged and sent to Deep South before their deadline of February 24.

Deadline for posters to be received by this state chair is January 20, 2023. All rules are listed on the NGC web site: <https://gardenclub.org/smokey-bear-woodsy-owl-youth-poster-contest>

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. 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 will be sent to the Deep South. chairman. The Deep South winners will be sent to NGC. A State Chairman report will accompany our winners when they are submitted to Deep South.

All winners will be announced at the FFGC 2021 State convention. Certificates of Participation with names on them will be given to District Directors to be distributed to participating sent to clubs.

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

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: Posters have been received and judged. Winners were sent to the Deep South Chairman.

SOCIAL MEDIA

SOLAR ENERGY/WIND POWER

Solar Update January 2023

Solar/Wind Chairman: Grace Tshanakas

Florida Update

In 2022, Florida set a goal of 100% renewable energy by 2050. 40% by 2030. 63% by 2035 and 82% by 2040.

Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 –2023 Updates

Solar –beginning in 2023, families will be able to claim a 30% discount on installing solar systems paired with battery storage as well as battery storage installed without solar.

Energy efficient home –beginning in 2023 \$1200 credit for adding insulation or installing efficient windows and doors and up to \$2000 for installing electric heat pumps

\$150 credit for a home energy audit. State programs will begin to offer rebates for electric appliances of up to \$4000 and \$8000 for low-income households

Electric vehicles –beginning in 2023, income-qualified households will be able to receive a tax credit up to \$7500 for new vehicles and \$4000 for used. The vehicles must be produced in North America and cost less than \$80,000

Wind –There are several incentives and rebates aimed at manufactures and distributors of wind systems to increase deployment.

Garden Club of St. Petersburg

The St. Petersburg GC have agreed upon a solar installer. Their board has approved an approximate expenditure. The solar hardware and labor is eligible for a 30% rebate

The Garden Club roof needs to be repaired prior to the solar installation. The club is waiting to understand whether the roof will be eligible for a 30% rebate

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Strategic Planning Committee
Gina V. Jogan, Chairman
Winter Board Meeting, January 2023

The Strategic Planning Committee has tackled, many issues since September:

- President's report pertaining to the physical **Headquarters** building: landscaping, legal issues, storm damages, insurance, flooring, air conditioner problems and so forth.
- **Membership:** it is strongly suggested that dues payment be moved **forward to May 1st** to avoid snafus that occur when changing club officers, 'snowbirds' going north, etc.
- Pursuing the idea of establishing **On-line Garden Clubs**an Ad hoc committee is working to bring back Gardens of the World. These clubs might be special interest such as environmental, Wekiva Alumni or Horticulture....
- Scanning back issues of The Florida Gardener and other such **historical documents** is continuing to preserve fragile paper documents. Kelley Wood is doing this work. Several universities (local) were asked about housing/archiving our bound books....no replies.
- **Current Library:** Discussion of dismantling and disposing/selling of books. Presidents of Tri-Council and FFSJ will be asked to see if any books should be retained.
- **Matching Grants** applications will have a new requirement for applicants to fill out: how does their project fit the criteria for the grants?
- Discussion is ongoing regarding **Districts** (they were designated in 1958) with a disparity of 220 to 1500 members! Representation is skewed. Finances have become an issue; Districts must have their own EIN. Travel time/distance/time should be a consideration.
- A **Phased Replacement Plan** at HQ and Camp Wekiva for items with a value of over \$500 that routinely need replacement, repair or upgrading has been implemented; inventory items are depreciated by the IRS.
- It was also suggested that we resurrect the **Member Personnel** profile to more easily fit jobs to people. Discussion regarding Vice-chairmen needed...
- **Terms limits** of 6 years (3 terms) for all chairmanships is also on the table for discussion.
- **Membership** retention and recruitment issue continue. Lack of communication seems to be the main problem/key.
- **Awards** will now be paid for by FFGC. **Awards #120- #132, the Flower Show Related Awards, will be paid for by FFSJ.**
- Plans for the **100th celebration of FFGC** are ongoing. Kickoff will be at the 2023 Convention/installation.
- Of concern is the disbanding of Federated clubs....we need **an exit poll**; 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

TREES & REFORESTATION

Kathy "Kat" Spieker, Trees and Reforestation Chairman

1530 Royal Palm Drive, Niceville, FL 32578-3529

850-687-6381, kspieker3@gmail.com

Trees and Reforestation Report Winter BOD Meeting January 10-12,2023

Continued reporting on the project:

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.

Trees and Reforestation is in contact with District Directors currently to remind all clubs of the 2022-2023 counting season!

Let's break 500,000 trees this year!!!!!!

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy "Kat" Spieker

Trees and Reforestation Chairman

TRI-COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Tri-Council of FFGC
Pat Caren

January 10, 2023

Tri-Council has seen some changes in leadership. Brenda Luedeman graciously assumed the role of Vice President after this former VP took the reins from Jackie Host as President. Just as graciously, Carolyn Lowry-Nation took Brenda's place as Gardening Representative. Tri-Council has a dedicated core of hardworking volunteers, and the hope is that new consultants will soon be available to fill vacant chairmanships.

The Art of Advocacy packet, compiled by Inger Jones, Jackie Host, and the late Marion Hilliard, has been distributed to Tri-Council members, for those who wish to become advocates for environmental and other issues. The future may hold opportunities for Tri-Council members to become more involved in the legislative process.

Camperships are available to the children and grandchildren of Tri-Council members who attend Wekiva Youth Camp and SEEK. Once the children are signed up for camp, consultants can apply for these camperships. This is a perk for members of Tri-Council which also helps support the camps.

Tri-Council has big plans for the FFGC Convention in April. The emphasis will be on FFGC President Marge Hendon's theme of Recycling. Tri-Council members are dreaming up creative ways to repurpose, recycle, and compost materials rather than let them end up in landfills. Recycled art will be on display at the convention.

At the Early Arrivals Dinner, attendees will be regaled with a Trashion Show. Models will design and model their own fashions out of recycled items. So far, seventeen models have signed up. President-Elect Tina Tuttle will be the MC.

The three schools (Environmental, Gardening, and Landscape Design), plus the Flower Show School, will have exhibits in the Magnolia Ballroom. These "parking lots," each ten by twenty feet, will display what the schools teach and how this knowledge can benefit the students as well as their communities. This exhibition will raise awareness of the educational opportunities Garden Club has to offer.

As we emerge from the pandemic, more schools are being offered in person as well as online. District IV completed Landscape Design Course 2 in November and Course 3 is planned for February. Hurricane Ian caused Environmental Course 2 to be rescheduled from November to February. Tropical Short Course will be offered in January, which is an opportunity for consultants to refresh. Other schools scheduled for the next few months are Environmental 1 in Tampa, Environmental 2 in Ft. Myers, Gardening 2 in West Palm Beach, and more nationwide, many available by Zoom.

After students complete their second course of a school, they are eligible to join Tri-Council as Provisional Members. Lately, a handful of students have taken advantage of this opportunity. It is anticipated that more will join as word of what Tri-Council has to offer, gets around.

Pat Caren

Tri-Council President

VIRTUAL PLATFORM TEAM

Report: Virtual Platform Team

Kelley Wood

Chairman

January 10, 2023

Have hosted several committee meetings via ZOOM in advance of the Winter 2023 BOD meeting. We've also hosted 2 Photography Club meetings; club is now known as "Snapdragons".

I have been assisting Sue Roberts with website and database work. I have been performing monthly membership and website backups and storing those on our Google drive.

WATER AND WETLANDS

WEBSITE EDITOR

FFGC Website Editor
January 10,2023
Susan Roberts

Editing of the website is a continuing job. There have not been many additions since September, just corrections.

Summary: Corrections continue. Major changes will be coming with the changed of administrations in April, 2023.

WEKIVA YOUTH CAMP

Wekiva Youth Camp Report
Christy Linke
January 9, 2023

This Chairman held her last Wekiva Board Meeting in September 2022. It was two wonderful learning years and so happy I had the opportunity to hold this position. While Chairman the job of obtaining a chef started taking place the last two weeks of camp 2022. This was due to Teresa Mahoney who was our head kitchen person was not returning. Knowing this we started the process hoping we could show the kitchen during camp and Teresa could pass all information on to that person. We did interview one in July, but knowing that was the first we continued looking. Devon Villereal was a big help in this process. This Chairman and Devon started revising the Kitchen contract due to this is the time to do it if we are hiring a new head person. Chef Christopher Bates who runs the culinary program at the Apopka High School applied and was definitely qualified. This Chairman, Mary Whisler, Devon Villereal, and Teresa Mahoney met with Chef Bates Saturday, November 19th, 2022 and showed him around the kitchen to where he asked many questions. To date he has not signed the contract but we are getting closer to that. This Chairman put out an e-blast the first of September for a new registrar for camp Wekiva. Betty Moxley after taking this volunteer job on for 12 years was not returning. Knowing we needed to obtain a registrar asap that task of obtaining a registrar started. This chairman is proud to say that Barbara Fowler of the Newberry Garden Club in District 5 stepped up to the plate and said yes. Barbara, myself, and Betty met at headquarters for a training day. Barbara is doing a great job and Betty is a phone call away.

As my two years are completed I wish Mary all the best in her new Chairmanship of Wekiva Youth Camp
Summary:

Wekiva Youth Camp continues to thrive, even after returning after Covid 19 when camp was closed in 2020. It was like starting all over again. Camp Director, John Morand after 14 years stepped out of the position and the task of finding a new Director started. Camp went on with Shelby Mander. Registrar Betty Moxley, stepped down and a new registrar was obtained, Barbara Fowler. Camp Wekiva went on. Teresa Mahoney, after 12 years advised us she wasn't coming back, obtaining a new cook/chef started. Camp went on. Nothing can stop Camp Wekiva when you have the Wekiva Alumni backing you and of course the reputation our camp has and what it stands for. Campers Today, Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow.

WEKIVA VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Winter Board of Directors Meeting

January 11-12, 2023

Call to Order:

The regular Winter Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. was called to order at 12:32 P.M., January 11, 2023, by President Marge Hendon. President Hendon extended a warm welcome to all members.

Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America:

Pat Strawn, FFGC Chaplain, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

REGULAR BUSINESS IN ORDER

Appointment of Committees:

The Chair named the following committees who were appointed with no objections.

Committee to Approve the Minutes – Tina Tuttle, Christy Linke, Mary Whisler

Teller of the Meeting: Pat Caren

Timekeeper for this meeting: Sally Flanagan

Introductions

Carol Hall, Deep South Director was introduced. Deep South Garden Club board members were asked to stand and be recognized.

Neither past president, Lois Shuster or Barbara May were in attendance. NGC Board Members were recognized.

FFGC officers were introduced. Jana Walling (Treasurer), Linda Feifarek-Johnson (Corr. Secretary), Carolyn Lowry-Nation (Parliamentarian), Sue Roberts (Rec. Secretary), Mary Whisler (3rd VP), Christy Linke (2nd VP), Tina Tuttle (President-Elect), and Marge Hendon, President.

Report of the Committee to Approve the Minutes of the September 2022 Fall Meeting of the Board of Directors:

Joanne Mulinare reported that the minutes were approved as corrected.

Early Appointments

Mary Whisler was appointed Wekiva Youth Camp Chairman.

Connie Gladding was appointed FFGC Convention Coordinator.

Betty White will be representing District 1 for District Director Joyce Waters-Smith.

REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS:

Mary Whisler, 3rd VP: report was filed

Christy Linke 2nd VP: report was filed

Tina Tuttle President-Elect: report was filed.

Sue Roberts Recording Sec: report was filed

Linda Johnson Corresponding Sec: announced EA dinner invitation for convention and request for Calendar entries be sent to her.

Carolyn Lowry-Nation Parliamentarian: Read standing rule on speaking at board meeting.

Marge Hendon, President: postponed to tomorrow.

Both Officer, District Directors and Board members' reports can be found on the website under 'reports and minutes' under this meeting date.

We then Sang the FFGC song and Marge handed out gift plants to everyone.

Treasurer: Jana Walling reported on Statement of Activity for June 2022- November 2022. This report is filed with these minutes and can be found on the website in the "reports and minutes" section under this meeting date. Report was also sent to all board members before the meeting.

Treasurer's comments:

June 2022-Nov. 2022 report:

Line 9: Dues amount is 7/12ths of total amount collected for old fiscal year.

Line 14: Will be on budget by end of Dec.

Line 24: Money from district 9 as Avon Park Correctional Institute garden therapy project is turned over to FFGC

Line 41: We are earning interest from money for new building at Wekiva Youth Camp as construction has been delayed.

Line 48: Money received on insurance claim for fallen tree/ President's office

Line 69-72: No money has been received for Hall of Fame, Color our Garden, or Earth Steward

Line 73: Penny Pines proceeds

Line 160: through Nov. 66,801.85 has been paid out on President's office repairs. Total now at \$85,932.98.

Line 162: HVAC replacement project now complete at \$27,250.00.

Line 164-169: Grounds expenses, due to hurricanes we have incurred extra expenses

Line 177: no budget amount was included for utilities, will be corrected in a motion.

Line 186: Website software incurred large increase

Line 201: SEEK over budget.

Jana Walling, treasurer, made the following motions:

MOTION: I move to amend the approved Budget for Account 8966 Utilities, which were approved at the Fall 2022 FFGC Board of Directors Meeting, to budget \$13,200 for 2023 and to retroactively budget \$7,700 for the June 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 interim period. The budget amount for this account was inadvertently omitted in the budget for both periods.

MOTION PASSED

MOTION: I move that the duly elected FFGC President, FFGC First Vice President, FFGC Second Vice President, FFGC Third Vice President and FFGC Treasurer be approved as authorized signors on all FFGC bank accounts during their terms of office. This authorization shall continue until such time as it is revoked or amended by this FFGC Board of Directors.

MOTION PASSED

The treasurer asked, that due to IRS regulation to file a form 990, we fill out a report on our average volunteer hours per week. This is for two periods 6/1/21-5/31/22 and 6/1/22-12/31/22. Report is circulating around the room.

Mary Whisler, Wekiva Youth Camp chairman, made two budget amendment motions:

MOTION: to approve a 26% raise in the Wekiva food budget for summer session 2023. Current food budgeted \$34,500; Raise of \$7500 to bring total to \$42,000.00.

Motion passed.

MOTION: to approve a budget increase for labor (\$3,360.00) to provide for an additional part time kitchen food certified staff member (\$26,860).

Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Note: all committee reports are included in the book of Board Chairman Reports. This is kept with the minutes and resides on the website under Reports and Minutes by the date for this meeting. Only motion items are reported in these minutes as all the reports have been filed.

Finance Committee – Tina Tuttle

The FFGC Finance Committee met in January by ZOOM. We considered submitted budgets and financials for FFGC related educational programs and projects and HQ repairs.

Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee - Cissy Richardson

BYLAWS & STANDING RULES COMMITTEE
BOD REPORT
Cissy Richardson, Chairman
January 11, 2023

ADOPT AS POLICY - "HOW TO CREATE CLUB BYLAWS" The Policy titled "How To Create District Bylaws" was adopted at the September 6, 2022, BOD meeting. We are requesting adoption of the policy titled "How to Create Club Bylaws". A copy of this policy was included on the email you received Sunday, January 8th. Both policies will be available for use by Districts and or Clubs and posted on the FFGC website.

ADOPTED 1/11/23

ON BEHALF OF THE BYLAWS & STANDING RULES COMMITTEE, I MOVE -

ART IV Dues and Fees Sec 1 e. STRIKE: e and (1) in entirety. Dues shall be payable to FFGC and shall be remitted to Headquarters by June 1. Dues of members enrolled after June 1 shall be payable immediately.
(1) Dues shall be delinquent if not received by June 30, and a notice shall be sent. If not received by November 1, membership and all privileges shall be forfeited unless and until reinstated.

INSERT: Dues shall be payable to FFGC and shall be remitted to Headquarters by May 1. Dues of members enrolled after May 1 shall be payable immediately.
(1) Dues shall be delinquent if not received by May 1 and a notice shall be sent. If not received by June 1, a notice shall be sent. If not received by June 30, membership and all privileges shall be forfeited unless and until reinstated.
PROVISO: Effective Jan 1, 2024

(2) No change.

- RATIONALE:**
- Address the issue of club members/officers leaving for the summer without having paid dues for the upcoming garden club year.
 - Submission of updated information for the Book of Information which is compiled over the summer for fall distribution including current contact information for the Officers and members.
 - The NGC dues are payable June 1 and delinquent October 31. FFGC dues are delinquent after November 1 which does not allow FFGC dues/membership numbers to NGC to be accurate without being delinquent.

PROCEDURE: The Membership Chairman would send Dues Notice out the middle of March.
The revised date for the FFGC dues collection would be May 1 instead of June 1.
With Bylaw revision, the dues would be delinquent June 1 and a notice sent.
Dues not received by June 30, would result in forfeit of membership privileges.
This allows for collection of FFGC dues prior to the summer hiatus that many clubs observe.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

ART III, IV and XI ESTABLISHING ONLINE (E) CLUB
ART III MEMBERS Sec I Voting Membership
a. Eligibility, Admission INSERT: (4) ONLINE (E) CLUB
An Online (E) Club shall have a membership of not less than ten (10). Application for membership shall be submitted

to the FFGC Board of Directors through the FFGC 3rd Vice President. The application shall be accompanied by per capita dues and an alphabetical list of names, District number, mailing address and email address of all members. A majority vote of the Executive Committee shall elect the club which shall immediately be entitled to all rights and subject to all responsibilities of membership. Ratification shall follow at the next Board of Directors meeting.

ART IV DUES AND FEES

Sec 1 **INSERT: ONLINE (E) CLUB** If adopted, this will read: The annual dues of each Garden Club, **Online (E) Club** and each Garden Club organized on the Circle Plan.....

d. **INSERT: including Online (E) Clubs** If adopted, this will read: Annual FFGC dues of members belonging to two or more Garden Clubs **including Online (E) Clubs** and Garden Clubs organized.....

ART XI REPRESENTATION Sec 1 b. Garden Clubs **INSERT: including Online (E) Clubs**

RATIONALE: Formation of Online (E) Clubs are being considered in the state. One existed a number of years but was never formally identified as a FFGC Club. Above will make Online (E) Clubs legal with procedure to follow.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: **YES** LOST: COMMITTEE:

STANDING RULES

REVISED STANDING RULES WILL BE CORRECTLY NUMBERED & REVISIONS POSTED ON THE WEBSITE.

8 BOOK OF INFORMATION – subsection d. **Six (6) One (1) copies copy** shall remain in the files for the use of the succeeding *Book of Information* Chairman.

If adopted this will read: One copy shall remain in the files..... **RATIONALE:** Files are stored electronically.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: **YES** LOST: COMMITTEE:

9 *The Florida Gardener* **STRIKE: RED** **INSERT: GREEN**

a. Each Club shall be responsible for maintaining a current membership list and shall notify the FFGC Office **Manager/Coordinator** promptly of changes of names, address, zip code, **email address** and **telephone number**, members added and members dropped. **Most** members shall receive the Florida Gardener **online**. **If mailed, a legally married couple will receive one copy of The Florida Gardener.**

RATIONALE: Published online for members. If a printed copy is mailed, one copy for legally married couples.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: LOST: COMMITTEE: **TO COMMITTEE**

10 and # 11 **STRIKE IN ENTIRETY** combining # 10 and # 11 **INSERT: new SR # 10**

10 OTHER PRINTED MATERIALS/PUBLICATIONS

Any printed material or publication produced by an appointed Chairman must be approved by the President. All materials shall become the property of FFGC and may be copyrighted or trademarked. Consent is required by FFGC to reproduce materials/publications. Originals will be kept at Headquarters in the Cloud .

(1) FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (FFGC) CALENDAR

- a. Material selected for the FFGC Calendar may appear in local news media prior to being published in the FFGC Calendar. Material having appeared in books, magazines or other copyrighted or trademarked and national media shall not be accepted for the FFGC Calendar.
- b. Disposition of calendars not sold will return to Ways and Means and become the responsibility of the FFGC Third Vice President.

RATIONALE: Combining of rules regarding publications.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: LOST: COMMITTEE: TO COMMITTEE

12 FLORIDA FLOWER SHOW JUDGES INSERT: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs.

The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve as a chairman on the FFGC Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and STRIKE: COUNCIL FFSJ. INSERT: FFGC, FFSJ

If adopted this will read: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs. The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve as a chairman on the FFGC Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and FFSJ.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: LOST: COMMITTEE: TO COMMITTEE

14 PROTECTED PLANTS STRIKE: in entirety RATIONALE: The list of protected plants etc is not required in Bylaws. FFSJ has list.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

15 ENDORSEMENTS FOR FFGC OFFICERS INSERT: d. submitted Letter of Endorsement

INSERT: e. All qualified candidates will be interviewed by the FFGC Nominating Committee.

STRIKE: f. The Resume Form (pdf) file may be downloaded from the FFGC website.

NOTE: The Standing Rule for ENDORSEMENTS FOR FFGC OFFICERS will be rearranged in correct order of procedure. This change will not affect the verbiage with exceptions for Insertion and strike listed above.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

16, # 17 and # 18 STRIKE: in entirety combining 16, 17 and 18

INSERT: SR # 16 FFGC PRESIDENT'S PINS/JEWELRY

- a. The FFGC President's pin/jewelry shall be presented at the installation ceremony by the retiring President. The immediate former President representing the FFGC at the National Garden Clubs Convention that same year shall wear the FFGC President's pin/jewelry.
- b. Each Vice President shall be presented with an FFGC pin/jewelry. The FFGC First Vice President's pin/jewelry shall be presented to the incoming First Vice President at the installation ceremony by the outgoing First Vice President. The FFGC Second Vice President's pin/jewelry shall be presented to the incoming Second Vice President at the installation ceremony by the outgoing Second Vice President. The FFGC Third Vice President's pin /jewelry shall be presented to the incoming Third Vice President at the installation ceremony by the outgoing Third Vice President.
- c. Each executive officer (President; First, Second and Third Vice President) shall sign a Letter of Agreement to return the FFGC pin/jewelry if a situation arises that he/she can no longer perform his/her duties. A copy of this letter shall be kept in the presentation box bearing the pin/jewelry and at Headquarters.
- d. Former President's pins/jewelry shall be presented at the installation ceremony by the incoming President. Former Presidents' pins/jewelry are the property of FFGC and should not be altered. The Chairman of the Advisory Council shall be responsible for the inventory of former FFGC Presidents' pins/jewelry. The Chairman of the Advisory Council, prior to the installation ceremony, shall insure that the immediate former President and a member of his/her family sign a Letter of Agreement to return this property to FFGC upon death or when no longer able to represent FFGC. A copy of the letter shall be kept in the presentation box and at FFGC Headquarters.
- e. The NGC pin worn by Mrs. Carrol O Griffin may be worn by the FFGC President on occasion and shall be

maintained in the safe at FFGC Headquarters.

f. Any additional Former Presidents' pins/jewelry shall be maintained in the safe at FFGC Headquarters. Former President pins/jewelry shall be fabricated by a jeweler of choice in a timely manner as the budget allows. Usable mold for the pin shall be maintained in the safe at FFGC Headquarters.

g. All FFGC pins/jewelry shall be insured under the FFGC insurance policy and periodically appraised.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

19 ADVISORY COUNCIL **STRIKE: In entirety**

INSERT: The Advisory Council shall be composed of FFGC Former Presidents. The immediate former FFGC President shall be the Chairman of the Advisory Council. The Chairman shall be responsible for the inventory of former FFGC Presidents' pins. The Advisory Council is charged with advising the current FFGC President or as requested by the Board of Directors. The Advisory Council shall meet at the Fall and Winter Meetings of the FFGC Board of Directors or as requested.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

20 PRECIOUS METAL AND GEMSTONES STATUS INSERT: 95 years – Blue Diamond
100 years -Centenary Diamond
125 years- Blue Star Sapphire

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

21 AWARDS **STRIKE: existing Standing Rule**

INSERT: # 21 FFGC AWARDS One application is required for each award found on the FFGC website.

a. ADULT and YOUTH AWARDS

1. An FFGC Awards Program shall be developed and maintained. Award descriptions including eligibility therefore, shall be published on the FFGC website. The website shall include the award processes and procedures.
2. FFGC shall include in its General Fund budget an amount to fund all FFGC Awards during the fiscal year except as noted for the Flower Show Related Awards.
3. The FFGC Awards Committee may secure any FFGC member or other expert in the subject of the award to judge award applications.
4. All presentations of FFGC Awards are the responsibility of the FFGC Awards Committee as directed by the FFGC President.
5. Proposed awards and award changes shall be presented to the Board of Directors for approval and if adopted, published in *The Florida Gardener* and the FFGC website. Proposed new FFGC awards shall not bear the name of a person, place or organization.
6. Awards having no activity for four (4) successive calendar years may be discontinued. The awards proposed for discontinuation shall be announced at the Winter Board of Directors Meeting. Input from the Board shall be solicited at this meeting and taken into consideration by the Awards Committee prior to the final discontinuation of such awards. The final list will be announced at the Pre-Convention Board of Directors meeting.

b. FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

1. FFGC Flower Show Achievement Awards See the FFGC website - Awards for specific details. Application requires a Book of Evidence and three (3) Flower Show Evaluations following NGC Rules.
2. FFGC shall include in its General Fund budget an amount to fund all FFGC Flower Show Awards during the fiscal year.
3. Proposed awards and award changes shall be presented to the Board of Directors for approval and if adopted, published in *The Florida Gardener* and on the FFGC website. Proposed new awards shall not bear the name of a person, place or organization.

c. FLOWER SHOW RELATED AWARDS

1. See the FFGC website - Awards for criteria. These awards may not be altered without consultation with the FFSJ Executive Committee.

2. FFSJ accepts the financial responsibility for these awards.

RATIONALE: Clarify the Adult, Youth, Flower Show and Flower Show Related Awards including financial responsibility.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

23 POLICIES OF FFGC, INC. Minor spelling, punctuation corrections in A and B.

c. WHISTLE BLOWER POLICY STRIKE: Board INSERT: FFGC

If adopted this will read: If a member has a reasonable belief that a member has engaged in any action that violates any applicable law, or regulation, including those concerning accounting and auditing, or constitutes a fraudulent practice, the member is expected to immediately report such information to the (Board) FFGC President. If the member does not feel comfortable reporting the information to the (Board) FFGC President, he or she is expected to report the information to the First Vice President.

INSERT: d. VISITORS TO THE FFGC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Visitors in attendance at an FFGC Board Meeting must sign in with the Parliamentarian prior to the Call to Order. Non-members of the Board of Directors may not speak or vote on any issue since they are not a member of the Board of Directors.

e. Photographs, videos or recordings of FFGC meetings or activities must be pre-approved and/or announced to participants.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

24 FFGC E-MAIL VOTING GUIDELINES

d. At the end of the time period for debate, the FFGC Recording Secretary/~~STRIKE: Chair~~ INSERT: Committee Recording Secretary shall e-mail a ballot on which the motion is stated and a "for" or "against" box is provided, to be returned using ~~STRIKE: reply all.~~ INSERT: reply.

~~STRIKE: i and j.~~ INSERT:

i. At the end of the voting period, the FFGC Recording Secretary/Committee Recording Secretary shall send a Teller's Report to the FFGC President/Committee Chairman that will include:
(1) Date and time the motion was sent and the polls were open; (2) Number of votes cast; (3) Votes necessary for adoption (majority); (4) Votes for motion; (5) Votes against; and (6) Illegal votes.

Remaining letters will be corrected.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

25 FFGC GUIDELINES FOR ELETRONIC/TELEPHONE MEETINGS

~~STRIKE: Many free services are available with telephone and/or video conferencing for this purpose.~~

INSERT: (new paragraph within description) Many free services are available. All charges incurred are the responsibility of the group scheduling the meeting. FFGC hosts are limited to FFGC Board of Directors, Executive Committee or Standing Committees meetings unless approved by the President. All other called meetings including District meetings, etc. will have a private host selected by persons scheduling the meeting.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

26 DEEP SOUTH REGIONAL DIRECTOR & ALTERNATE REGIONAL DIRECTOR ~~STRIKE: title in entirety~~
INSERT: DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (DSGC) DIRECTOR AND ALTERNATE DIRECTOR

~~STRIKE: a.~~ STRIKE: Regional INSERT: Region

a. (3) Have attended two (2) of the three (3) previous Deep South Regional Conventions at time of election.

INSERT: a. (3) Have attended a minimum of two DSGC Conventions and may include the DSGC Convention when installed.

~~STRIKE: a. (4) Have attended a minimum of two (2) NGC Conventions and may include the NGC Convention at which they are~~

installed.

STRIKE: b. (1) permanently The offices of Deep South Regional Director and Deep South Alternate Director shall be **permanently** rotated among the Deep South Region states

b. (1) – (5) and c. (3) **STRIKE: Regional** **INSERT: Region**
The **Regional/Region** Director and the Alternate **Regional** Director

NOTE: The Bylaws adopted by DSGC refer to the REGION DIRECTOR and the ALTERNATE DIRECTOR respectively. All references to Regional Director or Alternate Regional Director are incorrect. Correct: REGION DIRECTOR and ALTERNATE DIRECTOR.

b. (4) **INSERT: their** prior to duties; **INSERT: or until their successors are elected**
STRIKE: NGC **INSERT: DSGC**

This will now read: The Director and Alternate Director shall assume their duties of office for a two-year term at the close of the DSGC Convention in the odd-numbered year or until their successors are elected.

RATIONALE : All of the above revisions have been adopted by DSGC. FFGC Standing Rules revised to reflect DSG revisions.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

27 MEMORIALS/EULOGIES POLICIES **STRIKE: c. Pillar of Pride will be presented as a memorial to the family of deceased FFGC Presidents.**

RATIONALE: Person serving as FFGC President would have already received the Pillar of Pride at some point in time.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

28 GIFT ACCEPTANCE POLICY Last sentence **STRIKE: Organization** **INSERT: Corporation**

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

29 REQUEST TO BYLAWS COMMITTEE **STRIKE: in entirety**

INSERT: Requests should be received at least two weeks prior to the Board of Directors or Convention meeting. All requests will be addressed as soon as possible with emergency requests taking precedence. A response to the person/committee making the request will be made by email/telephone or in person to indicate action taken or continued review. Persons acquainted with the subject matter may be asked for input.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

30 CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY **STRIKE: The Conflict of Interest Policy of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.: (1) defines conflict of interest (2) identifies classes of individuals within the Organization covered by the policy; (3) facilitates disclosure of information that may help identify conflicts of interest; and (4) specifies procedures to be followed in managing conflicts of interest.**

INSERT: The Conflict of Interest Policy is intended to protect the Corporation’s interests, is designed to help directors, officers and employees of FFGC identify situations that present potential conflicts of interest and provides the FFGC with a procedure that, if observed, will allow a transaction to be treated as valid and binding even though a director, officer or employee has or may have a conflict of interest with respect to the transaction.

RATIONALE: Updating the Policy to protect the corporation.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

32 INSERT: AMENDING STANDING RULES

The Bylaws of FFGC govern the structure and operation of the Corporation. FFGC Standing Rules amplify the Bylaws, clarifying procedures and practices followed in carrying out the corporation’s activities. Standing Rules are more flexible and can be created, amended or stricken after presentation by the Bylaws Committee to the Board of Directors followed by a majority vote of the FFGC Board of Directors.

RATIONALE: A stated policy for Standing Rules amendments needs to be clearly stated in print.

DATE: 1/11/23

ADOPTED: YES

LOST:

COMMITTEE:

Bylaws Committee: Cissy Richardson, Chairman; Marge Hendon, Arlene Rand, Tina Tuttle, Rosita Aristoff, Margaret Chodosh, Judi Jodoin and Carolyn Nation, Parliamentarian.

Membership and Membership Retention Committee – Jane Nendick

FFGC Headquarters and Endowment Committee – Sue Roberts, Chairman

Election of the Nominating Committee for H&E Committee

President appointed **Sue Angle** to Chair this committee

Helen Purvis and Linda Johnson were elected by the Board of Directors to serve on this committee.

The President brought in the Office Coordinator, Robin Hayes, to officially thank her for her first year of employment.

Strategic Planning Committee – Gina Jogan

FFGC Matching Grants – Gina Jogan

Election of Delegates to 2023 DSGC Convention in LA

Deep South Garden Club board members are automatically delegates. We may have 10 delegates and 10 alternates.

Linda Johnson was elected and others were asked to submit their names if they decide to attend this convention.

District Reports

District IX – Dale DeFeo

District X – Michele Maguire

District XI – Sharon Bogard, absent, report was read

District XII – Leticia Gunn

Convention 2023 – Susie Berryhill/ Kelley Wood

Blue Star markers – Rosita Aristoff

Bees – Christy Linke

Florida Gardener – Lisa Packard

Motion: Motion was made by Lisa Packard and seconded by Donna Thomas that the Florida Gardener go to total electronic distribution with printed editions only available to those who subscribe (\$3.75 per issue or \$15 per year) effective in the Fall of 2023.

Motion failed.

Election of New Members of the Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee

Brenda Luedeman, chairman of the nominating committee for Bylaws and Standing Rules committee submitted **Inger Jones** and **Linda Johnson** for election to this committee. Both were elected.

Election of Delegates and Alternates to the 2023 National Garden Clubs convention

Convention is May 2-5, 2023, in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. All NGC Board members are automatically delegates. We are entitled to 10 more delegates and 10 alternatives. The following BOD members were elected: **Andrea Finn, Carol Hall, Connie Gladding, Tina Tuttle, Christy Linke, Rosita Aristoff, and Lisa Packard.** Others can submit their names if they decide to attend this convention.

The President introduced **Kathryn Sickling**, hospitality chairman and thanked her for the reception to follow when meeting adjourns for the day.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40PM and to resume at 9:00AM tomorrow.

Minutes of the FFGF BOD meeting 1/12/2023 continued

Reconvene at 9:10 AM

President's Report – Marge Hendon

Marge spoke of FFGC, the garden clubs and members using the analogy of the Christmas Cactus, that she gave us all, relating us to the segments and the stems and flowers of the plant.

By-laws – Cissy Richarson

Brought back the three items that were sent back to committee for rewording.

THE FOLLOWING STANDING RULES WERE SENT BACK TO COMMITTEE FOR REPORT 1/12/23:

SR # 9 *The Florida Gardener* STRIKE: RED INSERT: GREEN

- a. Each Club shall be responsible for maintaining a current membership list and shall notify the FFGC Office **Manager/Coordinator** promptly of changes of names, address, zip code, **email address** and **telephone number**, members added and members dropped. **Members shall receive may access *The Florida Gardener* digitally. If mailed, a legally married couple will receive one copy of *The Florida Gardener*.**

If adopted, this will read: a. Each Club shall be responsible for maintaining a current membership list and shall notify the FFGC Office Coordinator promptly of changes of names, address, zip code, email address and telephone number, members added and members dropped. Members may access *The Florida Gardener* digitally. If mailed, a legally married couple will receive one copy of *The Florida Gardener*.

ADOPTED: 1 12/23

SR # 10 and 11 STRIKE IN ENTIRETY

INSERT: # 10 OTHER PRINTED MATERIALS/PUBLICATIONS

Any printed material or publication produced by an appointed Chairman must be approved by the President. All materials shall become the property of FFGC and may be copyrighted or trademarked. Consent is required by FFGC to reproduce materials/publications. Originals will be stored at Headquarters electronically.

(1) FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (FFGC) CALENDAR

- a. Material selected for the FFGC Calendar may appear in local news media prior to being published in the FFGC Calendar. Material having appeared in books, magazines, or other copyrighted or trademarked and national media shall not be accepted for the FFGC Calendar.
- b. Disposition of calendars not sold will return to Ways and Means and become the responsibility of the FFGC Third Vice President.

ADOPTED: 1/12/23

SR # 12 FLORIDA FLOWER SHOW JUDGES (FFSJ)

INSERT: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs, Inc.

The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve **as a chairman** on the **FFGC** Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and **FFSJ**. **STRIKE: as a chairman INSERT: FFGC, FFSJ**

If adopted, this will read: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs, Inc. The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve on the FFGC Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and FFSJ.

ADOPTED: 1/12/23

District IV – Connie Gladding

District V – Donna Thomas

District VI- Suzi Bailey

Ratify evote held on 9/9/22 to accept the membership of Deltona Garden Club

Amazon Smiles – Linda Johnson

FFGC Nominating committee – Helen Purvis

Presented the following slate of nominees for FFGC Officers for 2023-2025.

1st Vice President – Christy Linke

2nd Vice President – Mary Whisler

3rd Vice President – Leticia Gunn

Recording secretary – Jennifer Barber

Treasurer – Jana Walling

Tri-Council – Pat Caren

District I – Betty White for Joyce Waters-Smith

District VIII – Kitty Wallace

District VII – Charlotte White

Penny Pines – Andrea Finn

DSGC Convention – Carol Hall

FFSJ – Parke Finold

Wekiva Volunteer Training – Mary Whisler

S.E.E.K. – Mary Whisler for Jennifer Seymour

100th Celebration – Tina Tuttle

MOTION: Move that FFGC modify its existing logo by adding an outer ring “One Hundred Year 1924-2024” and replace our current logo on all stationary, forms and documents beginning April 20, 2023.

Motion made by Tina Tuttle, seconded by Dale DeFeo

Motion Passed.

Short Course North – Tina Tuttle

8/9-10/2023, not a tri-refresher, Pensacola area

Wekiva Youth Camp – Christy Linke

Tropical Short Course – Michele Maguire

1/26-27/2023, not a tri-refresher

FFGC Scholarships – Helen Purvis

Environment – Lydia Barbour

Presented new Category 1 and 2 Invasive species list

Would like to see Control Invasive Species position paper dated 5/10/2012 updated

Announcements

Opportunity Drawing Tickets

Reports due to Sue Roberts

Benediction – Pat Strawn

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Susan Roberts
Susan Roberts, Recording Secretary

Attest:

Marjorie Hendon *Marjorie Hendon* _____

Marjorie Hendon, President

Committee to approve the minutes: Tina Tuttle, Christy Linke, Mary Whisler

Looks great. Pat Caren has two spots where her name is spelled Pat Caren. 1st page as Teller and next to last page for Tri-Council. Other wise perfect. Marge

Minutes approved with corrections by Tina Tuttle, Christy Linke, and Mary Whisler

Reports Electronically filed with minutes:

Book of Officer and DD Reports

Book of Board Reports

Financial Report

How to Create District Bylaws

How to Create Club Bylaws

Letter from Florida Department of State – FFGC Articles of Amendment to the Article of Incorporation file on 7/25/2022

	A	B	C	D
1	Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Inc.			
2	Statement of Activity			
3	June - November, 2022			
4				
5		Actual	Budget	Actual Over (Under) Budget
6	Revenue			
7	100 100th Anniversary celebration!	5,695.00	\$33,248.00	(27,553.00)
8	6000 GENERAL INCOME			
9	6001 Dues - Members	63,775.00	\$66,000.00	(2,225.00)
10	6003 Dues - Affiliate member	150.00	\$100.00	50.00
11	6004 FFGC Life Memberships	1,200.00	\$2,000.00	(800.00)
12	6005.1 Undesignated Donations	583.00		583.00
13	6008 Headquarters Rental (H&E)			0.00
14	6008.2 Taxable Rentals	24,962.28	\$29,200.00	(4,237.72)
15	Total 6008 Headquarters Rental (H&E)	\$ 24,962.28	\$29,200.00	(4,237.72)
16	Total 6000 GENERAL INCOME	\$ 90,670.28	\$ 97,300.00	(6,629.72)
17	6100 PROGRAM SERVICES (FFGC)			
18	6101 FFGC/UF Short Course	518.38	\$500.00	18.38
19	6102 F/S Schools & Symposiums		\$500.00	(500.00)
20	6103 Floral Design/Educ activities		\$250.00	(250.00)
21	6107 Travel Tours		\$2,000.00	(2,000.00)
22	6106 Tropical Short Course		\$500.00	(500.00)
23	6108 Short Course North	582.25	\$500.00	82.25
24	6109 Avon Park	20,705.89		20,705.89
25	6201 TFG Subscriptions	135.00	\$150.00	(15.00)
26	6202 FI Gardener Adv.Income	1,560.00	\$1,750.00	(190.00)
27	Total 6100 PROGRAM SERVICES (FFGC)	\$ 23,501.52	\$ 6,150.00	17,351.52
28	6300 SERVICE ITEMS (FFGC)			
29	6302 Flower Arr Calendar			0.00
30	6302.01 2021 Calendars	210.00		210.00
31	Total 6302 Flower Arr Calendar	\$ 210.00		210.00
32	6308 WAYS AND MEANS-SALES (FFGC)			
33	6308.1 Square Inc	1,100.06		1,100.06
34	Total 6308 WAYS AND MEANS-SALES (FFGC)	\$ 1,313.93	\$250.00	1,063.93
35	Total 6300 SERVICE ITEMS (FFGC)	\$ 1,523.93	\$250.00	1,273.93
36	6400 INVESTMENT INCOME			
37	6401 Interest Earned - Gen Fd (FFGC)	54.47	\$30.00	24.47
38	6403 Interest Earned Grant Account	15.25		15.25
39	6407 Int earned- Scholarship	21.11		21.11
40	6410 Int Earned H&E	17.56	\$7.00	10.56
41	6424 Interest on Wekiva B&M	2,394.66		2,394.66
42	Total 6400 INVESTMENT INCOME	\$ 2,503.05	\$37.00	2,466.05
43	6500 MISCELLANEOUS INCOME (FFGC)			
44	6307.4 Amazon.com	132.28		132.28

	A	B	C	D
5		Actual	Budget	Actual Over (Under) Budget
45	6308.3 Credit Card Points	938.19	\$750.00	188.19
46	6507 Miscellaneous Revenue	0.00	\$1,000.00	(1,000.00)
47	6507.2 Sales Tax Collection Allowance	48.12		48.12
48	6507.3 Insurance Claim Proceeds	50,610.11		50,610.11
49	Total 6500 MISCELLANEOUS INCOME (FFGC)	\$ 51,728.70	\$1,750.00	49,978.70
50	6600 WEKIVA INCOME			
51	6604 Wekiva Critter Camp	3,200.00	\$3,200.00	0.00
52	6605.2 Campership Donations	6,245.00	\$5,000.00	1,245.00
53	6605.3 Undesignated Donations	15,990.92	\$15,000.00	990.92
54	6605.34 In Memory of Carol Wood	3,710.00		3,710.00
55	Total 6605.3 Undesignated Donations	\$ 19,700.92	\$15,000.00	4,700.92
56	6605.4 Designated Donations	3,475.00		3,475.00
57	6607 Interest and Dividends	62.14	\$25.00	37.14
58	6609 Wekiva Misc Income	3.00	\$50.00	(47.00)
59	6610 Wekiva Registrations			
60	6610.2 GC Sponsored(\$250)	29,925.00		29,925.00
61	6610.4 Parent Paid Registrations	118,590.00		118,590.00
62	Total 6610 Wekiva Registrations	\$ 148,515.00	\$156,000.00	(7,485.00)
63	6612 Wekiva 9th Grade(LIT)	11,500.00	\$10,500.00	1,000.00
64	6614 Logo Sales	4,570.81	\$3,400.00	1,170.81
65	Total 6600 WEKIVA INCOME	\$ 197,271.87	\$ 193,175.00	4,096.87
66	6700 CONTRIBUTIONS			0.00
67	6005 Pillar of Pride	300.00	\$500.00	(200.00)
68	6007.1 bricks/garden path (H&E)	200.00	\$350.00	(150.00)
69	6009 Hall of Fame Income(HQ)		\$200.00	(200.00)
70	6307.10 Coral Reef Restoration	242.76		242.76
71	6307.2 Color Our Garden (H&E)			
72	6307.21 Earth Stewardships (H&E)		\$100.00	(100.00)
73	6307.3 Penny Pines	3,128.00		3,128.00
74	6504 Scholarships	3,500.00		3,500.00
75	Total 6700 CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 7,370.76	\$1,150.00	6,220.76
76	7000 SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS/PROJECTS			
77	7004 Convention Awards	50.00		50.00
78	7019 SEEK Youth Envir. Conf.	4,400.00	\$12,000.00	(7,600.00)
79	Total 7000 SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS/PROJECTS	\$ 4,450.00	\$12,000.00	(7,550.00)
80	Total Revenue	\$ 384,715.11	\$345,060.00	39,655.11
81	Gross Profit	\$ 384,715.11	\$345,060.00	39,655.11
82	Expenditures			
83	200 100th Anniversary Celebration		\$43,712.00	(43,712.00)
84	8000 GENERAL EXPENSES			
85	8001 NGC Dues -Members	10,006.00	\$10,500.00	(494.00)
86	8002 NGC Dues Youth Gardeners		\$10.00	(10.00)
87	8008 HQ RENTAL EXPENDITURES (H&E)			

	A	B	C	D
5		Actual	Budget	Actual Over (Under) Budget
88	8008.6 Janitorial (SYMM Svcs)	0.00		0.00
89	Total 8008 HQ RENTAL EXPENDITURES (H&E)	\$ 0.00		0.00
90	Total 8000 GENERAL EXPENSES	\$ 10,006.00	\$10,510.00	(504.00)
91	8100 PROGRAM SERVICES EXPENSES			
92	8101 State Convention			0.00
93	8202 FI Gardener-Circulation	6,382.29	\$6,400.00	(17.71)
94	8202.1 Florida Gardener Postage	1,694.23	\$1,600.00	94.23
95	Total 8100 PROGRAM SERVICES EXPENSES	\$ 8,076.52	\$8,000.00	76.52
96	8600 WEKIVA EXPENSE			
97	8601.1 Chairman's Expense		\$300.00	(300.00)
98	8601.2 Tour Team Expense	2,000.00	\$2,000.00	0.00
99	8604 Wekiva Bldg & Maintenan	455.13		455.13
100	8604.10 Wekiva Bldg. Expenses	3,982.30		3,982.30
101	8605 Wekiva Camp Supplies	417.05		417.05
102	8605.1 Nametags	111.22	\$100.00	11.22
103	8606 Wekiva Canteen	10,407.18	\$8,200.00	2,207.18
104	8607 Wekiva Critter Camp		\$160.00	(160.00)
105	8609 Wekiva Clinic	1,015.12	\$600.00	415.12
106	8610 Wekiva Crafts	2,039.87	\$2,540.00	(500.13)
107	8611 Wekiva Depreciation	1,500.00	\$1,500.00	0.00
108	8612 Wekiva - Food	34,237.80	\$33,000.00	1,237.80
109	8612.5 Cleaning Supplies and Maint.	2,480.17	\$2,100.00	380.17
110	8613 Wekiva Insurance	5,919.86	\$4,500.00	1,419.86
111	8613.01 Wekiva Workers' Comp. Insurance	2,945.70	\$2,750.00	195.70
112	8614 Wekiva Miscellaneous	402.95	\$400.00	2.95
113	8614.1 fingerprinting	2,308.62	\$2,300.00	8.62
114	Total 8614 Wekiva Miscellaneous	\$ 2,711.57	\$2,700.00	11.57
115	8616 Wekiva Office Exp	604.64	\$600.00	4.64
116	8617 Salaries	75.00		75.00
117	8618 Wekiva -Payroll Taxes	5,806.58	\$5,585.00	221.58
118	8619 Wekiva Postage	511.67		511.67
119	8622 Wekiva 7th Gr Program	376.97	\$560.00	(183.03)
120	8623 Wekiva 8th Gr Program	964.92	\$864.00	100.92
121	8624 Wekiva 9th Gr Prog(LIT)	8,430.00	\$9,000.00	(570.00)
122	8624.1 Camper Pictures & Dogtags	319.55	\$900.00	(580.45)
123	8625 Wekiva Wages - Staff	52,340.03	\$51,000.00	1,340.03
124	8627 Wekiva-Wages-Kitchen	23,385.01	\$22,000.00	1,385.01
125	8627.1 Wekiva Waterfront Expense	366.23	\$1,700.00	(1,333.77)
126	8627.2 Wekiva Website Hosting	134.40		134.40
127	8628 Wekiva Telephone & Internet	1,237.88	\$700.00	537.88
128	8629 WYC designated donation purchas	2,216.23		2,216.23
129	8630 Wekiva Park Fees	22,320.00	\$17,500.00	4,820.00
130	8631 Wekiva Nature	490.31	\$500.00	(9.69)

	A	B	C	D
5		Actual	Budget	Actual Over (Under) Budget
131	8632 Wekiva Transportation	2,020.00	\$1,000.00	1,020.00
132	8633 Wekiva Legal and Accounting	1,200.00	\$1,200.00	0.00
133	8636 Wekiva - Bank & CC Fees	5,556.57	\$4,500.00	1,056.57
134	8638 Wekiva Registration Expense	515.00	\$400.00	115.00
135	8639 Amer. Camp Assoc. ACA	2,743.00	\$1,271.00	1,472.00
136	8641 Opening/Closing/set up camp	294.25	\$600.00	(305.75)
137	8642 Volunteers	590.09	\$1,000.00	(409.91)
138	Total 8600 WEKIVA EXPENSE	\$ 202,721.30	\$ 181,330.00	21,391.30
139	8900 OPERATING EXPENSES			
140	8901 BOD Meeting Hospitality	186.64	\$250.00	(63.36)
141	8901.1 Hospitality Other		\$250.00	(250.00)
142	8902 Bank Charges-General Fd	0.13	\$50.00	(49.87)
143	8907 District Mtg Tour Expenses	1,035.75	\$3,000.00	(1,964.25)
144	8911 Gifts/Memorials/Courtesies		\$25.00	(25.00)
145	8915 Floral Design Study		\$25.00	(25.00)
146	8920 Engraving/Bricks/Plaques		\$175.00	(175.00)
147	8921 Insurance	18,773.82	\$5,000.00	13,773.82
148	8921.1 Workers' Compensation	1,086.00	\$92.00	994.00
149	Total 8921 Insurance	\$ 19,859.82	\$ 5,092.00	14,767.82
150	8923 Legal & Accounting	930.50	\$20,000.00	(19,069.50)
151	8927 MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	164.81	\$1,000.00	(835.19)
152	8927.1 1st Time Conv. Attendees Party	0.00		0.00
153	Total 8927 MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	\$ 164.81	\$ 1,000.00	(835.19)
154	8929 OFFICE SUPPLIES	2,169.73	\$1,300.00	869.73
155	8943 Postage	287.27	\$300.00	(12.73)
156	8945 Printing & Stationery	0.00	\$600.00	(600.00)
157	Total 8929 OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 2,457.00	\$ 2,200.00	257.00
158	8932 Major Repairs & Renovations		\$10,000.00	(10,000.00)
159	8933 REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE		\$200.00	(200.00)
160	8932.1 Insurance Claim Expenditures	66,801.85	\$17,716.00	49,085.85
161	8933.1 Pest Control - JC Ehrlich (H&E)	0.00	\$240.00	(240.00)
162	8933.3 HVAC (H&E)	18,797.00	\$28,500.00	(9,703.00)
163	8953 Repairs & Maintenance - Bldg.	5,740.15	\$5,000.00	740.15
164	8954 Repairs & Maintenance - Grounds	7,815.00	\$5,344.00	2,471.00
165	8933.4 Security Monitoring	368.70	\$315.00	53.70
166	8954.1 lawncare (Grandtopia (H&E)	7,455.00	\$7,000.00	455.00
167	8954.2 irrigation(Poole/Fuller)(H&E)	758.73	\$1,500.00	(741.27)
168	8954.3 Q F (lawn/shrub/pest)(H&E)	550.00	\$875.00	(325.00)
169	Total 8954 Repairs & Maintenance - Grounds	\$ 16,947.43	\$ 15,034.00	1,913.43
170	8957.2 Color Our Garden		\$ 300.00	(300.00)
171	8959 Supplies - Janatorial	97.00	\$200.00	(103.00)
172	Total 8933 REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	\$ 108,383.43	\$ 77,190.00	\$ 41,493.43
173	8947 Presidents Official Exp	2,360.23	\$5,000.00	(2,639.77)

	A	B	C	D
5		Actual	Budget	Actual Over (Under) Budget
174	8957.2 Color Our Garden		\$300.00	(300.00)
175	8964 Licenses and taxes	160.00	\$250.00	(90.00)
176	8965 Telephone/ISP	556.96	\$800.00	(243.04)
177	8966 Utilities (H&E)	6,365.05		6,365.05
178	8969 Vice-Presidents Exp			0.00
179	8969.1 First VP	154.30	\$950.00	(795.70)
180	8969.2 Second VP	84.65	\$950.00	(865.35)
181	8969.3 Third VP		\$950.00	(950.00)
182	Total 8969 Vice-Presidents Exp	\$ 238.95	\$ 2,850.00	(2,611.05)
183	8971 WAYS AND MEANS	0.00	\$300.00	(300.00)
184	8951.1 Credit Card Fees	109.24	\$300.00	(190.76)
185	Total 8971 WAYS AND MEANS	\$ 109.24	\$ 600.00	(490.76)
186	8973 Website/membership software	\$ 4,284.00	\$2,625.00	1,659.00
187	8974 Donor NGC & DS Awards		\$300.00	(300.00)
188	8977 FFGC Promotion	258.63	\$1,500.00	(1,241.37)
189	9100 SALARIES			
190	8909 Payroll	7,432.57	\$11,300.00	(3,867.43)
191	8963 Payroll Taxes	568.59	\$868.00	(299.41)
192	Total 9100 SALARIES	\$ 8,001.16	\$ 12,168.00	(4,166.84)
193	Total 8900 OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 155,352.30	\$ 135,350.00	\$ 31,077.30
194	8957 CONTRIBUTION EXPENSES			
195	8914 FFGC Scholarships	10,500.00		10,500.00
196	8957.3 Penny Pines	1,836.00		1,836.00
197	Total 8957 CONTRIBUTION EXPENSES	\$ 12,336.00	\$ 0.00	12,336.00
198	8958 H & E Miscellaneous	26.72	\$100.00	(73.28)
199	9000 SPECIAL PROJECTS EXPENSES			
200	9006 Avon Garden Therapy	1,001.24		1,001.24
201	9019 SEEK Youth	17,362.49	\$12,000.00	5,362.49
202	Total 9000 SPECIAL PROJECTS EXPENSES	\$ 18,363.73	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 6,363.73
203	Total Expenditures	\$ 406,882.57	\$391,002.00	\$ 12,727.46
204	Net Operating Revenue	-\$ 22,167.46	-\$ 45,942.00	\$ 26,927.65
205	Other Expenditures			
206	Reconciliation Discrepancies-1	-0.17		(0.17)
207	Total Other Expenditures	-\$ 0.17	\$ 0.00	-\$ 0.17
208	Net Other Revenue	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.17
209	Net Revenue	-\$ 22,167.29	-\$ 45,942.00	\$ 26,927.82
210				
211				
212				
213	Monday, Dec 26, 2022 11:53:59 AM GMT-8 - Accrual Basis			

BYLAWS & STANDING RULES COMMITTEE
BOD REPORT
Cissy Richardson, Chairman
January 11, 2023

ADOPT AS POLICY - "HOW TO CREATE CLUB BYLAWS" The Policy titled "How To Create District Bylaws" was adopted at the September 6, 2022, BOD meeting. We are requesting adoption of the policy titled "How to Create Club Bylaws". A copy of this policy was included on the email you received Sunday, January 8th. Both policies will be available for use by Districts and or Clubs. **ADOPTED 1/11/23**

ON BEHALF OF THE BYLAWS & STANDING RULES COMMITTEE, I MOVE -

ART IV Dues and Fees Sec 1 e. **STRIKE: e and (1) in entirety. Dues shall be payable to FFGC and shall be remitted to Headquarters by June 1. Dues of members enrolled after June 1 shall be payable Immediately.**
(1) Dues shall be delinquent if not received by June 30, and a notice shall be sent. If not received by November 1, membership and all privileges shall be forfeited unless and until reinstated.

INSERT: Dues shall be payable to FFGC and shall be remitted to Headquarters by May 1. Dues of members enrolled after May 1 shall be payable immediately.
(1) Dues shall be delinquent if not received by May 1 and a notice shall be sent. If not received by June 1 , a notice shall be sent. If not received by June 30, membership and all privileges shall be forfeited unless and until reinstated.
PROVISO: Effective Jan 1, 2024
(2) No change.

RATIONALE: - Address the issue of club members/officers leaving for the summer without having paid dues for the upcoming garden club year.
- Submission of updated information for the Book of Information which is compiled over the summer for fall distribution including current contact information for the Officers and members.
- The NGC dues are payable June 1 and delinquent October 31. FFGC dues are delinquent after November 1 which does not allow FFGC dues/membership numbers to NGC to be accurate without being delinquent.

PROCEDURE: The Membership Chairman would send Dues Notice out the middle of March.
The revised date for the FFGC dues collection would be May 1 instead of June 1.
With Bylaw revision, the dues would be delinquent June 1 and a notice sent.
Dues not received by June 30, would result in forfeit of membership privileges.
This allows for collection of FFGC dues prior to the summer hiatus that many clubs observe.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

ART III, IV and XI ESTABLISHING ONLINE (E) CLUB

ART III MEMBERS Sec I Voting Membership

a. Eligibility, Admission **INSERT: (4) ONLINE (E) CLUB**

An Online (E) Club shall have a membership of not less than ten (10). Application for membership shall be submitted to the FFGC Board of Directors through the FFGC 3rd Vice President. The application shall be accompanied by per capita dues and an alphabetical list of names, District number, mailing address and email address of all members. A majority vote of the Executive Committee shall elect the club which shall immediately be entitled to all rights and subject to all responsibilities of membership. Ratification shall follow at the next Board of Directors meeting.

ART IV DUES AND FEES

Sec 1 **INSERT: ONLINE (E) CLUB** If adopted, this will read: The annual dues of each Garden Club, **Online (E) Club** and each Garden Club organized on the Circle Plan.....

d. **INSERT: including Online (E) Clubs** If adopted, this will read: Annual FFGC dues of members belonging to two or more Garden Clubs **including Online (E) Clubs** and Garden Clubs organized.....

ART XI REPRESENTATION Sec 1 b. Garden Clubs **INSERT: including Online (E) Clubs**

RATIONALE: Formation of Online (E) Clubs are being considered in the state. One existed a number of years but was never formally identified as a FFGC Club. Above will make Online (E) Clubs legal with procedure to follow.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: **YES** LOST: COMMITTEE:

STANDING RULES

REVISED STANDING RULES WILL BE CORRECTLY NUMBERED & REVISIONS POSTED ON THE WEBSITE.

8 BOOK OF INFORMATION – subsection d. **Six (6) One (1) copies copy** shall remain in the files for the use of the succeeding *Book of Information* Chairman.

If adopted this will read: One copy shall remain in the files..... RATIONALE: Files are stored electronically.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: **YES** LOST: COMMITTEE:

9 *The Florida Gardener* **STRIKE: RED INSERT: GREEN**

- a. Each Club shall be responsible for maintaining a current membership list and shall notify the FFGC Office **Manager/Coordinator** promptly of changes of names, address, zip code, **email address** and **telephone number**, members added and members dropped. **Most** members shall receive the Florida Gardener **online**. **If mailed, a legally married couple will receive one copy of The Florida Gardener.**

RATIONALE: Published online for members. If a printed copy is mailed, one copy for legally married couples.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: LOST: COMMITTEE: **TO COMMITTEE**

10 and # 11 **STRIKE IN ENTIRETY** combining # 10 and # 11 **INSERT: new SR # 10**

10 OTHER PRINTED MATERIALS/PUBLICATIONS

Any printed material or publication produced by an appointed Chairman must be approved by the President. All materials shall become the property of FFGC and may be copyrighted or trademarked. Consent is required by FFGC to reproduce materials/publications. Originals will be kept at Headquarters in the Cloud .

(1) FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (FFGC) CALENDAR

- a. **Material selected for the FFGC Calendar may appear in local news media prior to being published in the FFGC Calendar. Material having appeared in books, magazines or other copyrighted or trademarked and national media shall not be accepted for the FFGC Calendar.**
- b. **Disposition of calendars not sold will return to Ways and Means and become the responsibility of the FFGC Third Vice President.**

RATIONALE: Combining of rules regarding publications.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: LOST: COMMITTEE: **TO COMMITTEE**

12 FLORIDA FLOWER SHOW JUDGES **INSERT: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs.**

The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve as a chairman on the **FFGC** Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and **STRIKE: COUNCIL FFSJ.** **INSERT: FFGC, FFSJ**

If adopted this will read: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs. The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve as a chairman on the FFGC Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and FFSJ.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: LOST: COMMITTEE: **TO COMMITTEE**

14 PROTECTED PLANTS **STRIKE: in entirety** RATIONALE: The list of protected plants etc is not required in Bylaws. FFSJ has list.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: **YES** LOST: COMMITTEE:

15 ENDORSEMENTS FOR FFGC OFFICERS **INSERT: d. submitted** Letter of Endorsement

INSERT: e. All qualified candidates will be interviewed by the FFGC Nominating Committee.

STRIKE: f. The Resume Form (pdf) file may be downloaded from the FFGC website.

NOTE: The Standing Rule for ENDORSEMENTS FOR FFGC OFFICERS will be rearranged in correct order of procedure. This change will not affect the verbiage with exceptions for Insertion and strike listed above.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: **YES** LOST: COMMITTEE:

16, # 17 and # 18 **STRIKE: in entirety** combining 16, 17 and 18

INSERT: SR # 16 FFGC PRESIDENT’S PINS/JEWELRY

- a. The FFGC President’s pin/jewelry shall be presented at the installation ceremony by the retiring President. The immediate former President representing the FFGC at the National Garden Clubs Convention that same year shall wear the FFGC President’s pin/jewelry.
- b. Each Vice President shall be presented with an FFGC pin/jewelry. The FFGC First Vice President’s pin/jewelry shall be presented to the incoming First Vice President at the installation ceremony by the outgoing First Vice President. The FFGC Second Vice President’s pin/jewelry shall be presented to the incoming Second Vice President at the installation ceremony by the outgoing Second Vice President. The FFGC Third Vice President’s pin /jewelry shall be presented to the incoming Third Vice President at the installation ceremony by the outgoing Third Vice President.
- c. Each executive officer (President; First, Second and Third Vice President) shall sign a Letter of Agreement to return the FFGC pin/jewelry if a situation arises that he/she can no longer perform his/her duties. A copy of this letter shall be kept in the presentation box bearing the pin/jewelry and at Headquarters.
- d. Former President’s pins/jewelry shall be presented at the installation ceremony by the incoming President. Former Presidents’ pins/jewelry are the property of FFGC and should not be altered. The Chairman of the Advisory Council shall be responsible for the inventory of former FFGC Presidents’ pins/jewelry. The Chairman of the Advisory Council, prior to the installation ceremony, shall insure that the immediate former President and a member of his/her family sign a Letter of Agreement to return this property to FFGC upon death or when no longer able to represent FFGC. A copy of the letter shall be kept in the presentation box and at FFGC Headquarters.

- e. The NGC pin worn by Mrs. Carrol O Griffin may be worn by the FFGC President on occasion and shall be maintained in the safe at FFGC Headquarters.
- f. Any additional Former Presidents' pins/jewelry shall be maintained in the safe at FFGC Headquarters. Former President pins/jewelry shall be fabricated by a jeweler of choice in a timely manner as the budget allows. Usable mold for the pin shall be maintained in the safe at FFGC Headquarters.
- g. All FFGC pins/jewelry shall be insured under the FFGC insurance policy and periodically appraised.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

19 ADVISORY COUNCIL ~~STRIKE: In entirety~~

INSERT: The Advisory Council shall be composed of FFGC Former Presidents. The immediate former FFGC President shall be the Chairman of the Advisory Council. The Chairman shall be responsible for the inventory of former FFGC Presidents' pins. The Advisory Council is charged with advising the current FFGC President or as requested by the Board of Directors. The Advisory Council shall meet at the Fall and Winter Meetings of the FFGC Board of Directors or as requested.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

20 PRECIOUS METAL AND GEMSTONES STATUS INSERT: 95 years – Blue Diamond
100 years -Centenary Diamond
125 years- Blue Star Sapphire

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

21 AWARDS ~~STRIKE: existing Standing Rule~~

INSERT: # 21 FFGC AWARDS One application is required for each award found on the FFGC website.

a. ADULT and YOUTH AWARDS

1. An FFGC Awards Program shall be developed and maintained. Award descriptions including eligibility therefore, shall be published on the FFGC website. The website shall include the award processes and procedures.
2. FFGC shall include in its General Fund budget an amount to fund all FFGC Awards during the fiscal year except as noted for the Flower Show Related Awards.
3. The FFGC Awards Committee may secure any FFGC member or other expert in the subject of the award to judge award applications.
4. All presentations of FFGC Awards are the responsibility of the FFGC Awards Committee as directed by the FFGC President.
5. Proposed awards and award changes shall be presented to the Board of Directors for approval and if adopted, published in *The Florida Gardener* and the FFGC website. Proposed new FFGC awards shall not bear the name of a person, place or organization.
6. Awards having no activity for four (4) successive calendar years may be discontinued. The awards proposed for discontinuation shall be announced at the Winter Board of Directors Meeting. Input from the Board shall be solicited at this meeting and taken into consideration by the Awards Committee prior to the final discontinuation of such awards. The final list will be announced at the Pre-Convention Board of Directors meeting.

b. FLOWER SHOW AWARDS

- 1. FFGC Flower Show Achievement Awards See the FFGC website - Awards for specific details. Application requires a Book of Evidence and three (3) Flower Show Evaluations following NGC Rules.
- 2. FFGC shall include in its General Fund budget an amount to fund all FFGC Flower Show Awards during the fiscal year.
- 3. Proposed awards and award changes shall be presented to the Board of Directors for approval and if adopted, published in *The Florida Gardener* and on the FFGC website. Proposed new awards shall not bear the name of a person, place or organization.

c. FLOWER SHOW RELATED AWARDS

- 1. See the FFGC website - Awards for criteria. These awards may not be altered without consultation with the FFSJ Executive Committee.
- 2. FFSJ accepts the financial responsibility for these awards.

RATIONALE: Clarify the Adult, Youth, Flower Show and Flower Show Related Awards including financial responsibility.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

23 POLICIES OF FFGC, INC. Minor spelling, punctuation corrections in A and B.

c. WHISTLE BLOWER POLICY STRIKE: Board INSERT: FFGC

If adopted this will read: If a member has a reasonable belief that a member has engaged in any action that violates any applicable law, or regulation, including those concerning accounting and auditing, or constitutes a fraudulent practice, the member is expected to immediately report such information to the (Board) FFGC President. If the member does not feel comfortable reporting the information to the (Board) FFGC President, he or she is expected to report the information to the First Vice President.

INSERT: d. VISITORS TO THE FFGC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Visitors in attendance at an FFGC Board Meeting must sign in with the Parliamentarian prior to the Call to Order. Non-members of the Board of Directors may not speak or vote on any issue since they are not a member of the Board of Directors.

- e. Photographs, videos or recordings of FFGC meetings or activities must be pre-approved and/or announced to participants.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

24 FFGC E-MAIL VOTING GUIDELINES

d. At the end of the time period for debate, the FFGC Recording Secretary/~~STRIKE: Chair~~ INSERT: Committee Recording Secretary shall e-mail a ballot on which the motion is stated and a "for" or "against" box is provided, to be returned using ~~STRIKE: reply all.~~ INSERT: reply.

~~STRIKE: i and j.~~ INSERT:

- i. At the end of the voting period, the FFGC Recording Secretary/Committee Recording Secretary shall send a Teller's Report to the FFGC President/Committee Chairman that will include:
 - (1) Date and time the motion was sent and the polls were open; (2) Number of votes cast; (3) Votes necessary for adoption (majority); (4) Votes for motion; (5) Votes against; and (6) Illegal votes.

Remaining letters will be corrected.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

25 FFGC GUIDELINES FOR ELETRONIC/TELEPHONE MEETINGS

STRIKE: Many free services are available with telephone and/or video conferencing for this purpose.

INSERT: (new paragraph within description) Many free services are available. All charges incurred are the responsibility of the group scheduling the meeting. FFGC hosts are limited to FFGC Board of Directors, Executive Committee or Standing Committees meetings unless approved by the President. All other called meetings including District meetings, etc. will have a private host selected by persons scheduling the meeting.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

26 DEEP SOUTH REGIONAL DIRECTOR & ALTERNATE REGIONAL DIRECTOR **STRIKE:** title in entirety

INSERT: DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (DSGC) DIRECTOR AND ALTERNATE DIRECTOR

STRIKE: a. **STRIKE** Regional **INSERT:** Region

a. (3) Have attended two (2) of the three (3) previous Deep South Regional Conventions at time of election.

INSERT: a. (3) Have attended a minimum of two DSGC Conventions and may include the DSGC Convention when installed.

STRIKE: a. (4) Have attended a minimum of two (2) NGC Conventions and may include the NGC Convention at which they are installed.

STRIKE: b. (1) permanently The offices of Deep South Regional Director and Deep South Alternate Director shall be permanently rotated among the Deep South Region states

b. (1) – (5) and c. (3) **STRIKE:** Regional **INSERT:** Region

The Regional/Region Director and the Alternate Regional Director

NOTE: The Bylaws adopted by DSGC refer to the REGION DIRECTOR and the ALTERNATE DIRECTOR respectively. All references to Regional Director or Alternate Regional Director are incorrect. Correct: REGION DIRECTOR and ALTERNATE DIRECTOR.

b. (4) **INSERT:** their prior to duties; **INSERT:** or until their successors are elected

STRIKE: NGC **INSERT:** DSGC

This will now read: The Director and Alternate Director shall assume their duties of office for a two-year term at the close of the DSGC Convention in the odd-numbered year or until their successors are elected.

RATIONALE : All of the above revisions have been adopted by DSGC. FFGC Standing Rules revised to reflect DSG revisions.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

27 MEMORIALS/EULOGIES POLICIES **STRIKE:** c. Pillar of Pride will be presented as a memorial to the family of deceased FFGC Presidents.

RATIONALE: Person serving as FFGC President would have already received the Pillar of Pride at some point in time.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

28 GIFT ACCEPTANCE POLICY Last sentence **STRIKE:** Organization **INSERT:** Corporation

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

29 REQUEST TO BYLAWS COMMITTEE STRIKE: in entirety

INSERT: Requests should be received at least two weeks prior to the Board of Directors or Convention meeting. All requests will be addressed as soon as possible with emergency requests taking precedence. A response to the person/committee making the request will be made by email/telephone or in person to indicate action taken or continued review. Persons acquainted with the subject matter may be asked for input.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

30 CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY STRIKE: The Conflict of Interest Policy of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.: (1) defines conflict of interest (2) identifies classes of individuals within the Organization covered by the policy; (3) facilitates disclosure of information that may help identify conflicts of interest; and (4) specifies procedures to be followed in managing conflicts of interest.

INSERT: The Conflict of Interest Policy is intended to protect the Corporation’s interests, is designed to help directors, officers and employees of FFGC identify situations that present potential conflicts of interest and provides the FFGC with a procedure that, if observed, will allow a transaction to be treated as valid and binding even though a director, officer or employee has or may have a conflict of interest with respect to the transaction.

RATIONALE: Updating the Policy to protect the corporation.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

32 INSERT: AMENDING STANDING RULES

The Bylaws of FFGC govern the structure and operation of the Corporation. FFGC Standing Rules amplify the Bylaws, clarifying procedures and practices followed in carrying out the corporation’s activities. Standing Rules are more flexible and can be created, amended or stricken after presentation by the Bylaws Committee to the Board of Directors followed by a majority vote of the FFGC Board of Directors.

RATIONALE: A stated policy for Standing Rules amendments needs to be clearly stated in print.

DATE: 1/11/23 ADOPTED: YES LOST: COMMITTEE:

THE FOLLOWING STANDING RULES WERE SENT BACK TO COMMITTEE FOR REPORT 1/12/23:

SR # 9 The Florida Gardener STRIKE: RED INSERT: GREEN

- a. Each Club shall be responsible for maintaining a current membership list and shall notify the FFGC Office Manager/Coordinator promptly of changes of names, address, zip code, email address and telephone number, members added and members dropped. Members shall receive may access The Florida Gardener digitally. If mailed, a legally married couple will receive one copy of The Florida Gardener.

If adopted, this will read: a. Each Club shall be responsible for maintaining a current membership list and shall notify the FFGC Office Coordinator promptly of changes of names, address, zip code, email address and telephone number, members added and members dropped. Members may access The Florida Gardener digitally. If mailed, a legally married couple will receive one copy of The Florida Gardener.

ADOPTED: 1 12/23

SR # 10 and 11 STRIKE IN ENTIRETY

INSERT: # 10 OTHER PRINTED MATERIALS/PUBLICATIONS

Any printed material or publication produced by an appointed Chairman must be approved by the President. All materials shall become the property of FFGC and may be copyrighted or trademarked. Consent is required by FFGC to reproduce materials/publications. Originals will be stored at Headquarters electronically.

(1) FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC. (FFGC) CALENDAR

- a. Material selected for the FFGC Calendar may appear in local news media prior to being published in the FFGC Calendar. Material having appeared in books, magazines, or other copyrighted or trademarked and national media shall not be accepted for the FFGC Calendar.
- b. Disposition of calendars not sold will return to Ways and Means and become the responsibility of the FFGC Third Vice President.

ADOPTED: 1/12/23

SR # 12 FLORIDA FLOWER SHOW JUDGES (FFSJ)

INSERT: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs, Inc.

The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve **as a chairman** on the FFGC Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and FFSJ. **STRIKE: as a chairman INSERT: FFGC, FFSJ**

If adopted, this will read: The Florida Flower Show Judges (FFSJ) organization is composed of members accredited by National Garden Clubs, Inc. The President of the Florida Flower Show Judges shall serve on the FFGC Board of Directors acting as liaison between FFGC and FFSJ.

ADOPTED: 1/12/23

Bylaws Committee: Cissy Richardson, Chairman; Marge Hendon, Arlene Rand, Tina Tuttle, Rosita Aristoff, Margaret Chodosh, Judi Jodoin and Carolyn Nation, Parliamentarian.

January 2023 FFGC BOARD OF DIRECTOR's MEETING

OFFICER AND DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORTS

Note: to access a specific report look it up in the table of contents and note the page number. Go to the upper left corner of the screen and over key the '1' of 31 with the page number you want.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1ST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Report
FFGC President-Elect
Tina Tuttle
11 January 2023, Winter Park, FL

A very busy fall quarter kept this now President -Elect on her toes! The scope of work continues to broaden and there is so much to learn with each passing day!

The highlight of this quarter was the **Officer's Tour** of the state. We attended 11 districts and it provided a wonderful opportunity to talk to the members and ask if they would like to continue or serve on the 2023-2025 Board of Directors. Many readily committed to serve but a few positions are still open. The PowerPoint used for the FFGC presentation was created over the summer and completed in time for the Tour. This VP attended the District IX meeting by Zoom and provided the PowerPoint information to them.

Judging by the Executive Board for **Awards #1, 2, 3, 5 and 8** was challenging with so many worthy submissions. Our comments were combined and related paperwork turned in on time to the Awards Chairman.

Serving on the **Headquarters and Endowment** Committee allowed for involvement in the decisions regarding repairs, replacement, and rehabilitation of the roof, the President's Office, the floors, and the HVAC! Three Plant America Grants applications were written and submitted to improve the grounds at our Headquarters. Various clubs in District VII allowed use of their names for projects described. To date, no word on if we won or not. Providers were researched for a portable stage at HQ and a motion made to purchase an 8'x24' stage in 4'x4' sections.

Working on the **Bylaws** committee has proven challenging. A complete review of the Bylaws and Standing Rules is nearly complete. Input on issues relating to Wekiva, SEEK, president's pins, NGC schools, dues, online clubs, and other areas have proven to be a notable contribution. Not much has been happening with the **FFGC Legal** ad hoc committee but this VP was able to secure a former judge to serve on that committee.

On the **Strategic Planning** Committee, serving as their secretary, the issues of redistricting, online clubs, disposal of physical materials at HQ, and much more gives a glimpse into the future of our organization...and the future is looking bright. The membership flyers and rack cards, both in English and Spanish, were reprinted by FSI Group and are now in inventory.

Plans continue for the upcoming **Centennial Celebration!** The 2024 Commemorative Calendar has been produced and is awaiting sale at the 2023 convention. 110 Quilt block kits were handed out on Tour and a few have already been returned. The Centennial Quilt will be a beautiful reflection of every club in the state and will be raffled at the 2024 convention. To date, 3 convention 2024 planning meetings have been held and the skit, installation, reception, flyers, program ad, educational exhibit, etc. have been developed.

Plans are in place to host the **new District Directors Orientation** in February at HQ. The *DD Manual* has been completely revised and is ready for publication. Directors will have a full agenda and visit Wekiva Youth Camp.

By default, this VP is setting up the 2023 Short Course North until a new chairman can be found. One Pillar of Pride and two Earth Steward recognition awards have been written by this VP and co-sponsored by the 2VP. And, to top

off the year, this VP got to play Santa Claus at the Christmas Party for the Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs!
What fun!

It has been such an honor and a thrill to serve as the 1VP for FFGC! It has been a pleasure working with so many knowledgeable and willing volunteers. I look forward to the 2023-2025 administration with hope and happiness in my heart!

Tina Tuttle

FFGC President-Elect

Summary: The President-Elect has continued to serve in various capacities as required by the Bylaws (H&E, Bylaws, SPC, etc.) and in other areas as needed. Plans are in place for the next administration and all that entails.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2nd Vice President
Christy Linke
January 12, 2023

This 2nd Vice President has completed her two years of being Chairman of Camp Wekiva. Working to finish up loose ends and turning all paperwork over to the in-coming Chairman, Mary Whisler.

Attending meetings as part of the Finance Committee as well as Strategic Planning Committee.

This Vice President was also a part of the point scoring process for awards done by the Executive Board.

Summary:

It has been an honor to serve as 2nd V.P. and all the duties it entailed. Looking forward to the next responsibilities as I climb the ladder of The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.

3rd VICE PRESIDENT

FFGC 3rd Vice President
Mary Ann Whisler/3rd VP
January 2023

Our first FFGC October Tour since COVID was completed October 2022. What a great experience for this 3rd VP. Having the opportunity to meet and talk with eleven districts of our twelve districts was an honor. It was a disappointment we missed meeting with District IX since the hurricane caused the District Meeting to be cancelled. However, we know we'll see them next year and make up for the cancellation. This VP was surprised how many garden club members I've already met though working on conventions and SEEK. I'm looking forward to October 2023 and our next tour.

Ways and Means pins were requested at every district and our inventory had to be replenished after the first week. Many members participated in the "order ahead" option and their orders were waiting for them at the meeting. The framed FFGC ornaments were a big hit for Christmas gifts and thank you gifts as well as the coffee cups.

Wekiva Volunteer Training plans are almost complete. We have twenty members registered to date. We will be introducing our incoming Junior Gardener Chairman and both former and incoming Junior Gardener Chairmen will be at camp to discuss the program. We have scheduled great speakers for the weekend as well as some "education walks" around the camp. A fun and educational program is anticipated. There is still time to register before all the "warm" cabins are filled. However, if you can't come for the entire weekend plan to come to Wekiva Open House on Sunday, February 12th at 11 am to 1 pm. You will have the opportunity to walk around camp with a experienced counselor, see a video of a "day at camp" and meet our Director Shelby Mander.

Camp Wekiva is again in Chairman transition. As Chairman Elect this VP has been working closely with the outgoing Chairman to make a smooth turnover. A great deal has changed this year with hiring a new chef and working with a new registrar. We are disappointed that the Office/Clinic will not be completed on time for camp.

It continues to be a great honor to serve FFGC. As a member of the H&E Committee, Strategic Planning, Wekiva Board, and Secretary of the Finance Committee, this VP continues to learn and understand the complexities of the organization.

Mary Ann Whisler/3rd VP (mary.whisler66@gmail.com)

Summary:

Executive Tour October 2022

Camp Wekiva and Wekiva Volunteer Training

Ways and Means

RECORDING SECRETARY

Recording Secretary
Sue Roberts
January 10, 2023

The recording secretary completed the minutes of the last board meeting and compiled all the BOD member reports into two books, one for officers and directors and one for board chairman.

These files were all posted on the website under report and minutes for the Sept 2022 board meeting. Also the financial reports, approved Wekiva budget and bylaw changes were posted to same section of the website.

All the files associated with this meeting were written to a flash drive and will be put out to the FFGC Google drive for archive storage a the end of this President's term.

An evote was held shortly after the last meeting and several emails were sent to board members since September.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

REPORT

Corresponding Secretary

Linda Feifarek-Johnson

September 12, 2023

Working with the Tour Group, making the reservations, and talking to all the different chairmen in each district was such a wonderful experience. I have learned a lot and continue to learn each day.

I also manage the event calendar so any events your club or district is doing, please send your events information to me. There is a form to be filled out that can be found on the FFGC website. On the home page, scroll down until you find "For all FFGC forms – click here". I also can add flyers and registration forms for the event.

DISTRICT 1

FFGC DISTRICT I
JANUARY 2023
BOARD MEETING REPORT
JOYCE WATERS-SMITH, DISTRICT I DIRECTOR

I am pleased to announce that we have put together a Scholarship Workshop for Thursday, January 26 from 10:00 a.m. to NOON at the Destin Public Library. We have two presenters; club members who each have several years' experience awarding scholarships for their respective clubs. The presenters are Debbie Michel of the Green Thumb Garden Club and Gail Baker of the Valparaiso Garden Club. There will be handouts for those in attendance. We will have a ZOOM option if you are unable to travel to Destin for the workshop. Please send an email to Joyce if you would like a ZOOM link.
JOYCEWS@COX.NET

I have copies The tentative agenda with me if you would like one. If you do not have a scholarship committee in your garden club, then be sure to send some of your board members who can relay this information to your club. Do not worry that your club may not have enough \$\$\$ to award a big scholarship. We'll talk about ways to "fund" a scholarship.

Now on to club news:

DEFUNIAK SPRINGS – Has added 3 new members since September, and now total 35. Their Christmas Tree entry decorated with dried fruit ornaments took 3rd place at the City Festival of Trees. Upcoming programs include making seed bombs, and natural fire colorants and a field trip to the Florida Pioneer Family Heritage Farm to view the Cotton Geese. Spring will bring plans to redo the entrance garden in front of the DeFuniak Springs Library. In May the club will participate in Lake Fest with children's activities, garden tours, and plant and floral sales.

DESTIN GARDEN CLUB – Our newest member of FFGC installed their new officers at their January meeting, and we welcome Lee Vanderpool as the new president. Included with this article are some pictures from their annual make and take workshop held in the fall where they made these lovely pumpkin decorations hosted by member Anne Collins. The club will host their annual plant sale in April at the Destin Library, and are tentatively planning their first flower show for June 6 & 7. Velda Dougherty applied for and won a \$1,000 Plant America Grant from NGC for a new Japanese Memorial Garden at the library.

GARNIER BEACH Garden Club, located in Fort Walton Beach will be planting an Elm Tree at their namesake park, Garnier Beach Park to celebrate their Emerald Precious Metal 70th anniversary with FFGC and Arbor Day in January. Maria Wilson, the county Forestry Agent will be the speaker, and she will instruct the planning of the tree.

The club will host their plant sale on April 15.

GREEN THUMB

We are proud to report that last year was a banner year for membership growth. Our club is now **124** members strong, with **22** NEW garden club friends joining us during May 2022 thru December 2022. A special thank you Kathy Edge, GTGC Treasurer who also chairs our Publicity and Website activities getting the word out to the Walton County community. Kathy works hard daily to get the GTGC news out through:

- Monthly news releases
- Website -- 80% of new members are signed up through the website
- Word of mouth -- GTGC best advertising and bringing in new members
- Guests coming to the monthly meetings
- Monthly programs that appeal to potential new members are advertised in news releases and on the website

Congratulations and thank you to Kathy, all the board members and our members!

MITLON GARDEN CLUB will host the May 9 Spring District Meeting, when their own Jenny Weber will be installed as the District Director. The theme of the meeting will be "Momma Mia" and we are assured there will be laughter, singing and dancing. In addition, the club will host a field trip to The Soundside Foundation Nature Preserve in Gulf Breeze, to include a walk thru the Camellia Trail and enjoy a picnic.

PENSACOLA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS received a District I Grant of \$250 to assist with their foundation planting as part of their recovery from Hurricane Sally. They were pleased to return to their annual hosting of "Gardening in the Panhandle" a full day of workshops and lunch, always a sell out event and cancelled the previous 2 years due to the pandemic. March 14 and 15 will again see their "Tour of Tables" event provided to nurture interest in floral design and the art of tablescares with themes from around the world. May 20 and 21 will feature the return of their annual "Secret Garden Tour", open to the public.

VALPARAISO GARDEN CLUB – Gail Baker, programs chair organized a field trip to Elgin Air Force Base/Jackson Guard where they were provided a tour of the native garden, museum, and enjoyed feeding the deer. In the spring the club will host a make and take workshop on self-watering planter buckets. They will also host a plant sale April 29 at the Heritage Museum Garden, in conjunction with "Saturday in the Park." May they will host a 70th Anniversary Emerald Precious Metal celebration party. May 12 & 13 the club will host a flower show.

DISTRICT 2

Absent, no report

DISTRICT 3

FFGC District III Report
District Director
Marilyn Larson
January 10, 2023

Clubs are glad to be back to a more normal way of life after living with the Covid pandemic for the past two years. They are meeting in person again and have monthly meetings and programs planned.

District III successfully held the FFGC Officers Tour Fall meeting, hosted by **Perry Garden Club** on October 13. In addition to spending lots of time organizing and planning for the fall meeting, the Club had their regular monthly meeting six days after hosting the District III meeting. The club is proud to announce an increase in membership of 8 new members with more expected during the year. Their program was a “make and take seed bomb”, not the exploding kind, but the growing/blooming kind. Their November club program was a slide presentation by award-winning photographer Cindy Moore, on native plants and wildlife. The Club ended 2022 with a Christmas luncheon and their floral design auction, an annual fundraiser for the club. The regular monthly meetings planned for 2023 are equally as educational, inspiring and fun.

Live Oak Garden Club reported an increase in membership for a total of 65 members and growing! At the September club meeting, the two SEEK students shared their summer camp experiences and thanked the club for sponsorship. A workshop was held to make holiday cards for a local nursing home. The annual Fall Bazar was held October 29 with plants, vendors, yard and baked goodies for sale. Proceeds from the event are used toward two local gardens: Hearthstone Gardens and Heritage Park & Gardens and to help 4Hers and the Suwannee High School Green Team. The club keeps members informed through a monthly newsletter as well as their website and Facebook page.

Steinhatchee Garden Club was in the holiday spirit to end 2022, with club members decorating their community center where meetings are held. They also have a “money tree” to raise money for kids to attend Camp Wekiva and SEEK. January is another busy month with their annual spaghetti dinner, a fund-raiser for kids to attend Camp Wekiva and SEEK. And another annual event is the preparation of valentine floral arrangements for the local nursing home residents.

Wakulla County Garden Club began their new program year with newly recruited group of board members who set educational and informative monthly programs such as “A guide to fall planting”. The club arranged to have not only daytime meetings but alternative evening programs to accommodate working members. One of the club’s challenges is how to ensure meeting content is timely and relevant to new members. They plan to feature a native plant of the month and identify what’s blooming and why it’s significant and developing graphics to help new members grasp available opportunities and how they can participate.

Madison Garden Club held their annual Christmas party in December with a “dirty Santa” gift exchange. In addition, a timely program topic for their December meeting was a short demonstration by the fire department on the correct way to use a fire extinguisher. Each of their meetings features a plant of the

month with information about the featured plant. A big undertaking for the club in November was election of officers for the upcoming year and approval of amended By-Laws.

Monticello Garden Club plans include a program by the Audubon Society and a timely topic on Amaryllis planting so that they bloom for the Christmas holiday. They also decorated the Christmas tree at the Monticello Opera House, and made Christmas ornaments. Plans are in the works to organize a new garden circle if there is enough interest otherwise encourage potential new members to join the existing club/circles. Monticello will be the host club for the Spring District III meeting planned May 1, 2023.

Tallahassee Garden Club successfully hosted a December House Tour as one of the houses featured in the Tallahassee Symphony Tour of Homes. The Rutgers House was decked out with live greenery and creative, festive and beautiful holiday decorations for the event. The club held its annual Christmas tea and Petite Flower Show the following week as a way of inviting the community to say thank you for support received throughout the year. January activities include caladium bulb sales and a special program "Creating Art for the Garden" by artist Karen Robertson. Members will be helping with "My night to shine" by making boutonnieres for special needs 'prom night' attendees. The event is sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation

DISTRICT 4

Report
District IV Director
Connie A. Gladding
December 26, 2022

Fall, winter, and holiday events were widespread across District IV and a time for celebrating with the recent notification that three of our District IV Garden Clubs were National Garden Club Plant America Grant winners.

Thank you to the St. Augustine Garden Club for hosting the Fall District IV Meeting and FFGC Officers' Fall Tour at the St. Johns County Extension Center with the program "Gardening for Health and Well Being." The more than one hundred attendees enjoyed the camaraderie and training. Attendees appreciated the lovely table centerpiece floral arrangements which were highly sought-after door prizes. Members look forward to the Spring District May 2023 meeting chaired by the new District Director and hosted by the Garden Club of Middleburg in Orange Park.

The Garden Club of Fleming Island organized a Fall Garden Club Bazaar at the Paul C. Armstrong Park in Middleburg on Saturday, October 29th from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. Clay County Garden Clubs Fleming Island, Orange Park and Middleburg participated. This is the first time this event will be held; it is hoped to be an annual event serving as a membership drive and fundraiser.

The bad weather from Hurricane Nicole did not keep the Hibiscus Circle of the Garden Club of St. Augustine from rededicating Florida's second oldest Blue Star Marker with its renewed living memorial garden. The ceremony was extra special with Presidents of both the National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs honoring our Nation's Veterans.

For the Garden Club of Jacksonville, November brought the Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair and Horticulture Show. Together with the Duval County UF/IFAS Extension Center and Men's Garden Club of Jacksonville, the Garden Club created an array of educational exhibits for display throughout the Jacksonville Fairgrounds. The members coordinated and judged the Horticulture Fair.

The Garden Club of Green Cove Springs sponsored two November community events: Winter Vegetable Gardening with Master Gardener Volunteer speaker. Also, the Club partnered with Camp Chowenwaw Park for the "Holiday Photos" event to lead kids craft creations, such as bird feeder pinecones. The Garden Club of Palatka held their first Afternoon Woodlands Autumn Tea at the Ravines State Park in Palatka. It was open to the public and a real treat for the community. The Garden Club of Orange Park held a rummage sale, built wreaths to lay at a Veterans Day ceremony and manned booths in the local Farmers Market to sell crafts, plants and promote the Garden Club.

The Bartram Garden Club Garden Therapy Committee conducted two workshops in November to the Nassau County Council of Aging. Special needs members of the Adult Day HealthCare Program made autumn wreaths with used wine bottle corks which the club collected to repurpose. Similarly, in December the club held a conservation project called "Corks for Charity." Members transformed wine bottle corks into small wreaths to enhance the local "Meals on Wheels" (MOW) program. Each MOW family received a wreath with a holiday meal, bringing seasonal cheer to disadvantaged families, while at the same time keeping corks out of the landfills.

District IV continued to offer members and non-members a range of educational opportunities. The NGC Landscape Design School Course 2 was held at Ribault Garden Club in Jacksonville Beach, November 1-2, 2022. A team of top-notch, horticulture, landscape design, and preservation professionals provide instruction. District IV's annual GardenFest, a day of horticulture education for the public, was November 18th at the Ravines State Park in Palatka. The State Park proved to be a perfect venue although a trek for our northern garden clubs; it easily accommodated parking and seating for more than 120 attendees, garden clubs' sales tables, and refreshments. Thanks to the planning committee, club members, and the University of Florida speakers who produced such an enjoyable learning and shopping experience. Feedback and evaluations noted the theme "Naturally Connected" was timely and of great interest and the event an opportunity to gather garden club members and master gardener volunteers.

The District Social Media Chair published the third issue of "District Runner", the District IV newsletter. Many thanks to this District Chair for working tirelessly to keep the website, Facebook site, and our newsletter information current and timely. For the best and most up-to-date events, see the news at the home page on the district website, www.district4ffgc.org. Our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/district4ffgc/>, features postings from our clubs' Facebook pages, FFGC, NGC, and Deep South. Clubs follow our Facebook Page to stay up to date on Federated Garden Clubs happenings.

December in the District was filled with holiday offerings. At The Garden Club of Jacksonville's Budding Gardeners Program, children created floral arrangements using holiday greenery. The Ribault Garden Club hosted their holiday kickoff event "Home Décor Demonstration Morning Tea". The return of a holiday tradition and to the delight of locals, The Garden Club of St. Augustine 51st Tour of Homes was Sunday December 4th. The Tour showcased amazing horticulture and holiday inspired decorations and designs.

And for spring events, the Landscape Design School Course 3 will be January 31 and February 1. The Garden Club of Jacksonville is sponsoring the Floral Design Study Units 1 through 6 during January, February, and March. Mark your calendars for the Garden Club of Jacksonville's annual Flea Market on February 24 and community favorite - Blooms Galore Plant Sale on April

8. The Garden Club of the Lakes is planning a Junior Garden Club Day, February 25th. The Club, partners with the local Ace Hardware Store and offers many horticultural activities, including worm adventures, for children. The event is free and for children ages 2 to 13. The Garden Club of Orange Park Annual Horticulture Program is March 17th. It is a day of training with the opportunity to purchase items offered by the Garden Club. The program is open to the public and this year's theme is "Gardening as Therapy". And in April, the Bartram Garden Club will present their first NGC Small-Standard Flower Show titled "Down the Rabbit Hole" to be staged at the Fernandina Beach library. Horticulture, Design, and Botanical Arts divisions will be judged by NGC Accredited Flower Show Judges. The show will include a judged nature photography section which will be extended as a community art exhibit in cooperation with Friends of the Library. Mark your calendars for a sure-to-be amazing event.

It is great time to be a garden club member in District IV. There are so many opportunities to enjoy gardening with friends and serving our communities. This District Director is enjoying sharing time with members. 2023 looks to build upon the good times, celebrations, and successes of 2022.

DISTRICT 5

District V News
Donna Thomas, Director
January 11, 2023

As you read this the holidays will be long behind us, and Spring will have sprung. Every club in district five is frantically preparing for the annual plant sales for the gathering throngs of gardeners who know that we have the best plants at the best prices.

All the clubs in this district will be working on the upcoming 2023 Convention that we expect to be spectacular. Marge Hendon has been a phenomenal president and we are all grateful for the continuing improvements in FFGC under her stewardship.

I am pleased to announce that District V's new director for 2023-2025 who will be installed at the 2023 convention is Carol Stevens who hails from the Lake City Garden Club.

Carol was born and raised in Moultrie, Georgia. Met husband at Valdosta State College and moved to Lake City, FL in 1972. Has two adult sons and one grandson. After teaching school for 38 years, she retired and joined the garden club. "I have enjoyed learning about the care of plants, arranging flowers, photographing plants and meeting so many wonderful people. I served as President of the Lake City Garden Club for three years and am very excited about having the honor to serve as District V Director".

Thank you, to all the members of District V, for your belief in me, your support and your friendship. It's been a pleasure and a privilege to have served as your director.

DISTRICT 6

District VI Director
Suzi Bailey
January 11, 2023

In the last few months, Covid, flu and hurricanes impacted Florida. Some Districts were hit very hard. Board members, club officers and members were also impacted by illness or surgeries.

BUT.... The Garden Clubs of Florida are resilient, strong, and a determined group. After two hurricanes, District VI bounced right back and started activities again. Flower Shows, plant sales, fundraising festivals, attending schools, special interest groups, meetings and took field trips. Clubs are growing to grow their membership with fresh new ideas and personal contact.

The Fall District VI Meeting was held in-person for the first time in 2 years. New Smyrna Beach Garden Club planned an Ocean of Opportunities theme. Reports by FFGC Officers, Club and Committee Chairs were given. A special program by NSB Marine Science Center was on protecting our environment.

Indian Harbour Beach Garden Club, Suzy Hodge, President, offered to sponsor six Wekiva Campers to District VI. This Director forwarded their generous offer to our 17 clubs and had three responses. As a result, 4 new campers are registering for Wekiva camp. New Smyrna Beach Garden Club (two camperships), Melbourne GC (one campership), and DeLand Garden Club (one campership) are able to use these scholarships. Our Theme for our District VI Fall Meeting was "Oceans of Opportunity". It is exciting that Indian Harbour Beach Garden Club decided to use this opportunity to share. Their investment in these children will be educating new gardeners. They have really "Planted for the Planet"! WOW!

Our Spring District meeting will be held at Garden Club at Palm Coast, Denise Garcia, President on May 9th, 2023 at Hammock Dunes Country Club.

After two years of service, this Director will step down as the District VI Director. At our FFGC Convention, we will welcome our new District VI Director, Valerie Seinfeld, DeLand Garden Club.

SUMMARY: District VI is thriving and growing, ready to look for more opportunities to "Plant for the Planet".

DISTRICT 7

DISTRICT VII DISTRICT
DIRECTOR REPORT
1/11/2023



We had a wonderful Fall District meeting in October with the FFGC Board Tour Team members present, filled with facts and pertinent information. Clairmont prepared a beautiful meal, presentation, and perfect location. Thank you.

Clubs were so busy planning a huge spring summer filled with events as you will read about in the upcoming Florida Gardener

District VII's Orlando Garden Club, partnered with Palmer's Garden and Goods, **its "Sip N' Stroll" events on November 3. Beautiful wine and cheese event.**

As district director's visits included installing officers and visiting a beautiful setting in October of the home of our Sanford Garden club. It was a beautiful home on Saint John's River. The setting was enhanced by the warmth and friendliness of all the members and learning all about a Confederate Rose. It was a bit of paradise.

The members of the Bloom and Grow Garden society continued their 25th anniversary celebration with two social events for our members and guests. In **January, we had our Denim and Diamonds event**, up close and personal with nature, for **a bar-b-que dinner and guided nature walk on Williamson Island**. In February, we put on our fancy clothes for a **formal dinner celebration with champagne, dinner, and dancing at Leu Gardens in Orlando.**



I walked approximately 2 miles and saw 56 Heritage trees along the route. The trees are labeled with the name of the tree plus a QR code that offers

insight into the tree species as well as information on the history of Winter Garden and its people. For more information on the Heritage Tree Walk go to: <https://www.bloomandgrow.club/treeproject>

Clermont Garden Club will host: Emerald Magick, Flower Show at Clermont Garden Club **March 17-18, 2023**. A separate Wine Stroll on March 17 from 6-8 PM, details at our website: clermontgardenclub.com and on FFGC.org Open to Public A Garden Walk, **April 15, 2023**, Ticket information available on website: clermontgardenclub.com

SWEETWATER OAKS GARDEN CLUB

Game Day Under the Pines, Jan 31. Gather your friends, organize a table to play your favorite game. Tickets are \$27. Wekiva Youth Camp. Includes breakfast items and lunch.

The Camellia Garden Club of Eustis & The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. Cordially Invite You to Attend Friday, February 17, 2023, 11:00 A.M. The Dedication of the: **BLUE STAR MEMORIAL BY-WAY MARKER**, A Tribute to our Armed Forces Given to the City of Eustis from the Camellia Garden Club Eustis Memorial Library, 120 N. Center St., Eustis, FL. 32726.

Apopka Garden Club is busy planning its annual Fashion Show on February 18th. Follow “The Garden Path.”



Orlando Garden Club will be hosting a spring Flower Show on April 13th and 14th. Silvia the planning coordinator visited LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL, CAMELLIA, LADY LAKES, AND PALM GARDEN FLOWER SHOW and was helped by Teri and Susan on the ins and outs of a Flower show. The Council Flower show was another unique event in its museum location.

Orlando GC News: Our Very Own **Joanne Mulinare participated in an upcoming episode of Emily Tells All**. The original **Emily Tells All** show premiered on June 3, 2021, and features fresh episodes weekly. Join Emily as she gets up close and personal in her community. Joanne represented wildflower and gardening organizations in central Florida and will **air on April 6, 2023**. Be sure and tune in and hear Joanne answer Emily’s questions and presentation highlighting Gardening organizations in central Florida. Thank you and Congratulations Joanne for representing FFGC, District VII, Orange County Garden Clubs and Circles. **Show Distribution** ...You can view the list of episodes at <https://emilybonilla.com/emily-tells-all/>, it will be available on ROKU at <https://my.roku.com/account/add/EmilyBonilla>, YouTube https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4FeNEYkTk6PRg-uNPOlrjw?sub_confirmation=1, and other social media platforms.

Audio track from the interview will be part of the **Emily Tells All** podcast available soon on Spotify. Once the show is live, we will email you a link along with our social channels and hashtags.

DISTRICT 8

Report

District Director, District VIII

Kitty Wallace

January 11, 2023

This District VIII Director is reporting solid gains in membership in our 21 clubs. Membership/Educational events were held throughout the district this past fall. The District sponsored a Horticulture Extravaganza in October. This Event was chaired by DVIII Horticulture Chairman, Bessie Morse and was held at the lovely Garden Club of St. Petersburg. Topics included native ground cover alternatives to turf, supporting our pollinators, and a pictorial tour of local gardens termed "Hidden Gems."

The Flower Show Judges Symposium was held this fall at the Day Spring Conference Center in Parrish, Florida. Symposium was hosted by the Florida Flower Show Judges District VIII, Susie Cochran, Director. It was organized by Barb Jacobson, DVIII Credentials Chairman.

District VIII newsletter editor, Karen Smith, produced another wonderful newsletter, the Great Eight News, promoting various grant opportunities such as Plant America from NGC as well as informing of upcoming DVIII events, such as:

Clearwater Garden Club was the perfect host to the DVIII Fall meeting, organizing a selection of baskets and vendors and a lovely lunch. Upcoming events include: Floral Design Basic Series, offered January to February 2023 by the Garden Club of St. Petersburg. Venice Area Garden Club plans an Adventure Tour in February, touring the Palma Sola Botanical Gardens and Selby Gardens' Spanish Point in February. In March, wonderful Flower Shows are planned at Dade City Garden Club, Manatee River Garden Club and Tampa Garden Club. Plant City Garden Club hosted Garden Fest and Fun with Flowers this fall and will be holding their Flower Show in conjunction with the Strawberry Festival in Plant City in March. NGC Environmental School, Course 1, will be held at the Tampa Garden Club April 11 and 12th. Venice Area Garden Club hosts their "By the Beach" NGC standard flower show in April

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster contest, chaired by DVIII past Director, Jill Anderson, was supported by DVIII by offering clubs the poster paper needed by the children to create their posters and enter the contest.

This director visited several clubs, including the Tampa Bay Golf and Country Club Garden Club, the Palm Harbor Garden Club, Dunedin Garden Club and is scheduled to visit three unaffiliated garden clubs to discuss the benefits of joining FFGC: New River Garden Club, Riverview Garden Club and Safety Harbor Garden Club. Let's see if we can grow a few more garden clubs in District VIII.

DISTRICT 9

Report
District I Director
Dale W. DeFeo
January 12, 2023

District IX has faced many obstacles since fall. Hurricane Ian laid waste to much of the district. Some club members lost everything they had, while others still face incredible challenges in putting their lives back together. Throughout it all, members have continuously demonstrated their drive, resolve and ability to move forward. The following is just a small glimpse of what has been going on.

Our scheduled and much anticipated Fall General Meeting at the Embassy Suites in Estero, sponsored by Cape Coral Garden Club and the Fort Myers Lee County Garden Council, was postponed due to the members losses and damage to the hotel itself. We missed having our FFGC Officers visit with us. We rescheduled the meeting via Zoom in early December to conduct necessary business. Tina Tuttle graciously agreed to attend and share information from FFGC. Between Covid19 epidemics and hurricanes, District IX was able to only hold one live meeting during the entire term, but our Zoom meetings were lively and informative.

Royal Palms Garden Club decided to make a donation to another club lost all of their plants the night before their plant sale fund raiser.

Poinciana Garden Club held a 60th anniversary celebration and festive holiday banquet even though some members could not bring a covered dish because they have no habitable homes. They have also continued their Trash Off Trails project, walking Lee County trails and preserves to remove trash. Six Mile Cypress Preserve is a frequent recipient of their efforts. Members of several other clubs have been inspired to join them in this effort.

Lake Placid Garden Club held an incredible Holiday Home and Garden Tour that included wild turkeys and Sand Hill Cranes strolling around gardens. Young people in period costume were also present to meet and greet guests.

Port Charlotte held a very moving dedication of a Gold Star Memorial Marker just two weeks after the storm. Many dignitaries and visitors attended. Their Veterans Park sustained damage, but they decided to hold this positive event for the community anyway. High School

Band members showed up in black shorts and white tee shirts because all of their uniforms were destroyed. Fewer than 20 had instruments to play but the whole band showed up in support.

Many other events are scheduled. Flower shows, Environmental and Landscape Design Schools, garden restorations and other events are planned. Checkout our Facebook page for details.

It is an honor and privilege to serve as District Director of such a strong and dynamic group.

DISTRICT 10

Michelle Maguire
District X Director
January 10-12, 2023

Zach Web, head of education for The Florida Oceanographic Society will be giving a presentation on Quality of our Water as it pertains to Florida on February 20, 2023 to the Pipers Landing GC. Pipers Landing GC I will also be going to the Society of Four Arts to visit the Botanical Gardens in Palm Beach which includes many sculptures by local artists.

Oleander GC of the Palm Beaches is holding a cocktail Party and fundraiser on March 21, 2023.

The Garden Club of Stuart is holding its semi annual Flower show, "A Symphony of Beauty" at the Indian River State College, Chastain campus on Salerno Road. Hours for the show are Friday March 3 from 1 to 4pm and Saturday from 9 to 3pm on March 4, 2023. This event is open to the public.

The Wellington GC is hosting a Specialty Flower Show called " EARTH DAY- EVERY DAY " as well as a plant sale April 22, 2023. The Flower show will be at the Wellington Community Center at 12150 Forest Hill Blvd.

Boynton Beach GC is featuring two Brown Bag Speaker Events at the two of the city's libraries Feb, 6 and March 6, 2023 from 12 to 1pm. On March 10 and 11 at the Boynton Beach Cultural and Arts Center, Boynton Beach GC will hold their annual "ART IN BLOOM".

Once again The Garden Club of Indian River County will be hosting " GARDENFEST" at Indian Riverside Park in Vero Beach, Florida on February 4 and 5. Hours for Saturday are 9 to 5pm and Sunday for 9 to 4pm. Bring your own bags or garden carts to haul all the plants you want to buy. The Bougainvillea Circle of The Garden Club of Indian River County is holding an Antique Show at their garden club's main location at 2526 17th Ave. in Vero Beach, Florida from 10 to 4pm on February 18 and 19, 2023.

Michelle Maguire, District x Director

DISTRICT 11

Report for FFGC Board Meeting
District XI
Sharon Bogard
January 2023

As this is this Director's last report to the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs' board of directors, she wishes to thank this organization for its support and friendship during her term. The clubs of District XI have also shown their support through cooperation and service during these last two years and this report personifies their contribution to the mission of our garden clubs.

The Garden Club of Coral Springs, District XI's super-energized garden club, has "irons in every fire". Working on its 1,000,000 Orchid project, mentoring three youth groups, planting trees in its city, working with senior citizens on garden therapy, petitioning big box stores to sell native plants, and hosting Saturday meetings for its working members while maintaining its normal evening meetings. Led by the fearless and tireless former schoolteacher, President, Jeri Decker. who has served in this capacity for three years, leads by example. Her membership is engaged and forever growing – a model for all garden clubs.

Fort Lauderdale Garden Club is led by Susie MacPherson who is always present and a great communicator. This Club and its Circles are facing tumultuous times with the loss of its agreement with the State of Florida to continue its arrangement to occupy the Garden Center. The hard work put in by Susie, and the Club's former Presidents was formidable, but the State would not budge. Undaunted, the Club will continue to meet on a Special Permit only basis but will look for a new permanent home elsewhere. As FFGC President Marge Hendon reminded all, a garden club is about people and not places, and Fort Lauderdale Garden Club embraces this sentiment. One door may close, but another will open to an opportunity yet to be realized. FLGC strong!

Hollywood Garden Club's President Susan Berry recently received the coveted Florida Friendly Landscapes' Gold Level Award presented by representatives of the University of Florida/IFAS. Heartfelt congratulations to Susan for her dedication to the principles of sustainable gardening and this award epitomizes the mission of FFGC garden clubs.

Lauderdale-by-the-Sea has a plethora of talent, as witnessed by their successful hosting of District XI's annual fall meeting. This club meets in their Town Hall and because of that, it is very attuned to the needs of its community. A Commissioner is a member of the Club and the Mayor and Town Manager often attend the meetings. Lauderdale-by-the-Sea Garden Club is a great example of community outreach.

The Garden Cub of Lighthouse Point's member, Inger Jones, received the well-deserved Five-Star Membership award for completing all four NGC-sponsored schools and where the level of Master is obtained. Inger continues her mentorship to new members and is a role model to all.

Kudos to **The Pompano Beach Garden Club** members who give their time and expertise at the Sample-McDougald Garden - a kitchen garden the club helps maintain. There are three team leaders who recruit members from the club monthly. This garden produces vegetables that are given to the local fire departments. This kitchen garden is an example of how vegetables are grown and how people lived before grocery stores. The team leaders are integral to the success of this project.

DISTRICT 12

District XII Report
Leticia Gunn
01/11/2023

District XII is excited to have added three more judges to our Council of Judges! We are also excited to have Clubs that haven't had a Flower Show in 30 plus years, such as Coral Gables, putting on a show this April. Speaking of Flower Shows, Miami Beach is hosting their 7th consecutive Flower Show in conjunction with their 20th Garden Tour. In addition to all the Flower show excitement, the District's Council of Judges is planning on bringing the Floral Design Study Basic Units to District XII and opening it up to all the Clubs. At this time I would also like to acknowledge the passing of long time member and NGC Accredited Judge, Sallye Jude.

Funds have been raised by various Clubs to aid various worthy organizations, our smallest Club, Miami Lakes, raised funds to donate to the Marian Center Special Education School. South Miami Garden Club raised over 2000 dollars to donate to Miami Water Keepers, an organization that monitors water quality in Miami.

Sadly FFGC, District XII and Marathon Garden Club have lost a major member, Flower Show Judge and past District XII Director, in Nancy Miller and while we mourn her loss deeply, the club is poised and in the process of establishing the whole island of Marathon as a Butterfly Sanctuary because of their butterfly garden initiative!!! How cool is that?? I am sure Nancy will be very proud of that up in heaven!!

South Dade Garden Club is bringing in the big guns and having speakers that require evening engagements with Speakers like Dr. Jeffrey Block, an expert in Botanical Medicine and Pharmacology. They also created a very successful fundraiser which included the whole District.

Pinecrest Garden Club continues their collaboration with renown eco-artist Xavier Cortada to promote the importance of mangroves in our barrier islands. He has planted over a million mangroves and continues his effort with help from our Clubs.

District XII continues to be involved with the community through civic engagement, most notably the members of Coral Pines Garden Club continues to volunteer at the venerable Deering Estate.

Education is ever the pursuit of all of the Clubs of District XII and Ken Pines will be delving deep into all things bromeliads by going on a behind the scenes tour of a Bromeliad nursery. Miami Lakes donated books to the Miami Lakes Library.

Incoming District Director Susan Rodriguez and Coral Gables Garden Club continue to expand their "As I See It" Photography contest and I cant wait to see what beautiful photography comes in to be judged and what a fantastic job Susan will do as District Director.

Lastly, I would like to say that as I deliver this, second to last report, I am filled with a mixed sense of what more could I have done to assist my District's Clubs and also a sense of WOW and amazement at how much a District of 9 Clubs has achieved through a pandemic and all! Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

January 2023 Board Meeting

Board Chairmen Reports

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4-5 STAR MEMBERS

ADOPT-A-PARK

AFFILIATES MEMBERSHIP

Report
Affiliate Membership Report
Donna Berger, Chairman
January 10-12, 2023

FFGC has an Affiliate Membership Program where like -minded organizations, such as conservation organizations, plant societies, floral design clubs, etc., may join FFGC for \$50. They receive a subscription to the Florida Gardener and an invite to FFGC Convention, as well as a listing on the FFGC website and in the Florida Gardener.

I'm pleased to inform you that Mounts Botanical Garden of Palm Beach County is now an affiliate member through The West Palm Beach Garden Club. They joined in October 2022.

We now have four (4) Affiliate Members.

The Florida Wildflower Foundation - Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

The Institute of Regional Conservation - FFGC District X Plant America with Trees Committee

McKee Botanical Gardens – The Garden Club of Indian River County

Mounts Botanical Gardens - The West Palm Beach Garden Club

The Affiliate Membership Application and Renewal Forms are on FFGC website under FORMS. They are enterable forms.

As your Membership chairman I hope that this coming year we can have more of our clubs willing to have Affiliate members.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact this chairman.

Donna Berger
FFGC Affiliate Membership Chairman
Phone: 772-214-8629
Email: bergerdx2015@gmail.com

AMAZON PROJECT

Board of Directors Meeting
Amazon Chairman Report
Linda Feifarek-Johnson, chairman
January 11-12, 2023

Thank you all for all your smiles! Amazon has made \$1019.25 from the Amazon smile program.

To sign up on your computer: type in smile.amazon.com. Log in and in the upper left is three horizontal lines. Click on those lines, scroll down 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 (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

January 11, 2023
FFGC Awards Chair
Gwen Carter

The entire Awards page was updated to reflect Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. as Awards donator. New Deep South Garden Club Awards change updated and 2022 Smokey Bear/ Woodsy Owl information updated.

A statewide Awards Workshop was held, via Zoom, September 23, 2022. The Team reviewed the Awards page, discussed FFGC awards, and answered questions from participants. The Zoom video was shared with participants and those who requested the video.

On November 4, 2022, we gathered for our Judges' Workshop, via Zoom. The Team enlisted the assistance of FFGC members from various districts, Executive Board and a professional photographer to judge awards this year. Judges were emailed all documentation needed to judge awards before the workshop. Forms were reviewed and explained during the workshop by Team members and questions were answered to our best ability. The Judges' Workshop Video was shared with judges to view later.

Lead judges had applications to start judging awards by December 1, 2022. Constant communication went on between judges and the Awards Team. Judges worked to complete awards correctly, quickly, and objectively.

One Hundred Forty (140) Adult Awards Applications were received this year. Mary Whisler, FFGC 3rd Vice-president, received thirty (30) Yearbook Awards for judging.

Thanks to all of the FFGC members who gave up their precious time to judge Awards so we can celebrate clubs and individuals at the Convention in April.

Typing, printing, and embossing certificates for winning clubs/individuals is scheduled for March.

Now, it's time to gear up and submit FFGC Awards to the National Garden Club and Deep South Garden Clubs with required documentation. All applications and state chairman reports are due to NGC Awards Chairman or designated Chairman by January 25, 2023. The Team expects more NGC and DSGC winners, this year.

Thank you.

BARTRAM SOCIETY

BEEES

Bees

Christy Linke

January 9, 2023

This Bee Chairman is still educating on the topic of native and Honey bees. In November, 2022 at the Jackson Elementary School, in Plant City I was invited to American Teach In to speak on bees. Presenting the curriculum needed to fulfill the requirements to do an interactive program with all the 5th grade students. There were 87 in all and there was a craft and interactive workings of all the Bee jobs within the hive. Acting out these jobs of bees help our youth understand how hard a bee's job really is. Also teaches them team work as they must work together to protect the hive, the queen, and also teaches them that each job is important to make the hive run. The teachers play an important role in this activity. They are the predators attempting to get into the hive. The kids love the fact that they have to keep their teacher out.

This Chairman is also speaking at the Native Plant Society on all pollinators. Bees, Birds, and Butterflies. This Chairman has taking speaking engagements through March and looking forward to each and every one of them.

Summary: From the very beginning that this Chairmanship started under Jan Sillik, my goal was and always will be to Promote Bees Through Knowledge.

BIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES

BLUE STAR & GOLD STAR MEMORIAL MARKERS

**Blue Star Memorial Program
Blue Star Memorial Chairman
Rosita Aristoff
January 11, 2023**

1) Completed Blue & Gold Star Memorial Markers Dedications

- Destin Garden Club (District I) – The new Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker at the Destin Library was dedicated on October 11, 2022.
- Port Charlotte Garden Club (District IX) - The new Gold Star Families Memorial Marker was dedicated at William R. Gaines, Jr. Veterans Memorial Park on November 5, 2022.
- Garden Club of Lakeland (District IX) – The new Blue Star Memorial Marker was dedicated at Veterans Park on November 15, 2022.

2) Pending New Memorial Markers Activity

- Camellia Garden Club (District VII) - The new Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker dedication at the Eustis Library is planned for February 17, 2023.
- Milton Garden Club (District I) - The new Gold Star Families Memorial By-Way Marker to be dedicated at Santa Rosa County Veterans Memorial Plaza is still planned for May 29, 2023.
- Gardeners Out East Garden Club (District VIII) – A new Gold Star Families Memorial Marker was ordered for placement at the new East Manatee County Library. A dedication is planned for November, 2023.

3) Miscellaneous

- District X has refurbished the orphaned Blue Star Memorial Highway marker in Canal Point assisted by a matching funds grant from the FFGC.
- The St. Augustine Garden Club created a new living memorial garden around Florida's longest standing Blue Star marker. A rededication ceremony on November 11th, 2022 was attended by FFGC President Marge Hendon, who gave a history of the Blue Star program, and by NGC President Mary Warshauer, who presented the actual dedication.
- In late September, Hurricane Ian caused significant damage along a wide swath of Florida's Gulf coast and inland across the state. Within the western

coastal area most seriously impacted were at least 14 Blue Star markers. Fortunately, all but one of these markers are known to have survived. We still await news on the Blue Star Memorial Marker dedicated at the Fort Meyers Beach Library in 2021.

- After conducting extensive research, this Chairman has published a booklet documenting an extended history of the NGC's Blue Star Memorial program including developments in Florida. The extended history (without the Florida segment) has been posted on the NGC's website within the tab on the Blue Star Markers Program.

4) Summary

Since the last report three new markers were dedicated and one new Gold Star Memorial Marker was ordered. A detailed history of the Blue Star Memorial program is now available on the NGC website.

Rosita A. Aristoff

Rosita A. Aristoff

Blue & Gold Star Memorial Chairman

BOI EDITOR

Board of Directors Meeting
BOI Chairman Report
Linda Feifarek-Johnson, chairman
January 11-12, 2023

Being the Book of Information Editor has been a very busy and wonderful experience. I have learned so much about FFGC, its procedures and its wonderful clubs. I have been doing updates to the BOI right along and once a month I send them to the webmaster to update the BOI online. If you have any corrections or updates, please email them to me: feif@bellsouth.net.

BRICK PATHS

BYLAWS-STANDING RULES

How To Create Club Bylaws

Club Bylaws may not be necessary. If you have Club Policies and Procedures and you operate under the FFGC Bylaws, you can obtain a TIN and 501c3 designation with tax exempt status. Check with your bank and the SUNBIZ website to see what applies.

If you wish to construct Bylaws or Articles of Incorporation and have your club membership vote on them, please remember that your parent organizations, FFGC and NGC, are the law and you cannot go against those established bylaws.

Robert's Rules of Order (RRO) Newly Revised, 12th edition, should be your guide and reference when constructing bylaws, however, you are welcome to use the FFGC Bylaws as a template. Chapter XXVI in *RRO* gives step-by-step procedures to forming a Bylaws Committee, gives things to consider for each situation, and finally, let's you know what to put in each Article and in what order. A sample Bylaws is given at the end of the Bylaws chapter. Some Articles and titles are optional or you may wish to add additional Articles for your particular situation. Remember not to make your Bylaws too restrictive. These are the rules. How to enact the rules will come in your *Policies and Procedures*.

Article I: Name. Please use the following so your name will appear close to FFGC in the listing on SUNBIZ—**Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, District _____, _____ Garden Club.**

Article II: Object. Please use the same statement given in the FFGC Bylaws as to our purpose (may require a bit of revision under (c)). This is basically our mission statement: *Specifically, the purposes of the club are as follows:*

- (a) To further the education of the members and the public in the fields of gardening, horticulture, botany, floral design, landscape design, environmental awareness through the conservation of natural resources, civic beautification, nature studies, and to instill in our youth the love of gardening and the respect for and protection of the environment;*
- (b) To encourage the erection of memorials to veterans of the United States armed forces;*
- (c) To co-ordinate the interests of the Garden Club in the State of Florida to the extent such co-ordination represents a furtherance of the activities specified in (a) and (b) above provided always that such purposes shall be effectuated by activities which are within the scope of Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.*
- (d) To do and perform all other acts and things necessary to carry out the purposes of this Corporation as a Corporation not for profit in accordance with the law in such cases made and provided.*
- (e) Membership in the _____ Garden club and the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. is open to all regardless of gender, age race, ethnicity or religious affiliation.*

Article III: Members. Please use the same description of members as found in the FFGC Bylaws. We have **voting members** and **non-voting members** and a definition is given for each.

Voting membership shall consist of members of Garden Club, Garden Clubs organized on the Circle Plan, Councils, and FFGC Life Members and Honorary Members of FFGC who are members of a Garden Club.

Non-voting membership shall consist of Life Members and Honorary Members of FFGC who are not members of a Garden Club; Affiliate Member Organizations; and individuals and groups of Junior Gardeners, Intermediate Gardeners, High School Gardeners, College Clubs and Vocational-Technical School Garden Clubs.

If you have **club dues**, you may state that information here. You may wish to include how your club became a part of FFGC and the district and how your club/circle may, unhappily, resign from the organization.

Article IV: Officers. You will have your elected President, and Vice President plus Secretary, Treasurer, and an appointed Parliamentarian...Other officers, such as Chaplain, do not need to be listed. Be sure to clarify which officers are elected by the members and which are appointed by the President. List them in rank order, each with its own Section. Here you can address nominating procedure, ballot voting, term limits and filling vacancies. You can even address removal from office for cause!

Article V: Meetings. Most of you hold monthly meetings on a regular basis for 9 months or so, taking off the summer months. You may wish to provide a Section for a Called or Special meeting or a meeting of only the executive board. Here you will need to set your **quorum** to conduct business. Typically, a quorum is 2/3 of the majority eligible to vote if the membership was given 4-weeks' notice of the issues being considered. If no advance notice is given, the vote must be unanimous.

Article VI: Executive Board (or Board of Directors). Be sure to define who will make up your Executive Board as opposed to who makes up your Executive Committee.

It might read: *The Board of Directors (Executive Board) shall consist of the officers of (your club), Former club presidents, Chairmen and appointed Board members.*

It might read: *The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers of (your club), the Corresponding Secretary and certain chairmen. The Parliamentarian shall attend meetings of the Executive Committee as advisor.*

Usually, the elected and appointed officers of the club are entrusted with administrative authority and responsibility. When will they meet? What authority will they have in decision making? Will everyone on a committee be eligible to vote?

Article VII: Committees. Here you will list your **Standing Committees**, each in its own Section. Examples may include Finance Committee, Festival Committee, Plant Sale Propagation Committee and so forth. Be sure to state the composition of these committees, how appointed and what is their responsibility to the club. Remember, the President is an *ex-officio* member of all committees except the nominating committee.

Article VIII: Parliamentary Authority. This one is easy....*Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, 12th edition is our authority of choice!

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the proceedings of (your club) in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Article IX: Amendment of Bylaws. Prescribe the method by which your Bylaws may be amended. Give the amount of advance notice given to members and by what manner, at which assembly the amendments may be voted on and how many votes it will take to pass the amendment (usually 2/3 of the registered delegates).

These bylaws may be amended at any Club meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting, provided the proposed amendments shall have been presented in writing to the Board of Directors for approval, and a copy of the approved amendments shall have been sent to each club member at least four (4) weeks prior to meeting.

Without the prescribed notice, these Bylaws may be amended at any club meeting by unanimous vote.

And there you have it!! Do not make it harder than it needs to be and please do not add or take away anything that is in conflict with the FFGC or NGC Bylaws. If you need help, please do not hesitate to contact the FFGC Parliamentarian or the FFGC Bylaws Chairman.

CONVENTION COORDINATOR

CONVENTION COMMITTEE 2023

Convention 2023
Susie Berryhill
January 11, 2023

Are you ready for convention?

We just want to go over some convention highlights for you.

Starting with registration. You can now register online as well as do a mail-in registration.

To register online: go to the home page on the FFGC website and scroll down to convention and then register online there. You can also download a paper copy if you want to mail your registration in. and, there is also a registration form in the winter edition of The Florida Gardener.

And remember: Registration deadline is March 27.

At the bottom of the registration form is the hotel reservation information. You can register online or call the hotel directly. There again the deadline is March 27.

You can also get the information to place an ad in the convention program there.

Early Arrivals Dinner: as board members you will receive a complimentary invitation to the Early Arrivals dinner on Tuesday night.

And important: you must RSVP to this invitation!

And if you RSVP to come and do not show up -- you will be billed \$45.

And you will of course need to make a reservation and pay for your spouse or companion.

You won't want to miss the Trashion Fashion Show. It should be quite entertaining.

Opportunity Drawing and 50/50 Drawing: I know the holidays were on everyone's minds and these tickets may have been forgotten.

Please sell your tickets and send your money to the Chairmen, Barbara and Valerie. Their names and addresses are on the tickets.

And impress upon your club Presidents and members to purchase these tickets.

This money supports the convention over and above your registration fee which basically covers our meals.

We do not want to wash dishes to pay for the hotel services! I will round you all up and take you to the kitchen to help!!

President's Reception: this will be for first time attendees again this year. So encourage members who have not attended a convention to attend this year.

We have some wonderful and interesting speakers and workshops lined up for you this year.

Invasive Plants/ Edibles in your yard/ sea Turtles/ sea oats Plants. Adaptive Gardening Tools/ Photography Club/ Bonnet Springs Park. How Plant cultivars are Created

And of course, we get free breakfasts and happy hour drinks!

And most important: Our State and district Officer installation will be on Thursday night. And Miss Tina will be installed as our new President and she has a fun reception planned!

DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS UNIFIED PROJECT

Deep South Garden Clubs Unified Project
Gina Jogan, Chairman for Florida
Winter Board Meeting, January, 2023

This Chairman is sad to report that not a single application was submitted for the Deep South Unified Project!

It should have been easy:

Native Plants, both flower and trees, planted at schools, in city or municipal areas or in home landscapes...that encompassed just about everywhere our members, clubs and districts are planting....so, you could have entered the **Deep South Garden Clubs Unified Project:**

- **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 at your School/s....** Individual clubs, a group of clubs, Councils or Districts can apply
- **Planting Native Flowers or trees in YOUR landscape....** Individual homeowners can apply

Admonishing you: This was not the way to honor the Deep South Regional Director from Florida, Carol Hall, nor make our President, Marge proud of us, or make FFGC shine at the Deep South Convention in Kenner, LA in the spring.

Gina V. Jogan,

DUES AMBASSADOR

Dues Chairman/Ambassador
January 10, 2023
Susan Roberts

The dues renewal process completed in September. New members are now added as they come in and tracked for the Nell Coe Award.

The new dues renewal process will begin on March 15, 2023 when the new form and letter will go to the club presidents. By-law changes affecting the due dates and late dates will be discussed and possible added at the April convention.

Summary: This job will recommence in March 2023 for the 2023-2024 season.

As of 1/5/2023

Clubs – 155

Individual members 9104

Life members 651

Spouses – 432

Total 10187 plus 248 life at large

5 non-renewing clubs – Mariana, Riverhaven, Sanford Wildflowers, Garden Gate, St. Lucie West

3 returning clubs – Palm Harbor, Miami lakes, and Tampa Bay G and CC

3 new clubs – Destin, Deltona and Port Malabar

EARTH STEWARD

Earth Steward Recognition
Kathy Siena
January 11, 2023

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

This recognition 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 form 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 Earth Steward Recognition is a great honor recognizing outstanding members or friends that have shown care and stewardship for our natural resources. An updated list of all recipients is available on the FFGC website at this link:

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

[Click on Earth Steward Recipients.](#)

ENDANGERED PLANTS

Endangered Plant Advisory Council

Jane Villa-Lobos

Winter Board meeting January 11-12, 2023

The state Endangered Plant Advisory Council was held virtually by consensus of its members on October 20, 2022. Prior to the meeting, members submitted evaluation forms ranking the four organizations that applied for funding in 2023. Richard Moyroud, moderator of the meeting, announced the grant recipients. Archbold Biological Station (\$61,055.81), Fairchild Tropical Garden (\$63,009.59), Bok Tower Gardens (\$61,625.66), and Key West Botanical Garden Society (\$30,308.93).

Members reviewed the status of plants on the Regulated Plant Index since the last review. The date for the next meeting will be in late October 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Villa-Lobos

FFGC Endangered Species Chairman

Summary: The October EPAC meeting was held virtually by consensus of its members. Members reviewed grant applications and submitted evaluations via email. The next meeting will be held in late October 2023.

ENVIRONMENTAL ALERTS

FFGC 100TH BIRTHDAY

Report
FFGC Centennial Celebration
Tina Tuttle
11 January 2023, Winter Park

Our organization has some of the most generous and genuine volunteers in all the world! It was a pleasure to talk with so many members while on the Officer's Tour and to receive financial, administrative and personal support for the upcoming Centennial Celebration!

To date, we have collected just over **\$33,700!** That amount came from the donations of fourteen \$1,000 individual donors and \$970 other individual donations, four district \$1,000 donations and \$1,271 other districts, \$3,100 from judges' councils donating \$1,000 and another \$300 from other judges' councils' donations, \$7,936 from clubs and circles and another \$1,880 from other donations. This is wonderful! But there is still time if you wish to participate by donating to the fund. The simplest way to give is by your credit card on the ffgc.org website, go to Donate and scroll down to Centennial Celebration. Easy, peasy!

The *2024 Commemorative Calendar* has been printed and **it is awesome!!** It features every cover of *Florida Floral Arrangement Calendar* since 1953 plus 70 historical factoids about FFGC. The commemorative logo ornaments and pins have been procured and they are, in fact, beautiful! These items and more will be available for purchase on 20 April 2023! Kits of fabric and directions have been distributed to clubs to create quilt blocks that will make our centennial quilt. Several blocks have already been returned and they are unique and amazing! Plans for an elegant 100th birthday brunch and dinner are underway for 24 April 2024 here at headquarters. Plans to celebrate the 19 January 2024 Arbor Day will garner publicity throughout the state! And, so many more delightful events are being planned in every district and for every member who wishes to partake! And although separately funded, plans for the 2024 centennial convention in Jacksonville are underway promising you an unforgettable convention experience!

I can't thank you enough for your support of this **once in a century event!** How lucky we are to be a participant in this part of FFGC history!

Tina Tuttle

Summary: Funding is needed to support planned events commemorating our 100 years! Please donate!

I have a motion:

I move that FFGC adopt the new 100-year logo and replace our current logo on all stationery, forms, documents, etc. beginning April 20, 2023.



FINANCE COMMITTEE

Report
FFGC Finance Committee
Tina Tuttle, Chairman
11 January 2023, Winter Park, FL

The FFGC Finance Committee met on 4 January by Zoom and the committee was joined by **Scott Corkhill** for an update on our property and liability insurance policies; Lloyds of London for the FFGC Headquarters building and contents and Nautilus for Wekiva Youth Camp and SEEK Conference. We felt the building contents were overvalued and will verify the inventory and perhaps lower that part of the \$18,773 annual policy. We also need to have appraisals for the jewelry we own in the form of the Presidents' pins. After the committee ratified two e-polls relating to a Wekiva Budget Amendment and the Gardening School in West Palm Beach, we tackled **budget reviews** for Environmental School in Tampa (\$3400) and Landscape School in Jacksonville (\$4225). Both were favorably reviewed. We reviewed financials of budget versus actual for **SEEK 2022 (\$5589 over budget)** and the **Fall 2022 Flower Show School Symposium** held in November in District VIII (profit of \$1893 for each of the 3 sponsors). We appreciate our all the hard work that went into these sponsored school and the profit share contribution to the operating fund. We voted to approve the budgets presented for **Short Course North** in August in Pensacola for \$4300, and an E-poll was held on 5 January regarding the proposed budget for the UF/FFGC Short Course in Gainesville in June for \$10,450. A **Wekiva Budget amendment** requesting a 26% increase in the food budget and kitchen staff pay for a fourth worker at \$12/hour, plus several necessary equipment repairs will be brought to this board by the camp Chairman later. We conducted our review of our **service contracts** and found many were outdated, not on file or on a month-to-month vice annual basis. We are in the process of rectifying that situation!

Treasurer, Jana Walling, reviewed our **Statement of Activity** and answered questions from the committee and the BOD who received a copy last week. Jana noted that we received the approximately \$20,000 in funds for the **Avon Park Correctional Institute** previously held by District IX **and the expenses related to the damage to our building** last June, including our deductible of \$17,761. And, yes, our **investments** continue to lose money, but such is the way of the world now.

Our **Headquarters and Endowment** chairman, Sue Roberts, informed us that all work related to that wind damage was completed but we have additional insurance claims to file and that our new \$27,500 air conditioning unit was being installed. Sue submitted a request from H&E regarding a **pay increase for our part-time, hourly Office Manager**. Second Vice President and outgoing **Wekiva** Chairman, Christy Linke, and Third Vice President and incoming Wekiva Chairman, Mary Whisler, together gave us an update on how camp registrations and program plans were proceeding for summer 2023.

This chairman gave a report on the progress of the **Centennial Celebration** funds amounting to \$33797 and related planned projects and expenses. The Baker Press in Orlando completed the production of our 2024 *Commemorative Calendar* for \$5,695.

The FFGC **Matching Grants** program continues to be well received. Applications are due 15 January and up to \$5000 will be awarded at convention. We briefly discussed updating our FFGC information on **SunBiz.org**, including modifying our **logo trademark** to recognize our centennial year, which adds an outer ring to our existing medallion. Additional English and Spanish membership rack cards and brochures were printed and are available in the work room if you need to replenish your supply.

As you know, the officers took our **Tour** this past fall. Jana tells us the expenses were about \$8500 including car rental, gas, and hotels. We thank you for allowing us this invaluable opportunity to visit the membership. Mary sold approximately \$1200 in Ways and Means on the trip and has ordered additional member pins totaling \$1013 to last another year.

The committee plans to **meet by Zoom** prior to the April convention so we can take our time to discuss each agenda item completely without time constraint. We are blessed to have such a dedicated, knowledgeable and vocal Finance Committee including Marge Hendon, Christy Linke, Mary Whisler, Jana Walling, Kelley Wood, Sue Roberts, Claudia Bates, and Gina Jogan. We work hard and are brutally honest but we all strive to be good stewards of your funds!

Tina Tuttle, Chairman, FFGC 1VP

Summary: The FFGC Finance Committee met in January by Zoom. We considered submitted budgets and financials for FFGC related educational programs and projects and HQ repairs. It is our mission to investigate every aspect of the fiscal health of our organization and make recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding expenditures, investments and avenues of revenue.

FLORAL DESIGN STUDY

FFSJ PRESIDENT

PARKE FINOLD REPORTED ON THE 'WHAT'S MY TYPE' BOOK. IT HAS BEEN UPDATED AND WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE CONVENTION.

The Winter 2023 edition of *The Florida Gardener* is now one for the books. Approximately 1800 issues or so were mailed out for a combined cost of \$3,600 printing + postage. Apparently, we have 15 subscribers who pay \$3.75 per issue for a total of \$225. The cost per issue is about \$2. We earned about \$1,360 in advertisement fees and ran at a **deficit of \$1,900** given that printing and postage was \$3,600. The printed copies are distributed to:

- All BOD members (~70)
- Magazine for Life members (?)
- Paid subscribers (15)
- Members who do not have an email address in the Wild Apricot database (?)
- All District Directors (12)
- All club/circle presidents
(~ 150 clubs total, with circles it is likely to be a minimum of 500 copies)
- All members with “Send Hardcopy” flag set (?)
- All current advertisers (6)

This accounts for ~600 copies but we’re printing ~1800 copies so the “?” categories—magazine for life members, and probably club circles—are making up the difference.

The layout was changed for better legibility and included content with emphasis on FFGC to better inform members about opportunities that exist for their clubs and themselves. The reception to that was very positive. The whole process ran smoothly between the editor, the printing staff, Kelley Wood (circulation), Inger Jones (sales), and Barbara Hadsell (education).

The focus will continue to include more content providers and expand the message of what FFGC does and less emphasis on less compelling information from district directors. We are holding a photo cover contest, but it’s been difficult. We will have some good options.

SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

This edition was attractive, well presented, and included more FFGC content. The intention is to expand on that, include more content providers, and limit the district director reports to key and vital information to provide more space for vibrant content.

RECOMMENDATION

My recommendation is to cease all printing and go online only, a national trend that will save considerable funds. If FFGC moves to an online version only, we do away with postage and will not be restricted to 24 pages. If we move to a subscriber basis only, here are the cost breakdowns provided by the current printer:

Quantity Printed	Price @ issue	Total Print	# Subscribers	Subscriber Cost	Net Revenue (minus print)	Subscriber Cost	Net Revenue (minus print)
650	\$3.19	\$2,075.00	650	\$3.75	\$2,437.50	\$4.00	\$2,600.00
1200	\$2.02	\$ 2,421.00	1200	\$3.75	\$4,500.00	\$4.00	\$4,800.00
1500	\$1.75	\$ 2,625.00	1500	\$3.75	\$5,625.00	\$4.00	\$6,000.00
2500	\$1.31	\$ 3,278.00	2500	\$3.75	\$9,375.00	\$4.00	\$10,000.00
4000	\$1.06	\$ 4,221.00	4000	\$3.75	\$15,000.00	\$4.00	\$16,000.00

TODAY:

We have 15 subscribers @ \$3.75 each issue for a total of \$225

We print copies for hundreds of people at no cost; it’s a gift.

I don’t know how many Magazine for Life recipients there are.

Currently, \$1.80 from FFGC Dues is for the magazine. The individuals don’t pay that, the clubs do. Would people have a problem with re-allocating that \$1.80 to a worthy cause?

PROPOSED:

- Join the national trend to end printing and distribution across the board except for Magazine for Life people (quantity unknown but guessing it can’t be that bad); would be subsidized by paying subscribers
- Offer subscription at the current or increased rate of \$4 but sell it four issues so accounting doesn’t have to process orders every quarter – so \$20 for four

issues.

- Encourage all to subscribe, but if you only got 2,500 people, you would still earn between \$9-10,000 instead of spending \$1900.

RATIONALE:

- (1) As a nonprofit, we are not here to lose money. We are currently subsidizing the magazine – it is always online for free.
- (2) We can produce a magazine that offers more engaging content that informs and excites the membership.

FLORIDA GARDENER – CIRCULATION

Report: Circulation (Florida Gardener Magazine)

Kelley Wood

Chairman

January 10, 2023

0We are holding steady at about 2100 printed hardcopies of The Florida Gardener and have not been getting many requests to be added to the list.

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

** We remove “Do Not Send Hardcopy” from all categories if the member has requested not to get a copy.

FLORIDA WILDFLOWER LIAISON

FLOWER SHOW EVALUATION/AWARDS

FLOWER SHOW SCHEDULES

FUN WITH FLOWERS

GARDEN THERAPY

January 11, 2023

Garden Therapy-Penal Therapy-Avon Park

Patricia A. Shira, Chairman

GARDEN THERAPY-PENAL THERAPY- AVON PARK

The "Therapy Through Plants" program at the Avon Correctional Facility is still being very successful. We have 11 inmates working in the Nursery most days of the week.

Our funds have been transferred to FFGC and the program is working very well.

John Hopkins, the manager, has a successful program in action. The training program is continuing to be successful. The inmates are starting to propagate new plants for our spring sale, May 6, 2023 9:00 to 2:00. They are interested in growing night blooming plants for the sale. I have ordered seeds for them. I believe this will be a successful project and a fun new plant option for our sales.

The nursery is still working around an occasional shortage of staff. This affects the time they are able to work in the nursery. Most weeks they are able to be in the nursery 5 days which helps greatly with their production of new plants to sell in May.

A notice will be sent out to the Club Presidents about the May plant sale. Hopefully we will have great participation. This event helps with funds to help purchase the necessary supplies to operate the nursery successfully.

The donations we receive from the Districts throughout the State are greatly appreciated. Without everyone's financial help we could not be successful.

We have had a number of repair expenses with our mowers. We will be ordering the fiberglass sheets to repair our greenhouses damaged in a hail storm. This will be a large expense. Prices have gone up on all our supplies.

SUMMARY:

We hope the relief of the staff shortage will help the nursery with their production. Our training program is continuing. They have many beautiful plants and will have more with the addition of our night blooming collection.

GRANTS

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Habitat for Humanity Landscape Project

Pat Caren

January 10, 2023

Last year, this chairman began contacting clubs and affiliates around the state to encourage more cooperation between the parties and more involvement in landscape projects. The response was overall positive and a long-term plan was made to accomplish this goal. Unfortunately, other responsibilities have taken up much of this chairman's time and little actual work on the plan was accomplished. However, this is the New Year, time to go forward.

Participation in Habitat for Humanity Landscape Projects had lagged during the pandemic, but business seems to be picking up. With spring coming, we should see more activity.

Melbourne Garden Club did a Habitat for Humanity house dedication in August. They provided a garden basket filled with gardening tools, gardening information, and a plant. The local affiliate had two ground blessings in August and September, so the club looks forward to two more house dedications in the coming months.

District IV budgeted \$200 to assist clubs with their Habitat for Humanity projects. Requests from clubs for this grant money was such that it became apparent that more money is needed to be dedicated to this fund in the future.

The Garden Club of Orange Park reported they are making plans to collaborate with Clay County Habitat. Fifteen homes have already been built but do not have much in the yards except grass that was placed there upon completion of the house. The affiliate's Family Services Coordinator asked the club to get involved and do what they could for the homeowners. The club asked the District for funds and for advice on how to proceed if they could not get grant money. The District provided \$100 which allowed them to purchase pear trees. The homeowners were so excited with their trees, the club applied for a Plant America Grant in order to do more. They give each new homeowner an option of a fruit tree or a raised vegetable garden. For the next set of homes, their goal is to get the trees in during the winter and start the vegetable gardens in the spring, as the weather allows.

Shamrock Circle of the Garden Club of St Augustine is looking forward to landscaping Habitat for Humanity homes. They reported struggling with follow up maintenance for previous community projects and hope that Habitat homeowners would be inspired to maintain their own yards. They plan to use Florida Friendly landscape principles, which would be both attractive and low maintenance.

Clubs around the state face various challenges. Many have found creative solutions to problems such as the need for funds and the age of club members. This chairman is in a position to share these ideas with those looking for advice. Efforts to connect clubs with local Habitat for Humanity affiliates will continue.

Pat Caren

Habitat for Humanity Landscape Project Chairman

HALL OF FAME

HEADQUARTERS AND ENDOWMENT (& GROUNDS)

H&E Committee
January 10, 2023
Sue Roberts, Chairman

A tremendous amount of work has been accomplished at FFGC Headquarters since we last met in Sept. 2022. Before I give you the details, I want to thank our Office manager, Robin. This list would not be as complete if were not for her help in getting the estimates and in staying on top of all the workers. I could not have done this without her being onsite and her dedication and follow through with all the details. Sue Angle and I review Robin's performance at one year and gave her an outstanding rating and a \$2 per hour raise.

Projects Completed:

1. Tree damage to President's office has been completed. As you can see the office is now usable again. The damaged wall and roof were repaired, the floor replaced and the ceiling light fixtures were replaced and updated to LED bulbs. The building entire roof was replaced with approval of the insurance company (excepting the two flat areas by the kitchen). There was a small leak in the assembly room which has been corrected. We are still negotiating with the insurance company because more structural work had to be done than originally estimated.
2. All the brick work around the building has been cleaned, repaired or replaced as needed. Also many of the cement walls and some sidewalks were repaired. This job has taken a long time due to weather delays but is now complete.
3. The white gate has been replaced. The red gate and crumbling brick wall has been repaired and now needs to be painted.
4. The large air conditioning unit for the assembly room has been replaced.
5. All the blinds have been cleaned.
6. The sign out on Denning Drive has been cleaned.
7. The pots by the front door have been replanted.
8. Storm damaged trees after Ian and Nicole swept through have been trimmed or removed.
9. Kitchen Refrigerator was replaced during the meeting. Cost of \$801 from Lowes.

New Projects

1. Landscaping plans as weather improves
2. Possible Parking lot repaving
3. Reconfiguring the round stepping stones area

INSURANCE

Report: Insurance

Kelley Wood

Chairman

January 10, 2023

We had significant damage to our HQ building caused by a falling tree. We filed an insurance claim and have received a check for a bit over \$50,000. The work has been completed at a total cost of over \$85,000. I have Scott Corkhill in conversation with the adjuster from the insurance company to see what more we can claim based on actual replacement costs.

Scott Corkhill of Corkhill Insurance was a speaker at the January Finance Committee that I could not attend. He reviewed our insurance policies and answered questions.

No update on the slip-and-fall claim that we received from Morgan and Morgan.

INVASIVE SPECIES

Environmental Report
Lydia Barbour
January 10, 2023

FFGC adopted a position statement on May 10, 2012 entitled Control Invasive Species. In it there is a statement that says that “Invasive species pose a serious threat to ecological integrity by reducing biodiversity and degrading habit and forage.” Elsewhere it says that only a fraction of the plants in Florida are invasive.

I have found that many gardeners and members of our organization do not know how to identify or to handle species that have been deemed by the Florida Invasive Species Council as either Category 1 or Category 2 invasives. As of 2019 those lists included 81 Category 1 and 85 Category 2 invasives. However, using those lists is problematic for most gardeners, I being one of them, because I am not well versed in equating all scientific names to their common name.

To solve that part of the problem for me, I took those lists and resorted them by common name. Then I shared that new version with all garden club members and others in my community. This list is now posted on the webpage of the Conrada Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society. Most recently I provided it to the Florida Wildflower Foundation and hope to see it posted on their website soon. And not too long ago I attended a presentation by a local native nursery who was using my version to help attendees recognize invasives, while telling them how to handle any they find. It is working!

I propose that FFGC’s position paper be revised to include these lists as attachments and to provide guidance about the handling of invasive plants.

When I talked with Marge about this she suggested that I provide it to Devon Villareale-Dabbs and Pat Caren. Pat asked me to make the presentation to the Tri-Council, which I did 1/10/23 and they are considering adopting it. Devon has my documents and recommendation and hopefully we will have something to present at Convention.

Lydia Barbour

January 12, 2023

[Control of Invasive species Position Paper](#) –May 2012

[Category 1 Invasive Species](#)

[Category 2 Invasive Species](#)

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Report
Junior Gardener
Jennifer Barber
January 11-12, 2023

Junior Gardener award submissions are due January 2nd. At this time there are only a handful of registered Junior Garden Clubs. The hope was that the number of clubs would increase this year but unfortunately, that has not been the case. The lack of registrations does not necessarily mean that there are no FFGC clubs working with youth. Based on my conversations over the past few months I do believe garden clubs are engaged and committed to introducing our Youth to the joys of gardening and the importance of the natural world but many are choosing different avenues to reach this audience.

We have had several submissions for awards and are eager to begin the process. Awards will be announced at the 2023 Convention.

Wekiva's Volunteer Training Weekend will be February 10-12. Anyone who would like to learn more about Camp, the Junior Gardener Program, FFGC Youth Programs, and how to volunteer is encouraged to attend. For more information about the weekend please visit www.wekivayouthcamp.org

It has been my privilege to serve as the Junior Gardener Chair and I thank President Marge Hendon for the opportunity. I am confident the next Chair of the Junior Gardener Program will bring her expertise and vision to the program along with her passion for children and do a truly remarkable job!

LEGISLATIVE POSITIONS & POLICIES

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

MATCHING GRANTS

Matching Grants Program Report
Gina Jogan, Chairman
Winter Board Meeting, January 2023

FFGC has a **MATCHING GRANTS PROGRAM**. There is an application form which you can access online (FFGC.org; Forms) and the committee will award up to \$5,000 per year in grant funds. Clubs and/or 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."*
- **NOTE THAT THERE IS SOMETHING NEW ON THE APPLICATION FORM....YOU NEED TO LET THE COMMITTEE KNOW HOW YOUR PROJECT FITS INTO THE CRITERIA FOR THE GRANTS**

Some groups have had to step back from their projects during the pandemic; some have been given extensions to get back on track with their projects....

To date, only seven **new applications** have been submitted for this calendar year. Be sure to get your applications in soon! Deadline is 15 January! Winners will be announced at the upcoming Convention 2023. If you aren't in, you can't win.....and we KNOW that your clubs and circles are doing wonderful projects in all the award categories.

Not all the clubs who won and were awarded Matching Grand funds last year have sent in the REQUIRED report on their finished project. Please do so...it is overdue!

SUMMARY: New applications are being received and judging of the applications will take place so winners can be announced at Convention 2023 in Kissimmee.

MEMBERSHIP

Report

New Membership

Ed Nendick

Sept. 7th,2022

Since January of 2022 successes include.

1. A tremendous increase in new members.
2. The programs of 2 by 2 have been a success.
3. All districts are encouraging adding members using all or most of the things suggested in the past

Please keep up the good work and remember a smile and a polite greeting are your very best tools to bringing new members in. Just smile and ask if the person would like to meet more people like minded ,which should allow the conversation to go toward your Garden Club

MEMBERSHIP RETENTION

Report
Membership Retention
Jane Nendick, Chair
January BOD, 2023

Congratulations to everyone for your outstanding recruiting efforts. Since September 2021, YOU have added upwards of 2600 new Members! That's an average of 177 per month! (As President Marge would say, "WOW"!) We are all so proud of you!

HOWEVER.....

We really must work on our RETENTION of those new Members! It's defeating our purpose if folks simply come in your front door, to only disappear out the back door!

Now we all know we cannot solve a problem unless we can accurately define that problem(s). One easy way to do this is to give your Members the Satisfaction and Suggestion Survey which can be found on our ffgc.org/membership website in the Membership Handbook. However, it will not do any good unless the Club Officers/Board take all suggestion to "heart" AND plan how to overcome the problem! Your Members will greatly appreciate having their voices heard! So LISTEN, LISTEN, LISTEN to them! Then take ACTION!

Remember that the 3 main "keys" to Membership Retention are:

- 1. Appreciate: What is your Club doing to show appreciation, thus value, to your Members? Perhaps a certificate of appreciation, even for the "little" things done? What about running some of your Members as a "feature" in your Monthly Newsletter or on your website (with permission, of course). Always give credit where credit is due!!!**
- 2. Communicate: How often does your Club send out communications to the Members? What about Thank You notes? Get well cards? We missed you at or last meeting? Communicate as a group and as individuals! Members will offer great Program ideas too!**
- 3. Listen: If a concern arises in your Club and the Officers are unaware the problem even existed, the odds are, the Officers were NOT listening to the Membership!!!**

Summary: Membership Retention starts the first second a prospective member enters the Club environment! APPRECIATE , COMMUNICATE, LISTEN!

NGC ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL CHAIRMAN

NGC ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOOL – FFGC SCHOOL CHAIRMAN/CREDENTIALS

NGC Environmental State Chairman

January 9, 2023

Lydia Barbour

As NGC Environmental School State Chairman and Credentials Chairman, my job includes keeping the Environmental School database up-to-date and accurate.

As of 1/8/2023 here is a breakdown of entries on the spreadsheet for each type of student.

- 118 active students include: 31 Masters; 46 Consultants; and 41 students still working to complete the four courses within the seven-year (or eight-year with one extension) time requirement.
- 99 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 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. Those who began taking classes in 2015 and those whose GSD was 2022, have been alerted that they were in danger of losing the credits or their status as a Consultant or Master with information about upcoming courses or an offer to provide an extension. Notes on the spreadsheet are used to track their responses. Sadly 10 of those students chose to become inactive at the end of 2022.

In addition, as students register for courses, this Chairman verifies the data entries on Forms 6 & 7 and approves the form once complete. Because Form 7 has now replaced the cards that NGC formerly sent students alerting them to their GSD, this Chairman forwards the approved Form 7 to each student when notified of successful completion of a 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. Currently there are two active schools, Fort Myers in District IX and Tampa in District VIII. District I is considering beginning a school in the latter part of this year.

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.

Respectfully submitted:

Lydia Barbour

NGC GARDEN STUDY SCHOOL CHAIRMAN

NGC LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL CHAIRMAN

NGC SCHOOLS CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN

Report
Credentials Chairman
Linda Feifarek-Johnson
January 11-12, 2023

This chairman is still helping students with their NGC Landscape Design and Gardening courses. If they have any questions about what courses they have taken or need to take, I find the information for them. I have also directed them to the proper chairman for any other problems. I am finding NGC schools available and notifying the students who need to take courses or to file extensions if necessary.

NGC SPECIAL PROJECT LIAISON

Special Project Liaison
Margaret Chodosh
January 10,2023

District IV received 3 Plant America grants. The garden clubs were Green Cove Springs, Orange Park, and Switzerland. Congratulations! Continue to foster grant applications and provide deadline information.

NGC & DSGC YOUTH CONTESTS
PARKS - TRAILS - GREENWAYS

PENNY PINES

Penny Pines Report
Andrea Finn, Chairman
January 11, 2023

I am frequently asked by Garden Clubs why the donations have to be in \$68 increments for Penny Pines. Here's the answer:

When the program started, seedlings cost about a penny each. About 680 seedlings were enough to plant an acre; so \$68 could plant 10 acres. The Forest Service now calls the 10 acre parcel a "plantation". The amount of \$68 increments is set by the US Forest Service in a Memorandum of Understanding – a contract with NGC. And that's the Answer! It's in our contract. Of course at the rate of inflation right now, we are getting about 200 seedling (depending on the size and variety) per acre. But the \$68 increment still stands.

Our Clubs were very generous for the period June through November 2022. We collected \$3,128.00 for that time frame. I am thrilled with that number. I hope we can keep the momentum going.

Andrea Finn, FFGC Chairman
Penny Pines Project

SUMMARY: The \$68 increment for donations is set by the US Forest Service in a Memorandum of Understanding - a contract with NGC. FFGC contributions from June – November, 2022 totaled \$3,128.00.

PHOTOGRAPHER
PILLAR OF PRIDE

PLANNED GIVING

PROGRAMS & SPEAKERS

Donna Thomas
Speakers/Program Chairman
Jan. 11, 2023

Donna supplied an updated list of Attractions, Programs, and websites for the website.

PROTOCOL

Report
Protocol
Jo Ann Guise
January 11, 2023

This chairman was invited and attended all the Zoom meetings for the 2023 FFGC State Convention. Kelley Wood and Susie Berryhill have accepted the lead Chairmanships working with Marge Hendon, FFGC President.

A list of questions, and data needed by the Protocol Committee was sent to Marge Hendon, Kelley Wood, Susie Berryhill, Cissy Richardson, and Connie Gladding who has accepted the position of Convention Coordinator, following the retirement of Cissy Richardson.

There is a lag in receiving the needed information from the President re Speakers, assignments and Workshop personnel. There are still areas of discussion needed to be cleared and determined for the Installation. Sue Angle and Sue Roberts have agreed to work with this chairman assisting the Protocol Committee.

An in person meeting is scheduled for Wednesday evening January 11 in the President's office after the BOD ends that afternoon.

SUMMARY: Meetings have been held to determine the details for the FFGC 2023 Convention. Information is slow in being updated.

Jo Ann Guise
Protocol Chairman

RECLAMATION & RECYCLING

ROADSIDE BEAUTIFICATION/ PATHS OF SUNSHINE

SCHOLARSHIP - DSGC, NGC

BOD Report – Jan. 11, 2023
DSGC/NGC Scholarship
Mary Adams

The online application option is now available on the NGC Scholarship webpage. According to NGC Scholarship Chairman, all updates have been made to the webpage, including forms, guidelines, 2022 award list and State Contact roster. Eligible students can apply online by scrolling down to the list of links. Students may click on the application form and download and/or print.

They also have the option to complete application online and upload the necessary documents, i.e., personal letter list of achievements, letter of recommendation, completed financial aid form and transcripts. When the NGC Chairman receive the online applications, they are forwarded to the State Chairman of NGC/DSGC. The system was tested and is working properly.

SCHOLARSHIP – FFGC

Report
Scholarship and Endowment Committee
Helen R. Purvis
January 11, 2023

Checks have been written in the amount of \$1500 and mailed to the following schools for the second semester.

Madison Ryan, Florida State University, freshman with environmental law in her future.

Miller Maddox, Florida State University, working on her masters in science education.

Caroline Gordon, University of Florida, majoring in landscape architecture and urban planning.

Ailee Odom, University of Florida, graduating with a degree in Forest Resource Conservation.

Cayla Smith, University of Florida, a degree in Agriculture Education and Communications.

Cassie Valenti – Florida Gulf Coast University, ecological research on connections between wildlife and their habitats. She will graduate in May.

All of the above students were able to maintain their required GPA of 3.0 and above.

Sadly, one of the students that received a scholarship in September was not able to maintain a GPA of better than 3.0 and was not eligible to receive the remainder of her monies.

But my report gets happier. Donations to the scholarship fund were made as follows:

\$3000 from Garden Club of Ft. Pierce.

\$2000 from Jean Hawa

\$10,000 from Gulf Beach Garden Club

Recognition will be given at our annual convention in April.

Now is the time to go home and encourage students to apply for a scholarship. Deadline for FFGC is May 1 and information is on the FFGC website.

Summary: 6 scholarships for second semester students in the amount of \$1500 each were awarded. Donations of \$15,000 were acknowledged from Garden Club of Ft. Pierce, Jean Hawa and Gulf Coast Garden Club.

SCOUTING LIAISON

SEEK CONFERENCE

SHORT COURSE - NORTH

Short Course North August 10 & 11, 2023
Short Course North Chairman, To Be Determined
FFGC Winter BOD January 10-12, 2023

The thirteenth annual Short Course North was held August 11 & 12, 2022 FOR THE FIRST TIME at the Okaloosa County Extension Office in Crestview FL. This course was sponsored by FFGC District I. The theme for this year was **“Our Worlds of Wonder: Enjoy-Teach-Save-Restore”** Topics relating to this theme were selected by extension agents in cooperation with the committee so Master Gardener Advanced Training credits (CEUs) would be granted. We had 53 registered this year. We were honored to have our President, Marjorie Hendon join us both days.

We are looking forward to another exciting and educational program coming up in August, 2023. Plans are already underway so stay tuned for further updates and announcements!

Dates for this year's Short Course are August 10 & 11, 2023, meeting at the Escambia County Extension office in Cantonment, FL.

SHORT COURSE TROPICAL

Michelle Maguire
Tropical Short Course
January 10-12,2023

Tropical Short Course Report

Tropical Short Course is being held on January 25 and 26, 2023 at the Greenacres Community Center. Registration starts at 8:00am with introductions starting at 8:30am. There are two speakers each morning, followed by one Floral Designer in the afternoon. There will be plenty of time to participate in the District Raffle and to visit with Vendors of all kinds. Two of the speakers are bringing Butterfly plants and Native Orchids relative to their presentations.

So far we have 50 registrants and need a lot more if we are to make any money for this District fundraiser.

Thankyou,

Michelle Maguire, TSC chairman

SMOKEY BEAR-WOODSY OWL

Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest

Jill Anderson, Chairman

January 29, 2023

This chairman continues to receive posters for this year's contest. They will be judged and sent to Deep South before their deadline of February 24.

Deadline for posters to be received by this state chair is January 20, 2023. All rules are listed on the NGC web site: <https://gardenclub.org/smokey-bear-woodsy-owl-youth-poster-contest>

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. 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 will be sent to the Deep South chairman. The Deep South winners will be sent to NGC. A State Chairman report will accompany our winners when they are submitted to Deep South.

All winners will be announced at the FFGC 2021 State convention. Certificates of Participation with names on them will be given to District Directors to be distributed to participating sent to clubs.

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

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: Posters have been received and judged. Winners were sent to the Deep South Chairman.

SOCIAL MEDIA

SOLAR ENERGY/WIND POWER

Solar Update January 2023

Solar/Wind Chairman: Grace Tshanakas

Florida Update

In 2022, Florida set a goal of 100% renewable energy by 2050. 40% by 2030. 63% by 2035 and 82% by 2040.

Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 –2023 Updates

Solar –beginning in 2023, families will be able to claim a 30% discount on installing solar systems paired with battery storage as well as battery storage installed without solar.

Energy efficient home –beginning in 2023 \$1200 credit for adding insulation or installing efficient windows and doors and up to \$2000 for installing electric heat pumps

\$150 credit for a home energy audit. State programs will begin to offer rebates for electric appliances of up to \$4000 and \$8000 for low-income households

Electric vehicles –beginning in 2023, income-qualified households will be able to receive a tax credit up to \$7500 for new vehicles and \$4000 for used. The vehicles must be produced in North America and cost less than \$80,000

Wind –There are several incentives and rebates aimed at manufactures and distributors of wind systems to increase deployment.

Garden Club of St. Petersburg

The St. Petersburg GC have agreed upon a solar installer. Their board has approved an approximate expenditure. The solar hardware and labor is eligible for a 30% rebate

The Garden Club roof needs to be repaired prior to the solar installation. The club is waiting to understand whether the roof will be eligible for a 30% rebate

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Strategic Planning Committee
Gina V. Jogan, Chairman
Winter Board Meeting, January 2023

The Strategic Planning Committee has tackled, many issues since September:

- President's report pertaining to the physical **Headquarters** building: landscaping, legal issues, storm damages, insurance, flooring, air conditioner problems and so forth.
- **Membership:** it is strongly suggested that dues payment be moved **forward to May 1st** to avoid snafus that occur when changing club officers, 'snowbirds' going north, etc.
- Pursuing the idea of establishing **On-line Garden Clubs**an Ad hoc committee is working to bring back Gardens of the World. These clubs might be special interest such as environmental, Wekiva Alumni or Horticulture....
- Scanning back issues of The Florida Gardener and other such **historical documents** is continuing to preserve fragile paper documents. Kelley Wood is doing this work. Several universities (local) were asked about housing/archiving our bound books....no replies.
- **Current Library:** Discussion of dismantling and disposing/selling of books. Presidents of Tri-Council and FFSJ will be asked to see if any books should be retained.
- **Matching Grants** applications will have a new requirement for applicants to fill out: how does their project fit the criteria for the grants?
- Discussion is ongoing regarding **Districts** (they were designated in 1958) with a disparity of 220 to 1500 members! Representation is skewed. Finances have become an issue; Districts must have their own EIN. Travel time/distance/time should be a consideration.
- A **Phased Replacement Plan** at HQ and Camp Wekiva for items with a value of over \$500 that routinely need replacement, repair or upgrading has been implemented; inventory items are depreciated by the IRS.
- It was also suggested that we resurrect the **Member Personnel** profile to more easily fit jobs to people. Discussion regarding Vice-chairmen needed...
- **Terms limits** of 6 years (3 terms) for all chairmanships is also on the table for discussion.
- **Membership** retention and recruitment issue continue. Lack of communication seems to be the main problem/key.
- **Awards** will now be paid for by FFGC. **Awards #120- #132, the Flower Show Related Awards, will be paid for by FFSJ.**
- Plans for the **100th celebration of FFGC** are ongoing. Kickoff will be at the 2023 Convention/installation.
- Of concern is the disbanding of Federated clubs....we need **an exit poll**; 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

TREES & REFORESTATION

Kathy "Kat" Spieker, Trees and Reforestation Chairman

1530 Royal Palm Drive, Niceville, FL 32578-3529

850-687-6381, kspieker3@gmail.com

Trees and Reforestation Report Winter BOD Meeting January 10-12,2023

Continued reporting on the project:

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.

Trees and Reforestation is in contact with District Directors currently to remind all clubs of the 2022-2023 counting season!

Let's break 500,000 trees this year!!!!!!

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy "Kat" Spieker

Trees and Reforestation Chairman

TRI-COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Tri-Council of FFGC
Pat Caren

January 10, 2023

Tri-Council has seen some changes in leadership. Brenda Luedeman graciously assumed the role of Vice President after this former VP took the reins from Jackie Host as President. Just as graciously, Carolyn Lowry-Nation took Brenda's place as Gardening Representative. Tri-Council has a dedicated core of hardworking volunteers, and the hope is that new consultants will soon be available to fill vacant chairmanships.

The Art of Advocacy packet, compiled by Inger Jones, Jackie Host, and the late Marion Hilliard, has been distributed to Tri-Council members, for those who wish to become advocates for environmental and other issues. The future may hold opportunities for Tri-Council members to become more involved in the legislative process.

Camperships are available to the children and grandchildren of Tri-Council members who attend Wekiva Youth Camp and SEEK. Once the children are signed up for camp, consultants can apply for these camperships. This is a perk for members of Tri-Council which also helps support the camps.

Tri-Council has big plans for the FFGC Convention in April. The emphasis will be on FFGC President Marge Hendon's theme of Recycling. Tri-Council members are dreaming up creative ways to repurpose, recycle, and compost materials rather than let them end up in landfills. Recycled art will be on display at the convention.

At the Early Arrivals Dinner, attendees will be regaled with a Trashion Show. Models will design and model their own fashions out of recycled items. So far, seventeen models have signed up. President-Elect Tina Tuttle will be the MC.

The three schools (Environmental, Gardening, and Landscape Design), plus the Flower Show School, will have exhibits in the Magnolia Ballroom. These "parking lots," each ten by twenty feet, will display what the schools teach and how this knowledge can benefit the students as well as their communities. This exhibition will raise awareness of the educational opportunities Garden Club has to offer.

As we emerge from the pandemic, more schools are being offered in person as well as online. District IV completed Landscape Design Course 2 in November and Course 3 is planned for February. Hurricane Ian caused Environmental Course 2 to be rescheduled from November to February. Tropical Short Course will be offered in January, which is an opportunity for consultants to refresh. Other schools scheduled for the next few months are Environmental 1 in Tampa, Environmental 2 in Ft. Myers, Gardening 2 in West Palm Beach, and more nationwide, many available by Zoom.

After students complete their second course of a school, they are eligible to join Tri-Council as Provisional Members. Lately, a handful of students have taken advantage of this opportunity. It is anticipated that more will join as word of what Tri-Council has to offer, gets around.

Pat Caren

Tri-Council President

VIRTUAL PLATFORM TEAM

Report: Virtual Platform Team

Kelley Wood

Chairman

January 10, 2023

Have hosted several committee meetings via ZOOM in advance of the Winter 2023 BOD meeting. We've also hosted 2 Photography Club meetings; club is now known as "Snapdragons".

I have been assisting Sue Roberts with website and database work. I have been performing monthly membership and website backups and storing those on our Google drive.

WATER AND WETLANDS

WEBSITE EDITOR

FFGC Website Editor
January 10,2023
Susan Roberts

Editing of the website is a continuing job. There have not been many additions since September, just corrections.

Summary: Corrections continue. Major changes will be coming with the changed of administrations in April, 2023.

WEKIVA YOUTH CAMP

Wekiva Youth Camp Report
Christy Linke
January 9, 2023

This Chairman held her last Wekiva Board Meeting in September 2022. It was two wonderful learning years and so happy I had the opportunity to hold this position. While Chairman the job of obtaining a chef started taking place the last two weeks of camp 2022. This was due to Teresa Mahoney who was our head kitchen person was not returning. Knowing this we started the process hoping we could show the kitchen during camp and Teresa could pass all information on to that person. We did interview one in July, but knowing that was the first we continued looking. Devon Villereal was a big help in this process. This Chairman and Devon started revising the Kitchen contract due to this is the time to do it if we are hiring a new head person. Chef Christopher Bates who runs the culinary program at the Apopka High School applied and was definitely qualified. This Chairman, Mary Whisler, Devon Villereal, and Teresa Mahoney met with Chef Bates Saturday, November 19th, 2022 and showed him around the kitchen to where he asked many questions. To date he has not signed the contract but we are getting closer to that. This Chairman put out an e-blast the first of September for a new registrar for camp Wekiva. Betty Moxley after taking this volunteer job on for 12 years was not returning. Knowing we needed to obtain a registrar asap that task of obtaining a registrar started. This chairman is proud to say that Barbara Fowler of the Newberry Garden Club in District 5 stepped up to the plate and said yes. Barbara, myself, and Betty met at headquarters for a training day. Barbara is doing a great job and Betty is a phone call away.

As my two years are completed I wish Mary all the best in her new Chairmanship of Wekiva Youth Camp
Summary:

Wekiva Youth Camp continues to thrive, even after returning after Covid 19 when camp was closed in 2020. It was like starting all over again. Camp Director, John Morand after 14 years stepped out of the position and the task of finding a new Director started. Camp went on with Shelby Mander. Registrar Betty Moxley, stepped down and a new registrar was obtained, Barbara Fowler. Camp Wekiva went on. Teresa Mahoney, after 12 years advised us she wasn't coming back, obtaining a new cook/chef started. Camp went on. Nothing can stop Camp Wekiva when you have the Wekiva Alumni backing you and of course the reputation our camp has and what it stands for. Campers Today, Environmental Leaders of Tomorrow.

WEKIVA VOLUNTEER TRAINING