



GARDEN CLUB OF CAPE CORAL

PO Box 152022, Cape Coral, FL 33915

NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2018

October Meeting, Kiwanis Hall, Santa Barbara Blvd.

It was great to see so many of you at our September potluck – and thanks for all the wonderful food that was brought. This month, we're back to our normal start time of 6:30 pm for our meeting on Wednesday, beginning with our social half hour, followed by our program and business meeting. Our program this month will be presented by Honey Philips, MS, who is the Senior Recreation Specialist with Cape Coral Parks and Recreation Department at Rotary Park. Honey, a horticulturist and environmental recreation specialist, will be giving us a PowerPoint presentation on *Natural Florida trees and shrubs*.

Greeters will be Carmen Sprague and Sally Stevens.

Hostesses are:

Martha Howard	Cathy Atchison
Andrea Blinn	Sherie Bleiler
Melanie Jacob	Nora Hoover
Francesca McIntyre	Sandy Gove
Betty Wethington	Peri Pantazes

If you are unable to fulfil this commitment, please either arrange someone to fill in for you or, as your last resort, contact Hostess Chair, Debbie Cooper, 541-3263.

New Projects for the Club

For those of you not present at the September Potluck, here are the new projects that outlined in the *What's New in the Club* presentation at last month's meeting:

- A new outreach program - **Cups of Cheer**. This is a monthly Garden Therapy program that we will be doing as outreach with residents of the Coral Chase Elder Care facility. If you have surplus tea cups or coffee mugs which we can use to make the small arrangement we will be making, please bring them to Wednesday's meeting. Publix has graciously agreed to provide flowers free of charge. Our first visit to Coral Trace was a great success on September 17 and the next visit will be on Monday, September 15, led by Sue Lawson. If you are interested in participating, please contact Sue.



The charming arrangements made at the September Cups of Cheer visit with Coral Chase Residents

- *Monthly Plant Exchange* program – members are encouraged to bring plants they would like to share with other garden members. If you intend bringing plants, please email Dona Baliotis, Horticultural Chair, in advance or bring them early to the meeting. Plants should be clearly labeled with their botanical name, and common name, and their preferred growing conditions.
- *Fun with Flowers* – this is another outreach program but aimed at the general public this time. We will host four meetings this season – October, December, February and April. The workshops will be publicized in the News Press and with fliers at public places. Cost of each workshop is \$15 and they will be held at the Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council Headquarters building. The workshops will be kept simple and are designed to foster an interest in floral art and perhaps also a pathway to garden club membership. The first workshop is scheduled for October 19.
- *Photography Contest* - Take a look at the front cover of the Directory you receive on Wednesday and you will see a stunning photo of Carolyn France's orchid that she entered in our Flower Show earlier this year. This prompted the Board to mount a photography contest amongst members to have their photo on the cover of the next Directory. Rules are very simple: entrant must have taken the photo personally which can be of a plant, garden or taken at one of our special events in the last year. The photo must be submitted digitally to Sylvia Swartz at tamargal2@aol.com, and arrive by

November 23, 2018. If the plant or garden is not yours personally, you should have the owner's permission to submit. If it's of a public place, you don't need permission. Get snapping!

- *Busy Bee Award* – The Board would like to recognize members who participate above and beyond – those members who are always willing to respond to requests for help or to be involved in any way they can. The award is in the membership's control – not the Board's – so the member with the most nominations wins! There will be nomination box at each meeting and the winner will be announced at the May meeting.



Our Welcome Back September Potluck

District IX Fall meeting

Four members travelled to Lakeland, FL on Oct. 2 to attend the FFGC District IX Fall meeting. Three of the FFGC officers were present: President Claudia Bates, President-Elect Al Latina and Second VP, Marge Hendon. They gave an interesting PowerPoint presentation updating the audience on FFGC activities.

It was announced at that meeting that our Founder, the late Marty Ward, had generously gifted the FFGC Scholarship Fund with \$52,000 in her Will. This allowed the

Federation to significantly increase their scholarship awards this year.



Cape Coral members at the District IX meeting: Pictured front: Jean Shields and Charlene Anderson, with Ginny Huffer and Sylvia Swartz behind

Scarecrow Fest at Lakelands Park

Ginny Huffer and her team have been busy using their imaginations working on our scarecrow for this year's Scarecrow Fest. Our entry reflects our current water quality problems in this area. Don't forget to visit to view and vote for our entry. The Fest is open weekends only Friday to Sunday from 10/18 to 10/30.

October Club Special Event 10/13

Wednesday will be your last chance to sign up for October's special event – our visit to the Mound House at Fort Myers Beach. Details of the visit will be found on the sign-up sheet.

Also, if you would like to join the bus trip to Vizcaya Museum and Garden in Miami in February, please sign up early. We can only run the trip if enough people sign up to make it economically viable. The house is stunningly beautiful and contains many fabulous artifacts and paintings and the gardens are magnificent.



Vizcaya from the water

Whole Foods Corks Recycling Program

Don't forget to bring any wine bottle corks you have to the meeting so that we can get them to Whole Foods for their recycling program.

Berne Davis Garden at Fort Myers Lee County Garden Council, Virginia Ave., Fort Myers

The garden reopens this coming Tuesday. The Garden Council is seeking volunteers to be at the garden on Tuesday, November 13 to act as hosts to the public who attend on that day. The garden is open 10 am until 1 pm. If you would like to volunteer, please tell Sue Lawson and she will give you more information. It's a great opportunity to spend time in these beautiful gardens. As the Garden Council Board President pointed out at the Board meeting this morning, we as a club have more than one hundred members and we ought to be able to find a couple of volunteers to undertake this very pleasant task so – step up!

Holiday Party, December 12

Sign-up sheets will again be available at the October for the party itself and/or if you would like to bring an Appetizer or Dessert to the party. Cost of the party is \$20 per person, guests are welcome, just sign them up and pay Sylvia. Please remember to indicate if you would

like pork or chicken as your entrée. If you have already signed up, please come prepared to give cash or check made payable to Garden Club of Cape Coral to Sylvia at the meeting.

Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council Hosting

All member garden clubs of the Council take it in turns to provide refreshments at the general meetings of the Council. We are scheduled to host the November general meeting of the Garden Council on Friday, November 9 and we need more people to sign up to bring refreshments to this event. Please look for the sign-up sheet and commit to helping us provide some stellar refreshments for the meeting.

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 1: At Rotary Park 9 to 10:30 AM –. Florida Vegetables (part of the Florida Friendly Landscaping series) Register at 239-549-4606. The full series of workshops is as follows:

Oct. 26: Yard Bugs

Nov. 2: Plant Propagation

Nov. 16: Attracting Butterflies

Nov. 30: Costly Yard Mistakes

All workshops are followed by a Garden Walk with a Master Gardener through Rotary Park.

Oct. 20, 9 AM to noon: Fall Wildflower Walk with Brenda Thomas at CREW Marsh Trails 4600 Corkscrew Road, Immokalee, Florida 34142 \$5.00 Register online at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fall-wildflower-walk-with-brenda-thomas-registration-49610746077>

Oct. 27, 2 - 4 PM Hibiscus Society Fall Sale at the Salvation Army Hall, 10291 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers.

Nov. 2 8 AM, 4 PM Poinciana Garden Club Annual Plant and Yard Sale, 1416 Charles Rd., Fort Myers

Nov. 2 and 3, 9 AM – 2 PM both days Arcadia Garden Club Fall Plant Sale, Arcadia Garden Club Club House, 1005 W. Magnolia St. Arcadia. Note: W. Magnolia St. is Highway 70 East and next to Lake Katherine. The Garden Club also has a beautiful native garden that it would like to showcase during this event.

(If you are interested in carpooling to this event, please contact President Sue.)

Nov. 3- 4, 9 AM - 4 PM Bonsai Society of SWFL 37th Annual Show and Sale, FMLCGC HQ, 2166 Virginia Ave, Fort Myers

Nov. 13, 10 AM-1 PM Jasmine Garden Club Annual Fundraiser, Covenant Presbyterian, 2439 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers

Nov. 9 – General meeting of the Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council. Social half hour 9 AM, followed by business meeting at 9:30 AM. The program speaker is Donna Cook of the Pine Islands Garden Club. **This is a must-see presentation on using plant material from your backyard to make stunning casual arrangements.**

Nov. 13 7:30 PM SWFL Orchid Society Annual Fundraiser, Faith United Methodist, 15690 McGregor Blvd, Fort Myers

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