

ROADSIDE BEAUTIFICATION CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Garden Club(s) FLORAL (City) GARDEN CLUB District V

Project Chairman Marcia L. Beasley Telephone (904) 726-7740

Address 9626 E. Tsala Apopka Dr. City Floral City, FL Zip 32636

FL DOT Coordinator N/A Project Location Floral City, FL

Project # _____ (When applicable)

Indicate if PROJECT is: * NEW * CONTINUING _____ FINAL REPORT *See Below

Give a brief concise description of the Roadside Beatification Project. Include civic and community involvement; nature of project (i.e. wildflower planting, trees, billboard regulation, etc.); progress at time of report; follow-up plans; awards applied for.

Include pictures and publicity when possible. Send final report when project completed.

CONTINUING: ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY Project. In November of 1989 the Club was the first garden club in the state to join the state-wide Adopt-A-Hwy program. Since that date the Club members, spouses and "friends: have cleaned-up a two mile area through the heart of Floral City four times a year.

CONTINUING: WILDFLOWER PLANTING: Wildflower seeds (thirteen pounds) furnished by Citrus County Public Works Department were planted by Club members. (attachments) in the spring of 1991. This area continues to be cleaned and watched. It covers a half mile area on either side of the road and just before entering under the "Historic Canopy of Oaks".

CONTINUING: INTERSECTION PLANTING: The small southeast corner at the intersection of S.R. 41 and C.R.48 in the heart of Floral City was cleared of weeds and debrie in the spring of 1991. The Club planted periwinkle and mulched with cypress chips. The Club continues to weed and care for the corner and plans to add plants this year.

NEW PROJECT: DOGWOODS UNDER OAKS: Dogwood seedings were planted under the "Historic Canopy of Oaks" in Floral City on Arbor Day 1992. The Inverness Garden Club donated 125 seedlings and 24 Floral Garden Club members, spouses and "friends" planted 115 dogwoods

(con't reverse side)

DEADLINES FOR REPORT: September 1; January 1; March 1. New or completed projects may be reported anytime. Use reverse side if additional space is needed.

Send 1 copy to: District Roadside Beautification Chairman

Send 1 copy to: Chairman —

(con't DOGWOODS UNDER OAKS)

The county's Public Works Department furnished nursery cloth, corrugated drainage pipe (collars), lath stakes and engineer tape.

Home owners along the avenue and members are alerted to water the seedlings once a week if it does not rain. The Club has been blessed with frequent rains since the planting.

Seedlings were planted one each between the 100+ year old oaks or every 21 feet in gaps. All areas but one are shaded to partially shaded. Planting methods were reviewed by county horticulturist and a demonstration was given to each of the 12 planting teams as they picked up their seedlings and materials. Specific location for each seedling had been indicated by lath stake on the previous day.

The project was covered by the press (see photo copies. Snap shots are also included.)

Attachments;

- a. 2 new articles
- b. 1 instruction sheet for dogwood planting
- c. 4 photos of dogwood project
- d. 2 photos of wildflower planting

Outdoors: Small game's in season and outdoors write

FRIDAY
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Chronicle

CRYSTAL RIVER
FLORIDA 32629

INVERNESS
FLORIDA 32652

Arbor Day blossoms in Citrus

By **Caren Burmeister**
Staff writer

It's Arbor Day. And garden club members hoping to, as their motto says, "put the floral back into Floral City," will plant dogwood seedlings between the century-old oaks along Orange Avenue today in recognition of the holiday.

Floral City Garden Club members will plant about 120 dogwoods donated by the Inverness Garden Club along the hammock-covered roadside around 10 a.m.

The Inverness Garden Club will give away the remainder of the 2-foot seedlings, almost 1,000 of them, at four locations in Inverness today in observation of Arbor Day. Beginning at 8:30 a.m., the seedlings will be given away at Ace Hardware on West Highland Boulevard in the Citrus Plaza, Walt Connors Office Supply on Tompkins Street, Publix on U.S. 41, and Kash n' Karry on State Road 44.

The city of Inverness will not conduct its annual Arbor Day tree sale. Instead, the city will

ARBOR

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erness to be recertified as Tree City, U.S.A., an award the city won last year, she said.

Marcia Beasley, a Floral City Garden Club vice president, said the dogwood seedlings will work well along Orange Avenue because they are easy to transplant and will pose little disturbance to the old, picturesque oak trees already standing there, planted in 1884.

The club is trying to re-establish the beauty of the community, which was once called "that floral area on the hill," Ms. Beasley said.

In addition to their beauty, trees serve many purposes, say officials with the U.S. Forest Service, including cleaning our air and stabilizing our soil.

Trees also contribute to a number of products, including rayon, photographic film, toys, turpentine and varnish, weather balloons, zippers, toothpaste, synthetic sponges and carpet, and of course homes, paper and furniture.

FREE SEEDLINGS

The Inverness Garden Club will give away almost 1,000 2-foot dogwood seedlings at four locations in Inverness beginning at 8:30 a.m. today in observation of Arbor Day:

- Ace Hardware on West Highland Boulevard in the Citrus Plaza
- Walt Connors Office Supply on Tompkins Street
- Publix grocery store on U.S. 41
- Kash n' Karry on State Road 44

During the 1990-91 planting season, almost 5 million trees were planted or seeded in the Apalachicola, Osceola and Ocala national forests, according to the service. That's equivalent to four trees for every resident in Orlando, Miami, Jacksonville, Gainesville and Tallahassee.

Additional information concerning trees and tree planting is available from the county forester's office at 726-2141.

Arbor Day project



Ross and Virginia Ankrom place dogwood trees in the ground Friday morning along Orange Avenue in Floral City as part of a Floral Garden Club Arbor Day observance. A total of 120 trees were planted along Orange Avenue by members of the club. This function works within the Project Pride umbrella as an Adopt-a-Tree project. In addition to planting the saplings, the members will be responsible for watering the trees once a week for a year. The Ankroms planted 10 trees.

Matthew Beck/The Chronicle









Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Charter Member of National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc.

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ROADSIDE COUNCIL - SCENIC AMERICA

Mrs. Kenton H. Haymans, Chairman

NCSGC began the fight against visual pollution on our nations highways in 1928. Yet, after sixty-three years only four states have no billboards. Efforts in recent years have met with mixed results, mostly, in favor of the outdoor advertising lobby.

A major issue regarding billboards is the cutting of trees and shrubs for increased visibility. This is despite the fact that they are growing in the rights-of-ways and have, in many cases, been planted by the DOT using public tax dollars.

Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs is actively involved in fighting visual pollution in their state according to Suzy Lauter, Tennessee and Deep South Roadside Council Chairman. She stresses that membership in Scenic America is an effective way to keep informed about the issue while strengthening support for Visual Pollution Control Act.

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs members are surveying billboards on Interstate and Federal-aide-highways as a means of increasing awareness of the problem and to prepare data for reform when the Outdoor Advertising Law comes up for sunset review in 1994. As one member exclaimed, "This has really been an eye-opener!", when she counted eighteen billboards in one mile along a busy highway. Another surprise has been the number of boards that carry no message, even though Florida law states that a board must be removed if it is without a message for more than two hundred seventy days.

The forty-six states (Alaska, Hawaii, Maine and Vermont do not permit billboards!) that are plagued with visual pollution in the form of billboards are encouraged to join the fight by: supporting the Scenic Highway program, joining Scenic America and engaging in a campaign to increase awareness of the need to protect this nations picturesque roadways.

Membership in Scenic America begins at \$20 for individuals. The address is: Scenic America, 216 7th St., S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003.

Dear Roadside Beautification Chairman:

I'm asking that your president pass this along to you as soon as it is received.

PRESIDENTS PLEASE

Our State Roadside Chairman is requesting a report by March 1....that means I have to have it back in a week! MAIL IT NO LATER than 2/26/92 !

When the request arrived last week I had other obligations and couldn't communicate with YOU at that time! I'm just hoping that you will not be delayed in responding, and that you have something to report.... at any rate, do let me hear from you before March 1.....

Give the location of ANY project.
Is this a new project? a continuing project? the end of a project? Please specify.
If you're working with a person in the DOT give me his/her name.
Summarize the project. Include pictures if possible. Sign the report; give your address, phone number and name of your club.

DON'T PROCRASTINATE!!!! DO THIS NOW!!!!
even if you don't have the pictures, etc.
let me know what's going on.... *even if it's zilch!*
And thanks a lot...I'm counting on you.....

Hazel
Hazel Hodges

P.S. Whatever happened to those forms you were to use to count the billboards?

The article on the left was taken from a National Council mailing....thought you might like to see it.....