



**Sweet Water Oaks**  
Garden Club

**TIME TO BE GRATEFUL**

December 2023

**Editor**

Gay Momberger

Come join us  
HOLIDAY LUNCHEON  
Monday, December 11, 2023

*Celebrating the holidays with Garden Club friends*



Village on the Green  
500 Village Place  
Longwood, Florida 32779

Social 11:00  
Lunch 11:30

**Executive Board**

**President**

Lynn Griffis

**First Vice President/Programs**

Pam Frisbey

**2nd Vice President/Membership**

Marjorie Abbas

Jacque Body

**3rd Vice President/Hospitality**

Nancy Kelly

Laurie Kennedy

Janet McIntyre

jpax2313@gmail.com

**Recording Secretary**

Cheryl Nordstedt

Cnordstedt45@gmail.com

**Corresponding Secretary**

Linda Richcreek

LinRob1574@yahoo.com

**Treasurer**

Pat Neff

prneff06@verizon.net

**Parliamentarian**

Joyce Anderson

**Menu**

*Green Salad with choice of two dressings  
(Italian or Ranch)*

*Chicken Marsala*

*Mashed Potatoes*

*Mixed Vegetables*

*Carrot Cake or Red Velvet Cake*

*Vegetarian plate if requested*

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# DECEMBER

Sun ❄️

Mon






Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat ❄️

<p><i>"Winter is not a season, it's a celebration." — Anamika Mishra</i></p>						1	2
3	4 BOARD MEETING	5	6	7 Hannukah begins	8	9	
10	11 <i>Holiday Luncheon</i> VOTG 11 am	12 Junior Gardeners 	13	14 Hospice 	15 	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25 	26	27	28	29	30	
31 							



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



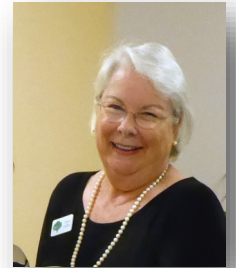
December 9 Louise Gould  
 December 12 Shirley Hungerford  
 December 20 William Petrie



## **A Word From Our President**

Dear Garden Club Members,

My holiday wishes for all of you are Happiness, Health and Peace. Store these wishes up to fuel your soul for the busy New Year!



January starts off with our SWOGC 50th Birthday on January 9th. Game Day is January 15th. Get together with a few other members and create some lovely baskets for the raffle. Then comes the Florida Arbor Day on January 19th when we will plant a tree in a Sweetwater Oaks park as other Garden Clubs are planting trees on the same day to celebrate FFGC's 100th birthday. Busy, yes, but many helping hands make the work easy and more fun. Please check with committee chairs to see where you can help.

Thank you all for your prayers, cards, calls and texts sent to me after my medical emergency. The prayers worked and the cards, calls and texts cheered me and my family. Even had my garden make me smile. When I came home from the hospital I found my chocolate orchid in full bloom and smelling very chocolatey.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our Christmas lunch.

"Flowers are restful to look at. They have neither emotions nor conflict."  
*Sigmund Freud*

Wishing you blooms in your garden.

*Lynn Griffis  
President*



MEMBERSHIP



The meeting in November was enjoyed by 46 members and three guests. One guest joined at the meeting:

Connie Wang,  
Please add Connie to your Year Book.



Marjorie Abbas  
Jacque Body  
Membership Chairs

GAME DAY 2024



Location: Wekiwa Springs State Park

Wekiva Youth Camp Dining Room

Date: Monday, January 15, 2024

10:00 am—2:00 pm

Cost: \$27



Create your table of 4 or more and play your game of choice.

Select a "Table CAPTAIN" and memo the name

Event includes:

**BREAKFAST, LUNCH, RAFFLE ITEMS, MONEY TREE, SILENT AUCTION**

Reservation Deadline is **NO** later than January 8,2024

Make checks payable to: **Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club**

Send checks to : Min Schwenderman

Wekiwa Springs State Park entrance is off Wekiwa Springs Rd.

No Park fees will be charged.

Tell Ranger you are attending the Youth Camp Event.

Follow the signs to the Youth Camp.

**YOUTH GARDENERS**

Youth Gardeners are making terrariums which will be submitted to the Orange County Fair for judging. We use the big Costco nut containers, miniature succulents and some realistic lizards and frogs for added pizzazz. It will be a fun session! The class will be held the Tuesday after the General Meeting.



*Ann Todd  
Chairman, Youth Gardeners*



**ARBOR DAY 2024**

Florida Arbor Day  
January 19,2024  
10:30 am

Circle your calendar date for a memorable 100th birthday celebration of the FFGC. We will be joining the whole world of Garden Clubs by planting a tree in commemoration that morning.

We will also be honoring our community of Sweetwater Oaks (our name sake) and planting an Acer rubrum (red maple) at the park on Riverbend Blvd. (off Wekiva Springs Rd. at the double lights).



**GOODIES---GIFTS-- FREE RAFFLE AND SOCIAL WILL BE ENJOYED!**

Bring a chair and/or umbrella for your comfort.

Min Schwenderman  
Lynn Griffis  
Rae Martin



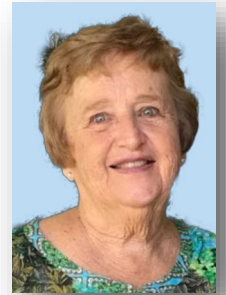


## WAYS AND MEANS

### Winter Time for Gardeners



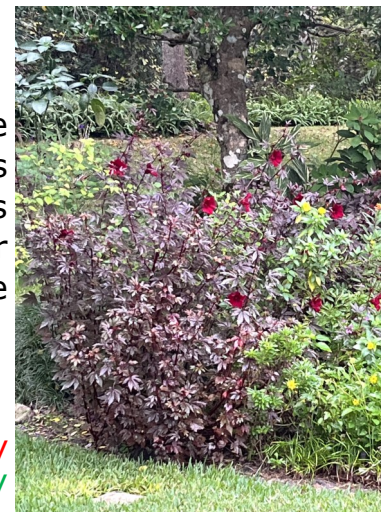
In addition to enjoying the holiday celebrations, for gardeners, winter is a time for waiting, hoping and planning. Waiting to see if there will be a hard frost or a heavy freeze or maybe no scary temperatures at all! How will the garden survive the dry, short days? What do I want to add, tear out, move, trim back, etc. as spring begins?



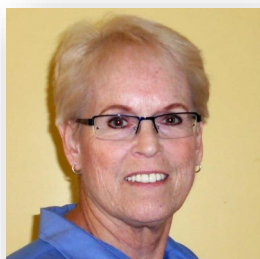
Many of us have found inspiration at the SWOGC semiannual Plant Sales. This white trumpet plant – 6 ft tall or more and bursting with blooms – was a 6-inch leafless stick at the Fall Sale just a year ago. The Clivia Nobilis, or Forest Lily, with its glowing orange blossoms was donated to the plant sale by one of our members two years ago. Its bloom this year was worth the wait. One tiny little potted plant from a few years ago found its home in a garden. It now puts forth beautiful cranberry red blooms that you can dry and turn into Hibiscus Tea which is known for its multiple healthful properties.



Thank you to all whose donations to the Plant Sales are now growing in gardens around the area. The sales of these plants support the SWOGC scholarships for Wekiwa Campers and Horticulture students at U of FL.



From the Ways & Means Committee, **Merry Christmas**, **Happy Hannukah**, and **happy garden dreaming**.



*Ways & Means Committee Co Chairmen*  
*Lynn Griffis*  
*Shirley Hungerford*  
*Cheryl Nordstedt*

## FLORAL DESIGN



Our group had lots of fun making turkeys with flowers in our floral design workshop



## GARDEN FAIR

JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS...the Holidays are around the corner and this chairman is beginning to panic! CALLING ALL MEMBERS! The new year 2024 is almost here. Garden Fair is 3 months away on March 2-3! We want to make this the best Garden Fair ever. Please help by signing up at the Christmas luncheon to be on a telephone committee to touch base with prospective vendors. Viviana Rey-Palmer will give you a list of about 20 vendors to contact. Most vendors will be happy to hear about our fair. If they are not available this year, they can put us on their calendar for 2025. **OR** You can help Carole Baird with finding sponsors; they are the core of our fundraising. Please contact Carole, and she will help get you started. We all have businesses we frequent and friends that would want to support our scholarship Students at Wekiva Youth Camp and the horticulture students at the University of Florida's Mid Florida Research Campus.



We were able to donate \$12,000 to UF last year. Let's make it more. The students were so appreciative of our help. We are very fortunate to have a strong relationship with our students, and they in turn help us with setting up our Garden Fair.

I hope you all have a very safe and happy holiday season!

*Margaret Kirkpatrick*  
*Garden Fair Chair*



## HOSPITALITY

Certainly hope to see each and every one of you at our holiday luncheon on the 11th. Looking forward to a delicious meal at VOTG so no desserts needed from club members.

Greeters for Dec 11th:

- Bernie Delafield
- Janet McIntyre



Hope you are enjoying the holiday season. See you there!!



*3rd Vice President, Hospitality*  
*Nancy Kelly*  
*Laurie Kennedy*  
*Janet McIntyre*

## PROGRAMS

- |             |  |  |
|-------------|--|--|
| January 8   | SEMINOLE COUNTY NATURAL LANDS PROGRAM<br>Speaker: Allegra Buyer<br>Natural Resources Program Coordinator   | A portrait of Pam Frisbey, a woman with short reddish hair wearing a patterned top, smiling. |
| February 12 | THE WILD WORLD OF WOODPECKERS<br>Speaker: Jason Peliwo, Co-owner of Wild Birds Unlimited   |  |
| March 11    | ORCHIDS<br>Speaker: Teri Scott, Member of Central Florida Orchid Society   |  |
| April 8     | INSPECTS AND CONTROL<br>Speaker: Kaydie McCormick<br>Residential Horticulture Agent & Master Gardener<br>Coordinator for UF/IFAS Extension Seminole County |  |
| May 13      | INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS & SPRING LUNCHEON   |  |

*Programs Chair*  
*Pam Frisbey*



Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 915233

Longwood, Florida 32791

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

708-207-8941

LinRob1574@yahoo.com

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 2023-May 2024, 9:30 AM Social, 10:00 AM Meeting  
**Village on the Green**, 500 Village Place, Longwood  
Off Sabal Palm Drive South in the "Longwood Meeting Room"

### **HORTICULTURE GROUP MEETINGS**

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

### **JUNIOR GARDENERS**

Second Tuesday of the Month at 9:00 AM

### **FLORAL DESIGN**

Every Other Thursday at Hospice of the Comforter 1:30-3:00 PM



**NOVEMBER  
MEETING  
PHOTOS**

*Photos courtesy of Gay Momberger*

