



GARDEN CLUB OF CAPE CORAL

PO Box 152022, Cape Coral, FL 33915

NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2018



IT'S PARTY TIME!

Yes, it's that time of year again when we get together purely to socialize with no business meeting. We will be a large gathering – approximately 90 of us have signed up to attend. It's BYOB so bring whatever you like to drink – wine, beer etc. Punch, water and soft drinks will be provided by the hosts. The only business will be the presentations to the winners of the Club Service Award and our Photography Competition.

Start time is 6:30 pm as usual, at the Kiwanis Hall, 360 Santa Barbara Blvd., Cape Coral. If you signed up to bring an appetizer (and you will be receiving a reminder email), please plan to arrive by 6:15 pm so that the appetizer tables can be fully loaded by 6:30 pm.

Greeters will be Gail Miller and Susan Campbell
Hosts are:

Tom Peltier Richard Sheriff
Dale Manuel John Hampton
Hayden Jones Max Breckinridge

The party is organized by the Holiday Party Committee and you will be able to recognize members of that committee by the snowflake headbands that they will be wearing. Our greeters and hosts (noted above) will be wearing Santa hats. MC for the evening is Midge Breckinridge – thank you Midge!

Instead of a traditional raffle at the party, we will have a 50:50 – i.e., half of the income goes to the Club and half to the lucky winner. In addition, as part of the thankyou for our contribution to FFGC's Camp Wekiva, we were given a child's Camp Wekiva T-shirt, which will be available through bids on a silent auction.

Also, at this time of year, we like to think of others and, as in past years, we will be collecting canned goods etc. for the **Cape Coral Caring Center**. They are always in need of the following:

Holiday Food: Green Beans, Corn, Chicken Broth, Cream soup, Cranberry Sauce Sweet potato or Pumpkin, Gravy, Stuffing, Mashed potatoes, Olives/Pickles, Dessert items

Always needed also are: Peanut butter, Cereal, Vegetables, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Beans Rice, Soup, Canned Pasta, Hygiene products, Tuna

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Annual Opportunity Drawing Tickets

We have received a small stock of Opportunity Drawing (raffle) tickets to sell. Tickets are priced at \$2 each and there are some fantastic prizes. Please see President

Sue for list of prizes if you would like to participate.

Cups of Cheer November visit

Many thanks to Nancy Colgan, Deborah Clements, Alekssie Funes, Kathy Rabassi and Debra Jones for helping President Sue at the November Cups of Cheer visit to Coral Chase Elder Care Facility, where residents are always eagerly waiting to participate in our monthly garden therapy program. Here are some pictures from the November visit:



Debra Jones with her daughter



Alekssie Funes

We still need Christmas themed cups or mugs for our December visit and, of course, more mugs and cups for our January visit. Please bring whatever you can to the Holiday Party.

At the club meeting several members volunteered to help with redesigning and replanting the Coral Chase courtyard garden. Coral Chase is having a bake sale on Friday, Dec. 14 to raise money to fund the work. If any of you would like to contribute something for the bake sale, please bring it to the Holiday Party and President Sue will get it to Coral Chase in time for the sale.

Club Officers

Our Nominating Committee, chaired by Ginny Huffer, is still seeking volunteers to join the new board which takes office in May. Please consider taking an officer role in running the club. It's not

hard and can be a lot of fun. Detailed descriptions of the various roles will be available in our next newsletter.

Hurricane Michael and the Panhandle Devastation

We are pleased to tell you that the collection taken up at the last meeting for the devastation wreaked by Hurricane Michael on the Florida Panhandle raised \$133 and the club will be matching that donation, for a grand total of \$266. Thanks to everyone who contributed. The money will be sent to the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs for onward transmission to affected garden clubs in the Panhandle area.

Special Events:

If you are planning on joining the bus trip to Vizcaya Museum and Garden in Miami in February, please sign up and pay the fee (\$53.00) at the December meeting. We can only run the trip if enough people sign up to make it economically viable and if we pay the deposit, it is non-returnable. The house is stunningly beautiful and contains many fabulous artifacts and paintings and the gardens are among the most elaborate in the US, reminiscent of gardens created in the 17th and 18th century in Italy and France.

Checks should be made payable to Garden Club of Cape Coral and either given to Donna Schneider at the holiday party or mailed to PO Box 152022, Cape Coral, FL 33915 as soon as possible. We will also have payment by credit card available at the party.



Vizcaya

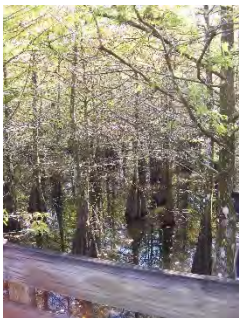
Attention all Designers and Horticulturists

The bi-annual Garden Council Flower Show It's All About Water scheduled for March 1st and 2nd is looking for designers and gardeners to enter. Schedule will be available shortly. The theme reflects the passionate interest in water purity and supply that FMLCGC President Bernadette Hamera has demonstrated over many years.

Pictures from our November meeting and Cypress Slough visit:



Donna Cook and her inspired arrangements



View from Boardwalk



Club members

January Special Event

Please remember that our January visit to Bailey's Homestead Gardens on Sanibel is on **THURSDAY, Jan. 10** – the day following our January club meeting. Sign up sheets will be available at the Holiday Party. There will be a class on Native plants and the cost for that will be \$5 per person. Lunch will be at Traders Café on Sanibel.

Upcoming Events:

Edison Estates Monthly Gardening Talks:
10:00 am, \$10.00 Members, \$15 Non-Members:

Dec. 08 Succulents and Cactus
Jan. 12 Easy to Grow Cut Flowers
Mar. 09 Vines that Thrive
Apr. 13 Roses in SWFL

Dec. 11: 11:30 AM to 1:15 PM Shell Islands Garden Club Festival of Wreaths Silent Auction and presentation by Carol Kolar, sharing experiences of Holiday Decorating at the White House and ideas for transforming your home for the holidays. Silent auction bids to be placed before the presentation starts at noon. Bidding will close at 1:15 PM. Sanibel Community House, 2173 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel.

Dec. 14 Our own "FUN with FLOWERS" with a holiday theme.

10AM noon at the FMLCGC Headquarters led by President Sue Lawson. Register on our website gardenclubofcapecoral.com Cost \$15.00

Jan. 11 – Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council general meeting – 9 AM social half hour, 9:30 AM program and business meeting. The program is on specialty flower arrangements and will be presented by noted designer and judge, Kathleen Hawryluk.

Jan 12, 2019 Saturday – SWFL Orchid Society, Tamiami Orchid Festival Bus Trip. \$25/members \$35/non-members

Feb 14th, 2019 Judges Council Annual Flower Show at FMLCGC HQ Open to the Public 1:00-4:30PM

March 1 and 2 – Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council biennial Flower Show – *It's all about Water* at FMLCG HQ

Upcoming Events – continued

May 7 – FFGC District IX Spring Meeting, Marco Island

Reminders from Lakes Park

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

2nd Saturday Guided Garden Walks - Oct-April
9:00 AM– 1:00 PM
Meet at Community Garden Sign; end of parking lot #3

Wednesdays Farmers Market - runs October through April 9AM– 1PM

If you have items you would like included in the January newsletter, please email details to Sylvia Swartz, tamargal2@aol.com