



**Sweetwater Oaks**  
**Garden Club**

April 2023

**PLANT SALE THIS MONTH!**

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**SWEETWATER OAKS  
GARDEN CLUB  
APRIL GENERAL MEETING**

**DATE:** Monday, April 10, 2023

**TIME:** 9:30 A.M. Social  
10:00 A.M. Meeting

**LOCATION:** Village On The Green  
500 Village Place  
Longwood, Florida 32779








**SPEAKER:** Kathy Hubert,  
Master Gardener

**PROGRAM:** *Propagating Plants  
From Cuttings - How  
to start new plants  
from cuttings, so you  
can expand your  
garden for free.*

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# APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 
2	3 <b>BOARD MEETING</b> Sweetwater Oaks Community Center 810 Fox Valley Dr. Longwood	4	5	6	7 <b>SPRING FLING FLORAL WORKSHOP \$25</b> 9-10 AM SWEETWATER OAKS COMMUNITY CENTER	8
9 BD - Pat Neff 	10 BD - Claire Griffis <b>GENERAL MEETING</b> Village on the Green Meeting Room 9:30 AM Social 10:00 AM Meeting	11 Youth Gardeners Insects 	12	13 BD- Pat Murray 	14 Plant Sale @ <b>Shirley's, 210</b> Lonesome Pine Dr., Longwood	15 Plant Sale @ <b>Shirley's, 210</b> Lonesome Pine Dr., Longwood 
16	17	18	19	20 BD - Peter Schwenderman	21	22 
23 BD - Cheri Blackmon 30	24 BD - Joan Lasek	25	26	27 Hospice 	28 <b>Arbor Day: 11AM</b> Under the Trees at Episcopal Church of the Resurrection 251 E. Brantley Drive, Longwood	29



## A Word From Our President

Marjorie Abbas, our membership vice president, kindly reminded us at the March general meeting that to remain members of Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club for 2023-2024, we must fill out the renewal form this month and send it along with a \$40 check to Marjorie or bring it to the April meeting. One might think it is a little early to take care of next year, but the FFGC Headquarters office is asking that all **memberships be sent to them by May 1. So, let's all complete this request as soon as possible.**



Why would one want to be a member of a club?

Clubs and societies are the perfect places to meet new people. Everyone who joins is looking to do the same things – meet new people, take part in activities they're interested in and be part of a community. Making new friends and seeing old ones, benefits us socially, emotionally and mentally.

What should I expect from a membership?

Membership allows one the privilege of belonging to a group who is interested in the same thing and allows one to be surrounded by friends who want to learn and grow within that area of concern. It provides opportunity to become involved in its mission and to contribute to its philanthropic goals. Volunteers help to strengthen the future of the club by helping with its fundraisers. It provides social interaction, luncheons and field trips plus monthly guest lectures on appropriate topics for the club. Newsletters and other means of communication keep members connected. Members may attend club workshops and online courses plus attend district and state federation meetings.

Why are dues needed?

A portion of the membership dues are sent to the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs to assist with the running of the organization on various levels. The remaining portion stays with the local club to run its organization. Any excess at the end of the year may become part of the funds allocated to the philanthropic causes of the organization.

What has been my experience by joining the Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club?

Each of us undoubtedly has a different story to tell, but I can guess that every experience has elements of personal benefits that have impacted your life in many ways. For me, my neighbor Joan Lasek invited me to join the SWOGC right after moving to Florida. I thought to myself, "Gardening is different here than it was in Maryland, so maybe I could learn how to garden effectively in Florida." I joined and met all of you! What a blessing!



*Bernadine Delafield, President  
Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club, Inc.*

## PROGRAMS - APRIL 2023



Kathy Hubert will be the guest speaker for the Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club's April 10th general meeting.

To quote our guest speaker, "Originally from the north (Toronto, Canada) with their seasons of beautiful colorful floral gardens from summer to fall, it was a shock when I moved to Central Florida to find a completely different environment. Knowledge is important to be a successful gardener and after many failed attempts, in 2019, I welcomed the opportunity to enroll in the

Master Gardener Volunteer Program, Seminole County, sponsored by the UF/IFAS Extension, University of Florida.

My topic and demonstration is *Propagating Plants from Cuttings*, how to start new plants from cuttings, so you can expand your garden for free."

A field trip is being planned for April and the date, time and place will be confirmed soon. Also, more information will be available soon regarding details on our May luncheon.



Arthur Allison  
Debbie Allison

1st Vice President - Programs



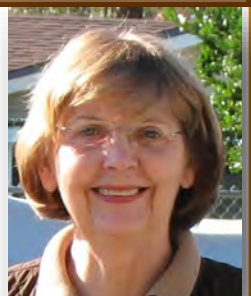
## MEMBERSHIP



### DUES ARE DUE!

Please mail your dues for the next club year 2023-2024 with the registration form ASAP to Marjorie Abbas or bring to our April general meeting.

Thank you!

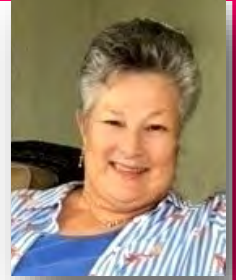


Marjorie Abbas  
Diane Hennessy



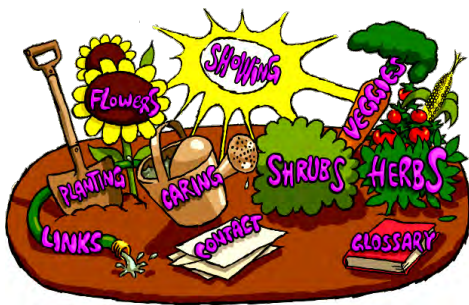
## HORTICULTURE

Why do I plant a veggie garden? Simple. The veggies grown in my garden taste so much better than the ones purchased at a supermarket. A lot of food we buy has been treated with a great deal of chemicals before it even hits the produce display section of the store. Growing my own veggies means I ingest less chemicals, and I have them available right outside my door.



When beginning a new veggie or flower garden, consider placement. Evaluate how much soil and shade the plant material will receive. Sometimes you may need to consider a neighbor's or city trees that will grow taller and shade your plants or change your idea. Veggies and flowers need full sun unless they are shade lovers. Look at the plant's "tags" which will tell you shade or sun, and where to place that particular plant. Shade loving plants will burn in the sun.

Before planting, you may want to amend your sandy soil with Black Cow and peat moss. This will add the necessary nutrients to your soil which will improve the flavor of your plant material. You will also want to pull out "whole weeds" (roots to top) to stop the cycle of the weeds. One "weed seed pod" will make hundreds more weed plants. Weed regularly so your mow and go team doesn't cut them off and you can't find them. I try not to use chemicals in the garden as you want the pollinators to remain.



Let's talk about irrigation as the rainy season approaches. Rain barrels are old fashioned, but I have one. My rain barrel is a garbage can that sits on wheels. I can move it anywhere on my deck and let the rain fill it, and then use it to water all my veggie pots, houseplants, and orchids. Using a rain barrel eliminates unnecessary chemicals found in our tap water. And don't forget, the use of fungicides is great as rainy season starts, especially for those who grow roses.

If you have any foliage, whether veggies or plants, in pots or outside, remember not to let the soil get too dry, as they need to stay regularly watered. Some of you may have irrigation systems, but the pots need to be watered anyway. Until the rain comes, and dry season ends, wet your plants! (Think: Right Plant, Right Place!)

When shopping for new plants, keep in mind we live in Zone 9B. Get native species as they are happy here. Sub-tropical plants will have a hard time making it through tough winters like the one we had this year.

Got crab grass? On a sunny day, wet it, sprinkle Baking Soda all over it, and the sun will do the rest. It takes two days for the baking soda trick to do the job, but after that you can simply replace the affected area with sod of your choice.

Do you have citrus plants? Just a gentle reminder not put fertilizer near the trunk of the tree. Instead, put fertilizer 1 foot away from trunk and look where leaves are on the tree. That is where you put the fertilizer, under the canopy. Also, do not put mulch near the tree trunk as that invites insects to invade the trunk. And don't forget to feed palm and citrus as they are hungry this time of year.

Now it's time to get growing! Enjoy potting your veggies and plants and remember to adjust your irrigation to 2x a week as plants are growing now.

*Louise Gould  
Chairperson - Horticulture*



Hip, Hip, Hoorah! We did it! We started out on shaky ground, but with the efforts and hard work of our members our Garden Fair was a success. This chairman is so **proud of our club's positive attitude and willingness to take the baby steps to present** our fair once again to the community. This was a great start after a long hiatus in growing our fair again, and next year it will be even bigger and better!

A huge thank you to all the chairmen and their committees that worked together to pull this event together. Vendors: Viviana Rey-Palmer and Linda Merdon; Sponsors: Carole Baird; Signage, Min Schwenderman; Properties & Set Up: Lynn Griffis, Min Schwenderman, Cyndi Nelson, Peter Schwenderman, Annie Price, Nancy Kelley, and Jim Palmer; Volunteers & Procurements: Joyce Anderson; Welcome table: Bernie Delafield and Sharon Lane Crouch; Speakers: Margaret Kirkpatrick; **Children's Activities: Lynn Griffis, Louise Gould, Joan Lasek, Pam Frisbey and Joyce Anderson; Publicity: Annie Price and Gail Arena; Photography: Gay Momberger; Café: Arlene Polacheck and Shirley Hungerford; Plant Taxi: Nancy Kelley; Youth Volunteers: Laurie Kennedy; Parking: Peter Schwenderman, Patrick Kennedy, Jamie Price and Rick Kelley; Treasurer: Pat Neff.**

UF Mid-FL Research students helped with set up and students from Lake Brantley HS volunteered for the Plant Taxi for both days. And a big thank you to all of our members, not named, who donated their time working at the fair and supported our fair with monetary gifts. You are greatly appreciated.

Your Garden Fair Committee has already begun working on the 2024 Garden Fair. If you have any suggestions or ideas, please let this chairman know.

Happy Gardening,

*Margaret Kirkpatrick  
Chairperson - Garden Fair*

## FLORAL DESIGN WORKSHOP

Our "Spring Fling" Floral Design Workshop will be held on Friday, April 7, 2023.

Please join us and create a beautiful Spring floral arrangement for your home for the holidays. The cost of the workshop is \$25.00 and all you must bring with you are floral clippers, a plastic bag (for your cuttings) and a piece of newspaper for under your work area. We will provide all the flowers and instruction! The class will be limited to the first 20 that sign up.



### "Spring Fling" Workshop Information:

Date: Friday, April 7, 2023

Time: 9:00 AM-10:00 AM

Place: Sweetwater Oaks Community Center

870 Fox Valley Drive

Longwood, Florida 32779

If you are interested in attending, please email me or call.

You can mail a check made out to Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club to:

Margaret Kirkpatrick

Looking forward to seeing you there.



*Margaret Kirkpatrick  
Chairperson - Floral Design*

**AWESOME ARBOR DAY**  
**11:00 AM**  
**FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2023**

Episcopal Church of the Resurrection  
251 E. Brantley Drive, Longwood  
Refreshments and goodies served  
FREE raffle

Bring a chair and umbrella (for sun)  
Give yourself a gift and return to our  
"Covid" Sanctuary.

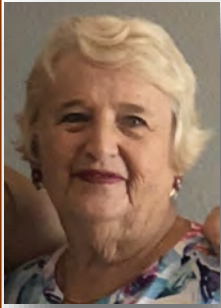
Remember when we met under the Trees?

Thank you for all your support of our  
Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club's activities.

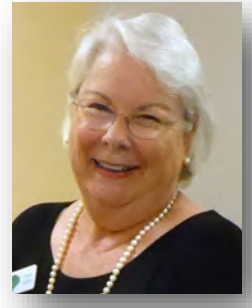
*Min Schwendeman*  
*Chairperson - Arbor Day 2023*



WAYS AND MEANS - SPRING PLANT SALE



Spring Plant Sale – **It’s Almost Here!**  
April 14 & 15



The Spring Plant Sale is coming up VERY soon. We hope your cuttings and plantings and seedlings are all flourishing. Each one is important to the success of the Sale and the support of our horticulture and camping students. Following is important information for both volunteers and shoppers:

Location: Home of Shirley Hungerford

In the event of issues, the location may change to the home of Lynn Griffis just a few houses up the street. Signs will guide both volunteers and shoppers. Watch your e-mail for announcements in the week prior to the sale.

Plant Delivery prior to April 13: **Deliver plants to Lynn’s house if you need to drop them off prior to set-up morning.** *All plants should be clearly identified by name.*

Set-up: Thursday, April 13, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the finally determined sale location. (Check your e-mail!) Deliver your plants, *all of which should have name tags.* Volunteers needed to assist with setting up tents\* and tables\*, receive, price and set out plants for display.

\* Strong? Tall? - **We’re getting older and shorter! If you have a husband, children, grandchildren, neighbors, best friends, or someone who owes you a favor, who is also stronger and/or taller than most of us... they could be incredible help in setting up tents and hauling tables. Bring them with you and see how very appreciated both you and they will be made to feel!**

Sale Days & Hours:           Friday, April 14, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
  Saturday, April 15, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
*All members – come to shop and chat. It’s fun!*

Tear Down: Beginning at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, April 15. *Many hands make light work!*

Sign-up: Volunteer sign-up sheets will be available at the April general meeting.

Questions? Call any of the Ways and Means co-chairs:

Lynn Griffis  
Cheryl Nordstedt  
Shirley Hungerford  
Ways and Means Committee

**Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.**

**96th Annual Convention**

**April 18—20, 2023**

**Embassy Suites by Hilton, Lake Buena Vista South**

**Kissimmee, Florida**

***Worlds of Wonder***



Register online at: <https://bit.ly/3wxWLGd>

Book your Hotel at BOOKING Website: <https://book.passkey.com/e/50329407> Group Code: FGC

More information available at <https://ffgc.org/Convention-2023>

## WEKIVA CAMP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

From Charlotte White to all Clubs:

So far we are falling short with volunteers this year. Now is the time to bring in new members to see what a wonderful camp FFGC runs. Below is a breakdown of open areas:

### Week 1 June 18-24:

- 1 Person for Crafts
- 2 People for Nature

### Week 2: June 25 to July 1

- 3 for Crafts
- 1 for Nature

### Week 3 - July 2-8

- 3 Crafts
- 3 Nature

### Week 4 July 9-15

- 1 Crafts
- 2 Nature

### Week 5 July 16-22

- 1 Office

### Week 6 July 23-29

- 2 Crafts
- 2 Nature

What is expected to Volunteer for Crafts? There are 3 sessions lasting about 1-1/2 hrs. starting at 9 am. with the 3rd session after lunch. Craft Volunteers will help the Craft Coordinator to set up the room for camper sessions, clean up after each session and help with crafts during the session. The Craft Coordinator will meet with Craft Volunteers on arrival day of Sunday to go over the crafts. Most days you will be done by 3 pm. After the last session you are free to check out the park, swim in the pool or go to the springs, or leave the park and go shopping. The Craft Hall is air conditioned as well as your cabin. There is a full size refrigerator in each cabin to bring snacks. The cabin has 4 beds with one bathroom. You will find "What to Pack" on the Wekiva Website along with the Registration Form.

What is expected to Volunteer for Nature? There are 3 sessions lasting about 1 1/2 hrs. starting at 9 am. with the 3rd session after lunch. Nature Volunteers will help the Nature Coordinator set up the Nature porch for camper sessions, clean up after each session and help with nature studies during the session. The Nature Coordinator will meet with Nature Volunteers on arrival day of Sunday to go over the Nature Program. Most days you will be done by 3 pm. After the last session you are free to check out the park, swim in the pool or go to the springs, or leave the park and go shopping. The Nature Hut porch is not air conditioned. There will be Nature hikes at each session lasting around 1/2 hour. Your cabin is air-conditioned. There is a full size refrigerator in each cabin to bring snacks. The cabin has 4 beds with one bathroom. You will find "What to Pack" on the Wekiva Website along with the Registration Form. You should be someone who can tolerate hot weather, and be agreeable to hike trails with children. Everyone is expected to help with at least one hike per day.

You must fill out the forms that you can download when you register at Wekiva.com under Volunteer Registration. You will be sent forms for a FBI Level 2 background check before coming to camp. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Mary at 352-212-6661 or email.



# Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 915233

Club Flower—Rose  
Club Bird—Cardinal

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Deep South Region

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

District VII

Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole & Sumter Counties

Organized—January 9, 1974

Federated—January 27, 1975

Incorporated—September 14, 1992

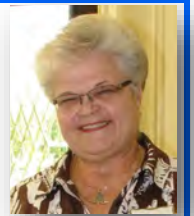
**We're on the web!**

[www.swogc.org](http://www.swogc.org)



If you know of a member who could use an extra kind thought, please contact me. I would prefer receiving the information by email, but please call me if you don't have email access.

Linda Richcreek



The purpose of Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club is the education of its members and the community in their relationship to horticulture, conservation and environmental needs, as well as the art of floral design.

## Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club, Inc. Meeting Schedule

### BOARD MEETINGS

First Monday of the Month September-May at 10:00 AM  
810 Fox Valley Drive, Longwood, Florida or Zoom

### GENERAL MEETINGS

Second Monday of the Month, September 2022-May 2023  
9:30 AM Social, 10:00 AM Meeting  
Village on the Green, 500 Village Place, Longwood, off Sabal Palm Drive South.  
Meeting is in the "Longwood Meeting Room."

### HORTICULTURE GROUP MEETINGS

Throughout the Year - See the Calendar of Events for Dates, Times and Location.

### YOUTH GARDENERS

Second Tuesday of the Month at 9:00 AM

### FLORAL DESIGN

Every Other Thursday at Hospice of the Comforter 12:30-3:00 PM



**The Daisy is the  
April  
Flower of  
the Month**

## MARCH GENERAL MEETING

PHOTOS COURTESY OF GAY MOMBERGER—MORE ON SHUTTERFLY



GARDEN FAIR 2023 PHOTOS

PHOTOS COURTESY OF GAY MOMBERGER—MORE ON SHUTTERFLY

