



The Courier

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

WWW.FMLCGARDENCOUNCIL.COM

Berne Davis Botanical Garden

Open to the Public

Sept., Tuesdays 9 AM - Noon
Oct., Tues & Thur. 10 AM - 1 PM

DOCENT SCHEDULE

2025-2026

October	FMLCGC Board Members
Nov. 3	Shell Islands Garden Club
Nov. 10	Estero Island Garden Club
Nov. 17	The Garden Club of Lehigh Acres
Nov. 24	Kelly Greens Garden Club
Dec. 1	Alva Garden Club
Dec. 8	American Hibiscus Society
Dec. 15	Bonsai Society of SW FL
Dec. 22	Florida Herb Enthusiasts
Dec. 29	Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society
Jan. 5	Carissa Garden Club
Jan. 12	Florida Native Plant Society
Jan. 19	Crown Colony Garden Club
Jan. 26	The Garden Club of Cape Coral
Feb. 2	Gulf Coast Garden Club
Feb. 9	UF/IFAS MG Volunteers
Feb. 16	McGregor Garden Club
Feb. 23	Periwinkle Garden Club
Mar. 2	The Poinciana Garden Club
Mar. 9	Punta Gorda Garden
Mar. 16	Potpourri Designers
Mar. 23	Royal Palm Garden Club
Mar. 30	Fiddlesticks Garden & Lifestyle Club
Apr. 6	SW Florida Orchid Society
Apr. 13	District IX Judges' Council
Apr. 20	Bonita Springs Tropical Fruit Club
Apr. 27	Tidewater Tillers
May	FMLCGCBoardMembers

PROBLEMS/CONCERNS—CONTACT FIRST
VP WENDY SPRAGUE: 239-728-6543

EACH CLUB IS RESPONSIBLE FOR FINDING MEMBERS
TO WORK OR FINDING ANOTHER CLUB WILLING TO
TRADE DATES.

President's Message

Greeting everyone,

I hope your summer, wherever you spent it, was filled with lots of fun, learning and spending time with family and friends.

Our Council members have been busy planning their fall and winter events. They also spent time together in classes like flower pounding and decoupage or going out to lunch and of course touring gardens and buying plants!

Please make sure to visit our beautiful Lorelei Statue the next time you're in the garden. She will have a new sign (thank you Periwinkle Garden Club) and a QR code to learn more about her.

We have welcomed a new Treasurer to the Council Kim Cook of Garden Club of Cape Coral. She is a CPA and has jumped into enthusiastically and we are all very greatyful for her willingness to volunteer.

There are some major improvements coming to the garden, please read Meryl O'Rourke's article on page 10.

We are in the midsts of rebuilding both pergolas and the Gazebo has new benches! We are also getting the Oak trees trimmed and a new roof!

Hope to see you on Friday, September 11th at our first general meeting of the season!

Sue Fero, President
FMLC Garden Council



Garden Council Meeting Dates

GENERAL MEETING

**Friday,
September 11, 2026**

HOSPITALITY 9:30 AM TO 10 AM

MEETING: 10 AM TO 11:30 AM

Garden Council Headquarters

2166 Virginia Avenue

Fort Myers, FL 33901



P R O G R A M

"Let's Fight Inflammation with Herbs & Spices"

Presenter: Cathy Via, Gulf Coast Garden Club,
owner of Cathy's Herbs & Botanicals, Naples, FL

Don't forget to pick up and sign for
your 2026-2027 Garden Council
Yearbooks! They will be available in
the Meeting Room



2026-2027 YEARBOOK

UPCOMING GENERAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

For All Club, Society and Affiliate Members. Please invite a spouse or friend.

**Friday,
Nov. 13, 2026**

"Adopt A Mangrove - Mangrove Restoration"

Skye Mc Donald, Sanibel-Captiva Conservation
Foundation (SCCF)

**Friday,
January 8, 2027**

"Edible Plants for our Landscapes"

Meryl O'Rourke, FMLC Master Gardener Volunteer

**Friday,
March 12, 2027**

"Conservancy 101"

Noelia Iglesias, Conservancy of Southwest FL

**Friday,
May 14, 2027**

"Leaf Manipulation for Design"

Nancy Colgan, Potpourri Designers/Punta Gorda GC

GARDEN COUNCIL NEWS**Carole H. Kerns, MGV****1950 - 2026**

Our beloved Carole Kerns, Master Gardener Volunteer and Assistant Garden Manager (2021-2026) of the Berne Davis Gardens passed away of a long illness on June 28, 2026. A group of MGVs and Board Members attended her memorial service at her church in Estero on July 8th. We are also memorializing Carole with a brick in the Patron Pathway.

To quote Margaret Walker, MGV and Garden Manager; "Carol was precise in labeling plants. We will miss her diligent and thorough horticulture research for the Berne Davis Garden. Carol worked very hard to improve the garden and was a supportive friend of all the master gardener volunteers. She was extremely kind and could always find the good in others. Carol had impeccable manners and acted as a role model when dealing with the public. She was also a friend who liked to have fun and we attended many Fort Myers events together when not at the garden. Carole was a bright spot on this earth and will always be remembered with love."

All of us will miss her beautiful smile, her willingness to get her hands dirty and all of her contributions to the Berne Davis Garden.



Carole's full obituary is available at www.fortmyersmemorial.com

GARDEN COUNCIL NEWS

Continued



PRESIDENTS TEA

Hosted by the FMLCGC Board of Directors

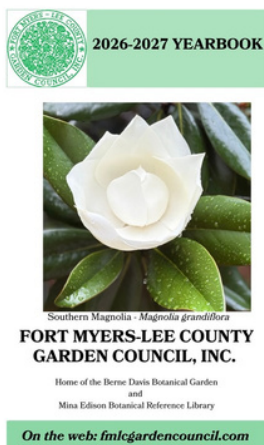
November 17, 2026

11:30 - 1 pm

Garden Council Headquarters
2166 Virginia Avenue
Fort Myers, FL 33901

RSVP by Nov. 10th:
FMLCGARDENCOUNCIL@GMAIL.COM

2026-2027 YEARBOOK IS OUT!!



The Yearbook will be ready for your President to pick up at the General Council Meeting on Friday, September 11, 2026.

It includes lots of updated information on our member organizations and a calendar of events.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

(Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs)

October 7th

November 6th

December 4th

January 5th

February 5th

March 5th

April 2nd

May 7th

Time: 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Location: Garden Council

Headquarters

GARDEN COUNCIL NEWS

Continued

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Announcement**September 2, 2026**

The correct new e-mail address for FFGC is ffgc@ffgc.org, and they are currently updating the FFGC website to reflect this change.

****Please do NOT use office.coordinator@ffgc.org e-mail address.****

Please note if you sent an email to FFGC after August 10th there is a chance they did not receive it. Please resend it.

EVENTS IN THE GARDEN**Free Concerts by the SWFL Fiddlers****Berne Davis Gardens****2166 Virginia Ave., Fort Myers**

**Four
Concerts
10 AM to Noon**

Dec 15, 2026

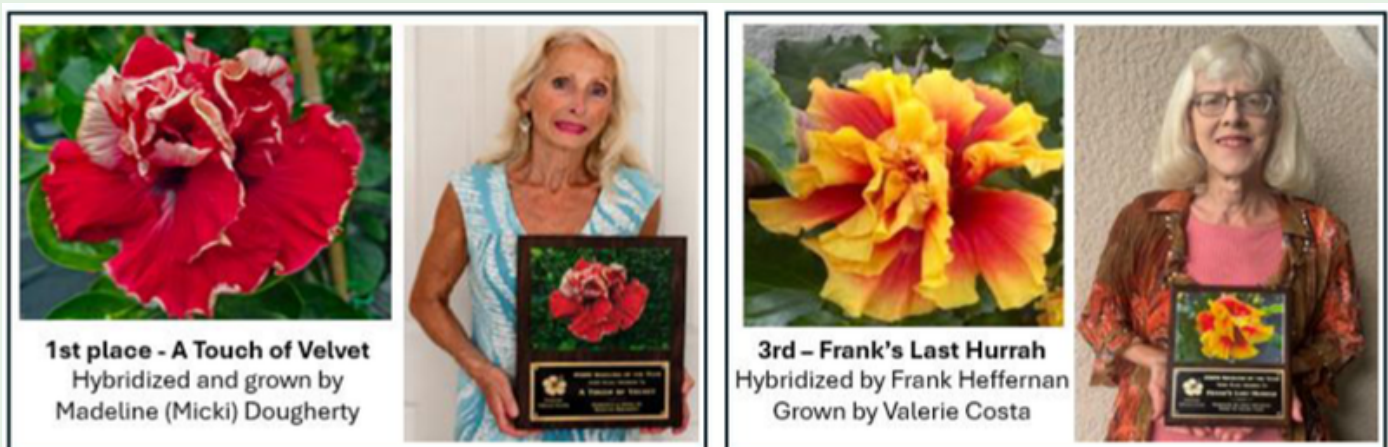
**2027
Jan 19
Feb 16
Mar 16**

M E M B E R E V E N T S / H A P P E N I N G S**AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY****James E. Hendry Chapter**

In June the James E. Hendry chapter proudly hosted the AHS convention in beautiful Estero, Florida.

During the convention, Seedling of the Year is announced and awarded. Hibiscus Seedlings are new creations that are hybridized, seed harvested and grown to maturity. To qualify for the competition, the seedling must win Best of Show Seedling to move to a three-year evaluation.

2026 Seedling of the Year placements were awarded to two James Hendry Chapter members.



Congratulations Micki and Valerie!

Are you planning Fall Winter Spring events?

**Need Speakers?
See The Speakers Bureau QR.**



**Send event flyers to Sandy to post on the
FM-LCGC Facebook page and to list in the
Florida Weekly.**

MEMBER EVENTS / HAPPENINGS

Continued

GARDEN CLUB OF CAPE CORAL

BLUE STAR MEMORIAL

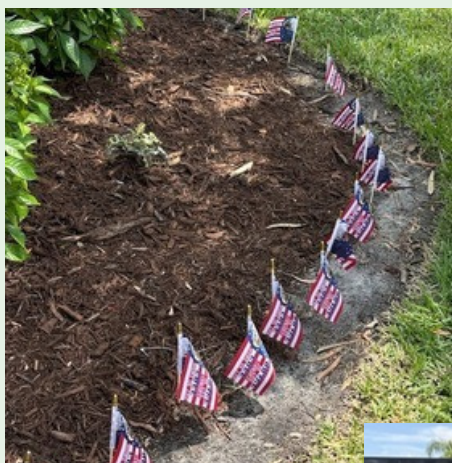
On July 1st, members gathered at the Blue Star Marker in Four Mile Eco Cove Park to honor America's 250th anniversary.



A wreath made by Nancy Finnegan and Peggy Loyson was placed, followed by remarks from Sylvia Swartz on the meaning of the milestone.



Cathy Dunn then offered a prayer for unity, peace, and justice.



Members finished by placing miniature 250th anniversary flags around the garden, and everyone received a small red Penta to plant as a lasting reminder of the day.



MEMBER EVENTS / HAPPENINGS

Continued

Edison -Ford Winter Estates

Monthly Garden Talks

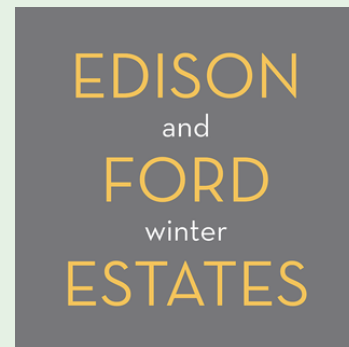
Check the website for details

Garden Classes

Fall for Fresh Vegetable Gardening

October 28, 2025

Check the website for additional classes and details.



[Click logo for website](#)

Social Events

Check the website for details

Don't forget to visit the Garden Shoppe!

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ORCHID SOCIETY

Edison Ford Winter Estates in partnership with the American Orchid Society (AOS), invite the public to a sanctioned orchid bench show with judging.

Members of the public may submit an orchid for judging, or come and view the orchids and watch the judging. This event is sponsored by the Southwest Florida Orchid Society.

The show runs from Oct. 9-11; however, the judging takes place only on Oct. 9. This coincides with the O.C.T. Plant Sale and Workshops event where we'll have vendors selling orchids, cacti and tillandsias!

Orchid Show Rules can be found at

[Click Here](#)

<https://www.edisonfordwinterestates.org/events/orchid-bench-show-judging/>

Judging will take place on Friday, October 9 (set up is from 10 am to 1 pm).

This show has been approved to conduct American Orchid Society (AOS) judging at this event. Ribbon judging, conducted by AOS judges and other qualified persons, will begin at approximately 1 p.m. on October 9. AOS judging will commence after the ribbon judging followed by the judge's dinner.

MEMBER EVENTS / HAPPENINGS

Continued

DISTRICT IX



**Two contests:
Carved or Decorated**

Your Pumpkin or Gourd are Wanted

If you are bringing an entry for the contests, please email Susan Lawson
slawson921@gmail.com

**Want
inspiration?
Video LINK**

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB

[The Poinciana GC
has 30+ Events on their website
https://heyzine.com/flip-book/efc971776d.html
Guests Welcome](https://heyzine.com/flip-book/efc971776d.html)



BERNE DAVIS GARDEN UPDATE**Meryl O'Rourke, Master Gardener Volunteer**

Welcome back, fellow gardeners! We are excited that some of the structures in the garden are currently undergoing rejuvenation. New paint, replacing old wood, new benches - all to be done in time for the seasonal arrival of the snowbirds!

In June, we hosted another lovely wedding. Flowers to match the bridesmaids' dresses brought some spring color to the oak tree. There was laughter and joy, love was in the air, vows were exchanged and the happy newlyweds celebrated with those who shared in their special day.



As promised in our last newsletter, the pollinator path makeover has continued. We've added Blanket flowers or Gaillardia and Beach sunflower, *Helianthus debilis*. The Firebushes, *Hamelia patens*, that were transplanted from inside the garden have taken to their new home quite well and are currently in bloom. Monarch butterflies are quite happy with the Butterflyweed, *Asclepias tuberosa*, as well as the Atalas who have been eating the Coontie, *Zamia integrifolia*.

To that point, several of the Master Gardeners participated in the Great Florida Pollinator Census. We counted butterflies, bees, beetles, and a great number of other wonderful pollinators!

As we've been contemplating a re-do of the food forest, a trip to the FGCU Food Forest was inspiring! We will be slowly working on that area, with the assistance of our knowledgeable Ecologist and Curator Nick Gallant. Stay tuned for this amazing and tasty transformation!

During the renovation of the bromeliad area, we were able to gain some garden space that we have been



BERNE DAVIS GARDEN UPDATE

Continued

carefully filling with flowering plants. The newest additions are five different colored Plumeria that have been planted in the corner. When they mature, the canopy of flowers will grow together and provide a firework of color! We're also adding several different types of lilies that are currently in other spaces in the garden and will be curating them in this area. Bridal bouquet, another type of plumeria, *Plumeria pudica*, will be added to this area to provide year-round foliage.



We are saddened by the loss of our dear friend and Master Gardener, Carole Kerns. She gave me my introductory tour of the garden, and afterwards, asked me if I thought I would like it there. I was surprised. I said to her, "Are you sure you want me here? I'm not a Master Gardener yet?" Her response was classic Carole. "Hey, if you want to dig in the dirt with us, we want you here". We will miss her warmth, her sweet smile, her absolute zest for life. RIP, Carole.

Garden Council Meeting Refreshment Hosts 2026-2027

Friday, September 11, 2026
Friday, November 13, 2026
Friday, January 15, 2027
Friday, March 12, 2027
Friday, May 14, 2027

GULF COAST GARDEN CLUB
POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB
BROMELIAD SOCIETY
HIBISCUS SOCIETY
SWFL ORCHID SOCIETY

Problems/concerns contact:
Susan Lawson 941-979- 0615; slawson921@gmail.com

HORTICULTURAL TIDBITS**Wendy Sprague****The right Poinciana for the right yard...**

The very large Royal Poinciana Tree, *Delonix regia*, native to Madagascar, is a real standout with its red-orange blooms from May to July. They have a broad, flat-topped crown that can grow to 40 feet tall and 60 feet wide. The feathery leaflets give dappled shade. The tree is deciduous with leaves giving way to large brown seed pods in the winter. Prone to breakage, pruning is recommended to give the tree a strong structure. The Royal Poinciana requires a large space and should not be planted closer than 10 feet to pavement or driveways. These trees are frequently spotted in the Fort Myers area.

Much more suitable to a smaller yard, the Dwarf Poinciana, also called the Pride of Barbados, *Caesalpinia pulcherrima*, is a much smaller shrub or tree. Growing to only 15 feet tall, it can bloom year round with large red and orange-yellow flowers, or just summer to fall, depending on the weather. The plant is evergreen or deciduous.



There are pink and all yellow cultivars as well. Native to the West Indies, it is the national flower of Barbados.

Both trees, despite the differences in size, are part of the Fabaceae, or legume family and are easily propagated from the seeds in their brown seed pods and fast growing.

Your Board Members 2025-2027

President: Susan Fero
Tel: 239-332-4942
Email: 4364skates@gmail.com
fmlcgardencouncil@gmail.com

First VP: Wendy Sprague
Tel: 239-728-6543
Email: ibseafox@aol.com

Second VP: Elizabeth Meska
Tel: 757-390-7814
Email: elizabeth.meska@gmail.com

Recording Secretary:
POSITION OPEN

Treasurer: Kim Cook
Phone: 847-903-5361
Email: treasurer@fmlcgardencouncil.org

Asst. Treasurer: Joyce Stanley
Tel: 219-613-7506
Email: jdstanley51@gmail.com

Corresponding Sec: Sylvia Lightbody
Tel: 239-233-5634
Email: slightbody@comcast.net

FMLCGC DATES TO REMEMBER

CALENDAR 2026 - 2027

SEPTEMBER 2026

GARDEN COUNCIL MEETING & PROGRAM

Friday, September 11, 2026

"Let's fight Inflammation"

Cathy Via, Herbs and Spices/Gulf Coast Garden Club
FMLC GardenCouncilHeadquarters

FFGC DISTRICT IX

FALL MEETING

Tue., September 22, 2026

Sydney & Berne Davis Art Center
2301 First St.
Fort Myers, FLAVON PARK CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
PLANT SALE

Saturday, Sept. 26, 2026, 9AM-2PM

Avon Park Correctional Institution

OCTOBER 2026

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ORCHID SOCIETY

Orchid Show

Friday, October 10 - 12, 2026

Edison and Ford Winter Estates

EDISON AND FORD WINTER ESTATES

Grow Fort Myers

October 10-11, 2026, 9 am - 4 pm

This event will focus on Orchids, Cacti and
Tillandsias, with multiple vendors selling plants

GARDEN CLUB OF CAPE CORAL

Tropical Plant Sale

October 17, 2026, 9 am - 2 pm

Rotary Park, Cape Coral

EDISON AND FORD WINTER ESTATES

Garden Classes

Fall for Fresh Vegetable Gardening

October 28, 2025

NOVEMBER 2026

PUNTA GORDA GARDEN CLUB

FFGC Horticulture 101

Nov. 5, 2027, 9 am - 3 pm

Visual Arts Center
210 Maude St., Punta Gorda

GARDEN COUNCIL MEETING & PROGRAM

Friday, November 13, 2026

"Adopt A Mangrove - Mangrove Restoration"

Skye Mc Donald, Sanibel-Captiva Conservation.

Foundation (SCCF)

FMLC GardenCouncilHeadquarters

PERIWINKLE GARDEN CLUB

Auction

November 17, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Finemark Bank
8695 College Pkwy, Fort Myers, FL

PRESIDENT'S TEA

Wed., November 18, 2026, at 1 pm

FMLC GardenCouncilHeadquarters

EDISON AND FORD WINTER ESTATES

Autumn Garden Festival

November 21-22, 2026, 9 am - 4 pm

More than 80 vendors are expected to have plants
and garden-related items for sale.

BONSAI SOCIETY OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

2026 Annual Bonsai Show & Sale

Nov. 21, 2026, 9 am - 5 pm

Nov. 22, 2026, 9 am - 3 pm

FMLCGC, 2166 Virginia Ave., Fort Myers, FL
Admission is free and parking is on Larchmont Ave.

F M L C G C D A T E S T O R E M E M B E R

Continued

DECEMBER 2026

GARDEN CLUB OF LEHIGH ACRES
Cups of Cheer

December 1, 2026, 9:30 a.m.
Fountain Crest Retirement Community

PUNTA GORDA GARDEN CLUB
2026 Holly Days Home Tour
December 4 & 5, 2026

CALOOSA HATCHEE
BROMELIAD SOCIETY
Annual Sale
December 5, 2026, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
December 6, 2026, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Edison and Ford Winter Estates

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA FIDDLERS
CONCERT IN THE GARDEN
Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2026, 10AM-noon
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

JANUARY 2027**GARDEN COUNCIL MEETING & PROGRAM**

Friday, January 8, 2027
"Edible Plants for our Landscapes"
Meryl O'Rourke, FMLC Master Gardener Volunteer
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB
Decoupage 3.0
Tues., January 12, 2027, noon - 2 pm
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB
Leaf Manipulation
Tues., January 12, 2027, 9:30 am
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

FLORIDA ARBORDAY
Friday, January 15, 2027

PUNTA GORDA GARDEN CLUB
FFGC 2027 Floral Design Series - Units 1-6
January 15 - March 19, 2027
Visual Arts Center
210 Maude St., Punta Gorda

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA FIDDLERS
CONCERT IN THE GARDEN
Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2027, 10AM-noon
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB
Big Cypress Bend Boardwalk
Tues., January 28, 2027, 9am
27020 Tamiami Trail E., Naples

FEBRUARY 2027

GARDEN CLUB OF LEHIGH ACRES
Wings Over Water Plant Sale
February, Date to Be Announced
Harnes Marsh

PUNTA GORDA GARDEN CLUB
Digging it: All About Hibiscus
Feb. 2, 2027, 9:30 am - 2 pm
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB
Cups of Cheer
Tues., February 9, 2027, 9:30 am
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

FMLCGC STROLLING FLOWER SHOW
Tuesday, February 10, 2027, 10AM
Sidney & Berne Davis Art Center

EDISON AND FORD WINTER ESTATES
Spring Garden Festival
February 13-14, 2027, 9 am - 4 pm
More than 80 vendors are expected to have plants and garden-related items for sale.

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA FIDDLERS
CONCERT IN THE GARDEN
Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2027, 10AM-noon
FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB
Marie Selby Botanical Garden Bus Trip
Thur., Feb. 25, 2027

GULF COAST GARDEN CLUB
Standard Flower Show
Feb. 26-27, 2027
Bonita Springs Public Library

F M L C G C D A T E S T O R E M E M B E R

Continued

MARCH 2027

CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY

Annual Auction**March Meeting, 2 pm**

FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ORCHID SOCIETY

Orchid Auction**Tues., March 9, 2027, 6 - 9 pm**

Faith United Methodist Church

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB

Stained Glass Butterfly for Beginners**Tues., March 9, 2027, noon - 2 pm**

FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

GARDEN COUNCIL MEETING & PROGRAM**Friday, March 12, 2027****"Conservancy 101"**

Noelia Iglesias, Conservancy of Southwest Florida

FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

ALVA GARDEN CLUB

Strawberry Festival and Plant Sale**Saturday, March 13, 2027, 9 a.m. - 1p.m.**

Alva Methodist Church

DEEP SOUTH REGION 64rd**ANNUAL CONVENTION****March 14-16, 2027**

Tuscaloosa, AL

KELLY GREENS GARDEN CLUB

Show Homes**March 15, 2027, 11am - 4pm**

Tickets \$25

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA FIDDLERS

CONCERT IN THE GARDEN**Tuesday, March 16, 2027, 10AM-noon**

FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

Berne Davis Honorary Service Award**18th ANNUAL LUNCHEON****March 24, 2027**

Fiddlesticks Country Club

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB

Tropicstar of Pine Island Boat Trip**Tues., March 25, 2027, 8:30 am - noon**

Safe Harbor Pine Island

APRIL 2027**FFGC 100TH ANNUAL CONVENTION****April 5-9, 2027**

Embassy Suites, Lake Buena Vista South,

Orlando, FL

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB

Flowers from Shells 2.0**Tues., April 6, 2027, 10 am - noon**

FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

EDISON AND FORD WINTER ESTATES

Grow Fort Myers Plant Sale & Workshops**April 10-11, 2027, 9 am - 4 pm**

This annual event offers plants from numerous vendors for sale, along with free workshops on various topics.

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB

20 Recommended Wildflowers**Tues., April 13, 2027, 9:30 am**

FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB

Sharpening Pruners, Loppers, etc.**Tues., April 6, 2027, noon - 2 pm**

FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY

James E. Hendry Chapter

73rd Annual Hibiscus Show and Sale**Saturday, April 17, 2027**

Location TBA

PUNTA GORDA GARDEN CLUB

NGC Standard Flower Show**Tues., April 20, 2017, 1 pm - 3 pm**

Isles Yacht Club

1780 West Marion, Punta Gorda

NATIONAL ARBOR DAY**Friday, April 30, 2027**

F M L C G C D A T E S T O R E M E M B E R

Continued

MAY 2027

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB

Tatakizome Flower Pounding**Tues., May 4, 2027, 9:30 am**

FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

GARDEN CLUB OF LEHIGH ACRES

Cups of Cheer**May 5, 2027, 9:30 a.m.**

Fountain Crest Retirement Community

2027 ANNUAL NGC CONVENTION**May 13-17, 2027**

Madison, Wisconsin

GARDEN COUNCIL MEETING & PROGRAM**Friday, May 14, 2027****"Leaf Manipulation for Design"**

Nancy Colgan, Potpourri Designers/Punta Gorda GC

FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB

Creating Flowers from Shells**Tues., May 26, 2027**

FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

JUNE 2027**NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK****June 6-12, 2027****JULY 2027**

THE POINCIANA GARDEN CLUB

Decoupage 4.0**Tues., July 13, 2027, 10 am**

FMLC Garden Council Headquarters

**Please submit any additional
dates or changes to:
fmlegardencouncil@gmail.com**

**All Events are
subject to change.**

ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

District IX Fall Meeting



District IX Meeting ~ Sept 22
Sydney & Berne Davis Art Center

**Two contests:
Carved or Decorated**

Your Pumpkin or Gourd are Wanted

If you are bringing an entry for the
contests, please email Susan Lawson
slawson921@gmail.com

**Want
inspiration?
[Video LINK](#)**



Plant Therapy Program Plant Sale

Sept 26, 9 to 2, 8100 Highway 64 E, Avon Park

Garden Club of Lakeland members facilitate the plant sale.
Bring a cart. Children welcome.

Join us Sept. 26th for the **Avon Park Correctional Institution Plant Sale**, featuring plants cultivated by inmates participating in the FNGLA Certified Horticulture Professional program. This long-standing horticulture training provides industry-recognized skills in plant care, landscape maintenance, and nursery production. Every sale helps support continued education and successful re-entry.

Largest long-running single-facility program in the USA:

- FNGLA certification offered for many years
- Deep partnership with Florida's landscape industry
- High graduate employment relevance in the state
- Partner with Florida Federation of Garden Clubs

AVPCI'S SPRING PLANT SALE

Sept 26, 2026, 9 am to 2 pm

Lunch Available

Hot dog plain, Chili dog or Slaw dog (mix or match)
Chips and a drink 1 Dog \$6, 2 Dogs \$7

Cash or Check Only

All proceeds go to the Nursery Program
"Therapy Through Plants"



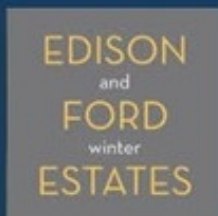
BRING A CART!
CHILDREN WELCOME
8100 Highway 64 E Avon Park

ORCHID SHOW

Oct. 9, 10, 11

Edison and Ford Winter Estates
and the American Orchid Society
Sponsored by Southwest Florida Orchid Society

Judging to take
place
on Friday 10/9
1:30 pm



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

Punta Gorda Garden Club & Visual Arts Center

Present

Punta Gorda Garden Club Classes for Fall 2026

PGGC Horticulture 1 01 ~ November 5, 2026

9am - 3 pm

VisualArtsCenter(VAC) 210 Maud Street, Punta Gorda 33950

Price\$30.00 Max 30 Students

Bring Lunch & Beverage

Registration Closes October 20, 2026



Two ways to pay, QR code or by check to:
PGGC – P.O. Box 511167 – Punta Gorda, FL 33951-1167

Explore gardening in Southwest Florida presenting the unique challenges and opportunities. Our warm climate allows for year-round gardening, but success depends on choosing the right plants and providing proper soil, water, and sunlight conditions. Sometimes bad weather can take over and knowing how to save what you have and perhaps make it Flower Show ready.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.PGGC.org

PLEASE EMAIL ANY QUESTIONS TO STEPHANIE GREEN at larryandstephaniegreen@gmail.com

Punta Gorda Garden Club & Visual Arts Center

Present

Punta Gorda Garden Club Classes for Fall 2026

PGGC Floral Design Mechanics Course & Demonstration

November 6, 2026

9am-3pm

Visual Arts Center (VAC) 210 Maud Street, Punta Gorda 33950

Price \$30.00 Max 30 Students

Bring Lunch & Beverage

Registrations Closes October 20, 2026



Two ways to pay, QR code or by check to: PGGC – P.O. Box 511167 – Punta Gorda, FL 33951-1167

Floral mechanics are the techniques and materials used to construct, support, and secure flowers and foliage in a floral arrangement. They help the designer control the placement, shape, balance, and stability of the design.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.PGGC.org

PLEASE EMAIL ANY QUESTIONS TO STEPHANIE GREEN at larryandstephaniegreen@gmail.com



THE BONSAI SOCIETY OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

2026 ANNUAL BONSAI SHOW & SALE

**Exhibit of Bonsai Trees, Sales,
Demonstrations and Workshops.**

November 21-22, 2026

Saturday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Sunday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**FREE ADMISSION
FREE LUNCH
FREE PARKING
(On Larchmont Street)**

**Ft. Myers-Lee County Garden
Council ---- Berne Davis Gardens**

**Just North of
Edison-Ford Estates**

2166 Virginia Ave. Ft. Myers, FL

**www.bonsaiswfl.org
239-935-6850**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, Nov 21, 2026

9:00 - 5:00

EXHIBITS, VENDORS AND RAFFLES OPEN

9:00 - 12:00

MULTI-CLUB STYLING COMPETITION

9:00 - 12:00

**WORKSHOP WITH Adam Lavigne
"Green Island Ficus", 10 Spots, \$50 ea.**

12:00

RAFFLE of Plants and Bonsai Items

1:00

**Demonstration by Adam Lavigne
"Buttonwood"**

(Will be on Sunday's Raffle Table)

1:00 - 4:00

Free workshop with Phil Krieg
10 Slots available. The workshop is free, but if
you wish to purchase the tree, the cost is \$25

4:30

RAFFLE of Plants and Bonsai Items

Sunday, Nov 22, 2026

9:00 - 3:00

EXHIBITS, VENDORS AND RAFFLES OPEN

9:00 - 12:00

**Bring your own Tree Workshop
With Adam Lavigne**

The cost is \$25

12:00

RAFFLE of Trees and Bonsai items

1:00 - 3:00

**Joe Mayhew, Potter
Pot-Throwing Demonstration**

Bonsai Help Table, Ask Questions!

2:30

**Final Raffle of Trees, Bonsai Items,
and Styling Competition Trees.**



Punta Gorda Garden Club & Visual Arts Center

Presents

FLORIDA FEDERATION of GARDEN CLUBS

2027 Floral Design Series - Units 1-6

Visual Arts Center ~ 210 Maude St ~ Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Price \$30.00 Per Unit - Max 30 Students

Bring Lunch & Beverage

Registration Closes December 9, 2026

January 15	9am - 3pm	Unit 1
January 22	9am - 3pm	Unit 2
January 29	9am - 3pm	Unit 3
March 5	9am - 3pm	Unit 4
March 12	9am - 3pm	Unit 5
March 19	9am - 3pm	Unit 6



You may also pay by check to: PGGC – P.O. Box 511167 – Punta Gorda, FL 33951-1167

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Floral Design Study is a series of six units in basic design and three units in advanced design. With the objective to develop a unified understanding of the art of flower arranging. These courses provide the participants the knowledge and practical skills to create floral designs for both the home and Flower Shows.

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