



Happenings



Letter from the President

HELLO LADIES!

WELCOME BACK TO THE GARDEN CLUB! I hope everyone had a relaxing and/or productive summer. I can't wait to hear all about everyone's trips and projects over the summer. We had an Acrylic Pour Art program in mid July planned by our Program Director, Chris O'Grady; see photos of the beautiful results on our website. I was sorry to have missed the Facebook seminar in July, planned by Judy Boehm, our Director of Communications and Publicity; that sounded like fun too (and very helpful, I heard). From first-hand experience I can tell you that the social at The River Reef and Grill restaurant in early August was such fun, and it was so nice to see everyone just visiting and having fun (and of course, eating).

This season there will be a lovely Flower Show and a Garden Tour, as well as the annual Wine & Cheese Plant Auction, Garden Therapy, and two study groups: Horticultural Study Group and the Floral Design Study Group. There is something for everyone, so please sign up for committees and/or study groups. Getting involved makes the club so much more fun. Try it; it won't hurt, I promise. Check the website calendar and our Facebook page for future events.

Our next big gathering is the potluck luncheon on September 19th. It will be yummy, as always, so make sure you are hungry!

See you soon,

Barbara Beury, President

Calendar Events

Sept. 6 10am – noon

Floral Design Study Group

Sept. 10 8:30am - 11am

Garden Angels

Sept. 19

10:00am Board meeting

11:30am Potluck luncheon

12:30pm Membership meeting

Sept. 24 10am-11am

Garden Therapy

Sept. 25 11:00am-2:00pm

Garden Tour Planning meeting

Garden Tour News from Sandy Plummer



On June 13th we held our Wrap-Up/Kickoff Meeting of the Garden Tour – what a great turn-out! Thank you to everyone who came and to those of you who have already volunteered for the **2019 Garden Tour**, scheduled for **Saturday, March 30th**.

We are off to a great start! With that being said, we still have openings on every committee. We need many more people for the Hospitality Committee and at least 30 hostesses to sit in shifts at the gardens. If you cannot attend the day of the Garden Tour, we have opportunities to volunteer ahead of time and there are lots of behind-the-scenes things to do.

We are currently viewing potential gardens and, while we have several already, we are always open to considering more. If you know anyone who has a pretty residential garden with interesting features please let me know the address.

Treasurer's Report

From Caryl Ponder, Treasurer

Financial Statement 8/16/18

Operating Account	\$ 3,960.27
Rental Account	\$16,748.44
Money Market	\$18,391.86
Eaton Fund	<u>\$12,476.70</u>
Total	\$51,577.27

Our next general meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 25th at 11am at the Clubhouse**. If you cannot attend but would like more information on what you can do, please contact Sandy Plummer at 603-502-3537.

Website: manateerivergardenclub.com

Location: 3120 First Avenue West, Bradenton, FL 34205-3448 **Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 14662, Bradenton, FL 34280-4662 **Clubhouse Phone:** 941-746-8473

Members of: National Garden Clubs, Inc., Deep South Region and Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., District VIII

Find us on social media by typing the underlined in the search area: **Facebook:** [Manatee River Garden Club Inc.](https://www.facebook.com/ManateeRiverGardenClubInc) and [MRGC Garden Weddings](https://www.facebook.com/MRGC.Garden.Weddings).

Twitter: [Manatee Garden Club](https://twitter.com/ManateeGardenClub), and **Instagram:** [manateerivergardenclub](https://www.instagram.com/manateerivergardenclub).

Sunshine from Judy Zampello



Have you heard about a member who has had a recent illness, hospitalization or loss of a family member? Maybe this person could use a dose of sunshine. Contact Judy Zampello at 792-3333 or judyzampello@hotmail.com to have a card sent.

Holiday Flower Show from Rita Mixer

Hope you all had a wonderful, relaxing and healthy summer!

As everyone probably knows by now, "All You Need is Love" is the theme of our upcoming Holiday Flower Show on February 8th and 9th, 2019. We think it is a very appropriate theme since it's so close to Valentine's Day. We will be exploring many different kinds of "LOVE" in the show.



The Schedule, which is the law of the FS, is on our website and ready for all to start thinking about what horticulture they will enter. Don't forget - there is a time frame that you must have the specimen in your possession. Check the Horticulture Rules for that information. Also, please read over the Design segment and make a commitment to enter a design in the FS. We will be having classes of the designs which will be featured in the FS at the Floral Design Study Group meetings; our first meeting is September 6. All others will be held the first Thursday of the month. This is great opportunity to learn these Designs. All levels of Designers are welcomed and encouraged, so please come!

This has been quite the process for me personally so far, and the work of putting on a FS has just begun, so please get involved. This is OUR Club and OUR Show and I need everyone's help and assistance. MRGC always has the best shows, and I would like nothing better than to continue that tradition!

The MRGC Photo Release Form is now on our web site under "MEMBERS". If you haven't completed this form for yourself, please download and give/send to Judy Boehm. Or you can download the form anytime in order to get permission to take and use photos of event speakers.



September

Peggy Simone	9 -1
Shanta Tallapragada	9 -1
Sarah Labrecque	9 -2
Linda Fountain	9 -11
Linda Suereth	9 -11
Mary Reichert	9 -12
Julianna Ackles	9 -17
Barbara Johnson	9 -18
Su Pontius	9 -20
Tamara Cornwell	9 -23
Hilary Boyle	9 -25
Sandie Smith	9 -26

Grants and Scholarships from Sandra Plummer

In addition to the **Elizabeth M. Eaton Trust Fund** grants reported last May, the Grants & Scholarships Committee awarded an additional \$1,926.70 to the Manatee River Garden Club for benches. The Harvest United Methodist Church returned their \$500.00 award for landscape beautification of community outreach facilities at the Bayshore Community Garden & Farm since the project was not going to be completed as projected.

The Grants & Scholarships Committee expects to have approximately \$10,000.00 from The Elizabeth M. Eaton Trust Fund to work with this year. These monies are to be used for community beautification projects in and around public areas in Manatee County, and funds are to be used solely for Section 501c3 purposes. Applications are available on our website.

The 2017-2018 recipients of our **MRGC Scholarship Awards** were Meagan Gigliotti and Meredith Platt. We wish them well in their studies and will stay in touch with them to see how they're doing. MRGC annually awards \$1,000.00 to several students who wish to pursue higher education goals in keeping with our mission, maintain a B average, and who are able to keep in touch with MRGC. Applications are available on our website.

Wekiva Youth Camp is a residential nature camp for 3rd through 8th grade youngsters sponsored by the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., and **SEEK** is FFGC's annual environmental conference for students entering grades 10 - 12. MRGC provides for two campers to attend Wekiva Youth Camp and one student to attend the SEEK conference. Registration for Wekiva begins January 1st and usually fills very quickly. SEEK registration also opens January 1st. If you know of any student who would benefit from either of these programs, please see any Grants & Scholarships Committee member.

The Grants & Scholarships Committee invites any member who is interested in the committee activities to attend any of our meetings, which are noted on the website's club calendar. Meetings are held at the Clubhouse.



Horticultural Study Group from Sharron Jones

MRGC is forming a Horticulture Study Group to increase members' knowledge and enjoyment of growing and using plants in your landscape and home. Programs will be educational and give more in-depth knowledge of various topics while we have fun sharing our common interest in plants.

We have planned five sessions for the 2018-2019 club year. We will have three sessions with guest speakers, one session will be a "Make it and Take it" and one session will be a field trip.

The fee for each session will be \$10 or all four sessions for \$30. There is no charge for the field trip. The sessions will be held at the club on the following days: October 25, November 29, January 24, February 28 and April 25. We will meet at 9:30am for coffee, and the program will run from 10:00am until 12:00 noon.

THERE WILL BE A SIGN-UP SHEET AND FEE COLLECTION at our September 19th meeting.

We are looking forward to learning and growing with you!



Floral Design Study from Rita Mixer

We are about to start another wonderful, creative and fun year in our Floral Design Study Group. This study group is for ALL members of MRGC and guests who would like to learn more about floral design. The only way to really learn this art form, as with any other art form, is hands on. We are very fortunate to have so many talented floral designers in our own club who love to share their knowledge, so PLEASE take advantage of this monthly study group. It's a very relaxed and fun atmosphere – no pressure or judgement of your work – only constructive critiquing.

The objectives of this group are to:

- * Create floral designs with flowers and plant material – INDIVIDUALS ARE TO BRING ALL MATERIALS TO COMPLETE THE WORKSHOP DESIGN FOR THAT MONTH.
- * Have social stimulation.
- * Educate through the teachings of floral design.
- * Prepare and enter designs in flower shows, workshops and community functions.
- * Relax and have fun at least one day each month.

The meetings are open to all members and their guests. Meetings will be held the first Thursday of the month from 10am-12pm as explained below:

10am-11am—New monthly design class with instructor
11am-12pm—Hands on workshop **Bring all materials necessary to complete the previous month's featured design type.**

The upcoming schedule is outlined below.

SEPTEMBER 6, 2018

10am-11am: Duo Design Class & the Principle of Balance; Instructor: Crystal Herold
11am-12pm: Hands on workshop of Designer's Choice – any design you would like to compose

OCTOBER 4, 2018

10am-11am: Illuminary Design Class & the Principle of Color; Instructor: Barbara Beury
11am-12pm: Hands on workshop – any size Duo Design

Please join us as we have fun while we learn.



Grandma's Flower and Vegetable Garden by Barbara Beury

Programs from Chris O'Grady

There are no programs scheduled for September. The speaker for October will be Kate Brenner, owner of Paradise Found Nursery in Bradenton. Her topic is "Madagascar Miniature Euphorbia and Succulents". She specializes in rare succulents from all over the world and will bring plants for sale to our meeting. See photos of our fun Acrylic Pour workshop and lunch at River Reef and Grill on our website in the MEMBERS section.

Sarasota Succulent Society Plant Sale



Garden club member Susan Palmieri wants us to know about a plant sale at the Sarasota Succulent Society on Labor Day, Monday, September 3rd from 9 am - 1pm. At 11am they have an educational program by guest speaker Terri Bates from Bates Sons & Daughters Caladium growers, Lake Placid.

The Society's past president has donated approximately 100 gardening books available for sale that day. All are practically new and very reasonably priced. Rob Branch's garden next door will be holding a plant sale that day as well, and he will have vendors.

The Society is located at 1310 38th Street and Myrtle intersection in Sarasota. You can read more about them and the plant sale at <https://sarasotasucculentsociety.org/pages/salesdetails.php>

Garden Therapy from Pat Danahy



Welcome back all and greetings to new members! Where did the summer go? Time to get back in touch with garden club friends and get involved.

Garden Therapy is a program that MRGC has been doing almost forever (at least 15 years). It entails working with seniors attending adult day care at the Meals on Wheels Plus location at 10920 E. State Road 70 in Lakewood Ranch. It is held on the 4th Monday of each month of our season except December at 10:00am.

We, and I say "we" because it takes more than one or two members, plan an activity somehow related to garden things. Sometimes it is making a floral design, sometimes it is planting seeds, sometimes it is repotting plants, sometimes it is working in their yard to spiff it up, sometimes it is coloring and pasting things together. The clients love to make stuff they can take home. These folks, both women and men, are there just for the day and all return to someplace called home.

When I first got involved with this program, the men would separate themselves from the ladies. Projects were 'girlie' things. These last few years the men have even more fun and a feeling of accomplishment when they do a floral design or paint a garden rock.

Garden Therapy provides such a wonderful feeling of giving back. We garden club members get more than we give every day we do something with these wonderful folks. And the smiles on their faces and laughter during projects show how much they appreciate us being there. Some days we even go for lunch and icecream afterwards.

Please consider adding this to your list of Garden Club 'must do's'. Give it a try, give back to our community for a short time each month. You will receive more than you give, I guarantee it!

Any questions, do not hesitate to contact me, Pat Danahy at danahy2010@gmail.com or 941-741-8487.

Volunteer Hours



From Betsy Lieberman

Just a reminder to keep track of your volunteer hours each month. Time in meetings, Garden Angel time and volunteering at MRGC events qualify. I will be passing around a log book at the meeting each month, or contact me at BLPOOOH@aol.com in order to record your hours. You don't have to specify how the hours were spent - just write the total hours. This is a "Must-Do" for our 501c3 status.



Pat Danahy & Jo-Anne Schneider guiding Day Care clients at Garden Therapy

Flowers always make people better, happier and more helpful;
They are sunshine, food and medicine for the soul.



Luther Burbank

Hospitality Notes from Harriatt (Skeeter) Smith

Hello and welcome to another wonderful year of our Garden Club! I am Harriatt Smith (Skeeter), and I handle Hospitality for our club for this next season. I assign the dates for each of you to work one of the luncheons offered monthly. Please see the email you were sent on August 9th or go to our website under MEMBERS for your assigned month ([click here](#)). When you are assigned a month, you are asked to work for approximately 4 hours on the 3rd Wednesday of the month plus the day before for about 2 hours to set up. Your group of ladies will decide what the menu is and either make it or buy it premade; this will also include dessert. It is up to you. Plates, napkins, silverware, glasses, and cups are provided. Coffee, tea, cream, butter and sugar are also provided. If you want to use paper plates, let me know. You will also need to do a simple decoration on each table and another on the mantle. You may use any theme you choose. Also clean-up is part of the assignment. If you have a problem (and I hope you don't) working the date assigned, let me know so I can reassign you. When I worked my first luncheon almost 5 years ago, I met ladies who are now dear friends! And you will too!

I will be on hand to help you for your luncheon if needed. Once you see your name on the list, be ready to get together before the date to make a plan for the lunch you will serve (usually around the 1st or 2nd of the assigned month). And ladies, it is OK to keep it simple!

Luncheon RSVPs come to me, and I will let you know the weekend before your assigned luncheon the number of people we are scheduled to have. The lunch still costs \$7.00 per person. You will be reimbursed for the luncheon but not for decorations. Keep your receipts and attach them to a check request form (find on our website under MEMBERS). Then give/mail to our Treasurer, who will issue you a check for your cost. But please remember to keep the cost as low as possible - no lobster or filets!

Our first luncheon is a potluck on September 19th. No cost, just everyone brings a favorite dish to share. Desserts will be by the Hospitality Committee. **We need to plan for seating and desserts, so please RSVP by September 14th using one of these ways:**

**Respond on our [website \(click here\)](#),
Call Skeeter at 941 722 7227, or
Email Skeeter at sjsfsu@hotmail.com**

I hope you have a great year and I am looking forward to seeing everyone!



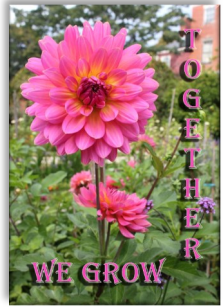


Garden Angels from Linda Lestock

September is just around the corner and it is time to volunteer in the garden club landscape. This year we will continue to meet on the second Monday of each month, with September 10 at 8:30am as our date this month. Bring your own tools, a bucket, water for hydration and join this garden-glove group. I look forward to seeing you there. Questions, please contact me at 941-580-6518 or lindatajer@yahoo.com

Membership from Edie Anderson

Welcome back everyone to a new year that will surely bring new friendships, lots of fun activities and informative programs. Our **Membership Renewal Form** is available on our website in the MEMBERS section ([click here](#)). There will be a new membership brochure available at our September meeting. Plans are under way for a new member orientation meeting in January 2019. If you would like to purchase a name badge, please see me. The cost is \$10.



Upcoming Educational Activities Right Here in our Back Yard from Judy Boehm

Gardening School Sponsored by National Garden Clubs

The NGC Gardening Courses are designed to provide educational information to those especially interested in gardening, horticulture and related subjects. The school consists of a series of 4 courses, followed by a general examination. Courses cover all aspects of growing, from understanding soil structure to pruning techniques, plant identification, etc. The reading for this course is the NGC subscription publication *The National Gardener* magazine.

The courses are intended primarily for garden club members, but they are also open to the general public, requiring only the payment of a nominal fee. Garden club members completing the series of 4 courses are awarded the designation of NGC Gardening Consultant. For more information on the Gardening School, see the National Garden Clubs, Inc. website: <http://gardenclub.org/schools/gardening-study.aspx>.

Garden School Course I – January 28-29

Garden School Course II – January 30-31

(Courses III & IV will be offered in April)

Fee: \$65 for each course, plus \$8 for exam; may take courses separately

Location: The River Club, 6600 River Club Blvd, Bradenton, FL 34202 (Lakewood Ranch area)

Sponsored by: Lakewood Ranch Garden Club

Registration deadline: January 7, 2019

Mail registration form and check to: Phyllis Weber, 6610 Meandering Way, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202. The form can be found on the Lakewood Ranch Garden Club website, under the heading Educational Classes & Programs: <http://www.lakewoodranchgov.org/LWRcontent/documents/EducationSchoolsApril2018.pdf>

Classes Sponsored by Manatee County Agriculture and Extension Service

Sharpen Your Garden Tools

Date/Time: Saturday, September 22 from 9-11am

Location: Manatee County Extension Office

Instructor: John Dawson, Master Gardner

Admission Fee: \$5

Florida-Friendly Landscaping – The 9 Principles

Date/Time: Saturday, September 22 from 9:30-11am

Location: Manatee County Extension Office

Admission Fee: \$5

Design Your Landscape to Your Site Conditions

Date/Time: Tuesday, September 25 from 10am-noon

Location: Manatee County Extension Office

Admission Fee: No charge

Basic Irrigation System Operation and Maintenance

Date/Time: Thursday, September 27 from 10am-noon

Location: Manatee County Extension Office

Instructor: John Don Adkins, Irrigation Program Assistant

Admission Fee: No charge

For a list of classes sponsored by Manatee County Agriculture and Extension Service go to: https://www.myanatee.org/departments/parks_natural_resources/agriculture_extension_service/

Classes Sponsored by Plant Place "Better Than Great University" Palms for Central/South Florida

Date/Time: Saturday, September 8 at 10am

Location: Plant Place, 6611 14th Street West, Bradenton

Admission Fee: No charge

Health Advantages of a Plant-Based Diet

Date/Time: Saturday, September 15 at 10am

Location: Plant Place, 6611 14th Street West, Bradenton

Admission Fee: No charge

Stop Killing Your House Plants

Date/Time: Saturday, September 22 at 10am

Location: Plant Place, 6611 14th Street West, Bradenton

Admission Fee: \$10

More class information and registration at www.PlantPlace.com, or call 941-753-6611.

Thank You, Sponsors!

From Dee Ferreira, Fundraising Director

Please thank our 2018-2019 corporate sponsors by supporting them whenever possible



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