



Smoke Signals

The Calusa Garden Club Newsletter

March, 2022

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Letter from Our President

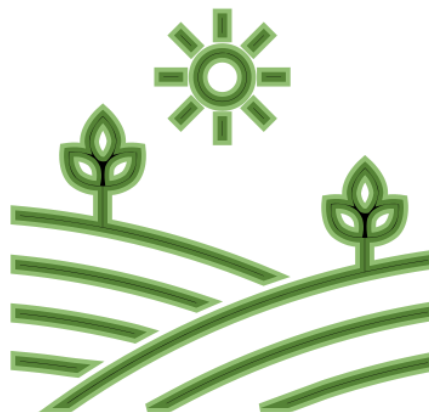
Dear Calusa Garden Club Members,

Another month has quickly passed; I hope it was enjoyable for you. Many of our members have been involved in several activities. We were very visible at Marco Nature Night held on February 16th, informing new visitors to Marco about our club's activities, handing out the Butterfly Garden and Memorial Markers pamphlets, and selling our Gardening Guides! A beautiful floral arrangement, created by Marianne Foley, was included in items raffled off to the attendees. Linda Schwoeppe held a fun and informative workshop on the 21st about Tillandsias and each attendee came away with their own Tillandsia wreath. Connie Lowery and Jackie Purvis were awesome teachers at their floral design workshop and Sue Oldershaw led two Gadabouts events last month - everyone enjoyed the Everglades Wonder Gardens and Corkscrew Sanctuary. Pictures of these events are in this edition.

A wonderful Gardeners' Paradise Home Garden Tour is planned for April 9 and your assistance is needed. Sara Wolf is chairing the event so make sure you sign up at March's meeting. Also please sign up for our floral design and horticulture workshops and Naples Garden Club Flower Show – we will have a booth there on the 18th and 19th – if you sign up you have free admission to the Flower Show!

Happy Gardening!

Susan



Speaker for our March Meeting

The March Program will be a presentation from the Naples Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society on preserving native plants in residential landscapes to attract butterflies, birds, and pollinators.

IMPORTANT DATES!

MARCH

Monday March 14	10 a.m.	Board Meeting
	11 a.m.	Member Meeting
	12 p.m.	Member Lunch
	1 p.m.	Program – Preserving Native Plants in Residential Landscapes
Friday March 18	9:00 a.m.	Gadabouts- Naples Garden Club Flower Show
Friday March 18 & Saturday March 19	9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.	Booth at Naples Garden Club Flower Show @ Naples Botanical Gardens
Monday March 21	10 a.m.	Floral Design Workshop -TO BE ANNOUNCED-
	1 p.m.	Horticulture Workshop The ABCs of Bromeliads •Sundance Orchids •Fort Myers.
Saturday March 26	8:30 a.m.	Butterfly Garden Work Group

IMPORTANT DATES!

APRIL/MAY

Thursday April 7		April Spring Luncheon “April in Paris”
	10:30 a.m.	Create a small arrangement
	11:30 a.m.	Social Time
	12:00 p.m.	Luncheon
Saturday April 9	8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.	Home Garden Tour Fundraiser
Wednesday April 13	9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.	Gadabout – Colusa Farms
Saturday April 30	8:30 a.m.	Butterfly Garden Work Group
Friday May 13	8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Gadabout: Redland Internat’l Orchid Festival
Friday May 20	9:00 a.m.	Butterfly Garden Work Group

February Floral Design Workshop



Monique Doyle, Connie Lowery, Janet Watson, Sharon Lewis, and Kathy Hershberger proudly display their floral designs accented with yarn structures. Thanks to Connie Lowery and Jackie Purvis for presenting this workshop.



February Horticulture Workshop

Janet Watson (seated), Terri Pike, Joan Husband, and Susan Neustadt show their grapevine wreaths decorated with tillandsias. Thanks to Linda Schwoeppe, Horticulture Chairperson, for organizing and hosting this event.

GADABOUT Trip to Corkscrew Swamp



Donna Kay, Liz Papagiannis, Kim Porter, Janet Watson, Linda Ariel, Sue Oldershaw, Joan Husband, and Lindy Kowalczyk enjoyed a private tour of beautiful Corkscrew Swamp

"APRIL IN PARIS"

Calusa Garden Club Spring Luncheon

Enjoy a fun luncheon including a Paris themed photo booth, flower market and a "sidewalk" artist. For even more fun, create your own small French inspired floral arrangement to take home.

Date: April 7, 2022, from 10:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Place: Marco Island Yacht Club

Dress: Pastels and a fascinator optional

Program by Bella Florals. Workshop begins at 10:30 a.m. Create your own small "Parisian" floral arrangement to adorn your luncheon table and to take home. Materials supplied, just bring your flower clippers!

Social Time 11:30 A.M. followed by Luncheon 12 NOON

Your choice of entrees: Chicken Cordon Bleu or Vegetarian Eggplant Rollatini served with seasonal spring vegetables and fresh strawberry trifle.

Coffee, iced tea, and lemonade included. A service bar will also be available for wine and cocktails (Credit Card only).

Cost is \$45.00 per person and includes the floral arrangement workshop.

Guests are welcome to attend.

Please note that if your guest wants to participate in the Bella Floral workshop (small Parisian floral arrangement,) there is an additional \$20 fee for each guest.

Please RSVP to Janice Engel (including your menu selection)

jengel13@[aol.com](mailto:jengel13@aol.com) or 239-316 0074

April 9

Gardeners Paradise

Home Garden Tour

Thank all of you who have volunteered so far!

Still Need Drivers! We need at least 8 drivers plus 1 alternate in order to make our Garden Tour a success. So far, we have 4.

Still Need a Tour Guide - for one of the homes.

Still Need a Tour Guide – for the Butterfly Garden.

Still Need 2 or 3 Demonstrators – succulent dish gardens, repotting orchids or other plants, Marco In Bloom -- other ideas?

Email Monique Doyle -mnq53@att.net

or Sara Wolf -sarawolf617@gmail.com

March 18-19

Help CGC Sell Gardening Guides!

... at the Naples Garden Club Flower Show

CGC Booth in Vendor Tent.

Workers receive free admission to the Naples Botanical Garden and the Naples Garden Club Flower show.

Contacts:

- Sara Wolf--- 513.706.8681 or sarawolf617@gmail.com, or
- Linda Colombo --- lindadeec@comcast.net



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Creative Flower Arrangers of the Americas

Connie Lowery recently attended CFAA in Orlando where she exhibited this gorgeous design. She also presented a workshop for all conference attendees. Way to go Connie!

Blue Zone Corner: Chairperson Sharon Lewis

At one of our recent meetings, Monique Doyle brought a Blue Zone favorite salad that everyone enjoyed. Here is her recipe. Enjoy

Confetti Coleslaw

3 cups each shredded green and purple cabbage

2 cups shredded carrots

1/2 cup scallions, green only

1/2 cup chopped celery

1 cup chopped cilantro

1/2 cup dried cranberries or mandarin oranges

1/2 cup toasted sliced almonds

Dressing:

3 T olive oil

2 T sherry or apple cider vinegar

1 T maple syrup

1 garlic clove minced or 1/2 t garlic powder.

Salt pepper to taste and pinch cayenne. optional.

Dress slaw and let it rest for 1 hour. Add almonds before serving. You can add chicken or use it for a topping for fish tacos.

Meet Your Committee Chairpersons:

Lindy Kowalczyk, Chairperson of Floral Design



Lindy Kowalczyk is chairperson of Floral Design in the category of Member Enrichment. Lindy fell and broke her shoulder in the fall, and she is grateful to Sue Oldershaw, Marianne Foley, Connie Lowery, and Jackie Purvis for filling in for our Club Floral Design seminars this season. Therefore, we are profiling all the floral design helpers along with Lindy. Sue Oldershaw was previously profiled.

Lindy is an artist and designer of jewelry. Previously she was an owner of Local Color Gallery, a Marco Island gallery with seven to 10 artists displaying their work. Lindy is an accredited NGC Flower Show Judge and enjoys working with other Flower Show Judges on Judges Council, as well as judging flower shows given by other NGC garden clubs. Lindy is a member of the World Association of Flower Arrangers, and has been to

the WAFA meetings in Boston, Ireland, Barbados, and India (where she was a delegate). Lindy is also a member of Creative Flower Arrangers of the Americas (CFAA).

Lindy became a full-time resident of Marco Island in 2004. She spent most of her earlier life in the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania area and in Maryland, where she was a member of a garden club and where she raised her family. She taught school for a time after earning her masters' degree in learning disabilities, and while raising children Lindy did volunteer work in arts and crafts, and even coached high school softball. Later, she took graduate courses in art and has pursued artistic endeavors ever since.

Lindy is an avid gardener and enjoys growing different plants – including fruits and vegetables - from seed. As a floral designer and our Floral Design Chairperson, she is very proud that Calusa Garden Club members including the other floral designers in our club are trying new designs from the new National Federation of Garden Clubs Flower Show Handbook, such as the cascade grouped mass design.

Marianne Foley, Chairperson of Camperships and Scholarships, and Member of Floral Design Committee.



Marianne Foley, Chairperson of our Scholarship and Campership Committee, is also an accomplished floral designer and has presented floral design workshops this CGC year for our members in lieu of Lindy's injury. Marianne has had a seasonal condominium vacation home on Marco Island since 2004 and became a full-time resident in 2019 after her husband John passed away. She spent most of her earlier life in the Boston, Massachusetts area, where she was a member and president of a garden club in the western Boston area.

Marianne's career began as a school secretary, and while working full time she went to college full time to become a teacher. Her educational career included both teaching and school administration. From her love of teaching, Marianne became passionate about scholarships to assist students in pursuing their educational goals.

Marianne is passionate in all three of Calusa Garden Club's areas: gardening, floral design, and environmental protection. She has previously chaired CGC's Flowers in Public Places committee in addition to the Scholarship and Campership committee, and always volunteers for Club activities. In 2017, Marianne initiated and led an *ad hoc* committee to provide landscaping for Marco Island Academy (prior to the construction of the new MIA building). She organized and carried out the plan, including asking Naples Botanical Garden for donated plants and recruiting volunteers from the Club for a day of planting. The results were amazing and highly appreciated by the MIA staff and students. At Stephen's Landing, her condominium community, Marianne has planted several garden areas and is generous in giving plants to garden club members.

Marianne says that Calusa Garden Club members will never meet a better group of people than those in our club and advises us to volunteer for everything and get involved! Our efforts will lead to satisfaction from accomplishing our tasks and to lasting friendships.

Connie Lowery, Floral Design Committee



Connie Lowery has been Flower Show Chairman, Flowers in Public Places Chairman, and Special Events Chairman for Calusa Garden Club. Connie is always willing to give advice to members about floral design and is very inspiring in her enthusiasm for the art of floral design. Connie became passionate about floral design when she was in a Garden Club on Long Island. Her Long Island Garden club got her started, and she was hooked. Hopefully, in April she will become an accredited judge. As a student judge, Connie has been amazed at the creativity of designers in a flower show when she sees four designs in one class, all different and all amazing.

Connie is originally from Babylon, Long Island, N.Y., where she spent most of her adult life. She also lived in Southern California for about seven years and moved to Marco Island with her husband Gary in 2001. She spent her work life as an American Airlines Flight Attendant. Connie flew all over the world, met wonderful people and made a lot of good friends. She loved every minute of her career and is an excellent storyteller about her experiences.

As a side benefit to Connie's passion for floral design, she became a gardener! She loves the artistic side of showing plants in interesting containers and likes to grow her own floral greens and flowers. Now gardening is becoming another passion for her.

Connie and Gary have been married for 47 years and adore their Pug dogs. Between the two of them they have four sisters and one brother and lots and lots of nieces and nephews, all of whom are the loves of their lives.

Connie advises CGC members that floral designing is fun! And it is very rewarding to see your beautiful creation. She further cautions us to NOT be intimidated when working with flowers. We all started from the beginning -- having your design JUDGED is not the end of the world: it is the beginning of learning your strengths and it fuels your passion for design!

Jackie Purvis, Flower Show Judge and Floral Design Committee



Jackie Purvis is a member of the Floral Design Committee for the Club. Jackie came to Marco Island from Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, where she and her husband George purchased an old home in 1994 on 3/4 of an acre, where nothing had been done, inside or out, for about 25 years. She joined the Garden Club of Bala Cynwyd to learn about plants and trees and their care and transformed the garden over the years. In the Bala Cynwyd club, each member was required to enter the yearly Flower Show in horticulture and design. Also, the Garden Club in Bala Cynwyd entered the Philadelphia Flower Show every other year with a large design display - a back porch, an entryway, a window garden, and so forth. And, individuals from Jackie's club entered the Philadelphia Flower Show every year in both Horticulture and Design. Jackie volunteered and entered the show for about 10 years. Regarding the Philadelphia Flower Show, Jackie says, "It was a joy. Everyone should see it at least once!"

In her first year at Bala Cynwyd, Jackie struggled through a petite design and won a red ribbon, and she was hooked on design. In addition, Jackie studied horticulture at the Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia for two years, and she and George always had a garden at their home until moving to a condo in Marco. She became an accredited Flower Show judge by NGC while a member of the Garden Club of Bala Cynwyd.

Jackie and George lived on Marco for ten years, and recently moved to Moorings Park, a Retirement Community in Naples. Jackie is originally from Hershey, PA, where she says, "Yes, one can smell the chocolate through the east windows, before a rain." She spent her career as a middle school teacher and taught in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York. She also earned a degree in Guidance and Counseling. George's career as a hospital administrator took them to hospital posts in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Paris, and Manila. In Paris, Jackie taught English as a Foreign Language and in Manila, Jackie was a guidance counselor at the International School. They finally returned to Pennsylvania, and then moved to Marco Island to escape the winters in 2012. She wishes they had done that sooner!

Jackie has thoroughly enjoyed being part of Calusa Garden Club and the Florida Judges Council these past ten years, and she has appreciated the talented and kind members of the Calusa Garden Club and the good friends she has made. It has been challenging for her to learn about a new gardening zone and the plants and trees in that zone, but she has welcomed the challenge. Because she has moved to Naples, Jackie will be resigning from our Club at the end of this year, and we will miss her terribly. She has enriched our Club with her knowledge and enriched our lives with her kindness.

GADABOUT TRIP TO THE EVERGLADES WONDER GARDENS



Liz Papagiannis, Bonnie Colman and Sue Oldershaw enjoying the gardens.

Gorgeous Birds at the Gardens



THANK YOU TO:

Many thanks to Eric Jadaszewski, Everglade Native Designs, LLC for planting our Arbor Day tree in Leigh Plummer Park. Eric was our February Speaker.



Approved February 14, 2022

**CALUSA GARDEN CLUB OF MARCO ISLAND
MEMBER MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 10, 2022, 11:00 a.m.**

1. Call to Order: at 11:05 a.m.
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 7, 2021, and approval of Meeting Minutes November 8, 2021 Meeting**
3. Officer Reports
 - 3.1 President – Susan Neustadt
 - a. Marco Beautification Advisory Committee Nature Night 2/16/22 at City Hall 5:30-7:30 p.m.
The Club has been asked to have a table at this event to build awareness of the Calusa Garden Club. Volunteers for the evening should contact Susan.
 - b. Archives
Susan would like a committee to plan the 40th Anniversary Celebration that would also assess the need for the archives. Jean Schultz and Linda Columbo will chair the event and work with Susan on the archives. Special Events could support the celebration as well.
 - c. If you have COVID questions, please do not reach out to Susan; follow CDC guidelines.
 - d. Raffle items will be one winner for each event.
 - 3.2 First VP – Programs – Kim Porter
Speaker today is Alice White from People for Trees. People for Trees focuses on sharing information on planting native trees in our area.
 - 3.3 Second VP – Monique Doyle – Induction of 3 new members:
Jo-Ann Carroll
Maureen McFarland
Jean Schultz
 - 3.4 Treasurer – Annette Kuhn
 - 3.5 Assistant Treasurer – Margie Bramel
The Cash Flow statement for November 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021 was reviewed with total Cash Inflows of \$7,616.06 and Cash Outflows of \$6,235.00 for a positive cash flow of \$1,380.55.
 - 3.6 Recording Secretary – Laura Furlong
 - 3.7 Corresponding Secretary – Joan Husband
 - 3.8 Parliamentary Procedure Advisor – Linda Colombo
4. Standing Committee Reports
 - 4.1 Awards -Opi DeFalco – NO REPORT
 - 4.2 Civic Beautification – Opi DeFalco –
Linda Colombo is working with the City of Marco Island on an Arbor Day Event which will be held on Friday, January 21, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at Leigh Plummer Park. The Club has donated a Pigeon Plum native tree to be planted. Please join us for the event with an optional lunch following.
 - 4.3 Communications – Nancy Adams
 - a. Web site redesign
Sara Wolf presented an outline of the committee’s work and proposal for the web site redesign to the membership. The membership will vote on the proposal at the February 14, 2021 meeting.
 - b. February newsletter will be done by Sara Wolf. Please send all information for this newsletter to Sara.
 - 4.4 Community Education and Outreach – Donna Kay
Sara Wolf shared report on December Library Floral Design Program. The program had 24 community attendees and many club members as volunteers.
 - 4.5 Member Enrichment – Sharon Lewis
 - a. Maria Bachich-Environmental Reports and workshops
At each table there are handouts on “Environmental Issues in our Own Backyard”.

b. Floral Design Workshop-Connie Lowery and Jackie Purvis designing with wool to add texture and form. Sign up sheet available.

Horticulture Hint and workshop Linda Schwoeppe-Tillandsia workshop at Linda's Home. Sign up sheet available.

c. Gadabouts-Jen Ferrier-Trip on January 26 to Audubon Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary (natural protected area, walkway and observation tower). Bring your own lunch and water. Sign up sheet available.

d. Marco Town Center Plaza area has been replanted with support of the Calusa Garden Club (near Margarita's Restaurant). Open House February 10th 2-6:00 p.m.

4.6 Member Events – Janice Engel

Thanks for all the volunteers for assisting with the Gala. Please respond to the survey asking for feedback which will be in the next newsletter.

4.7 Ways and Means – Sara Wolf

a. Selby Gardens (Sarasota, FL) tour will take place on February 1, 2022

departing 8:30 from the Lutheran Church and returning 5:30. All guests are welcome. Sign up on Eventbrite.

Guests and friends are welcome.

Volunteers Needed: Sign up sheet available

i. Hospitality – purchase snacks and drinks and paper goods for the bus and serving them

ii. Soliciting Lunch Orders

b. Naples Garden Show-March 18 and 19th-Volunteers needed to sit at the table to educate public on the Calusa Garden Club. Sign up sheets available.

c. Volunteers Needed for Garden Tour (date to be finalized the week of March 28-April 3)

Volunteers opportunities include:

i. Transportation-25 person buses

ii. Garden Guides with horticulture information at each house

iii. Assist home gardeners with tasks in the week prior to the event

iv. Hospitality

New Business:

Maureen McFarland agreed to take 2 Gardening Guide boxes from Eva to store at her home.

Thanks to the committee for bringing food for the luncheon today.

Meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

NEXT MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

1. Monday, January 17: 10:00 a.m. Floral Design Workshop
2. Monday, January 17: 1:00 p.m. Horticulture Workshop
3. Friday, January 21: Florida Arbor Day
4. Wednesday, January 26: Gadabouts – Audubon Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary
5. Saturday, January 29: 8:30 a.m. Butterfly Garden Work Group
6. Tuesday, February 1: Field Trip to Marie Selby Gardens
7. Monday, February 14: 10 a.m. Board and Member Meeting

Approved: Susan Neustadt, President

Respectfully Submitted: Laura Furlong, Recording Secretary