



**SARASOTA  
GARDEN CLUB**

*"The Blooming Chatter"*

*NEWSLETTER*

**January – 2025**



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

## *Highlights*

- + President's Message
- + Dates for your Calendar
- + Upcoming Events
- + Event Reviews
- + Website survey
- + ..... and lots more

Proud members of  
District VIII,  
Florida Federation of Garden  
Clubs, Inc.,  
Deep South Garden Clubs,  
Inc., and  
National Garden Clubs, Inc.

### **Contact Us**

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### **Email:**

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**Facebook.com/sarasotagardenclub**

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More information on the website: [SarasotaGardenClub.org](http://SarasotaGardenClub.org)

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# President's Message

## Dear Sarasota Garden Club Members

As 2024 comes to an end, we reflect on our successful year at Sarasota Garden Club, with many memorable activities like Programs, Education Sessions, Gardens in Paradise, Gardening, Building Renovations, our Music in the Gardens celebrations and our increasing membership.



Although this year presented challenges due to Mother Nature, Sarasota Garden Club remains strong and active thanks to our dedicated members and our partnership with The Bay.

We are grateful for your support and participation in making our club a flourishing community. Remember to RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Looking ahead to 2025, we have exciting programs and educational sessions planned for all members to enjoy and learn from. Our January General Members Monthly Meeting, "Water 101 for Homeowners," promises to be a timely and informative topic.

Despite the unfortunate cancellation of our premiere "Gardens in Paradise" fundraiser, the GIP Committee will start exploring gardens for our March 2026 event. Our committees will also consider other fundraising opportunities for 2025.

Wishing you all a wonderful and prosperous 2025!

Kelly L Goodwin

President

Tel: 941-718-3359

[klgkey@outlook.com](mailto:klgkey@outlook.com)

# "Gardens In Paradise"

**Sarasota Garden Club is sorry to announce that it has been necessary to cancel our "Gardens in Paradise" Tour of Private Gardens for 2025.**

With the devastating effects of multiple storms in our local area this past fall, gardens are simply not able to be ready for viewing at the locations we had chosen.

We are disappointed that we could not bring this very popular tour to you this year, but we are certain that you understand the need for this decision. We look forward to bringing an exceptional tour to our community in March of **2026!**

GIP is our largest fundraiser of the year and supports our scholarship awards, horticulture and floral design education, monthly member programs, Sarasota Arbor Day and many of the classes we share with our community.

**Alternative fundraising events are being considered.**

## SGC Gardens and The Bay Park Conservancy Update

**Our SGC gardens have suffered devastating loss and are being redesigned with a local professional landscape architect in partnership with The Bay Park Conservancy.**

We will share more of the progress of the renovation of our perimeter gardens as the project moves forward. Please come by and visit and take a walk through our patio garden and fountain located on our building terrace and tour the surrounding bayfront areas—they are looking great.

Our monthly programs and outings continue as planned and our building has been reopened after an extensive remodel and renovation this summer.

# Key January Calendar Dates At a Glance ....

| JANUARY                                   |  |  |  | 2025  |                         |   |
|---|--|--|--|---|-------------------------|---|
| SUN                                       | MON                                    | TUES   | WED  | THURS   | FRI                     | SAT                                       |
|   |  |  | 1<br>New Years Day<br>2025!!!  |   |                         | 4<br>Orchid Society<br>Annual Show & Sale |
| 5<br>Orchid Society<br>Annual Show & Sale | 6<br>SGC Board of<br>Directors Meeting |  |  | 9<br>Education<br>Committee Meeting<br><br>Selby Plant Sale |                         |   |
|   |  |  | 15<br>GENERAL<br>MEMBERS<br>MONTHLY MEETING<br><br>MEMBERSHIP<br>Committee Meeting |   | 17<br>Florida Arbor Day |   |
|   | 27<br>IKEBANA Meeting                  | 28<br>EDUCATION:<br>Hort & Design in<br>preparation for<br>Flower Show | 29<br>SGC Executive<br>Committee Meeting   |   | 31                      |   |

- **Committee Meetings** scheduled throughout the month
- **Weekend of 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> – Sarasota Orchid Society Annual Show & Sale** (see flyer) at Municipal Auditorium – SGC preparing the stage display
- **15<sup>th</sup> – General Members Monthly Meeting** (see flyer for full details) Bring a Guest!
- **17<sup>th</sup> – Florida Arbor Day** (plan on being at the planting)
- **28<sup>th</sup> - EDUCATION** workshop in preparation for Flower Show entries (see flyer)

[Always check the website calendar!](https://sarasotagardenclub.org/calendar/)

<https://sarasotagardenclub.org/calendar/>

# Next General Members Monthly Meeting January 15

## Sarasota Garden Club General Members Monthly Meeting Wednesday January 15, 2025



**About our SPEAKER:**  
Bruno Kapacinskas

Bruno is responsible for maintaining liaisons between the District and local and state government officials, business leaders, and community organizations.

### *“Water 101 for Homeowners”*



*“Want to know if a sprinkler system is more efficient than hand-watering?”*

*“Which plantings help retain more water than others?”*

*“How do I conserve water inside and outside the home?”*

**Join us to get needed advice. Water Management is more and more important these days.**

**Mr. Kapacinskas will address these issues and tell us how his organization assists the community.**

Join us to hear about ‘Florida-Friendly Landscaping Principles’ and ‘Saving Water OUTDOORS’ (which accounts for up to 50% of water consumed by residential households).

### **9.30 - 10am Refreshments - Noon**

- 9.30 - 10am – for members to socialize and enjoy refreshments
- 10 to 10:30am – Members’ Business Meeting
  - 10:30 to 11:30am – Speaker’s Presentation and Q&A
- Raffle & Close around Noon

**Bruno Kapacinskas, Government Affairs Manager,  
of Southwest Florida Water Management District**

**Southwest Florida  
Water Management District**

manages the water resources for west-central Florida as directed by state law.

[www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/](http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/)

**Please join us for our January meeting and  
Thank you to our Hospitality Committee for the  
refreshments at our meetings!**



# Florida Arbor Day

## January 17

See page 27 in the Yearbook

In 2024 SGC held its Arbor Day tree planting ceremony at Park School in Sarasota, which is a school for special needs students. The children planted a Gumbo Limbo Tree, whose nickname is “Tourist Tree”, perfect for Florida.



And here's a picture of some of the children, who entertained us so very well, and did a great job planting, mulching, stamping in and watering the tree – under the ever-watchful eye of Mr B!



This year – Florida Arbor Day takes place on January 17  
We'll keep you informed!

# EDUCATION event – Tuesday January 28

## Hort & Design Entries for SGC Flower Show

Almost every year, Sarasota Garden Club lays on a Flower Show – last year’s was “Ghostly Gala”>>>>>>



With all that’s been going on in the garden, right now a Sarasota Garden Club “Pop-Up Flower Show” is in the planning stage – expected to take place on February 22.

### Lots more information to come!

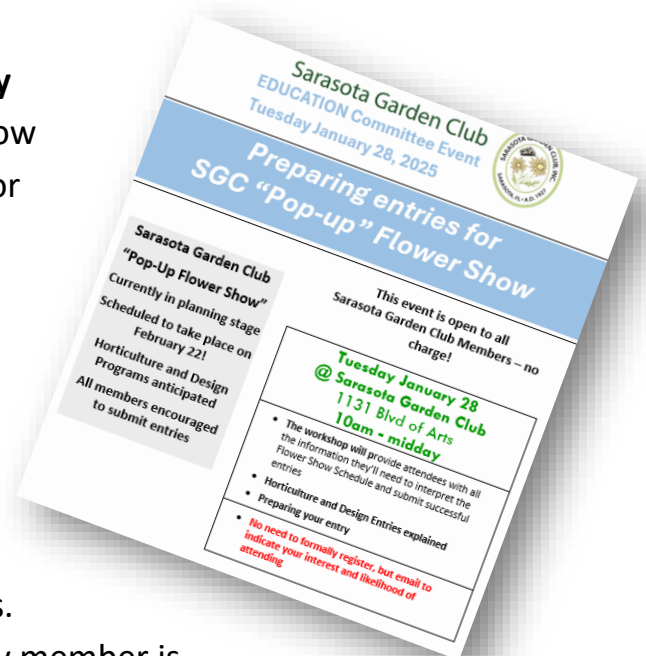
The January Education event is specifically to help Members enter and do well at the Flower Show. So come along .... learn what it’s all about, and get some invaluable advice from the experts in the club.

## SAVE THE DATE FOR SGC “POP-UP” Flower Show Saturday February 22

The January Education event will take place **on Tuesday January 28** to help Members better understand the show format, and how best to submit entries in Design and/or Horticulture divisions.

For those of you who have not taken part in previous Flower Shows, you should not be worried about submitting an entry. It’s a fun event and those that are more experienced are very willing to help newer, less experienced members.

There will be a range of Design and Horticulture classes. Design will feature some interesting subjects, and every member is encouraged to enter EARLY and seek help where necessary.





# Review of December's General Members Monthly Meeting

Everybody enjoyed Sarah's presentation: Thank you Sarah!



Check out Facebook for more photos (thank you Carol Lackey):  
<https://www.facebook.com/sarasotagardenclub> - Dec 18 post.



# Membership Committee Report

From Sue Angle, Membership Committee Chair



*We hope your Holiday Season was joyful and stress-free  
and you're ready for 2025!*

Our Garden Club's December General Members Monthly Meeting came at that very busy time and was a wonderful get-together which brought a social time with like-minded friends and delicious refreshments by the Hospitality Committee.

It also included opportunities for members to learn about our club's committees and add their name to their committee's member list. Several members signed up to be a part of the committees and we thank them for being willing to help our Garden Club's plans and mission in the community.

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**The program by our member, Sarah Munford, was beautiful and so interesting  
and was enjoyed by all. Thank you, Sarah!!**

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**New members were welcomed, introduced and given a gift of a plant, a Yearbook and New Member Folder.**



- **Cheryl Scheid** is retired now and plans to belong to two Garden Clubs, the other being Lakewood Ranch Garden Club which is also a Federated Club. She had special interest in Sarah's program about Holidays in Williamsburg, Virginia, since she went to William and Mary University.
- Her friend, **Robyn Winfield**, also joined our club and she too belongs to Lakewood Ranch Garden Club. Robyn is from New Jersey and formerly a High School Science Teacher.
- We were so happy to welcome back **Sheilla Donnell** who had been a member of SGC and after moving to Mexico three years ago, she returned, definitely ready to rejoin since she had even kept her SGC name badge.

## **Welcome to ALL!**

Guests too were greeted – Linda Elliff brought friends, Julie Planck and Marilyn Parker, and several of Sarah Munford's friends from her church also enjoyed the day.

We warmly invite the public to join us for our meetings, where a nominal donation of just \$10 is requested from them to support the Sarasota Garden Club's vital mission of environmental conservation and community beautification. This is with a maximum of two guest visits, and their \$10 is refunded when they become a Garden Club member.

As members of the Membership Committee, one of the nicest things we hear from new members and guests is how friendly our members are and how welcome they feel at our Garden Club meetings. Let's remember to greet and talk not only with our friends, but also with others we can meet and get to know. Help make sure our new members and guests feel welcome. We are glad they are with us and want them to know they are appreciated.

# **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP on line for 2025**



# Renew Membership for 2025



A reminder that the Sarasota Garden Club year for dues runs between January and December, in line with the club's accounting year.

We hope you agree that SGC Membership offers Members a great program of social and educational events throughout the year, (with a short summer break while a lot of planning takes place)



**DID YOU KNOW** that \$12 per club member is paid to the Florida Federation of Gardening Clubs? which opens up a whole range of benefits. Many members attend Flower Design and other courses – ask Sue Angle for more information and/or visit their website at <https://www.ffgc.org/>

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ON LINE</b></p> <p><a href="https://sarasotagardenclub.org/membership/membership-renewal/">https://sarasotagardenclub.org/membership/membership-renewal/</a></p> <p>n.b. if you have any problems with online payment, contact Kelly Goodwin</p> | <p><b>RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AT JANUARY'S MEETING</b></p> <p>Membership Committee and Dianne Beaver will be on hand to take cash and/or check</p> |
|--|--|

## PROGRAM AND EDUCATION SCHEDULES are in your Yearbook

| 2024 – 2025 Education Program |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| October 29, 2024              | Container Gardening  |
| November 13, 2024             | Cornucopia Flower Design   |
| December 3, 2024              | Holiday Centerpiece Event  |
| January 28, 2025              | Horticulture & Design in preparation for entries for a Flower Show |
| February 27, 2025             | Off-site visit to Selby/Spanish Point                              |
| March 29, 2025                | Off-site Orchid Workshop & Clinic                                  |
| April 29, 2025                | The Sarasota Honey Company   |

| 2025 Program  |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>January 15, 2025</b><br/>Wednesday<br/>9:30 am – 12 noon</p>                  | <p><b>General Members Monthly Meeting</b><br/>Speaker Bruno Kapacinskas, Southwest Florida Water Management District presents:<br/><i>"Water 101 for Homeowners"</i></p>   |
| <p><b>February 12, 2025</b><br/>Wednesday<br/>9:30 am – 12 noon</p>                 | <p><b>General Members Monthly Meeting at The Ringling</b><br/>Speaker Olivia Haynes presents:<br/><i>"Mable and Her Secret Garden"</i></p>   |
| <p><b>March 12, 2025</b><br/>Wednesday<br/>9:30 am – 12 noon</p>                    | <p><b>General Members Monthly Meeting</b><br/>Speaker John McCarthy, Vice President for Regional History, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens presents:<br/><i>"The Florida Highwaymen - Reflections on Old Florida"</i></p> |
| <p><b>April 16, 2025</b><br/><i>OFF-SITE: Location and time to be announced</i></p> | <p><b>Annual Meeting and Luncheon</b><br/>Speaker Jason Robert-Shaw, Director of Adult Education Programming and Digital Learning, Mote Marine Laboratory, presents:<br/><i>"Oceans for All"</i></p>                   |
| <p><b>May 14, 2025</b><br/>Wednesday<br/>9:30 am – 12 noon</p>                      | <p><b>General Members Monthly Meeting</b><br/>Speaker Holley Short, Shorebird Program Manager, Audubon Florida, presents:<br/><i>"The Imperilled Shorebirds of Florida"</i></p>  |

**We hope you will renew your membership, perhaps encourage friends to join too.**

**We look forward to sharing next year's activities with you.**

Sarasota Garden Club  
EDUCATION Committee Event  
Tuesday December 3, 2024

**"A Holiday Centerpiece"**  
"Make & Take" a beautiful decoration home,  
designed to be refreshed and long-lasting!

Pascale Taradoux  
Lead Floral Designer  
from  
**U P R O O T E D**  
*R o s e*

Will guide us through  
creating a beautiful  
centerpiece that will  
last through the  
holidays.

A unique opportunity to  
experience a hands-on  
workshop given by  
Sarasota's Luxury Florist,  
renowned for its elegant  
and beautiful modern  
flower arrangements  
[www.uprootedrose.com](http://www.uprootedrose.com)

This event is open to Sarasota Garden Club Members. Numbers are limited (25) so, to avoid disappointment, please book your place now!

**Tuesday December 3**  
@ Sarasota Garden Club  
1131 Blvd of Arts  
12:30 - 2:30pm

- The workshop will comprise a short presentation prior to a demonstration and workshop for YOU to prepare YOUR Holiday Centerpiece to take home.
- The cost for participants will be \$45.00 per person for instruction and all materials. The rest of the cost will be reimbursed by our club.

All registrations are due by Wednesday November 27

- To register, [BOOK VIA THE WEBSITE](https://www.uprootedrose.com)
- PLEASE BRING** an apron and a **Winebox to take your creation home with you**

Questions? Contact Sarah McInerney [smcinerney@sarasotagardenclub.com](mailto:smcinerney@sarasotagardenclub.com)  
or Pascale Taradoux [pascale@uprootedrose.com](mailto:pascale@uprootedrose.com)

**GO ONLINE HERE!**

# Review of December's Education Event

December's Education Event was "A Holiday Centerpiece" presented by lead floral designer Pascale Taradoux from Uprooted Rose. Everybody went home with a beautiful,



individual centerpiece to decorate their holiday homes.



Here's just 1 of them:





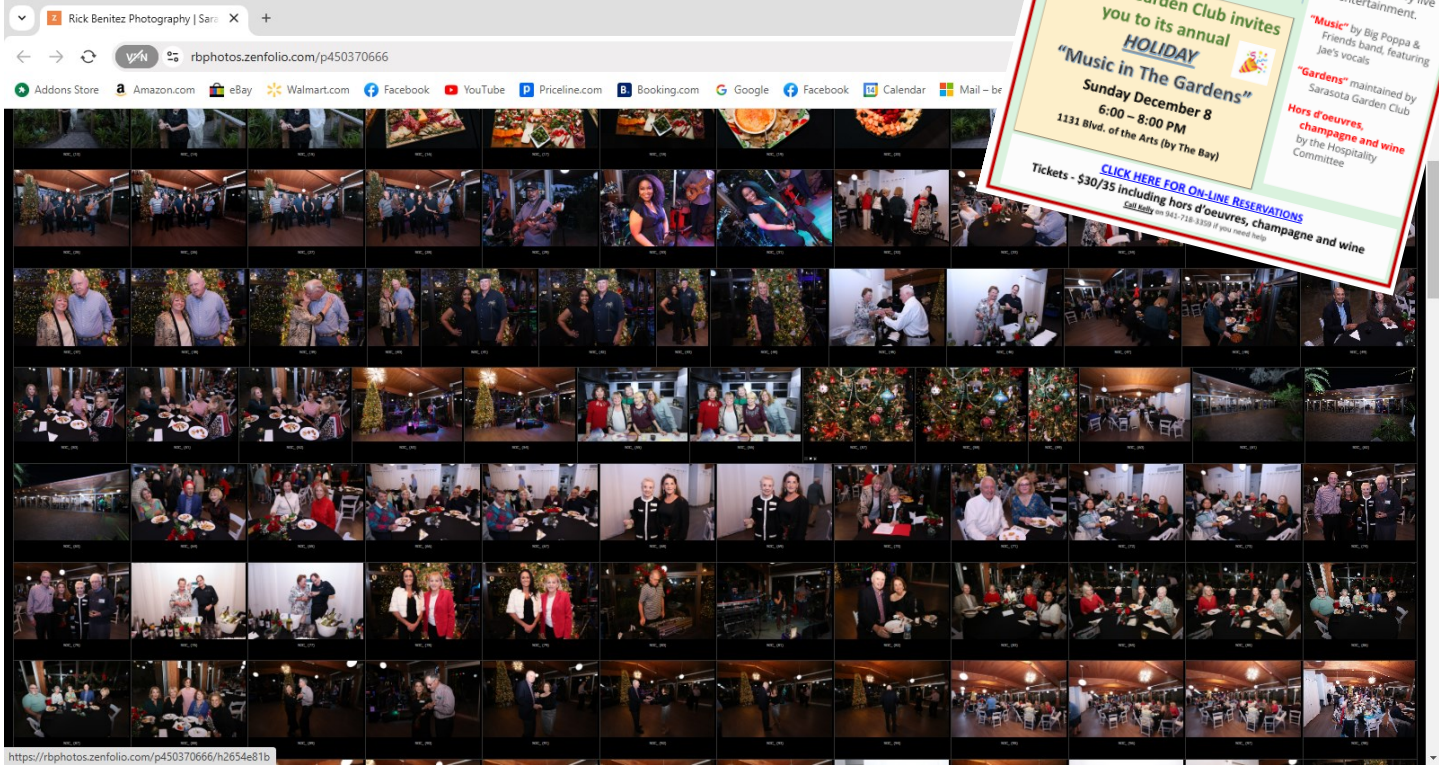
**And in the morning, a group of volunteers decorated the Club's Christmas Tree: thank you Christmas Elves**





# Review of December's "Holiday Music in the Gardens"

Thank you to everyone that made this event the great success that it was.



Special Thank You to  
Rick Benitez for capturing so  
many different aspects of the  
evening's event.

CLICK ON THIS LINK to see over  
300 photos!

[https://rbphotos.zenfolio.com/  
p450370666](https://rbphotos.zenfolio.com/p450370666)

Sign in with your name & email:

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



[https://www.facebook.com/rebecca.bond.7315/  
ideos/513454011122747/](https://www.facebook.com/rebecca.bond.7315/videos/513454011122747/)



# Thank you Sandy Christmas

## ANOTHER THANK YOU TO

Sandy Slaminko, who hosted an event at her home/garden to thank the Friday garden workers from Sarasota Garden and the Butterfly Clubs for all the work they do throughout the year. Sandy's Christmas Grotto is spectacular.



.... And here's CJ with Livy's new puppy!



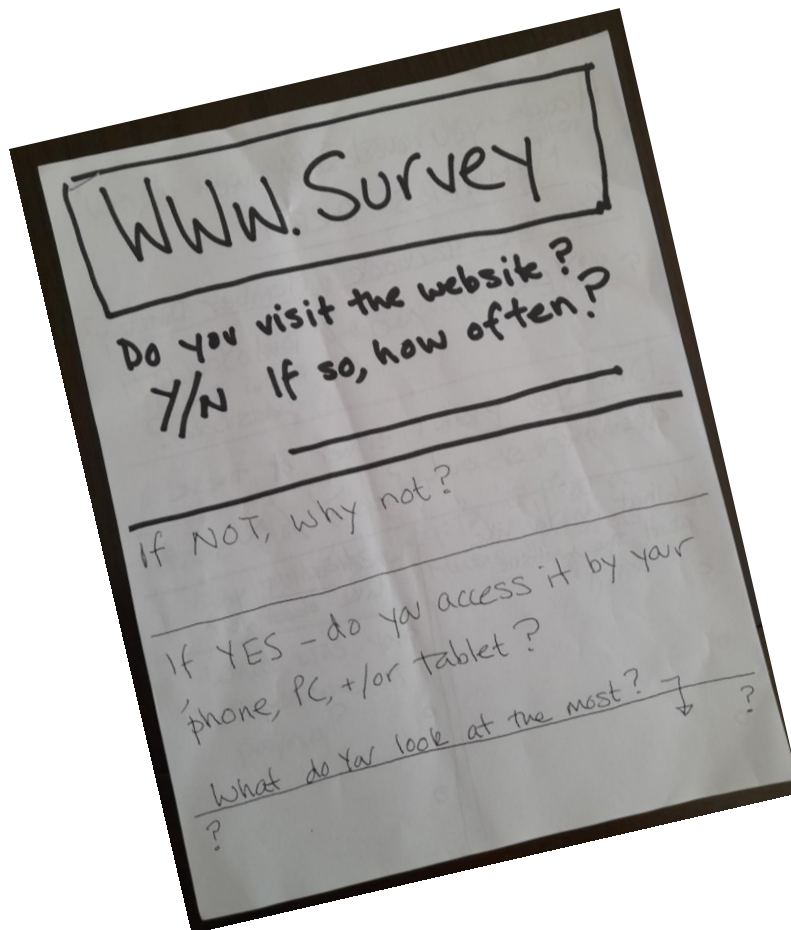
Help us improve our website

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

We are working towards improving our website and seek your input. Thank you to those of you who have already completed a survey (paper-based). For those that have not had the opportunity to collect and complete a survey at a meeting, we'd like to offer you the ability to provide your feedback by completing the survey on-line:

**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SURVEY – it's very important! THANK YOU IN ADVANCE**

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sv/1o7TKhA/S GCWebSurvey>





## SOS 2025 Show and Sale



For two days, over 20 vendors will fill the auditorium with an explosion of color and smells, exhibiting and selling thousands of blooming orchid plants, as well as presenting gorgeous displays. Accredited American Orchid Society judges will judge the orchids and displays presented by the region's orchid societies and commercial and individual growers. There will also be educational orchid culture classes, accessories, growing supplies for sale, raffles, and experts on-site to answer questions.

The Sarasota Orchid Society is a non-profit society dedicated to the education, appreciation, and enjoyment of many varieties of orchids. The beautiful, tropical climate enjoyed by people living in Sarasota is ideal for the cultivation of these spectacular plants.

Come on out to the show and sale to meet an amazing group of happy orchid lovers, learn how to grow these spectacular blooms, or find a plant of your own just waiting for a new home!

Show admission is \$5.



**IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL  
CHAPTER 115, SARASOTA**



***I.I. Meeting - MONDAY JANUARY 27, 2025***

***10:00 a.m. - Sarasota Garden Club***

**WWW.IISARASOTA.COM**

**I.I. General Meeting  
Monday January 27, 2025  
10:00 a.m.  
Sarasota Garden Club  
Sogetsu School:  
Arrangements in Tall Vases  
Demonstration, Workshop and  
Critique: George Schofield**



George will introduce us to different approaches of arranging. Tall containers can be challenging, and we feel you will benefit from this demonstration. Bring a tall vase, flowers and line material to create your arrangement

GUEST FEE: \$10

Let us know if you would like to join:

Email: [dorindawilkinson@gmail.com](mailto:dorindawilkinson@gmail.com) / Call or Text: 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)

**ALWAYS CHECK FOR INFORMATION ON THE WEBSITE**

**[WWW.SARASOTAGARDENCLUB.ORG](http://WWW.SARASOTAGARDENCLUB.ORG)**