The Blooming Chatter

The Sarasota Garden Club Newsletter

VOLUME 31 ISSUE 09

MAY 2022



"Preserving our gardens and historic landmarks while promoting the environment, conservation and civic beautification through education and programs."

The Botanical Gardens are open to the public for your

exploration and enjoyment!

Garden Hours: Daylight - 7 days a week **Location:** 1131 Boulevard of the Arts

Office Hours: 9am to 1pm, Monday to Friday

Office Phone: (941) 955-0875

Email: ■ Office@SarasotaGardenClub.org

Highlights

- New President's Message
- Horticulture Study
- ♣ Floral Design Challenge
- News from Membership Committee
- **L** COMMITTEES

SUCCULENT in FLORIDA



As recommended by Ray Lemieux, this month's guest speaker

Social Media

Website: www.sarasotagardenclub.org

Facebook.com/sarasotagardenclub Instagram sarasotagardenclub | #sarasotagardenclub | #Weddings & events | #TheGardensSGC

Email: chatterblooming@gmail.com

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May and June 2022 Calendars

MAY 2022				
1 st		Center for Spiritual Living		
3 rd	7pm	Succulent Society Meeting		
4 th	9am	Floralia 16		
7 th	4pm	The Day		
8 th	1.30pm	The Bay		
		Center for Spiritual Living		
	Mother's Day			
10 th	10am	SGC Board of Directors Meeting		
12 th	4pm	The Bay		
14 th	WEDDING & RECEPTION			
15 th	Center for Spiritual Living			
16 th	10am	Sarasota Garden Club "Floral Design Challenge"		
22nd		Center for Spiritual Living		
22 nd	1pm	Celebration of Life		
24 th	10am	SGC Monthly Executive Meeting		
25 th	6pm	Mangrove Coast Fly Fishers		
26 th	10am	Butterfly Club Meeting		
29 th	9am	Celebration of Life		
30 th	OFFICE CLOSED – MEMORIAL DAY			



JUNE 2022			
5 th		Center for Spiritual Living	
6 th	10am	SGC Board of Directors Meeting	
9 th	4pm	The Bay	
12 th		Center for Spiritual Living	
19 th		Center for Spiritual Living	
22 nd	6pm	Mangrove Coast Fly Fishers	
26 th		Celebration of Life	
28 th	10am	SGC Monthly Executive Meeting	





Horticulture Study Review



Our guest speaker for the Horticulture Study on succulents on 18th April was Ray Lemieux, owner of Red Island Plants: a plant store and captivating world of succulents.

For more information visit www.redislandplants.com which has a terrific online catalog.



After an initial introduction from Kay Weber, who has been a friend of Ray's for 18 years! Ray talked us through an impressive display of succulents, recounting a plethora of hints and tips as to how to care for and reproduce this type of plant, for which a "cat's whisker" seems to be an invaluable tool.

"First off, all cacti are succulents, but not all succulents are cacti. Succulents are known to be moisture packed due to storage of water. Succulents store water in their leaves, stems or roots and the arms - thus they can survive quite a while without being watered."



Ray recounted an entertaining story relating to Desert Roses – apart from the fact that they are neither from the desert OR any type of rose (it just seemed a nice name). He originally had terrible trouble keeping them alive. When he was working for a nursery, he actually killed nearly all of them and thought he'd lost his job, until the manager told him "That's how you learn how to grow a plant!" I think we can all sympathise with that!

<u>BTW:</u> Desert Roses like a LOT of sunshine and need to be watered a couple of times a week, and take a brutal pruning after flowering to encourage new branches and lots of flowers.

BIG THANK YOU TO RAY, who raffled several plants AND Members were able to purchase his wide-ranging and unusual selection of plants. To buy his plants – use his online shop or look out for him at local markets.

See Ray's "Plant of the Month" recommendation.



May General Meeting

"Floral Design Challenge"

Please join us for what will be our last general meeting until





September – and why not bring a guest?

Monday, May 16th 10:00am at Sarasota Garden Club

May's General Meeting will include an update on the Club's activities – THEN:

Floral designers including Emily Yaffe, Kimberly McNeil, Adrienne Wagner and Clare Milligan will all have been given the same materials in advance - and they will create their own design on the day, whilst we watch!

- Their creations will be judged by the meeting attendees: YOU!
- Each of the designs will be raffled off at the end of the meeting. What a lovely way to get a beautiful arrangement?

Giving Challenge

The GIVING CHALLENGE was a 24-hour 'giving' event that took place on 26/27th April, for all non-profit organisations to receive donations – and have them doubled by The Patterson Foundation.



The Patterson Foundation, which meets at the Sarasota Garden Club, says:

"The world moves at the speed of change, and change happens at the speed of trust. The Patterson Foundation believes that



philanthropy strengthens the efforts of people, organizations, and communities. Strong communities work together to achieve shared aspirations and can even thrive in the face of adversity." For more information go to www.thepattersonfoundation.org.

We publicised this event by an email from the club encouraging both members and non-members to make a donation on 26/27th April. Our message was:



The Giving Challenge
Achieved: \$4,850 in
donations from 52 donors
for Sarasota Garden Club.

Thank you to everyone that was able to make a donation.

The Conservation Foundation

On Wednesday 20th April members were invited to attend the "What happened to all the praying mantises?"



We had a good representation of SGC, Dianne Beaver, CJ Danna, Elizabeth Moore, Andy Papaneau, Tess Herschman, and Anita Laesser.

Elizabeth Moore was the Presenting Sponsor for the Conservation Foundation at Michael's on East, a luncheon for the guest speaker, Dr. Jack Longino. The president, Christine Johnson, opened the lecture, and Elizabeth Moore thanked everyone for attending and thanked the generous sponsors.

A Sarasota native, Dr. Longino is a professor of Biology at the University of Utah. Longino is a passionate supporter of land conservation. A childhood fascination with insects led him to an interest in ecology and the desire to explain patterns of diversity, and settled on ants as an ecologically dominant group of insects worthy of study. He has written several papers on ecology, evolution, and conservation of tropical insects.



Visit to a SGC Fan's Garden



On Wednesday 20th April, several members of the SGC visited a private garden, owned by a friend of Kay's, who is a big fan of the Friday Volunteers, over at Misty Creek. His garden has an **extensive** tree canopy, which he and his son have adorned with the larger species of bromeliads in the higher branches, and orchids and smaller bromeliads at various levels all the way down to grown level, where they are met by more and more plants, ferns and a series of curious whimsies. It was a spectacular display with the orchids in full bloom.

Carol Lackey has created an online photo album for you to take a look, but here are just a few of the pictures.

https://bit.ly/3L9iUzX









Botanical Report

"Gardening makes us even in this world"

It's been a busy month as usual, as there have been many rentals for weddings and parties again, so it's important that the Friday Volunteers make the garden look as good as possible for the event(s).



We have been doing a lot of work, thinning out the "Woodland Garden" again, and added some donated bushes from Olivia there. The lagoon in the "Falling Waters Garden" always needs cutting back (about every other month) and we had a crew of 8 working on that project over the Easter weekend. It is looking much better now, with a clearer vista from the white arch (where most couples or photo opportunities are taken from) across the water to the back of the garden. AND it was a fun morning.

A couple of times a year I am asked to arrange tours in really beautiful gardens from friends of the Friday Morning Workers. Recently several requests came in to do offsite tours. We attended a tour of a home in a gated community. This is the 3rd time we were invited to come see his updated gardens. He has 25 seating areas and hundreds of orchids and bromeliads growing in trees. Every time we come there is so much more to enjoy. (See previous pages).

Friday Mornings Volunteers

We have some new volunteers – special welcome to Leila, Shari, Kristin, and Lynda. We are always hoping for more volunteers for the Friday Morning Workers, as our Snowbirds will be leaving really soon.

We open up at about 8:30am or so, and work until 11:00am. If you love to garden or want to know how to garden in southern Florida, come along and we will show you how to do it. If you can only come once or twice a month, that's okay with my

Co-Chair Carolyn and myself. We do have water and light snacks each week, and we try to have a pot-luck lunch or an offsite tour with bag lunch.

J-ROTC: Harrison Troyan

Thank you to student Harrison Troyan from the J-ROTC (U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps) for completing a worthwhile project at the Sarasota Garden Club.

We really appreciate it when we can help students complete a Community Project. This is a Win-Win for both of us.





With a little help from his brothers



Kay Weber SGC Botanical Garden Chair





Kay's Corner

Orchid Tips for May from Kay!

May is a month of transition in southern Florida.

- Early in the month we can expect the driest weather of the year.

 Temperatures rise rapidly in the late morning and can reach the 80's -90's by mid-afternoon.
 - Get your work done in the early morning before the heat comes in, especially if you are re-potting and watering, which should be done as early as possible in the day for best effect.
- Space your orchids properly for good air circulation.
 If your orchids are hanging on limbs, best to clear excessive foliage from trees / shrubs around them.
- **Reminder** if re-potting your Phalaenopsis orchids, take them out of any sphagnum moss and re-plant them in woodchips, Perlite and a little charcoal.
- Water heavily early in the month, and more guardedly later in the month.

Kay Weber Member of Sarasota Garden Club and Sarasota Orchid Society

For those of us who don't know: A Phalaenopsis orchid (also known as a moth orchid) is a "monopodial" orchid, which means that it grows from a single stem with long, coarse roots, short, leafy stems and long-lasting, flat flowers arranged in a flowering stem that often branches near the end.

Ode to Orchids, by YLZM

Orchids, alien and other worldly; **beauty**, bordering the grotesque and bizarre, strangely exhilarating; **variations**, wild and uninhibited, even orgiastic, of a mind, as if, not of this world; **shapes and sizes**, folds and spirals colours and colourations. At times, more animal or insect, than flower.

If a rose is Mozart, an orchid is Stravinsky.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is responsible for the promotion and recruitment of new members through community-wide campaigns and has a visible presence at all SGC and other appropriate events. The Committee also mentors new members, maintains the membership database, directory edits and publishing, and creates member name tags. New members are welcome to bring a potential member guest to the meetings and socials.

The Membership Committee currently comprises 10 members: Anne Stegall, Becci Bond, Shari Amato, Carolyn Michielsen, Sue Angle, Emily Yaffe, Carol Lackey, Donna Boynton, Shirley Cook and Stephanie Cotton.

If you would like to be involved with the Membership Committee contact: astegalil@outlook.com

Welcome to new members who joined in April, including:

- Shari Amato
- Lynne Lockie
- Linda Elliff
- Don Williams
- Lynn Vigeant



The Sarasota Garden Club directory is currently being updated with the members and 2022-2023 programs under the direction of the new Board and Committee chairs. This information will be available online in the Members Section of the www.sarasotagardenclub.org website AND available in printed version for a small fee.

Nametags: we have several new members' nametags in the office. If you have joined the club and not collected your badge, they're here for you.



For a charge of \$12.50 you can order a metal magnetic nametag through Membership.



Tip from Red Island: Ray Lemieux from Red Island says "If I had to pick a succulent for this month it would be the desert rose because they are blooming right now, the colorful flowers and unusual structure of the plant have always caught my attention."



This Adenium is quite an interesting cross by Mark Dimmit, master grower and breeder of desert roses. Mark has created thousands of varieties from seed, has named several dozen cultivars, and has written many articles on the subject. Be sure to check out the book *Adenium: Sculptural Elegance, Floral Extravagance*, which he co-authored and is a must read for desert rose enthusiasts.

With this cross, he combined several species to produce plants that he states, "will grow into monsters." There is a lot going on in this cross. Many plants exhibit foliage with the strong veining

characteristic of Adenium somalense. The arabicum and obesum aspects in the cross produce a large caudex. The flowers range from pink and red to white picotee. Some flowers feature stripes in the throat that slide out onto the petal or white petalled flowers with splotches of pink and red.



Scholarship

The Sarasota Garden Club awarded \$39,000 in

scholarships to seven students from Sarasota and Manatee Counties this year from the Judith Schneider Memorial Legacy Scholarship Fund. This makes a total of \$339,000 over past years.

Our mission is primarily education. We award scholarships to area students who are majoring in a natural science and who excel in their personal lives and endeavours.

One of our awardees is already learning water resource technology and systems on a large scale.

Historically we have awarded \$10,000 a year, but this legacy gift allows us to award larger scholarships as the cost of education is increasing.

We are grateful to Judith Schneider for entrusting this gift to the Sarasota Garden Club for these students and future students who will be working to improve our worlds.



Last year's recipients:
Lillian Field, New College (Left)
Faith Holliday, Cardinal Mooney
High School (Right)



Submitted by the Scholarship Committee: Nancy Lewis, Chair; Sharon Davisson, Lynn Biega, Andy and Mary Fran Panineau.



This & That

Here are a few dates of events that you may be interested in:

- DID YOU KNOW...IF YOU HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF OUR CLUB FOR A YEAR, YOU CAN RENT THE CLUB WITH A 10% DISCOUNT?
- 33rd Annual Fruit Tree Sale: Saturday May 7th 9am 3pm.
 Premier Sports Campus, 5895 Post Blvd, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34211 "Growers from all over the state will wow you with their best fruiting plants and comprehe native growing knowledge. Thousands of trees will be on display for your selection...too many to name. Many rare plants you won't find elsewhere all in one place, all on one day."
- The Sarasota Succulent Society: Mother's Day Sale: Saturday May
 7th 1am FREE. www.SarasotaSucculentSociety.org
- Rob Branch Tropical Gardens will be open on Saturday May 7th from 9am – 3pm at 38th Street, Sarasota. A selection of rare palms and exotic plants, Heliconias, mounted bromeliads and ipephytic plants along with cacti and succulents, and staghorns and babmoo, bromeliands, aroids, orchids and other exotic plants and trees.
- Our club is a member of Florida Federation of Garden Clubs. Our membership entitles each member a subscription to the Florida Gardener. The quarterly magazine is online only now and can be viewed at the following link: www.ffgc.org
- Ray Lemieux, who gave us the talk on succulents, will be selling at The Meadows farmer's market Sunday before Mothers day.



Fundraising 2022-2023



We have been busy developing our Fundraising Agenda for the Sarasota Garden Club 2021-2022 year.

All our events raise funds for our mission, which include:
Scholarships
Children's Programs
Education in Horticulture / Floral Design
Outreach Programs and
Infrastructure of our history mid-century modern building
Along with our many gardens.

Each special event, such as Gardens in Paradise Tour and GIP Preview in Paradise Party, have their own brand of rewards, and act as a vehicle for communicating our mission to the community.

Revenue is generated from our Fundraising Events, Sponsors and In-Kind-Gifts. SGC is a non-profit 501©3 and an IRS designated educational organization.

If you wish to be a part of this committee, please contact: Kelly Goodwin (941) 718-3359

Contribution Campaign



Sarasota Garden Club 1131 Blvd. of the Arts Sarasota, FL 34236 SarasotaGardenClub.org Office@SarasotaGardenClub.org (941) 955 0875



Celebrating 60-plus Years - 1959 – 2022 Sarasota Garden Club's Historic Mid-Century Modern Building

Over 60 years ago members of the **Sarasota Garden Club** took a leap of faith, after much planning and fundraising, and built our mid-century modern building designed in the Sarasota School of Architecture in 1959 by John Crowell. It was beautiful and soon the gardens became a show place for our community.

After these many years our beloved building desperately needs some major restoration to return to her previous beauty and glory. Our goal to accomplish this is \$205,000 by December 2022.

How can you help? By participating in one of two programs:

- (1) "Buy a Brick" for our historic mid-century modern building by either buying a brick or bricks for each \$250 donation. Bricks are customized with your name, a family member's name, a family name, or business name and will be placed in our garden along with acknowledgement on our Donor's Board, or
- (2) Become a Patron by donating \$1,000 to \$10,000 and joining other Patrons (individuals, families, and/or companies). You will be memorialized on a Bronze garden plaque to be located in our garden, a brick, and acknowledged on our Donor's Board.

You can make your donation online at www.sarasotagardenclub.org/contributions or mail a check to Sarasota Garden Club, Attention: Kelly Goodwin, 1131 Blvd. of the Arts, Sarasota, FL 34236.

Thank you for your love for our historic building and your continued support!

Sincerely,

Kelly Goodwin

Kelly Goodwin - SGC Fundraising

P.S. We are planning to have a Success Celebration when we reach our goal. More later....

Over the past ninety plus years we have been providing the community of Sarasota with educational, environmental, horticulture and floral design workshops, and a place for our surrounding community to come and garden in our 9 beautiful botanical gardens.

Open 7 days a week.

FREE TO THE PUBLIC.

We are the 2nd largest green space in downtown Sarasota.



A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. Registration Number CH40324.

Contribution Campaign



Signature:

Sarasota Garden Club
1131 Blvd. of the Arts
Sarasota, FL 34236
SarasotaGardenClub.org
Office@SarasotaGardenClub.org
(941) 955 0875



Yes, I would like to contribute to the Sarasota Garden Club.

Name(s):			
Address:			
Amount:	\$		
I will pay by Check or Visa:			
Charge my Visa Card #:			
Exp. Date:	/ / 20		
Signature:			
Please print the name(s) you want on the brick(s) and/or plaque:			

My contribution will go toward the renovations of your historic mid-century modern building and grounds at 1131 Blvd. of the Arts, Sarasota, FL 34236. I will receive a tax deductible form from the Sarasota Garden Club and will receive updates as the project develops.

Please return	n this form and check to: Sarasota Garden Club, Attn: Kelly God	odwin,
1131 Blvd. of	the Arts, Sarasota, FL 34236.	

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Board of Directors

Below is the new Executive
Committee, which was installed at
the Annual Meeting by Barbara Rao.
Some positions are still OPEN!!



"All hands on deck!"

Board of Directors at Sarasota Garden Club		
"We thank you for all that you do for the club"		
Kelly Goodwin	President	
CJ Danna	1st Vice President	
Dianne Beaver	Treasurer	
Sharon Davisson	Assistant Treasurer	
Sharon Davisson	Recording Secretary	
Tess Herschman	Rentals	
	Parliamentarian	
Anita Leasser	Community Projects	
Kay Weber	Botanical Gardens	
Carolyn Michielsen	Botanical Gardens	
	Fundraising	
	Horticulture	
	Programs	
Olivia Haynes	Hospitality	
	Membership	
	Education	
	Communications	

SGC Committees

Ever wondered how it all works behind the scenes at Sarasota Garden Club? Well – it's all down to COMMITTEES!

The Club's success relies upon planning and executing a series of events throughout the year for both members and non-members to enjoy - and to generate funds.

The success of these events relies heavily upon members' contribution and members have so many 'hidden' skills that really help. Please consider joining one or more committees.

At the Annual Meeting, clipboards were present and attendees were asked to sign up for participation on our various committees.

For those members who were unable to attend the Annual Meeting, we will be issuing a communication soon, detailing each of the committees and ask that you consider joining one or more.

With a view to streamlining operations, and ensuing efficient messaging and communication between committees and members, a new committee has been set up – to provide web, email, survey and other techie facilities to all of the other Sarasota Garden Club committees.

Sarasota Garden Club Committee Definition		
Committee Name	COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE	
Role of Committee	To support other Sarasota Garden Club Committees to represent their operations on:	
	• Website	
	Facebook	
	Constant Contact	
	Marketing	
	Publicity	
Comments	The success of this Committee's activities requires AND DEPENDS UPON good communication between this and other committees when content and contacts are required.	
	e.g. when an event is being organised by a committee, the Chair or a member of that committee should inform and liaise with the Communication Committee.	