



THE HIBISCUS LEAFLET

Coral Gables Garden Club, Coral Gables, Florida ~ Celebrating our 95th Year

April 2020

Walk In Your Beautiful Garden...with Gratitude & A Smile

Dear Ladies of the Garden Club,

As I write this, I marvel at how life has changed in less than three weeks! The corona virus, a tiny scourge, has stopped a great nation in its tracks and put our lives “on hold” until it passes. I am so proud of our leaders, from national down to local, who have taken this seriously and provided the assistance and the warnings to make sure lives are saved. Ultimately, it comes down to our own efforts to protect ourselves that will help contain the spread. Remember that we are here for each other, so don’t hesitate to ask for help if you need it. Be calm, be resolute, and be safe.

And try to enjoy this new homebound life! Soon enough, this crisis will pass and we will pick up almost where we left off. We may learn something about ourselves if we take this time to appreciate the quiet that has descended on us. Enjoy the satisfaction that comes with accomplishing things around the house. Stay in touch with family and friends. Walk in your garden or your neighborhood and notice that spring has arrived. Be careful, but be optimistic!

I was sent a lovely post that has “gone viral” (Oh my, I just noticed how apropos this term is!) on Facebook. I hope it gives you food for thought

...

(The Barnacle State Park Board members were reflecting about Commodore Munroe and family experiences during the 1918 flu epidemic. Ms. O’Meara wrote this very recently.)

And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still.

And listened more deeply.

Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently. And the people healed.

And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal. And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed.

~ Kitty O’Meara

Take care, be well, stay safe. We will see each other soon.

With love from the garden,
Judy Mangasarian



Coral Gables Garden Club, Inc. is a proud member of the National Garden Clubs, Inc; and the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.

Members can show off their gardens... while staying home



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Photos 1- 4: Betsy Tilghman submitted these photos. "I have lost the identifying tag to the fragrant pink Cattleya pictured here. My guess is that I bought it two or three years ago on one of my Homestead outings with Susan Rodriguez. We were buying for our club plant sales, but always couldn't resist buying some special ones for ourselves, or often buying the plants that didn't sell at the sales. The two Dendrobiums have very different histories. The magenta Dendrobium anosmum superbum (#4) growing on the oak tree in my yard, is a child of the Dendrobiums my mother used to grow in Palm Beach. This is the orchid I have shared many times over the years with so many of you. I hope yours are doing well too! The light purple dendrobium (#3 Dendrobium anosmum v semi-album) is a newcomer to me. I bought it at RF orchids this year before it was budding, and it has been thrilling to watch it bloom - I adore the fragile color and sweet fragrance. And lastly, this croton in my garden (#2) is one of my favorites. I have gradually added many crotons over the years, but this original beauty I am always drawn to."

Photos 5: From Sherry Jordan.

We no longer have a garden and when we did, this was one of my favorite ornamental plants. I took this photo in member Bonnie Blair's front yard. "Purple Persian Shield" is the more common name. The Latin name is "strobilanthes dyerianus." It grows easily from seeds or cuttings; thrives in heat and humidity, and may exceed 3ft in height; also makes an excellent houseplant; zone 8-11 perennial; has blue flower stalks.



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Photo 6: Submitted by Derita Downey. She labeled it "her first Gardenia of the Season." It looks perfect in her Bunny container. What a lovely reminder of past Spring days.



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Photo 7: Presently in the kitchen of Suzuyo Fox, the *Plectranthus 'Mona Lavender'* was bought at the Coral Pines Garden Club Plant Auction. It has shiny, dark-green leaves with purple undersides, with six inch flower spikes with lavender flowers that resemble tubular orchid blooms. You can put it outside in partial shade. It grows to 2' tall and can be used in a pot as well.

Photo 8: From Judy Mangasarian, *The Pink Shower Tree*. In full bloom this time of year all over Coral Gables. (This one is at the corner of Bird Road and Alhambra Circle.) *Cassia bakeriana* is one of the most successful flowering tree introductions to southern Florida in the past 15 years has been *Cassia bakeriana*, native to Thailand and Burma (Myanmar), the Pink Shower Tree blooms profusely in the spring, producing flowers that progress from pink to lighter pink to white. The flowers attract butterflies and bees. Newly-emerging leaves are velvety. This fast-growing species matures in the 20-30 ft. range, with a nearly equal spread.

C. bakeriana is not only beautiful, but also undemanding. A sunny exposure and good drainage are its only significant requirements. After the tree becomes established on its site, it will exhibit some drought tolerance. The flexible branches of this species are capable of resisting breakup in heavy winds. It also appears not to be susceptible to the stem-end borers that affect some other *Cassia* species.



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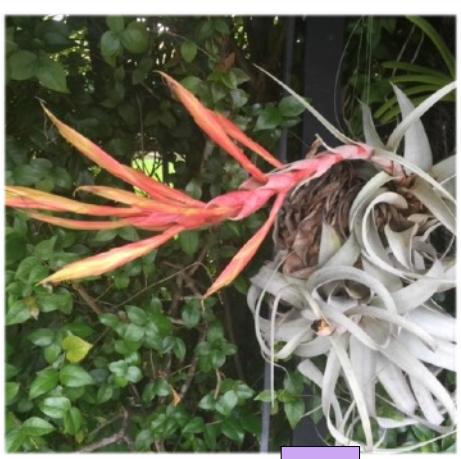


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Photos 9 & 10: Beth Werner's garden is enjoying the Florida Spring weather. The heliconias are starting to come out, and the poinsettias are still beautiful, a little late for Christmas, but right on time for spring.



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14

The most beautiful gift of nature is that it gives one pleasure to look around and try to comprehend what we see.

~ Albert Einstein

~ Submitted by Betsy Tilghman



15

Photos 11-13: Lovingly sent by Sharon Trbovich. *Rhynchostylis gigantes "Apricot Glow"* "I love this one. Water once a week, morning sun, feed once a month. (Photo 12) air plant - *xerographica*. Kept in same spot for 5 years. Watered once weekly. (Photo 13) Red Diamond. "I purchased this from last years plant sale (2019) Home Tour. This year I had 15 buds and all bloomed! (Blc - *Brassolaeliocattleya*) kept in heavy dappled shade/sun, water/fed once weekly."

Photos 14: Gail Mase sent us this photo and is asking Garden Club members to help with identifying her gorgeous plant. "We bought the small tree at the tropical flowering tree society about 10 years ago, they said it was very rare. I have forgotten the name but part of the name was odorta. It blooms in the fall and now. The blooms are spectacular."

Photo 15: Marlin Ebbert proudly rounded up her beautiful orchids so that we could have them in the newsletter. We can see why she is so proud of them. Beautiful!



DESIGNING DIVAS: THANK YOU.

A big thank you to all the talented ladies who created the monthly floral arrangements for us to enjoy during our monthly meeting this past year. Listed below are the names of these talented designers and the month they designed. Sadly due to the deadly virus that we have been struck down with not only in our community but all over the world, our last two meetings had to be cancelled but both ladies were ready and willing even if they had been called at the last minute.

The next time you see them please thank them again for making our day a little brighter. Hopefully they and maybe some new "designers" will agree to "fill in" or to design for the Buffet Table again next year if one of the ladies can't "trade months" or unable to design when her month comes up.

In 2019: Derita Downey, September; Suzuyo Fox, October; Donna Box, November; Sharon Trbovich, December. In 2020: Rosita Perez, January; Sandy Milledge, February; Lucy Reinhardt, March; Kitty Winkler, April.

Thank you ladies. You gave us months of joy.

~ Evelyn Budde, Chairman

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS 2020-2021

Thanks to the flexibility and resilience of our members, the "voice vote" to elect Officers and Directors by e-mail and telephone instead of at a membership meeting was a success. Under normal circumstances, the slate would have been reviewed at the March general meeting, and the election would have been by show of hands at the meeting. However, in these extraordinary times, that wasn't possible. Parliamentarian, Charlotte Henderson, helped us come up with an alternate way to vote, and it worked just fine. Congratulations to the incoming officers and directors.

Officers & Directors

President: Judy Mangasarian

First Vice President: Susan Rodriguez

Second Vice President: Teresa Zohn

Recording Secretary: Denise West

Corresponding Secretary: Lucy Reinhardt

Financial Secretary: France Ingraham

Treasurer: Sandy Milledge

Auditor: Nancy Leslie

Directors: Donna Box, Charlotte Henderson, Nita Norman, Rosita Perez, Fran Reid, Betsy Tilghman, Sharon Trbovich

WE ASKED PAST PRESIDENT JANA WHITE WHAT KEEPS HER BUSY SINCE LEAVING MIAMI

Hal and I moved to Tallahassee 3 1/2 years ago - how time flies! Our townhouse is located in a very pleasant area- close to grocery, restaurants, variety of many shops And great neighbors. I have joined a singing group. We rehearse weekly and sing for shut-ins, Alzheimer groups and club groups. Also I belong to a Garden Circle. They are called "circles " here- not "clubs". The city of Tallahassee has 595 women members in garden circles. There are 23 different Circles and all are named for a flower or plant. My circle has 20 members and is named the Iris Circle- Involved in many projects and events. I've also joined the Newcomers Club which meets monthly- Probably 80 women involved- a great way to meet people! Speaking of people, I've also been fortunate to meet women in the neighborhood- Six of us meet monthly for dinner at one's home. One of my neighbors is someone I knew in Miami! There are innumerable people here who used to live in Miami. Hal and I are attending church and volunteer with the children One of the reasons we moved was to be close to children and grandchildren. Sadly, they have moved to Charlotte. Such is life! I have many fond memories of my years in Miami and the many friends and fun times with the Coral Gables Garden Club. Best wishes to all!



Jana at her new Garden Club General Meeting with the arrangement she did for the table.

Members continue to work and grow...stay planted...stay safe



The Garden Therapy committee, headed by Chairman, Victoria Cabeza met at the Riviera Health Resort on March 4 to make arrangements with the residents. This has become a favorite program for many members. France Ingraham, Charlotte Henderson, Betsy Tilghman, Carmen Cason, Joan Wright, Maria More, Victoria Cabeza, Mercy Arrieta, and Denise West participated on March 4.

Rhonda Anderson has sent some lovely photos of our Heritage Garden at the Merrick House and a picture of her mangrove pups. These should give you all a boost, knowing that nature hasn't missed a beat during this crisis. She also has a request. She still needs 100 or so pots, so if you have any, please let her know.

Please print these forms. Fill it out and mail it in with your dues check. If you are unable to print it, send a note with your check telling us the information requested. We will eblast the form again in about a week. We will also be snail mailing a form to every member, but if you are not receiving mail because you are not at your home, this Leaflet and the subsequent email should be enough to remind you to send us your information and dues. We hope this covers all the various situations in which you find yourselves. Thank you so much for taking the time to do this. We appreciate it!

CORAL GABLES GARDEN CLUB

DUES NOTICE, CONTACT INFO AND VOLUNTEER QUESTIONNAIRE

Membership dues for Regular members are **\$100** and include one ticket to our major annual fundraiser. Non-Resident member dues do not include one ticket to our major fundraiser and are **\$50.00**. Dues are due on or before **April 15, 2020**.

Dues are **DELINQUENT ON MAY 15th**.

- Membership shall be forfeited by June 1st, if dues remain unpaid.
- Members who have forfeited their membership for non-payment of dues must re-apply for membership, and upon acceptance shall pay the initiation fee of \$50.00 dollars.

YOUR NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YEARBOOK

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: home _____

cell _____ Email: (just one, please) _____

Dues: \$100 for Regular members, \$50 for Non-resident members _____

- Kindly consider a gift made in gratitude, in honor of an accomplishment or milestone, or in memoriam. (And fill out enclosed form) _____
- Kindly consider a contribution to our Scholarship Fund: _____

Total remitted: _____

Mail check and questionnaire to our Financial Secretary: France Ingraham,

1240 Ferdinand Street, Coral Gables, FL 33134.

Please return this form to ensure that the Yearbook Chairman has heard from you regarding your member information. Otherwise she will have to contact you – so please make it easy on her! And please complete the questionnaire on the reverse side. Thanks!



CORAL GABLES GARDEN CLUB QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Have you served as a Chairperson or an Officer? _____
2. Would you be willing to serve as a Committee Chairperson? _____
3. Would you be willing to serve as an Officer? _____
4. Do you have any special knowledge/talents that would benefit the Garden Club? _____
5. If you are a Board Member or Committee Chairperson, would you be willing to host a Board Meeting? _____
6. Do the types of programs presented to the members meet your interest? _____
7. If not, what would you like to see? _____

Horticulture _____ Civic _____ Crafts _____ Flower Arranging _____

Conservation _____ Garden Project _____ Flower Shows _____

Other _____

8. Has the Garden Club met your expectations for membership? _____

9. Do you belong to another Garden Club or clubs? Yes _____ No _____

10. If so which one (s)? _____

11. Is Coral Gables Garden Club your primary club? Yes _____ No _____



A Gift to the Commemorative Fund

A donation to the Coral Gables Garden Club is a special way to honor or remember a member or non-member. Gifts may be made in gratitude, in honor of an accomplishment or milestone, or in memoriam. An acknowledgment letter will be sent to the honoree or their family. Gifts to this fund will be used to enhance Club programs, Arbor Day and other Club activities.

Please use this form to give a Commemorative Gift, now or in the future.

Thank you for thinking of the Coral Gables Garden Club as a way to remember someone dear to you.

Donation amount: _____

Please make check out to the Coral Gables Garden Club and mail to our Financial Secretary,
France Ingraham, 1240 Ferdinand Ave, Coral Gables FL 33134

In honor of/in memory of (please indicate one):

Name of person being honored or remembered:

Address of person or family:

Your Name

Your Address

Additional
Comments _____

Thank you!