



## ~ Smoke Signals ~

# The Calusa Garden Club Newsletter

**April, 2021**

Editor: Ami Ruiz

Web Site [calusa.org](http://calusa.org)

[calusagardenclub@aol.com](mailto:calusagardenclub@aol.com)

**S**pring is here! And Calusa Garden Club members have enjoyed our flowering trees and bushes during March and April. Of course, we are fortunate enough to have flowers all year in Southwest Florida, but the extra colors of spring are so very welcome! They add new interest to our landscapes.

Spring is also the time we change officers in Calusa Garden Club. I am so thankful for our officers and committee chairpersons who have kept Calusa Garden Club vibrant for the last two years. We have prospered in membership, knowledge, and activities, even through the corona virus pandemic. I have enjoyed leading the Club during my tenure, and I thank our Club officers Susan LaGrotta, Susan Neustadt, Annette Kuhn, Vivian Patterson, Margie Bramel, Rhea Brekke, Laura Furlong, and Cristina Leske, who worked with me to keep our Club going strong.

And now the new officers and committee chairs will be taking us to another level— adding extra colors and vibrancy to our Club activities for the next two years. I wish them the best, and I know they will have the support of all our Club members as we continue our work activities and fun activities together.

...Sara



### Upcoming Events...

3/29	10:00	Board Meeting on Zoom
4/8	10:30	Spring Luncheon and Officer Installation. Wesley United Methodist Church
		\$15 charge per member Reservations due to Janice Engel by April 1 Bring your lawn chair
4/12	10:00	Joint Board Meeting on Zoom

**Congratulations to  
Dale DeFeo, our  
new District IX  
Director  
2021 to 2023!!!**

## Blue Zones...

### Blue Zone Corner

Submitted by Blue Zone Chairperson, Sharon Lewis

Welcome to Eva Kubinsky and John Johnson's backyard with Oscar their beloved family dog. Eva and her family practice blue zone values without even trying. They try to take time out of each day and sit on their lanai taking in the beauty of nature and the water views with Oscar at their side – de-stressing. A good practice for all of us. Their mantra is a *"Healthy Life is a Happy Life"*.

Pictured standing next to containers of herbs and vegetables, they incorporate these in their daily meals. One of John's favorite easy appetizers are "Jalapeno Poppers."

This can be prepared as a Vegan appetizer or you can add some chopped meat as a variety.

#### Recipe

- 12 jalapeños, halved and deseeded
- 8 ounces of vegan cream cheese, or regular
- ½ lemon juice
- ½ cup of shredded cheddar cheese, or other cheese or your choice
- ¼ cup of chopped parsley, chives, and dill
- Minced garlic
- S&P
- Optional, panko crumbs

Mix all ingredients in a bowl. Spoon the mixture evenly in the jalapenos and place on a baking sheet. (optional -sprinkle with panko crumbs) Bake 15 - 20 minutes – 400 degree oven



**MEMBERS: Calusa Garden Club can now accept online payments. If you choose to pay dues or for the April 8 luncheon by credit or debit card, note the slight increase in prices to cover the processing fees!**

## **Basic Tips for Flower Arranging...**

### **MECHANICS**

Oasis: Float it holes side down until it sinks by itself. Do not push it down into water. Chicken Wire: It can be used alone or in conjunction with oasis when using large plant material. Tape: Clear tape to form grid especially on glass containers. Green tape to secure oasis. Kenzan: Pin holder, Secure to container with "Sure Stick". Container: Should complement arrangement, not dominate.

### **TOOLS**

Sharp Scissors (Joyce Chen) Clippers Wire Cutters

### **CONDITIONING**

Make sure plant material is fresh. When cutting from your garden do this early or late in the day. Cut stems at an angle under water. Put plant material into buckets (which have been cleaned with bleach) with fresh water and plant preservative. Remove all leaves from stems which would be below the water line. Leave a few leaves at the top of stem to act as a siphon to bring the water up the stem. Conditioning time is usually 6-24 hours.

### **PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN ELEMENTS OF DESIGN**

Balance Space Color

Rhythm Light Texture

Scale Line

Proportion Form

Dominance Size

Contrast Pattern

### **FLOWER ARRANGING TIPS**

1. In general, the height of your tallest flower or stem should be 1.5 times the height of the container.
2. Experiment with color! Colors with high contrast such as yellows, purples and blues can make for a vibrant and exciting bouquet. Equally dramatic bouquets can be achieved using all different shades of the same color (monochromatic).
3. When choosing flowers for an arrangement, try to select a variety of shapes and sizes; it will make your arrangement more interesting. Graduating the sizes of the blooms give the eye some steppingstones from which to travel around the arrangement.
4. When cutting and putting your flowers into the arrangement, make sure to vary the heights. Keep the larger blooms toward the center as focal points. Smaller blooms should be used to create an outer line for your arrangement and fill in around your focal points.
5. Many people forget in important element in floral arranging – to green or not to green? Foliage can be used to accent your flowers by creating a complimentary backdrop to show off their colors and forms. Foliage can also add different texture and create a line to your arrangement. Other times, however, it is best to leave the foliage out and let the flowers speak for themselves.

## Dues are due...

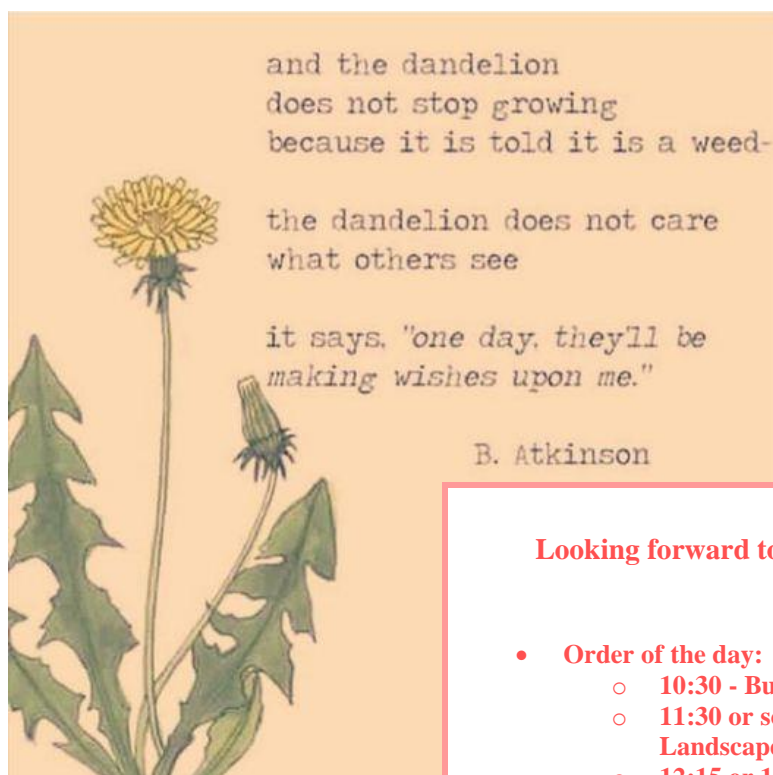
### IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN! CALUSA GARDEN CLUB MEMBERSHIP DUES DUE APRIL 1, 2021

**Dues:** \$40 for Active members  
\$45 for Associate Members

**Due Date:** April 1, 2021

**Send Check To:** Annette Kuhn  
160 Delbrook Way  
Marco Island, FL 34145

You may add \$15 to your check for your lunch at the April 8 In-Person Spring Luncheon and Officer Installation. If you add \$15, then your check is \$55 for active members and \$60 for associate members.



Looking forward to our April 8 meeting, new officer installation, and lunch!

- **Order of the day:**
  - 10:30 - Business Meeting and Installation of Officers
  - 11:30 or so - Speakers: CGC Members Describing their Landscapes and Gardens
  - 12:15 or 12:30 - Adjournment and Lunch
  -
- **BRING:**
  - mask
  - lawn or beach chair
  - Your dues and \$15 luncheon fee if you have not yet paid.
  -
- We will have Gardening Guides on hand to sell at \$10 each. Please support our Club and purchase a few for your friends and neighbors.

... Sara



# Calusa Garden Club Spring Luncheon

THURSDAY APRIL 8, 2021 10:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

WESLEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH -under portico

BIG AL'S BOX LUNCH ( sandwich, chips, potato salad, cookie )

BOTTLED WATER & ICED TEA provided or bring your own

PLEASE CHOOSE SANDWICH FROM MENU BELOW

## Cold Hoagies & Wraps

Served with lettuce, tomato, onion, banana peppers, sweet peppers, pickles, blended olive oil & vinegar, salt, pepper & oregano

<i>Wraps Regular 6" Size Only</i>	6"
Classic Italian	6.40
<i>Ham, Capicola, Genoa Salami</i>	
Combo	6.90
<i>Ham, Turkey, Roast Beef</i>	
Genoa Salami	6.40
Ham & Turkey Breast	6.40
Ham	6.40
Turkey Breast	6.40
Roast Beef	7.85
Bologna	6.40
Tuna Fish (white albacore)	6.40
Chicken Salad -all white meat	6.40
Krab Salad	6.40
Egg Salad	6.40
Cheese Combo	6.40

## Sandwiches

Your choice of Whole Wheat, White or Rye bread.  
Your choice of Cheese Lettuce, Tomato, Onion

Roast Beef	7.85
B.L.T.	6.40
Bologna	6.40
Turkey Breast	6.40
Turkey Breast & Bacon	6.40
Ham	6.40
Genoa Salami	6.40
Chicken Salad	6.40
Krab Salad	6.40
Tuna Fish -albacore	6.40
Egg Salad	6.40
Corned Beef	7.85
Pastrami	7.85
Liverwurst	6.40

BRING A LAWN CHAIR

**COST : \$15.00**

MAIL CHECK TO ANNETTE KUHN 160 DELBROOK WAY, MARCO ISLAND, 34145

**PLEASE RSVP by MARCH 31**

JANICE ENGEL 239-316-0074 CALL/TEXT , JENGEL13@AOL.COM



**THANK YOU!!**

**Mike Kirby, Subtropical Trees, for donating a tree to  
Leigh Plummer Park for Arbor Day.**

**Subtropical Trees  
CEP and Certified Arborist  
3241 German Woods court, Naples FL 34116.  
Mobile 239-271-0081**

**THANK YOU!!**

**Eric Jadazewski, Everglades Native Designs, LLC for  
planting the tree in Leigh Plummer Park for Arbor Day.**

**Everglades Native Designs, LLC  
239-300-8115  
[evergladesnativedesigns.com](http://evergladesnativedesigns.com)**

Save

*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!*

