



THE HIBISCUS LEAFLET

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

October 2020

Even with masks on, our smiles are in place...let's go!

Our club year began on Monday, September 28th, with a successful Zoom meeting attended by over forty of you! I am happy and proud that so many of you were willing to make the best of our difficult situation and able to join in. Georgia Tasker's presentation of her travels to see botanic gardens in far corners of the world was delightful and our business meeting was full of updates, but short and sweet. If you missed Georgia's talk, it will be posted soon on our website for you to enjoy.

Speaking of our website, it has just "gone live"! Someone once said: "A goal without a plan is just a wish", and we decided back in the spring to plan and work to make it happen. Led by the amazing Susan Rodriguez, who gave the website constant care and attention, the website committee of Betsy Tilghman, Cari Gardner, Julie Connor and myself worked all summer with Karl Fitzgerald of DoubleShot Web designers, to put together as much engaging information and as many beautiful photographs as possible. I hope you'll all take the time to explore every part of it.



Susan also spearheaded our first-ever virtual fundraiser, Project Canopy, to be launched along with the website and dedicated to our long-time member, Sallye Jude, in recognition of her lifelong passion in promoting trees. This project aims to increase the Urban Forest in Coral Gables by planting three shade or flowering trees in each of five Public Schools within the City. Go on the website to read more about it and even support it by making a donation online.

Yesterday, the Red Mangrove Gang - Grace Carricarte and me, ably led by Rhonda Anderson - re-potted 75 pups in the rain and had a glorious time! It's so much fun to get to know each other better while accomplishing something worthwhile. Rhonda's more than 500 pups will be picked up in November by an organization called MANG - check them out online - and transported to a nursery for acclimatization to salt water before planting somewhere in Florida. We'll be following their journey!

It feels good to be starting up again, even if only to see your dear faces in little squares at the Zoom meeting. Stay in touch with us! The Petal Pushers, Sharon Trbovich, Lucy Reinhardt, and Ruth Markham, will be recording their most recent workshop, Kokedama, and posting it on the website for you to enjoy. The meetings will continue to be on Zoom until January, when a decision will be made about the wisdom of meeting in person. I know our club thrives when we can see each other without masks hiding our smiles and I look forward to that time as much as you do, so please know we'll be hoping for that to happen as soon as possible.

With love from my (overgrown) garden,

~ Judy Mangasarian, President



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

A Poem for these times:

This lovely poem was read by our Chaplain, Cathy Zuckerman at the September Zoom Meeting. What welcome words!

I've traveled paths you've yet to walk
Learned lessons old and new
And now this wisdom of my life
I'm blessed to share with you.

Let kindness spread like sunshine
Embrace those who are sad
Respect their dignity, give them joy
And Leave them feeling glad

Forgive those who might hurt you
And though you have your pride
Listen closely to their viewpoint
Try to see the other side

Walk softly when you're angry
Try not to take offense
Invoke your sense of humor
Laughter's power is immense.

Express what you are feeling
Your beliefs you should uphold
Don't shy away from what is right
Be courageous and be bold

Keep hope right in our pocket
It will guide you day by day
Take it out when it is needed
When it's near, you'll find a way

Congratulations Sallye Jude!

The members of the Coral Gables Garden Club voted unanimously to dedicate "Project Canopy" to our dear Life Member, Sallye Garrigan Jude.

Sallye, who joined the garden club in 1983, has a long history of promoting environmental causes in South Florida. Sallye is a member of the Sierra Club, a Fellow at Fairchild Botanic Garden, a past Board member of the Fern and Exotic Plant Society, the South Florida Palm Society and the Tropical Flowering Tree Society. Plus, for many years she has been a major supporter of the Royal Poinciana Fiesta which celebrates our magnificent Royal Poinciana tree. Her love and interest in trees is well known throughout the South Florida and Coral Gables communities.

It is with deepest admiration that this project is dedicated to her.

The photos were taken a recent Celebratory Drive-by. Sallye received a well deserved proclamation by the city of Coral Gables on September 22.



Members were asked: “What does Garden Club mean to you?”

Kitty Winkler: The Garden Club means caring friends, talented members, community involvement, educational speakers, worthwhile committees, meaningful projects, fabulous floral designs, lovely gardens, care for the environment, and wow, I could go on and on with this. The biggest and best parts of this list are the friendships -- what a collection of amazing and wonderful people belong to our club!

Evelyn Budde: Joining the Coral Gables Garden Club was a true goal of mine as I knew several ladies that were members. At the time I was still working and that was during the days when banks closed at 2pm. Needless to say as the Branch Manager the timing was pretty tight.

When I joined I was not disappointed and very happy to volunteer when ever I could and enjoyed chairing two May Luncheons and two Christmas Home Tours. My suggestion to all new members is that they bring in their friends that are interested in keeping our City Beautiful and are willing to volunteer to as many committees as possible and hopefully becoming Chair of many.

Judy Mangasarian: I love the enthusiasm and the variety of interests of our members, from mucking about in their gardens to creating amazing floral designs, from their efforts to beautify our City to their concerns about our environment. This makes for a vibrant club and one of which I'm so happy to be a part.

Connie Cabeza: Honestly, I became interested because I thought my daughter was joining (she never did) and gardening was a common interest we shared. What I found was the CGGC offered so much more than gardening. The club has members from all walks of life with interesting backgrounds. The women are not pretentious, very welcoming and willing to share their knowledge. The programs and workshops are always interesting and a starting point for investigation into the presentation. I have lived in Coral Gables over 40 years and knew very little about how the city functioned. Through The Garden Club I am now aware what the city government is doing to keep The City Beautiful and protect the environment.

The most treasured value of The Club is the women I have gotten to know and taught me so much

Betsy Tilghman: I just finished Willa Cather's My Antonia, an early 20th Century classic. Ms. Cather intertwined friendship, memory and nature into a glorious living whole. (Thank you, Maureen Gragg for recommending this book. I now see why it was one of the few novels which traveled with my mother from house to house.) My Antonia caused me to reflect on what an indelible part nature plays in our lives. I am grateful that the Garden Club has helped me to observe and understand our glorious planet just a little better thorough our programs and workshops. In my empty nester years, our Club has also become a wonderful fount of friendships! And it has kept me busy and out of trouble

From our Yearbook Chairman, Teresa Zohn:

The 2020-2021 yearbooks have been available for pickup. The cover photographs are from the Montgomery Botanical Center.

The yearbook is half the size as last year's book because we have taken out the Chronicle, the By-laws, the Flower Show Rules, list of Past Presidents, etc., previously found in the yearbook. The information is currently available on our website. www.coralgablesgardenclub.org.

We need your help to get them distributed. **When you pick your book up, please consider picking up and delivering books to your neighbors and/or friends.** If you live north of Dixie Highway Judy Mangasarian has your book. If you live south of Dixie Highway or out of Coral Gables, Teresa Zohn has your book.

Please contact them to make arrangements for pick up. Judy Mangasarian: 1027 Asturia Avenue, 305-461-6076. Teresa Zohn, 9999 Fairchild Way (Snapper Creek Lakes), 305-773-0262 Text or Call.

NEWS OF NOTE:

We lost a long time member this month when Martha Hobbs passed away peacefully at home on October 4th. Keep her family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.



CORRECTIONS TO YEARBOOK:

~ Page 15, **New Members should read:**

Leti Ateca, Paula Biehler, Grace Carricarte, Sidney Cullen Daniel, Terry Diaz, Rosita Gardiner, Liz Parnes, and Sherri Puerto

~ Page 18, The picture beside Grace Carricarte is incorrect.

~ Garlin Lewis new address: 47 Hampton Commons Terrace, Richmond, VA 23226

~ Evelyn Budde's new email: privatebanker1@comcast.net

THANK YOU CARMEN:



Lovely Fall arrangement to get us into the Autumn mood by Carmen Cason



The Beautiful Gardens of Coral Gables



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The Garden Clubs of District XII were asked to submit photos of their gardens for a slideshow to be shown at the October 19 District Meeting. These are some of the photos submitted by Coral Gables Garden Club members. Photos 1&2: Susan Thomas. Photos 3&4: Suzuyo Fox. Photos 5&6: Beth Werner.

