

DISTRICT X REPORT
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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. The officers of Jensen Beach GC are considering rejoining the Federation. Our District clubs are very much focused on membership and will be reporting on this for the Deep South Region Unified Project “Building Membership”.

Our spring District meeting last April, today and the one coming up this spring, all have a strong emphasis on environmental issues with horticulture and flower design also part of the day’s programs.

District X gave its first NGC’s Landscape Design “Unsolicited Awards for Plantings in the Public and Private Sector” at the April District meeting. Four awards were presented.

Shortly thereafter, at the National Convention, the 2010 State Convention Flower Show, organized by District X, was given a top award. And in June, several members from our district attended the WAFA Flower Show in Boston. Of the 13 FL designers who participated, two were from Terrific X.

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 as will the reports on the NGC projects that you will hear about today. And at our 2nd Lunch n Learn we were live on the internet on a big screen!!!

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. (I have brochures with me.) The dates are January 31, Feb. 1 at the Mounts Botanical Garden in West Palm Beach.

We have a new web master who is doing a great job and our Fall newsletter has 25 pages of articles and pictures of our clubs’ spring and summer projects.

This District Director will be giving programs to 4 of our garden clubs in the next few months, two of which have very small memberships. And a program will be presented to the Quail Ridge GC this spring, a former member of FFGC with 200 members.

Visibility/ interaction with the community is a major part of many of our club’s activities. In addition to reports given later today here is an example:

. 1. Ocean Ridge GC members coordinated a landscape design and installation for a County home where eight adults with moderate to severe developmental disabilities live. A team of garden club members met with the residents and staff to research what the residents wanted and could maintain. They learned “no bees, no thorns, and bright colors!” (The Brickman group donated an enormous amount of plant materials (including three large trees, shrubs, bedding plants and planter materials). Students from the Benjamin School participated in digging and mulching, while realtors from Keller Williams(Palm Beach Central office) repainted the entire residence (along with our ORGC past president whose sun allergy prevented her from joining the planting session!)) Where there was nothing but a sterile ramp leading up to a drab façade, there are now purple, blue and yellow flowers, palm trees in front and back, and mamey crotons and green island ficus to soften the grounds at the entryway.

2.Details of some wonderful projects accomplished by the GC's of Fort Pierce and Stuart are detailed in the FL Gardener.

3. GC of Indian River County (a NGC 2011 award winner for its Home Standard Flower Show) contributed over 1000 box tops to support Camp Wekiva.

4. Many of our clubs have terrific Youth programs. Our Youth chair reports 10 Junior clubs have registered so far with 523 members. More are expected including an Environmental high school club whose student Pres. just attended SEEK on a GC scholarship. And SEEK and Wekiva financial and volunteer support has been superb!

5. And lastly, let's not forget those wonderful scholarships so many of our clubs give for our young AND NOT SO YOUNG people to further their education in horticulture and environmentally related subjects as well as scholarships for our members to attend the various NGC schools being offered in FL.

IN CONCLUSION:

DISTRICT X WILL BE EMPHASIZING OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS, THE NATIONAL GARDEN CLUB'S SPECIAL PROJECTS:

- 1. PLANTINGS FOR PUBLIC AND SPECIAL PLACES INCLUDING GARDEN WITH EDIBLES, CONTAINER GARDENS AND TREES AND SHRUBS.**
- 2. PROTECTING AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS**
- 3. PHOTO ARCHIVING OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS.**

OUR CLUB/DISTRICT ACTIVITY REPORTS LATER IN TODAY'S MEETING WILL HOPEFULLY INSPIRE ALL OF OUR MEMBERS TO SUPPORT CURRENT ACTIVITIES AND CREATE NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN THESE AREAS.

DISTRICT TEN—MORE TERRIFIC THAN EVER!