



Clermont Garden Club Newsletter

November 2021
Editor, Cindy Simon

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Club Meeting – November 17

Program: Holiday Plants

Presenter: Master Gardener
from Lake County
Extension Office

A presentation of plants we think
of during the holidays: rosemary,
poinsettias, narcissus and many
others.

- Memories of Thanksgiving
- More information about Holiday
Gift Bags for Minneola Place



Next Meeting – December 15

Program: Holiday Luncheon at the Clubhouse

Pot Luck! Sign-up Nov. 17 to
bring a dish to share. Luncheon
is limited to 48 people. (That's
all we can seat!)

There will be a plant exchange
and a 50/50 raffle. More details to
follow!



Save the Date – December 18 Fun with Flowers – Holiday Arrangement Workshop

Join us Saturday, December 18 at the
club where Julie Milburn will lead us
in a workshop to create a Christmas
tree shaped arrangement with live
flowers and greenery.

Cost \$TBD as supplies are sourced.

Clermont Garden Club Officers

President, Cindy Simon
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Corresponding Secretary, Margaret Piper
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Parliamentarian, Ruth Webb
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Fall Plant Sale and More! Was a Huge Success!

Saturday, November 6, was a soggy, wonderful day at our Club! The Friday rain continued into the morning.

There are so many people to thank for their time and effort to make the event a success. The raffle items and baskets were creative and unique. The plants, pots and garden art were *definitely* what people were looking for – because they sure bought a lot of everything!

Thank you to those who brought raffle items:

Julie Milburn, Margaret Piper, Ruth Webb, Arlene Rand, Sue Randall, Pat Olsen, Mary Adams, Gwen Carter, Jane Caruso, Diane Wilson, Lisa Palermo, Denise Palermo, Kathleen Fielitz, Loretta D'Andrea, Alice Barrows, Pam Molesky, Linda Lauletta, Tina Worrell.

Thank you to those who worked Friday to receive and price plants and garden items, and those who worked on Saturday to sell raffle tickets, offer membership information, greet guests in the clubhouse, answer plant questions, act as cashiers, and help sell all the wonderful things we had to offer:

Arlene Rand, Tina Worrell, Sandi Eckstein, Annette Tillet, Barb Williams, Linda Wentworth, Lisa Palermo, Loretta D'Andrea, Linda Lauletta, Ruth Webb, Alice Barrows, Julie Milburn, Margaret Piper, Barbara McDowell, Kathleen Fielitz, Jane Caruso, Diane Wilson, Linda Chaise, Anne Ellis, Donna Farraguto, Marilyn Paone, Carol Warner, Gwen Carter, and Pam Molesky. I'm sorry if I missed anyone!

And a special thank you to the three co-chairs for the event: Pat Richardson, Debra Smidt, and Cindy Simon.

We also had the assistance of students from the East Ridge High School Future Farmers of America (High School Garden Club) and their teacher, Mr. Badeaux.

And Ritters Frozen Custard was on site with their goodies!

Please enjoy the pictures on the next page.



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Plant Sale and More! Pictures





November Library Plant was loaned by Arlene Rand



Arlene Rand is pictured with Library Assistant, Dylan Levy.

Lucky Bamboo - (*Dracaena sanderiana*)

Decide between water or soil. There are advantages to both options depending on how much you are prepared to care for it. Too much soil or fertilization can actually harm your plant. However, if you are using tap water and it has fluoride and other chemicals, you may want to use soil and fertilizer to prevent yellow tips.

If you are growing it in standing water, you will need some pebbles to hold it upright. If in soil, try mixing a third each of sand, peat moss, and regular soil to ensure excellent drainage.

For water only, make sure that your plant has at least enough to cover the base of the roots. You should also change the water at least once per week to prevent the plant from rotting. It is a good idea to rinse the vase, pebbles, and plant each time you do this.

If you are growing the plant in soil, water the plant just enough so that the soil is moist.

Place the lucky bamboo in a warm spot where it will get indirect light. Keep an eye on how much light the plant gets – if anything, too little light is better than too much.

Plant to City Hall Loaned by Elaine Hogan



Common name: Peace Lily
Family - Araceae

Tropical plant that needs partial shade. They can grow from 1 to 3 feet depending on the variety. It is a moderate grower and will reach maturity around 3 years.

It is considered toxic to pets and humans.

Plant in light soil with good drainage.

Keep moist, but well-drained.

Frequent feeding will produce more flowers.

The ideal temperature range is 65 to 80 degrees



Clermont Garden Club History

Presented September 15, 2021, by Arlene Rand

Arlene presented this history at the Club meeting on September 15, 2021. It was very well received and worth printing for members to read at their leisure.

Clermont Garden Club (CGC) was re-organized in 1948 under leadership of then District VII Director Amy Newald (Maynard) of Florida Federation of Garden Clubs (FFGC); the club was Federated in 1949. Amy (Mimi) had a lovely home on Lake Shore Drive in Clermont and served as President of CGC 1954-55.

Thoughts of a Garden Center

When CGC President Pat Grant attended the FFGC Convention, she became aware that some clubs in the state had or were considering their own Garden Centers. She came home so very enthused and decided to meet with the City Fathers to see what might be done. Being a rather persuasive person when setting her mind to an idea, the City finally agreed to offer the Clermont Garden Club one of two available choices of 3 lots each. The one chosen by Pat was the parcel that overlooked Center Lake and the rest is history. It was time to build a Garden Center!

Building of the Mildred Amateius Garden Center began in 1969: Dedicated – 1970.

When moving to Clermont from Brewster, New York, Edmund Amateius and his wife Mildred became neighbors of CGC member, Polly Duncan. Edmund was a world-renown artist known for his garden figure sculptures, large architectural sculptures for public buildings and portrait busts. I feel certain that through Polly, Edmund and Mildred acquired a great interest and devotion for CGC and his contributions of support resulted in the Garden Center being built and named in memory of his wife. Other generous benefactors enabling the club to begin construction were - Margarery W. Brockway, Margaree Brantley Cooley and Abigail Smith Timme. Each, including Mildred Denison Amateius, wife of Edmund Amateiu, is remembered by the Sculpture Plaques on the window wall of the Garden Center. Edmund was born: Edmund Romulus Amateis, Feb.27, 1897, Rome, Italy. Died: May 01,1981, Clermont, Florida.

Burning of Mortgage – Many money raising projects were held to pay off the building's mortgage. This was accomplished during Dr. Esther Schroedel's term of Office in 1975.



Clermont Garden Club History - continued

Other Notable Events:

Dating back as far as 1940, the City of Clermont was officially declared a Bird Sanctuary. CGC Bird Chairman, Lucille Young, took it upon herself to make certain that everyone knew this by making and posting many Bird Sanctuary signs throughout the City. During the years of 1972 – 1983 Lucille Young, still CGC Bird Chairman, decided we needed to sell Purple Martin houses to attract these birds whose main diet is mosquitoes. 150 Purple Martin houses were sold. There are still a few that can be seen, mainly around the lakes where the birds prefer to reside. This project was performed as a public service with no profit to CGC.

During President Nancy Pederson's administration (1978 – 80) CGC held a Landscape School for Homeowners, a 6-week Course held on Saturdays and free to the public. This was held at Jenkins Auditorium, Montrose St. (For those not familiar with the mention of the auditorium, this was the former location of the 1st Publix grocery store here in Clermont, named for George Jenkins, its Founder and President. When the store moved to Highway 50, he donated the building to the City of Clermont for a civic auditorium.)

1999– Our Landscape Project!

The plan was for this project to be completed for the turning of the century – year 2000!

The committee was chosen, a sprinkler system and sidewalks were installed. Landscape people were being interviewed and finally the new landscape became a reality! The Gazebo, still..... but a Dream. A Memorial Garden on the northside of our property and inspired by the FFGC Memorial Garden was established. Pathway Bricks were sold for a nominal fee. An inscription could be included. During FFGC Pres. Carolyn Schaag's administration, 1999 – 2001, clubs were requested to plant Century Trees - 150 clubs throughout the state answered her call. CGC chose to plant a Florida Red Maple in the garden and we are still enjoying it. Its plaque was donated by landscape committee member Eva Walker. Carolyn attended and spoke at the dedication. Owaissa Vanderberg's daughter recited the poem Trees. Mayor Hall Turville spoke. Students from Lost Lake Elementary performed. Dignitaries of the City were in attendance as well as CGC members and their families.

After the dedication, members and guests gathered in front of the Garden Center to bury the Clermont GC Time Capsule. Each Circle and the CGC placed noteworthy items inside.



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Clermont Garden Club History - continued

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Flower Shows were once again being held annually after CGC reorganized. In addition to now being held at the Garden Center, some were held at Jenkins Auditorium, the new Cooper Memorial Library and several in downtown as well. "Margaritaville" held during Pres. Becky Bowers term 2003 - 2004 and "Passport to America" in 2009 both were National Award-winning flower shows. "Margaritaville" was held here in the Garden Center, Joyce Droege was Chairman. "Passport to America" was held during the following Pres. Owaissa Vanderberg's term of office. Kathleen Scully and Ann Gunter-Walker were Co-chairmen. Designs were displayed in the Garden Center and Horticulture and Special Exhibits were outdoor in a beautiful white tent with clear plastic windows. Security was enlisted for overnight. Awards were applied for. Both shows won in their division in FFGC and each went on to National to win 1st place.

During Becky's Presidency, The Harvest Festival occurred with Vendors, music by Grant Livingston and Night Bloomer's Circle served a \$5.00 Bar B Que. What a fun day it was for all!

April 2005 – the 5th Annual Spring Garden Walk, "Where Gardens Meet Art", was held in honor of the exhibit of the Florida Heritage series by Andrew Tatler, who painted under the name of Wallen.



Clermont Garden Club History - continued

The exhibit and other paintings were displayed in the Clermont Garden Center during the tour hours. The artist was available throughout the Garden Walk to answer questions. His painting, "Cypress Cove, Lake Minnehaha," was chosen and donated by Hope Lamb as a gift to the CGC to hang in our Garden Center. Hope was a member of the Clermont GC, Nightbloomer's Circle. President Becky Bower presented Hope with a plaque of Recognition for her very generous \$4000 donation at the Wine & Cheese Reception the night before the Garden Walk. Each of the homeowners was invited and attended the reception. The 2005 Garden Walk featured gardens of 4 private homes, 1 Bed & Breakfast Inn and Plein air artists painting under the cover of oak trees on the grounds of our garden center.

Time Capsule - Buried at turn of century was exhumed in 2010.

June 12, 2010 - Memorial Garden was Re-dedicated Honoring Polly Duncan

Attended by Polly's family, Mayor Hal Turville and other Officials from the City of Clermont, friends and garden club members. Chairs on the lawn faced the garden. The lovely oriental garden statue located in the Memorial Garden was dedicated in Polly's memory.

A releasing of doves was held in memory of Former President, Polly Duncan (passing on 11-26-2009). The Closing Presentation was performed by Sam Modica grandson of Martha Conley. Guests were invited to tour the grounds and enjoy refreshments inside afterwards.

ORLANDO SENTINEL, Your Community, In Brief,
Monday, September 3, 2007

By Anita Hardin

A noteworthy color photo and article to announce its arrival!

Clermont Garden Club adds gazebo

Thanks to the Bower family our Gazebo has arrived.

THE NEWS LEADER, pg.35 Nov. 21, 2007

Another noteworthy article.

Garden Club Welcomes Lauren Ritchie

Lauren Ritchie, a noted water conservation advocate and a featured columnist for the Orlando Sentinel was introduced by Owaissa Vanderberg, 1st Vice President of the Clermont GC at, The Garden Club, Faire on the Lake, Saturday, November 10.



District VII Fall Meeting Held October 27, 2021

Our club was well represented at the District VII Fall Meeting held in Apopka on October 27, 2021. There were 39 in attendance, of which 10 were from our own club! The guest speaker was officer Jason Wiggins of the Apopka Police who gave an enlightening program about staying safe and alert during the holidays.

Members who attended enjoyed the guest speaker, District VII program, a report by Gwen Carter on the FFGC Awards Program, and information about the Judges District VII Flower show from Margaret Kirkpatrick and Teri Mallory. Margaret demonstrated preparing a plant for a horticulture entry and Teri displayed examples of Botanical Crafts which are made with dried parts of flowers, seeds and stems.

After reports by Club Presidents the meeting was adjourned, and drawings were held for the raffle baskets and the 50/50 raffle. Three of our members won raffle baskets: Pam Molesky, Anne Ellis, and Tina Worrell!

Thank you to those who attended: Gwen Carter, Mary Adams, Carol Walker, Marilyn Paone, Tina Worrell, Pam Molesky, Anne Ellis, Linda Lauletta, Denise Palermo and Cindy Simon.

Thank you to Sue Randall, Barb Williams, and Pat Olsen for putting together the raffle basket to represent our club.

Order Shirts and Name Tags

Shirts may be ordered from **Welcome Back Shirt Shack**, 16207 Hwy 50, Suite 401, Clermont, FL 34711. They have the CGC logo. You can bring your own shirt or order one from them.

Name Tags may be ordered from **Awards and More**, 16730 Fosgate Rd Montverde, FL 34756. 407-469-3811. This business is in a private home.



New Members

(since the Yearbook was published)

Letizia Isaia

Bob Karnes

Kathy Orlowski

Sue Stone

Linda Welch

November Yard of the Month

**Information not available at time
of printing**



November in the Garden

Cool, dry weather sets in this month making it one of the best times in Florida to enjoy your outdoor living space. North Florida sees some fall color change and throughout the state, native and ornamental grasses begin to turn brown.

The chill in the air helps to lessen the bug populations of aphids, beetles, cutworms, cabbage worms, mole crickets, leaf rollers, hoppers and other yard dwellers. Be on the lookout for pests and treat accordingly should you encounter an infestation.

Migratory birds can be found passing through on their way further south. Fill bird feeders to help them with their success and to catch a glimpse of these visitors.

Consider a regular feeding of 6-6-6 fertilizer applied around the drip line of the tree. While many packages will provide instruction, a good rule of thumb is one pound of fertilizer per each year of the tree's age. The nutritional boost will add to the fruit that's been forming. The weather change should allow a break from fertilization. Consider a composted manure or balanced liquid fertilizer for your plants to help set them on path for a successful abundance of blooms.

Flower buds on your Poinsettias will begin to open and many tropical plants will begin to bloom. Color will be just about everywhere.





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Visit Clara and Clarence on the Scarecrow Stroll

The Scarecrow Stroll is in its second year in downtown Clermont, sponsored by the City of Clermont, and our club has entered again. We hope to repeat our first-place win! Clara and Clarence are located strategically in an alcove in front of the former Hanks Electric store front with permission from the new owners.

Our thanks to the Scarecrow Committee for their inventive creation of these creations and of Arabella, the umbrella scarecrow at the entrance to our club. Led by chairman Gwen Carter, the members of the committee include Barbara Williams, Linda Wentworth, Denise Mercandetti, Diane Wilson, Jane Caruso and Pam Molesky.





FFGC and NGC Links to Interesting Publications

Remember how I tell you every meeting to visit FFGC.org for lots of information about what FFGC is all about? And that we are members of FFGC with our CGC membership...and FFGC falls under NGC...(check your Yearbook for the ABC's of CGC definitions of acronyms!)

Here are some links to publications within each organization that may be of interest to you. (Just copy/paste to your browser)

Link to Subscribe receive to the National Gardener every quarter delivered to your email.

<https://gardenclub.org/national-gardener>

Link to a weekly NGC blog subscribe today delivered to your email

<https://gardenclub.org/ngc-blog>

All members can visit Member Resources...No Log in required... "Membership Monday" can be found in Member Resources...

<https://gardenclub.org/member-resources>

NGC Photographers Facebook Group- all are welcome to join! Great Group of Kind people

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/423896271551028>

Our NGC Photographers Group is open to all National Garden Club members who wish to both share their photographs and to learn from each other about how to critique images. When offering a critique **Always present a positive viewpoint first, **and base any critique on terms and techniques relative to photography.

Our format is to have a theme of the month to give everyone a purpose when taking photos and a reason to perhaps try something new. We will try to share a photo related to the theme on a daily basis to get you inspired. We hope you will post your photos also as they relate to the topic.



Be a Pumpkin Hero!

From the National Wildlife Federation



One of the best parts of Halloween is decorating with pumpkins. But after the trick-or-treaters clear away and the holiday is over, did you know that you can actually recycle your pumpkins in a way that helps wildlife?

Five Ways to Be a Halloween Hero:

1. Compost Your Pumpkins

If you've carved a jack-o-lantern, it may already be decomposing. Pumpkins are 90% water, which means they quickly begin breaking down once you cut into them. This makes them a great addition to your compost pile. If you don't have a composting pile, check with local farms, nearby recycling centers, and even community gardens.

2. Make A Snack-O-Lantern

With a firm, fresh pumpkin, you can create a feeder that squirrels and birds are sure to enjoy.

3. Share Pumpkin Seeds With Wildlife

We know they're tasty to bake, but it turns out wildlife enjoy raw pumpkin seeds. Simply dig them out, don't add anything to them and you'll have a tasty treat that you can spread in your yard or place in your bird feeder.

4. Cut Up The Pumpkin Into Small Chunks For A Critter Feast

Generally, feeding mammals is discouraged, but once a year is fine. Cutting up your giant pumpkin helps birds and smaller animals while foxes, deer and other animals won't even need the pumpkin cut up. Do be careful if you think bears or rats could be an issue in your area!

5. Create Your Own Pumpkin Farming Empire

So, you probably won't actually end up with a pumpkin farm, but if you plant the seeds, you could end up growing pumpkins for seasons to come! They're easy to grow and low maintenance plants. As an added bonus, in the spring and summer the plants will provide pollen for bees.

Not that difficult, right? Together, we can have fun on Halloween while cutting down on waste when it comes to cleanup.



December Fun with Flowers Workshop

Get ready for a fabulous Fun with Flowers workshop on Saturday, December 18 from 11 AM – 1 PM at the clubhouse.

Julie Milburn, CGC member, will teach us to create a holiday centerpiece made of carnations and greenery in a Christmas tree shape.

Cost is TBD as supplies are being sourced. If you sign up on Eventbrite to use a credit card, you will also incur their fee.

Deadline to register is November 18, 2021. This event will be open to the public on November 19, but we are opening it to our members first! This workshop will be limited to 30 attendees to allow for space to create your masterpiece! Final deadline is December 6, 2021.

For now, please register your interest in attending this workshop by emailing Cindy Simon at bsktcindy@earthlink.net.

As soon as the cost is determined, an email will be sent to membership. Thank you for your patience.

Example of arrangement





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November Babies!

Donna Ferraguto 11/9

Margaret Piper 11/12

Kathy Tozzi 11/18

Carol Dixon 11/21



Garden Workdays at the Clubhouse

We start @ 8 am and go until @ noon

ALL are welcome and NEEDED!
Bring your gloves, bug spray, clippers, etc.
And don't forget your WATER!

Garden Workdays

Monday, Nov 1

Monday, Nov 15

Monday, Dec 6

Monday, Dec 20

Monday, Jan 10

Monday, Jan 24

Monday, Feb 7

Monday, Feb 21

