



**SARASOTA
GARDEN CLUB**

The Blooming Chatter

The Sarasota Garden Club Magazine

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MARCH SPRING – 2023

www.sarasotagardenclub.org



Highlights

- ✚ President's Message
- ✚ Scholarship Program
- ✚ Club Dates
- ✚ Event Reviews
- ✚ **** GARDENS IN PARADISE ****
- ✚ Botanical Gardens Report
- ✚ AND MORE

**Flower of the month:
Jewel Orchid**



Social Media

Website: www.sarasotagardenclub.org

Facebook.com/sarasotagardenclub

Instagram @sarasotagardenclub |
#sarasotagardenclub | #TheGardensSGC

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This Month's BC Contents

Pg #	Title
1-2	President's Message – Kelly Goodwin
3-4	March and April's Diary Dates
5	General Monthly Meeting Schedule - 2023
6-9	Review of last month's (February) General Monthly Meeting
10	March General Monthly Meeting
11-14	SPECIAL: Review of Historical Marker Dedication
15-18	SPECIAL: Review of the Fashion Show Fundraiser
19	Gardens In Paradise Update
20	Botanical Gardens Report
21	Orchid News
22-25	SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT: Scholarship Committee
26	News from FFGC
27	What's in the Library?
28	Keep In Touch with SGC
29	Thank you



President's Message

Greetings Garden Club Members!

I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather and gardening!



The Garden Club has been very busy during January and February, with the completion of The Bay Partnership, and initiating the Partnership Transition, which includes the transfer of services and processes to The Bay.

We expect the transition to take most of this year. In order to manage through the transition, we have bi-weekly status meetings with The Bay. Dianne Beaver remains our Partnership contact, which means she is our “Go To” for all things for The Bay. With the Partnership this role has grown significantly, so we all “Thank” Dianne for leading this relationship for us. **Contact Dianne on FinanceOffice@SarasotaGardenClub.org**

February has also been very busy with great general monthly meeting programs led and coordinated by Carol Lackey. **Contact Carol on Programs@SarasotaGardenClub.org**

In addition to our programs, we also enjoyed our wonderful and successful “**Panache with Pooches**” fundraiser, with models and their dogs. Donte’s Den was a beneficiary of this fundraiser. We are pleased to make a substantial donation to Donte’s Den, Canine Sanctuary and Hospital, and everyone is invited to join Shari Amato, Fundraising Chair, in presenting the check on Monday March 6th at 1:00pm **(See page 15-18)**. We thank both CJ Danna and Shari Amato for their leadership and extra effort for this beautiful fashion show event. **Contact Shari on shari@mailmt.com**

In February we also had a significant ceremony for the presenting and unveiling of our building’s Historic Designation from the County, and the also the National Historic Register recognition. The ceremony was planned by Sarasota County and our own Olivia Haynes. The ceremony was beautiful and attended by many **(See page 11-14)**.

We thank Olivia Haynes for achieving this wonderful recognition for the Sarasota Garden. The road to these recognitions was long, but Olivia pushed, persevered and was patient over 7 years to achieve these recognitions. We also thank our former Garden Committee member, Bruce Jensen, for all his contributions in obtaining the National recognition.



With March already here, we are in full swing preparing for our **“Gardens in Paradise”** tour, which is our main, premiere fundraiser. Thank you to Emily Yaffe and Jean Ruff for their excellent efforts in securing beautiful private home gardens for this year’s tour.

As many of you know, this is an ambitious event which requires support from many members through volunteering to execute an event this large. Thank you to all who have volunteered as Garden Check-In, Garden Captains, Parking Coordinators, Docents and our great Garden and Hospitality Committees. We thank everyone who has volunteered to date, as it is each of you who make this such a successful event.

We also thank Gloria Thomas, as she has been our “silent” leader coordinating and working with so many to ensure we have volunteers and materials ready for this year **(See page 19)**.

Also, during March we have our Monthly General Meeting and program. This month’s program is **“Exploring, Capturing and Sharing Sarasota Beyond the Pavement”** by Miri Hardy, Ph.D. Wildlife Photographer and Environmental Educator **(See page 10)**. I hope everyone can join us on Wednesday, March 15th and bring a friend along to enjoy a great morning. Come early to socialize so that the meeting may start promptly at 10am.

Lastly, for our future **Flower Show** - we are seeking volunteers to join this Committee to enable our club’s next Flower Show. **Please contact CJ Danna to volunteer for this team danna.cj@gmail.com.**

See you all soon!

Fondly, Kelly L Goodwin, President

941-718-3359

President@SarasotaGardenClub.org

Sarasota Garden Club Mission:

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



March 2023 Dates

Key events this month include:

- **Monthly General Meeting**
- **“Gardens in Paradise”**

MARCH 2023			
1 st	9am	Floralia 16 meeting	
3 rd	8-11am	* Friday Garden Volunteers at SGC – also 10 th , 17 th , 24 th and 31 st	
5 th	8.30am	Center for Spiritual Living – also 12 th , 19 th and 26 th	
13 ^h	10am	*SGC – Board of Directors Meeting	
14 th	9am	The Founders Garden Club meeting	
15 th	10am	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Exploring, Capturing and Sharing Sarasota Beyond the Pavement”</p> <p style="text-align: center;">By Miri Hardy Ph.D. Wildlife Photographer and Environmental Educator</p>	See Page 10
18 th	Wedding		
20 th	10am	The Patterson Group meeting	
22 nd	6pm	Mangrove Coast Fly Fishers Club meeting	
24 th	8am	SPECIAL FRIDAY GARDEN VOLUNTEER SESSION PRE GIP	See Page 20
25 th	“GARDENS IN PARADISE”		See Page 19
27 th	9.30am	SGC Member Rental	
29 th	11.30pm	**SGC - Executive Committee Meeting	



For the most up-to-date information, visit our on-line CALENDAR

<https://sarasotagardenclub.org>

You will note that several events are booked out by The Bay – often only as a stand-by for their outside events, should bad weather occur

April 2023 Dates

Key events this month include:

- **Deadline of Submissions for Scholarship Program**
- **Annual General Meeting**

APRIL 2023		
1 st	Wedding Ceremony and Reception	
2 nd	8.30am	Center for Spiritual Living, also on 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd and 30 th
3 rd	10am	** SGC - Board of Directors Meeting
7 th	Deadline for submission of Scholarship Program Applications	
	8-11am	Friday Garden Volunteers, also on 14 th , 21 st and 28 th
11 th	9am	Founders Club meeting
18 th	SARASOTA GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING at SARA BAY COUNTRY CLUB	
24 th	9.30AM	Ikebana Society Meeting
25 th	10am	** SGC – Executive Committee Meeting
26 th	6pm	Mangrove Coast Fly Fishers Club meeting
27 th	9.30am	SGC Member Rental



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You will note that several events are booked out by The Bay – often only as a stand-by for their outside events, should bad weather occur

General Members Monthly Meetings Schedule - 2023

The General Members Monthly Meetings are organized by the Programs Committee.

Carol Lackey is the Chair of the Programs Committee.

If you would like to join the Programs Committee, or would like to suggest a speaker, please email

Programs@SarasotaGardenClub.org

<p>NEXT MEETING Wednesday March 15th</p>	<p>“Exploring, Capturing and Sharing Sarasota Beyond the Pavement” By Miri Hardy Ph.D. Wildlife Photographer and Environmental Educator</p>
<p>Tuesday April 18th</p>	<p>Annual General Meeting at Sara Bay Country Club</p>
<p>Wednesday May 17th</p>	<p>“What is a Flower Show? - Design, Horticulture, Photography, Education. How to enter, What to look for in your plants, Judging, Rules and all your questions answered” By Leading Flower Show Experts TBA</p>

Review of Last Month's (February) General Meeting



The Great Room is such a great venue for our meetings.

Members and guests enjoyed hospitality, friendship, and a presentation by Betty Call at the Sarasota Garden Club's monthly general meeting

Club Business – a busy month!

- President, Kelly Goodwin, welcomed everybody to the meeting and made a particular point of thanking members for supporting and attending last week's Fashion Show fundraiser: Shari (Fundraiser Chair), CJ, Becci, Kay, Kathleen and Lauralie and EVERYBODY that helped.
- Thanks goes to Livy Haynes for the Historical Marker Designation that (at the time) was to take place on 16th February (see review on page 11) and also to Bruce Jenson, a former member of the club that moved away, for the County award (on the wall outside the entrance).
- Kelly reiterated that the Club is still in the transition hand-over period with The Bay, and that Dianne is the "Go-To" person for any issues as we get used to working together.

Update from individual Committee Chairs

Finance – **Dianne Beaver** – reported that there had been minimal expenses (outgoings), and regular income from fundraising events and rentals. Please contact Dianne or Sharon Davisson on FinanceOffice@SarasotaGardenClub.org for any further finance-related details.

Gardens in Paradise – **Gloria Thomas** – reported that there had been significant response from members to volunteer their services:

- **32 Welcome Table volunteers!** Too many to name, but thank you.
- **6 Garden Captains have been appointed:** Gloria Thomas, Becci Bond, Carol Lackey, Marcie Rickenbacker, Shari Amato and Tess Herschman.
- **1 Parking Manager,** Mark Sappol.
 - **IF YOU WISH TO VOLUNTEER**
PLEASE CONTACT: Gloria Thomas
Cell: 941-320-1632
Email: gtsarasota@comcast.net

Fundraising – **Shari Amato** – reported that the Fashion Show had been so much fun, and personally thanked everybody for their help and attendance. See report on page 15-18

Membership – **Stephanie Cotton** – introduced 2 new members at the meeting: Susan Solomon and Marylou Johnson. She urged all new members that had not yet received NAME BADGES or YEARBOOKS to reach out as they are available.

- As always, it is important to grow the number of club members, so please introduce your friends, perhaps by bringing them to one of our General Monthly Meetings, and introduce them to the Club and, right now, Gardens In Paradise!

Botanical Garden – Kay Weber, Chair of Botanical Gardens – see separate report on page 20

Guest Speaker @ Feb's meeting

"Spring in Paradise"

Floral Arrangements using Florida Foliage and Florals.

Carol Lackey, Programs Chair, was delighted to introduce this month's general meeting's speaker: former SGC member (before she moved to Lakewood), renowned for her floral design, and SGC Flower Show Chair – BETTY CALL.



Betty entertained an enthralled audience, all eager to watch her flower arranging skills, and hear her tips and tricks; nobody was disappointed.

She skillfully put together 7 individual arrangements, in front of our very eyes, whilst sharing details that she had gained over her years of experience.

SOME TOP TIPS

- **Always carry clippers:** Coming from Boston, where flowers and foliage **that flourish in Florida** are extremely expensive, she loves that they are less \$\$\$ here, and sometimes even FREE!
Her VERY first tip was to **ALWAYS CARRY CLIPPERS** to gather content for flower arrangements from gardens and road/beach sides!
- **How high to make an arrangement:** 1½ times the height or width of the vase/container is recommended.
- **Condition flowers and foliage:** Cut stems at an angle and even **UNDERWATER** for instant uptake of water; wash big leaves (front and back); soak foliage in water; use flower food provided with shop-bought bouquets **or gin/vodka>>>>>>>!**
- **There were more many more**



Gin and Vodka make good flower conditioners!!



Pictures of the flower arrangements, all of which were raffled off, and won by delighted members and their guests.



Come join us at our March monthly meeting - and bring a guest



**Sarasota Garden Club
General Members Meeting
Wednesday, March 15, 2023
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

10:00 AM to 10:30 AM Members Business Meeting
10:30 to 11:30 AM Speakers Presentation and Q&A
11:30 AM to 12:00 PM Social Time and Raffle


**Please join us for our March Meeting!
"Exploring, Capturing and Sharing Sarasota
Beyond the Pavement"**



Miri Hardy, Ph.D., Wildlife Photographer and Environmental Educator
www.miriinthewild.com


**As always, Members are Free and Guests are \$10 cash or check.
Thank you to our Hospitality Committee for the refreshments at our meetings!**

Review of Historical Marker Dedication Ceremony



**Sarasota Garden Club
HISTORICAL MARKER
DEDICATION**

Thursday, Feb. 16, 2023
1131 Boulevard of the Arts, Sarasota


Sarasota County
scgov.net | call 311

The Historical Marker Program recognizes historic sites, persons, and events that are significant in the areas of archaeology, architecture, traditional culture, and local, regional, state, and national history.

February 16th:

It was a perfect day, bright sunshine, and a cooling breeze. The garden looked beautiful and the County had organized the plaque, speakers, photographer, and even a band!



SGC volunteers decorated The Great Room, with individual table flower arrangement, and once again our Hospitality Team provided tasty refreshments for the reception.



Olivia Haynes (3rd from left) Chair of the History Committee at Sarasota Garden Club accepted the award with the following words (overleaf):



“This project began for me in 2015 when, as President of SGC, I was asked to speak at The Marker Celebration for the Mable Ringling Fountain at the Senior Friendship Center. During that event, it occurred to me that the SGC building and grounds should be marker-worthy, as we were both Historic and Beautiful and, at the time, almost 90 years old. I talked to Ruth Mary Williams about the possibility of getting a marker - and she agreed. She was completing her term on The Historical Commission, and I was completing my term as President of Sarasota Garden Club. That summer, Ruth Mary and I met several times and gathered the materials to put together the application. Little did I realize then the long adventure that I was about to embark on! I would like to give special thanks to Josh Goodman and Renee Di Pilato for all their help in finally making my dream a reality.

The SGC is now approaching 95 years of existence. The founding members of our club read like a “Who’s Who” in Sarasota’s history:

- Mable Ringling was our first President, and other founding members include: Marie Selby, Owen Burns, Ellen Caples, Mrs Charles Ringling and Ralph Twitchell to name a few.

The Garden Club has actually been gardening on this property since the 1930’s.

Ellen Caples presented the Club with the beautiful Japanese lantern in 1939. This lantern became the inspiration for Victor Lundy’s design of the Pagoda Building next door.

Our building, which was designed by Sarasota School of Architecture architect John Crowell, is mid-century modern and was completed in 1960.

Our “Garden Shed”, which was originally a pavilion designed by Burt Boosreth, was donated by Marie Selby and was designed to coordinate with Victor Lundy’s Pagoda Building. Our lush gardens are all taken care of by volunteers under the direction of Kay Weber, our Botanical Gardens Chair.

While waiting for the county Historic Marker, the SGC applied for AND RECEIVED a National Historical Designation, with member Bruce Jensen gathering the information and applying.

Recently, the SGC has embarked on another new journey, our partnership with **The Bay**, which began in January. This will allow our beautiful building and gardens to be an even greater part of the Sarasota community.

Today, as we celebrate our Historic Marker and our National Historic Designation, we are proud of these accomplishments and we are so happy that you all are here to celebrate with us.”





The Origins of Sarasota Garden Club

The first garden club, known as the Founder's Circle, was organized on May 6, 1927, with Mrs. Mable Ringling as its first president. 1931 marked the circle's first flower show, which was held at the home of Mrs. Ellen Caples. Future shows grew in size and were held at a variety of sites including the Mira Mar Auditorium and the Municipal Auditorium. More circles followed and on Nov. 14, 1933, the Federated Circles of the Garden Club of Sarasota was formed. In 1934, the Federation was instrumental in the development of Luke Wood Park. Architect Thomas Reed Martin

drew the plans for the park which included the Mable Ringling Memorial Fountain. Four concrete benches and a pair of marble lions flanked the fountain. Flowering hibiscus and bougainvillea surrounded it. Since its inception, the Sarasota Garden Club has been actively involved in civic beautification. One focus was curbing the placement and number of billboards in the city. Other projects included landscaping different areas of the city, providing flowers for the Chamber of Commerce and supplying flowers to conventions. Local merchants were encouraged to beautify their stores and businesses.

A Legacy of Community Service

Education of the public of all ages has always been an important Garden Club goal. Early in its history, the Junior Garden Club was organized. In 1933, 300 children were enrolled in the program. The first Garden School was held in 1941. Since then, the Garden Club has offered not only classes available to the public, but also a variety of programs. During World War II, many activities focused on war efforts. Members knitted, rolled bandages and made items from Red Cross materials. For over 30 years the Sarasota Garden Club did not have a permanent home. In 1955, the City of Sarasota approved plans for the Garden Club to build on city-owned property.



Photos courtesy of the Sarasota County History Center.

Review of Fashion Show

Wednesday February 8th

Message from Shari Amato, Fundraising Chair (2nd from left):

"Panache with Pooches" was my first event as a chair person. I have been a member of the club since April 2022. The event was such a success due to the leadership and assistance of CJ Danna and Kelly Goodwin – along with dedicated volunteers.

The fashion show was a major hit due to the modeling of Evelyn & Arthur's apparel, escorted by adorable pooches.

The recipient of our charity, Donte's Den, does great work for the community through their commitment for animal sanctuary and care. Our donation to this great cause is \$2,000.

*Everyone is welcome to attend the presentation of the donation, which will be held on **Monday 6th March at 1pm at Donte's Den 6801 283rd Street East, Myakka City, FL 34251.***

If you would like to attend please contact me on shari@mailmt.com 941-320-4532. I so look forward to working on next year's event."



Kelly Goodwin (SGC President), Shari Amato (SGC Fundraising Chair), CJ Danna (SGC Vice President) and Marsha Panuce, Founder of Donte's Den

\$2,000

This year's Fashion Show "Pooches with Panache" enabled Sarasota Garden Club to

donate \$2,000 to Donte's Den Foundation, Canine Sanctuary and Hospital, from the profits made on the day, for which Donte's is VERY grateful, and want to thank everyone that contributed.

www.dontesden.org

The Fashion Show had been organized following a survey of Club members, which indicated that this type of event would be enjoyed. The Club has held several fashion shows in the past – and successfully raised funds for various charities.



Our botanical gardens looked BEAUTIFUL, with 7 vendors in the main garden (below), many of which will be returning for the Gardens in Paradise (GIP) event.



The Great Room (below) was laid out in the traditional Fashion Show Catwalk layout, with additional round tables seating parties of 6 both inside and outside on the patio.



Here are a few of the vendors:

Chris Pitarra and Cheyenne (right), who have previously donated a beautiful metal planter to SGC – they'll be at GIP too



(below) Elfi Espino (All Around Orchids) – will also be at our Botanical Gardens for Gardens In Paradise



(right) and look at this amazing piece of garden architecture and plants (below).



PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS AND REVIEWS ONLINE:

Rick Benitez, who can often be seen taking photographs at our events, was there to capture the moment.

RICK'S CATALOG OF PHOTOS CAN BE SEEN ONLINE AT: [Rick Benitez Photography | Panache with Pooches Fashions by Evelyn & Arthur](#)

The Observer: Dariela Delgado, the Sarasota Community Reporter for the Observer newspaper was also there, **HER PHOTOS CAN BE SEEN ONLINE AT:** [Pooches take the catwalk | Your Observer](#)

No outfit is complete without a decked out pooch.

The Sarasota Garden Club presented its Panache with Pooches Fashion Show Charity event for Donte's Den on Feb 8.

Sarasota fashionistas strolled the garden with champagne flutes while local vendors sold plants, paintings and clothing prior to the start of the fashion show.

Evelyn & Arthur's store manager Aiki Cable partnered with Donte's Den founder Marsha Panuce to create a fashion show that showcased the fashions at Evelyn & Arthur and bring awareness to the dogs of Donte's Den.

"It's all beauty," said Panuce. "It was very quick that I found out that they (Evelyn & Arthur) love dogs. Aiki is a tremendous dog-lover."

Models strutted down the runway while some dogs decided to lick every other guest sitting along the edge.

"It's always an honor for Donte's Den to mesh with the community," said Panuce. "Our staff and myself, we don't shop at the box stores. We shop at the local boutiques. The merchandise is different and we enjoy seeing it. It does mesh with the happiness that we have at Donte's."



And here's SNOOPY who was looking for a home xxxxx – he may have found one by now!

Don't forget, everyone is invited to join Shari at Donte's Den on March 6th at 1pm to visit the facilities for the presentation and guided tour!!



"Gardens in Paradise" (GIP) Garden Tour - Saturday March 25th

Message from Randi Broida, Master Gardener Volunteer and GIP Brochure Editor:

"I'm sure at some point in time most of you have driven by an attractive landscaped home, and thought how much fun it would be to walk the property. Unfortunately, we all know that would be a big no-no as it's trespassing. However, on Saturday, March 25, you have an opportunity to do just that, at least from 9:30-4. The Sarasota Garden Club is holding its 9th annual "Gardens in Paradise Tour". This is a unique self-guided opportunity to view six beautiful and private Sarasota gardens.

Each home on the tour reflects the owner's choice of design, color, texture and ornamentation. For all you garden lovers, this is a wonderful and leisurely way to spend the day oohing and ahing with friends. I know you will find an idea or two to take home to enhance your own paradise. Also, each property will be staffed with Sarasota County Master Gardeners who will be delighted to answer questions you may have. You might even get to meet the property owner!! Be sure to wear comfortable walking shoes, and dress for the weather as the tour goes on rain or shine.

Tickets are available at SarasotaGardenClub.org. And, by the way, the grounds at the Sarasota Garden Club are included on the tour. Buffet lunch tickets can be pre-purchased for tour day and will be served overlooking their beautiful waterfall area.

Update from Gloria: We have 6 beautiful gardens, lots of tickets have been sold, and we expect a lot more to be bought nearer the time. It's going to be a super event! But we do need your help.

There's already been a fantastic response from Members who are volunteering to make the GIP a success. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

All we ask now is that you promote the event to your friends, family and 'anyone you know' – and buy tickets online:

- **BUY YOUR TICKETS ONLINE HERE>> [GIP 2023](http://www.sarasotagardenclub.org/gip-2023/)**
[/www.sarasotagardenclub.org/gip-2023/](http://www.sarasotagardenclub.org/gip-2023/)



Botanical Gardens Report – Kay Weber



This is the result of the Friday Volunteers' work (above) – captured by Rick Benitez.

- February was a month of cooler weather. We are still cleaning up from the 2 hurricanes. Some Fridays we only had a few volunteers and some other Fridays we had lots of volunteers. Somehow, we get everything done.
- We also did a **Community Project** by giving a tour of our 9 gardens to the Jefferson Center. Becci and I stayed over an hour to give the tour. They said they would want to come again.
- We also enjoyed having 2 brunches donated in February. We also always have water and snacks for all the volunteers each and every Friday.
- We open up at 8am and work until about 11am, but come when you can as there is a job waiting for you. Many thanks to all the Friday Morning Workers that will be volunteering for Gardens In Paradise. We also will be mulching in all of our 9 Gardens.

EXTRA HELP WILL BE NEEDED - FOR “GARDENS IN PARADISE”

We will need to have the Botanical Gardens in pristine condition for “Gardens In Paradise”, so please, if you can help, come along on a Friday morning between now and March 24th.

Also, we need to really groom our Gardens **on Friday March 24th**, and volunteer on **Saturday March 25th as Docents**. By the way, this only happens once a year and we appreciate your help. **Email:** kayw33@comcast.net

Orchid News from Kay Weber

Jewel Orchid

The **Jewel Orchid** is only one species (*Ludisia discolor*) in this genus, and it has many variations in form.



This one that I have grown (above), always blooms in late February or early March. It is over 15 years old and has 20 bloom spikes now.

It is popular for its beautiful leaves, which have a dark reddish-green background, with attractive red to gold veins on the upper surface. It also has an attractive sheen when light hits it.

- **By the way this is the only orchid that can be judged at a Flower Show that is not in bloom, because of the beautiful leaves.**

Kay says: “A shallow pan with a large surface area is best for this orchid. I prefer to grow them in a basket that I hang on a tree limb. This orchid has shallow roots, and creeps along a surface. A well-drained mix of loam and leaf mold with leaf litter is required. I grow a few inside when I am propagating them. They like damp semi-shade at all times. The bloom spikes are about a foot tall and each one has about 12 beautiful tiny white flowers with a yellow center.”

SGC Scholarship Program

Judith Woodbridge Schneider Memorial Legacy

As it is coming up to Scholarship time, we thought Members (especially newer ones) may like to know more about the Scholarship Committee's activities.

First of all, the Committee comprises (maybe consider joining):

SGC SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE	
Chair	Nancy Lewis Email nancy-lewis@comcast.net or call 941-358-7000 (home) and 440-343-8997 (cell)
Members of the Committee	Lynn Biega (SGC Librarian) Sharon Davisson - SRDSTL41@gmail.com 314-496-8108 or 941-270-3418 Mary Fran and Andy Panineau

Message from the Scholarship Committee:

“LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD PEOPLE”

- The Scholarship Committee is looking for a few good people to review scholarship applications and decide on scholarship awards to worthy students
- We meet **twice** in March (or early April) to review applications and decide on monetary awards, depending on our budget which has been approved by the **Board (see below *announcement from The Board*)**
- On May 1st at noon, we have an award ceremony, lasting one hour – it's a lovely event
- This is a great, short-term committee which warms the heart (yours and the student's)
- Please call Nancy Lewis at 941-358-7000 or email nancy504@gmail.com to volunteer.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENT: At the Board Meeting held on 22nd February, it was voted that the Club would award \$25,000 from the Community Foundation (which is specifically for scholarships) as well as an additional \$5,000 from the Sarasota Garden Club, for Scholarships.

More background information on the Scholarship Program

The Sarasota Garden Club Scholarship Committee operates the Judith Woodbridge Schneider Memorial Legacy Scholarship Program. We thought that members, particularly new ones, would be interested to learn more about it.

- Judith Woodbridge Schneider joined the Sarasota Garden Club as a member in 1974.
- She was a past-President and organizer of many activities.
- Her passion was EDUCATION.
- We have been trusted with a gift from her estate that creates a scholarship fund for High School and College students to major in a natural science field.
- We have given out awards for more than 35 years. Early scholarships were in the \$1-2,000 range.
- Due to our Judith Woodbridge Schneider Memorial Legacy, we have increased the amounts given to students in recent years, since we are able to so do with earmarked funds in our Community Foundation of Sarasota.
- The number of qualified applicants guides our decision-making process. We have a group of high school seniors and another group of students who have already taken 6 hours of Natural Science course work at the college level .
- Last year we awarded 7 students scholarship money.

From Nancy Lewis:

*“For over thirty the Sarasota Garden Club has offered and awarded **Natural Science Scholarships** to Sarasota High School students and to students who have completed their sophomore year in college, and/or show evidence of completion of 6 hours of Natural Science course work.*

These awards are used in advanced study in areas that advance our objectives in the Natural Science fields such as horticulture, geology, botany, conservation, environmental science, forestry, agronomy, plant pathology, land management, or allied subjects.

The purpose of this award is to recognize academic excellence and to lend assistance to full time students in an accredited college or university.”

Sarasota Garden Club Process to Attract Applications:

- Nancy Lewis contacts the Sarasota School District Education Foundation, and the Guidance Departments of High Schools so that the Heads of Departments can share our information .
 - Andy Papineau has contacted private high schools such as Cardinal Mooney High School for several years to personally speak to Guidance Counselors.
 - Lynn Biega has contacted Public Libraries and asked them to share our scholarship information on their websites.
- Librarians at public libraries are asked to post our hard copies of applications or to post online information when space is available.
- Early methods of communication included the Committee making on-site visits to High Schools/Colleges/private schools.
- In recent years we have also shared information with home-schooled families and have had winners from that group of students.

Application Process:

- Each applicant shall submit three letters of recommendation: one from a staff member of their college/university, and two from unrelated citizens of good standing in the community.
- Applicants shall also submit a resume of extra-curricular activities, honors, leadership positions, job experiences, and non-school activities along with a one-page summary of why they desire to achieve a higher education in a natural science field.
- A 3.0 Grade Point Average and official grade transcript shall be submitted as part of the application packet.
- Students will be held accountable and provide the Sarasota Garden Club with evidence of how the scholarship money was spent.

Evaluation Process:

Applicants are evaluated by the Scholarship Committee, using a charting system to tally achievements such as grade point averages, and the scope of their contributions to various civic and school-related activities.

- Teacher recommendations and letters from Community Leaders are also used to evaluate individual contributions.
- We do consider financial needs of families in addition to the academic excellence and community contributions.

Committee discussions are held in order to arrive at the final ranking of students, based on the total of the earmarked funds being used from the Memorial Legacy AND contributions from members and families of Sarasota Garden Club members.

Examples of projects completed by our applicants include:

- Water conservation and de-salination
- Restoration of coral reefs for Florida at Key West
- Animal protective work
- Grief Garden at Shands Medical Center in Gainesville, University of Florida
- Research and plant propagation studies and experiments at Florida Colleges
- Environmental Projects to clean waterways
- Fund raise for Shands Medical Center to raise \$70,000 for patient and families in Gainesville and to clean/plant wooded areas

If you, as a member of the Sarasota Garden Club, know of a suitable applicant, please bring this opportunity to their attention.

Applications should be returned by April 7, 2023, to:

Sarasota Garden Club,
Inc.

Attention: Scholarship
Committee
111 Blvd. of the Arts
Sarasota , FL 34236



More information is available on our website at:

www.sarasotagardenclub.org/community/sarasota-garden-club-scholarships/

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs (FFGC) 96th Annual Convention



Sue Angle encourages members to attend this convention as it's a great learning experience and so interesting to talk to members from other clubs around the state. **Contact Sue for more information on anything FFGC related on sueangle000@gmail.com**



96th Annual Conference "Worlds of Wonder"

April 18-20, 2023,

Embassy Suites by Hilton, Lake Buena Vista South, Kissimmee Florida

You can also support the FFGC locally by purchasing Raffle Tickets and/or 50/50 tickets at our March General Meeting.

- **\$2 Raffle tickets and \$5 - 50/50 raffle**

Prizes include: 2 nights stay at Embassy Suits Lake Buena Vista South, a collection of 5 plants from the Philodendron Family, 23" Treble Clef Aluminium Sculpture, a collection of 5 plants from the Gesneriaceae family, 2 strand pearl and ruby bracelet, 53" tall yard art from PVC pipe, 95th Anniversary edition Harley Davidson signed print by Scott Jacobs.

For full details visit: ffgc.org/Convention-2023

Register online by clicking here: <https://bit.ly/3wxWLGd>

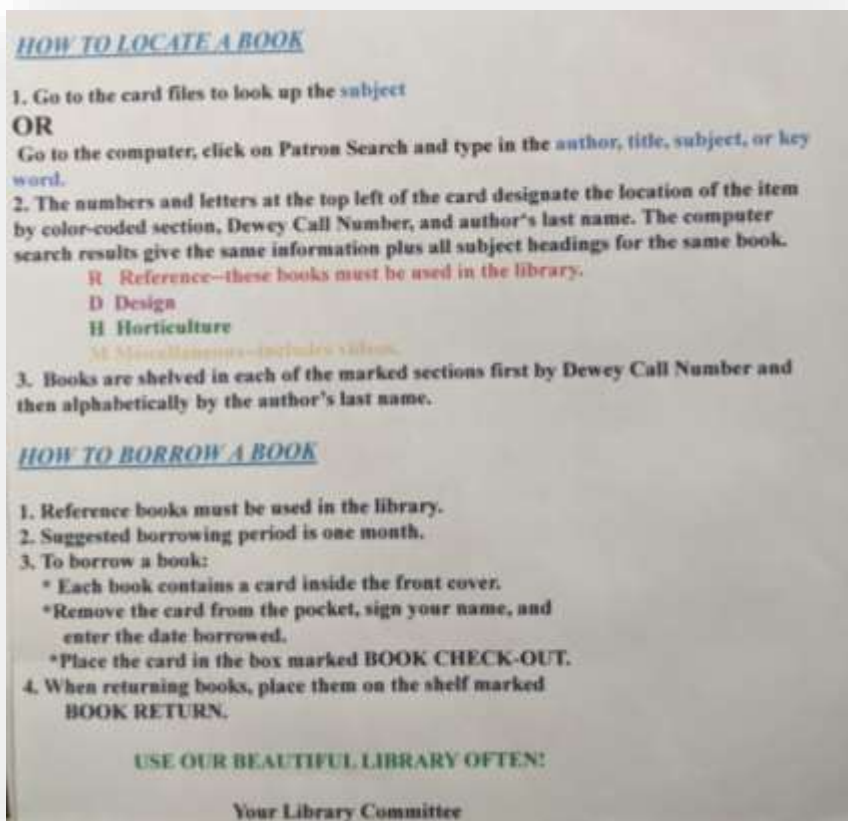
What's in The Library?



Next time you're in the Club, make sure you visit The Library (above).

How does one find a book and check it out? As easy as ABC and 123!!

The library is divided into 3 main sections, DESIGN, HORTICULTURE, and MISCELLANEOUS. Books are shelved in each of the marked sections first by Dewey call NUMBER and then ALPHABETICALLY by the author's last name.



*This article was submitted by Lynn Biega
Chair of the Sarasota Garden Club's Library Interest Group*

SGC Online: Keep in Touch

- **FOLLOW SARASOTA GARDEN CLUB on FACEBOOK and INSTAGRAM** for news and photos – add YOUR photos and comments



- **VISIT the SARASOTA GARDEN CLUB WEBSITE** for information and event registration: www.sarasotagardenclub.org
- View club and member details in the **2022/23 YEARBOOK AND MEMBER DIRECTORY**, which is available on the website in **THE MEMBERS AREA**
Forgotten your password? Email Membership@SarasotaGardenClub.org

We want to hear from you – please USE THESE NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES to contact your club

- President@SarasotaGardenClub.org - to contact Kelly Goodwin, President of the Club
- Office@SarasotaGardenClub.org for **any** GENERAL queries. Your email will be forwarded to the appropriate person to deal with your enquiry
- BloomingChatter@SarasotaGardenClub.org to contact CJ and Becci Bond with issues relating to the monthly newsletter. You are all welcome to submit content to appear in the newsletter
- FinanceOffice@SarasotaGardenClub.org to contact Dianne Beaver with FINANCE-related issues
- Membership@SarasotaGardenClub.org for MEMBERSHIP-related issues
- Communications@SarasotaGardenClub.org to contact CJ as Chair of the Communications Committee – to facilitate emails and messages from the Club to Members
- Fundraising@SarasotaGardenClub.org to contact Shari Amato with FUNDRAISING-related issues
- Programs@SarasotaGardenClub.org to contact Carol Lackey who welcomes input to the Club's program calendar

Comment from The SGC Blooming Chatter Editor: Becci Bond (the Brit)

FIRST AND FOREMOST - A HUGE Thank you
to everyone that contributes to the Blooming
Chatter with content, photographs, insight and
information (historical and current), comments etc.
The more the merrier - send your comments, input,
announcement, 'whatever', to:

BloomingChatter@SarasotaGardenClub.org

It is my personal goal to inform the Club Members of the
activities of the Sarasota Garden Club so that they may join
in, get the most out of the club's activities, enjoy
themselves, meet like-minded folk and make friends, make
suggestions on how to improve the club, entice you to get
more involved, introduce new members

Becci Bond

BecciBond@hotmail.com

Cell: 941-284-6770