

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF
THE FORT MYERS - LEE COUNTY GARDEN COUNCIL, INC.
2166 VIRGINIA AVENUE, FORT MYERS, FL 33901

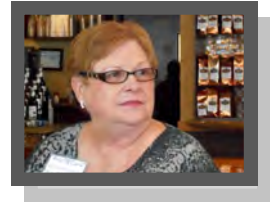
President's Message

My Dearest Colleagues,

I feel so blessed to have had such beautiful people to work with, who have covered for me in my times of need this past year. Everything that has been done this year is of an extraordinary nature. The completion of our lovely building, the production of our flower show "Celebrations" held in our new building, the Berne Davis Luncheon and the numerous other events that took place in this past year. I know you will show the same support and share the same enthusiasm with your new president Bernie as you did with me. I feel I have been blessed with your kindness and cooperation. You, as a council, are truly STELLAR!

Love,
Your President

Kay



For The Latest Info Check Our Website
WWW.FMLCGARDENCOUNCIL.COM

NEXT FMLCGC GENERAL MEETING MAY 12, 2017
Installation of New Officers & Year End Review

Garden Council Building & Berne Davis Botanical Garden

Open House Hours Tuesdays 10 - 1 pm

Each Club and Society takes a turn Hosting!

Hostesses Schedule
(random drawing)

Apr 25-Fiddlesticks GC
May 2- BS Tropical Fruit (2)
May 9-Alva Garden Club (2)
May 16-Periwinkle (2)
May 23- Kelly Greens (2)

A special Thank You to those clubs serving a 2nd day this season!

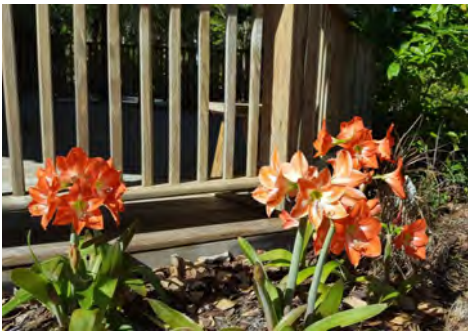
Questions? Call 332-4942!



It's that time of year again! Dues are Due !

Time to fill out the purple sheets and send in your Council Dues for 2017-2018. Lots of clubs are electing a new slate of Officers and we want to make sure all our information is up-to-date for the new Council Yearbook. Purple forms will be emailed to Club and Society Presidents next Tuesday. Please contact Caryn Kast if you do not received your yearbook information form. Council dues are \$30 per year for a club or plant society. Affiliate member fee is \$150 per year. All clubs & societies receive three copies of the annual yearbook and are emailed copies of the COURIER 5 times a year.

WHAT'S BLOOMING IN THE GARDEN



Garden Council Meeting Dates

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

(Officers, Directors, Committee Chairs)

- **Date: Friday May 5th, 2017**

MEETINGS FROM 9:30 am TO 11:30 am

Garden Council Headquarters

2166 Virginia Ave.
Fort Myers, FL

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

For All Society and Club Members

Bring a spouse or friend .

ALL Welcome

FRIDAY May 12, 2017

Hostess: Estero Island Garden Club

GENERAL MEETINGS

**MEETINGS ARE THE 2ND FRIDAY
OF EVERY OTHER MONTH
SEPTEMBER THROUGH MAY**

**Location is now at the
Garden Council Headquarters
2166 Virginia Ave.**

HOSPITALITY: 9:00 am to 9:30 am

MEETING: 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Calendar of Events

May 6, 2017– Avon Park **Plant Sale**. Saturday 9-2pm at Avon Park

May 16, 2017 National Garden Clubs Convention• Richmond, VA

June 4, 2017– American Hibiscus Society **Show & Sale**. Sunday 1-4pm. At Araba Temple, 2010 Hanson Street, FM

June 18-25, 2017- **Flowers in Paradise**. 12th Annual World Flower Show in Barbados!

Gulf Coast GC just enjoyed a fabulous April meeting at the SHANGRI-LA SPRINGS Historical Hotel in Bonita Springs. We highly recommend this venue for a trip and lunch. Tour the grounds and gardens with a knowledgeable guide followed by a delicious organic lunch. Soak up the history and beauty for a peaceful and energizing experience. Courteous attentive staff are very helpful.

Coming Monday, May 8 at Unity Church in Bonita Springs; our regular meeting featuring David Southhall and Suzy Valentine with “Wake Up and Learn about Bats and Moths...and the Dahoon Holly plant; followed by the program “Plant World of the Calusa” by Martha Kendall from Randell Research Center at 10:40. Hospitality will be from 9:00 to 9:30. Be our guest for only \$5.00. Check your yearbook for more information. All are welcome!

Lakes Park Enrichment Foundation News

On Sunday afternoon, April 2, the Lakes Park Enrichment Foundation hosted a Brick by Brick Picnic in the children’s Garden at Lakes Park . One hundred and 50 people enjoyed bluegrass music by Bear Hills Blues Band and delicious food provided by the three Denny’s Restaurants in Fort Myers. The afternoon was beautiful and the crowd enjoyed the beautiful Moses in the Bull Rushes, Zinnias, Sunflowers, Blue Porter Weed blooming in the gardens. Many walked along the paved path and read the book, “Plants Just Don’t Sit Still” that is posted along the garden sidewalks. The party transferred to the screened-in Lodge for picnic fare, more music, and a raffle and a live auction of vacation opportunities. More than 150 bricks were sold to honor family members and support the gardens. The first permanent exhibit will be an ABC herb garden with an herb for every letter of the alphabet. The swirly contours of the garden structure will allow children to touch and smell all of the plants.

Tara Molloy chaired the committee of board members and volunteers who created this wonderful afternoon of fun and fundraising. Susan Moore, a former board member, has donated time and treasures to the creation of this children’s Garden and was honored for her diligent work and leadership.

Proceeds from the event the sale of bricks will be used in the children’s Garden for construction and planning. Engraved bricks are available for \$50 each Call 239-533-7575 or go to www.LakesPark.org for more information. Honor a loved one, a child, a grandchild and leave a lasting legacy in this county that will enrich children’s lives.

Edison - Ford Winter Estates

2350 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers FL 33901

Mother's Day at Edison Ford

FREE admission for Moms on Mother's Day!

Monthly Garden Talks on 2nd Saturday 10:00 am

May 13 • Using Fertilizers & Amendments ... Soil is Everything!

\$10.00 Members- \$15 Non-Members

Web: EdisonFordWinterEstates.org/events

May "What to Plant"

Annuals/Bedding plants: Plants that can take summer heat include coleus, salvia, torenia, wax begonia, and ornamental pepper. See Annuals: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_annual_landscape_plants

Bulbs: Some lilies do better when their roots are crowded. Try planting Amazon, Aztec, and Clivia lilies in containers to increase blooming. See Bulbs for Florida: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_bulbous_flowers

Herbs: Plant heat-loving herbs, including basil, Mexican tarragon, ginger, cumin, summer savory, and rosemary. See Herbs: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_herbs

Vegetables: Sweet potatoes, boniato, hot peppers, and tropical "spinach" such as Sisso, Malabar, and New Zealand can be planted now. See Vegetable Gardening in Florida: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_vegetable_gardening

FLORIDA FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING PROGRAM

Learn the nine principles that guide Florida friendly landscaping in Lee County. Each principle is covered in class so you can apply what you learn to your own garden. Plant selection and placement, efficient irrigation, proper mulching and fertilizing to obtain a beautiful and healthy yard will be discussed.

For more information on FFL : email FYN@leegov.com or capeparks.com



FREE Guided Nature Walks May & June 2017

Saturdays 8-9:30 a.m.

Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve:	May 6	Trail Length 1.2 mile loop—Moderate
Hickory Swamp Preserve:	May 20	Trail Length 1.2 mile loop—Moderate
Pop Ash Creek Preserve:	June 3	Trail Length 1.3 mile loop—Moderate
Powell Creek Preserve:	June 17	Trail Length 1 mile loop—Moderate

All guided walks are free. No registration is required. Walks are led by trained volunteers and interpretive naturalists. Meeting location is the preserve parking area. Parking is free. Suggested items to bring include water, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen and camera. Please wear closed-toed shoes. For questions, call 239 204-1125.

www.Conservation2020.org

Yearbook Changes
Page 29, Bonita Springs Tropical Fruit Club
New President: Suzy Valentine

2017 Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Convention News!!

The **Earth Steward Award** was bestowed on *Bernadette Hamera*. She has been recognized for outstanding efforts in the stewardship of our natural resources in the field of gardening, landscape design, education, or legislation!

Bernadette Hamera was also welcomed as a **Pillar of Pride** member. This honor is to show special recognition for members of pride, purpose, and productivity in garden club work.

Laura Jibben was installed as our new
District IX Director!

Congratulations Ladies!



Your Board Members

President-

Kay Holloway 332-0294
 Email: HollowayKayH@aol.com

First Vice-President-

Bernadette Hamera 233-1166
 Email: bhamera@outlook.com

Second Vice-President-

Suzy Valentine 992-0113
 Email: suzy.valentine@att.net

Recording Secretary-

Charlene Anderson 978-828-6696
 Email: beadie1@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary-

Laura Jibben
 312 320-4566
 ljibbenfmb@embarqmail.com

Treasurer-

Mae Jean Nothstine 590-0217
 Email: maejeanoth@aol.com

Assistant Treasurer-

Darlene Tompkins 275-6234
 Email: darlenetompkins16@gmail.com

Advisors

Debbie Hughes
 239 233-1348
 dhughes@edisonfordwinterstates.org

Betty Sanders
 239 936-2898
 esan01127@aol.com

Mitzi Marckesano
 239 561-5513
 couponqwn@hotmail.com

2017 Berne Davis Awards Luncheon

A big thank you to Kheri Schaar and Periwinkle GC for making this event so successful.

Congratulations to our Winners!

Berne Davis Award goes to Jean Shields, Garden Club of Cape Coral.

Jean has been a member of Garden Club of Cape Coral for many years. She is very active in the Garden Council. She has served as the Hostess Chair or a number of years.

The Rainbow Award goes to **Monica Freed**, Poinciana Garden Club and **Anina Bachrach**, Gulf Coast Garden Club. Both of these ladies display energy, enthusiasm, inclusiveness and willingness to share information and expertise on a consistent basis .

Busy Bee Award goes to **Elizabeth Keeler**, Gardens of the World; and **Terry Pinck**, Garden Club of Lehigh and Royal Palm; who have filled leadership role voids without hesitation, embraced the opportunity to serve and achieved a positive result for the Garden Council.

Perennial Award goes to **Wanda Schmoyer**, American Hibiscus Society and **Kathy Woodlock**, Garden Club of Cape Coral; who work behind the scenes, are steady and sure, can always be counted on and who have displayed these traits over the years for Garden Council.

Ena McGrattan Award goes to David Hamera, for going above & beyond this past year in getting the newly renovated Council Building up and running. Thank you David!

