



Smoke Signals

The Calusa Garden Club Newsletter

December, 2021

Editor: Nancy Adams

Website: Calusa.org

calusagardenclub@yahoo.com

Letter from Our President

All I can say is “WOW!” The Plant Sale was a huge success – and I am proud of our hardworking members, and spouses, who helped to set everything up and got the event started early in the morning! It was a beautiful fall day, sunny and breezy and excitement was in the air. Creative and festive arrangements, plants, orchids, and succulent dishes were sold throughout the day! Kudos to everyone who made the commitment to get this event done as we were guided by Sara Wolf! December will be a busy month for our club with a Gadabouts to Edison & Ford Winter Estates on the 7th, our Holiday Gala scheduled for the evening of December 7th, a floral design workshop for members to be held December 13th, led by Sue Oldershaw, and one scheduled on December 15th at the Library, open to the public, coordinated by Sara Wolf (please contact her to volunteer), a horticulture workshop run by Linda Schwoeppe the afternoon of the 13th, and Butterfly Garden clean up on the 18th. Whew! Please check your emails for sign-up information for the workshops and Gadabouts as there will NOT be any sign-up sheets at the December 7th Gala. One thing we must consider is applying for Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Awards. We have many projects that we have done that should be recognized: Marco Towne Center plantings, Marco Island Cemetery Veteran’s Memorial plantings, Nature Preserve, and more. Included in this Newsletter is information about applying for an award. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season and a Happy New Year 2022!

Susan

IMPORTANT DATES: December - January

Monday December 6	10 a.m.	Board Meeting
Tuesday December 7	9 a.m.	Gadabouts -Edison and Ford Winter Estate Horticultural tour
Thursday December 9	5 p.m.	Holiday Gala Marco Island Yacht Club
Monday December 13	10 a.m.	Floral Design Workshop- Creating a Christmas Centerpiece
	1 p.m.	Horticultural Workshop – Sedums, Succulents and Echeveria
Wednesday December 15	1:30 p.m.	Holiday Themed Arrangement Workshop at the Library
Saturday December 18	8:30 a.m.	Butterfly Garden Work Group
Monday January 10	10 a.m.	Board Meeting
	11 a.m.	Member Meeting
	12 p.m.	Member lunch
	1 p.m.	Program – Care and Planting of Native Florida Trees
Monday January 17	10 a.m.	Floral Design Workshop – Designing with wool
	1 p.m.	Horticultural Workshop - Tillandsias
Friday January 21	Time TBA	FLORIDA ARBOR DAY: Tree Planting at Leigh Plummer Park
Wednesday January 26		Gadabouts – Audubon Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary
Saturday January 29	8:30 a.m.	Butterfly Garden Work Group
Tuesday February 1	8:30 a.m.- 5:50 p.m.	Field Trip to Selby Gardens, Sarasota

SAY HELLO TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



Maureen McFarland



Jo-Ann Carroll



Claudia Bruni

WOW! CGC PLANT, THANKSGIVING ARRANGEMENT, SUCCULENT DISH GARDEN AND CONTAINER SALE!

THANK YOU! ----> to all our CGC members -----> from the Plant Etc. Sale Committee ---
for a successful sale on November 23. We had a very successful sale! The gross sales were \$3,991 and the profit after expenses was \$2,200.

KUDOS to our Fantastic Team: Sue Oldershaw, Linda Schwoeppe, Linda Colombo, Marianne Foley, Laura Furlong, Maria Bachich, Kimberly Korb Porter, Margie Bramel, Annette Kuhn, Monique Doyle, Susan Neustadt and Sara Wolf.

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## PINEAPPLE MARKER HAS NEW VOLUNTEERS

Memorial Chairperson: Linda Colombo

Linda Ariel has offered to maintain it along with Sharon Lewis. Thank you to each of you for stepping up and joining the committee.

## AND SOME PICTURES FROM THE SALE:

Chairperson: Sara Wolf



A Beautiful Day for the Plant Sale!



Familiar Faces Selling Plants!

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## NEWS FROM THE MEMORIAL MARKER COMMITTEE



Chairperson: Linda Colombo

A huge thank you to Monna Hormel for replanting and cleaning up the Leigh Plummer Park marker. Plants were used from leftover bromeliads at the plant sale.

It looks beautiful and all spruced up. If you have never visited this small pocket park you will find it on the west side of Barfield between Collier and San Marco. For those of you who are directionally challenged that would be on your right side coming from Collier, LOL.



## LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS AT FLOWER WORKSHOP:



### CHRISTMAS FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP FOR THE LIBRARY



WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 15

2:00 P.M.

MARCO ISLAND LIBRARY

We continue our tradition of presenting a flower arranging workshop to the public. For the event sponsored by Friends of the Library, we purchase flowers, containers, floral foam and all the items necessary for a lovely design to be made by up to 25 participants.

**We need volunteers! It's a blast!**

**Volunteer for morning set-up, afternoon assistance, or both!**

**Contact:** Sara Wolf, 513.706.8681 or [sarawolf617@gmail.com](mailto:sarawolf617@gmail.com)

9:00 a.m. to noon: Set-up – many hands needed to prepare.

Noon to 1:30 – we go to lunch!

1:45 to 4:15 – We assist the participants in their designs, then clean up.

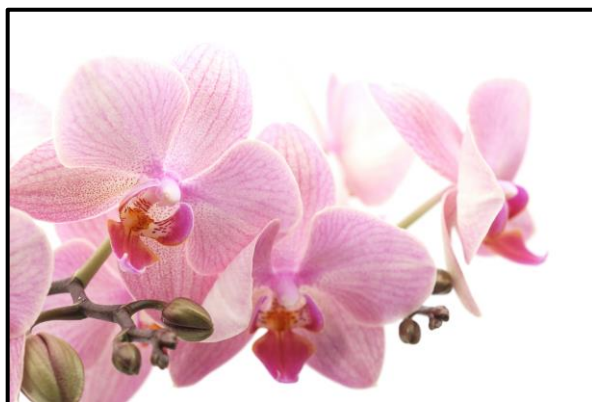


## SAVE THE DATE FOR AN UPCOMING EVENT:



**SAVE THE DATE! Selby Gardens, Tuesday, February 1, 2022**

CGC Field Trip to Selby Gardens, Sarasota Florida. We will travel by deluxe motorcoach, enjoy guided tours of the Selby Gardens greenhouse and the grounds, have lunch at the gardens, and have free time to visit the gardens and the art museum. This Field Trip is open to the public, so invite your spouses, friends and family! We have some surprises planned to make the motorcoach ride more enjoyable, so come one, come all!



# NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES AND OTHER YEARBOOK UPDATES

**IMPORTANT:** The Calusa Garden Club's new email address is [calusagardenclub@yahoo.com](mailto:calusagardenclub@yahoo.com)

Lewis, Sharon

Summer Address: 344 Maple Avenue, Vienna, VA 22180

Purvis, Jackie

Address: 108 Moorings Park Drive, Unit B-106, Naples, FL 34105



## MEET YOUR CLUB COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN



In this December issue, we continue our committee chairman profiles with the Communications Committee chairpersons: Nancy Adams, Smoke Signals Newsletter Chairman; Sara Wolf, Publicity & Archives Chairman; Susan LaGrotta, Facebook Chairman; and Eva Kubinsky, Yearbook Chairman. Linda Colombo, Website Chairman, was previously profiled in the November newsletter.

### **Nancy Adams, Newsletter Chairman and Communications Group Chairman**



Nancy is originally from the North Shore of Chicago, but she spent over 30 years living Colorado Springs, Colorado. She and her husband Fred have been married 37 years, and they have lived in Marco Island full time for 8 years. They are currently building a home on Hunt Court. As our newsletter editor (and sole staff member!), Nancy's goal is to keep the Club membership informed of all Club activities through *Smoke Signals*, and she also serves as Board representative for the Communications group including Facebook, the website [calusa.org](http://calusa.org), the *Smoke Signals* newsletter, the Publicity committee, and the Yearbook.

Nancy's work life was spent in logistics, materials and international trade in high tech companies. Her last position before retirement was as a New Product Introduction Materials Manager for Agilent Technologies, where she was responsible for sourcing new designs prototypes and supporting their first 6 months of production in Asia. Nancy says, "It was a lot of travel and I really like being retired!"

Nancy is a dedicated member of the Calusa Park Butterfly Garden crew, and in fact she and Fred began working in the garden prior to Nancy becoming a member of Calusa Garden Club. Nancy is an avid gardener and looks forward to gardening in their new home when it is complete. Nancy says she does not have "even one speck of floral design talent, but I love to garden and propagate and am very interested in the environment." She also volunteers for Owl Watch and participates in the Friends of Tigertail beach clean-ups.

### **Sara Wolf, Publicity & Archives Chairman and Ways & Means Chairman**



Sara is originally from the Cincinnati, Ohio area and has owned a vacation home on Marco Island for 26 years. In 2017, Sara and her husband Mickey sold their home in West Chester, Ohio and made Marco Island their permanent home. They have two sons: Michael who lives in Chicago and Stephen who lives in Los Angeles.

Sara began her working life as a teacher of English and mathematics, and then decided to switch careers and attended law school to become an attorney. She practiced business law for over 40 years, and enjoyed working in both large firms and on the corporate legal staffs of Armco, Inc. and Lexis-Nexis, Inc. In her final 15 years, Sara worked in intellectual property law (trademarks and copyrights) in addition to franchising and business transactions.

Sara's goal as Publicity and Archives Chairman is to raise awareness of Calusa Garden Club of Marco Island in order to showcase our public works and also to attract new members who can add their expertise and contribute their efforts to our Club. As Ways & Means Chairman, Sara's goal is to encourage all our Club members to support our Club financially through fundraising activities in which not only do we raise money from the community, but also we enjoy the fellowship of working together toward a common goal.

Sara enjoys gardening and learning how to grow things in Southwest Florida. Sara has liked getting to know what plants grow well in our beautiful tropical environment. She also has loved learning the principles of floral design with the encouragement of Calusa Garden Club members, and is very interested in the conservation of our environment in Florida as well as in the world.

### **Susan LaGrotta, Facebook Page Calusa Garden Club Chairman and Butterfly Garden Chairman.**



Susan LaGrotta was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, where her parents raised 7 children. The front and back yards of their single-family home were filled with rose bushes and ground covers of succulents. As a child, Susan always loved the outdoors, gardening, camping, and swimming, and she joined in a variety of outdoor activities in addition to reading and cooking.

Susan and her husband Victor were married in 1985 and lived in West Islip, Long Island before buying a waterfront home on Marco Island in 1997 as a vacation home, then moving to Marco Island full time in 2000. Victor was a police officer, then became a Captain with American Airlines where he recently retired after 35 years.

Susan met her husband Victor at the New York City Police Academy where they were both cadets. She became a police officer in 1980 and worked first as a uniformed patrol officer, then worked as a decoy on an undercover team in the Senior Citizen Robbery Unit. Her last assignment was as a plain clothes investigator for the Legal Division of the NYPD. After moving to Marco Island, Susan became a full-time realtor and has been with Berkshire Hathaway since 2003.

Susan maintains the Club's Facebook page, Calusa Garden Club. She encourages members to send her photos of their gardens, their floral designs and their environmental protection endeavors (such as Owl Watch and Tigertail Beach activities). She adds items of interest to all gardeners and floral designers to the Facebook page in addition to Calusa Garden Club information, and hopes members visit and share our Facebook postings often.

Susan also chairs our noteworthy Calusa Park Butterfly Garden. In fact, she was on the Marco Island Beautification Committee when the Garden was established in partnership with Marco Island. The Butterfly Garden committee will continue with monthly maintenance, and they plan to propagate plants, add more signage, and encourage additional community outreach. If you are a member of a community or condo association group that would like a tour of the Butterfly Garden, please notify Susan and she will arrange a guided tour. Susan invites all Club members to volunteer at the Butterfly Garden and to help with their projects such as propagating native plants for the garden.

Susan’s primary interest in our Club is in the area of plants and gardening. At her first home on Long Island, she planted a vegetable garden, and continued her gardening endeavors that had begun when she helped her mother with her rose bushes and house plants. She is very interested in native plants for our region, how they thrive, how to propagate them and how to best incorporate them into the garden.

**Eva Kubinsky, Yearbook Chairman**



Eva Kubinsky was born in the country that was then named Czechoslovakia, and immigrated to the United States with her family when she was 11 years old. While her father was pursuing a Ph.D. at Virginia Tech, the family lived in Blacksburg, Virginia before moving to the state of Washington when he received an appointment to the faculty of a university there. Eva attended high school and college in Washington, then became a Peace Corps volunteer in Gambia, west Africa, after college. After the Peace Corps, Eva worked in the U.S. Embassy in Gambia for a year prior to attending dental school in Seattle. Eva practiced dentistry for 26 years in Seattle, where she loved going to her office that had a beautiful view of Puget Sound. At one point, Eva began experiencing back and neck problems due to the physical demands of her dental practice, and she began taking classes in graphic design and working with her husband John Johnson in his web design and advertising business. Eva and her husband have one son who lives in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Eva and John moved to Marco Island when she retired from her dental practice and they decided to look for property on the water in the eastern United States nearer to their son’s location. They travelled the east coast of Florida and the west coast, and ended up in Marco Island where Susan LaGrotta, their realtor, convinced them that Marco Island is the place to live!

Eva returned to a former pastime of pottery making when she settled in Marco Island, and she has turned it into a business. She has a website showing her designs at *linebyeva.com*. She still enjoys graphic design and works with John on some assignments. Eva enjoys gardening and landscape design, as well as floral design and is also passionate about saving our environment.

As our Yearbook editor, Eva enjoys designing the layout of all our information in an attractive and user-friendly format. One of her goals is to make the Yearbook an online tool. Although the Yearbook is currently part of our website, it is not as user-friendly as it could be. Eva encourages members to send her any corrections or changes to their personal information so that she can keep the online version current and can prepare Addendum Sheets for the Yearbook.



# Blue Zones Project: December

Chairperson: Sharon Lewis

*It's the Holidays so... Lets take on a*

## **Maintain Don't Gain Challenge 2021-22**

Log on to: Blue Zones Project <https://southwestflorida.bluezonesproject.com/>

And see what they have to offer. I did. I started the challenge, and added my current weight and goals. A few tips below, with much more information the website.

- **Practice Hara Hachi Bu – eat slowly until you are 80 percent full.**
- **Eat pies and cookies – don't deny yourself, but put this small decadent reward last on your plat**
- **Get outdoors and move naturally – The power 9 series is all free with Blue Zones, take fitness, tai chi and yoga classes all from the website, and of course garden.**
- **Substitute healthy ingredients – olive oil for butter, yogurt for creams, add more of your favorite spices instead of salt.**

## One of my favorite Holiday Recipes is Fall Chopped Salad with Citrus Dressing:

Ingredients for salad:

5 slices of cooked and chopped bacon (uncured is the healthiest), 1 small head of radicchio (or substitute romaine) chopped, 4 ounces of fresh brussels sprouts thinly sliced, 2 ripe pears (cored and chopped), 1/2 small red onion (chopped), 1/4 cup coarsely chopped fresh flat leaf parsley & stems, 1/4 - 1/2 cup toasted walnut pieces, S&P to taste.

**Dressing:** 1/2 cup olive oil, 3 Tbsp apple cider vinegar, zest & juice of one orange (about 3 Tbsp of juice, 1 Tbsp of maple syrup, 2 tsp of Dijon mustard, 1/2 tsp of salt and pepper. Mix salad ingredients with dressing and let salad stand at room temperature for 5 minutes before serving. Makes 8 cups.



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## APPLYING FOR A FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS AWARD

Sylvia Swartz, District IX Awards Chair

It's that time of year again – awards season and I'd like to encourage all clubs to apply for at least one FFGC award. Scrutinize the projects your club has carried out in the past year and see if you can fit your project to an award. All the awards are listed on the FFGC Awards website and there is lots of good advice there from state chair, Christy Linke, on how to apply. If you need any help or guidance regarding your application please



contact me at 239-339-3778 or email me at [tamargal2@aol.com](mailto:tamargal2@aol.com) – I'm always happy to help and if I don't know the answer to your question, I will research it for you.

Below you will find a step-by-step description of what to do:

- **Process** (usually carried out by the Club/Circle President or an Awards Committee):
  - Review the entire list of Federation Awards at <https://www.ffgc.org> ›FFGCAwards-
    - [Descriptions](#)
  - Review completed and ongoing projects in your Club
  - Select a relevant award
  - Match your project to the award criteria
  - Seek advice if required from District IX Awards Chair (Sylvia Swartz, 239-339-3778, [tamargal2@aol.com](mailto:tamargal2@aol.com))

President of club or club Committee consults and decides who will write the application.

- **Person writing the award should**
  - Download the application form from the FFGC Awards site
  - Read the description of the selected award and comply with any
  - detailed instructions that may be contained in that award description
  - Source and check the information required regarding Category, Class
  - (if applicable) and name of Award, District Number, number of
  - members in the Club, etc., start date, finish date, etc.
  - Write the description of the project, remembering not to exceed a
  - total of 3 pages including photos and ensuring to speak to the criteria
  - of the award
- **Pointers:**
  - When writing the project description, remember to tell
  - a story with an introduction, the detail, and an
  - appropriate closing paragraph
  - Select; insert; and caption appropriate photos of the
  - project
  - Make the photos as large as you can to fill the space
  - Assemble the application neatly – no more than 3 pages
  - total - including application form

Scan and Email your application to [ffgcawardentry@gmail.com](mailto:ffgcawardentry@gmail.com) to arrive by the due date (can vary but mostly Nov. 24 – notable exception Award #11: Yearbook, which is due Nov. 1 and is MAILED to FFGC 3rd VP, Mary Whisler at 2755 N.Carnoustie Loop, Lecanto, FL 34461-6915.

Some, like several youth and school awards and the Nell Coe Award are due in the New Year.

Keep a file copy of your complete application and email or mail a copy to District IX Awards Chair, Sylvia Swartz, 4030 SW 9th Pl., Cape Coral, FL 33914; [tamargal2@aol.com](mailto:tamargal2@aol.com).

## \$\$\$ Raffle Donations Needed \$\$\$

Members! Please donate for the January Meeting Raffle! Contact Jenn Ferrier before the December 7 Gala to let her know you will be donating a plant, container, or gardening related item. We hope to raffle 5 items per meeting. It's a great way to donate to the Club while receiving a chance to get a new plant you have been wanting! Tickets are only \$1.



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS:

THANK YOU to Cache Cleaners for storing our 6 bins of archives. Cache Cleaners is offering Calusa Garden Club members a 10% discount on cleaning services, which you can obtain by showing your CGC Name Badge.  
Thank you, Bruce, and Susan Neustadt!



Approved November 8, 2021

**CALUSA GARDEN CLUB OF MARCO ISLAND**  
**MEMBER MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 11, 2021– 11:00 a.m.**

1. Call to Order  
Meeting was called to order at 11:08 a.m. Quorum present.
2. Approval of Minutes from April 8 Spring Luncheon and New Officer Installation  
**The April 8th meeting minutes were approved.**
3. Officer Reports
  - 3.1. President – Susan Neustadt
    1. Trees and Reforestation March 1, 2021 – February 28, 2022, Tree Count - Monique Doyle will be sending out an e-mail regarding the tree count.
    2. FFGC District IX Meeting – October 26 via ZOOM – Sara Wolf, Susan Neustadt and Kimberly Porter will be attending as delegates. Other members may sign up to attend via e-mail communication sent out by Joan.
  - 3.2. First VP – Programs: Kimberly Porter – Today’s Program - Green Industry Best Management Practices Presented by Professor Cesar Peralta, University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
    1. Second VP – Membership: Monique Doyle: 50 active and nine associate members
    2. Treasurer – Annette Kuhn: Bank Balance is \$14,219.84 . Thank you notes were shared with the group for the Veterans Memorial and Jo-Ann Sanborn (CGC member and artist) for visiting her exhibit.
    3. Assistant Treasurer: Margie Bramel
      1. Recording Secretary: Laura Furlong
      2. Corresponding Secretary: Joan Husband
      3. Parliamentary Procedure Advisor: Linda Colombo
4. Standing Committee Reports:
  1. Awards- Opi DeFalco
  2. Civic Beautification: Opi DeFalco
    - a. Calusa Park Butterfly Garden (Susan LaGrotta)
    - b. Florida Arbor Day (Linda Columbo)
    - c. Flowers in Public Places (Opi DeFalco)
    - d. Memorial Markers (Linda Columbo)
    - e. Special Project (MI Nature Preserve)
    - f. Special Project (MI Cemetery Veterans Memorial)-Thanks to the volunteers who were able to complete the memorial plantings.
    - g. Special Project (MI Town Center-Sharon Lewis)-This process is running smoothly and February 2022 is the expected grand opening.

3. Communications: Nancy Adams
  - a. Facebook (Susan La Grotta)
  - b. Newsletter(Nancy Adams)-Nancy would like to have all newsletter information by November 1st.
  - c. Publicity and Archives (Sara Wolf)
  - d. Website (Linda Columbo)
  - e. Yearbook (Eva Kubinsky) The Yearbooks were handed out at the meeting.
4. Community Education and Outreach: Donna Kay (Marianne Foley in her absence today)
  - a. Campership and Scholarships (Marianne Foley)
  - b. Flower Show
  - c. Junior Gardeners (Donna Kay)-Due to COVID-19, this project is on hold this year.
  - d. Library Projects (Bonnie Colman)
5. Member Enrichment: Sharon Lewis (Sue Oldershaw in her absence today)
  - a. Blue Zones Project (Sharon Lewis)-Sharon will be highlighting a member who aligns with the Blue Zones Project in our newsletter.
  - b. Environmental Information and Workshops (Maria Bachich)-Maria will send out information on plants that support our local environment
  - c. Floral Design Hints and Workshops (Lindy Kowalczyk)-Sign up for the October class will be at the meeting.
  - d. Gadabouts (Sue Oldershaw and Jen Ferrier)-Freedom Park in Naples will be the next Gadabout event with lunch following.
  - e. Horticulture Hints and Workshops (Linda Schwoeppe)-Linda Schwoeppe will be doing Orchids 101 for October. Sign up at the meeting.
6. Member Events: Janice Engel
  - a. Annual Holiday Party (Janice Engel and Terri Pike)- This event is confirmed at MI Yacht Club December 9, 2021. Black and White Gala is an evening event with spouses invited. Volunteers will be needed with sign up at the meeting.
  - b. Annual Spring Luncheon – This event will be held on April 7, 2022 at the MI Yacht Club.
  - c. Flower Show Reception/Party
  - d. Meeting Hospitality (Margy Bruckman)-Margy will have a list for people to bring food for our next meeting.
7. Ways & Means: Sara Wolf
  - a. Field Trip (Sara Wolf)-The first field trip will be to Selby Gardens onFebruary 1, 2021. The board has approved this event with a charter bus that will take 50 people to the garden. This will serve as a fund raiser for the club.
  - b. Home Garden Tour (Sara Wolf)– The board approved this event with an estimated last week in March time frame and we would like to highlight our club members' gardens.
  - c. Gardening Guide Marketing and Sales (Linda Columbo)
  - d. Meeting Raffles (Jen Ferrier)
  - e. Member Lunches



- f. Plant Sale (Sara Wolf)-This event will be held on November 23rd. There has been a great response from the membership. Set up will be at 7:30 a.m. (set up) to 3:00. p.m. at the Marco Lutheran Church.
  - g. Tea
5. Unfinished Business
- 5.1. Marco Island Nature Preserve would like CGC to pay for and maintain a Butterfly Garden in the Nature Preserve Sanctuary –This was not approved by the board at this time.
  - 5.2. Approval of Standing Rules  
The board approved increase in annual dues for Active members from \$40 to \$60 and from \$45 to \$70 for Associate members.
  - 5.3. Approval of Proposed Budget  
The budget will be approved at a later date.
  - 5.4. Report on Website Redesign and Funding  
This was not discussed.
6. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

**NEXT MEETINGS AND EVENTS:**

- **Monday, October 18 at 10:00 a.m.** - Floral Design Workshop
- **Monday, October 18 at 1:00 p.m.** – Horticulture Workshop
- **Tuesday, October 26 at 10:00 a.m.** – FFGC District IX Meeting on Zoom
- **Wednesday, October 27 at 9:00 a.m.** – Gadabouts to Freedom Park
- **Saturday, October 30 at 8:30 a.m.** - Butterfly Garden Work Group- Calusa Park
- **Monday, November 8 at 10:00 a.m.** – CGC Board Meeting
- **Monday, November 8 at 11:00 a.m.** – CGC Member Meeting

Approved: Susan Nuestadt

Respectfully Submitted: Laura Furlong

**CALUSA GARDEN CLUB OF MARCO ISLAND  
BOARD MEETING Minutes  
NOVEMBER 8, 2021**

1. Call to Order: Quorum is seven Committee Chairmen or the Committee Chairman's designated substitute) PLUS three Officers. A quorum was present, and the meeting called to order at 10:01 a.m.
2. Approval of Minutes from October 11, 2021, Board Meeting. A motion was made by Sara Wolf to approve the minutes and Kim Porter seconded. Approved as filed.
3. Officer Reports
  - 3.1 President – Susan Neustadt
    - a. FFGC District IX Meeting: FFGC Convention is April 12-14, 2022, in FFGC District IX Meeting: FFGC Convention is April 12-14, 2022, in Kissimmee, FL. 50/50 Tickets, \$5 each, Potential to win \$15K; Blue Opportunity Tickets, \$2 each, prizes were discussed.
    - b. Punta Gorda Holiday Garden tour, December 3rd & 4th. If interested contact Carol Houston at PPG.org. Price: \$20.00; six gardens.
    - c. Naples Garden Club is the first Monday of the month; January Canaan Marshall and February Margot Shaw of Floral Magazine.
    - d. Punta Gorda flower show is March 2022.
    - e. Naples Garden Club to host Spring District IX Meeting at Naples Botanical Gardens, April 26, 2022. Garden tours afterwards.
    - f. National Convention, May 17-20, 2022; Embassy Suites, Kissimmee, FL. \$138/night
    - g. Fall 2022 Meeting: October 18, 2022: Fort Myers Lee County Council with a petite flower show.
    - h. Spring issue of Florida Gardener will be online. Each member will receive an email with a link to the Florida Gardener.
    - i. FFGC will not collect dues in 2022 (\$12.00/member). Future dues will be collected from February 2023 to April 2023.
  - 3.2 First VP – Programs – Kim Porter – Today's Program: The Future of Tigertail Lagoon and Sand Dollar Island, presented by CGC Member Linda Colombo, President of Friends of Tigertail and Linda Ryan, Board Member of the City of Marco Island Hideaway Beach Tax District
  - 3.3 Second VP – Monique Doyle - 49 Active Members, 10 Associate Members
  - 3.4 Treasurer – Annette Kuhn
    - Balance: \$14,214.83
    - 1. October Cash flow: Income: \$165.00; Expenses: \$170.01; Overall Net: \$-5.01
  - 3.5 Assistant Treasurer – Margie Bramel: No report.
  - 3.6 Recording Secretary – Laura Furlong (absent); Margie Bramel took minutes.
  - 3.7 Corresponding Secretary – Joan Husband
    1. Five cards sent
  - 3.8 Parliamentary Procedure Advisor – Linda Colombo

4. Standing Committee Reports
  - 4.1 Awards -Opi DeFalco NO REPORT
  - 4.2 Civic Beautification – Opi DeFalco NO REPORT
  - 4.3 Communications – Nancy Adams NO REPORT
  - 4.4 Community Education and Outreach – Sara Wolf and Marianne Foley
    - a. Sara Wolf volunteered to conduct the Library Program on December 15 in Bonnie Colman's absence. Volunteers are needed to assist with the set-up, the library pays for the flowers, and this is a free public program for library members.
    - b. Scholarship. Sara and Marianne discussed with the Board the utilization of donations we receive for Scholarships. A motion was made and second to add any scholarship donations received throughout the year to the \$2,000 the club has earmarked for the 2021 -2022 year. Therefore, each year the scholarship awarded could exceed the amount budgeted.
  - 4.5 Member Enrichment – Monique Doyle
    - a. The Blue Zone group is looking for volunteers on November 13<sup>th</sup> to assist with weeding and beautifying their community at the Youth Community Center in Naples.
  - 4.6 Member Events – Janice Engel
    - a. Our holiday Black and White Gala for members and their spouse/partner will be held at the Marco Island Yacht Club on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Janice is seeking someone to co-chair this event and asked for volunteers to assist with center pieces and set-up. We discussed options of a Secret Santa gift exchange or a Chinese Raffle and a gift exchange.
  - 4.7 Ways and Means – Sara Wolf
    - b. Our plant sale is November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Sara discussed information regarding confirming donations, dropping off plant donations, preparing plant identification tags, and volunteering. November 9<sup>th</sup> is the committee meeting at Rose Hall at 10 a.m.
5. Unfinished Business
  - 5.1 Approval of Proposed 2021-2022 Budget
    - a. The proposed 2021-2022 Budget was discussed. Discussion was held regarding balancing the amount of income with the proposed expenses. It was proposed that the budget be amended to show income of \$24,400 and expenses of \$24,400 by adding an expense line “Contingency” to the expense categories and listing \$513.00 in this line item.
  - 5.2 Report of Website Redesign and Funding NOT DISCUSSED

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

#### **NEXT MEETINGS AND EVENTS:**

- a. **Saturday, November 13, Gadabouts, Naples Yard and Garden Show**
- b. **Monday, November 15, 10:00 a.m. – Floral Design Workshop**
- c. **Monday, November 15, 1:00 p.m. – Horticulture Workshop**
- d. **Tuesday, November 23, Plants & Thanksgiving Arrangement Sale**
- e. **Saturday, November 27, 8:30 a.m. – Butterfly Garden Work Group**