



**SARASOTA  
GARDEN CLUB**

# Highlights

- ✚ President's Message
- ✚ Dates for the Diary
- ✚ Event reviews
- ✚ Featured Scholarship
- ✚ NEWS
- ✚ .... AND MORE

## "The Blooming Chatter" JANUARY NEWSLETTER

**VOLUME 33 – ISSUE 5**  
**JANUARY – 2024**

**2024**  
• HAPPY NEW YEAR •

### Contact Us

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Sarasota, FL 34236  
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Instagram @sarasotagardenclub |  
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# President's Message

## Greetings 2024 Sarasota Garden Club Members!

Our next General Members Meeting is **Wednesday January 17<sup>th</sup> 2024**

- This month's program will be provided by Selby Gardens with an update on their significant sustainability and master plan project.



## ***Hello and Happy New Year – Welcome 2024!***

The holidays seemed to arrive quickly this past year and went by very rapidly. Hoping everyone enjoyed their holiday season and our December holiday events and floral demonstrations.

- A quick reminder if you have not already renewed your membership, please do so now online. We appreciate your membership. [JOIN HERE NOW](#)

Our Garden Club has had very busy and enjoyable Fall and Holiday seasons with many activities. 2024 will continue with the same trend with monthly meetings, field trips and educational meetings.

We have a very full 2024 first quarter, particularly with the preparation for our “Gardens in Paradise” garden tour on 23<sup>rd</sup> March. We have sold a lot of tickets already, but we still are in need of **volunteers** for the day of the event as Greeters at the gardens. We have multiple shifts for 2 hours only, so our volunteers can attend the tour also. Please talk to Gloria Thomas to volunteer or to discuss volunteering. [GTSarasota@comcast.net](mailto:GTSarasota@comcast.net) 941-321-3159

We also have the opportunity in January to sign up and attend the **Flower Show School** which will be held at the Manatee River Garden Club in Bradenton. These courses are very informative and lead to a person becoming a Flower Show Judge. Taking advantage of these courses offered by FFGC is another benefit we all get with our membership. Please contact Dianne Beaver about these courses this month. [DianneBeaver@gmail.com](mailto:DianneBeaver@gmail.com) 941-780-2949

***Looking forward to seeing everyone during January!***

Fondly - Kelly L Goodwin, President - Tel: 941-718-3359

[President@SarasotaGardenClub.org](mailto:President@SarasotaGardenClub.org) - [klgkey@outlook.com](mailto:klgkey@outlook.com)

# January 2024 Calendar

5 <sup>th</sup>	8am – 11am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers – in the botanical gardens
	<11am	<b>Christmas Tree coming down</b> <i>(can you come help take the decorations off?)</i>
6 <sup>th</sup> / 7 <sup>th</sup>		<b>OFFSITE – ORCHID SHOW – ORCHID SOCIETY</b> <b>SGC has a table to promote the club</b>
8 <sup>th</sup>	10am	SGC – Civic Beautification Committee Meeting
9 <sup>th</sup>	1.30 pm	SGC – Gardens in Paradise (GIP) Committee Meeting
10 <sup>th</sup>	1.30 pm	SGC - Ad Hoc Leadership Meeting
12 <sup>th</sup>	8am – 11am	SGC – Friday Garden Volunteers – in the botanical gardens
15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	SGC – Membership Committee Meeting
17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am – midday	<b>SGC – JANUARY GENERAL MEETING</b> Jennifer Rominiecki, CEO Marie Selby Botanical Gardens Update on Master Plan - and Mike McLaughlin, Director of Horticulture Angel Lara, VP for Botanical Horticulture <a href="http://www.selby.org">www.selby.org</a>
	1.30pm	SGC – Ad Hoc Leadership Meeting
19 <sup>th</sup>	8am – 11am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers – in the botanical gardens
		<b>FLORIDA ARBOR DAY</b>
20 <sup>th</sup>	11 am	<b>Butterfly Club Meeting</b>
22 <sup>nd</sup>	9:30 am	<b>Ikebana Meeting</b>
23 <sup>rd</sup>	10am	SGC – Gardens in Paradise (GIP) Committee Meeting
24 <sup>th</sup>	TBC	<b>FIELD TRIP: Sarasota Audubon Society</b> Guided tour of nature center and grounds <a href="http://www.sarasotaaudubon.org">www.sarasotaaudubon.org</a>
	1:30 pm	SGC – Ad Hoc Leadership Meeting
26 <sup>th</sup>	8am – 11am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers – in the botanical gardens
29 <sup>th</sup>	7am	SGC – Civic Beautification AWARDS LUNCHEON
31 <sup>st</sup>	1:30 pm	SGC – Ad Hoc Leadership Meeting

Meetings DO sometimes get cancelled or rescheduled so for the most up-to-date information, visit our on-line CALENDAR  
[SarasotaGardenClub.org](http://SarasotaGardenClub.org)

HAPPY  
NEW YEAR

# February 2024 Calendar

2 <sup>nd</sup>	8am – 11am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers – in the botanical gardens
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Midday	Wedding Rental
5 <sup>th</sup>	10am	SGC – Board of Directors Meeting
6 <sup>th</sup>	10 am	SGC – Gardens in Paradise (GIP) Committee Meeting
7 <sup>th</sup>	9am	Floralia Meeting
	1:30 pm	SGC – Ad Hoc Leadership Meeting
8 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	SGC – Membership Committee Meeting
	10am	SGC – Gardens in Paradise (GIP) Committee Meeting
9/10 <sup>th</sup>		GARDEN FEST EDUCATION
9 <sup>th</sup>	8am – 11am	SGC – Friday Garden Volunteers – in the botanical gardens
13 <sup>th</sup>	10 am	SGC – Gardens in Paradise (GIP) Committee Meeting
14 <sup>th</sup>	TBC	FIELD TRIP: Tropiflora Nursery Guided tour of open greenhouses and retail center <a href="http://www.tropiflora.com">www.tropiflora.com</a>
16 <sup>th</sup>	8am – 11am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers – in the botanical gardens
20 <sup>th</sup>	10 am	SGC – Gardens in Paradise (GIP) Committee Meeting
21 <sup>st</sup>	9.30am – midday	SGC – FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING Save Our Seabirds
	1.30pm	SGC – Ad Hoc Leadership Meeting
23 <sup>rd</sup>	8am – 11am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers – in the botanical gardens
24 <sup>th</sup>	3.30pm	Wedding Reception
25 <sup>th</sup>	2pm	Donte's Den
26 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 am	Ikebana Meeting
28 <sup>th</sup>	1:30 pm	SGC – Ad Hoc Leadership Meeting
29 <sup>th</sup>	8am – 11am	SGC - Friday Garden Volunteers – in the botanical gardens
29 <sup>th</sup>	1.30pm	Butterfly Club

Meetings DO sometimes get cancelled or rescheduled so for the most up-to-date information, visit our on-line CALENDAR

[SarasotaGardenClub.org](http://SarasotaGardenClub.org)



# Next (January) General Meeting

## Wednesday January 17

9.30 am – 10 am – Refreshments and Social Time  
10 am – 10.30 am – Members Business Meeting  
10.30 am – 11.30am – Speakers Presentation and Q&A

**Be sure to come along!**  
And bring a guest.

### January General Meeting – Selby Gardens

#### Event Details

- Date: January 17, 2024 9:30 am – 12:00 pm
- Categories: Event, Sarasota Garden Club

Jennifer Rominiecki, CEO  
Marie Selby Botanical Gardens  
Update on Master Plan  
and  
Mike McLaughlin, Director of Horticulture  
Angel Lara, VP for Botanical Horticulture  
[www.selby.org](http://www.selby.org)

**There is so much going on at Selby that we are delighted to have the CEO give us ‘first hand’ information on the current situation and forward plan.**

**Also – 2 off-site events, organized by the Programs Committee.  
Put them in your diary and there’ll be more information to follow.**

<b>January 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Sarasota Audubon Society</b> Guided Tour of Nature Center and Grounds <a href="http://sarasotaaudubon.org">sarasotaaudubon.org</a>
<b>February 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Tropiflora Nursery</b> Guided Tour of Open Greenhouses and Retail Center <a href="http://tropiflora.com">tropiflora.com</a>

# November's Meeting Slides

## Butterfly Container Gardens – aka Pollinator Pots

by  
Karen Rosenbeck  
Sarasota County Butterfly Club



### What We'll Cover Today:

- Why Pollinators?
- ABC's of Container Gardening – or, more clearly, the LCDMP
- What's special about Butterfly Plants?
- Resources
- Q&A

### Who are the Pollinators? Bees, butterflies & moths, flies, wasps, beetles



<https://www.xerces.org/pollinator-conservation/about-pollinators>

### Why should we care about pollinators?

**Because 75% of all agricultural crops require pollination.**

**Because one of every three bites of our food is made possible by pollinators (bees).**

**Because we're losing our pollinators as well as nature's biodiversity.**

**Because it's all affecting us!**

Karen Rosenbeck from the Sarasota County Butterfly Club presented at our November meeting.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE FULL PRESENTATION](#)

Click the image below to see Karen's "Plant a Patch" for Pollinators information sheet.

**PLANT A PATCH FOR POLLINATORS**  
SEVEN PLANTS / SEVEN STEPS

Native plants provide natural habitat for native pollinators. They have evolved together in intricate, co-dependent relationships over eons of time. If you plant natives – a tree, two large shrubs, a flowering vine, and three wildflowers or grasses – in a space the size of a small living room, you'll make a home for a myriad of birds, colorful butterflies, bees, beneficial bugs and other pollinators. Think of your yard as a patchwork quilt. Plant one patch now, and later, add others to create biodiverse areas of native plants for different conditions, sun, shade, dry or wet areas. Each patch would include plants that thrive naturally together under existing conditions. You will inspire and educate others in your community – neighbors, churches, businesses and schools – to follow suit. Instead of lawns, imagine thousands and thousands of native plant patches for pollinators filled with bird song and fluttering wings.

**Seven Great Options for Your Pollinator Patch**

**CHOOSE ONE TREE**

<b>Pines</b>	Evergreen. Host plant for 171 species of butterflies and moths. Turkey, towhee, woodpeckers and numerous other bird species eat seeds and insects attracted to bark and cones. Besting site for woodpeckers, nuthatches.
<b>Oaks</b>	Semi-evergreen. Host plant for 385 species of butterflies and moths. Fallen acorns for Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Acorns eaten by numerous bird species.
<b>Eastern Red Cedar</b>	Evergreen. Host plant for 27 species of butterflies and moths. Cover and nesting site. Fruit and seeds attract numerous bird species including Cedar Waxwings.

**CHOOSE TWO SHRUBS**

<b>Blackberry</b>	Deciduous shrub with berries that remain on branches over many months. Host plant for butterflies and moths. Fruit eaten by many species of birds.
<b>Calleryan Americano</b>	
<b>Florida Privet</b>	Evergreen. Small blossoms attract bees, flies, wasps, small butterflies, migrating warblers and vireos. Fruit eaten by numerous bird species. Provides cover and nesting sites.
<b>Forsythia</b>	Evergreen. Lesser attract Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. Orioles, crows, bees, flies, butterflies plus miscellaneous and fugacious bird species. Excellent cover.

**ONE VINE**

<b>David Hoopseed</b>	Evergreen. Host plant for 26 species of butterflies and moths. Nectar attracts Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. Fruit eaten by numerous fugacious bird species. Cover for nesting bird species.
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**CHOOSE THREE WILDFLOWERS AND GRASSES**

<b>Goldenrod</b>	Some species bloom almost year-round. Attracts 62 species of butterflies and moths also bees, butterflies, honeybees, warblers and sparrows.
<b>Coltsfoot</b>	
<b>Tropical Sage</b>	Blooms almost year-round. Attracts Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, honeybees, bumble bees, butterflies, Painted Buntings, Cardinals, sparrows, vireos, and warblers.
<b>Spirited Sandbar</b>	Blooms spring through fall. Attract butterflies, numerous bird species, and native bees.
<b>Florida Prairie Grass</b>	Clump growing grass. Host plant for skipper and butterflies. Attracts seed-eating birds. Provides cover for ground-foraging birds and wildlife.
<b>Spartan Indigobird</b>	
<b>Muddy Grass</b>	Clump growing grass with vibrant pink color in the fall. Host plant for skipper and butterflies. Attracts seed-eating birds and flycatchers. Provides cover for ground-foraging birds and wildlife.
<b>Muhlenbergia capillaris</b>	

**PLANT A PATCH FOR POLLINATORS**  
Seven Simple Steps:

# December's Meeting Review

December's Monthly General Meeting was presented by Nancy Abramson, from the **Sarasota Bromeliad Society**, presenting **INTERIOR PLANTSCAPING, Bringing Nature Indoors**.



Another terrific program at our monthly members meeting Wednesday. Friend and Bromeliad Society member Nancy Abramson demonstrated and created arrangements using common cuttings, plants and sprigs one can find easily in the Florida landscape (and our own backyards) and transforming simple vases and baskets into beautiful arrangements. We so enjoyed her presentation, Interior Plant scaping - Bringing Nature Indoors. **We will share her slides in next month's newsletter.**

Our Hospitality Committee once again provided a lovely spread of treats and continually amazes with their creative talents! Members went home with several of Nancy's arrangements, poinsettias and plants from our monthly raffle. Thank you everyone for attending .





# Fundraising Committee Report

Shari Amato is the Chair of the Fundraising Committee.  
Email [shari@mailmt.com](mailto:shari@mailmt.com) / Tel: 941-320-4532.

*"All of our events raise funds for **our Mission**, and success requires the help and support from everyone in the club. All members are asked to pitch in and embrace events whenever you can."*



The next fundraising event is  
**"Gardens in Paradise"**  
**Saturday March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

## "Holiday in the Garden" Review

The last fundraising event was "Holiday in the Gardens", which took place on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. The event was a huge success and will be repeated in December 2024!

We were enticed to dance by The Klick Band:

What a night! Do we know how to throw a party or what? Fun evening at our Clubhouse dancing to The Klick Band and enjoying delish food and fizzy drinks! **Wowza, so many dancers on the floor.**

Thank you to all who attended and all of our member volunteers and recruited helpers who made this fundraising event a big hit. Hospitality, Publicity, Fundraising, Membership, Facilities committees all working to pull it off. And no, the rain deluge just before we opened didn't phase us a bit, nor our guests. See you next time we have Holiday in the Gardens.



**Rick Benitez Photography**  
242 S Washington Blvd. Unit 380  
Sarasota, FL 34236  
941-306-7485  
[rick@rbphotos.com](mailto:rick@rbphotos.com)  
[www.rbphotos.com](http://www.rbphotos.com)

— RICK BENITEZ —  
**PHOTOGRAPHY**

CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW  
to view over 150  
photographs.

[Rick Benitez Photography | Sarasota Garden Club  
Holiday in the Gardens \(zenfolio.com\)](http://www.rbphotos.com)



This gives quite a good overall impression of what it was like although at some times the dancing was FRENETIC!

And check out the FACEBOOK POST that has more photos to look at (Thanks to Carol Lackey)



[\(20+\) What a night! Do we know how to throw a... - Sarasota Garden Club | Facebook](#)

## There was a Silent Auction



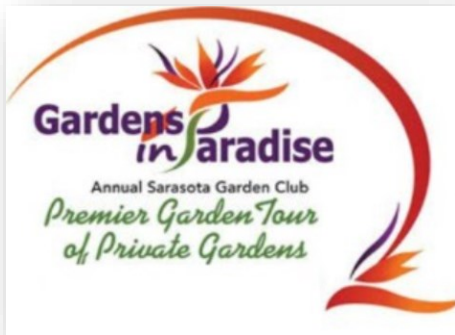
BELOW: Christy May, Carolyn, Shari, Kathleen, CJ, Becci, Kelly and Sue (by no means everyone that helped make the night go with a swing)



Thank you to the  
HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE  
for producing a fantastic buffet.

Cuedos to Deborah Alves who created this  
masterpiece of charcuterie board.

# GIP Committee Message



**Gardens in Paradise (GIP)** has been in the works for SGC for 10 years, and is the club's biggest fund raiser. During that time, we've had so many phenomenally, beautiful gardens, which brings our patrons back again and again. We are continuing this tradition this year on **Saturday, March 23 with five more incredible gardens.**

We make sure there is a diversity in gardens: Homeowners are hands-on completely, speciality plantings and unique selections, dramatic historical sites and sometimes behind the wall, unseen by many ever! This committee intentionally changes venues also to keep patrons looking through Sarasota's different and diverse neighborhoods.

**Remember, Gardens in Paradise Tour and fundraising benefits all of us and our scholarship recipients.**

- Discounted EARLY BIRD TICKETS were available to members and 'not yet members' up until midnight 31<sup>st</sup> December, and we saw a huge take-up from members and the Sarasota Community. **EVEN MORE THAN LAST YEAR!!!** It's still cheaper for YOU to buy tickets between now and the day of the event .... please go online to select your tickets.

**JUST A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – please help!**

**The design and success of this event relies upon SARASOTA GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS volunteering – and perhaps a buddy, partner???**

**Decisions are being made NOW based upon the number of volunteers (e.g. lunch and vendors at the gardens will only happen if we have enough people to help).**

**So don't wait until nearer the date to volunteer, do it NOW so we can plan accordingly to make the most out of this huge fund-raising event: OUR MISSION.**

Contact Gloria on [gtsarasota@comcast.net](mailto:gtsarasota@comcast.net)

**Gloria Thomas is in charge of Logistics**, which is the spearhead of this event and relies upon volunteers to enable various elements of the event to take place. We still need a few more Garden Greeters - 2 hour shifts in a garden, and possibly another type of position!

This is a ALL MEMBER participation program. Every club member should consider how they could contribute to this as a member of this Club. There are so many ways you choose, so please inquire and ask and the Committee is extremely appreciative.

**CONTACT: Emily Yaffe / Jean Ruff - Garden Selection Coordinators 2024 941.780.7807 - eyaffe13@yahoo.com**

# Featured Scholarship Recipient

This month we would like to showcase another of our scholarship recipients, Alyssa Collier. From Sharon Davisson, for the Committee [SRDSTL41@Gmail.com](mailto:SRDSTL41@Gmail.com)



*"In my first semester at the University of Florida, I focused on finding opportunities best suited to my career interests. I am incredibly excited to say that I have joined a genetics research lab studying repeat expansion mutations. This position has expanded my interest in evolutionary biology and biodiversity as learning to identify how and where genetic code can affect phenotypes has really shaped my understanding and appreciation for the vast biosphere, especially that of the plantae kingdom."*



*"As an engineering student, I have also joined the [Society of Women Engineers](#) where I work as a Graphic Design Chair, and GRiP ([General Relief in Prosthetics](#)) where I had the opportunity to design and produce a prosthetic for a local puppy.*

*Some of my favorite classes I took this semester include Chemistry for Engineers, Calculus 2, and Intro to Engineering.*

*For the upcoming semester, I am most excited to participate in a UF Honors Uncommon Classroom where I will be traveling to San Diego for a research project focused on marine conservation. I'm especially looking forward to this opportunity because I think it will be a great way to spread awareness of how important it is to protect our beaches/oceans in addition to our forestry. I am also very excited to expand my involvement in more engineering organizations. Some of the classes I am most looking forward to include Honors Genetics, Chemistry for Engineers 2, and Physics with Calculus."*

**WELL DONE YOU! WE WISH YOU WELL. PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH.**

# Botanical Garden Report

Kay Weber is the Chair of the Botanical Gardens Committee and Carolynn Michielsen is her very active and dedicated Co-chair.

Emails: [kayw33@comcast.net](mailto:kayw33@comcast.net) [chmichielsen@yahoo.com](mailto:chmichielsen@yahoo.com)

**Friday Morning Workers** are a dedicated crew with a shared interest in gardening, that works hard each and every Friday.

**NEW VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.**

Come along any time between 8am – 11am on a Friday whenever you can. No experience needed, there's always a list of things to do for everyone. Refreshments provided.



Carolyn and I both appreciate when you Friday Morning Workers show up to volunteer each and every Friday.



This month, a special thank you to Stephanie Cotton, who lives just across the street, for opening up while both Carolyn & I were up North for Christmas & New Year.

**Kay says:** "As the weather is cooler now, we seem to be doing more projects on Fridays in our 9 gardens. We predominantly take turns watering the potted plants, trimming/maintaining plants growing at Florida-pace, tidying up pathways of the never-ending oak tree leaves, and making everything look its best for visitors.

- Carol Fugate is really working hard in the Bromeliad Garden to make them look good and flourish. It's not an easy job, as they are spiky devils, and requires 'armor' to protect the gardener.
- Emily is refitting the bricks around the oval garden outside the building, that's not an easy job either.

We recently had a surprise: Brunch on a Friday at the club, and again on Monday December 11th we had another brunch at Sandy's **Santa Land Home**. All of the Friday Morning Worker and a few guests were invited to this spectacular Santa Experience. We had a nice tour of her beautiful and interesting gardens. We have done this fun morning about 6 times. By the way I always hide at least 5 Santas for Sandy to find to add to her collection. **Thank you, Sandy.**

- As the new year is coming, we will be doing some trimming of all bushes and trees. We will also be doing more work in the Fern, Welcome and Falling Waters Gardens.
- A special thank you to all the volunteers that take care of the Butterfly Garden.
- And a HUGE thanks to my faithful Co-Chair Carolyn who keeps the whole crew smiling."

PLEASE COME ALONG TO HELP MAINTAIN THE BOTANICAL GARDENS

**Gardening makes us even in this world, Kay Weber, Botanical Gardens Chair X**

# Civic Beautification Committee Report

- Our next meeting is January 8<sup>th</sup> at 10 am in the library.

We will be selecting **finalists** for this year's Civic Beautification Awards - all welcome

- The Awards Luncheon will be held on Monday January 29th
- Please submit your photos to [jwhalenpa@aol.com](mailto:jwhalenpa@aol.com) as soon as possible
- Thank you for your support
- Contact Jim Whalen [jwhalenpa@aol.com](mailto:jwhalenpa@aol.com)

## A little something – can members help? PLANT ID APP?

### QUESTION from a member:

*“Good morning my plant loving friends, I am wondering if you use a specific plant identification app on your phone? There are quite a few. I am not sure how much money I want to spend on a monthly basis so a free or inexpensive app would be best for my iPhone.”*

### AN ANSWER – not necessarily the definitive – what would you suggest?

*“You’re right, there are many plant ID apps. I don’t know if any of them are always correct. I use what a lot of my friends use which is **Google Lens**. It is free (I believe from Google Play – one of the judges put it on my phone) and is a little camera on your google page so you can take a photo of what you want identified and it comes up with suggestions. I have found sometimes I know it’s got the wrong idea of what I’m looking at but as we know, pictures can be deceiving.*

*The judges that do the classification for our state flower shows use several different apps to check. We’ll check with our SGC Flower Show’s Classification Chairman, Ann Madden, who was so helpful in identifying our show’s plants. She loves to share her knowledge.”*

- Google Lens is a set of vision-based computing capabilities that can understand what you’re looking at and use that information to copy or translate text, identify plants and animals, explore locales or menus, discover products, find visually similar images, and take other useful actions. Google Lens lets you search what you see.

# Happy New Year from the Membership Committee!

## **NEW YEAR RESOLUTION**

***No, don't step away, it's a nice one!***

*If you're thinking about what to make for your New Year's Resolution this year, how about making it to bring a friend or a neighbor as your guest to one of our General Meetings on the third Wednesday of each month. For \$10 for each guest, you'll both have a nice morning with refreshments and an interesting program, as well as enjoying the friends you'll see and new friends you'll meet. Refreshments start at 9:30 and our meeting begins at 10.*

*At our December meeting, new member Janice Nelson was welcomed and presented with a gift of a poinsettia. Janice had just returned from 2 weeks in Hawaii and we're so glad she has joined our club.*

- *Please plan to attend the Florida Arbor Day Planting on Friday, January 19 at 11:00am. It will be held at Oak Park School, 7285 Hand Rd., Sarasota 34241. Come early with your driver's license in order to enter the school grounds and be a part of the state-wide Arbor Day planting when more than 100 federated garden clubs around the state will each plant a tree at the same time that day to begin the celebration of the Florida Federation of Garden Club's 100th anniversary.*

*For more information, contact Livy Haynes, 941-924-8902, [thinkolivia@gmail.com](mailto:thinkolivia@gmail.com) or this Chairman.*

*December was the time for memberships to be renewed and if you haven't yet paid your dues, or if you have any questions, please contact Sue Angle (see below).*

*We look forward to enjoying 2024 together as we continue our Mission to preserve our gardens and historic landmarks while promoting the environment, conservation and civic beautification through education and programs.*

Sue Angle - [Sueangle000@gmail.com](mailto:Sueangle000@gmail.com) - 941-350-9784



# Renew your Membership

We hope that you have enjoyed this year's full program of events, and being part of the Sarasota Garden Club for an extra 3 months **FREE**.

We very much hope that you will renew your SGC membership NOW, valid until end of 2024.

- You can renew online at <https://sarasotagardenclub.org/membership/membership-renewal/>
- Or by mailing your check to "Sarasota Garden Club Renewal", 1131 Boulevard of the Arts, Sarasota, FL 34236
- Along with your payment, please note any changes to your address, phone number or contact information.

Single membership renewal is \$95. Couple membership is \$180. If you are an FFGC Life Member, then your renewal is only \$83. *Only those who renew will be kept on the SGC Membership list after January 31st, 2023.*

1. **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW** – <https://sarasotagardenclub.org/membership/membership-renewal/>  
[Membership Renewal \(sarasotagardenclub.org\)](https://sarasotagardenclub.org/membership/membership-renewal/)
2. **ENCOURAGE FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO JOIN THE CLUB** – new members are always welcome – because *"the more the merrier"* - so please bring prospective members along to a fundraising event or one of the Monthly General Members Meeting to see if they'd like to join
3. **THE YEARBOOK and MEMBERS DIRECTORY** is a very useful tool for all Sarasota Garden Club members as it has names and contact details of all of the members. Even a photograph to put a face to a name. <https://sarasotagardenclub.org/members-area/>. If you've forgotten the password, email Sue. SEND ANY AMENDMENTS TO [beccibond@hotmail.com](mailto:beccibond@hotmail.com)
4. **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETINGS:** Next meeting – January 15th

# What's in the Library?

This month's book is  
"Blooming Bromeliads"  
by Baensch.

**Library Reference:** Horticulture  
Section / 584.22 / Bae

## What's it about?

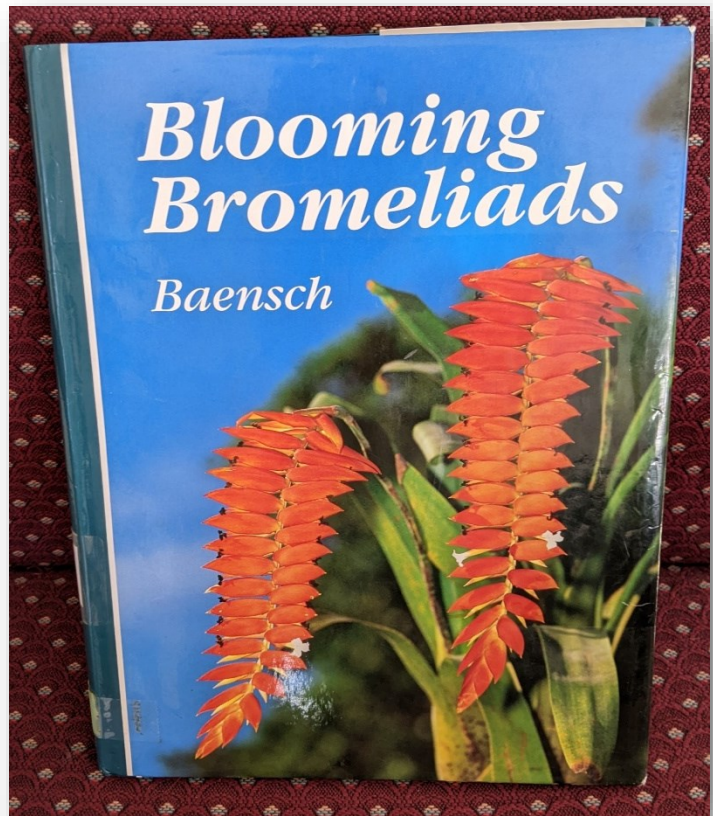
With their colorful flowers, interesting shapes, and unusual ecology, bromeliads increasingly capture the attention of gardeners and plant lovers.

This book covers more than 700 species, varieties, and hybrids.

This professional, top-class folio of high artistic quality covers the following chapters:

- Distribution
- Biology
- Natural growth conditions
- Cultivation and reproduction, genera and species.

It is enhanced by brilliant, often full-page color photographs dedicated to the beauty of tropical flowers.



***This article was 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.**

# A LOST FRIEND



It is with sadness that we announce our beloved member, Ginger Vance has passed away.

She was a long-time member of the club since 2003, and was:

- Past President
- Lifetime member of FFGC
- Received the Leadership Award
- Was Publicity and Education Chair
- Worked in the Secret Garden at the Ringling and even took the tablecloths home and washed them.

***She was always there to help when needed.***

Her husband, Arnie, will let us know when he plans a "Celebration of Life" sometime in January.

If you wish to send cards:

Arnie Vance  
6912 Lennox Place  
University Park, FL 34201

***She will be missed by all that knew her.***

# News from Sarasota Orchid Society



Sarasota Garden Club will be participating in Sarasota Orchid Society's annual show for the 10<sup>th</sup> year in a row.

**This incredible show will be held again at the Municipal Auditorium on Saturday, January 6 and Sunday, January 7. Admission is \$5 dollars. COME ALONG...**

## [2024 Show and Sale Sarasota Orchid Society – Sarasota Orchid Society](#)

In the past few years, members of the Sarasota Garden Club have created the magnificent stage **focal area** - which follows the theme for the whole show "Orchids in Paradise!". It's MAGNIFICENT!

Our club will also have a table offering information on:

- Fundraising events – "Gardens in Paradise"
- Joining our club
- SGC Club activities
- Calendar dates of event
- Raffle!

If you would like to help at the SGC table, please contact Kay Weber:

Table shifts are ideally about two hours, sitting amongst gorgeous orchids and talking to plant people!!! We always learn a lot by participating!



**SGC is providing 10 Gardens in Paradise tickets for free for the raffle they conduct every year.**

Hope to see you there!

Contact Kay Weber [kayw33@comcast.net](mailto:kayw33@comcast.net)

# News from FFGC

To observe that 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FFGC, along with Florida's Arbor Day, the approximately 150 federated garden clubs throughout the state will plant a tree at a location in their community all at the same time - which will be 11:00am EST on Friday, January 19, 2024.

**Sarasota Garden Club plans to hold our tree planting ceremony at Oak Park School in Sarasota which is a school for special needs students Pre K – age 22.**



**MARK THE DATE ON  
YOUR CALENDAR AND  
PLAN TO JOIN US AT**

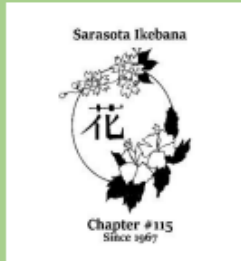
**OAK PARK SCHOOL, 7285  
Hand Rd., Sarasota**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 19,  
2024**

Livy Haynes, SGC Arbor Day Chairman

For more information contact Sue Angle, [sueangle000@gmail.com](mailto:sueangle000@gmail.com) or  
(941) 350-9784

# News from Ikebana



**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**Ikebana General Meeting**  
**MONDAY JANUARY 22, 2024**  
**Sarasota Garden Club, 10:00 a.m.**

**"THE POETRY OF LEAVES":**  
**LEAF MANIPULATION**  
By: Jeanne Houlton, *Ichiyo* Jr. Exec. Master

**Do you want to add to your Ikebana experience or  
Do you want to spice up your arrangements?**  
Then come to the Ikebana International Sarasota Meeting  
on **MONDAY JANUARY 22, 2024** at the **SARASOTA GARDEN CLUB**

Jeanne Houlton, *Ichiyo* Junior Executive Master,  
will offer a demonstration and workshop on **LEAF MANIPULATION**

**This is a Sensei-led workshop and registration is required.**

All interested in attending the workshop will sign up directly  
with Jeanne Houlton at [houlton2@gmail.com](mailto:houlton2@gmail.com) before Jan. 15th

- Members and guests will pay a \$5.00 fee for the workshop, which includes a pack of 10 *aspidistra* leaves. The money is payable to Jeanne Houlton at the meeting.
- Don't forget to bring a vase, flowers, and *kenzan* (available at \$20 at II Meeting)



Contact Person: Dorinda Wilkinson – [dorindawilkinson@gmail.com](mailto:dorindawilkinson@gmail.com) / 941-284-4443

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED**  
**CONTACT: Dorinda Wilkinson**  
**941-284-4443**

# 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](mailto: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)