

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF  
THE FORT MYERS - LEE COUNTY GARDEN COUNCIL, INC.  
2166 VIRGINIA AVENUE, FORT MYERS, FL 33901

## **Berne Davis Botanical Garden**

**Open to the Public  
Tuesdays 10 - 1 pm**

**Each Club & Society takes  
a turn Hosting!**

**Each club is responsible for  
finding 2 members to work or  
finding another group to  
trade dates with.**

### **Hostess Schedule**

(by random drawing)

Mar 6 McGregor Garden Club  
Mar 13 Kelly Greens Garden Club  
Mar 20 Carissa Garden Club  
Mar 27 Estero Island Garden Club  
Apr 03 SWFL Orchid Society  
Apr 10 IFAS

**Apr 17 Need Volunteers**

**Apr 24 Need Volunteers**

**Questions? Contact Caryn Kast  
CarynKast@gmail.com**

## **P r e s i d e n t ' s   M e s s a g e**

Happy Spring! Down here in the southern climes it has a totally different meaning. Here it is the end of Tourist Season, the Harvest Time, the beginning of warmer weather and the daily rains will start shortly. Of course, we look forward to the rains, as we are pretty dry right now.

In fact, TV 7 called us last week and they are planning on doing a program sometime this week about keeping our gardens green. Our own Garden Manager, Elizabeth, has been interviewed. We will try to give you advance notice when it will be on air as we were bumped last week.

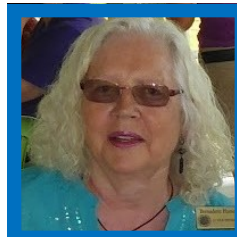
We are grateful that we survived Hurricane Irma but are still working on the gardens. Although our damage was minimal, there is always something that needs tweaking. Thanks to our staff and volunteers who are diligently making this happen.

As some of you may know, the road work is about to start on Virginia Avenue and we will keep you updated as things progress. Hopefully most of the work will happen during the summer so that it does not interfere with your meetings already planned. We may have to entirely use the Larchmont entrance – either accessing thru McGregor or coming off 41 thru Lafayette Street (the little street above the Edison Avenue light). We will again ask the City to make Larchmont more useable.

Many thanks to all of our wonderful designers who have helped with Art in Bloom.

Just another “day in the neighborhood”. Certainly all this keeps your board very busy. Hope to see you at Art in Bloom over at Edison-Ford, our March council meeting, the Alva GC Strawberry Festival and Cape Coral GC ‘s March in the Park.

Sincerely, Bernie



For The Latest Info Check Our Website  
**WWW.FMLCGARDENCOUNCIL.COM**

## Garden Council Meeting Dates

### UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

(Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs)

- **Date: March 2, 2018**
- **Date: April 6th, 2018**

**MEETINGS FROM 9:30 am TO 11:30 am**

**Garden Council Headquarters**  
2166 Virginia Ave.  
Fort Myers, FL

### GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

*For All Society and Club Members.*

*Please invite a spouse or friend .*

**ALL Welcome**

**Friday, March 9th, 2018**

**Hostess:**

**Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society**

### GENERAL MEETINGS

**MEETINGS ARE THE 2ND FRIDAY**

**OF EVERY OTHER MONTH**

**SEPTEMBER THROUGH MAY**

**Location is now at the**

**Garden Council Headquarters**

**2166 Virginia Ave.**

**HOSPITALITY: 9:00 am to 9:30 am**

**MEETING: 9:30 am to 11:30 am**

**NEXT FMLCGC GENERAL MEETING Friday March 9th, 2018**

## PROGRAM—"Romancing the Light"

**By Michele Koenigsberg**

**Unfortunately, Ms. Koenigsberg has had to cancel and extends her apologies.**

**Joyce Pilewski is working on getting us another speaker-Please come and be surprised!**

## Updates & Corrections to the 2017-18 Yearbook

Paula Novander-Board Advisor & Member of Garden Club of Cape Coral & Potpourri  
New Address (Page 10)14300 Riva Del Lago #705Fort Myers, FL 33907

Carol Kolar - President of Estero Island Garden Club  
Email Change (Page 33) Carolkolar7655@gmail.com

Mae Jean Nothstine-Parliamentarian & Member of Royal Palm Garden Club  
Email Change (Page 13) Maejeanoth@gmail.com

Dale DeFeo-District IX Judges Council Director  
Phone Number Correction (Page 51) 239 394-2737

## Calendar of Events

Mar 3rd, 2018 Saturday-FL Agriculture & Horticulture Day-Lee County Fair Civic Center 11832 Bayshore Rd 11am-6pm

Mar 10th, 2018 Saturday-Garden Club of Cape Coral March in the Park-Plants Etc. for sale in Jaycee Park, CC -9am

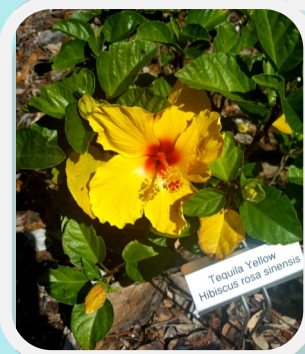
Mar 10th, 2018 Saturday-Alva Garden Club Annual Plant/Bake Sale & Strawberry Shortcake Festival Alva Museum 9am

Mar 18th, 2018 Sunday-Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Annual Auction, FMLCG 2166 Virginia Ave. 12:30-3:30pm

Apr 13th, 2018 Friday-9th Annual Berne Davis Honorary Service Award Luncheon, Fiddlesticks CC, 11:30am

Apr 21st, 2018 Saturday-Bonsai Society Auction & Picnic, FMLCGC 2166 Virginia Ave.

# WHAT'S BLOOMING IN THE GARDEN



## **Art in Bloom** - Sunday March 4th, 2018

**Location:** Caretakers Cottage at Edison/Ford Winter Estates

**Time:** 1pm to 4 pm

**Entrance Fee:** \$5.00



## **ANNOUNCING A STANDARD FLOWER SHOW**

### **“April in the Garden” April 27th & 28th**

**Hosted by:** The Garden Club of Cape Coral and Potpourri Designers

**Location:** Cape Coral Library, 921 SW 39th Terrace, Cape Coral, FL

**Contacts:** Kathy Woodlock 239 242-6303

**Vicki Williamson 802 324-3847**

**Gardenclubofcapecoral.com**

## ***Save The Date!***

**Apr 13th, 2018 Friday**

**9th Annual Berne Davis Honorary Service Award Luncheon**

**Location:** Fiddlesticks Country Club

**Time:** 11:30am



## *Edison - Ford Winter Estates*

2350 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers FL 33901

Web: [EdisonFordWinterEstates.org/events](http://EdisonFordWinterEstates.org/events)

### **Monthly Garden Talks 10:00 am**

**\$10.00 Members- \$15 Non-Members**

March 10th-Herbs: How to Grow & Use  
April 14th- Growing Bananas & Plantains  
May 12th-Succulents for the Garden  
June 9th-Plumerias

### **Special Events**

**Rhythm on the River - Mar 2nd**  
**Live music at the River Pavilion**

**Art in Bloom—Mar 4th**  
**at Edison Care Taker Cottage**

## **Florida Friendly Landscaping**

**Garden Walks**-Join a master gardener for a walk through Rotary Park. Learn about butterflies and birds and how you can attract them to your yard.

Fridays at 10:30am— **Mar 9th & 23rd**

**Free Gardening Series-Fridays 9am-10:30am at Rotary Park**

March 9-Gardening for Birds by H. Phillips

March 23-Gardening Tips for Snowbirds by M.A. Parsons

**Introductory FFL Workshops at Rotary Park 9am—12noon**

Saturdays March 17th & April 28th

**RSVP 239 549-4606**

Rotary Park, Environmental Center, 5505 Rose Garden Rd., Cape Coral 33914

For more information on FFL : email [FYN@leegov.com](mailto:FYN@leegov.com) or [capeparks.com](http://capeparks.com)

**UF** UNIVERSITY of  
FLORIDA  
IFAS Extension



## **Reminders from Lakes Park**

1st Saturday Bird Walks 12 months a year. 8am.

Meet at shelter A7

2nd Saturday Guided Garden Walks - Oct-May at 9:00 am

Meet at Community Garden Sign; end of parking lot #3

**Wednesday Farmers Market runs October through April 9am– 1pm!**

## **FREE GUIDED NATURE WALKS**

**Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve– Saturday March 7**

6351 Stringfellow Rd., St. James City 1.1 miles

**Hickory Swamp Preserve-Friday March 9**

13320 Peach Rd., Fort Myers 1.2 miles

**Wild Turkey Strand Preserve-Saturday March 24**

11901 Rod & Gun Club Rd., Fort Myers 1.8 miles



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our FFGC District IX Judges Council (JC), which includes National Garden Club Judges from Marco Island up to Winter Haven and Lakeland, held a Flower Show at our Headquarters on February 8. The 56 members of JC, who are also members of dozens of Federated Garden Clubs here in Florida and other states, produced a show which was both educational and delightful. Four of our members reside in Nassau, Bahamas, and were trained to become judges here in Fort Myers, with the original encouragement of Sandy Kavouras and the Flower Show School she organized. Marty Ward was her right hand in that endeavor. This day gave us all an opportunity to cooperate in another valuable learning experience---the new NGC Handbook for Flower Shows has new guidelines. Sandy and Marty would have been right there, encouraging us to study and adopt the new directions!

Our JC Director Dale DeFeo had asked Suzy Valentine to be Chair of this show way back in the summer. Emphasis was to be on new 'rules', new designs, and new 'whatever'!! And, there are many new directions to pursue in this new Handbook. The show was titled "ABC's -- Back to the Basics". New design types, such as some Miniature/ Petites now being able to be 12" overall, were included. Six Design classes gave our members an opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of the new types, and another new category called "Botanical Arts" offered insight into NGC's idea of showing what else we can do with what we grow. Not just a simple plant in a pot, or a cut specimen, but many more ways to show what we grow—including what we grew but has since died/dried/been pressed/ glued into a picture/etc..... Many delightful new directions to pursue!

We had more than 118 Horticultural specimens to show, many in Collections (5 or more related by family or other means), besides the 24 Design exhibits and 4 Invitational Designs showing the new trends. Our judges, comprised of our very own members, worked very hard to comment and evaluate the qualities as specified in NGC Point Scoring Standards. Everything was worthy, many outstanding, and overall we showed what can be grown here in SW Florida, and what creative designers and gardeners we are honored to have as members of this FMLCGC. Thank you for all you do for us, your members. We hope many of you were able to visit us that day, and share the fun of flower shows!

*Suzy Valentine*, on behalf of the Judges Council.

## Your Board Members

President-

Bernadette Hamera 233-1166  
Email: bhamera@outlook.com

First Vice-President-

Judy Francino 248 425-8713  
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Email: jceoy69@gmail.com

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Email: tamargal2@aol.com

Corresponding Secretary-

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Email: slightbody@comcast.net

Treasurer-

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Email: darlenetompkins16@gmail.com

Assistant Treasurer-

Charlene Anderson 978 828-6696  
Email: beadie1@gmail.com