



**SARASOTA
GARDEN CLUB**

"The Blooming Chatter"

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 33 – ISSUE 8

APRIL – 2024



www.SarasotaGardenClub.org

Highlights

- + Dates for the Diary
- + Meeting and event reviews
- + 100 years old!
- + Meetings ...
- + NEWS ... and lots more



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President's Message

Spring time at Sarasota Garden Club!

Our next Meeting is the ANNUAL MEETING - Tuesday April 16 at The Founders Club



We just had a very special event - "Gardens in Paradise" - which is by far our LARGEST fundraiser of each year. It was so popular this year that we had to stop selling tickets a day or two before as numbers would have been too difficult to manage, both in the gardens and particularly parking.

Thank you to the **GIP** and **Hospitality committees** for all their efforts and a **HUGE THANK YOU to all the volunteers**, without which this event would not be possible.

A quick reminder, please be sure to attend the Annual Meeting on Tuesday 16th April – which is taking place at The Founders Club. It is imperative that members keep up to date with what's going on at the club, and the Annual Meeting provides a convivial environment in which to do this.

The busy season is coming to a close, but there is one more General Meeting on 1st May, which is the "Make & Take" Floral Arranging event – one I'm sure everyone will enjoy, and go home with a floral arrangement.

Over the Summer period, Committees will be planning next year's Program (Sept – May). The Yearbook will be re-issued in October, and we work towards our 100th birthday in 2 years' time.

Looking forward to seeing everyone during April!

Fondly - Kelly L Goodwin, President

Tel: 941-718-3359

President@SarasotaGardenClub.org -

klgkey@outlook.com

Spring
TIME

April 2024 Calendar

3 rd	1.30 pm	SGC – Ad-hoc Leadership Meeting (in the library)
5 th	8 am – 11 am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers (in the gardens)
	10 am	SGC - GIP Committee: Wrap-up meeting (in the library)
9 th – 10 th	2-DAY “Giving Challenge” <i>Double your donation - all non-profit organizations will be taking part</i>	
10 th – 12 th	Florida Federation of Garden Clubs (FFGC) 97th Convention - Jacksonville	
12 th	8 am – 11 am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers (in the gardens)
15 th	10 am	SGC – BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (in the library)
16 th	9.30 am	SGC - ANNUAL MEETING @ Founders Club <i>Book your ticket!</i>
19 th	8 am – 11 am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers (in the gardens)
23 rd	10 am	SGC – Executive Committee Meeting (in the library)
		SGC – Field Trip
24 th	1.30 pm	SGC – Ad-hoc Leadership Meeting (in the library)
25 th	10 am	SGC – Fundraising Committee Meeting (in the library)
26 th	8 am – 11 am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers (in the gardens)
27 th	10.30 – 4pm	Ikebana Exhibition at Gulf Gate Library

- Main event in April is the club’s ANNUAL MEETING – book your ticket
- The Friday Garden Volunteers meet every Friday morning to maintain the Botanical Gardens – please come along
- Attend the SGC Committee meetings to be involved – please do!
- “Giving Challenge” is Sarasota-wide and just for one day – Noon to Noon

May 2024 Calendar

1 st	9.30 am	SGC – MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING <i>“Make & Take” Floral Arranging</i>
	1.30 pm	SGC – Ad-hoc Leadership Meeting (in the library)
3 rd	8 am – 11 am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers (in the gardens)
6 th	10 am	SGC – BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (in the library)
8 th	1.30 pm	SGC – Ad-hoc Leadership Meeting (in the library)
9 th		The Spring Meeting of District VIII – see FFGC News
10 th	8 am – 11 am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers (in the gardens)
15 th	1.30 pm	SGC – Ad-hoc Leadership Meeting (in the library)
17 th	8 am – 11 am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers (in the gardens)
22 nd	1.30 pm	SGC – Ad-hoc Leadership Meeting (in the library)
24 th	8 am – 11 am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers (in the gardens)
29 th	1.30 pm	SGC – Ad-hoc Leadership Meeting (in the library)
30 th	9 am	The Butterfly Club Meeting
30 th	10 am	SGC – Fundraising Committee Meeting (in the library)
31 st	8 am – 11 am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers (in the gardens)

- Main event in May is the club’s Monthly General Meeting
- The Friday Garden Volunteers meet every Friday morning to maintain the Botanical Gardens – please come along
- Attend the SGC Committee meetings if you like – please do!

DATES GET CHANGED – [ALWAYS CHECK THE ONLINE CALENDAR](#)

Review of March's General Meeting

Kelly Goodwin opened the meeting with a short reading (*right*), followed by the Pledge, before starting with the Club's business, kicking off with **Sue Angle** from **Membership Committee** welcoming:

- **NEW MEMBER: Barbara Dingman**, who is familiar with Sarasota Garden Club after coming to meetings and events with her mother, who was a member of our club back in the 50's and beyond.
- **GUEST: "Missi" Gail Goolsby Harvey**, who had belonged to our club some years ago.

YEARBOOKS were given out to those attending, and if you have not received one, we will have some at our Annual Meeting on April 16.

POST "GARDENS IN PARADISE" - If you were a volunteer or went on the GIP Garden Tour, you must be as proud as I am to be a member of the Sarasota Garden Club! It was a joy to see folks from our community so happy to enjoy viewing and learning from the landscapes and gardens of the homes on the tour and I know we all congratulate the team who worked so hard to put it all together, including of course the crew who handled the lunch, which visitors raved about.

As members, this is just one of the events that together we can volunteer for, enjoy, and be proud of continuing the mission of our garden club.

An Unknown Author once wrote:

"The Meaning of Garden Club Work"

- For some it means the actual gardening, hands in the soil, body in the sun and a vision of color and fragrance and form.
- To some it means the use of flowers as a medium of artistic expression.
- To some it means an opportunity to serve their community by turning the ugly places into beautiful spots.
- To some it is a spiritual experience, whereby they may serve God through their gift of flowers to the churches and hospitals and the lonely and forlorn.
- To a few, it means the challenge of leadership and personal ability in group work.
- To a very few, it is meaningless, a name on the membership list and a sometime attendance.
- But to many it means making friends, meeting with the old, and mingling with the new.
- Garden club work is as complex as the unfolding of a rose and as simple as the face of a daisy. It is spiritual. It is political. It is educational. It is scientific. It is a way of life.

See you at our Annual Meeting on April 16, Sue Angle, Membership Committee Chairman
Sueangle000@gmail.com 941-350-9784



After hearing from the Membership Committee, Emily Yaffe gave a special presentation, encouraging members to join committees to prepare for:

The Club's – 100th Anniversary

“As a longstanding member of the Sarasota Garden Club, I want to bring to everybody’s attention that we are soon to celebrate our 100th Anniversary.”

Emily took us all back to the club’s beginning, portraying a scene which saw our founder, Mrs. John Ringling, sitting in her Great Room, sharing a cup of tea (or maybe something stronger) with a few of her closest friends and neighbors, as the Club was formed. Our club’s new members must feel just like those initial members, looking for a niche of some personal interest they have: our club. FIRST OFFICIAL GARDEN CLUB MEETING: 1927.

“I feel how their love of gardening helped create this club. She grew unique plants and flowers in her Secret Garden (which is still maintained by some SGC Members volunteers), many of which were gifted to her from their friends and prestigious visitors from other states and countries.

The Garden Club that Mable Ringling and her friends started, way back, grew exponentially in the coming years, reaching 700+ members, until wartime hit - which saw women going to work and garden ‘clubbing’ fell by the wayside.

I am particularly proud to recall the poster of Rosie the Riveter (right), when women worked in the steel mills, built ships and aircraft, worked on farms and took over many male positions, urbanely and professionally.

In its own way, our Garden Club is another fine example of ‘We Can Do It!’

THE FOUNDERS: Our first Garden Club CIRCLE (group – in 1928) comprised 30 women whose names are inscribed on our library document (below – and I see there’s a Bond there!), and they helped set the stage for their future members to raise monies to build our current clubhouse, which was dedicated in 1960, and we moved in.



Looking back on all this history and information about how it may have happened, made me realize, it truly only happened one way – **with each other helping one another.**

No one does anything alone in this Club

*It truly takes a village for some events, like GIP, to make them a success and also to be done **well**. (Sometimes I think we make it look too easy, and people don’t understand how much work has gone in to it).*

Webster’s Dictionary definition of a Club: an **organization** dedicated to a particular interest or activity

WE are dedicated to our club, its events, its meetings, its programs and types of education.

None of the things mentioned happened solely by one person... they happened by many helping along the way.

This club needs its members.



The Club's – 100th Anniversary ... Cont....

Our Club actually needs each of its members to pitch in...

somewhere you particularly enjoy,

or something you are good at,

to help us achieve our Mission

and to reach our 100th Birthday in 2027!

What a glorious time that will be!!



Please search out a committee or administrative position to help our club be strong, well-organized and be the best it can be!

If you need any direction or questions answered, please call me or email me and I will try to explain or get you an answer. I promise! All calls welcomed!!!

Best well wishes, Emily Yaffe, 941-780-7808, eyaffe13@yahoo.com

After this interesting, and at times moving, presentation from Emily, members were asked to add their names to a list being handed around, and we are pleased to say that several members expressed interest in joining a committee and helping at events.

These members will all be followed up to explain where they could best fit in and enjoy getting more involved with the club.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP MORE –
PLEASE REACH OUT TO EMILY, who is coordinating this drive.**

After a short break, with refreshments provided by our HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE, chaired by Olivia (Livy) Haynes, we greeted our Guest Speaker.

Guest Speaker – Paradise Found Nursery



Kate Brenner, Paradise Found Nursery, Succulent and Cactus Growing with Native Florida Plant Conservation
www.paradisefoundnursery.com



Kate gave us a very informative, and highly entertaining, presentation on Succulent and Cactus Growing.

Kate is young, enthusiastic, practical and very knowledgeable in her field. Everybody loved the talk and slide deck - [CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD](#)

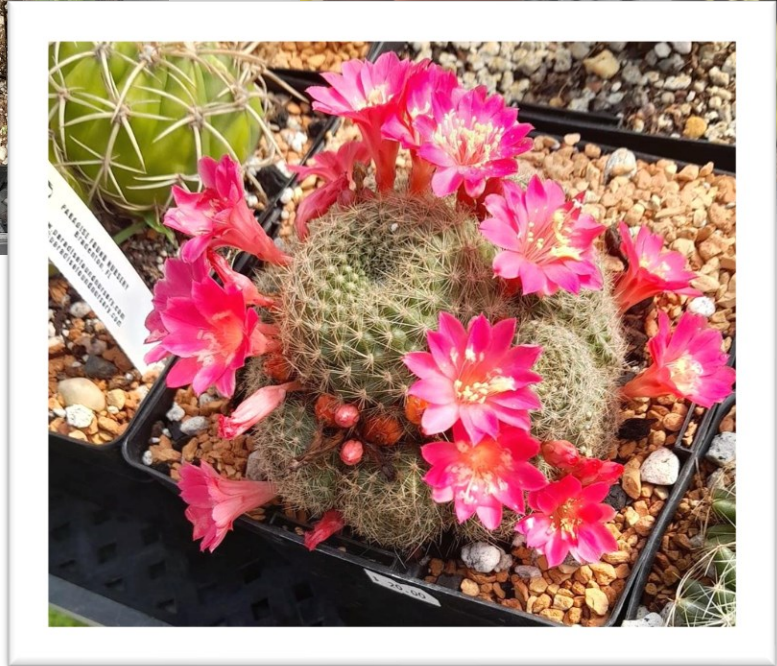
She also offered several plants for sale from her nursery (which is right next door to Tropiflora).

THEN she took some of the members on a short walk around our gardens to highlight key plants.

She was full of praise for our Desert Garden which was right up her street.



I (Becci) visited Paradise Found Nursery, after the Field Trip that Carol Lackey organized for us to visit TROPIFLORA. Here are a few photos from Kate's nursery – she was so pleased to see members from SGC.



Review of field trip to TROPIFLORA

Carol Lackey, Programs Chair, organized for us to visit TROPIFLORA which we quickly learnt from the owners' son, Scott, has been growing Bromeliads, which they specialize in, along with air plants and a few orchids, since **1976**.



INTERESTING FACT: TROPIFLORA won the contract to design and install the fantastical display of bromeliads in the Supertree Grove gardens in Singapore!

[Supertree Grove \(gardensbythebay.com.sg\)](http://gardensbythebay.com.sg)



Scott, his sister Robin, and Daisy and Percy (the 2 dogs) gave us the tour and 'family history' (which is fascinating – their parents visited caves in Cuba and found the smallest frog in the world – and they have been to Asia over 200 times and are nicknamed the 'Indiana Jones of Bromeliads'). **Who knew?**

**The plant-houses are
VAST!**

The tour showed us the numerous plant-houses, each with different degrees of light/shade – plants in "The Sun House" enjoyed full sun and were able to do this thanks to their tough, spiny leaves. Bromeliads that could tolerate low or intermittent light were housed in other aptly-named houses.



TROPIFLORA has between 8–10,000 varieties of bromeliads, 4,000 of which are the colorful ones that can only tolerate early morning light.

Annual Meeting – Founders Club - April 16th

Our annual meeting serves as a platform to give members a broad overview of the club’s current directions and financial health, confirm its purpose, and provide an overview of what’s coming next which, in light of our 100th Anniversary, is **PLENTY!!!!!!**

Please make every effort to come along – it’s at a beautiful venue, makes an enjoyable sociable event, recognizes key members of the club, offers an interesting talk, all finished off by a tasty lunch.

What’s NOT to like? And only \$40!

<https://sarasotagardenclub.org/events/event/sgc-annual-meeting-at-founders-club-offsite-luncheon/>

- This year’s meeting will remember Ginger Vance and Shirley Cook’s passing and pay special thanks to Don and Betty Call

BOOK
YOUR
TICKET
ON LINE
NOW

Or
“Kall Kelly”
on 941-718-3359

AGENDA	
9:30 am	Registration, Coffee & Pastries, and all-important Social Time
10:00 am	President's Message and Awards
11:00 am	Presentation by our Guest Speaker Dr. Maria Passarelli, VMD Save our Seabirds Wild Bird Learning Center "Wildlife Rehabilitation" www.SaveOurSeabirds.org  Save Our Seabirds Rescue · Rehabilitation · Release
Midday	Luncheon

Membership Satisfaction and Suggestion Survey

- We want to hear from you!!

The Membership Committee has created this survey to be sent to all members for their input, which is much-needed. Watch for this in your emails as it is important to us to have your ideas, suggestions, and your likes and/or dislikes about our club (see below). **You do not have to sign your name, and it can be returned by:** Email to www.Membership@SarasotaGardenClub.org, Snail-mail to Sarasota Garden Club, 1131 Boulevard of the Arts, Sarasota 34236, or simply drop it off at the Garden Club – pop it in the letterbox.

Sue Angle, Membership Committee Chairman Sueangle000@gmail.com 941-350-9784

MEMBER SATISFACTION & SUGGESTION SURVEY

We are very interested in how satisfied you are with our Garden Club. We want your suggestions and HONEST feedback. Please complete your ANONYMOUS survey using the back side of the form if needed.

Thank you for taking your time to complete this survey!!!!

How long have you been a member of Sarasota Garden Club? _____

IN THE FOLLOWING, PLEASE RANK YOUR ANSWERS 1-5:

5 is GREAT, AND 1 is NOT SO GREAT.

1. Overall, how satisfied are you with Sarasota Garden Club _____
2. Overall, how satisfied are you with our meeting time _____
Our Club's organization _____ Our Club's Programs? _____
3. Do you feel our Club is "on the right track" with providing information about horticulture, floral design, our environment, and community?

PLEASE USE THE SPACE BELOW AND/OR THE REVERSE TO TAKE A MOMENT TO LET US KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS:

What suggestions do you have to improve our Club and/or its meetings?

Do you feel "welcomed" at our Club meetings and events? Suggestions?

Have you invited a friend or neighbor to join you at a Club meeting or event?

Gardens In Paradise

By the time you read this, the “Gardens in Paradise” event will be well and truly over. We can all breathe a huge sigh of relief and revel in its success.

A detailed report will be made at the Annual Meeting but just a few things to say:

This is our club’s largest fundraising event and it takes considerable effort to make it happen. Thank you to everyone that was involved.

- It was necessary to close ticket sales the day before the tour as numbers were getting too high to facilitate that number of people visiting the private gardens, and managing public parking.
- Special thank you to the **GIP Committee** for their endless enthusiasm and organization skills that ensured this event went ahead and was successful. *N.b. There is a GIP Wrap-up Meeting being held on April 5 at 10am in the Library at the club – all welcome.*
- Special thank you to all the **VOLUNTEERS** that helped on the day as garden captains, parking attendants, greeters, runners etc. Volunteers comprised club members, together with their partners and friends! Good job! And it’s such fun!!! Up for it in 2025? Contact Gloria.
- Thank you to the **Hospitality Committee** for producing and presenting a delicious lunch at the club, which is an event that is much-enjoyed by members and friends of the club, in BEAUTIFUL SURROUNDINGS – our “Central Park of Sarasota”
- Thank you to the **Friday Garden Volunteers** for making sure the garden was looking its very best for the event – and for organizing the rain the day before to freshen it up!
- Thank you to the **Membership Committee** for providing a dedicated table at one of the gardens, with members actively engaging with visitors to encourage them to join. All of them have been followed up and we have seen some new members join! Hopefully more to come.
- Thank you to the Master Gardeners, and of course the Garden Owners

**Now we start the planning all over again for NEXT YEAR
SAVE THE DATE March 22 - 2025**

“Just so you know”

1. *Volunteers have already been contacted with a view to signing up again for 2025*
2. *There is the wrap-up meeting to determine what went well, and/or what needs improving – April 5*
3. *Every attendee will be emailed, asking them to i) Join the club and/or ii) continue supporting the club by making a donation
DURING THE “GIVING CHALLENGE” (to double \$25-\$100)*
4. *A Survey will be sent to every attendee to get feedback*

District VIII Judge's Council Meeting – Manatee

As a guest at the Manatee Flower Club on 25th March, it was interesting to see how other clubs operate. This was the “District VIII Judge’s Council” meeting (*which are not always open to guests - but they had such a good speaker they wanted to share*).

Each of the 12 Districts in Florida have a Judge’s Council, which is made up of all the Flower Show Judges in their district. You might also have heard of **Floralia**, which are smaller groups of Flower Show judges (*we have Floralia XVI which is in Sarasota, Floralia II which meets in homes, and Floralia VI which meets at Manatee River Garden Club*).

GUEST SPEAKER: Mayfair Hydro and her colleague gave an entertaining and informational design program entitled “**Imagine**” - demonstrating several flower arrangements, with special attention being paid as to how they would be JUDGED in a competition, specifically for the audience.



We were shown a beautiful way to decorate a large palm leaf by trimming it to size and winding copper-colored wool around its fronds, as you can see from the pictures >>>>

“Just so you know” - next year, the Sarasota Garden Club **Education Committee** will be presenting flower design techniques just like this - in a series of presentations, much like those given prior to our Flower Show by **Claire Milligan**.



Flower Show School – Course 3:

Flower Show Procedure, Intro. to The Flower Show Handbook: ‘Horticulture’ is Caladiums and Combination Plantings / ‘Design’ is Multi-rhythmic and Transparency.

Note: you do not have to take these classes in sequence i.e. you don’t have to have attended Courses 1 and 2, to benefit from 3 (and 4 later).

Manatee River Garden Club, 3120 First Avenue West, Bradenton, FL 34205 – 20 mins drive up 41 or 301.

Register with Dianne Beaver: 941 780 2949 / diannebeaver@gmail.com

Botanical Garden Report

Kay Weber is the Chair of the Botanical Gardens Committee and Carolynn Michielsen is her very active and dedicated Co-chair. Between them they manage the **FRIDAY MORNING WORKERS** who maintain the garden every Friday!

Emails: kayw33@comcast.net chmichielsen@yahoo.com



“Friday Morning Workers”

is a dedicated crew with a shared interest in gardening, that work hard each and every Friday to maintain the nine (9) botanical gardens at Sarasota Garden Club.

NEW VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

Come along any time between 8am – 11am on a Friday – whenever and however long you can.

No experience needed, there’s always a list of things to do for everyone.

Refreshments provided.



Kay says: “We have been working really hard!” (no change there then?!)

- One Friday we spread **70 bags of mulch!** (the picture shows 20). Andrea, a relatively new member of the SGC and a regular Friday Morning Worker at the garden, along with her friend Toby, picked up and dropped off each and every bag from where it was unloaded by the supplier, to where the garden needed mulching!

BIG THANK YOU!

- An ongoing project in the gardens is the maintenance of the **Welcome Garden**, which faces the street and therefore suffers from significant traffic and people pollution. Carol Fugate and Stephanie gave it a really good work-over last week, in readiness for “Gardens In Paradise”, and it’s LOOKING GOOD!
- We are also having a few walk-in volunteers that are on vacation, almost every Friday, who ask if they can help us do anything. We don’t let them walk away! Ralph and I (Kay) were helped twice by walk-in volunteers to go to pick up plants and pottery donated by a former member. When we got back to SGC another walk-in volunteer helped us unload both cars. Lucky us – but an illustration of how there’s always lots to do at the garden.
- **The Lagoon** (water feature at the heart of the Botanical Garden) is working well again. SUPER volunteers Tom, Emily, Sam, and Ann did a huge cleanup of the water feature. The plants were cut back so you can see the water better, it’s been re-planted with bromeliads, is clear of debris and the water is free-flowing. It’s beautiful! Thanks everyone.
- By the way, the Butterfly Garden volunteers are working on a **Fairy Garden** now, being creative with plants that scale down to look like trees or shrubs in the fairy world AND they’re adding many new pollinator plants to encourage the butterflies, of which there were many last week!



- We have been having lots of brunches lately, with donated food and refreshments left over from the monthly general meeting. We always have drinks and snacks for volunteers every Friday, which are especially appreciated when we are working in the rain!

“Gardening makes us even in the world “

Welcome back to Nicole – a recipient of an SGC Scholarship – who came to help out on Friday



(before going to the dentist!)

& thank you to junior student (ROTC) Michael



Michael Wagner (above/middle) has worked in the garden before, and he returned on 15th March to help with palm-trimming and jobs requiring more energy than the average Friday Morning Worker.

Lain, his mother (above/right), helped out in the Butterfly Garden, so thanks to both of them for returning to help us. You're always welcome.

Here they are (above), presenting 'Miss Kay', as they call her, with a Christmas ornament in the shape of a tree with holiday wishes.



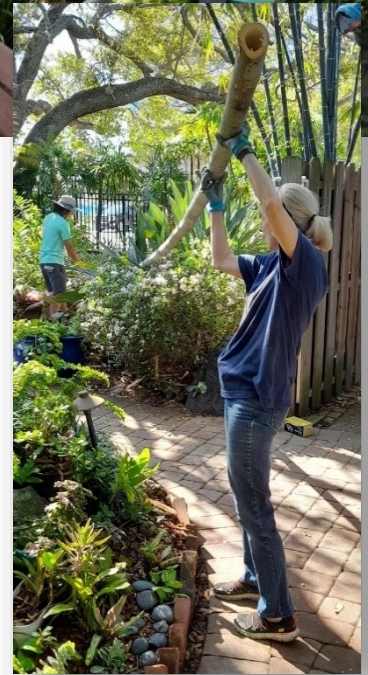
DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT THE CLUB'S FACEBOOK PAGE -
<https://www.facebook.com/sarasotagardenclub>

WONDERFUL, much-needed Donation

Thank you to Michael Greenseid (right in the red shirt), a regular Friday Morning Worker at the garden club, for donating a battery-charged 8" blade chainsaw, complete with goggles and gloves. YAYAYAYAYAYAY!!!!

'Sam-I-am' and Emily (right) put it to good use by cutting back the Black Bamboo, which grows to great heights and was in much need of a trim.

We kept the long bamboo stems for a future project, like the one Shari Amato did, using the longer stems.



Educational Visit @ SGC



- On Friday 15th March we had a charming group of around 30 children, and parents/carers, from [Queen of Angels Academy](#) – a Catholic Homeschooling co-op.

They were so happy to come again and, after a tour of the garden the children helped Carolyn and I (Kay) mix up the soil and plant green Oyster plants in small plastic pots (recycled from the shed). They were so happy to take part in the whole thing - running all over the grassy area around the huge Oak Tree and paying particular attention in planting their plants to take home.



Save your money
For "GIVING CHALLENGE"

**All donations \$25 - \$100
will be matched**



You may already be familiar with this event – open to Non-Profit Organizations, whereby donations (\$25-\$100) made by you, are automatically matched by Community Foundation of Sarasota – effectively doubling your contribution.

The Giving Challenge is an exciting 24-hour online giving event that connects about 700 non-profit organizations with passionate donors and community members to support diverse causes and create enduring impact in Sarasota, Manatee, Charlotte, and DeSoto counties.

Donations to Sarasota Garden Club will be used to support our Mission.

More information at www.givingchallenge.org

Fundraising and Our Mission

While The Bay has taken over the running expenses of the building, we continue to fundraise to support our mission.

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

<https://sarasotagardenclub.org/about/our-mission/>

Objectives:

Proceeds for events and donations to the Sarasota Garden Club go to the Garden Club and its community projects:

- **College Scholarship Program**
- **Maintaining the Sarasota Botanical Gardens** (by volunteers each Friday 8-11am) - **which are open to the Public**
- **Civic Beautification Awards for businesses that have done an outstanding job of landscaping and maintaining their properties**
- **Planting and maintaining the plants at both the Doughboy Statue in Hamel Park, and the Blue Star Marker** (dedicated to the men and women in the armed forces)
- **Maintaining The Secret Garden on the Ringling grounds**
- **Horticulture and Design programs that are open to the community**
- **Coral Reef Restoration**
- **Supporting Conservation**

News from FFGC, Deep South & District VIII

**SAVE THE DATE ON YOUR MAY CALENDAR:
Spring Meeting of District VIII
Thursday May 9th, North Port.**

Plan to Attend! **The Spring Meeting of District VIII** is being held on Thursday, May 9th at the Heron Creek Golf and Country Club, 5301 Heron Creek Blvd, North Port, FL 34287.

You'll not only enjoy a delicious lunch in a beautiful golf course setting, but you'll also hear a very interesting speaker from Mote Marine Labs. Add that to meeting other garden club members from Tampa, St. Pete., Plant City, Dade City, as far north as New Port Richey and all points in between. Get ideas from things their club does that might work in our club.

Along with Venice Garden Club, we are the closest club to the meeting location, so we'd like to have a good showing from Sarasota Garden Club. Get your friends together and register, fill your car and see you at the Spring Meeting. Any questions, just email, text or call Sue Angle sueangle000@gmail.com (941) 350-9784



DEEP SOUTH GARDEN CLUBS

As members of Deep South Garden Clubs Inc., we are each one of the 24,000 Deep South members who are proud to be a member of a Federated Garden Club!

This Chairman (Sue Angle) enjoyed the 12-hour drive along with the Protocol Chairman for DS and FFGC from Boca Raton who joined me to attend the Deep South Annual Convention, this time in Gatlinburg, TN in the Great Smoky Mountains. *It was a joy to be in the mountains with such beautiful scenery and Dogwood and Redbud Trees blooming around us. Temps were down to 26 degrees the first night, but fortunately we didn't have to go outside at night and 55 to 65 temperatures were enjoyed during the day.*

The Convention had very interesting speakers, workshops, a field trip to the 'Natural Science & Education Center' and herbarium, fellowship with like-minded gardeners, and delicious meals! A great experience to enjoy.

Each year the Deep South convention moves to another of the six Deep South States and in 2026 it will be held just prior to our FFGC Convention which will be at the Embassy Suites in Kissimmee. These conventions are all full of education, great gardening friends, fun times, and good food. Watch for more information in the future.

Sue Angle sueangle000@gmail.com (941) 350-9784

REGISTRATION
DISTRICT VIII SPRING MEETING - THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024
"Fins and Tails"
Hosted by Lemon Bay Garden Club

Registration and coffee - 9:00 am Call to order - 10:00 am
DEADLINE TO REGISTER - WEDNESDAY, April 17, 2024 (No refunds after April 30)

\$35.00 Includes registration, morning hospitality, and lunch.
Please make checks payable to Lemon Bay Garden Club or LBGC

Mail To :
Cathy Lackmann, Treasurer Questions to: Barb Jacobson
Lemon Bay Garden Club Chuck7503@aol.com
PO Box 1176 (941) 769-1019
Englewood, FL 34295-1176

Your Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Zip _____ Garden Club _____
 Phone Number _____ Email address _____

MENU CHOICE: All lunches include Coffee or Herbal Tee

___ Spinach & Portobello Mushroom Quiche/Fresh Fruit Garnish/House Salad
 ___ Crispy Coconut Shrimp on Mixed greens/Pineapple, Melon, Strawberries/ Balsamic Strawberry Dressing
 ___ Par 3 Salad - Chicken, Tuna, Egg Salad on a bed of Spring Lettuce/Fresh Fruit Garnish/Lavosh Crackers

Dietary restrictions _____

Please check **ALL categories** that apply to you. (Information needed for Meeting Credentials Report)

___ Visitor/Guest OR ___ District VIII Club Member ___ District VIII Circle Member

___ NGC Officer ___ Former NGC Officer – Office: _____ Years: _____
 ___ FFGC Officer
 ___ FFGC Committee Chair
 ___ Former FFGC President – Years: _____
 ___ District VIII Director
 ___ District VIII Board Member (District VIII Officers and Committee Chair)
 ___ Former District Director Years: _____

___ Club President ___ Circle President _____

___ **DELEGATE- PLEASE CHECK DELEGATE IF:**
 You are a Club or Circle President
 You are attending in place of your Club or Circle President OR
 You were selected to be a delegate by your Garden Club OR
 You are a District VIII Officer or Committee Chairman
 You are an FFGC Officer or FFGC Chairman living in District VIII OR
 You are a former FFGC President or former District VIII Director living in District VIII

___ **ALTERNATE:** (Selected by your Garden Club or Circle as an Alternate)

What's in the Library?

This month's book is

"SEX IN YOUR GARDEN"

by **Angela Overy** (*an appropriate name*)

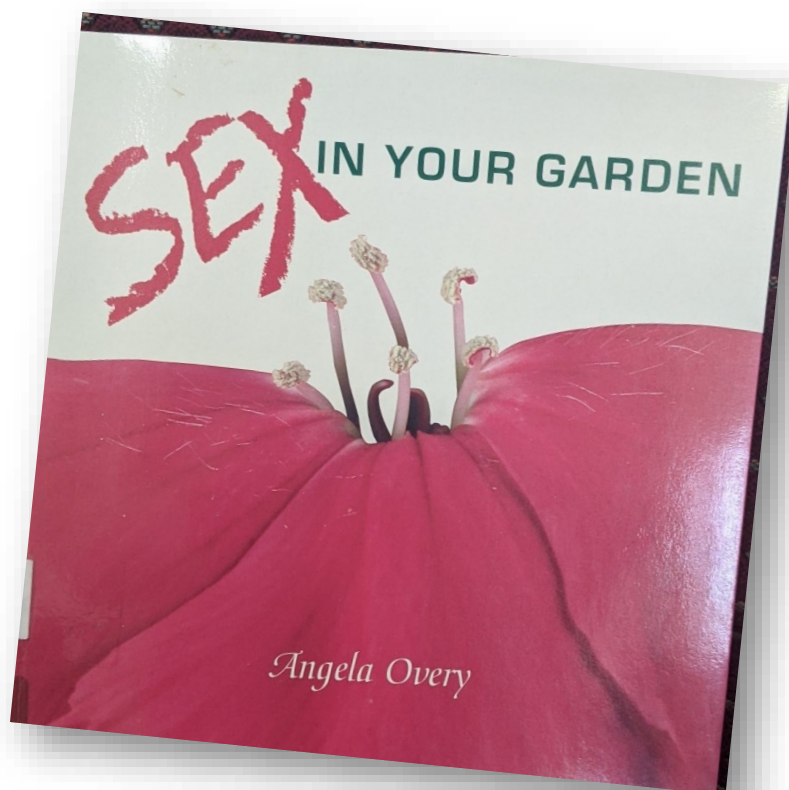
Library Reference: Horticulture Section / 582.130416

What's it about?

Bright blooms are just advertisements for sex!

But did you know that plant sex is extraordinarily varied and competitive? This book takes a clear and concise perusal of the reproductive processes of garden plants and their relationships to their various pollinators.

Written with a flair for the humorous and accompanied by more than 250 full-color photographs and illustrations, this book is the perfect addition to any gardener's bookshelf!



This monthly article is submitted by Lynn Biega – Chair of the Sarasota Garden Club's Library Interest Group.

The Library Interest Group is responsible for all Sarasota Garden Club's books (located in our Library) relating to gardening and horticulture.

This is a priceless collection of information for Florida gardeners – pay it a visit.

News from Ikebana

Exhibition: April 27 – Gulf Gate Library



www.iisarasota.com

Facebook: Ikebana International Sarasota FL Chapter 115

Email: ikebanasarasota@gmail.com

INTER CLUB Liaison: Dorinda Wilkinson at 941-284-4443

or email: dorindawilkinson@gmail.com

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: BecciBond@hotmail.com

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**

Cell: 941-284-6770 (between October and May)

ALWAYS CHECK FOR INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE

WWW.SARASOTAGARDENCLUB.ORG



Leaf-let – get it?