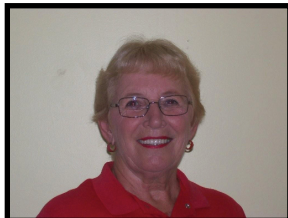


# BLOOMING TALES

## from Terrific Ten

March, 2011



## Direct from the Director: Sandy Arlund

“Time Flies when you’re having Fun”

and might I add, being busy. This is an old saying but oh, so true. The first three months of 2011 has gone by very quickly, and keeping busy speeds up the process.

The Tropical Short Course in January was the first event that most of you attended; in fact we had over 150 attendees during the 2 days who enjoyed the different horticulture speakers and the designs done by Gloria Blake, Melba Campbell and Patty Prange. You, too, can learn how to do the various designs featured in the Floral Design Study Classes, just contact Carol Lucia, FFGC Floral Design Chairman, to find out how. Because all who attended had fun and shopped, the District realized a \$3,030.64 profit.

February brought many activities. Indian River County Garden Club held Vero Beach’s Garden Fest which provided an opportunity to purchase beautiful plants, etc. and also to learn from the experts. Rio Lindo Garden Club in Port St. Lucie had a successful plant sale at their new Botanical Garden. It will be worth the trip to visit this new Botanical Garden- it is in its beginning stages but the location is outstanding and their members have wonderful future plans for the garden.

Then following their plant sale they sponsored a bus trip up to see the camellias in bloom at the Leu Gardens, which included a tour of our FFGC State Office where we

had lunch then on to Camp Wekiva. We were greeted by Arlene Hanks and her new husband and given a tour of the facilities by the Camp Director. Seeing Camp Wakiva first hand has impressed this Director. To see the opportunity that the children have and what they can do at this camp is very exciting. I had a chance to see the new dishwasher that our funds helped provide. After seeing this camp, I and all those who went, have a different outlook about this camp.

The following day, this Director attended a luncheon and fashion show arranged by the Palm Beach Garden Garden Club. This was their fund raiser for Habitat for Humanity and scholarships to Camp Wekiva and for students attending Palm Beach State College, studying in the field of Horticulture.

March came in like a lion with the Environmental Study School, an intense 2 day course with very interesting topics. The instructors were very knowledgeable and did a great presentation. I am sure all 35 students passed as it was an open book exam and Li Roberts was the registrar but also took it as a refresher. We were fortunate that Jayne Hemstreet, FFGC State ESS Credentials chairman came down to proctor, correct exams and return them to us promptly. She was most helpful in getting this course off the ground. She is chairing the next course, Course IV, water, to be held in Stuart at the Knights of Columbus Hall (where we held the Fall District meeting). This will be on November 29 & 30. Please

mark that date on your calendar and plan to attend. This will be a very useful course as it is National Garden Club and our Garden Club members’ concern.

The final garden club bus trip is coming up; it is Boynton Beach’s trip to Parrot Jungle and Gardens. Looking forward to joining members from this club, on the trip, which also includes walking the grounds of Ichimura Miami Japanese Garden.

March activities are not over yet, as there is the flower show put on by the members of the Stuart Garden club on March 26 & 27 at the Martin County Fairgrounds. There are 2 more flower shows in this District, one in Boca Raton on April 2 and one in Jupiter/Tequesta on April 8. Take advantage of these Standard Flower Shows to view beautiful designs produced by members of District X.

Well members, this is my last article- my term as your District Director is just about over. It has been my pleasure to have served you, I have enjoyed meeting many of you throughout my 2 years and have made so many friends and I do mean friends. I wish Barbara Hadsell our incoming Director the best of luck in the next 2 years and may she have the support that you have given me. Hope many of you will be going to the State Convention on April 14 & 15 in Ocala to see Barbara installed along with the new State Officers.

## District X Flower Show judges salute officers



Florida Flower Show Judges Council for District X met at the Garden Club of Indian River County on February 15th. In addition to an inspiring program on design containers and critiques, the District's outgoing officers were thanked and incoming officers were introduced.

Officers among the 25 District X Judges who attended are pictured in the GCIRC garden: District X Director Sandra Arlund; Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Officers: President Carol Hall and Corresponding Secretary Patty Prange; District X Judges Council's incoming Co-Vice Directors Syble Boozer and Boots Bush; outgoing Judges Council Director Ann Carter; Secretary Pro-tem Michele Myers and Corresponding Secretary Anne Michael.

Judges Council Officers absent from the picture include Treasurer Keren Franklin, Secretary Jennifer Sauter and Incoming Judges Council Director Joan Hartsock.

## W G C celebrates 2011 Wellington Garden Week

The Wellington Garden Club received a proclamation from Mayor Bowen at our February meeting declaring the week of Feb. 26 - March 4 as the 2011 Wellington Garden Week. "Our Gardening Makes a World of Difference" plant and bake sale with 5 great free public seminars and a Youth Butterfly Workshop kicked off the week. On Monday, Feb. 28 members created flower designs that were placed in all the Wellington school libraries with our beautiful bookmarks.

Our top Garden Tour 2010 sponsors received thank you gifts of plants or floral designs. Members will attend Course I of the National Garden Club's Environmental Studies School on Thursday and Friday. The club was able to give 4 full scholarships to members for this program.

## *You are invited to ... Plants in the Park*

The Garden Club of Fort Pierce is sponsoring a "Plants in the Park" Day in Glidden Park, 911 Parkway Drive, Fort Pierce from 10 am to 2 PM on April 9 (rain date April 16).

The event will include plant sales by several garden-related clubs and societies to benefit a variety of community projects. In addition, there will be information booths staffed by horticultural and environmental groups. Experts will be available to answer questions about African violets, bromeliads, Florida native plants, orchids, rare fruits, palms and other

varieties. Get knowledgeable help with care of cold-weather-damaged plants.

At 3 PM, you are invited to join us for a tree planting ceremony in front of the Garden Center to commemorate National Arbor Day.

Participating organizations selling plants include:

Friends of Savannas Preserve State Park

Florida Native Plant Society  
Po' Folks Plants (benefits animal causes)

Treasure Coast Rare Fruit Club

Treasure Coast African Violet Society  
Treasure Coast Bromeliad Society  
Garden Club of Fort Pierce

Participating organizations with information tables:

Master Gardeners

Fort Pierce Orchid Society

Heathcote Botanical Gardens

Oxbow Eco-Center

Dr. John Kennedy, Central Florida Palm and Cycad Society 12:30 PM to 2 PM

South Florida Water Management District

# Another successful PBG Garden Club benefit

The Palm Beach Gardens Garden Club successfully held its fourth Annual Scholarship Benefit Luncheon and Fashion Show on February 22, 2011 in the PGA Members Club. The number of attendees was greater than last year, the raffle prizes were better, and the fashion show was fabulous. Fashion coordinator, Rose Meyerowich, brought models and clothes from four local boutiques: *Gallery 5, Top Drawer, So Unique Boutique, and Via Condotti.*

Guests were so impressed with the selection that some even left the luncheon with coupons in hand and went straight to the stores to shop. Others shopped at the luncheon and took advantage of the vendor sales of *Accessories Unlimited* and bought lots of raffle tickets for the baskets created by Carol Teichman or Macys, and the gift certificates from PGA National Members Club.

Without all the hard work by Helene Meghrian, event chairman, who put everything together, the luncheon would not have been as successful.

On March 9 a gathering of garden club members and guests travelled to Palm Beach for two exceptional tours of landscaping and gardens. The first was down Worth Avenue with guide, Brian Vertesch, who explained the renovation projects that took place there last year. Beginning at the Living Wall at Saks Fifth Avenue, the group walked down Worth Avenue on the new seashell concrete sidewalk to the fountains where dogs can drink water. There was no time for shopping since the next tour was the Breakers Hotel and a history lesson about it by Geoffrey Sagrans. A special treat was viewing the organic garden and the insight given about it by gardener, Marina Petrakos, who had been a PBG Garden Club scholarship recipient several years ago. Following

the tours, the group enjoyed a delicious lunch at Michael McCarty's in Palm Beach.

In March members had to meet in the main community center off Burns Road because of the renovations at the Lakeside Center. Cathy Burger, president of the Bromeliad Society, discussed the care and reproduction of the bromeliad.

The next meeting of the garden club will be April 6th with a guest speaker. Meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month from September to June in the Lakeside Center at 7:30 p.m. Following each meeting, the club offers a plant raffle. At least eight people win plants or gardening prizes, and the money collected pays for the light refreshments served. In addition it is put into the scholarship fund for this year. This past June, two scholarships were awarded to horticultural students at Palm Beach State College/Eissey Campus.

## Awards

Many thanks to Lynn Jones for her work on encouraging all of our clubs to submit for awards. The following clubs did submit Books of Evidence: this year:

Garden Club of Indian River County  
Garden Club of Stuart  
Rio Lindo Garden Club of Port St. Lucie  
Wellington Garden Club.

We look forward to the presentations at Convention. Don't forget to bring your noise-makers-per Carol Hall!.

Melba Campbell, past District X Director, will be the chair for Awards in District X for 2011-2013



Garden Clubs from District X participated in Art in Bloom at the Backus Museum in Ft. Pierce January 28-30. Each designer drew a number and was assigned the corresponding piece of art. The challenge was to interpret the artwork using flowers. Phyllis Gidley won the People's Choice Award!

Design by Jeannette Waltz, GC of Ft. Pierce:

# Message to all garden club members from your incoming District Director Barbara Hadsell

Please join me at the Spring 2011 District meeting and welcome our incoming officers. They are:

- Assistant District Director: Emilie Palmieri, Boca Raton GC
- Recording Secretary: June Beers-Garden Club of Fort Pierce
- Corresponding Secretary: Barbara Cook--Ocean Ridge GC (Liaison to the Mounts)
- Treasurer: Li Roberts--Garden Club of Stuart
- Parliamentarian: Patty Prange--GC of Indian River County
- Chaplain: Jane Mills GC of Stuart

In addition to two "Terrific Ten" speakers mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, we will be discussing a proposal to hold an "Art in Bloom" at the Boca Raton Museum of Art in partnership with District XI. And you will learn more about the next Environmental Study Course and what the legislature is doing about clean water here in Florida. Hopefully we will also have some awards to present from Convention.

Just a reminder to all clubs that will be meeting in the next few weeks. The

reservations for the District X Spring meeting on April 21 must be in by the second week in April if at all possible. So please make sure you email and print the information and so that you can get your check and registration form in on a timely basis. You will also need to be sure you designate who are your delegates using your BOI, pages 270 and 274.

See you April 21.

Barbara Hadsell



## Florida Federation of Garden Clubs DISTRICT X SPRING MEETING

Thursday, April 21st, 2011  
(8:30am Registration/9:15am Meeting)

**GOING GREEN  
FOR A FRIENDLIER ENVIRONMENT**

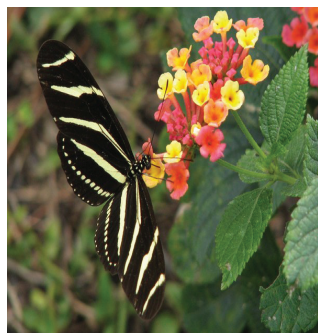
At the  
**Spring Hill Suites**  
2000 NW Courtyard Circle  
Port St. Lucie, FL 34986

**Program**  
Amanda Thompson  
Oxbow Eco-Center  
Nicole Rouse  
Treasure Coast RE-USE Center

Registration Deadline:  
Monday, April 11, 2011

Take exit 121 off I-95, 1st left at Peacock, 1st left at Courtyard Circle.  
Follow roundabout to Hotel on right.

**\$28.00 per person**  
Includes CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST & NAPLES COLD BUFFET



REGISTRATION FORM 4/21/2011 District X Meeting  
One form per member—duplicate as needed

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Club/Circle: \_\_\_\_\_ Ph: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle each category that applies to you (more than one may apply).  
Determine number of Voting Delegates by consulting BOI Page 270,  
Article XI, Sect 1.

STATE OFFICER	DISTRICT CHAIRMAN
PAST STATE OFFICER	CLUB PRESIDENT
PAST DISTRICT DIRECTOR	DELEGATE
STATE CHAIRMAN	ALTERNATE
STATE OFFICER	MEMBER      GUEST

NAPLES COLD BUFFET includes  
CREAMY BROCCOLI CHEDDAR SOUP, SPECIALTY WRAPS,  
CAESAR SALAD, COLE SLAW, FRESH FRUIT SALAD,  
FRESHLY BAKED COOKIES AND CAKES.

Mail form and **\$28.00** to: St. Lucie West Garden Club  
**By 4/11/2011**  
Barbara Meinken  
689 NW San Remo Circle  
Port St Lucie, FL 34986

# Help keep Florida's waters clean

Clean water is so important to our health, the tourist industry, the fishing industry, and to our future. FFGC wants to "Make a Difference" regarding the water quality in our state. Those of us who really care about the environment need to stand up and be heard. We need to make calls and send emails when there is an issue that we care about. The legislature has pledged to cut environmental regulations and even weaken the Department of Environmental Protection, by putting it with the FL Department of Transportation and to dismantle the Department of Community Affairs, which has held development in such a way as to avoid complete paving of Florida". When these issues are coming before committees and the legislative sessions, the only choice we have is to talk with our local legislators and the members of certain key committees.

Last session the legislature was able pass a bill to have septic tank inspections. That was valuable legislation because many old septic tanks are leaking nitrogen, which affects our water quality. The 2011 Legislature has postponed the implementation of this law.

The governor and the legislature have also pledged to bring about legislation that will reduce the steps we have gained over the last 20 years to protect the environment. Of particular concern are the efforts to defeat The Florida Friendly Landscaping Guidelines on urban fertilizer management which would reduce nutrient pollution entering our watershed.

Nutrient pollution in Florida is a controversial issue. In 2010, we have concurrently experienced a 100 mile long toxic algae bloom and accompanying fish kill in the St John's River, as well as a full court press from the state's largest polluters to delay and defeat efforts to meet Clean Water Act provisions that would prevent more such environmental and economic disasters.

Strong urban fertilizer management is

the least costly of possible alternatives and can be instituted and effective immediately. It is far more cost effective to prevent nutrient pollution than it is to utilize millions of tax dollars in restoration efforts for impaired waters. For this reason the communities along the southwest Gulf coast so devastated by the Red Tide blooms of 2005 were the first in the state to adopt strong fertilizer ordinances. Cities and Counties can reduce nutrient pollution at little or no cost by adopting strong urban fertilizer rules.

Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Handbook, published by Florida DEP and UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences give the following guidelines on preventing pollution by fertilizing appropriately.

To prevent water pollution from nutrient leaching and runoff, **always** follow these steps when fertilizing your lawn and landscape:

- **Choose slow-release products.**

- **Keep fertilizer off hard surfaces.**
- **If you spill fertilizer, collect whatever you can.**
- **Never fertilize within 10 feet of any water body.**
- **Don't fertilize before a heavy rain.**
- **Know your water source.**
- **Apply fertilizer only when grass is actively growing.**
- **Use a broadcaster with a deflector shield.**
- **Avoid using weed and feed products.**
- **Apply an iron source instead of a nitrogen fertilizer during the summer.**

However, despite publication, promotion, and statute, attempts to reach statewide compliance with these measures has been met by controversial pushback from the turfgrass, fertilizer and pest control industries.

So ladies, let your voices be heard and let your actions follow the Florida Friendly Fertilizer guidelines.



**Bonsai Ball**

**Saturday – April 2, 2011**  
Time – 5:30 PM  
Place – Heathcote Gardens  
Fine Dining  
Tours

**Entertainment – TAIKO DRUMS – MUSIC OF JAPAN**  
Meet the Bonsai Collection Curator  
Art  
Live and Silent Auctions  
Raffle

**TICKETS - \$100 PER PERSON**  
OR  
**ADVANCE RESERVED TABLE FOR 8 - \$750**  
CALL – (772) 464-4672

Heathcote Botanical Gardens - Fort Pierce, Florida  
THE JAMES J. SMITH TROPICAL BONSAI COLLECTION

The largest and most significant public collection of over 100 tropical bonsai trees, some of which are over 100 years old, on permanent display in the United States. Our BONSAI BALL sponsors, underwriters and attendees will take pride in being a part of the creation and maintenance of the newest attraction on the Treasure Coast which is destined to enhance the education and enjoyment of young and old not only in this community but our visitors the world over. The Heathcote Tropical Bonsai Collection will extend our peaceful meandering pathways into an area where visitors will "discover" bonsai at every turn. The natural beauty of St. Lucie County will be demonstrated through materials including native field stone and vegetation. The setting will be simple and serene.

*Heathcote Botanical Gardens, Inc. is a private institution under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code*