



The Hibiscus

Coral Gables Garden Club, Coral Gables, Florida ~ Celebrating our 98th Year

A proud member of the National Garden Club, Inc. and the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs

November 2022

There is so much to be grateful for

President's Message by Susan Rodriguez

We have had a whirlwind of activities since our last newsletter. The Lamar Louise Curry Park dedication was a lovely event this past October 15th. Many members, City officials, and residents came out for the ribbon cutting even with a chance of severe weather. Thanks to Don Slesnick, our keynote speaker, Audrey Ross, and Betsy Tilghman, who shared stories about Ms. Curry and the original garden club committee who worked so hard to procure the space and the park's name. I am grateful to the Public Works and Parks and Recreation departments, specifically Deena Bell-Llewellyn, Fred Courcayro, and Mitchell Zurrarian, for collaborating with me over the last year to make sure this park was ready for the big event.

On October 18th we had a lovely reception and preview with Allen Morris, our Grand Sponsor of the As I See It photography competition. Allen has a love for photography, and a special



*Susan Rodriguez, Audrey Ross,
Commissioners Mena and Anderson,
Dorothy Thomson, Mayor Lago, Don Slesnick*

connection to the Garden Club as his mother was a member, and Mother-in-Law Dorothy Thomson has been a member for over 40 years. We also learned he loves the art of floral design, which he learned from his mother. Allen's team printed the images on acrylic, which will be displayed in the public areas throughout the building. A few photographers who entered the contest came to the preview. It was delightful to meet them, and they are excited about next year's competition..

Our October 24th general meeting was well attended, and we were all so enthralled with the Pelican Harbor program, thanks to Teresa Zohn. Thanks to Ana Lam, Paula Beihler, Teresita Diaz, Jo Wanda Peterson for the delicious buffet, and Carmen Cason for her buffet arrangement. Thanks to Sharon Trbovich, the workshop that she gave "Basics of Tools, Plants, Care of Plants, Niches & Containers" was well attended and very informative. I know we will have plenty of entries for our April 24th Flower show.

On October 26th, I had the privilege to speak to the Macfarlane homeowners association about our pollinator garden and introduce to them Dennis Olle from the Miami Blue Chapter of N.A.B.A. and Danielle Champney from Connect to Protect. Dennis gave a wonderful slideshow on butterflies, and Danielle talked to the group about planting natives in this area. She encouraged everyone to join to receive five free plants from Fairchild Gardens. Thank you, Ana Lam, for arranging this meeting.

On November 3rd, The opening reception for "The Vote That Saved The Biltmore" exhibition was a huge success. The garden club is a bronze sponsor of this exhibition honoring Dorothy Thomson, and we proudly represented our club by having many members attend.

Finally, our November 4th event with Mario Fernandez was delightful. Marlene Riesco and her committee did an outstanding job. We all had fun, enjoyed the sparkling reception, and congrats to all our members who won raffle prizes. We have some incredibly lucky ladies.

I hope to see all of you at our next general meeting, which is after Thanksgiving on November 28th, so wherever you will be during this Thanksgiving holiday, I wish you all warm wishes from my home to yours.

Happy Thanksgiving

Susan Rodriguez, President.

November 28th Program News

By Teresa Zohn

Workshop: 10:00 am in the Garden Center

Topic: Crescent Design and the use of fruits and vegetables, and the compatibility of plants and containers

Presenter: Our very own Sandy Milledge will help us improve our design skills in preparation for the April Flower Show

General Membership Meeting food service at 11:15 am in the Aragon room. Meeting starts at 12:00 pm.

Program: "Creating Ecosystems in your Garden" with Georgia Tasker, Garden Writer for the Miami Herald, and co-author of Florida's Garden Guide.

Hostesses: Emily de Armas, Carmen Roca, Linda Waldron, Carolyn Durham, Barbara Reese.

Contact: Open to all. Contact Teresa Zohn. Email Teresa.zohn@gmail.com or text 305-773-0262.

Honoring our Veterans

Continuing a tradition Evelyn Budde, placed a wreath and flags around the Blue Star Marker in honor of our veterans who fought to keep us free. Thank you Evelyn Budde and Sharon Trbovich!



October General Meeting



Commissioner Rhonda Anderson illustrates how mangroves can save property on the coastline



Packed house for Sharon's October Workshop



Pelican Harbor Executive Director Christopher Boykin and Mowgli the Screech Owl

Lamar Louise Curry Park Ribbon Cutting



President Susan Rodriguez with past Presidents Betsy Tilghman, Sharon Trbovich, Judy Mangasarian and Mayor Lago



Unveiling of the bronze marker with Commissioner Rhonda Anderson, Susan Rodriguez, Mayor Lago, and Commissioner Mena



Members Maria Teofilo and Jodi Zaban



Members Fran Reid, Sharon Trbovich, Carolyn Durham, Susan Rodriguez, Judy Mangasarian, Maria Ason, Julie Connor, Jo Wanda Peterson, Audrey Ross, Jeannette Slesnick, and Commissioner Rhonda Anderson

Allen Morris Cocktail Party



Judy Mangansarian, Allen Morris, Phyllis Parsons, and Dorothy Thomson



Betsy Tilghman, Wendy Cook with mom Claire Grebin



Connie Cabeza, Barbara Reese, Ana Lam

Museum Event



Maria Ason, Kitty Winkler, Susan Rodriguez and Denise West at the museum.



Garden Club members with Dorothy Thomson



Victoria Cabeza and Carmen Cason

Holiday Floral Extravaganza



Chair Marlene Riesco, Carmen Cason, and Glenda Hayley



Mario Fernandez and his assistant



Raffle Winner Sandy Milledge



Susan Rodriguez and guest Angela Aninou



Sharon Trbovich wins again

Holiday Floral Extravaganza



Raffle Winner Eileen Plasky



Joanne Mathews wins a raffle of the right size



Krystal Meyer with Rea Zervas

Thanksgiving Trivia

A Contribution from Good Housekeeping Magazine, August 2022

Question: How long was the first Thanksgiving, and what food did the colonists and Native Americans not have at the first Thanksgiving?

Check out the answer on the last page!

Green Tip

By Emily de Armas

Did you know Thanksgiving produces 200 million pounds of food waste each year? Or that across the US, we use enough water on Thanksgiving to supply New York City for 100 days?

If you often have tons of leftovers, try to plan for less food or make sure to send guests home with a plate.

Conserve water by running your dishwasher on the shortest setting and doing a few rounds if needed.



Flower Show

By Sharon Trbovich and Donna Box

The club's Flower Show, THE CITY BEAUTIFUL, will be held on April 24th, 2023, at the Coral Gables United Congregational Church 1:00 - 3:00 pm. Every other month we will feature a design as an example from one of the four classes in the Design Section and highlight one section in the Horticulture Division, "Fairchild's Favorites."

For our November 28th meeting is Horticulture Division, "Fairchild's Favorites."

Section B: Container Grown Plants- Flowering "Brighten your Day" Class.

15. Adenium-Desert Rose.

16. Anthurium-Flamingo Lily

17. Amaryllis

18. Begonia

19. Kalanchoe

20. Pelargonium- Geranium

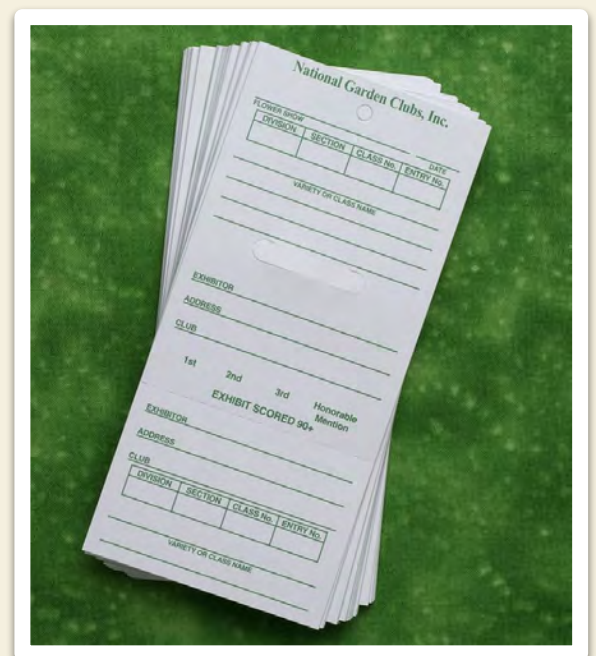
21. Spathiphyllum-Peace Lily

22. Any Other Worthy Specimen

Remember container is not to exceed 12 inches. We will be meeting in the Laguna room, which is upstairs, smaller containers are permissible.

For information, the Classes can be looked up on Google.

Sandy Milledge, Donna Box or I will be happy to answer your questions. [Please read this article about entering flower shows.](#)



Horticulture Column: DOWN A GARDEN PATH with *Pithecellobium keyense*

By Betsy Tilghman

Where to begin on this path? Maybe from my own brief experience with the Keys Blackbead, *Pithecellobium keyense*. Several years ago, I stumbled upon this small tree and noticed the coiled pods of red and black seeds. To my horror, I imagined that it was the dreaded toxic rosemary pea – a nightmare from my childhood where teachers warned that just one ingested pea would kill you and little boys unwittingly stuffed them up their noses.

Now, if I had looked more closely at the pods on this tree, I would have realized that the red was not really part of the pea at all, which is entirely black (hence the name blackbead), but was only a partial covering of the pea, known as an aril. Hummm, so what is an aril? An aril is a fleshy substance surrounding a seed – think pomegranate! Now I know what all that pink stuff is. So, the aril is basically a transport method for a plant whose seed may not be that delectable – something tasty for wildlife to eat as a way for the plant to disperse its seed.

We are planting 200 Keys Blackbeads at Camp Mahachie. This native shrub or small tree, found in coastal hammocks and thickets, grows only as far north as Martin County on the east coast of Florida and occasionally on the west coast. However, they are fairly common in the Keys, the Bahamas, and other parts of the Caribbean.

The Blackbead is an amazing host plant. It is the larval host for our cassius blue, large orange sulphur and Miami blue butterflies, and a nectar plant for many, many more. Birds enjoy the bright red aril and, along with mammals, hide in the security of the tree's thicket.

I am so happy (and relieved!) to have met *Pithecellobium keyense*. Discovering the Blackbead's environmental merits, with its bonus of fragrant white to pink powderpuff flowers peaking in spring and summer and giving way to charmingly curled seed pods, I think I need one of these in my yard. How about you?

-Betsy Tilghman



Announcements and Updates

Camera Club Update - **CANCELED, will reschedule**

By Bonnie Seipp

The next meeting of the CGGC Camera Club will take place on Wednesday, Nov 16 at 3 pm in the Garden Center at the Biltmore. You do not have to have attended the first meeting to attend the Nov. 16 meeting. Please take five pictures with your phone to show to our professor. We are starting at 3 pm so we will have time to go outside and take pictures during class while it is still light.

Our first meeting with Professor Courtney Schmidt was great! We all learned how to set up our iPhones to take better photographs and were given the opportunity to take photos of a beautiful arrangement brought by Carmen Cason. To reserve a spot at our second meeting on November 16, please email Bonnie Seipp, seipphome@gmail.com. There will be a \$10 charge for the class.

Giving back is a balm to the soul: We need your help!

By Carmen Cason

On Tuesday, November 22nd, 10:00-12:00 PM. We will hold a Garden Therapy event at THE CRYSTAL ACADEMY.

107 ANTILLA AVE, CORAL GABLES. This will be the first time we will work with autistic children, and we need extra hands for each child. I need your help to make this a success for the GARDEN CLUB and THE STUDENTS. Who is looking forward to working with us and sharing our love of plants with the children?

Thank you so much, Carmen Cason. Contact me to volunteer 305-409-3986 my email: is carmencason@yahoo.com.

Gorgeous Amaryllis Bulbs

By Sharon Trbovich

Are now available for gift giving or to decorate your home with magnificent colors for the holidays at \$15 each. The colors are a striking red and a beautiful white. Each bulb is a double bloom reaching 16"-18" in height. Planting instructions are included with each bulb.

The bulbs will be available on 11/15 and 11/18, AT THE GARDEN CENTER FROM 10:00 - 12:00 PM for pick up with prior notice. Please email me at skyeterriers1@gmail.com to confirm your date.



Proposed Changes to the CGGC By-Laws, November 2022

By Ruth Markham

Article IV, Section 1c, Lines 7-10:

Proposed Change: Sustaining Members shall receive first preference when seeking to reinstate their Active Membership

Status by applying for Active Membership by one week prior to The Board of Managers Meeting in March.

Article IV, Section 1d:

Proposed Change: Non-Resident membership: A member in good standing' who is subject to a change in residence outside Miami-Dade County, shall be granted the privilege of becoming

A Non-Resident Member. The member may not vote, hold office, or be required to participate or be responsible for the purchase of fundraising event tickets. The Member will receive the Hibiscus Leaflet and may attend meetings when visiting. If a Non-Resident Member moves back to Coral Gables, or Miami-Dade County, the Member shall automatically be reinstated to Membership.

Article IV, Section 1f: Proposed Change, Emeritus Members shall be those who have attained the age of 85 or have paid dues for 40 years and have been Active Members for a minimum of ten years. They shall have all the privileges of membership and none of the requirements.

Article V, Section 1c: Proposed Change: Annual Dues of Sustaining members shall be \$125.00, which includes dues to The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.

Article V, Section 2d: Omit

Article VII, Section 2, Lines 7-10: Proposed Change: Nominees for President must have served on the Board of Managers for at least 2 years, and the First Vice-President and Second Vice-President must have served at least one year on the Board of Managers.

Article IX, Section 1, Proposed Change: The President shall appoint the Parliamentarian and Chairs of committees and shall be an Ex-officio Member of all committees except the Nominating Committee, but may serve as a consultant.

Article XI, Section 1: Proposed Change: Members of Coral Gables Garden Club may make donations to the club to honor or memorialize someone. Monies in the fund shall be spent on special projects. A note shall be sent to the person being honored or the family of the deceased by the Corresponding Secretary. The Corresponding Secretary will also send a letter to the donor acknowledging the gift and its dollar amount.

Standing Rule 11: Proposed Change: Legacy members shall be those who have been Active Members and participants in the club for 25 years. They will be recognized at the Annual Meeting in their 25th year of membership.

Thanksgiving Trivia Answers

Answer: Three days, and Turkey

Hunker down for a bit of the rich [history of Thanksgiving](#). Today, Thanksgiving takes place over one decadent day — *maybe* two, if you count [Black Friday history](#). But the original Pilgrims really went all out. In November 1621, the settlers' first corn harvest proved so successful Governor William Bradford reportedly invited the Plymouth colonists' Native American allies to enjoy the fruits of their labor. Members of the Wampanoag tribe came bearing food to share. They had so much bounty, the revelers decided to extend the affair.

While most of us enjoy turkey as the centerpiece of our table, no one can say for sure whether it was even on the menu back in 1621. However, [the original guests did indulge in other foods](#) like lobster, seal, and swan. The Wampanoag also reportedly brought five deer to the celebration. If you also enjoy venison at your table, consider yourselves perfectly aligned with a longstanding tradition.

Club Happenings

2022 Dates	Time	Event	Location
Nov 22 (Tue)	10am-12pm	<i>Garden Therapy</i>	Crystal Academy, 107 Mantilla Avenue
Nov 28 (Mon)	10am, 11:15am	<i>General Membership Meeting</i>	Aragon room, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
Dec 5 (Mon)	10am	<i>Merrick House Decorating Event</i>	907 Coral Way
Dec 13 (Tue)	10am-12pm	<i>Workshop for Holiday Centerpieces</i>	Garden Center, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
Dec 14 (Wed)	11:15am	<i>General Membership Meeting, no</i>	Danielson Gallery, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
2023 Dates	Time	Event	Location
Jan 11 (Mon)	9:30am-11:30am	<i>Board Meeting</i>	Garden Center, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
Jan 18 (Wed)	7 pm	<i>Camera Club Meeting</i>	Garden Center, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
Jan 21 (Sat)	10am-12pm	<i>Fun with Flowers Workshop</i>	Garden Center, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
Jan 23 (Wed)	10am, 11:15am	<i>General Membership Meeting</i>	Danielson Gallery, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
Feb 1 (Wed)	TBD	<i>Field Trip - Coral Reef Restoration Laboratory</i>	Rosenstiel School of Atmospheric and Marine Sciences, UM
Feb 8 (Mon)	9:30am-11:30am	<i>Board Meeting</i>	Garden Center, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
Feb 11 (Sat)	8am-3pm	<i>Tour of Kitchens</i>	TBD
Feb 15 (Wed)	7pm	<i>Camera Club Meeting</i>	Garden Center, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
Feb 25 (Sat)	10am-12pm	<i>Fun with Flowers Workshop</i>	Garden Center, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
Feb 27 (Wed)	5pm, 6:15pm	<i>General Membership Meeting *Evening*</i>	Danielson Gallery, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
Mar 8 (Mon)	9:30am-11:30am	<i>Board Meeting</i>	Garden Center, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
Mar 8,9 (Wed, Thu)	10am	<i>Prepping for Fashions and Florals Event</i>	Garden Center, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
Mar 10 (Fri)	11:30am-2pm	<i>Fashion and Florals - Spring Fundraiser: Fashions and Florals luncheon. Open to the public.</i>	Biltmore Hotel, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
Mar 27 (Wed)	6:15pm	<i>General Membership Meeting, no workshop</i>	Danielson Gallery, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
April	TBD	<i>Full Moon Sunset Cruise on Biscayne Bay</i>	Pelican Harbor Seabird Station
April	TBD	<i>Garden Therapy</i>	Riviera Rehabilitation Center
April 3- May 5	Ongoing	<i>AS I SEE IT Photography Contest 2023</i>	Online submission, Garden Club Website
April 12 (Mon)	9:30am-11:30am	<i>Board Meeting</i>	Garden Center, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
April 24 (Wed)	11:15am	<i>General Membership Meeting, no workshop</i>	Danielson Gallery, 1200 Anastasia Avenue
April 24 (Wed)	1-3pm	<i>Flower Show - Join us for our Flower Show after the General Meeting for champagne and dessert</i>	<i>Coral Gables Congregational Church, 3010 De Soto Blvd</i>
May 10 (Wed)	11:30pm-1pm	<i>2023 Installation Luncheon</i>	TBD
May 10 (Mon)	9:30am-11:30am	<i>Board Meeting</i>	Garden Center, 1200 Anastasia Avenue