

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 providing docents.**

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

**Docent Schedule**

Nov. 05- Alva Garden Club  
Nov. 12- American Hibiscus Society  
Nov. 19- Bonsai Society  
Nov. 26- Bromeliad Society  
Dec. 03- McGregor Garden Club  
Dec. 10- Potpourri Designers  
Dec. 17- SWFL Orchid Society  
Jan. 07- Bromeliad Society  
Jan. 14- Carissa Garden Club  
Jan. 21- Jasmine Garden Club

**Questions?**

**Contact Susan Lawson  
slawson921@gmail.com**

Garden Club of Cape Coral will be holding their next Fun with Flowers session on Friday, December 13 at the FMLCGC HQ, from 10am - noon. Fee is \$20 and includes all supplies to create a festive floral design. Registration must be received by Friday, December 6. Registration forms can be found on the GCCC website (<http://www.gardenclubofcapecoral.com/education/funwithflowers/>). For more information please contact Susan Lawson at [slawson921@gmail.com](mailto:slawson921@gmail.com) or 941-979-0615.

**President's Message**

Hi Everyone,

As I write this, I can hardly believe that this issue is essentially our holiday Courier! These Fall months always seem to just fly by.

Our Berne Davis Garden has opened for the season and we are looking forward to the season ahead. Please make time in your busy schedules to drop by once in a while and just enjoy this beautiful and tranquil place that we have created. Be sure to check the Courier list of activities – our clubs are really busy!

I wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving! I hope you all have much to be thankful for.

May you also have a Blessed Christmas or Hanukah season and ring in a Happy New Year!!!

I hope to see you at the November General Meeting!

Best Wishes for the Holiday Season!

Judy  
President



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



## Garden Council Meeting Dates

### UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

(Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs)

- Date: Nov. 1st, 2019
- Date: Dec. 6th, 2019

**MEETINGS FROM 9:30 am - 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 are Welcome !*

**Friday, Nov. 08, 2019**

**Hostess:**

**Gulf Coast Garden Club**

### GENERAL MEETINGS

**MEETINGS ARE THE 2ND FRIDAY  
OF EVERY OTHER MONTH  
SEPTEMBER THROUGH MAY**

**Location :**

**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 Nov. 08th, 2019**

**“Landscaping to Protect the Watershed”**

**By Dr. Serge Thomas**

**Aquatic Ecologist & Assistant Professor, Gulf Coast University**

Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council is excited about our upcoming Floral Design Series being held January-March 2020. There are 6 basic units and 3 advanced units. We have been able to get some great instructors for the sessions including our own Suzy Valentine; all are experienced judges/teachers. Classes are \$45 each or 3 for \$120 and are limited to 30 participants, so sign up soon! Please contact Susan Lawson if you have questions. Susan Lawson's cell phone is: (941) 979-0615 or you can email: slawson921@gmail.com. Registrations forms are available on our website.



Cape Coral Garden Club was at it again with their display at Lakes Park Fall Festival!

Carolyn F. Joyce C., Pat F., Jean S. and Ginny H. went with the “Plant America” theme which is also the NGC theme this year.

Waste Pro was their sponsor.

Fun was had by all!



## *Edison - Ford Winter Estates*

2350 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers FL 33901

Web: [EdisonFord.org](http://EdisonFord.org)

### Monthly Garden Talks

**Saturdays 10am**

Nov. 9, 2019 - "Growing Beautiful Hibiscus"

Dec. 14, 2019- "Annuals for our Mild Season"

\$10 for EF Members; \$15 for Non-Members  
Participants get a 20% off Garden Shoppe coupon

### Gardening Classes

Nov. 23, 2019 - Holiday Plants at 10am

Dec. 03, 2019 - Creating a Potager at 1:30 pm

"Potager" is a French Kitchen Garden

(Check Website for location & fees; registration required)

### Special Events

**November 23-24, 2019-Edison Garden Festival**

Saturday 9am-5pm and Sunday 9am to 4pm



### **Reminders from Lakes Park**

**1st Saturday** Bird Walks 12 months a year. 8am.  
Meet at shelter A7

**2nd Saturday** Guided Garden Walks - Oct-April 9:00 am– 10:00 am  
Meet at Community Garden Sign; end of parking lot #3

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

### **FREE GUIDED NATURE WALKS**

**Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve 9:30-11am daily**

7751 Penzance Blvd., Fort Myers

**Hickey Creek Mitigation Park Tuesdays Nov. 5 & Dec. 3 9-11am**

17980 Palm Beach Blvd., Alva

**Caloosahatchee Regional Park Tuesdays Nov. 19 & Dec. 17 9-11am**

19130 North River Rd., Alva

**Prairie Pines Preserve Saturday Dec. 7 9-10:30am**

18400 North Tamiami Trail, North Fort Myers

**Galt Preserve-Saturday Dec. 14th**

3661 Stringfellow Rd., St. James City, Trail is 1.2 mile loop

**Caloosahatchee Creeks Preserve East Saturday Dec. 21 9-10:30 am**

10130 Bayshore Rd., North Fort Myers





## **Club Spotlight on Garden Club of Cape Coral!**

### **GARDEN CLUB OF CAPE CORAL**

In 1997, the late great Marty Ward got together with some of her friends and founded the Garden Club of Cape Coral. We are proud to say that our first President, Sherie Bleiler, continues as a member today. Our membership has now expanded from the original 23 members to 121, including 12 Master Gardeners. In 1998, The club became affiliated with Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. and National Council of State Gardens Clubs (now National Garden Clubs, Inc.).

**Our current projects and outreach include:**

- A Fundraiser Fashion Show, November 12th, to install a Blue Star Memorial Marker, to be dedicated in a ceremony in 2020. This Marker honors Armed Forces, past, present, and future.
- Our Annual Fundraiser, March in The Park, funds our Marty Ward Merit awards to students at local high schools, and annual donations to several local schools to support their student-involved horticultural/environmental projects plus FFGC projects like SEEK and Camp Wekiva. A couple of our members work regularly with Trafalgar Middle School Builder's Club, which involves the children actively in gardening and in growing food to feed the hungry. The club also makes a donation annually to the Rotary Park Butterfly Garden in memory of members who have passed.
- Landscaping Habitat for Humanity's Annual Women's Build in Cape Coral, funded by proceeds of March in The Park.
- Monthly Educational programs at club Meetings.
- Monthly Cups of Cheer garden therapy program at a local elder-care facility.
- Quarterly Fun with Flowers workshops for the general public at FMLCGC headquarters to introduce others to the enjoyment, fun and skill of floral design.
- Maintenance of the Rose Garden at the Cape Coral Historical Museum and the Cape Coral SW Library Butterfly Garden, both open free of charge to the general public.
- Staging a biennial, judged standard flower show in association with Potpourri Designers.
- Visits to places of interest throughout the season.
- The Breeze Newspaper Garden Articles are written by two Honorary Members, Jean Shields and Joyce Comingore, alternating each week. These articles educate the public on gardens and horticulture and give the Garden Club of Cape Coral high visibility.
- Participation in the Lee County Lakes Park Halloween Scarecrow Fest and the Cape Coral Friends of Wildlife Burrowing Owl event.
- Annual Photography Competition for the cover photograph on our annual Directory.

The Garden Club of Cape Coral meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 6 pm at the Kiwanis Club in Cape Coral. Each month, members of the Club supply simple refreshments for our meetings. Guests and potential new members are always welcome.

Next year is Cape Coral's 50th Anniversary of its incorporation as a city and we will participate with the Installation Ceremony of our Blue Star Memorial Marker at Eco Park, just off Veterans' Memorial Parkway. We will be announcing the date and time of the ceremony early in the New Year 2020.

In the words of Jean Shields, one of our founder members, Happy Gardening, until we meet again!

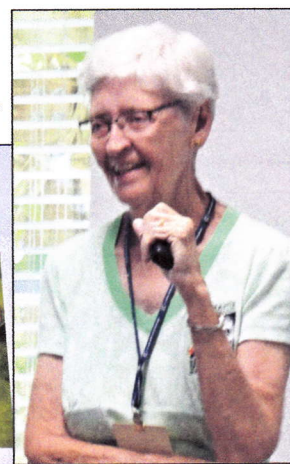


## FMLCGC Calendar - Dates to Remember

- Nov. 8th, 2019** Friday-Poinciana Garden Club Annual Plant & Yard Sale-330 Shore Dr., Fort Myers, FL, 8am-3pm
- Nov. 12th, 2019** Tuesday-SWFL Orchid Society Annual Fundraiser, Faith United Methodist, 15690 McGregor Blvd 7:00 pm
- Nov. 19th, 2019** Tuesday-Periwinkle GC Fall Auction-Finemark Bank, 12681 Creekside Ln 5:30-8:30pm. Hors D'Oeuvres
- Nov. 23rd, 2019** Saturday-FMLCGC Garden Walk in conjunction with Edison Garden Festival, FMLCGC Headquarters 11am
- Nov. 23-24, 2019** Saturday & Sunday-Bonsai Society of SWFL 38th Annual Show & Sale-FMLCGC Headquarters, 9am-5pm
- Dec. 13, 2019** Friday -Garden Club of Cape Coral's Fun with Flowers \$20 Registration-FMLCGC Headquarters, 10am-12noon
- Dec. 14-15, 2019** Sat & Sun-Bromeliad Society Annual Plant Sale-Araba Shrine Center, 2010 Hanson St., Fort Myers 9am-3pm
- Jan. 6, 2020** Monday-FMLCGC Floral Design Study Series- Unit 1 – Containers, Basic Tools and Vertical Designs 9a-3pm
- Jan. 13, 2020** Monday-FMLCGC Floral Design Study Series-Unit 2-Conditioning Plant Material & Triangular Designs 9a-3pm



### Sept 13, 2019 FMLCGC Meeting Host: American Hibiscus Society Program: Barbara Meyer, Master Gardener



## Your Board Members

### President-

Judy Francino 248 425-8713  
Email: jfrancino@att.net

### First Vice-President-

Susan Lawson 239 282-2328  
Email: Slawson921@gmail.com

### Second Vice-President-

Sylvia Swartz 339-3778  
Email: tamargal2@aol.com

### Recording Secretary-

Bonnie McClure 847 630-3218  
Email: bonmcclure@hotmail.com

### Corresponding Secretary-

Sylvia Lightbody 561-5704  
Email: slightbody@comcast.net

### Treasurer-

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

### Assistant Treasurer-

Diane Schmidt 607 351-2005  
Email: DianeGCGC18@aol.com



## ***DISTRICT IX FALL MEETING RECAP***

Several FMLCGC members attended the District IX Fall Meeting which was held in Winter Haven. The highlight of the Fall meeting is always the visit by the FFGC Officers and this year the team did not disappoint. President Al Latina led the presentation and with his very organized way conveyed a great deal of information.

The Nell Coe Award celebrates Diversity in the Garden which is the President's theme this year. Please submit applications for this award. If you have questions, please contact District Awards Chairperson, Sylvia Swartz.

"Judgement Day" is now going to be called "Winners Day" and will take place on Dec 5 starting at 8:30 am if you wish to attend. Most award applications are due by November 26 with a couple of exceptions. One exception is the Yearbook award which is due on November 1.

This year the Deep South Convention is being held immediately before (April 13 - 15) the FFGC Convention (April 16 - 19) in the same hotel. If you ever thought about attending a Deep South convention, this is about as easy as it's going to get! This is also the year with the State Flower Show, so this should be a great event! See the FFGC Convention details in the Florida Gardener.

FFGC is implementing a Help Desk for both floral design and horticulture. Check it out if you have a question.  
Floral Design – Barbara May [ffgcflowers@gmail.com](mailto:ffgcflowers@gmail.com)  
Horticulture – Donna Box [tropicalsouth@galtran.com](mailto:tropicalsouth@galtran.com)

Please remember to support Wekiva Camp. It costs \$250 to sponsor a camper.

SEEK is also an important contribution to remember. It costs \$300 to sponsor a student. SEEK is for students in grades 10 - 12. This year it is a seminar setting at the University of Florida on June 15 - 18. They both sound wonderful.

We were reminded that aside from the scholarships that individual garden clubs give to local students, the NGC, FFGC, and other levels also give scholarships. Surprisingly, the scholarships often go unawarded because there aren't enough applicants! Please spread the word and have students check out the various websites for the scholarship requirements.

FFGC reminded us that it is affiliated with Amazon. There is a portal or tab on the FFGC website to enter the Amazon site and from there you can order as you normally would, but FFGC gets a small contribution back from Amazon. It's not a lot, but every little bit helps.

If your club has any information that you would like to post on the FFGC Calendar of Events, they need to be submitted to Ingrid Velez. See the website for her contact info. You are now also able to upload a flyer! Federated Club Presidents – check out your club's information in the BOI. If there is anything that needs to be changed, let Leslie Montwid know. There is also supposed to be a form on FFGC site.

The District IX Spring Meeting will be held on April 28, 2020. It will be hosted by the Naples Garden Club and will be held at the Windstar Country Club in Naples.



**CHANGES/CORRECTIONS TO OUR 2019-2020 YEARBOOK**

Please make the following changes to your 2019-2020 yearbook.

Pg 6–FFGC Headquarters has a new office manager. Her name is LC Blass.

Pg 10-Advisors– please correct Bernadette Hamera’s phone number to read 239 233-1166

Pg 13-Bottom of the page add Website Development Kim Dailey, P.O. Box 153135, Cape Coral, FL 33990 Papyrus Document & Design, LLC 239 458-1797 email: kim@papyrusdocument.com

Pg 28-website should read: hendrychapterhibiscus.com

Pg29-Special Events: Date changed for 38th Annual Bonsai Show & Sale to Nov. 23&24 (see flyer)

Pg35-Fiddlesticks Garden Club should read President-Janet Ray only (NO Co-President)

Pg41-Jasmine Garden Club should read Co-Pres: Diane Schmidt and Co-Pres: Mitzi Marckesano, 8220 Glenfinnan Cir., Fort Myers, FL 33912, Phone: 239 222-2818, email: couponqwn@hotmail.com

Pg45-Special Events should read: Fundraising Auction in November, Field Trips, and Donations should read: ECHO, Berne Davis Gardens Memorial Plaque, HOPE Clubhouse, Edison Ford Winter Estates for Arbor Days, FGCU Foundation and Camp Wekiva.

Pg50-website should read: SWFloridaOrchidSociety.com

Pg51-Change Treasurer: Jackie Purvis, Ph: 239-970-6644, email: jpurvis271@aol.com; and please note the March meeting is cancelled.

Pg54-Accredited Judges move Jane Gregory to page 55 under Student Judges. Change Louella McAloose phone number to 239 221-8685, and add the following people to Student Judges: Barbara Moore, 239 337-3218, bambimoore@gmail.com and Laura Tonar, 616 283-7874, Honar@yahoo.com

Also we are pleased to announce that Coccoloba Chapter of Florida Native Plant Society has decided to rejoin FMLCGC! Please add their information to one of your note pages....

Coccoloba Chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society  
Website: [fnpscoccoloba.org](http://fnpscoccoloba.org)

President: Ryan Scofield  
P.O. Box 61432  
Fort Myers, FL 33906  
Ph: 239 273-8945  
Email: [CoccolobaChapter@gmail.com](mailto:CoccolobaChapter@gmail.com)

Meetings: 3rd Thursday Jan-Apr & Jun-Nov Time: 6:30pm  
Location: Unitarian Universalist Church  
13411 Shire Lane  
Fort Myers, FL 33912

Members: 150 Annual Dues: \$35





PREMNA by Justin Michael, Best of Show 2018

**THE BONSAI SOCIETY  
OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA**

**38<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BONSAI  
SHOW & SALE**

**EXHIBIT OF BONSAI TREES, SALES,  
DEMONSTRATIONS AND WORKSHOPS.**

**NOVEMBER 23 & 24, 2019**

**SATURDAY 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**SUNDAY 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**Parking on Larchmont St.**

**Ft. Myers-Lee County GARDEN COUNCIL  
JUST NORTH OF EDISON-FORD ESTATES  
2166 VIRGINIA AVE.  
FORT MYERS, FL 33901**

**[WWW.BONSAISWFL.ORG](http://WWW.BONSAISWFL.ORG)**

**(239) 935-6850**

**SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR DETAILS**



# **Schedule of Events**

## **Saturday, Nov 23, 2019**

### **9:00 EXHIBIT OPENS TO THE PUBLIC**

#### **9:30 - 12:00 DEMONSTRATIONS**

Mike Lane: Tropical Mahogany

Phil Krieg: Buttonwood

#### **12:00 RAFFLE #1**

#### **1:00 - 4:00 WORKSHOP**

Mike Lane, Premna

10 Trees, \$50 per person

#### **1:00 - 4:00 FREE PUBLIC WORKSHOP**

Phil Krieg, Trees: Gmelina (Parrot's Beak)

#### **4:00 RAFFLE #2**

#### **4:30 - 5:00 Exhibit Critique by Mike Lane**

## **Sunday, Nov 24, 2019**

### **9:00 - 3:00 EXHIBIT OPEN**

#### **9:30-12:00 DEMONSTRATIONS**

Justin Michael, Bill Smith, Gary McFall

Subject: Ilex, Penjing, Desert Rose

#### **12:00 RAFFLE #3**

#### **1:00-3:00 Free Styling Competition**

Tree: Ficus Philippenensa

2:30 Phil Krieg will choose best tree.

Winner gets the tree for free!

Others can purchase for \$25.

#### **3:00 FINAL RAFFLE of Demonstration Trees.**





## FLORAL DESIGN STUDY SERIES

January – April 2020

Presented by

FORT MYERS LEE COUNTY GARDEN COUNCIL, INC.

and POTPOURRI DESIGNERS

Sponsored by

FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS (FFGC)

**PURPOSE:** Basic Floral Design for the home and for Flower Shows.

**FEATURES:** The Program is a unique series of lectures, demonstrations and critiqued workshops consisting of six units in basic design and three units in advanced design. Demonstration will be in the morning and a workshop in the afternoon using fresh LIVE plant materials and flowers. Talented, accredited instructors will teach the classes. Advance registration is required.

**LOCATION:** Classes will be held at the Berne Davis Botanical Garden, 2166 Virginia Avenue, Fort Myers 33901, home of the FMCL Council Building.

**TIME:** 9AM to 3PM with a break for lunch (BROWN BAG)

Jan 6, 2020 - Unit 1 – Containers, Basic Tools and Vertical Designs

Jan 13, 2020 - Unit 2 – Conditioning Plant Material & Triangular Designs

Jan 20, 2020 - Unit 3 – Elements and Principles of Design & Curved Designs

Feb 10, 2020 - Unit 4 – Table Settings and Horizontal Designs

Feb 17, 2020 - Unit 5 – Accessories, Features & Bases

Mar 2, 2020 - Unit 6 – Transporting Materials & Expressive Designs

Mar 16, 2020 - Unit 7 – Dried Materials and Decorative Wood

Mar 23, 2020 - Unit 8 – Advanced Creative Designs

April 6, 2020 - Unit 9 – Creative Containers & Designers Choice Award

More information available at:

<https://www.ffgc.org/Educational-Opportunities>



## ADVANCED REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Classes are \$45 per class or \$120 for 3 classes. Make checks payable to FMCLGC. Remember to indicate the Unit(s) you wish to attend.

Please sign me up for Floral Design Study

Class:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Garden Club or Society: \_\_\_\_\_

Class(es) you wish to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

Send registration and payment to:

Susan Lawson, 1613 NW 31<sup>st</sup> Pl.,  
Cape Coral, FL 33993



Questions ? Contact Susan Lawson at  
[slawson921@gmail.com](mailto:slawson921@gmail.com) or 941-979-0615





## APPLYING FOR A FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS AWARD

Sylvia Swartz, District IX Awards Chair

It's that time of year again – awards season and I'd like to encourage all clubs to apply for at least one FFGC award. Take a look at all the projects your club has carried out in the past year and see if you can fit your project to an awards criterion. All the awards are listed on the FFGC Awards website and there is lots of good advice there from state chair, Valerie Seinfeld, on how to apply. If you need any help or guidance regarding your application please contact me at 239-339-3778 or email me at [tamargal2@aol.com](mailto:tamargal2@aol.com) – I'm always happy to help and if I don't know the answer to your question I will research it for you.

Below you will find a step-by-step description of what to do:

- Process (usually carried out by the President or an Awards Committee):  
Review the entire list of Federation Awards at <https://www.ffgc.org> › [FFGC-Awards-Descriptions](#)
  - Review the completed projects and ongoing projects in your Club
  - Select a relevant award
  - **Match** the project to the award **criteria**
  - Seek advice if required from District IX Awards Chair (Sylvia Swartz, 239-339-3778, [tamargal2@aol.com](mailto:tamargal2@aol.com))
- President of club or club Committee consults and decides who will write the application
- Person writing the award should
  - Download the application form from the FFGC Awards site
  - Read the description of the selected award and comply with any detailed instructions that may be contained in that award description
  - Source and check the information required regarding Category, Class (if applicable) and name of Award, District Number, number of members in the Club, etc., start date, finish date, etc.
  - Write the description of the project, remembering not to exceed a total of 3 pages including photos and ensuring to speak to the **criteria** of the award
- Pointers:



- When writing the project description, remember to tell a story with an introduction, the detail, and an appropriate closing paragraph
  - Select, insert and caption appropriate photos of the project
  - Assemble the application neatly
- Submit two copies of your application in time to reach FFGC headquarters in Winter Park, FL by the due date (can vary for some awards but mostly Nov. 30). Some, like some youth and school awards and the Nell Coe Award are due in the New Year.
- Keep a file copy of your complete application and email or mail a copy to District IX Awards Chair, Sylvia Swartz, 4030 SW 9<sup>th</sup> Pl., Cape Coral, FL 33914  
tamargal2@aol.com