



Summer Announcements
Hedges
to die in Mar., Apr., May
g. gardening

The Florida GARDENER

MARCH, 1954
Volume 3, Number 3

MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE GARDEN CLUBS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.



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ORLANDO, FLORIDA

THE FLORIDA GARDENER

Volume 3

SPRING, 1954

Number 3

From the President . . .

The officers and Board members of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs invite you to attend the Twenty-Eighth Annual Convention to be held March 30, 31, and April 1 in Orlando. This invitation includes the Third Annual Florida State Flower Show sponsored by the Orlando Garden Club, which occurs simultaneously in the same building as the Convention.

This is a unique and happy circumstance. Florida is such a long and narrow state that distances are great. It is difficult to make decisions, if one must, which important event to attend. This year it has been made most convenient for you by having these two out-standing events at the same time. Plan now to enjoy these two important events in Florida in 1954. Here you will obtain the information from your fellow gardeners needed to help you be a better gardener.

At your request, as you will see in the Convention Program notes printed in this issue, emphasis is being placed on Forums. Time is being given to help you gain the maximum of information concerning every Chairmanship in the Federation. Experts to speak in specialized fields have been provided for you.

The Florida State Flower Show is the visual inspiration and culmination of experience presented by Federation members from all over Florida.

And, lastly, come to see which clubs and what members receive State and National Awards for excellence in Gardening.

I shall look forward to seeing you.

Mayorie Smith

EVENTS TO COME . . .

- March 29 Pre-Convention Executive Board Meeting—Orlando.
Annual Meeting—Accredited Flower Show Judges of Florida—Orlando.
- March 30-31, Twenty-Eighth Annual Convention—Florida Federation of Garden Clubs—Chairman, Mrs. Albert Curry, 1212 Ayrshire, Orlando. Headquarters, Hotel Angebilt.
- April 1 and
Third Annual Florida State Flower Show—Coliseum—Orlando. Chairman, Mrs. Crawford T. Bickford, 628 E. Amelia Avenue, Orlando.
- Post-Convention Executive Board Meeting—Orlando.
- April 4-8 Twenty-Fifth Annual Convention of National Council of State Garden Clubs—Ocean Forest Hotel, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.
- April 18 National Garden Week.
- April 24-30 Blanche Covington Nature Study Course—Highland Hammock State Park, Sebring.
- June 21-23 Short Course for Gardeners—University of Florida, Gainesville.

1954 CONVENTION MEETS IN SOUTHEASTERN CITY

The National Convention will be held in nearby Myrtle Beach, South Carolina this year offering an unusual opportunity to Florida members to visit the plantations and renowned gardens in the South Carolina Low Country and experience the thrill of attending the National Council's Silver Anniversary celebration, April 4 through 8. Convention guests should make reservations with the Ocean Forest Hotel, Convention Headquarters, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

New Life Members

Mrs. John R. Parkinson, Chairman
Daytona Beach

A Life Membership in the Florida Federation was presented to Mrs. Melville Hall, the Director of District Five, by the members of her District Board and to Mrs. Johnson H. Pace by the Council of Garden Club Presidents of Dade County. The Garden Club of Winter Haven presented their former president, Mrs. Thomas B. Swann, with a Life Membership.

Fifty dollars for a Life Membership is paid into a special fund the interest of which is used to advance a specific Federation objective. This is a worthy way to honor those who have contributed to the richness of our Garden Club growth.

Twenty-Eighth Annual Convention..Orlando..March 30, 31, April 1

TENTATIVE CONVENTION PROGRAM

Coliseum Building

Orlando, Florida March 30, 31, April 1, 1954
Theme: "EACH FLORIDA MILE A MILE OF BEAUTY"

Monday, March 29, 1954

- 5:30 P.M. Informal Supper: Executive Board, Past State Presidents, National Officers and Chairmen. Hostesses: Mrs. Betty Vail and the Interlaken Circle.
8:00 P.M. Executive Board Meeting, Angebilt Hotel.

Tuesday, March 30, 1954

- 9:00 A.M. Registration of Delegates: Angebilt Hotel.
Display of Club Yearbooks and Scrapbooks: Room M-15, Angebilt Hotel.
1:00 P.M. FORUMS: Conservation, Parks, Birds: Mezzanine, San Juan Hotel.
FORUMS: Book Service, Garden Centers, Programs, Radio: Angebilt Hotel.
4:00 P.M. Formal Opening of Florida State Flower Show: Coliseum.
7:00 P.M. Informal Patio Supper: Honoring State and National Officers and National Chairmen. Featuring Conrad L. Wirth, National Parks Director, Washington, D. C. and John D. Pennekamp, Florida Board of State Parks and Historical Monuments: Patio of Coliseum — Hostess, Lake Park Circle.

Wednesday, March 31, 1954

- 7:30 A.M. President's Breakfast (Presidents of Clubs only): Orange Court Hotel. Mrs. John R. Parkinson, First Vice-President, Presiding. Featuring Dr. H. P. Constans, Head of Speech Department, University of Florida, Gainesville. Winter Park Garden Club, Hostess.
FORUMS: Flower Shows, Flower Show Schools, Judges (Mrs. John R. Solois, National Flower Show Schools Chairman, Featured Consultant): Skyroom, Angebilt Hotel.
FORUMS: Horticulture (Victor Ries Featured Consultant): Convention Hall, Coliseum.
FORUMS: Junior Gardening: Orange Court Hotel.
(Only Members Wearing Convention Badges Admitted to Forums)
9:30 A.M. OPENING OF TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION, Mrs. Eugene A. Smith, President, Presiding.
Welcome to Convention: Mrs. Crawford T. Bickford, President of Orlando Garden Club.
Welcome by Mrs. Albert Curry, Chairman of Convention.
Welcome by Mayor J. Rolfe Davis.
Response to Welcome: Mrs. Ernest W. Cason, President of Tallahassee Garden Club.
Introduction of Distinguished Guests.
Reports of Officers and District Directors (limited to five and seven minutes each).
11:30 A.M. LANDSCAPE DESIGN: Speaker, Mr. Hubert B. Owens, National Chairman of Landscape Design.
12:30 P.M. Patio Luncheon: Honoring Retiring District Directors, Patio of Coliseum.
1:45 P.M. Afternoon Business Session: Reports of State Chairmen (limited to three minutes each).
7:30 P.M. FORMAL BANQUET: Speaker, Mr. Victor Ries. Presentation of Awards (National, State, District and Flower Show Awards: Coliseum).

Thursday, April 1, 1954

- 7:30 A.M. FORUM: Garden Therapy: Roman Room, Coliseum.
FORUMS: Landscape Design, Roadside Development, Blue Star Memorials: Lake Ivanhoe Club.
FORUM: Accredited Judges: Mezzanine, San Juan Hotel.
9:30 A.M. Final Business Session: Reports of State Chairmen Completed. Revisions in By-Laws. Resolutions, Final Reading. Invitations for Future Conventions and State Flower Shows. Installation of District Directors. Adjournment.
2:30 P.M. Post-Convention Garden Tour.
4:00 P.M. Post-Convention Board Meeting.

Mrs. Albert Curry Convention Chairwoman

Mrs. Albert Curry is the Chairman of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs' Twenty-Eighth Annual Convention to be held at the Coliseum in Orlando March 30, 31 and April 1.

Mrs. Curry is a born organizer. Her outstanding work as President of the Orlando Garden Club and her service on its board; her term as Circle President and as Flower Show Chairwoman have demonstrated her executive ability.

She loves to work in her garden, grow indoor plants, and with her skillful fingers and imaginative mind has arranged many prize winning flower show exhibits.

The headquarters hotel for the 1954 Convention is the Angebilt. The San Juan Hotel, directly across the street, will also be available and reservations may be made at either. Registrations will be at the Angebilt. All Convention sessions will be held at the Orlando Coliseum in the setting of the Third Annual Florida State Flower Show.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION BLANK

(For Garden Club Members Other Than Delegates and Alternates)

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Twenty-Eighth Annual Convention
Orlando, Florida March 30, 31, April 1, 1954

Name: _____
Address: _____
Club or Circle: _____

		Please	Check
Registration Fee	\$ 1.00	()	
Flower Show Ticket.....	1.00	()	
Informal Patio Supper—Tuesday, March 30—Coliseum.....	2.50	()	
Patio Luncheon—Wednesday, March 31—Coliseum.....	2.00	()	
Awards Dinner—Formal—Wednesday, March 31—Coliseum.....	3.65	()	
Post-Convention Tour—Wednesday, March 31.....	Free	()	
Package Plan Total.....	\$10.15		

Mail Check to: Mrs. Albert Curry
(Before March 15, 1954) 1212 Ayrshire
Orlando, Florida

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of Fort Lauderdale, Inc.

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Incoming District Directors To Be Installed At Convention



MRS. GUY E. YASTE

DISTRICT 1

Mrs. Guy E. Yaste of Pensacola has been the president of the Azalea Club and has held offices in the Pensacola Federation. She served as State chairman of Flower Show Schools and Flower Shows. Besides being a State and National accredited judge, Mrs. Yaste is also a judge for the American Camellia and the American Iris Societies. She organized the judges in District One and served as their director. She was the National Chairman of Instructors and is now National Chairman of Judges. She received the Pensacola Jaycees annual award for distinguished service to northwest Florida during her term on the Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials. Mrs. Yaste is a life member of the National Council, Alabama and Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.

MRS. STANLEY SHIEP

DISTRICT 2

Mrs. Stanley Shiep came to River Junction in 1947 as a newly married resident. With no previous experience in gardening, she joined the Chattahoochee Garden Club. Immediately she became active serving on various committees with fervor and ability. She was elected the President of her Club in 1952 and re-elected in 1953. Her five year old daughter, an ardent gardener, has her own special planting area and helps with the garden work at home. Together they grow prize winning roses and day-lilies. It was during Mrs. Shiep's first year as President that her Club began their best loved project, Garden Therapy at the Florida State Hospital. It is to this work that she has given both her hand and her heart.



MRS. J. LYNWOOD PRICE

DISTRICT 3

Mrs. J. Lynwood Price of Jacksonville was the president of the Columbine Circle for two terms and has served on the Governing Board of the Garden Club of Jacksonville as chairman of various committees. She is an active member of the Woman's Club, an accredited flower show judge and First Vice President of the Accredited Judges of Florida. She has been the chairman of two flower shows, and has conducted workshops in corsage craft, Christmas decorations and flower arrangements. Besides her hobbies of gardening, and flower shows, she is a collector of miniature containers and accessories of which she has over 300. In 1948-1950, Mrs. Price assisted Mrs. Albert J. Becker as Director of District Three.



MRS. L. E. SPENCER

DISTRICT 4

Mrs. L. E. Spencer of Sanford came to central Florida from Michigan in 1925 and since that time has taken an active part in furthering the cultural and civic interests in the community. She recently completed a two year term as President of her Garden Club and is now the Recording Secretary. She is an active member of the Woman's Club where she has served as officer and the chairman of committees. Mrs. Spencer and her husband have a nursery and are specialists in camellias and azaleas. A new greenhouse has been added to shelter more than a thousand cattleya and other species of orchids. Her gardening knowledge has been gained by study and experience.

MRS. S. M. DAVIS

DISTRICT 5

Mrs. S. M. Davis of Sebring is serving as the President of her Garden Club for the second term. When she was president for the first time in 1949-51, the Club launched a wide scale beautification program of landscaping the school grounds and public areas in Sebring in which the plantings have been extended and maintained. She is the Fifth District's Chairman of Roadside Development and is promoting the Litterbug campaign in her area. Mrs. Davis has served presidential terms in community and municipal concert organizations and is the Vice-President of the Woman's Club. She is currently serving as Director on the Sebring Chamber of Commerce Board.

MRS. R. C. LOHMEYER

DISTRICT 6

Mrs. R. C. Lohmeyer of Miami is a charter member of the Tropical Garden Club organized in 1949 which marks the beginning of her garden club activity. She has served as its president and the chairman of many committees on its board. She is also an active member of the North Miami Garden Club. Mrs. Lohmeyer is an accredited flower show judge and the past secretary of the Accredited Judges of Florida. She is a frequent exhibitor in flower shows and a member of the Board of Governors of the Metropolitan Miami Flower Show. Mrs. Lohmeyer was the general chairman of the State Convention held in Miami in 1953 and is now on the State Federation Board as the Chairman of Club Programs and lectures. Mrs. Lohmeyer was elected on Friday November 13 and will take office April 1!



Spring Flower Shows

Standard Flower Show Requirements

Mrs. John R. Bear, Chairman
Tampa

The requirements for Standard Flower Shows according to National Council of Garden Clubs, Inc., are: Five horticultural classes, at least. Five arrangement classes, at least. Schedules—either mimeographed, typed, written or printed, with name of member club of National Council on cover. Standard system of judging. One-third of judges to be accredited. An educational exhibit. A Junior or sponsored exhibit (Scouts, 4-H Clubs, etc.) Professional exhibit advised except those applying for Purple Ribbon.

LIST OF SPRING SHOWS

- March 2 - 3 Valrico Garden Club
March 4 - 5 Palmetto Garden Club
March 4 - 5 Belle Glade Garden Club
March 4 - 5 Sebring Garden Club
March 5 - 6 Orange Blossom Garden Club, Lutz

- March 6 - 7 Clermont Garden Club
March 6 - 7 Lakeland Garden Club
March 8 - 9 Belleair Garden Club, Belleair, Clearwater
March 10-11 Lake Eva and Haines City Garden Club, Haines City
March 11-12 Dade City Garden Club
March 12-13 Tampa Federation of Garden Circles
March 12-14 Federated Garden Clubs of Fort Lauderdale
March 13 Bartow Garden Club
March 13-14 Davis Islands Garden Club, Tampa
March 13-15 Council of Garden Clubs of Halifax Country, Daytona Beach
March 15 Lake County Council of Garden Clubs, Eustis
March 17-18 Pompano Beach Garden Club
March 18-19 Punta Gorda Garden Club
March 19-22 Metropolitan Flower Show, Miami
March 19 Hollywood Garden Club
March 20-21 St. Petersburg Garden Club
March 20-21 Plant City Garden Club
March 20-21 Junior Flower Show, Jacksonville
March 24-25 Sarasota Garden Club
March 27 Auburndale Garden Club
MARCH 30 TO
APRIL 1 FLORIDA STATE FLOWER SHOW, ORLANDO
April 7 New Smyrna Beach Garden Club
April 7 Sunset Park Garden Club, Tampa
April 8 - 9 Zephyrhills Garden Club
April 24-25 Spring Flower Show, Jacksonville
May 2 Gulf Beach Garden Club, Panama City
May 5 North Miami Garden Club
May 8 - 9 Rose Show - Rose Society of Jacksonville and Garden Club of Jacksonville

Mayes Chevrolet, Inc.

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Pompano Beach, Florida

Flower Show Schools

Mrs. James Younkman, Chairman
Sarasota

National Council Directives on Conducting Flower Show Schools



MRS. YOUNKMAN

Directives passed at the fall meeting of the Executive Board of the National Council of State Garden Clubs are of great interest in this department.

First in the management of the Flower Show Schools: It has long been required that for the last four courses a Little Flower Show be held on the

last day in conjunction with the examinations and that three nationally accredited judges judge the Flower Show and prepare the Master Comment Sheet which is returned to the students along with their examination papers. Now, upon request, it is possible to hold the Little Flower Show in two parts and on the instruction days of the school. The instructor will judge the exhibits and prepare the Master Comment Sheet. This ruling is to aid particularly those parts of the country where accredited judges are not numerous and so difficult to procure. Permission to hold the Little Flower Show in this manner must be cleared with the state chairman.

To ease the requirements of becoming a judge and to maintain standing it has been decided:

1. That instead of requiring that a student judge (one who has successfully passed three courses) must judge with two accredited judges to receive credit, she may now judge with one other student judge and one accredited judge and receive full credit.

2. In place of the ten shows formerly required to be judged by an accredited judge to permit her to apply for a Refresher Course, only six are now required during the three years between the issuance of her certificate and the refresher work.

Application for either her National Amateur Judging Certificate or her Refresher Certificate should be made to the state chairman of her legal residence, not necessarily the state where the work was done.

No application should be made for a Refresher Certificate until the applicant has been informed that the school which she attended has had national approval.

Application for a Refresher Certificate must be made within six months after the Refresher Course has been taken.

SPRING FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS

- March 15, 16, 17—Belle Glade, Course III
Mrs. Bert Hopson, Chairman
Box 331, Belle Glade
April 5, 6, 7—Lakeland, Course II
Mrs. R. E. McAllister, Chairman
504 West Beacon Road, Lakeland
April 5, 6, 7—Stuart, Course III
Mrs. Carroll Dunscome, Chairman
Box 1251, Stuart
April 12, 13, 14—Miami, Course I
Mrs. Henry Freeman, Chairman
P. O. Box 1461, South Miami
April 20, 21, 22—Pensacola, Course I
Mrs. Riley Moffett, Chairman
Route 2, Box 571, Pensacola
April 22, 23, 24—Pompano Beach, Course I
Mrs. Luther H. Atkinson, Chairman
P. O. Box 187, Pompano Beach

- Instructors
Mrs. H. B. Swinglehurst
Mrs. William Knox
Instructors
J. M. Crevasse, Jr.
Mrs. Earl B. White
Instructors
Mrs. Harry Swinglehurst
Mrs. William Knox
Instructors
Mrs. Talmadge E. Coffey
Mrs. Lilburn R. Railey
Instructors
J. M. Crevasse, Jr.
Mrs. M. B. Latham
Instructors
Mrs. William C. Knox
Mrs. Lilburn R. Railey

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SIXTH ANNUAL

METROPOLITAN MIAMI

FLOWER SHOW

March 19, 20, 21, 22, 1954

Dinner Key Auditorium

Blanche Covington Tenth Annual Nature Study Course

HIGHLANDS HAMMOCK STATE PARK WILL PLAY HOST TO
THE FEDERATED GARDEN CLUB'S NATURE CAMP

By
CAROL H. BECK, BOTANIST
FLORIDA PARK SERVICE

Towering trees that measure their ages in centuries will greet The Florida Federation of Garden Club's nature camp when it meets at Highlands Hammock State Park near Sebring, April 24th to April 30th.

The trees themselves, with their long arching branches will be the greatest attraction, especially to the North Florida visitor who has not yet met the hospitable trees that lend their branches to plants which cannot find a home upon the ground. Bearded with bromeliads (*Tillandsia*), and green with ferns, these tree branches will still have room for a hidden bird's nest.

From the tops of the trees, the pileated woodpecker will call mockingly, teasing the bird lover to follow him just to see his flaming crest and shining self. Wood ibis with black heads will strut around in the wet places, and wood ducks will fly up startling the walkers on the trails. Squirrels will chatter from the branches or perhaps come up to meet the visitor and beg.

Nervous does in the hammock will be introducing their spotted fawns to the woodland world. At night the barred owls and screech owls will hoot while chuck-will's-widows sing and dance in the moonlight. Possums and coons will come begging or steal from the garbage cans.

Along the catwalk the tannic waters of the swamp will reflect the new green leaves of the cypress trees. The quick-eyed visitor may see a shy otter and his mate. They who are not so quick will have to be content with terrapins and alligators sleeping on logs and banks. If the visitor looks closely, he may see a baby alligator lying on his mother's back or between her eyes. Little lizard-like things, those baby alligators; they will lie together in the sun as they lazily watch for a dinner of a stray butterfly, frog or tadpole.

The dark waters of the cypress swamp may contain and reflect in full glory a belated flower of the bladderwort (*Utricularia*)—that peculiar plant whose feathery body sets under-water traps for water bugs who like many humans would never suspect a plant of wanting to eat them. White *Crinum* bells, white cups of spider-lilies (*Hymenocallis*), and white flags of arrowleaf will give the flower touch that the swamp needs for full beauty.

There will be more color in the marshes where the egrets feed with other herons in the grasses, and the beautiful swallowtail kite circles above, spurning the buzzards and screaming red-shouldered hawk that also circle there.

The hammock, the marshes, the swamps, the pinewoods will attract our nature-loving guests; but time must be spared to visit the pine scrub. Here on the white sand, the reindeer moss will be sporting little red heads. Florida rosemary (*Ceratiola*), cactus, and aromatic buttonsnakeroot (*Eryngium aromaticum*) will give the landscape an oddity and charm that those who may meet the sandpine scrub for the first time will surely enjoy.

All these and many more attractions, including the golden webs of spiders, beautiful butterflies, and rabbits of two kinds will help to make our visitors stay enjoyable, instructive, and memorable.

The tenth annual course is planned for Highlands Hammock State Park, Sebring, April 26-30, 1954. Four students are chosen from each District yearly, but anyone may visit any of the parks in Florida where they may see, hear and study nature at its best.

Group of "Bird Watchers" on catwalk in Highland Hammock State Park.



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JUNIOR GARDENING

Elizabeth Calerdine, Chairman
Fort Lauderdale

By now, we who work with children, Junior Gardeners, know that a Junior leader's job is one of the hardest in Garden Club work, but we know, too, there is no other job that brings more real satisfaction and gratification. It is truly a labor of love.

Just a few reminders this issue:

1. The Florida State Flower Show will open March 30, in Orlando. From the schedule printed in the December Gardener you know there are many and varied classes open to Juniors. Arrange now to send many Junior exhibits from your town to the Orlando Show and make the Junior Division a truly State Flower Show.

2. Continue to keep accurate records of all hours spent instructing the children in gardening and allied subjects. In this way the computing of your Point Hour Score will be easier next December.

3. Having spent one of the most interesting and informative days of my life in Orlando at the all-day Junior Workshop in November, arranged and conducted by Mrs. C. E. Saunders, I realize that we all need more such Junior Workshops and Forums. Let's now start making definite plans for an all-day Junior Workshop and Forum in each District.

4. Point Hour Score reports reveal many interesting facts. One that has just come to light is a full eight-hour day of Junior instruction by Mrs. Wagner Melius, Junior Leader in Miami, to more than two hundred children of Vergennes, Vermont in September, 1953. As a result of Mrs. Melius' excellent work, tremendous enthusiasm was engendered as proved by the 141 entries and 80 prizes in a highly successful first Junior flower show. Unfortunately, Mrs. Melius' time cannot be used in Florida's Point Hour Score but it is good to know our Florida

BIRDS

Mrs. Fred T. Bennett, Chairman
Chipley

Scientists claim that the human race could not exist nine years without birds. Every living plant has hosts of insect enemies. In spite of all the developments of modern science, the use of sprays, insecticides and even poison powder and poison gas, we are forced to admit a national loss every season due to obnoxious insects. It would be utterly useless to continue the warfare without the assistance of our feathered friends. They are the natural enemies of insects and their help in this particular cause becomes significant. The Department of Agriculture states that birds save us \$400,000,000 yearly.

If insects chew up all the leaves of a plant, no matter how sturdy the root system, eventually the plant will die because the leaves are the food factory of the plant. In their green cells starch, sugar and proteins are formed, which in turn become the basic food of the world of animals and humans.

More than eighty-five kinds of insects have been imported into this country and only a few birds, none of which can be classified as beneficial. It is our native birds that keep the insect pests in check. Because mankind receives direct benefit through their food habits, we must insist upon real conservation of our Wild Birds. "Bird Sanctuaries" must be our slogan.

Civilization also owes a great deal to birds from the aesthetic standpoint. Our gardens, our streets and parkways — indeed the whole country — are enriched by their beauty of form, flight and song, the charm and inspiration of their presence. May everyone soon realize that "A Bird in the Bush is worth Two in the Hand."

Junior work is spreading far beyond our State's borders.

5. Keep up the good work! I'm always so glad to hear from you.

GARDEN THERAPY FOR JUNIOR GARDENERS

By Mrs. Halle Cohen
Member National Committee for
Garden Therapy

The therapeutic value of gardening and allied subjects is being recognized more each day by medical science as being of great value in the rehabilitation of persons who are physically or mentally ill and those who are physically handicapped. It will also instill in the minds of the underprivileged youth an awareness of the natural things of beauty and their usefulness that inspires and encourages them to do fine things, which in some cases may prove a preventive of certain mental illnesses.

"Therapy is a process by which an illness is treated to produce recovery," wrote the National Chairman in her Annual report for 1953. In some cases horticultural therapy has contributed to a patient's recovery when other treatments have failed. Perhaps the therapeutic value of horticultural therapy is caused by the fact that plants are living things and every gardener knows the limitless knowledge that one learns from plant life. In order to grow things well, often it is necessary to search for information and the groups should have placed at their disposal or in some accessible place a source of information. The growing of plants and participation in other phases of the therapy program can influence greatly one's attitude toward life, enabling them to get more benefits and to contribute much to others.

The garden clubs may provide the materials and instruction for the program, however the therapeutic value is the result when the patient or child actually does the planting or creates with the materials himself.

Following is an outline suggestion procedure in setting up a program of Garden Therapy for Junior Gardeners:

1. A survey to determine all places in the community where such a program might be needed and workable.

2. Contact an official in the hospital or an authority of the group and determine if the program is acceptable and secure their cooperation.

3. A thoroughly qualified chairman and co-chairman to organize the program is essential.

4. Arrange to provide instructors and materials at a definite place at a definite time to work with the groups.

5. Have training sessions for the Junior Leaders who will lead each group.

6. Arrange to include an exhibit of the Garden Therapy program participants in the local flower shows.

Suggestions of places where programs should be welcomed:

Schools for exceptional children, for the blind, and for the physically handicapped; Orthopedic hospitals, Orphanages, Community Centers, and Camps for crippled children.

Suggestions for use in the program and workshops:

1. Provide seeds for outdoor gardens, supervising or assisting with the planting.

2. Furnishing seed flats and seeds for growing plants indoors.

3. Receptacles for dish gardens and plants to place in them.

4. Instructions in making aquariums

5. Instructions in making terrariums

6. Acquiring books in braille and records for use with blind groups.

7. Assisting in planting scented gardens for the blind.

8. Providing tools made especially for the blind.

9. Enroll the group in the Audubon Junior Club to teach them about birds and animals.

10. Button gardens.

11. Grow plants in pots.

12. Provide floral materials and mechanics for making corsages.

The Junior Therapy program is directly under the supervision of the Junior Gardeners Chairman.

There are many wonderful opportunities for the Junior Gardeners to work with groups in their communities and there is a definite part of the National Council Therapy Program dependent upon the Juniors.

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MRS. LEO E. STEPHENS, 904 Wilson Avenue, Box 462, Panama City.

MRS. J. A. FRANQUIZ, 114 Baltic Circle, Tampa.

MRS. MARK POWELL, 331 Easton Drive, Lakeland.

MRS. JOHN R. WRIGHT, P. O. Box 546, Lakeland.

MRS. F. W. MATTIOLI, 707 North Merrin Street, Plant City.

MRS. WAGNER MELIUS, 912 N.E. 82nd Street, Miami.

MISS EDNA WEIR MIXSELL, 285 North Lakeview Drive, Sebring.

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Short Course For Gardeners

June 21, 22, 23, 1954

THEME: YOUR FLOWERS IN YOUR OWN ARRANGEMENTS

Gardeners who register for the Tenth Garden Club Short Course to be held at the University of Florida June 21-23, 1954 will be housed in the new student dormitory, now under construction. Classes will be held in the functional modern Student Service Center, which is completely air-conditioned.

Centering on the theme, "Your Flowers in Your Own Arrangements," Mrs. Jack White, Jr., of Live Oak, will do a series of demonstrations to illustrate her talks on mechanics and design in flower arrangement. Mrs. White is nationally accredited as instructor in flower arrangement and flower show practice, as well as in amateur flower show judging. Her lecture on mechanics will also cover the gathering and preservation of materials for arrangements, and methods of conditioning, packing, and transportation.

Accenting still further the short course theme, Mrs. Leonard R. Toy, of Orlando, will give an illustrated talk on how to "Grow and Fashion Your Own Containers for Flower Arrangements."

Popular demand of short course students of former years has resulted in the expansion of the plans for hobby groups. More subjects and more time are scheduled this year, with better opportunity to see the varieties which are to be covered. Most hobby groups will meet at the University Horticulture Green-

house and Experimental Gardens, with bus transportation arranged. Roses, house plants, annuals, daylilies, and African Violets are on the program, with ardent amateurs or experts in discussion-leading roles.

Mrs. W. H. Beisler of Gainesville, is serving as chairman of the advisory committee of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs which works closely with the University in planning and presenting the program. Mrs. Eugene A. Smith of Fort Lauderdale, President of the State Federation, will give the response to the welcome brought by B. C. Riley, Dean of the General Extension Division of Florida, which conducts the Short Course. The College of Agriculture and the Agricultural Experiment Station cooperate on the planning committee and in staffing the program.

Fee for the Short Course will be \$3 as in former years. Regular forms for advance registration will be included in the program bulletin scheduled for mailing from the University about April 1. These programs will reach interested garden club members through their presidents, or may be requested direct from the General Extension Division of Florida, 805 Seagle Building, Gainesville, attention Mrs. Edith McBride Cameron, who is Head of the Department of Auditory Instruction and Women's Activities is in charge of the Short Course.

PROGRAM

Monday Morning, June 21

- 9-10 Registration, Student Service Center.
- 10:00 Presiding, Mrs. Edith McBride Cameron, Head, Department of Auditory Instruction and Women's Activities, General Extension Division.
Welcome to the Tenth Garden Club Short Course.....B. C. Riley, Dean, General Extension Division.
Response.....Mrs. Eugene A. Smith, Fort Lauderdale, President, Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.
- 10:30 Mechanics of Flower Arrangement.....Mrs. Jack White, Jr., Live Oak.
Questions and Discussion.

Monday Afternoon, June 21

- 2:00 Presiding, Mrs. Eugene A. Smith.
Florida in Flowers.....Arrangements by District Representatives

Monday Night, June 21

- 8:30 Informal Reception.

Tuesday Morning, June 22

- 9-11 Hobby Groups, Horticulture Greenhouse and Gardens.
Roses.....Gulie H. Blackmon, Gainesville, Head, Department of Horticulture, Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Florida.

House Plants.....J. M. Crevasse, Jr., Gainesville, Superintendent of Grounds, University of Florida.
Annuals.....Phillip E. Parvin, Gainesville, Assistant Professor of Horticulture, University of Florida.

Tuesday Afternoon, June 22

- 1:30-3 Presiding, Mrs. W. H. Beisler, Gainesville, Chairman, Short Course Advisory Committee, Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.
Elements of Line and Form in Flower Arrangements.....Mrs. White
Questions and Discussion.
- 3:15 Break.
- 3:30 Grow Your Own Accessories for Flower Arrangements...Mrs. Leonard R. Toy, Orlando, Chairman of Garden Therapy, Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.
Questions and Discussion.

Tuesday Night, June 22

- 8:00 Presiding, J. Wayne Reitz, Provost for Agriculture Experiment, University of Florida.
Principles of Design in Flower Arrangement.....Mrs. White
Questions and Discussion.
- 9-10:30 Hobby Groups (Choose One)
Daylilies
African Violets.....Mrs. Louis W. Zeigler, Gainesville, Member, African Violet Society of America.
- 10:30 Break.
- 11:00 Presiding, Mrs. Cameron.
Flower Arrangements for Special Occasions.....Mrs. White
1. Luncheon 4. Festive Occasions 5. Mother's Day (Ecclesiastical)
2. Buffet Supper a. Christmas 6. Fourth of July
3. Shore Dinner b. Thanksgiving 7. Formal Tea
c. Valentine
- Questions and Discussion.
- 12:30 Short Course Adjourns.

The functional modern Student Service Center, completely air-conditioned, where the Garden Club Short Course will be held. The Short Course is conducted by the General Extension Division of Florida with the cooperation of the College of Agriculture and Experiment Station, University of Florida, and the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs. Dates for the tenth such Short Course are June 21-24, 1954, at the University of Florida, Gainesville.



HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR

By

MRS. LOUIS C. OAKLEY, Chairman

St. Petersburg



Things to Do in the Garden During March, April and May

IN ALL SECTIONS OF THE STATE

March is an important month. Florida became a state 108 years ago giving us a most versatile spot in which to live. A new cycle of growth has started—everything needs fertilizing, trees, shrubs and lawns. March is usually dry and windy, so liberal amounts of water should be given plants once or twice a week. A good mulch of leaves, pine needles, peat moss or dairy fertilizer will help conserve moisture, protect roots from the hot sun's rays, save weeding, cultivating and help prevent root knot nematode and eventually adds much needed humus to the soil.

Lawns will need 2 or 3 pounds of fertilizer for every 100 square feet. Castor pumace is fine.

Trees and Large Shrubs should receive 1 pound for each year of tree age, up to 10 years, then one-half pound for each year.

Be sure to add trace elements (Lacking in our sandy soils) to your fertilizer at the rate of one part to eight of commercial fertilizer or one-fourth cup to 100 pounds of organic material, such as mil-organic, dairy, sheep, tankage, etc.

CENTRAL OR SOUTHERN SECTION

Do not fertilize mangos until fruit sets.

Azaleas, Camellias and Magnolias should be fertilized as soon as they stop blooming. They, as well as Tibouchina, Holly, Chrysanthemum, Ixora, Dogwood, Gardenias and Blue Hydrangeas require acid fertilizer. Cotton seed meal is excellent. It is about a 6-3-2 formula.

Bulbous Plants need high phosphorus material. Sprinkle bone meal around plants.

Pruning should be done before much new growth is made, early in March.

Plants that bloom in June, or before, should not be pruned until after they finish blooming. Prune to shape plants, get rid of dead wood, and to destroy eggs or larvae which develop later. Be sure to fertilize and water well after pruning. Light feeding and often, is best. New undergrowth is sure to be attacked by aphids, and this is hard on plants since it prevents use of the food they had stored for increase in size.

Insect and Disease Control. White fly, scale, mealy bug and red spider on citrus, Gardenias, Holly, Camellias, Ligustrum, etc.; control by spraying with Florida Volck—for the last two add Black Leaf 40 to the spray.

Ants in Lawns—Sprinkle 5% Chloradane in ant hills. Keep after ants as they spread scale and act as nurse maids to aphids.

Aphids and Chewing Insects; add Isotox to Volck spray. Be sure to cover both sides of leaves, repeat in two weeks.

Die Back and Leaf Spot, or other fungus—mix Bordeaux mixture and water to a paste and add Volck spray, stirring all the time.

Black Spot on Roses; spray with Bordeaux mixture or dust with sulphur while dew is on the leaves. Be sure to destroy all infected leaves to prevent spread of fungus.

Mole Crickets; stir 1 tablespoonful 40% Chloradane in 1 gallon of water and pour into infected areas.

Lubber Grasshoppers (*Brachystola magna*) are hatching in March. Mature ones are large and black with red streak down the middle of their backs. Look for them among Crinum, Zephyranthus, Daylilies. They are sluggish and easily

caught and killed. If you don't get rid of them they will do untold damage as they have tremendous appetites. They are bad because even chickens or turkeys refuse to eat them. For regular grasshoppers spray with Isotox.

FERTILIZE IN MAY

Palms; Milorganite is good. Add 3 pounds of manganese sulphate to 5 pounds of fertilizer for average sized palms to cure chlorosis of fronds, caused by nutritional deficiency. Repeat fertilizer only every 6 weeks. Palms can be moved now.

Citrus should be fertilized late in month with citrus special fertilizer, adding trace or minor elements, to help develop the new fruit.

Roses should have fertilizer for the heavy bloom in June. Use 5 pounds, with high phosphate content, to each 100 square feet of rose bed.

Iron. So many of our trees, shrubs and plants, in all sections of the state, suffer from lack of iron in the soil, which causes leaves to turn yellow with dark veins. Try one of the new products, sold under various trade names, which contain sequestrene or chelated iron. Spray on plants or sprinkle around plants and water. See the benefits in a few weeks.

Trace Elements are badly needed in our sandy soil. Fertilizers containing nitrogen, phosphate and potash are not enough for good growth. Add the minor, or trace elements, to your fertilizer at the rate of 1 of trace elements to 8 parts of commercial fertilizer or add one-fourth cup to 100 pounds of organic fertilizer.

Frost. If in doubt as to whether frost danger is past, watch the pecan trees. When they bud there will be no more frost, they have never been known to bud too soon.

IN NORTH FLORIDA

Chrysanthemums can be planted in sunny, well drained, beds, enriched with fertilizer and compost. Mulch Azaleas and Camellias in March and fertilize when they have finished blooming.

Bulbs. Plant in good, rich soil Amaryllis, Hedychium, Crinum, Dahlias, Tuberoses, Zephyranthes, Cannas, Gladiolus, Watsonias, Montbretias, Ismenes. Dig narcissus bulbs when foliage browns, cure and store.

Seeds to Plant in late March, April and May: Balsam, Blue Lace, Celosia, Marigold, Morning Glory, Nasturtium, Tithonia, Cleome, Cosmos, Zinnias, Torenias.

May—stake Dahlias, cut back climbing roses, pinch out tips of Chrysanthemums and start a compost pile.

IN CENTRAL FLORIDA

Keep pansies and sweet peas picked to prolong season. Plant seeds of only the heat tolerant plants, such as, Torenia, Tithonia, Zinnia, Ageratum, Marigold, Portulaca and Cosmos.

Bulbs—Caladium, Ginger, Hedychium, Alpinia, Heliconia, in partial shade, in rich, loamy, moist soil. Plant Morae, Canna, Amaryllis, Banana, Gloriosa in good soil, preferably in a sunny spot. Keep Daylilies well mulched, fed and watered when blooming.

Fertilize in March. Grapes, 1 to 1 and one-half pounds of 4-6-8 for average vine. For pecan trees add trace elements to 4-6-8, 2 pounds per year of tree age to 25 years. Avocados, 2 pounds 4-7-5 plus trace elements for each year of tree age. Use trace elements at rate of 1 part trace to 8 of commercial fertilizer.

Air Layer plants in April and May. Root cuttings and also earth layer plants you wish to propagate in April or May. Tip cuttings of Azaleas, 3 or 4 inches long, root in 3 or 4 months and make fine plants. Cactus root easily after cutting hardens off for a few days before planting in your favorite medium.

IN SOUTHERN SECTION

Bulbs—Fancy Caladium, Amaryllis, Crinum, Eucharis lilies, Zephyranthes, Coolerias, Tegridias, Montbretias, followed in April by Banana shoots, Ginger, Heliconias, Hedychium, Gloriosa. In May separate and replant in good rich soil, Strelitzia reginae, Morae, Morantas, Lirope, Blackberry lilies, Zephyranthes and old Heliconias.

Cuttings of all tender varieties of plants can be rooted in April and May. Air layer Lychee, Michelia fuscata (banana shrub) and Beaumontias, as well as other hard to root shrubs, in April or May.

Seeds for March and April—Ageratum, Periwinkle, Balsam, Globe Amaranth and Marigolds, followed in May by Centaurea, Torenias, Tithonias, Cosmos, Zinnias and Portulaca.

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The University of Florida News Letter

Application and Utilization of Fertilizer

By H. S. Wolfe

Head, Department of Horticulture

There are many gardening practices which influence greatly the satisfactory growth and flowering (fruiting) of garden plants, among them being pest control, proper moisture relations, pruning, and fertilizing. On the predominantly light sandy soils of Florida, with low natural fertility, the proper use of fertilizers assumes more importance than it does in areas where soils have considerable fertility without man's help.

Fertilizers are not plant foods, but they do supply mineral elements essential to formation of necessary foods by plants. The living substance in plant cells, the protoplasm, is made from proteins, and to make proteins the plant must have not only the carbohydrates which it produces from carbon dioxide, water, and light in all green cells, but also various mineral salts supplying nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and many other elements. Once the plant has formed these proteins, they become food for us and all other animals, as well as for the plant.

The most efficient growth of plants is made when the supply of mineral salts is maintained at a fairly high level constantly. This situation occurs normally on some loam soils of high natural fertility, but on our leached Florida soils it is almost impossible to have such constant nutrient supply. Generous use of organic matter mixed into the soil, and frequent applications of fertilizer enable the grower to approximate the desirable condition, but there is a practical limitation to the number of applications which can be made.

For plants with fairly extensive root systems, such as trees, shrubs, and herbaceous perennials, we compromise by making two or three applications each year, timing them so that the supply of nutrients is maximum when the greatest growth is being made.

March is a very important month for fertilizer application in Florida, since nearly all garden plants receive their spring supply at this time. Earlier application may be made if the spring flush starts unusually early, but if a fall application was made, there is usually enough stored supply of nutrients in the plant to give a good start. Usually low-analysis mixed fertilizers like 4-7-5 or 5-8-5 are used for garden plants.

Planting and Care of Hedges

By John V. Watkins

Associate Professor of Horticulture,

My dictionary defines a hedge as a thicket, especially when planted as a fence or boundary; but the definition in Hortus better suits the situation in suburban America: "A hedge is a dense, permanent row or line of living plants, ordinarily trimmed into more or less formal shape, answering the purpose of a fence, screen or windbreak."

Being a permanent garden feature, a hedge must be built of durable woody plants whose branches will become intertangled to form a dense wall. Further, plants for hedges must be hardy in all winters, resistant to insects and diseases, and completely amenable to shearing.

Because most shrubs for hedges prefer a fertile, slightly acid soil, the bed should be well prepared some weeks in advance of the date you expect delivery from your nursery.

First, remove all concrete and mortar that have been left by the contractor. The presence of lime-bearing materials means an undesirable alkaline growing medium. Next, remove the soil to a depth of a foot or so and replace it with a mixture of acid peat, hammock soil, and sludge or manure. As this fertile mixture is shoveled into the bed, fortify it with a light sprinkling of a mixed fertilizer.

A good rule for a very low, compact hedge is to space the plants 12 inches. The average distance of spacing is about 18 inches. The higher the hedge is to be, the more space there should be between the plants.

Hedges need frequent shearing from early spring until autumn to keep them tidy and attractive. Some species must be pruned every ten days, others perhaps once in two weeks, and some species will require only two clippings each year.

Types of outline generally used in sheared or formal hedges are the rectangular, triangular and curvilinear. Triangular and curvilinear forms allow the foliage to grow to the ground and sunlight will not reach the base of the plant consequently, causing less drying out. The top must not be wider than the bottom, however.

Of the plants suitable for hedge planting in Florida, the following list covers most of the species. Abelia, aralia, bougainvillea, boxthorn, camphor, casuarina, Cattleya guava, cherry-laurel, gardenia, hibiscus, holly, Natal-plum, pitanga, pitosporum, privet, snowbush, Spanish-bayonet, yaupon.

Starting Summer Annuals

By P. E. Parvin

Assistant Professor of Horticulture,

Some annuals, such as nasturtium and poppy which do not transplant easily, should be sown directly in the garden where they are to bloom. Other large-seeded or vigorous quick-growing types may also be planted in this way. First, thoroughly prepare your soil by spading deeply, mixing in some organic matter, and raking smooth. Then make small indentations with the end of your hoe handle or a small stick approximately 6 inches apart and about $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch deep, depending upon the size of the seed, in the surface of the prepared soil. Two or three seeds are then placed in each hole, covered with soil, and watered. Remember that this period of germination is an extremely important one and if you allow the soil to dry out completely for even a few hours just as the little root is emerging from the seed, you are endangering the life of the seedling; so keep the ground moist. Remove all but the strongest seedling from each group after sprouting, and when the plants show their second set of true leaves, thin out so that the remaining plants are spaced from 12 to 24 inches apart, depending upon the size of the plant when fully grown.

Many people prefer to sow their seeds in a specially prepared area of the garden. This enables them to give the little plants better care since they are all together. The soil in a seedbed should be thoroughly pulverized and all rocks, sticks, roots, etc., raked out. It is important to make your seedbed as level as possible to avoid washing and erosion when watering. Next, mark off shallow furrows of depths varying from $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to approximately 2 inches, depending upon the size of the seed to be sown. Sprinkle the seed evenly in the bottom of this furrow so that there is at least $\frac{1}{4}$ inch between seeds. Cover the seeds and firm the soil, after marking with a label the beginning and end of the row, and write the name of the variety planted on the first label. Covering the seedbed with burlap or newspaper helps to conserve the moisture in the soil and aids in avoiding extreme fluctuations in water content. If you do cover the soil, a careful check must be made daily so that at the first sign of sprouting the covering can be removed to avoid leggy seedlings. When these little plants have developed their first pair of true leaves they can be transplanted to their permanent location by carefully lifting the seedling, using a pointed label or stick, and bringing as much soil as possible with the roots. Plant these seedlings at the same depth as they were in the seedbed and shade from full sun for the first two or three days.

How Insecticides Control Plant Pests

By J. M. Coarsey, Jr.

Hume Horticultural Fellow

The insecticides used to destroy plant pests may also be toxic to the plants we are trying to protect. We are fortunate, however, that circumstances may combine to make the application of certain chemicals considerably more toxic to the insect than to the plant. Plant-feeding and butterfly larvae have voracious appetites and are therefore susceptible to lead arsenate sprays applied to the plant foliage in a concentration insufficient to endanger the plant. Scale insects have openings along the sides of their bodies which they use for respiration, and this fact makes them vulnerable to applications of summer oil emulsion, which is of a low order of toxicity to the plant and user as well. Rotenone and pyrethrum sprays are very safe on our plants and also for us to use. DDT is not particularly dangerous to foliage of plants, while it is strongly absorbed by the covering or cuticle of insects.

The most recently developed insecticides are those like the organic phosphates which affect the insect's nervous system. A great advantage in use of these materials is that plants offer no site of action for them as nerve poisons. However, with increasing use of these phosphatic insecticides, we are learning that a few of our ornamental plants display varying degrees of phytotoxicity to the organic phosphates. They are not generally toxic to most species, however, when used at the recommended dosages.

Types of Insecticides and their action:

Physical poisons are those like the mineral oils which kill insects by exclusion of air by an oil covering over their bodies. Dormant oils smother eggs for a sufficient length of time to asphyxiate them, and their action is hastened by the toxic impurities nearly always present in such materials.

Protoplasmic poisons generally precipitate proteins of the insect body. Arsenates and fluorides primarily destroy the cellular protoplasm of the epithelial lining of the digestive system.

Respiratory poisons, such as cyanide and hydrogen sulfide, are well known fumigants which block cellular respiration.

Nerve poisons generally are associated with their being soluble in the fat substances of the body tissues of the insect and include the chlorinated hydrocarbons, such as DDT and lindane, the aromatics like kerosene and naphthalene, the botanicals like pyrethrins and nicotine, and the organic phosphates such as parathion, TEPP, malathion, and demeton (Systox).

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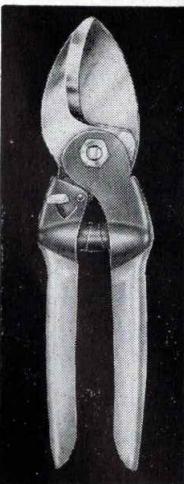
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Engagement Calendars

Mrs. W. D. Dutton, Chairman
Pensacola

The 1955 Florida Gardener Engagement Calendar will have a new and beautiful color cover, typical of Florida. It will include photographs sent in by garden club members throughout the state and it is hoped that every district will be well represented. See that your club or circle submits a picture for the forthcoming 1955 Engagement Calendar. Pictures of arrangements, plaques, corsages and garden scenes will be used. Be sure to identify the material in the picture; the name of the photographer, and to whom the picture is to be returned.

A committee of three accredited judges will select the pictures to be used in the Calendar.

The Engagement Calendar is an appropriate gift to a member of the family, a neighbor, and especially for out-of-state friends who admire Florida flowers and gardens.

The 1955 Engagement Calendar will be a fine money-making project for your club. They sell for \$1.00, plus three cents sales tax, each. Your club will receive \$15.00 for every fifty calendars sold. Many small clubs have made over thirty dollars selling them.

Plan to order through your club or circle NOW. All orders must be in by April 1, 1954. There will be no cancellations on orders after that date. Don't be disappointed because you delayed sending your order — you will want the 1955 Calendars. An order of fifty gives your club the largest profit. Mail your check when the order is shipped to you. I will advise the shipping date and the amount due. Send all club and circle orders to me: Mrs. W. D. Dutton, 2 Beverly Parkway, Pensacola, Florida.

See the Florida Gardener Engagement Calendar ad on the back cover in this issue for further information.

CONSERVATION

Mrs. Herman Heinlein, Chairman
Homestead

The spring of the year in Florida is the time to be alert to the danger of forest fires. Little rain and the drying winds in March increase the hazard. As Garden Club members, it falls upon us to be the "good example" and cooperate with all other groups in a fire prevention program.

The Florida Board of Forestry has asked for our help. Your State Chairman of Conservation has sent the names of all local Conservation Chairmen to them. A packet of materials will be sent to you to assist in the campaign of forest fire prevention. I am quoting from their letter:

"Last year, a total of 229,755 acres of protected woodland burned while 4,109-784 acres of unprotected land burned. This large area of burned land gives Florida the worst fire record of any state in the union.

"The Florida Forest Service must rely on the help of Florida citizens in position to act directly, or influence direct action, in the interest of fire prevention.

"We would like to make the following suggestions for the active participation of your clubs in the campaign:

1. Get local newspapers to publish a story on the program.
2. Sponsor special programs on fire prevention.
3. Sponsor essay or speech contests in local schools on the value of natural resources in your county. Forest fire prevention should be an important point in what is written or said. Suitable prizes could be awarded.
4. Display fire prevention posters and distribute literature.
5. As Conservation Chairmen, acquaint your club members with the need for forest fire prevention and urge their cooperation."

Anyone else wishing one of these packets may write and request one from the Florida Board of Forestry, Tallahassee.



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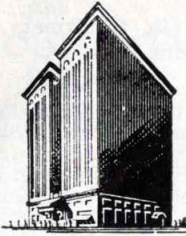


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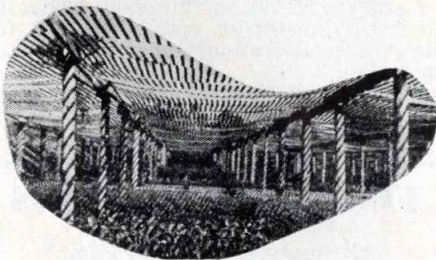
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Mrs. J. Pope Baird, Chairman
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Flower Shows and club meetings offer excellent opportunity to display books for sale. Do not hesitate to ask to have books sent on consignment — TO SHOW IS TO SELL and National Council Books, Inc., will pay for the return postage.

Pioneer American Gardening by Elveria Slosson, (National Council President 1949-51) is now selling for \$2.50 and the price of the History of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and the Supplement to the History by Mrs. John T. Alsop has been reduced to 25¢ each. These books are a must for every Garden Club library and you will want them for reference use in your own personal library for this attractive price. They are available from the State Book Service Chairman.

*Accredited Flower Show Judges of Florida
 Annual Meeting March 29 in Orlando*

Mrs. John R. Salois of Dallas, National Chairman of Flower Show Schools will be the guest speaker.

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ONE LANTERN IN THE BELFRY

Mrs. Edward H. McKeon, Chairman
 Roadside Development
 Pompano Beach

Remember Paul Revere's signals? Our danger is definitely "by land" but it is the Billboard and other excessive commercialization and not the British, which are capturing our land.

I have given you a weapon and now, it is up to every single member of this big Federation to use it! What good are garden tools if you do not use them? Talking about them will not magically cause your plants to reward you with Blue Ribbons. I ask every one of you to invest 35 cents for this "Pledge" seal and in Florida's future. Once each month until the next Session of the State Legislature, send a short polite note to as many of the members as you know, especially your own County representatives and Commissioners saying you hope for their cooperation toward stronger State-wide Zoning Laws, a high Billboard and Concession (roadside) Tax to be applied to Roadside Maintenance and definite and sufficient set-back for all "Seasonal Roadside Stands" for safe parking.

We are a large army IF every soldier fights! Put a Pledge seal at the bottom of every letter, **not** on the envelope. We want the recipients to be sure and open the envelope and read the request. A united Army has power which no "Guerrilla" bands in scattered sections can equal, no matter how hard they fight. We have votes and we can reach more votes in Civic organizations. Our members are the one power we possess to counterbalance the money and influence of the Outdoor Advertising interests but it is necessary to prove by the above method, how big the Federation actually is. Very few men realize the size of this membership and many members do not realize it either.

In addition to the above use of the "Pledge" seal, the Roadside Chairman should make a survey of the Landscape boards in her area. Drive with a friend and have her list the names or products of the users in a little book. Then have the members in turn, write a note or card to the President of the Company or Hotel etc., simply saying you and the members of your Club feel that it is only fair to call their attention to the increasing antagonism caused by excessive commercial use of the Roadside. Sign your name and put a seal at the bottom of the letter. If you keep it up, you will eventually get some results but do not expect it in six months! Keep on going. If it bores you, don't forget it will bore the other fellow too, to get this constant reminder.

The Pennsylvania Roadside Council through the National Roadside Chairman Mrs. Fox, issues this warning, a warning I know is needed everywhere. Accept NO FREE SPACE from any Outdoor Advertiser, no matter how charmingly offered or how "Civic" the cause. In a recent booklet produced by the General Outdoor Advertising Association of America, Inc. the great value (to them) of such gifts is made very clear. They are urged to join up with citizens and public officials in promoting various "civic projects" in order to promote good will as well as the "Thank you letters" which sound so disarming when ever stronger Legislative controls are in question. They are urged to try to locate such "public service" messages on "public property" to ensure a continuous showing and to "spotlight the public-spirited cooperation of your boards, a proof that you support all worthy projects!" They are now attempting to offer free billboards for "Don't be a Litterbug"! ACCEPT NO GIFTS. You cannot be fooled into using a billboard (I hope!) when the act would make any further objection to the use by others impossible and that is what they hope you will do.

It gives me great pleasure to tell you that our "Pledge Seals" are so much liked by the National Council that Mrs. Walters plans to have them handled by National Council Books, Inc. As for the "Litterbug Family" their travels are really amazing, a Science organization in Boston has just ordered some "because of their clarity and educational value."

Your Litterbug seals and Posters are here for you too. Keep them going please. The Posters, size 11 x 14 on white cards, can be colored by Senior students for School use and are \$1.50 a dozen. Large green Litterbug seals for use on the back of at least ONE school book of every child (I hope for 100% use) and the small personal-letter size are 35 and 25 cents, a hundred and the booklets are "2 for a quarter" — all items Plus Postage. As the cost of all these things must be underwritten by your Chairman (not the Federation) and are sold AT COST to you, you will understand why the postage is extra? It is Educational, not money-making.

The Lantern is in the belfry. We have ample warning and time to put our Pledge seals to good and steady use before the Legislature convenes again. Will you make use of every single month? Will you keep the seals going steadily to the Legislators? Will we march AS an ARMY or have we any Deserters?

District Projects . . . Plans . . . Activities

District 1

Mrs. Guy E. Yaste, Associate Editor
Pensacola

The **Bonifay Garden Club** adopted the Daylily as the flower of the year and members, their friends and neighbors, are busily planting daylilies. The club sponsored a door decorating contest during the holiday season and prizes were awarded to the winners.

The **Chibley Garden Club**, Mrs. Fred T. Bennett, president, held a successful Camellia Show in January.

The State Road Department is co-operating with the **Crestview Garden Club** in their major project of beautifying Highway 90 east and west of the town. The highway has been broadened and the Junior Woman's Club is joining with the Garden Club in the landscape planting.

A memorial garden is being planted in memory of the deceased members of the **DeFuniak Springs Garden Club**.

The **Elliot's Point Garden Club** takes flower arrangements to the patients at the Eglin Air Force Base Hospital, their Garden Therapy project.

Green Hills Garden Club of Fountain has continued to beautify their Garden Center and open their "Home" to the public for programs of educational interest.

The **Graceville Garden Club** sponsored a home decoration contest during the holiday season. Rose bush orders placed by the members in the fall arrived in time for winter planting.

"A Fairyland of Flowers" will be the theme of the **Greenwood Garden Club's** flower show to be held April 22, Mrs. Robert A. Willis is the chairman.

The **Gulf Beach Garden Club** of Laguna Beach will hold their first flower show on May 2 in the Sea Horse dining room. "Through the Garden Gate" has been selected as the theme. The Litter-Bug committee has received the cooperation of the State Road Department to erect signs requesting No Dumping of Rubbish along Highway 98.

The **Gulf Area Garden Club** of Fort Walton Beach is concentrating its efforts toward obtaining a Garden Center. They sponsored a winter carnival for this purpose. Twenty-five floats made by school children were sent from the carnival to Eglin Air Force Hospital for the enjoyment of the patients.

The Garden Therapy department of the **Marianna Garden Club** made Christmas decorations for the wards and rooms of the hospital and miniature snow scenes for hospital trays. Peanut corsages were

sent to the patients at the T.B. Sanatorium at Tallahassee.

Christmas cards with a dollar bill enclosed were presented to each person at the Poor Home by the **Myrtle Grove Garden Club**. Their flower show "Country Living" will be held March 27-28.

The **Panama City Garden Club** presented Gregory Conway in a flower arranging program in January; their third course of a Flower Show School was held in February and their spring flower show will be held April 17-18.

The Dogwood Club of the **Pensacola Federation** will have a specialty show of bulbous flowers February 27-28. A begonia exhibition by the Begonia Club has been planned for March and on April 10 the Federation will stage their spring show with the theme "An Age Old Art Into A New Era" with the idea of depicting the progress made in flower shows over the years.

Valparaiso Garden Club is planting the grounds of the Community Church, Community House and City Hall. This club was hostess to the fall district meeting. Mrs. G. W. Adams, District Director presided and 169 members from twenty-four garden clubs in District One were present. Mrs. Guy Yaste of Pensacola was elected District Director and will take office April 1 at the State Convention in Orlando. The Pensacola Federation is planning for the next District meeting which will be held November 1, 1954.

District 2

Mrs. W. J. Bullock, Associate Editor
Monticello

The **Chattahoochee Garden Club** has sponsored the organization of the Garden Circle of the Florida State Hospital comprised of 126 patient members. Their varied programs have included a sound and color film, "The Story of Modern Roses," instructions for preparing and planting seed beds, care of house plants and dish gardens, planting annuals and the care of the summer garden. Workshops in flower arranging and corsage making have been conducted at the hospital. A picnic for the patients has been planned for the final meeting.

The **Perry Garden Club** and the **Lantana Garden Club of Foley** jointly served as hostesses to the District meeting held in Methodist Church in Perry, November 4. Eighty-six members representing the thirteen garden clubs in the district were present. Mrs. Stanley Shiep, President of the Chattahoochee Garden Club was elected the new District Director to take office April 1, at the State Convention

to be held in Orlando. Mrs. R. J. Braham, District Secretary and Associate Editor of the Florida Gardener resigned her offices as she was moving from the District. Mrs. W. J. Bullock, Box 3, Monticello, was appointed to serve as the Associate Editor on the staff of the State magazine. The Monticello Garden Club extended an invitation to hold the 1954 District meeting in their city.

The **Madison Garden Club**, Mrs. Nat Norfleet, President has begun the landscaping of the American Legion Home grounds. They will continue their beautification of the grounds of the library, court house, Woman's Club and the entrance to the cemetery.

The **Lake City Garden Club** has been instrumental in the development of two roadside parks and are actively participating in the Litterbug campaign. The Greyhound lines and the service stations are cooperating in the program to make Florida cleaner. The planting of Peace roses and bulbs have been the individual member's project.

The **Monticello Garden Club** will celebrate a silver anniversary this year. Their members contribute to the District Garden Therapy project at Chattahoochee and carry on an active program at their own TB hospital.

The **Live Oak Garden Club** has started a building fund for the purpose of having a Garden Center in their town.

The **Tallahassee Garden Club** has incorporated and are acquiring a Garden Center. In cooperation with the city, they sponsored a contest for out-door decorations during Christmas. A Peace Rose Memorial Garden has been planted and roses were donated and planted on the grounds of the TB hospital. The State Board will meet in Tallahassee on February 22.

Editor's note: Send District Two Club news for Florida Gardener publication to Associate Editor, Mrs. W. J. Bullock, Box 3, Monticello.



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District 3

Mrs. L. T. Nieland, Associate Editor
Gainesville

Another baby club in District 3, the **Brooker Garden Club**, Mrs. H. S. Anderson, president, was officially christened in December when Mrs. Robert L. Fairing, Director, installed its officers. Plans are already in the making for the club to beautify the main street, which, when present construction is completed, will be a three-quarter mile portion of State Highway 18.

Again this year the **Gainesville Garden Club** with Mrs. Charles K. Hammon, properties chairman, and Mrs. W. G. Gleason, civic chairman, cooperated with the city in arranging the Nativity scene on the Courthouse lawn. The figures for this traditional Christmas display were purchased by the Club in 1947 and each year since, they have been the highlight of the city's Holiday decorations.

The two circles of the **Green Cove Springs Garden Club**, Mrs. Joseph K. Cooper, president, sponsored a sale of handmade Christmas articles, netting a profit of over forty dollars. This will be set aside for a rustic bridge to go over the run at Spring Park, the Club's civic project.

The ways and means committee of the **Jacksonville Garden Club**, Mrs. J. L. Price, chairman, held a preview of Christmas items early in December, followed by a four-day sale of Christmas decorations. Each circle was requested to contribute three items and the proceeds of the sale went to the building fund. Thanksgiving and Christmas workshops for juniors were highly successful and the Christmas workshop for adults was also well attended.

Each **St. Augustine Garden Club** is responsible for weekly radio programs in some assigned month. The Cherokee Garden Club, Mrs. Noel W. Mier, president, was fortunate in having several members who had traveled abroad, and so, under the title, "Gardens or Flowers in Other Lands," their programs covered accounts of gardens in Mexico, England, Germany, Holland and Switzerland.

The **Starke Garden Club**, Mrs. Robert F. Young, president, is continuing its Peace rose project with seventy-five additional bushes purchased in the fall. Fifteen of these were planted in the Memorial Garden sponsored by the Club and the remaining sixty went to members for their gardens. The Starke Club again cooperated with the local Woman's Club and other civic organizations in making arrangements for a city Christmas decorations contest.

District 4

Mrs. Slater Cox, Associate Editor
Mount Dora

The Orlando Garden Club presented a Christmas Show "Glamour, Glitter and Gifts" in December with the lighting of the Yule Log and carol singing. An important feature was the "Gift Mart" where each of the 24 circles sold handmade articles and cleared over \$1,000 for the building fund. The Horticulture Committee has distributed four camellia plants to each circle; the plants will be grown by individuals who will keep records. Later the plants will form a Camellia Garden at the future garden center. The Mile of Beauty is progressing with 200 hibiscus, 70 palms, and many other plants already growing. The College Park Circle has beautified the Vocation School grounds. The Garden Therapy committee beautified the recreation room and library at the Orlando Air Base with permanent shrubs and plants; fixed Christmas decorations in the rooms for the boys. Permanent plants were placed at the Orange Memorial Hospital.

New Smyrna Beach Garden Club has successfully sponsored a 15-minute weekly radio show for two and a half years. To advertise their specialty show, "Hibiscus Galaxy," fresh hibiscus were used on the posters. The members placed new ones each day. The club plans to send a member of the school patrol to Washington in May.

Belleview Garden Club announces that Lake Lillian has been cleared of undesirable fish and restocked by the Florida Wildlife Department. Late next summer, the club will sponsor a fishathon for the children.

Several members of Lakes and Hills Garden Club of Mount Dora will make the arrangements for the English room at the State Flower Show. Outstanding cooperation by civic groups and residents has helped the club substantially in its plans for the planting and maintenance of the Mile of Beauty. Arbor Day was observed by the Junior Garden Club, under the leadership of Mrs. Richard Edgerton, by planting live oaks at both the white and colored schools.

Weirsdale Garden Club sponsored its fourth annual Christmas tree lighting. Projects for special beautification include: the school, the church, and the railroad grounds.

The Garden Club of The Halifax Country, Daytona Beach, will sponsor a lecture on Flower Arrangement by Mrs. Hazel R. Kautenberg at the Peninsula Club, 415 S. Peninsula Drive, on March 9, at 10:30 A.M. A tour of homes and gardens will follow.

The Umatilla Garden Club sponsored a Flower Show tea in February with the

proceeds going toward their Mile of Beauty.

Mrs. J. O. Bohannon, Junior Gardener Chairman of The Holly Garden Club of Daytona Beach, and her committee are working with 300 students at the school and are supplying each student with a plant. Plans are being formulated to have a glass house for cuttings and school plants.

Clermont Garden Club members are making memorial plantings to beautify the lots where they will build their Garden Center. They are landscaping the beach area, the Mile of Beauty, and hospital grounds.

The St. Lucie County Federation of Garden Clubs will hold their annual spring flower show in the St. Lucie County Armory, Fort Pierce Beach, on March 20, 21. The theme will be "More Beauty Every Year."

The theme of Everybody's Flower Show, sponsored by the Council of Garden Clubs of the Halifax District, will be "Florida Living on the Halifax" on March 13-14.

The Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association will provide a worthwhile feature at the Flower Show to be staged by the Council of Garden Clubs of Lake County, March 15-20, in Eustis. Experts in their line will give daily demonstrations of rooting, budding, pruning, etc.,

District 5

Mrs. P. J. Harvey, Associate Editor
Tampa

Horticulture and beautification has been the major project of the Founders Garden Club of Lake Alfred, concentrating on landscaping and beautifying the new Swim-O-Tel at Lions Park, a picnic and swimming area open to the public the year round.

Gulf Beach Garden Club is engaged in an active program with a group of 80 fourth grade students at Gulf Beach School. A tree is planted on the school grounds each Arbor Day. A tea and flower show was held in February for the third consecutive season, staged in the home of a garden club member with each member responsible for at least one arrangement. The Beach Library is furnished each day with a fresh flower arrangement.

Manatee River Garden Club of Bradenton has organized three Junior Garden Clubs. The club's main project for the year is the installation of a well and sprinkler system at the Garden Center so that the beautification of the grounds may be completed.

Palm River Garden Club, Mrs. L. H. Reeder, President, is beautifying the new Civic grounds. The annual flower show was held December 8 in the new Civic

Building. A tree was planted at the Palm River School on Arbor Day with the Junior Gardeners participating.

The Plant City Federation of Garden Club Circles has been beautifying the grounds of the South Florida Baptist Hospital. Plant City is now a Bird Sanctuary, the garden club placed attractive signs at the city limits designating the sanctuary.

The Fort Myers Garden Club held a successful Christmas decorations sale and were co-sponsors with the Men's Garden Club in presenting their first annual flower show.

The Punta Gorda Garden Club has progressed with the landscaping of the Chamber of Commerce grounds. They sponsored a contest during the Christmas season and awarded prizes to the best decorated home and business display.

The project of the Palmetto Garden Club is to beautify the cemetery and give a potted hibiscus plant to every new home owner in the city. This Club sends a 4-H Club girl to the University of Florida for the short term course and gives financial aid to a home for handicapped children.

The Clearwater Federation of Garden Clubs held a workshop in December when sixty table arrangements were made for Bay Pines Hospital. A garden pilgrimage and a spring flower show was held in February during the "Fun in the Sun" 12-day celebration sponsored by the civic clubs of Clearwater.

The Belleair Garden Club held a flower show workshop in February in preparation for the "Sand in Your Shoes" spring show to be held in March. During the fall, this Club organized neighboring garden clubs into the Central Gulf Coast Council of Garden Clubs for the purpose of cooperative effort in joint projects.

The Garden Club of Lake Eva, Haines City, is maintaining the planting on the Civic Center grounds and the hillside of the ball park. A Junior Garden Club with 60 members is growing a garden on the school grounds. Flowers are sent each week to the Bishop Gray Inn for the Aged in Davenport, the Garden Therapy project.

Mrs. S. M. Davis, President of the Garden Club of Sebring, is the newly elected District Director. Five braille volumes of the Bible, 24 popular magazines in braille and a check for \$45.50 towards the purchase of a Talking Bible for the blind, was contributed to the District Garden Therapy project.

Member speakers from the Tampa Federation of Garden Club Circles will give the highlights of the spring flower show "Florida, the Treasure Chest of Beauty." Mrs. C. C. Shorton, Radio Chairman announces that Tampa and St. Petersburg radio stations will carry the broadcasts.

District 6

Mrs. William V. Dellahunt,
Associate Editor, Miami Beach

At the annual Christmas party of the Council of Garden Club Presidents of Dade County, Mrs. J. H. Pace was presented with a Life Membership in the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, a gift of club presidents constituting the Council. Mrs. Pace has served as the president of the Council as well as treasurer and vice-president of the Florida Federation. The membership gift was in recognition of the noteworthy service Mrs. Pace has rendered to the Garden Club movement.

The Tropical Garden Club of Miami provided a tree for the planting on Arbor Day at the Haven School, the Junior Gardeners participated in the ceremony. A tree was also planted at the TB Hospital at Lantana.

The North Miami Garden Club honored their Treasurer, Mrs. W. F. Frantz, at their December meeting with a life membership in the club which she has served for twenty-five years as treasurer. This club is planning a tea in honor of another member, Mrs. R. C. Lohmeyer, on March 1. Mrs. Lohmeyer was elected Director of District Six at the annual meeting held last November in Homestead. Mrs. Eugene A. Smith, Federation President; members of the State Board, accredited judges, club presidents and District officers and chairmen will be among the distinguished guests attending.

The Miami Beach Garden Club is sponsoring the Artistic Junior Garden Club. Officers were elected at the organizational meeting and a workshop in flower arrangements was conducted by Mrs. Paul Ochiltree in which all the juniors participated.

The members of the Poinsettia Garden Club made bedside table decorations and handmade greeting cards for the patients at the North Shore Hospital during the holiday season. The club is continuing the landscaping project of beautifying their community and the members participated in panel discussion radio program.

The Hibiscus Garden Club made wreaths and decorations and distributed them to the homes for the aged at Christmastime.

Gifts for hospitalized children and old people in convalescent homes was the project of the West End Garden Club during the holiday season.

The Federated Garden Clubs of Fort Lauderdale, Mrs. R. T. Spangler, President, will have their "Tropical Gardens" flower show March 12-14. A garden wedding with living models will be one of the features of the show to be held in the War Memorial Auditorium.

Have You Read?

Tropical Gardening for South Florida, by Mable Dorn. South Florida Publishing Co., South Miami, Florida.

A small book (176 pages), a light book easy to handle and once you do, it will become a second self, a third hand, an extra tool for you in the south.

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The Question Box

Q: Are all garden club members eligible to attend district meetings and state conventions?

A: Yes. You do not have to be a delegate or alternate to attend either a district or state meeting. Every garden Club member is welcome.

Q: When there is a scheduled speaker for three o'clock and the business meeting is not completed, should the business be continued and let the speaker wait?

A: No. By all means have the speaker give his program at the time scheduled when the engagement was made. Most of our speakers are busy people and courtesy should be shown for their time.

Q: Can you give us suggestions to shorten our business meetings for the circles and club, so we can get to our programs quicker?

A: Yes. Have your Executive Board handle all business and make recommendations, these to be voted on by members at regular meeting. Every club should have a workshop on parliamentary procedure once each year.

Q: Where can one get the seed for Bells of Ireland?

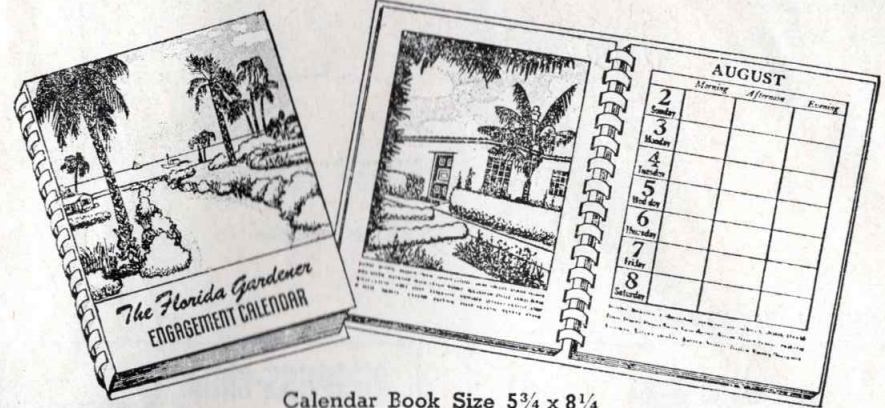
A: Donna Garden Club, Donna, Texas, and Vaughan's Seed Store, Chicago, Ill.

Q: Why is it necessary for newly organized Garden Clubs to join the State Federation?

A: It is an advantage more than a necessity. Memberships in the State Federation and National Council broadens the scope of a club's activities and achievements. The State Federation coordinates the interest of its members through meetings, publications, correspondence and association. Club presidents receive minutes of State Board Meetings, the Book of Information, Horticulture News Letter, the National Gardener, and has access to the Garden Clubs Lending Library at the University of Florida. Each Club is entitled to send delegates to District and State meetings. There is a close bond between federated members and the State Officers and Chairmen. The amount one gains through belonging to the State Federation depends upon the receptibility of the member who has a world of material at her command.

Q: Is there any state-wide legislation in effect prohibiting the theft of plants set out by clubs in beautification projects?

A: To my knowledge, these situations are handled locally. There is strength in unity and sameness of purpose. State-wide legislation may be achieved if enough of the members desire it and will make an effort to bring it about.



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10 to 24 (each) 82c plus 3c Sales Tax.....	Your Circle makes 18 cents each
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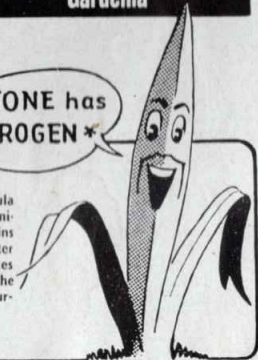
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THE FLORIDA GARDENER

STAFF

Editor.....	Mrs. Arthur F. Coe 2577 Forbes Street, Jacksonville 4, Florida
Business Manager.....	Mrs. C. R. Mayes, Jr. P. O. Box 1636, Pompano Beach, Florida
Circulation Manager.....	Mrs. Edward C. Cooper P. O. Box 5493, Jacksonville 7, Florida
Associate Editors	
District 1.....	Mrs. Guy Yaste 123 Blount Street, Pensacola, Florida
District 2.....	Mrs. W. J. Bullock Box 3, Monticello, Florida
District 3.....	Mrs. L. T. Nieland 416 N.E. Third Avenue, Gainesville, Florida
District 4.....	Mrs. Slater Cox 947 Gorham Avenue, Mount Dora, Florida
District 5.....	Mrs. P. J. Harvey 5508 Suwannee Avenue, Tampa, Florida
District 6.....	Mrs. William V. Delahunt 1670 West Avenue, Miami Beach, Florida

OUR COVER

The great oak in Highlands Hammock State Park near Sebring is estimated to be more than 800 years old. It is ninety feet high and stands as a sentinel near the entrance of the main drive into the park, towering above the lush vegetation of the hammock below.

The famous Elmer Merrill identified this tree as a Laurel Oak. No acorns have appeared in recent years to confirm the belief of some that it is a Live Oak—surely it has Live Oak leaves. There are a variety of epiphytes growing on the branches and trunk. The one visible in the picture is the cardinal airplant, *Tillandsia fasciculata*.

As to legend—Indians held their conclaves at the foot of its majestic strength in the hidden security of the dense hammock.

The Blanche Covington Nature Study Course will be held in Highlands Hammock State Park the last week in April.

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Mrs. L. E. Spencer of Sanford has been appointed the incoming Director of District Four by the President, Mrs. Eugene A. Smith. Mrs. Bright Taylor of Ocala who was elected at the District meeting has resigned.

Editor's Message . . .

This Spring issue of *The Florida Gardener* gives you a preview of the major State Federation events that bring gardeners together for inspiration and information. The State Convention and Flower Show in Orlando, the Nature Study Course in Highlands Hammock State Park, and the Short Course for Gardeners at the University of Florida afford the opportunity of being together, sharing ideas and pleasures and learning new methods relative to Garden Club work. Perhaps the greatest opportunity that comes from group meetings is the privilege of cultivating the precious gift of friendship with those of mutual experiences and interests.

Plan to come to the Convention and the State Flower Show — I will be looking for you.

Neel L. Coe

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