



Smoke Signals The Calusa Garden Club Newsletter

September, 2022

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Even as summer ends, club members have been working hard on three projects. Committees worked (1) to find a new location for club meetings and workshops, (2) on the design of our new web site and (3) to revise the club's Bylaws and Standing Rules.

After 20 plus years of holding garden club meetings and workshops at Wesley United Methodist Church, Mondays are no longer available for the club's use. An Ad Hoc committee was quickly formed to find a new meeting space. After reviewing many venues, it was determined the Rose Hall at the Marco Island Library would best suit our needs. Due to the Library's scheduling system, meetings can be reserved only three months in advance, so be sure to check the monthly calendar on the web site for meeting and workshop dates and times.

That brings up the second project – making final touches on our new web site! It is a fabulous application that looks wonderful and is easy to navigate. All the information published in the Yearbook can now be found on the web site! You can also find club related documents, download applications and forms, view the calendar, pay dues and purchase tickets for events, and buy club merchandise. Now we need members to view the web site as an introduction and a “first look” with an opportunity for questions and give feedback. Please contact me if you would like to look at the new website.

The third Committee worked diligently and spent many hours revising the Bylaws and Standing Rules which can be found on both the old and new websites.

These Committees still need a chair for the next club year 2022-2023.

Please become involved with:

A/V & TECH SUPPORT	AWARDS	FIELD TRIPS
FLORIDA ARBOR DAY	GARDEN TOUR	JUNIOR GARDENERS
MEMBER LUNCHESES	PUBLICITY	WEBSITE ADMINISTRATION
TEA	MERCHANDISE MARKETING AND SALES	

All these committees have been chaired by experienced members and can mentor, advise, and assist you! Enjoy the perks - being a chair gives you a voice at Board meetings; you can be involved in discussions and matters that affect the club.

Another opportunity to be a Board member is to fill one of the Officer vacancies in February 2023.

Any member that wishes to attend a Board meeting to observe may do so. If you would like to attend our next Board meeting, which is via Zoom on September 16 at 10:00 a.m., please let me know and I will send you the meeting link.

Email me today at sneustad@icloud.com and let me know how you want to be involved! New and better ideas make a big difference! Let's have true satisfaction this next club year!

LET'S MAKE IT A WIN-WIN YEAR!

Important Dates for September, 2022

DATE	TIME	MEETING	WHERE
Friday, Sept 16	10 AM	Board Meeting	ZOOM
Saturday Sept 24	9 AM	Butterfly garden work group	Butterfly Garden
Friday Sept 30		Newsletter items due to Nancy Adams	

Let's Go to the Orchid Show!



Day Trip - Members and Guests

Marie Selby Gardens, Sarasota

- Tuesday, October 25
- 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Guided Tour at Selby Gardens
- Lunch included
- Transportation by Private Car
- \$53 + transportation (cost to be announced)

Enjoy a day trip to the famous Marie Selby Gardens Orchid Show. Trip is open to CGC members and their guests. Contact Sara Wolf if you want to join the group!

→ Let us know if you can drive a group.

Important Dates for October, 2022

DATE	TIME	MEETING	WHERE
Saturday Oct 1	9 AM	Garden Maintenance	Leigh Plummer
Tuesday Oct 4	10:30 AM	Board Meeting	Rose Hall Library
Wed, Oct 5	1 PM	Horticulture Workshop	TBD
Thurs, Oct 6	9:30 AM	Marker Maintenance	Leigh Plummer
Tuesday Oct 11	TBD	Succulent Dish Workshop	Linda Colombo's home
Wed, Oct 12	10:30 AM	General Club Meeting	Rose Hall, Library
Wed, Oct 13	9:30 AM	Pineapple Marker Maintenance	
Saturday Oct 15	9 AM	Garden Maintenance	Leigh Plummer
Tuesday Oct 18	TBD	Gadabouts	District IX meeting, Estero
Wed, Oct 19	10:30 AM	Floral Design Workshop	Rose Hall Library
Tues Oct 25	TBD	Field Trip	Selby Gardens
Saturday Oct 29	9 AM	Butterfly Garden work group	Butterfly garden
Monday Oct 31		Newsletter Items due to Nancy Adams	

OCTOBER PROGRAM Submitted by Kimberly Porter

Welcome Back Calusa Garden Club Members!

General Meeting & Program
Wednesday, October 12, 2022
10:30am in Rose Hall
Marco Public Library

“Butterfly Gardening - Anyone Can Do It!”

Master Gardener and butterfly enthusiast Donna Kay will present a PowerPoint photo presentation, titled “Butterfly Gardening; the stages of a butterfly in metamorphosis.” She will show this amazing progression as well as what to plant to attract butterflies and keep them in your yard. Donna has planted many butterfly gardens in our area. Her work flourishes in yards, condo developments and even created as a butterfly friendly space in lanai areas.

Next, Susan La Grotta aided by Sue Oldershaw, will lead an historic discussion about how the Calusa Park Butterfly Garden came to exist today. Including, the connection with the City of Marco Island and the improvements that progressed to make the beautiful garden what it is today. Photos will accompany their talking points. The stories will not only be informative, but some humorous and personal. Both segments of this program will show members more about what our club is doing for the Marco Island Community due to the efforts and talents of the dedicated gardeners that maintain the garden.

SAVE THE DATE
HOLIDAY LUNCHEON
AT
LA TAVOLA
Thursday, December 8, 2022



SAVE THE DATE
NEW OFFICER INSTALLATION
& HIGH TEA
AT
MARCO ISLAND YACHT CLUB
THURSDAY APRIL 13, 2023



CGC PLANT SALE INFORMATION Submitted by Sara Wolf



Plant Sale Committee Meeting Report to Members

The Plant, Thanksgiving Arrangement, Succulent Dish Gardens (etc.!) Sale Committee met on August 17, 2022. The group who attended came up with some great ideas for our November 22 sale. *All members are welcome to contact Sara Wolf, Plant Sale chair, to volunteer to work on the planning committee.*

Time and Place:

- Marco Lutheran Church Parking Lot
- November 22, 2022
- 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Subcommittees:

- Plants: Donna Kay and Laura Furlong, Co-Chairs
- Thanksgiving Arrangements: Marianne Foley, Chair
- Succulent Dish Gardens: Linda Colombo, Chair
- Herb Gardens and Indoor/Outdoor Planters: _____, Chair to be recruited.
- Holding Table: Kimberly Korb Porter
- Checkout/ Cashiers: _____, chair to be recruited.

Member Timetable:

- Set-up: 7:45 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.
- Member donation drop-off: 9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
- Takedown/cleanup: 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

What You Can Do Now:

- Prepare plants for sale by taking offshoots now, planting them,
- Scour thrift shops for decorative pots of all sizes.
- Cut your bromeliad flowers now to dry and spray paint for your Thanksgiving floral designs.
- Prepare your succulents by separating and potting them to get them healthy for a dish garden.

- Notify Sara Wolf if you have a shade tent you can loan us for the day.

We need you to volunteer! We ask members to volunteer to chair a subcommittee, work at a sales table or the holding table, be a cashier, or work on set-up and takedown. Please donate an arrangement, several plants, or a dish garden, an herb garden, or a succulent dish garden. We are emphasizing **quality** over **quantity** and ask you to limit your plants in growers' pots to no more than 5.

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THINKING ABOUT . . . Thanksgiving Floral Designs . . .

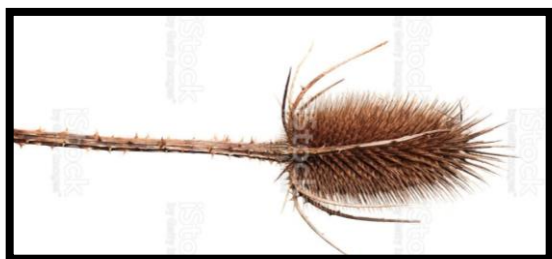
We hope to have MANY floral designs to sell at our November 22 sale. Here are some photos to inspire you!

Between now and November, you can look for a container that fits the Thanksgiving theme -- or a decorative container that will attract purchasers because it is striking, or because it fits their décor. We are selling table centerpieces, but also we hope you will donate other sizes ----- how about a tall arrangement for a buffet? Or a small decorative composition for a kitchen island or for a bathroom?



Take some time now to look at stores like The Dollar Tree, Michael's, Hobby Lobby and Home Goods if you don't have a container

on hand you wish to donate as part of your arrangement. Remember, these stores start displaying fall merchandise in September, and sometimes before Labor Day!



Try your hand at drying, then spray-painting in metallic paint a few accent pieces like bromeiads flowers. Collect pine cones, pretty twigs, branches or berries to enhance your flowers and greens. Acorns, thistles, and pine cones definitely signify "fall" in an arrangement.

OCTOBER GADABOUT *Submitted by Sue Oldershaw and Jen Ferrier*

Attention All Calusa Garden Club Members!!! Let's make a big showing and have a fun Gadabout to the District IX meeting at Estero in October!!! Watch for registration information in September.

NEWS FROM THE BUTTERFLY GARDEN *Submitted by Susan La Grotta*



Members, Kathy McNab, Nancy Adams, Linda Colombo, Maureen McFarland along with a friend of the garden Rhonda Gloodt weeded, pruned, mulched and planted this summer. Some of the plants added were wildflowers, pentas, porter weed , milkweed seeds, jatrophas donated by Rhonda and a privet cassia , propagated from seed and donated by Maureen.

Rhonda spotted a Giant Swallowtail on the Wild Lime tree, first in a while! Visit the garden, sit on a bench, you may be surprised too ! Summertime typically brings gold rim swallowtails, white peacocks, monarchs, gulf fritillaries and skippers, Tiny Barred Yellow.

A special Thank you to friends of the garden Rhonda and Bob Gloodt. They built a bamboo trellis for the butterfly garden. Both spent a few days cutting the bamboo, then transporting it to the garden to assemble. They were able to cut the giant bamboo from a friend's property. The photo was submitted by R. Gloodt.

We will plant propagated Passionvine, (Passiflora incarnata/Maypop) host to the Gulf Fritillary, Zebra Heliconian/Longwing (the official State of Florida butterfly) and Julias.

April 2023 (date TBD) will be our butterfly release.

If you have any native milkweed, please consider donating the seeds or plants to the butterfly garden, as we will need plenty of plant food for the butterflies.

***** FOR SALE! *** \$10 EACH *****

The Club has 2 surplus used Earth boxes and 1 surplus used Patio Picker planting box left to sell. We are selling the used planting boxes to members for \$10 each.

The Emsco Patio Picker is no longer sold, but as a comparison, the Emsco City Picker currently sells from \$29.99 to \$45.00. The Earth boxes currently sell for \$38.00.

August Garden Club Lunch Submitted by Linda Colombo



Another super attended summer luncheon. It was held at Joey D's since our chosen restaurant for the event, Su's Garden is closed on Wednesday. As you can see there were 15 of us. The waiter had a difficult time getting our attention with all the delightful chatter between members.

A picture from the July luncheon with more good friends, good food and good fun!



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LINDA CHUTE AND SON MOVE GAZEBO Submitted by Susan La Grotto

Linda Chute and her son, Bradley, worked with the city and contractors to move a gazebo from Veteran's Park to Leigh Plummer Park this summer. The gazebo was Bradley's Eagle Scout Project in 2013 but was scheduled to be demolished in the Veteran's Park redevelopment. A big shoutout to them for saving a part of the city's history.

For pictures and more of the story, visit the following Coastal Breeze webpage:

https://www.coastalbreezenews.com/news/community/history-saved/article_9f9bc18a-0e2b-11ed-86ea-679fec249deo.html

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA IS NOW A CERTIFIED BLUE ZONES COMMUNITY



by Blue Zones Project Southwest Florida

To become a Blue Zones Certified Community, our community came together to help make healthy choices easier. Every individual and organization (over 800 organizations) that adopted Power 9 and other well-being principles as part of their lifestyle and organization's infrastructure, have contributed to a well-being tipping point to help make healthier choices become part of our culture. In addition, our community planners and elected officials who implemented best practices, and continue to do so, to make healthier choices easier in our environment have been instrumental in making SWFL a healthier and happier place to live. For example, we can see this on streets where sidewalks and bike lanes have been prioritized, and where streets are designed to move traffic more efficiently and safely. In addition, policies related to de-normalizing tobacco and vaping continue to protect our youngest generation from becoming addicted to tobacco. Our food policy champions are prioritizing efforts to keep fresh food local, make healthy food accessible to all, and prevent future food system failures during disasters such as pandemics or hurricanes.

