

District X

By Barbara Hadsell, District Director

Members of Terrific Ten have been actively supporting our two year theme of Know, Sow and Grow.

We held two Lunch n Learns at the end of Sept.(north and south) covering Programs, Membership, Fundraising, Educational Opportunities, Awards, Community Partnerships, Garden Weeks, and information available from FFGC and NGC. Fifteen of our clubs sent a total of 75 representatives. The educational brochures created by our officers are available to all clubs on our district website. And at our 2nd Lunch n Learn we were live on the internet on a big screen, checking out all the great garden club web sites!!!

This District Director is pleased to report an increase of 41 members as of June 1, 2011 for a total membership of 1,256. Nine out of our 18 clubs show a net increase in that time period. We added one club, Passion Flowers, a circle spin-off from the West Palm Beach GC. St. Lucie West has a 45% increase in membership and the Wellington GC has added 26 new members since the June 1 report of this year. Our District clubs are very much focused on membership and will be reporting on this for the Deep South Region Unified Project “Building Membership”. All clubs have been advised that a new FFGC PowerPoint CD on membership is available.

Educational opportunities for our members this year include two courses in Environmental Studies and the Tropical Short Course, “Tropical Delights” has been approved as a TriRefresher. The NGC TriRefresher chairman has said *“The description of each subject and the presenters is excellent. You have cutting edge topics and this will be an outstanding refresher.”* Interactive Registration for the TSC is on our FFGC and District website. The dates are January 31, Feb. 1 at the Mounts Botanical Garden in West Palm Beach.

Visibility/ interaction with the community is a major part of many of our clubs’ activities. A special portion of the District Fall meeting was devoted to reports by clubs that addressed National

Garden Club's two year theme "Proudly Serving our Member and Communities—Special Projects." The Jupiter Tequesta Club told of their efforts in "Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems" and members were reminded to enroll in the Environmental Studies Course IV—Water. NGC's "Plantings for Public and Special Places" was reflected in six reports: How to participate in the NGC Landscape Design Award program; Landscaping for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program—Wellington GC; Butterfly Gardening with Youth—St. Lucie West GC; Butterfly Sanctuary recognition; Community Projects in Vero Beach—GC of Indian River County; and Edible Gardening with Youth—West Palm Beach GC. Community partnerships with the Elks and Eagle Scouts given by the Boca Raton GC gave members some food for thought and the GC of Fort Pierce challenged the members with fundraising ideas to help finance projects that had been in the reports. *All of this information, in detail, is available at www.districtx.org under Highlights.*

Also at the meeting FFGC President, Jan Sillik, explained how the Deep South "Penny Pines" program will benefit Florida's acres that have been affected with wild fires and we all gave our loose and "paper" change to that cause. Gloria Blake, Deep South Penny Pines chairman, asked all clubs to regularly collect for this cause.

Terrific Ten members are strong supports of our young gardeners. Our Youth chair reports 11 Junior clubs have registered as of Oct. 20 with 543 members. More are expected including an Environmental high school club whose student President just attended SEEK on a GC scholarship. And SEEK and Wekiva financial and volunteer support has been superb!

As we Know, Sow and Grow, District X will be encouraging our members to support the National Garden Club's special projects: Plantings for Public and Special Places including Gardens with Edibles, Container Gardens and Trees & Shrubs; Protecting Aquatic Ecosystems; and Photo Archiving of Accomplishments, <http://www.flickr.com/photos/nationalgardenclubs>