

### **GTGC**

## **Upcoming Meetings/Programs**

### Wednesday, February 16, 2022

The GTGC member's meeting will be held at the Venue at the Royal Palm, Surfside Resort, 1096 Scenic Gulf Drive. We will start our program with a floral design demonstration then review the steps to submit entries in the District 1 Flower Show.

### Wednesday, March 23, 2022

### Flowers, Flowers and more Flowers

Spring will be filled with flowers, fun and education. We are all in ...GTGC's March member's meeting will be held in conjunction with the District One Flower Show "Southern Charm". We will car pool for a day trip to Navarre to experience the show and creations submitted by GTGC members and other garden clubs. So mark your calendars, enter your floral designs and have fun! See page 3-5.

#### Wednesday, April 20, 2022

A walking tour of Topsail State Park with Bill Kuenstler.

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### A Message from Lisa Ermini, President

Connecting and participating!

# Floral Designs

Happy February ... the month of Punxsutawney Phil prediction and sweet love for one another, chocolates and roses.

Please join all the members at our Wednesday, February 16th member's meeting. You are in for a special treat as our own longtime member and floral designer, Ellen Tabor will demonstrate floral arrangements in various containers.

Following our floral design program, Anne Collins and Jane Nendick will review the club's plans to participate in the March District 1 Flower Show. We will have on display flower show entries from the previous show and more information about creating a winning entry.

We would love to have a great club turnout and representation of our members' talents. Please consider entering in any of the 6 chosen categories.

> Wednesday, February 16, 2022 Surfside Resort Venue Royal Palm Restaurant 1096 Scenic Gulf Drive Miramar Beach, FL. 9:00a.m. - 12:30p.m.

Don't forget to sign into the GTGC website to view the latest news and list of members.

greenthumbgardenclubinc.org



### MEMBERS MEETING REVIEW

On January 19, 2022, please join fellow GTGC members for our monthly meeting and luncheon at **Kay Litke Culinary Arts Greenhouse located at Northwest Florida State College.** 

Chef Layne Eggers will demonstrate hydroponics – gardening without soil – and lead us on a tour of the College's culinary greenhouse. GTGC members will have lunch on campus and enjoy some of the fresh vegetables and other delicacies prepared by Chef Eggers and his very talented culinary students.



In addition, Mr. Bobby Wagner will make a presentation on Arbor Day (which is on January 21, 2022) and give us an update on the new GTGC Legion Park Garden. Mr. Wagner is a member of the Destin City Council and the executive director of the Destin-based Trees on the Coast, a non-profit founded in 2015. The organization works in the Florida panhandle to improve coastal landscapes and waterways through planting trees, beach cleanups, and community education.

One last item, we will briefly talk about the District I "Southern Comfort" Flower Show and collect sign-up sheets for members interested in entering their creative designs in the show.

We all agreed we enjoyed the best and the freshest luncheon ever!!





Southern women are often called "steel magnolias" for their strength and confidence. The majestic magnolia tree symbolizes this strength and southern charm. The height and beautiful flowers demonstrate nobility, perseverance and a love of nature. These qualities are what the "Southern Charm" Flower Show promises to deliver......a love of nature, flowers, and horticulture.

The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, District 1 and District 1 Judges Council invite you to attend the "Southern Charm" Flower Show. Members of the local garden clubs are excited to showcase for the community both cut and container-grown horticulture and thematic designs featuring fresh and preserved plant materials and art to include nature photography and paintings or drawings incorporating preserved flowers and foliage.

**Have an aspiring junior gardener?** The youth division will feature miniature gardens, educational displays and floral designs showcasing the talents of our junior gardener members.

This is a judged show following the guidelines of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Awards will be presented in various categories such as "Horticultural Excellence," "Grower's Choice," "Table Artistry," "Educational, Youth Top Exhibitor," "Botanical Arts," "Photography," and a friendly club competition award. Themed titles such as "Gracious Living," "Charm School," "Cute as a Button," and "Charming Art," will be on display.

Our presenting sponsor, "The Southern Belle," is Ms. Stephanie Phillips, Owner and Broker of Resort Real Estate in Sandestin, a native Floridian and proud Southerner, and a resident of Sandestin. Stephanie is the essence of southern charm with her positive outlook and bright smile.

The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. is a 50l©(3) organization with twelve districts in the State. The show is chaired by Linda Henderson, a National Flower Show Judge and President of Dogwood Garden Club of Gulf Breeze and Joyce Waters-Smith, a National Flower Show Judge, District 1 Director for Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., and a member of the local Green Thumb Garden Club, Inc. of Walton County. The show is co-sponsored by the District Judges Council, Jennifer Weber, Director and a Vice President of Milton Garden Club, Inc.

The Show is Open to the Public, Handicapped Accessible, and we invite all to attend:

St. Sylvester's Catholic Church, 6464 Gulf Breeze Parkway (near Navarre) Tuesday, March 22 - 3:00 - 8:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 23 - 9:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Betty White Special Projects Director Green Thumb Garden Club, Inc.





# Calling on all GTGC members to participate in the #1 event of the year!

Joyce Waters-Smith, a GTGC member and District 1 Director, is hosting a district-wide flower show "Southern Charm." District 1 consists of 21 garden clubs located in northwest Florida: the Green Thumb Garden Club is the second largest. I am asking GTGC members to show our strength in numbers and participate in the flower show...show off your design talents, table design and horticulture green thumb.

The GTGC March monthly meeting is scheduled for March 23 in conjunction with the District 1 Flower Show, "Southern Charm". Our meeting and Ladies luncheon will be at St. Sylvester Catholic Church, Gulf Breeze (near Navarre).

If you have participated in flower shows in the past, you know the routine. If you've never participated in a flower show, we have a plan to help you get through the process and let your creative juices flow. Or as, Anne Collins would say, "let the category or theme speak to you." Let's have fun with flowers!

**Step 1:** Volunteer to place an entry in the flower show. Select a category from the list below.

**Step 2:** Complete the sign-up form at our January meeting or send me an email with your flower show category selection. We will schedule show training sessions beginning in January/February to review criteria, rules, and design ideas with other experienced GTGC members.

Several of our GTGC members are going to help you with the entry process as well as to give helpful tips and other information to insure that our very talented members have fun and success during their journey.

There are 6 areas in which we are confident that our individual members might like to participate:

Horticulture

Design (includes fresh floral design, table artistry, floral designers choice-fresh, dry or both) Botanical Arts (arts and crafts)

**Botanical Arts Photography** 

Youth division (Junior gardeners)

Club Competition in Displays for us to show off our collective very green thumbs!

Let me know which flower show category you want to participate in? Remember you have a garden club team behind you!

**Step 3:** Send an **Email to Lisa Ermini:** <u>GTGCLisaErmini@gmail.com</u>

-Include the category you are interested in

Anne Collins will be our flower show GTGC instructor and director.

**Horticulture**: Master Gardeners' opportunity to show other district clubs their green thumb. Individual entry.

**Design**: Floral Designs. Hostesses with the mostesses for table artistry. Individual entry.

**Botanical Arts:** People who enjoy crafts or have a flair for BA design, BA horticulture. Individual entry.

**Botanical Arts Photography:** People who take awesome nature photographs. Individual entry.

**Youth:** Our own Butler School Junior Gardener program is a definite entry. Gail Pizar and Bonnie Fox have done an amazing job and worthy of a District 1 entry. Individual entry.

**Club Competition:** - This is a team event ... Display: Master Gardeners with flair and with related plants! Note: The plants must be in our position for 90 days prior to the show.

Thank you and remember this a fun, creative event. I hope to see many of our new members participating as well as our seasoned talented members.



# **Chairperson Update Corner**

### Gail Pizar, Chairperson Update

Greetings from:

The **Cork Lady...** Just a reminder to bring your corks and pop tops to the February meeting. The cork forests and Ronald McDonald house will thank you.

### **Pennies Pines**

Took a rough count of our collection jar and we have over \$75 this year for Biophilia I'll be bringing the jar to the February meeting for your loose change

### Junior Gardeners at Butler Elementary School

Our Butler Elementary Junior Gardeners are excited about entering the flower show in the Youth Division. Their sign up deadline is February 17th. I'm anxious to see final count.

Our Junior Gardener's next meeting is on the **February 8th**. If you would like to help please meet us at:

# Butler Elementary School 1:30p.m. - 2:45p.m. Bring your drivers license to receive your visitor ID

Contact me for more information Gail Pizar mpizar@aol.com

Greetings from your Trees and Reforestation Chair, Betty White:

It's that time of the year that we count our tree plantings.

I hope you all enjoyed Arbor Day celebrations and gathering your tree planting statistics for this year. Please get your information to me asap to be recorded and reported at the convention in April. The deadline for GTGC to send in our tree report is **March 5, 2022.** TOP TEN CLUBS reporting receive recognition certificates at the convention. Thank you.

# Chairperson Update Corner

Donna McDaniel is the 2022 Board Nomination Chair. Donna and her committee will be contacting our members, so when they call please consider a position on the GTGC board. Here's an idea: First and Second Vice Presidents positions should consider a team concept to share club activities.

### GTGC Board has 4 open position descriptions:

The **President** duties shall include but not be limited to serving as the Chief Executive Officer of the Club, Official Spokesperson and shall have general supervision of Club affairs. The President shall preside at Club and Board meetings, call special meetings as necessary and shall appoint Committees and Chairpersons as necessary to perform essential work of the GTGC. The President shall establish the budget for the ensuing year, obtain Board approval and present the results to the membership to be voted upon by the September meeting. The President shall have signature authority on all contracts and the GTGC bank account(s). The President will represent the GTGC at District 1 meetings and other FFGC events. If the President is unavailable, the President may designate another Board member to attend in their absence. In addition, shall contribute pertinent information and articles for the secure GTGC website. Buds and Banter Newsletter and select the GTGC annual theme.

The **First Vice President** duties shall include but not be limited to serving in the absence of the President and shall perform the duties of that office. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President shall succeed to the Presidency if they so choose, for the remainder of the unexpired term. The Vice President shall act as a Program Chair and ensure the Second Vice President has all program information to be published on the secure website and contribute to Buds and Banter Newsletter. In addition, shall perform any other duties as assigned by the President.

The **Second Vice President** shall include but not be limited to serve as GTGC Communications Director. The Second Vice President shall perform the duties of President in the absence of the President and First Vice President. The Second Vice President is responsible for all aspects of the GTGC website, point of contact with the website developer and Membership/Works support, to ensure all club activities, communications and financial activities are available to all Members in good standing on the secure website. Ensure the website functionality to collect membership annual contributions, sponsorship donations and other meeting/event fees and ensure the financials are processed correctly and in a timely manner. Coordinate with all Officers and Committee Chairs to include updates/photo as needed on the website. The Second Vice President shall represent GTGC as Public Relations Officer. In addition, shall perform any other duties assigned by the President.

The **Treasurer** duties shall include but not be limited to the responsibility for all GTGC monies, maintaining the GTGC electronic accounting method and have signature authority on GTGC bank account(s). The Treasurer shall disburse funds only when ordered by the GTGC and be accountable for all receipts and disbursements. Reimbursement of monies spent by any Board member or Committee Chair will only be paid when an approved Request for Reimbursement and original copy of respective receipt(s) is submitted to the Treasurer. No disbursements will be made without all receipts and documentation. The Treasurer shall promptly pay all FFGC and District 1 dues as submitted by the Membership Chair. The Treasurer shall prepare and present a monthly financial report to the Board and general membership of expenses and disbursements prior to monthly general meetings. The accounts and records shall be audited yearly, with a financial report given at the September meeting. In addition, shall perform other duties as assigned by President.

### Dear GTGC Buds:

The Green Thumb Garden Club has the special privilege of hosting the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs District 1 Spring Meeting on May 10, 2022. While it is only February, we all know that *tempus fugit* so please Save the Date and review the requests for your support to ensure the event is a success.

### Raffle Baskets

Looking for 6-8 members (or groups of members) to donate high-end raffle baskets OR if you would just like to donate items to fill a basket or donate an empty basket to fill, there are members who will put them together.

Themes for baskets can include (but are not limited to) gardening, Summer, adult beverages, party items -- use your imagination!!

- Items for baskets need to be donated by <u>April 25, 2022</u> to have time to put them together.
- Non-perishable, ready-to-raffle baskets need to be donated by <u>April 30, 2022</u>. Kathy Edge or Judy Zito can answer any questions and arrange pick up of your ready-to-raffle basket, empty baskets or items to fill baskets.

## Premium Items for the Ways and Means Display

ALL donations from the Raffle Baskets and the Ways and Means Display benefit the Green Thumb Garden Club.

As you get into your Spring clean out, it is appreciated if you would please keep GTGC in mind! Contact Kathy Edge or Judy Zito; they can answer any questions and arrange for pick up of your great donations.

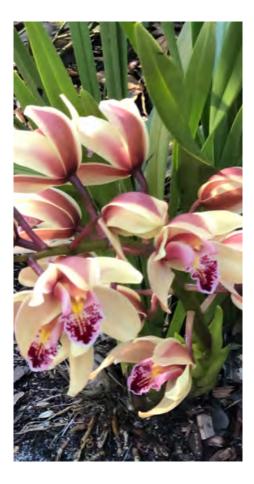
As with the Raffle Baskets, the Ways and Means Display will reflect our great Club by focusing on gardening, the upcoming Summer season, party items, art work, etc. Please call Kathy or Judy if you have questions about the suitability of a donation for this event.

The Annual Camellia Festival will be held at Eden Gardens State Park on Saturday February



12th from 10am-2pm. The event, hosted by The Friends of Eden, is free with paid park admission (\$4 per car). Additional parking for the event will be at Bay School with tram service to the park. There will be educational stations throughout the park and camellias available to purchase. Summer Kitchen will be selling delicious food & drinks near the pavilion and The Earth Vibes Band will be playing music from 10am-2pm on the bayou stage. We hope to see you there!

Come see us at the Membership Table for information about projects and volunteer opportunities this year.



# Gorgeous Orchids from the personal garden of Karen Ruhlman

### Nature at its best!



# Congratulations to Robbie Carroll and Betty White

Robbie Carroll and I wanted to tell you we were recently inducted into the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution). We are proud patriots!

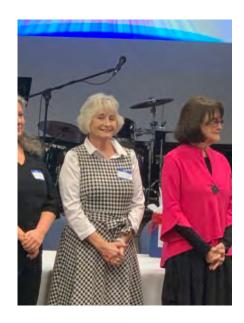
Robbie says, "Wow I cried when I received the news that I was indeed now a member of Daughters of the American Revolution. Why? Because it took years, yes years to verify the easily obtainable information. Again why? Well there was a courthouse fire in South Alabama, Covid craziness and then a little booboo on my Grandmother's marriage certificate stating she had married her father! (How funny!) Apparently daddies signing permission didn't really pay attention to correct lines back then and they certainly never thought anyone would ever care to look



at it years down the road. Still why the tears? I am so thrilled to be a part of this volunteer group that honors and preserves the legacy of our Patriot ancestors. After all, they fought and sacrificed for the freedoms we enjoy today. I would have never stuck with the process except for all of the members who encouraged me, cheered me on, and the wonderful DAR specialist who dug in her heels and refused to give up on me.

Betty says, "I am so grateful also to become a member. And, I am so grateful to my next door neighbor at the time, Linda Lewis Featherstone, a garden club member, who was the driving force in getting my information. She was amazing! I wanted to leave a legacy to my daughter and three granddaughters, and now it has happened. When I told one of my granddaughters about it, and that I wanted her to join, she said so sweetly, "well, grandmother, I don't know what that is, but if you want me to join, I will." As Robbie, I too am a proud patriot!

If you are interested in testing the waters, just go to www.dar.org and click on membership. Come join us. Many of your garden club friends are also "Daughters" and patriot "Sisters."





Fun With Flowers Workshop
PFGC Garden Center 1850 North 9th Ave Pensacola
Learn Simple Tricks To Make Spectacular Arrangements
Gina Jogan, a Certified Floral Design Instructor & National Flower
Show Judge will demonstrate a variety of floral designs Valentine,
Mother's Day & Easter ideas will be included

Monday, February 7th Workshop 10 am to 12

Doors open at 9:30 am

The workshop will teach you how to combine the elements of design with containers and plants you may have at home. The latest in floral design trends will be demonstrated

Cost \$25

Club plant sale accompanies the workshop Questions? Reservations NLT January 29th Contact: Dolores Quigley: halerq@yahoo.com All Designs will be raffled off

### A message from Christy Burke:

The attached is a one-page information sheet that explains how people can sign up for the 30A License plate tags and get the \$33 voucher free using a promo code. This code is specific to Green Thumb Garden Club (GTGC100) and any vouchers related to your efforts on this initiative. Thank you for your support. Christy



Valentine "Tour of Homes" & Gardens Cultural Arts Alliance February 12 and 13, 2022

"Tour some of South Walton's Most Beautiful Spaces," the Valentine "Tour of Homes & Gardens," presented by the Cultural Arts Alliance of Walton County. "The tour is known for providing a rare opportunity to enter some of South Walton's most interesting residences, showcasing stunning interiors, acclaimed architectural design and picturesque settings, which are sure to bring inspiration to" all, "emphasizing outdoor living spaces, gardens and interesting courtyards." Net proceeds benefit the CAA's 'Art for All' Program, which provides support to Walton County schools, teachers, students, artists and art organizations to further arts education.

Tickets are \$40 in advance through 12/31; \$50 after that date and can be purchased on the CAA's website, CulturalArtsAlliance.com.



https://www.facebook.com/cultivatecommunitygardens

# **Festival of Flowers**

# **FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS in Mobile Alabama**

March 11-13, 2022

The 2022 Festival of Flowers, LoDa Style, in Cathedral Square is a cultural delight for Mobile and the surrounding areas as well as a boost to downtown businesses. The community event, open to the public through a required donation, was attended by more than 10,000. Proceeds of the 2022 Festival of Flowers LoDa Style will be used to purchase Advanced MRI Patient Care Monitors at Ascension Providence Hospital.

### **Friday March 11 Activities**

9am - 9pm

Entry Fee – Donation Required

LoDa ArtWalk

6pm - 9pm

Entry Fee – Donation Required

A monthly event that showcases Mobile's visual, performing, and culinary arts community. During ArtWalk, Dauphin Street is shut down for pedestrian foot traffic, and local art galleries, institutions, studios, and unique shops stay open extended hours for the public to explore.

Downtown Area Garden Tours
10am - 2pm
Entry Fee – Donation Required

Go to the link below for more information: https://festivalofflowers.com

## Partners and Affiliates!!



More great information from other local, state and national garden clubs. Sharing knowledge is important, keeping us active, and young in mind and soul.

Visit these websites for more information from national, state and local garden clubs.

# <u>www.FFGC.org</u> <a href="mailto:https://gardenclub.org/">https://gardenclub.org/</a>

"Reminder: FFGC 50/50 tickets are on sale! A maximum of 6,000 tickets will be sold for a potential prize of up to \$15,000. The tickets are \$5 each; cash or check accepted made out to the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.

The drawing will be in April at the FFGC Convention; you do not have to be present to win.

In addition, FFGC has raffle tickets for \$2.00 with a host of prizes including a <u>two-night</u> stay at Embassy Suites, Lake Buena Vista South, a set of pearls, a Waterford crystal bowl and several other prizes. The prizes will be drawn in April at the Convention. You do not have to be present to win."

If you are interested, please let me know. I will have the tickets at the February meeting. <u>bettyw74@yahoo.com</u>

# Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

# To ALL FFGC Members – On-Line Registration is now open for the 95th Annual Convention – April 13-15, 2022

# Please book on-line @ https://bit.ly/3iG5Ztb

If you don't use a credit card on-line, MAIL CHECK-payable to FFGC 2022 CONVENTION To:

Skip Lamoureux, Registrar 9439 Preston Rd., Brooksville, FL 34601 Questions:

727-916-7547 or

ffgc2022conv@gmail.com

DEADLINE: Monday, MARCH 21, 2022

### NO refunds after April 5th. Registration Fee is non-refundable

You must be registered to attend ANY programs, meals, workshops. NO WALK INS accepted. Dietary restrictions for extreme health issues **MUST** accompany registration. Every effort will be made to comply with your needs. NO shellfish/fish will be served.

Dietary Restrictions	

#### **HOTEL RESERVATIONS:**

Embassy Suites-Lake Buena Vista 4955 Kyngs Heath Rd. Kissimmee, FL34746

Deadline for Reservations: March 21, 2022

Reservations MUST be made directly with the Hotel by calling 407-597-4000 OR

Online – Click on link below or enter web address into your browser:

BOOKING Website: <a href="https://book.passkey.com/e/50193549">https://book.passkey.com/e/50193549</a> Group Code:FFG

Room Rates: Starting at \$148.00 Double Occupancy

Thank you, FFGC Headquarters

# GTGC News from Our **Members and Affiliations**

The GTGC Members and Club Affiliations are key contributors to the Club's newsletter -- Buds and Banter

Now you can find GTGC's Buds and **Banter** on our GTGC website: greenthumbgardenclubinc.org

### **PARTICIPATION** Requested!

Articles can be fun or educational and photos and other images and quotes would be a great feature. Articles are due by the 24th of the month for the next issue.

Join other members by submitting an article which supports the Club's mission statement:

The Green Thumb Garden Club, Inc.'s key mission is to stimulate interest in the beautification of Walton County, to further the education of its members and the public in fields of gardening, horticulture, botany, floral design, environmental awareness, conservation of natural resources, civic beautification, nature studies, and to instill in our youth the love of gardening and respect for the environment.

To submit articles or for more information contact: Lisa Ermini, President GTGClisaermini@gmail.com

**Doris Brady Sunshine Report** January 1, 2022 - January 28, 2022

Ah, February - the month of LOVE! The Sunshine Lady sends a huge Valentine♥ to the Sunbeams who keep our program of cheer and love to our members thriving. All of you are so very thoughtful and so very much loved and appreciated.

This month a big thank you is in order to Kathy Edge for a much needed infusion of get well cards. Kathy's beautiful handmade cards are a true treat and will bring sunshine when it is needed most. Thank you, Kathy!

Get Well cards were sent to Peggy Sue Mullen and to Wendy Davis. We hope that you both are on the mend.

A Thinking of You card was sent to Mary McCord as she assists her father's recovery. Eight digital birthday cards were sent to our JanuaryBirthday 👑 Ladies. Happy Birthday, Ladies!!!!!!

If any Sunbeam knows of someone who needs a little sunshine or cheer, please let me know. Your rays of kindness are so very important!

Love to each of you!!!♥ **\*\*** 



Respectfully submitted, Anne Collins

#### **Buds and Banter Contributors**

Anne Collins, Sunshine Lady, Chairperson Betty White, Special Projects Chairperson Gail Pizar, Penny Pines Chairperson Christy Burke, Scenic Walton Chairperson Lisa Ermini, GTGC President