



Smoke Signals

July 2025

<http://calusa.org>

calusagardenclubcommunication@gmail.com

Edited by Barbara Perez

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LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

It feels as if I just wrote to all of you. Our summer is flying by. Before we all know it, October will be here and our meetings

will begin. There has been a lot going on behind the scenes with our Fall Festival and Plant Sale. Please be sure to read all you receive regarding this exciting new addition of the Festival to the Plant Sale event. Diane Chestnut and Rhonda Gloodt are your chairmen to contact with any and all questions. Please volunteer now to be part of the committee.

I would like to thank Susan Neustadt for all she is doing to bring the website up to date and revise parts of it. Thank you, Sara Wolf, for your publicity items you have sent into both District IX and FFGC. Treasurer Margie Bramel and the members who are helping with the budget are working hard to finalize the proposed budget. It is my hope that the Board can meet in September at a special meeting for its approval. Thank you to our Smoke Signals editor, new member Barbara Perez. The first issue was a nice addition to our member communications. The Art In Bloom event will take place in early April. Specific information will be forthcoming.

If any members have news for all please send it to me to review and pass on to Barbara. If you are enjoying gardening up north or a garden, please send some pictures and a short note so others can enjoy what you are doing.

See you soon,
Linda Colombo



Upcoming events

July 5 - 8:00 am - Leigh Plummer Park Maintenance
July 14 - Noon - Monthly Luncheon at Kretch's Restaurant
July 19 - 8:00 am - Leigh Plummer Park Maintenance
July 26 - 8:30 am - Butterfly Garden Maintenance
August 2 - 8:00 am - Leigh Plummer Park Maintenance
August 16 - 8:00 am - Leigh Plummer Park Maintenance
August 30 - 8:30 am - Butterfly Garden Maintenance

District IX meeting

The Spring meeting of the Florida Federation Garden Clubs, District IX, was held at Riverside Community Center in Fort Myers, sponsored by the Garden Club of Cape Coral. The theme was "Welcome to Paradise." We were asked on the invitation to dress in tropical attire, so we did!



Top Susan Neustadt, Janet Watson, Kim Porter, Maura Kelley, Kathy McNabb, and Connie Lowery, Seated – Sara Wolf, Diane Chestnut, Linda Colombo and Valerie Aguis

District IX of the FFGC is on Facebook

The Calusa Garden Club is part of District IX of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs. Become a "friend" on Facebook to keep abreast of the latest news and activities.

College Scholarships for 2025

On May 16th, the Calusa Garden Club announced the four recipients of the club's College Scholarships for 2025. At the Awards Night Ceremony at Marco Island Academy, president Linda Colombo presented the awards to the four recipients: Lily Tessarzik, Helen Totten, Michelle Acosta and Ginger Roloff. Also present were Scholarship Committee Chairman Marianne Foley and Kathy McNabb. Coincidentally, all of the young women are graduates of Marco Island Academy in 2025. Two of them will attend Florida State University, one the University of Maine and one the University of Florida. They will pursue different careers commensurate with the Club's guidelines, among which are biological science, the environment, conservation



Linda Colombo, Michelle Acosta Lily Tessarzik, Helen Totten, Ginger Roloff, Kathy McNabb, Manianne Foley

LEIGH-PLUMMER PARK AND BUTTERFLY GARDEN

Maintenance and beautification continues in our two Marco Island parks. Susan LaGrotta reports that plants that are blooming include the blue ageratum (propagated and planted by Nancy Adams), Panama rose, vinca, Dutchman's pipe, giant milkweed, Porterweed,



pentas and cassias. Passionvine and milkweed feed the caterpillars, and their flowers provide nectar for the butterflies. *Thank you* to Kimberly Porter for donating a deck box where we can store our tools! Past months volunteers are: Nancy Adams with some friends and her dad, Debra Kulhman, Susan LaGrotta, Barbara Perez, Kathy McNabb and Pam Bodenhamer..



All of us who are around during these steamy summer months should make an effort to attend. With lots of rain, weeding is a top priority. Bring your hat, gloves, buckets, rakes and clippers. Don't forget the water bottle for hydration, even though the session is early in the morning.



Pam Bodenhamer with a huge pile of weeds



Barbara Perez, Debbie Kuhlman and Nancy Adams



Monarch on Milkweed



Gulf Fritillary on Passion Vine



Queen on Milkweed



3700 Bayshore Drive, Naples Florida (239) 403-4736
Green Door Nursery
www.GreenDoorNursery.com

3700 Bayshore Drive | (239) 403-4736

Save The Date

Green Door Nursery's
19th
Anniversary Sale

Wednesday, July 16th
Saturday, July 19th
2025



Marisa J.
Sue O.
Jen F.

possible horticulture workshop

2025 Naples Yard and Garden Show
OCTOBER 25-26TH
Collier County - UF/IFAS Exention
14700 Immokalee Rd
Naples FL 34120
(239) 252-4800

Don't Miss It

UF/IFAS
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
Collier County

Hello everyone!
I'm excited to announce that the 2025 Naples Yard and Garden Show will be held on October 25-26th.
I'm currently finalizing the application forms, and you can expect them in your email inboxes by the end of May.
Looking forward to seeing you there!
Best regards,
Tatiana Toledo
Vendor Committee
Collier County Volunteer Master Gardener
(239) 370-0423
tat.toledo@colcof.com

<Vendor SAVE the Date 2025 to cover price>

* Vendor SAVE the Date 2025 to cover price (475 KB)

2 1/2 days
NO COST

Good Place to draw
Plant Sale
Fall Festival
approx. 1 month before ours
Creative - Catchy Flyer