

Floral City Garden Club

1992-1994 Year Book

Arbor Day project



Matthew Back/The Chronicle

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.





The Lord is my shepherd:

I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the
paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil:
for Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies:
Thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life: and I
will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

THE TWENTY-THIRD PSALM

IN MEMORY
MARIE LAIRD MORRIS

BORN

March 15, 1909

AT REST

December 7, 1991

SERVICES

Tuesday, December 10, 1991

2:00 P.M.

Davis Funeral Home

OFFICIATING

Rev. Dr. J. Marvin Sweat, Jr.

BURIAL

Hills of Rest Cemetery
-Floral City-



Chas. E. Davis Funeral Home, Inc.
1901 Campbell
2075 South Florida Ave. Inverness, Florida 33900

Funeral Notice

MORRIS

Marie Laird Morris, age 82 of Floral City passed away Dec. 7, 1991 at her residence. Born in Milford, Illinois, she came here 38 years ago from Windfall, Indiana. She was a member of the Floral City United Methodist Church where she was a lay member of the Annual Conference. She was a Sunday School Teacher and member of the choir. She served as Past President of the United Methodist Women and was very active in church mission work. She was a member of the Floral City Garden Club, O.E.S. Chapter #164, and Citrus Co. Library Advisory Board. Survivors include 1 son, Ray Morris, Tampa; 4 grandchildren; 5 great grandchildren; and she was preceded in death by her husband Ivan, June 8, 1989. Funeral services will be conducted Tuesday at 2:00 PM from the Chas. E. Davis Funeral Home of Inverness. Entombment will follow in the family mausoleum of Hills of Rest Cemetery of Floral City. Friends may call today from 2-4 & 6-8 PM at the Funeral Chapel where O.E.S. Chapter #164 will conduct Eastern Star services at 6:30 PM.

CHAS. E. DAVIS FUNERAL HOME
— Inverness —

You're Special



Thank you for the tree you gave us. We planted it in honor of Arbor Day. We hope it will grow strong so that we can enjoy it for always.

Brownie Troop #87
Floral City

4/17/2012



Laci Rivers

Charity Snyder

Jaime Warner

Renee Rogers Loves Amanda

Joanie Lewis

Regina Weaver

Alice Anderson

From: Melissa Davis

Danielle Love Pa

Michelle Loves

Lita



Thanker

Jessica Naczi

Jody Crystal

Wenissa You!

X our the Best!



Erica Maurer







Recycle and save the world

By Kim Allen
Regional Editor

Marie Jones said her grandchildren think she's just being cheap when she washes out baggies and hangs them in the

garage to dry.

"I just look at them and smile," she said. "Then I tell them how I'm trying to preserve the earth so that it will be around when they grow up."

Mrs. Jones' background in recycling didn't start by trying to conserve space in

the landfills. It started out of necessity.

"When I was a little girl, we just didn't have money to spend on toys or buying gifts at Christmas or birthdays," she said. "We looked around and made gifts from what we had in the house."

The plastic flip top to the Tide box is the perfect example, Mrs. Jones said. When the top is removed from the box, the outside of the plastic can be decorated with fabric or lace and a piece of paper can be slipped inside to hold a name. Now you have a name card for a place setting at the table, Mrs. Jones said.

That same Tide top can also be decorated to make an ornament for the Christmas tree.

After the air freshener is gone in the crystal looking holder, the center is unscrewed and a candle is placed in the center. Mrs. Jones said it makes a perfect candle holder that looks like it costs a lot of money.

"I was raised in a do-it-yourself family before it was popular," Mrs. Jones said. "We had to come up with creative ideas so that our gifts would look nice too."

What about those free newspapers that are thrown on your lawn a couple of days a week? Mrs. Jones has a couple of ideas of what to do with the plastic bags they come in.

"Remember those huge paper flowers we use to make out of fan-folded tissue paper?" Mrs. Jones asked. "You can make the same kinds of flowers out of the plastic bags by cutting small circles in the plastic and putting a staple in the middle of them."

From there, Mrs. Jones said you can attach the flowers around a wire circle and make a wreath. The flowers can also be used as bows on Christmas packages. According to Mrs. Jones, the flowers don't crush the way bows do on long trips.

While she recycles Christmas paper, Mrs. Jones said one particular piece of paper, gold in color, was recycled for several years by Mrs. Jones and her sister.

"Every year for about five or six years, my sister and I gave this piece of paper back and forth. It became a challenge to see who could find a gift small enough to wrap in what was left of the paper," Mrs. Jones said. "I think I'm the one that finally ended up with it. It's just too small to use but I'll think of something to do with it."

When she goes shopping, Mrs. Jones said she thinks she's about the only person who looks for wrapping and other products that can be recycled.



Matthew Beck/The Chronicle

Marie Jones sits at her kitchen table with some of the many gifts she has made by recycling household products.

Floral Garden Club enjoys trip

By Kathy Mueller
Floral Garden Club

In March this year, members of the Floral Garden Club, other area garden clubs, the Floral City Woman's Club and some residents of Singing Forest, enjoyed a trip to Sarasota's Selby Botanical Gardens.

The gardens were a gift to Sarasota from Marie Selby, whose husband owned the first oil well in Texas. Mrs. Selby, a concert pianist, was the donor of many college scholarships and is known as the first woman to drive from the east coast to the west seaboard.

The gardens employ 40 full-time workers to care for the innumerable plants and several buildings on the grounds. Four hundred volunteers assist at various times in caring for the plants, as guides through the gardens, and in the museum and gift shop.

Exotic plants from the tropics are the specialty of the gardens, but the grounds and greenhouses also contain many familiar Florida varieties. There are three kinds of mangroves growing near the Baywalk Sanctuary on Sarasota Bay. They form dense tangles of roots which afford refuge to small marine animals and fish. The buttonwood tree has rough bark and button-like blossoms. Sea grapes border the mangrove sites. The roots of the coontie, one of many cycads in the Cycad Collection, were used by the Indians as flour.

Among the trees in the Palm

Exotic plants from the tropics are the specialty of the gardens, but the grounds and greenhouses also contain many familiar Florida varieties.

Grove is the black palm which bears long spines to prevent cockroaches from climbing up the tree. There are huge banyan and fig trees and cacao trees, from whose pods we obtain cocoa and chocolate. In the Bamboo Pavilion, we learn that some bamboos, the fastest growing plants, shoot up as much as four feet a day.

The Hibiscus Garden includes plants whose blooms of pink, red, yellow and lavender are up to 10 inches across. In the Cactus Garden we found many cacti and succulents such as the aloe, noted for its medicinal properties, and the jojoba, whose oil is used in manufacturing in lieu of whale oil. The Waterfall Garden possesses numerous varieties of water lilies, some of them native to Florida. Surrounding the pool are elephant ears and cypress trees.

The Tropical Food Garden contains pineapple, plantains, bananas, and sugar cane as well as

spinach from Ceylon, the white Cuban sweet potato, and the black sapote from Central America. Among these edible plants is the luffa, edible when young and used as a sponge when fully ripe.

The Tropical House displays fern, bromeliads and carnivorous plants amid 6,000 orchids. A large arbor is blanketed with white blossomed vining begonias and an adjoining wall is covered with red anthuriums. Staghorn fern ranging in size from mammoth to tiny and grass-like are displayed in a separate room.

The garden clubbers are so pleased with the Sarasota tour that they're planning a trip to Kanapaha Gardens in Gainesville soon. To observe Earth Day 1991, Floral Garden Club members participated in Adopt-a-Highway and Operation Wildflower. They collected litter along Highway 48 and planted wildflowers on the roadsides.

to botanical gardens



Members of the Floral City Garden Club recently toured the Sarasota's Selby Botanical Gardens. The group had a good time and is planning another trip to Kanapaha Gardens soon.

Floral City Garden Club

Tree of Friendship is multigrafted tree

By Marie Jones
Lake Life correspondent

Washington Irving wrote "He who plants a tree cannot expect to sit in its shade; but he exalts in the idea, that the acorn shall grow to benefit mankind long after he is gone."

Let me tell you about a unique tree called the "Tree of Friendship." It has grown for over 50 years in a test station for subtropical and southern cultures in the Crimea.

Its uniqueness lies in the fact that it is multigrafted. The first graft was made in 1940. Since then it has undergone grafts by representatives of over 130 countries, people of various nationalities and professions. Each of these individuals was instructed in the technique of grafting be-

fore the procedure was undertaken.

The results: more than 45 different citrus fruits now grow in the dense crown of the "Tree of Friendship," among them Italian lemons, American grapefruit and Japanese mandarins.

Adjacent to each fruit is a little white label. These labels bear names in many languages identifying the various fruits.

Think of all the remarkable cooperation and sharing from nature and people of many faiths, languages and customs! Doesn't it seem that we should be able to take heart from this lesson from nature?

The Floral Garden Club would like to share friendship, knowledge, plants and sociability with you. Let's get acquainted on Sept. 13.

ly 31, 1991, Lake Life, Page 11A

Floral Garden Club is full of history

By Mary Jones
Floral Garden Club

In October of 1956 the first meeting of the Floral Garden Club was held. The enrollment was 15, the yearbook was hand written, and meetings were held in members homes. By 1958 the membership increased to 18, and sponsored by Mrs. G. T. Smith of Ocala, our club became a member of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.

With the club's support a junior garden club was formed in 1959. The first flower show of the club was held in May of 1960 with an appropriate theme of, "In the Beginning." The District Five Spring Meeting was hosted by the club in 1963. The club continued to grow, community beautification became a club project and enrollment had increased to 53 members. Since 1970, the club

members have volunteered with the month of their choice, September through June, of placing an arrangement in the Floral City Library for the enjoyment of the community.

For several years the club furnished volunteers to set up and monitor the flower show at the county fair in joint collaboration with the other garden clubs in the county. When the park district requested the club take an active part in landscaping the entrance to the new park south of Floral City, plants were purchased and many hours of work were devoted to getting it ready for the dedication ceremonies. Once established the park district took over the maintenance.

Several trees have been planted over the years in celebration of Arbor Day to enhance the landscape at the park. Each year the club sponsors two students from the Floral City Elementary

School to attend Camp Wekiva for a summer session.

Myriad work shops have been enjoyed in past years covering such subjects as arranging dried material, making wreaths and door swags, contrived flowers from corn husks, containers and mechanics of flower show arrangements.

Garden club meets on Friday

By Marie Jones

Another Friday the 13th is coming up in March, which is also the Garden Club meeting day.

We have been blessed with some much needed rain; Watch the grass green up and shoot up. Won't be long until we are mowing regularly again. It is time to fertilize St. Augustine and Bahia grass in March and then again May, July and September.

These balmy days inspire us to get out and dig, plant and trim, but remember we are not as young as we once were, so don't bite off more than you can chew. Tackle those chores a little bit at a time and loosen up the muscles gradually.

Now is the time to start thinking about your entries for the flower show. Treat your plants that will be entered in the show with some TLC and you might be

rewarded with a blue ribbon. Be sure to read the general requirements for the flower show as well as the design and horticulture division rules. Then start thinking about what class or design you are going to enter.

This seems like a good time to think about gardening equipment, and the use of recycled items. Let's start with gloves—so you don't like working with gloves. Try a pair of plain cotton gloves, the kind all ladies used to wear to church and social events. They are more flexible and easier to work with than regular garden gloves.

If you are fortunate enough to acquire a pair of formal gloves (the kind that go above the elbow) they will be a great asset when trimming trees and bushes to protect your arms. If you wind up with two gloves for the same hand don't despair. Turn one

glove inside out. They may look funny, but work just fine.

When your rubber gloves are no longer waterproof, don't throw them out. Slice off the cuff for rubber bands. Cut off the thumb and use on the end of a broom handle so it doesn't fall over when you lean it against a wall.

Use the fingers as protection over a bandaged finger to keep it dry and clean. Slip two fingers over the jaws of a pair of pliers to keep them from marring and improve the grip as well.

Page 14A, Late Life, Wednesday, March 11, 1992

Garden clubs plan flower show

The Floral Garden Club and Citrus Garden Club, members of the Florida Federation of Garden

Clubs Inc. and the National Council of State Garden Clubs Inc., are co-sponsoring a standard flower show with the theme "Say It With Flowers."

The show will be on Saturday, March 28, from 1-5 p.m. and on Sunday, March 29, from 1-5 p.m. at the Floral City Community Building. Admission is free and the public is invited.





COMMUNITY LIFE

January was a busy month

By Marie Jones

Lake Life correspondent

Our January events are over. It was a busy month for the Garden Club and the cooperation of the people who participated in the varied activities was most welcome and greatly appreciated. Thanks — you know who you are.

Now planning sessions with committee members are under way for the March flower show. Citrus Garden Club members are cooperating with the Floral Garden Club members in the event which is in keeping with the objectives of the National Council of State Garden Clubs.

Now, for a few more conserve, reuse, and renew ideas: Do you need a holder for that bag of recyclables or yard clippings? Try using the frame from an old TV able to hold the bag while filling it. Don't discard that umbrella

FLORAL GARDEN CLUB

with the slit in the cover — remove the cover, hang it upside down and use as a drying rack for small items. Slip a shower curtain over the spokes and use as a dressing room by the pool or on a camping trip hung from a tree. Plant an opened umbrella — handle down in the garden and let squash, cucumber or melon vines wrap themselves around the frame of spokes.

Hope you haven't disposed of all that styrofoam that came packed around your Christmas gifts. Here are a few uses for it. The pellets or peanuts make excellent drainage material for planters or large pots. Four to six inches layered in the bottom of container doesn't add any extra weight and protects the roots

from excess moisture. Glue a piece of styrofoam in the corner of your miscellany drawer as a good catch-all for pins, tacks or other sharp articles. To cut styrofoam use a sharp knife, utility knife or razor blade lubricated with a bar of soap. If the cut edge shows signs of crumbling, seal it by heating an old can and pressing the styrofoam against the hot metal. To make holes, heat a sharp instrument such as a nail or ice pick and poke it through the foam. To join two pieces use ordinary white glue. Save the scraps for packing material when sending packages or for packing away fragile items — bugs won't bother it. If you stop and give it some thought, I bet you can find a lot more uses for it.

Flowers are planted in number of places

By Marie Jones

Pansies have been planted in the flower bed at the post office and Gerber daisies at the community building. The periwinkle bed at the stop light was weeded and fertilized.

Have you noticed the dogwood seedlings planted on Orange Avenue are leafing out?

Plans for the March 28 and 29 flower show in the community building are proceeding on schedule. It all starts with a plan, followed by a lot of discussions, frequent meetings, cooperation and plenty of hard work by club members and then it all comes together.

There is no admission charge and the public is invited. Won't you stop on your way by? We guarantee you will find some-

thing to your liking. You may even be inspired to try your hand at growing a new plant or be interested in joining a garden club.

There will be something for all ages. The youth group will have exhibits on rooted cuttings, container grown plants and dish gardens. There will be 24 flower arrangements in addition to cut flowers, blooming plants, foliage plants, hanging plants and two special exhibits.

After the March 12 coldest recorded in Florida, let's hope the thermometer gets back to normal and stays there. Despite the temperature, nature has made this landscape in Florida a beautiful green for St. Patrick's Day.

In the recycling department this week — did you know that if you run the edge of an almost

dull razor blade through a cork you will be able to use it a few more times or that dull metal objects begin to gleam when you rub them with a cork?

Try it on a brass lamp. After you have eaten the corn off the cob spread them out in the sun to dry. Dried cobs are rough enough to make short work of dirty clean-up jobs. Next time you have a grimy task, grab a corn cob, dip it in water and scrub away.

Please see **FLORAL**, Page 15

*Life is eternal
and love is immortal
and death is only a horizon
and a horizon is nothing save
the limit of our sight*

IN MEMORY OF
Mrs. Margaret P. MacLeod

DATE OF BIRTH
December 16, 1906

DATE OF DEATH
February 17, 1992

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE
2:30 P.M. - Friday
February 21, 1992
Hooper's Inverness Chapel
Inverness, Florida

OFFICIATING
Rev. Bill Birdsall

INTERMENT
Oak Ridge Cemetery
Inverness, Florida

Garden club member remembered as friend

By Marie Jones

This week we note the passing of Margaret MacLeod, a good friend and fellow member. Although confined to a wheelchair for the past few years she continued to attend meetings and participate whenever possible.

Our sympathy is extended to her daughter, Dorothy Sherman, also a member of our club.

Spoke to Kathy Mueller this week and she is well on the way to full recovery. Hope to see you back to us by April, Kathy.

Everything is turning green and it is several weeks till St. Patrick's Day. If the balmy weather inspires you to work outside there are several chores to be accomplished in March. Still time to plant bulbs and prune evergreens.

Take pointsetta cuttings now. Always take cuttings just above a node, let ends harden. Plant three to four nodes in medium of half sand and half peat moss. The goal of life is living in agreement with nature. That sentence was written with portulacas (moss roses) in mind.

They are the queen of summer flowering annuals. Adaptable to border planting, rock gardens, planter boxes, hanging baskets or as bedding plants. Available in a rainbow of colors and in both sin-

Everything is turning

green and it is several

weeks until St.

Patrick's Day.

gle and double blooms.

The one requirement of the portulaca is it must have full sun. It thrives under varying soil conditions and performs best under a low nutrient program; this is liquid fertilizer every six weeks.

If seeds are planted and placed under a cover they will germinate in five to seven days.

● Here are a few more uses for plastic bags: When working in the garden, cut the closed end off of a bread wrapper and slip it over your foot and up over your knee to keep the knee of your slacks clean while kneeling. Slip a bag over your hands when handling potting soil, fertilizers, or any messy materials.

A dry cleaner's bag makes an emergency poncho. Cut a hole for head and arms and slip it on to keep you dry in a sudden shower. Use a cleaner bag as a mini-greenhouse when you have to be away and no one is available to look after your plants.

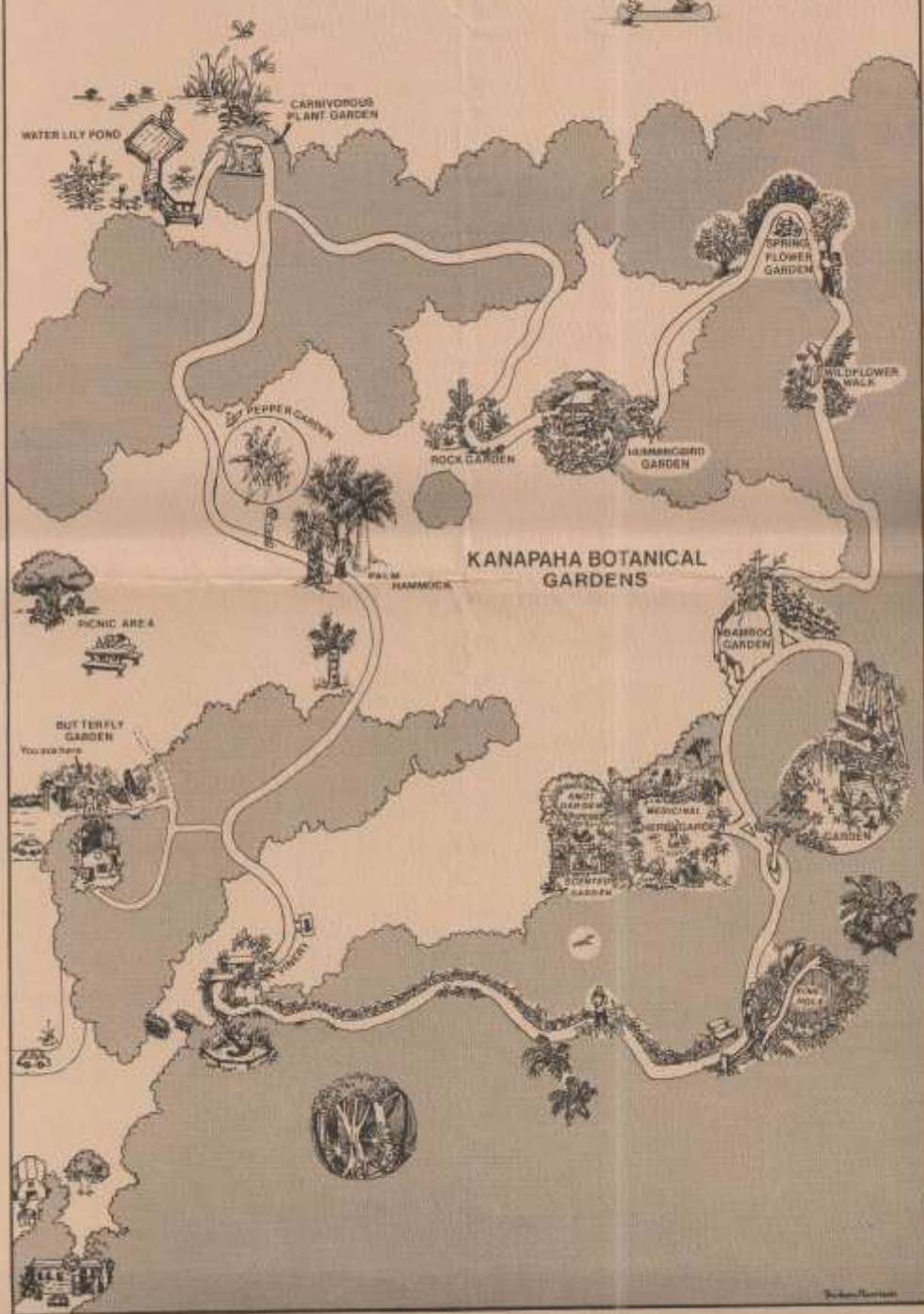








LAKE KANAPAHA



WELCOME TO KANAPAH BOTANICAL GARDENS

This 62-acre facility is being developed by the North Florida Botanical Society, a non-profit organization, on land that was made available by the Alachua County Commission in 1978.

Photoengraved aluminum signs have been placed throughout the gardens to acquaint you with the many plants on display. This guide describes the gardens in the order you will encounter them. Because the face of Kanapaha Botanical Gardens changes with the seasons, we invite you to visit often to more fully experience its special beauty. The summer months offer the most color.

THE BUTTERFLY GARDEN has been developed adjacent to the entrance walkway. These plant species were selected because they produce flowers that attract butterflies during the warmer months.

THE VINERY hosts a large collection of ornamental vines. Vines not only cover the latticework but also the large early 19th Century English ship's anchor that is on loan from the State of Florida. After departing the vinery, you will traverse a splendid hardwood forest en route to the herb garden. Many native trees are identified and southern magnolias are being replanted to replace those lost to selective logging for citrus shipping crate lumber.

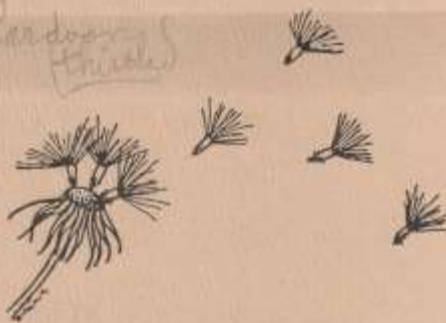
THE HERB GARDEN is the largest in Florida and consists of three separate components. The medicinal herb garden displays plants that have historically been used as medicines. The scented garden consists of highly aromatic species planted in raised brick beds to make it easy for you to punch and smell a leaf here and there to better appreciate their fragrant properties. A brick overlook stands beside the knot garden that is still under development. A knot garden is an assemblage of herbs that contrast sharply in color and texture planted in a highly geometric arrangement of intertwined 'knots.' The design you see here was copied from a garden of the Renaissance era when such gardens were fashionable.

SUNKEN GARDEN. Sinkholes provide cool, shady, moist microclimates preferred by many plants. In this large sinkhole, you will see many such species. The woods ferns on the south slope are native as they are in our other sinkholes. In all cases, they grow most profusely on the north-facing slope since it is the coolest. Box elder trees and shumard oak trees also prefer sinkhole environments in this part of the world.

THE BAMBOO GARDEN at Kanapaha Botanical Gardens is the state's largest public collection of bamboo species. Subterranean concrete walls separate 'running' species while 'clumping' forms are planted in the adjacent meadow without such barriers. Bamboos are the world's fastest growing vascular plants; when their shoots emerge, they may grow nearly 2 inches an hour. Come in the early spring and watch them grow!



THE WOODLAND WILDFLOWER GARDEN is a botanic tribute to the numerous enchanting plants adapted for life in the shadows of the world's forests.



SPRING FLOWER GARDEN. As you emerge from the lakeside woods, you will pass dozens of azaleas, redbuds, dogwoods, and other species that provide a splash of spring color adjacent to Lake Kanapaha.

HUMMINGBIRD GARDEN. Hummingbirds prefer tubular flowers that are red, orange, or pink. Most of the species planted here produce such flowers. Ruby-throated hummingbirds utilize this garden extensively during the cooler hours of the spring, summer, and early fall. While insects constitute their principal food, hummingbirds regularly visit flowers in quest of the energy-rich nectar that enables them to maintain their high metabolic rate. When both insects and nectar disappear during the cooler months, hummingbirds migrate to warmer realms.

THE ROCK GARDEN provides an introduction to plants adapted to dry environments. A smaller 'conventional' rock garden composed of flowering species clambering over boulders and rocks has been developed on the southern and western margins of this area. The rock garden suffered severe damage during the uncharacteristically frigid winters of the last decade and it will be some time before the specimen plants that were lost here can be replaced.

FERN COBBLE. When flowering plants evolved, they displaced most of the world's more primitive spore-producing plants. The most varied and successful of the survivors are the ferns. The fossil record shows that some spore-producing ferns arose but all became extinct for reasons unknown. In tropical areas, many ferns may grow into trees 40 feet or more high.

THE WATER LILY POND has been developed as the centerpiece of the bog garden in a lakeside cove. During the warmer months, this pond is filled with a succession of lotuses and water lilies including the world's largest, the giant Amazonian Victoria. The best viewing time is between 10 and 11:30 a.m. since the flowers of both day-flowering and night-flowering species are open simultaneously.

THE PALM HAMMOCK has north Florida's most complete collection of cold-hardy palm species. Among its varied offerings are specimens of the extremely rare double-crowned form of our native cabbage palm.

CYCAD GARDEN. Cycads are the most primitive of all surviving seed-bearing plants. Their palm-like appearance is an evolutionary convergent feature and does not reflect a close kinship with the true palm. Cycads, in fact, are cone-producing gymnosperms like pines.

The return walk will take you to plant and gift sales areas adjacent to the exit. We hope you enjoyed your walk through the gardens of Kanapaha.

—THANK YOU FOR COMING—
PLEASE COME AGAIN

Hours: Mon, Tues, Fri 9-5 For more information write or call:
Wed, Sat, Sun 9-dusk
Closed Thursday

Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
4625 S.W. 63rd Boulevard
Gainesville, FL 32608
(904) 372-4981

Senses taker



Mary Frank/The Chronicle

Jean Wongrey, a member of the Citrus Garden Club, smells a rose in a floral arrangement at the Floral Garden Club/Citrus Garden Club flower show at the community building in Floral City. The display, put together by exhibitor Fran McCain, placed third in the Class 3, Design Division I, nostalgia category. Back left are Bernice Filler and Edith Newman, both members of the Inverness Garden Club.





























New tree for the library

Jan. 1992



Anne Smith/The Chron

Members of the Floral City Garden Club were on hand for the planting of a large Crepe Myrtle on the grounds of the Floral City Public Library. Members present included, from left: Toni Meyer; Minnie Minn Dorothy Clark, club president; Marcia Beasley, civic beautification committee chairman; Edna Hemingway Dorothy Colorusso, treasurer; Virginia Ankrom; Marie Dees; Mary Pritchard, past president; Diane Comala, executive director Bridge 2000; Juanita Cole, chaplain; Leona Diederick, corresponding secretary and Juanita Mewley. Librarian Pauline Sullo represented the library system but is not pictured. The tree came from Bayberry Farms in Inverness. Frank Bruno is owner of the nursery and Greg Falabella worked with Tom Nobsch preparing the tree for planting.

GARDEN

continued from Page 7

the Garden Club initiates a community awareness program to seek contributions for the development and maintenance of the garden. The Club invites any resident to contribute or donate in memorial. Some donated material for the garden have already been received: Ray Morris has donated the fountain in memory of his mother, Marie Morris. The large metal trellis for the confederate jasmine espalier given by Tom and Doris Sawyer will now be in her memory and a stone-like slab for the fountain base was donated in memory of Mona Belle Turpin.

A brick will be laid in the labyrinth for each memorial and a

written record will be maintained in the "Donors Memorial Book" to be kept at the Floral City Library. Donations and memorial contributions may be sent to: Floral City Garden Club; C/O D. Colarusso, Treasurer; 5205 S. Florence Terrace; Floral City, FL 34436. For further information please call 726-7740.

On Saturday, Feb. 13, the Garden Club will have its annual Tree and Treasurers Sale at the Floral City Community Building at 8 a.m.

The club will be joining an annual community yard sale to offer plants and yard sale items. Two bushels of caladium bulbs have been purchased for the occasion and eight varieties will be available. There will be five- to eight-foot dogwood trees, large blooming azalea plants, and a variety of other plants and bedding plants such as petunias

Memorial Garden will be place to enjoy

By Marcia Beasley

One of the objectives of the Floral City Garden Club is to work with other organizations to further the objectives of the National Council of State Garden Clubs. Another objective is civic beautification.

On Arbor Day, Jan. 15, the Garden Club worked toward these objectives by joining forces with the Bridge 2000 and their county-wide tree planting program.

This Arbor Day tree planting initiated the latest in a series of civic beautification projects by the Floral City Garden Club.

Since September, the Garden Club has designed a step-by-step plan and has obtained approval to develop a Community Memorial Garden for Floral City residents. The Memorial Garden is being developed on the properties of the Floral City Library and the Floral City Masonic Lodge #133.

The purpose of the Memorial Garden is to provide a special setting where residents can enjoy nature. Benches will allow a resting spot to read, meditate or visit with a friend.

The garden will contain a fountain and will exhibit conservas-caping: selection of hardy plants requiring a minimum of water, fertilizer, sprays and planted in a manner to minimize labor. When completed, the Garden will feature a brick, in-ground labyrinth. Although the labyrinth design is ancient, it is said that every venture onto the path harvests a different experience.

The garden design called for a large shrub or small tree at the southwest corner of the library building. The large crepe myrtle tree from the Bridge 2000 was selected for that tree.

With the planting of this tree,

Please see GARDEN, Page 15

Nominations accepted for outstanding yard

By Dorothy Clark

At the January meeting, the Floral City Garden Club celebrated all member's birthdays with their Annual Silver Tea. Guest of Honor was our District V Director, Lillian Jenkins from High Springs. Mrs. Jenkins was pleasantly surprised to see her high school close friend that she hadn't seen for 12 years, our newest member just installed last month, Marie Dees.

A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of Doris Sawyer who died Jan. 6. Doris was a longtime active member and will be greatly missed.

This year, the Floral City Garden Club will give only one award for the Outstanding Yard of the Year. Nominations are being accepted now. Anyone, whether a member or not, may nominate a Floral City property owner by calling Margo at 726-5188, Dorothy at 726-6139 or Barbara at 344-4574.

Plant of the month was a hibiscus donated by Leona Diederick and won by Toni Meyer.

Our Annual Plant and Treasure Sale is scheduled for Saturday Feb. 13, at the Community Building from 7 a.m.-2 p.m. There will also be eight varieties of caladium

bulbs for sale.

On Jan. 11, 14 volunteers consisting of members and four husbands came for a work day at the site of our future Memorial Garden. A good start was made on this main project of the year. The Garden will be situated between the library and the Masonic Lodge.

Jan. 15, Arbor Day, a large Crepe Myrtle was planted at the garden.

Next meeting will be Friday, Feb. 12 at the Community Building at 1 p.m. Members are asked to bring their plants and items for the sale the next day to the meeting.

Roll call answer this month will be "Number of trees that I have planted since February of 1992." Program will be "The Art of Growing Orchids" by Dr. Charles Thomas, DDS of Homosassa.

Plant of the month will be brought by Dorothy Sherman. Design of the month will be brought by Mary Pritchard. It will be on display all month at the library.

Hostesses will be Leona Diederick, chairman, with Toni Meyer and Ruth Kenny assisting.

Every month, members bring plants, seeds and cuttings to share with other members and guests.









Tree and treasure sale was best ever

By Marcia Beasley

They came, they saw, they bought. The Floral City Garden Club's Annual Tree and Treasures Sale was declared the "best ever" fund raiser for the club.

The sale held Saturday, Feb. 13, in conjunction with the "Lake Bradley Neighbors" yard sale, is held annually at the Floral City Community Building.

The Garden Club expresses sincere appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Melvin (Skip) Harvey and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Edwards, organizers, and to their "neighbors" for supporting the Garden Club with this event.

Likewise, the following nurseries worked with the Club to provide plants for the sale: M.J. & S. Plant Farm at 10840 S. Istachatta Road (CR 39), provided beautiful large azaleas and colorful petunias;

S & R Nursery at 11225 S. Turner Avenue (off CR 480), provided the tall dogwood trees; and Mr. Henry Bolton at 53350 W. With-

lapopka Drive, was present throughout the day with hybrid, grafted hibiscus. Many small plants of a wide variety were furnished by club members.

The Club is grateful to Martha Burnis, manager of Ferris Hammock for working with the Club to provide fresh citrus fruits to sell, and for the fresh orange juice which was served.

The Victory Pizza and Bread shop (south on Highway 41, near the Floral City Park) is extended a thank you for working with the Garden Club to offer doughnuts and fresh baked Italian bread to the shoppers.

The Club also extends their appreciation to Tom Sawyer who donated a large selection of jewelry in memory of his late wife and club member, Doris Sawyer. Profits from this will be used to establish the Floral City Memorial Garden, the latest project in the

Club's civic beautification objectives.

The first phase of the plan for the Floral City Memorial Garden has just about been complete. The benches, fountain and mulch are in place. As the warmer weather approaches, residents and visitors are invited to check-out a book from the library and explore its contents, while seated on one of the three cedar benches in the garden next to the library.

Again, the Garden Club expresses appreciation to all those who donated, worked or bought items for the Tree and Treasures Sale. The Club extends an invitation for all to attend the next meeting to be held on Friday, March 12, at 1 p.m., at the Floral City Community Building. The program will be "Birds in Our Back Yard: A Habitat We Can Make" by past Citrus County Audubon President, David Walker.

FLORAL CITY GARDEN CLUB

Club visits Terry Mushroom Farms

Marcia Beasley

They moved down the conveyor line in little blue boxes. It was the last day of a 90-day process and now the plump white mushrooms were on their way to the market place.

This was just one step of the multi-step process of growing mushrooms which the Floral City Garden Club observed on Friday, April 16, at the Terry Mushroom Farms in Zellwood. After an hour-and-a-half drive through the rolling hills and lake country of central Florida, five cars pulled up to the three-story-high, windowless, concrete building which covered more than 200,000 square feet.

Joe Renelly, production manager, warmly greeted the group of 18, warning them to walk with care over the damp floors. The "farm" does not usually give tours so the club was privileged to this special event.

This 21-year-old building operates 365 days a year, with 300 employees, to produce an average of 300,000 pounds of mushrooms per week. Work is accomplished by conveyors and forklifts, with the exception of actually picking the mushrooms. Pickers, of which there are 150, are paid by "piece work" (not hourly). Some are skillful enough pickers to pick quantities which equate to upwards of \$8 per hour.

This 21-year-old building operates 365 days a year, with 300 employees, to produce an average of 300,000 pounds of mushrooms per week.

eight "case rooms" each had "trays" stacked in rows eight high and 11 "trays" deep.

The "trays" are moved to the next stage, the "production rooms." In these 40 rooms, the compost is kept at 70 degrees to force the mushrooms to pop through the compost.

In the "production rooms," the trays are not stacked higher than six feet and there are about 12 inches between the "trays." Agile pickers reach in between these four-foot-wide trays from either side to pluck the largest of the mushrooms. Stem ends are cut as picked and the mushrooms are placed directly into the blue retail boxes.

At this stage, the "trays" are white with mushrooms of all sizes and are picked for three days every seven days during the 28 days that these trays are producing. At the end of this period, the spores have produced all the mushrooms possible, the compost is "spent" and it is not reused.

This used or "spent" compost is sold locally to an organic farmer. However, the "farm" has built a

bunker where they plan to compost and package their own spent compost for retail to the public.

The bunker is in an outdoor area called the "wharf area." In this area, components which will make up the compost are stored and assembled. Straw used in the compost is from northern Florida and from southern Georgia, because straw from central Florida is committed to the numerous horse farms.

Specialty mushrooms, sold under the Terry Farms label, are received from Pennsylvania. Mushrooms are the largest cash crop for that state. There are many bulk growers in the Kennett Square area and an old mine north of Harrisburg which produces tons of mushrooms a day.

Only two other locations in Florida grow mushrooms: one is north of Tallahassee and one near Pompano.

As the Garden Club group left Terry Farms, they did what the public is invited to do. They stopped at the gate building and bought FRESH mushrooms!

The process all begins with a special blend of compost: straw, stable bedding, chicken manure, cotton seed meal and gypsum. This compost is automatically dumped into "trays" on a conveyor. These wooden "trays" are eight inches deep, four feet wide and six feet long. A forklift takes them to "sterilizing chambers" where the compost is kept at 140 degrees for six days.

"Trays" are then returned to the conveyor where they are "seeded" with the mushroom spores. These "seeded" trays are taken to "spore rooms" for thirteen days and held at an even 85 degrees. Moisture and temperature are carefully monitored throughout the production steps. At this stage, if the compost reaches 85 degrees, the spores could be killed and this crop lost. "Trays" in these five rooms were stacked more than twelve high with only a few inches in between.

From the "spore rooms," "trays" are placed on the conveyor and a layer of peat is added to each tray. These are sent to the "case holding rooms" for 11 days. During the first six days, the temperature is kept at 80-85 degrees. Then the temperature is reduced to 70-75 degrees, forcing the spores to "fruit." The compost now looks like a white web. The compost is kept very wet at this stage and water can be squeezed from a handful of compost. The



icle, Sunday, Feb. 10, 1985



Floral Design Class

Helen Hoskins, left, an accredited instructor and judge with the National Federation of Garden Clubs critiques a floral arrangement by Juanita Cole during a recent floral design class at the

Adult Education Center in Inverness. The 30-member class created functional place settings that were judged and critiqued during the class.

















Next highway pickup slated for Sept 24.

By Dorothy Clark

Floral City Garden Club opened the season with its first meeting on Sept. 10 at the Floral City Community Building.

Marcia Beasley presided in the absence of the new President Mary Pritchard. The answer to the roll call this month was: "A humorous incident that happened to me in the garden." There were some pretty good tales.

Helen Bateman, first vice president, announced that the next pick-up of Highway 48 would be on Thursday, Sept. 24 and asked for volunteers. The Garden Club has been participating in the Adopt-a-Highway program for about four years now.

Two guests were introduced: Arthur Gibbons, who just passed his master gardener test; and Millie Stanger, who lives in one of the historical homes on Orange Avenue.

The program was a visit by the two Girl Scouts that the club had sponsored to Camp Wekiva this summer, Miranda Hren and Melissa Herndon. The girls had a wonderful week at camp. They hope to go again next year and hope some year to be counselors.

They passed around the craft

articles that they had made to the members and they closed with two songs from their Scout handbook — in harmony, no less. They are 12 years old and in the seventh-grade at Inverness Middle School this year.

Plant of the month was a variegated diffenbachia brought in by Marcia Beasley. She said a few words about its care and characteristics. Ruth Kenny was the lucky winner. Design of the month was made by Marie Jones. It was a clever design made entirely of parts of a palm, even the basket container. It will be on display all month at the Floral City Library.

Minnie Minnis told about the many plants displayed on the "Grow and Share" table. Each month members bring in their extra plants and cuttings to share with the others. Dorothy Sherman, horticulture chairman, showed how to start a hibiscus cutting under a plastic pop bottle.

She also gave the following tips: 1 teaspoon of vinegar to 3 teaspoons of water can be a substi-

CLARK

continued from Page 2

tute for Rootone; a teaspoon of ammonia in a gallon of water will encourage geraniums to bloom; and if bone meal and epsom salts are put in hole 18 inches away from bouganvillias, it should make them bloom better.

Marcia Beasley told of all the activities planned by the Floral City Heritage Council for their Heritage Days in Floral City on Dec. 3 and 4. The Garden Club will be participating with a demonstration table under Marie Jones' leadership.

The next meeting will be on Friday, Oct. 8 at the Floral City Community Building. Roll call will be "Wildlife that I have seen in my garden." Plants of the month will be brought in by Marie Dees and Winnie Mahoney. Design of the month will be by Ruth Kenny. The program will be Jim and Marlene Bechtold of the La Guardar Center in Webster, on "Birds of Prey."

Gardeners and would-be gardeners are invited to come and learn with us and share in our plants.

Please see CLARK, Page 9

Garden Club helps Floral City library

Floral City Public Library, a branch of the Citrus County Library system, is the grateful recipient of a monthly flower arrangement created by members of the Floral City Garden Club. During the month of December the arrangement was created by Dorothy Sherman and consisted of cedar branches, pittosporum, sanseveria, wheat, pinecones and a lovely poinsettia. Dorothy's husband Richard dutifully came in to water and fertilize the arrangement throughout the month and even took it home for the holidays.

The Floral City Garden Club is also responsible for the lovely garden to the side of the library building. The garden serves as a wonderful spot in which to collect one's thoughts or to picnic.

Floral City Library is located at 8360 E. Orange Ave., Floral City. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. The library is closed Sunday and Monday.



FLORAL CITY GARDEN CLUB

Party highlight was exchange of plants

By Carolyn Gazzano

The Floral City Garden Club celebrated the completion of a productive year with a covered-dish Christmas Party held at the Singing Forest Recreation Hall. The highlight of the party was the plant exchange, at which time many chose plants they did not have at home or had not raised before. Some of the plants were in bloom and many were budding.

Five new members were installed by Dorothy Clark, former president. Included were: Evelyn Hollowell, Alice Reed, Janis Lubowitz, Betty Sumner and Millie Stanger.

All are looking forward to a busy program for the coming year, commencing with the Annual Birthday Tea to be held on Jan. 14 at 1 p.m. District Director Annette

Five new members

were installed by

Dorothy Clark, former president.

Havens will be a guest at the tea. Other projects planned are the planting of trees on "Rails to Trails" on Arbor Day; the annual plant sale on Feb. 19; and the hosting of the District V meeting in May.

The ongoing program of Adopt-a-Highway and care of the garden at the post office and the memorial garden will continue. Of course, Heritage Days, being the success it was this year, will also be in future plans.





































Twenty members go on 'home' field trip

By Dorothy Clark

Twenty members attended the field trip to fellow member Evelyn Hallowell's home for the October meeting. They found it in a heavily wooded section with old oaks and magnolias — no grass to mow. Evelyn's interest is mostly in unusual plants; those that aren't generally found in gardens. Then she has one whole section planted in camellias — one of her favorites. Another section is in day-lilies and many other plants in pots. Members enjoyed their bag lunch under the trees before the business meeting.

President Mary Pritchard reported on the District V meeting that she attended the day after returning from her summer in New York State. She said that many thanks were given to the Floral City Garden Club for hosting the spring 1994 District V meeting.

Horticulture co-Chairman Terri Beck told of plans to plant acorns of the Floral City old oaks for sale next year. Other plans are for each member to plant two cuttings a month for our plant sale in February. That will make 243 plants if all members cooperate. Terri also spoke about recycling;

how it takes a styrofoam cups and plates 100 years to disintegrate. She also told members about how to make a compost pile using leaves, grass clippings, corn husks, tea leaves, coffee grounds, egg shells and all peelings from the kitchen. Plants really respond to compost.

The next meeting will be at the Floral City Community Building at 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11. The program will be "Plant Identification." Bring a plant or cutting that you need identified by our master gardener, Evelyn Hallowell.

Mary Dietz will be refreshment chairman, assisted by Ruth Fowler, Ruth Kenny and Dorothy Sherman. Plants of the month will be brought by Minnie Minnis and Leona Diederick. Roll call answer this month will be "How I came to join the Garden Club."

Community education at the Floral City Library this month will be a bulletin board by Terri Beck.

As always, our Grow and Share table will be available for seeds and cuttings. Visitors are always welcome to come and learn about plants and get acquainted.

Garden chore for October: Now is the time to divide day-lilies if they need it.

Floral display at Floral City

Floral City Public Library will feature a floral display created by Dorothy Clark of the Floral City Garden Club during March.

Mrs. Clark, past president of the Garden Club, created the tropical arrangement from palmetto fronds cut into geometric shapes accented by spathes of split-leafed philodendrons soaked in hot water, dried, ironed and painted a burnt orange color.

The Floral City Public Library is the recipient of continued support from the Floral City Garden Club through their monthly presentation of floral displays, donations of flower arranging and gardening books and through their untiring efforts at maintaining the lovely meditation garden adjacent to the library.

Floral City Garden Club plans plant sale

The Floral City Garden Club announces its annual sale of live plants, bulbs, dried flower arrangements, dried plant materials and accessories for flower arrangements. This sale will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 12, inside the Community Building on East Orange Avenue. Prices reasonable. Call at 726-2161 for information.

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FLORAL CITY GARDEN CLUB

Program helps members to identify plants and trees

By Dorothy Clark

The Floral City Garden Club met Nov. 11 at the Floral City Community Building with President Mary Pritchard, presiding. Ways and Means Co-chairman Bonnie Allen reported that the Florida Garden Club calendars are in. We only ordered 25 this year, so those that want them, please get them at the next meeting.

Marie Jones, co-chairman of Civic Beautification, reported that quite a lot of work has been done recently in the Memorial Garden. It needed a lot of weeding and edging after the long, hot summer. A yard man was hired to help with the heavier chores.

Marcia Beasley told of the work done to the paving in front of the library. More is currently being done now in front of the Masonic Lodge. This paving problem has needed attention for many years.

The program was plant identification. Those who brought specimens found out what they have. I found that the sturdy plant with the yellow flowers that came up in a flower bed is a wildflower named a primrose willow.

Horticulture chairman Evelyn

Hallowell and Terri Beck passed around 35 leaf specimens for the members to try to identify. Marcia Beasley was the winner of the prize for identifying 25. Members drew the names of two plants and two trees which they are to research and report on at the next meeting. We are all going to learn more about our flowers and trees.

Julie Rouse, vice president of Floral City School PTA, stopped by to ask members to save their UPC labels from all General Foods cereals. General Foods is paying 25 cents to the school for every UPC. She also told about the Market Day Program in progress for the rest of the year. Money from these two fund-raisers will be used for field trips for which there is no money allocated in the school budget.

Lucky winners of the plant raffle were: Peggy Wehl, Betty Sumner, Virginia Ankrom, Juanita Cole and Terri Beck.

The next meeting will be the annual Christmas Party at the Singing Forest recreation building at noon Dec. 9. Members are to bring a covered dish, their own table service, and a plant for the plant exchange. Chairman is Caroline Gazzano, with Phyllis Col-

pitts, Toni Myers, Edna Hemingway, Helen Lockrow and Dorothy Coliarusso assisting.

The program will be "Granny

Litter-not and the Bag Ladies," by Norma Redmond of the Crystal River Women's Club.

There will be a short business

meeting at which the roll-call answer will be "The oldest re-used item I'm using to decorate for the holidays."



Top yard

Page 6, Lake Life, Tuesday, June 15, 1993



The Florida City Garden Club recently picked one outstanding yard as the Yard of the Year. The award was presented to Bill and Barbara Luciano, center. At left is Barbara Littlefield, past president of the garden club and, at right, is Dorothy Clark, immediate past president.



INVERNESS GARDEN CLUB

Club members host District 5 meeting

Opal Noone

Floral City Garden Club played host to delegates to District V meeting of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs on May 6.

Delegates from Inverness Garden Club were Grace Gay, Archer Gibbons, Evelyn Hollowell, Pauline Jenks, and Clarice Jordan, with Madeline Lund speaking for all of the delegates by thanking the Florida City Garden Club for its smooth-running and informative meeting. Also notably decorative and present was the delegation from Citrus Garden Club with each member wearing a stylish picture hat.

Each spring and fall designated garden clubs in District V act as hosts to these meetings which are attended by numerous delegates — usually more than 300, and this helps to make garden club members throughout the area familiar with the flora of the area, which extends from Riverhaven on the west side, eastward to Ocala, which has numerous garden clubs and circles.

The Citrus Garden Club will be the host in the spring of 1995, and Inverness Garden Club will do the honors in the fall.

Rennie Zelinsky, with her usual flair, planned and brought off an enjoyable luncheon party for the new members who had joined Inverness Garden Club during the 1993-1994 season. Held at Andre's in Hernando on May 19, this was a purely social occasion, in contrast to our regular meetings which are concerned with the educational aspects about horticulture and floral design or to fund raising.

After a delicious lunch and social hour, new members Andrea

Fuller, Jill Grabowski, Evelyn Hollowell, Leberta Hamel, Mary Pacola, Ellen Pistoll, Blanch Mogue and Barbara Sharp received a gift of potted blooming geraniums, the club's official flower. In some small measure the Club hopes this expresses appreciation and recognition of our new members' dedicated participation in our Club's areas of interest.

No spring season is complete without at least one fund-raising program on the schedule. May 14 was the date Bernice Filler and her committee picked for the club's Chinese auction in Bailey Hall behind the First Lutheran Church. As luck would have it, this date was also selected as Inverness' celebration of opening up the "Old Town," so a large portion of our potential audience was diverted. It is a credit to Bernice Filler's patience and persistence that the fund-raiser was a success

and we can defray some next year's expenses.

Plans progress for next spring's flower show chaired by Andrea Fuller. Evelyn Hollowell has accepted responsibility for the Horticulture Division, and Archer Gibbons will assist her; Eleanor Nicholson and co-chairman Edith Newman undertake direction of the Artistic Design Division and Peaches Cooley chairs the Educational Division of the show. Pauline Jenks, Clarice Jordan and Opal Noone are working on the flower show schedule.

Madeline Lund's planning session for the 1994-95 season on June 4 will nail down specifics for the busy season the club will undertake when everyone returns from summer vacation.







FLORAL CITY GARDEN CLUB

Fresh ideas put forth by new members

By Dorothy Clark

Summer's almost over and garden clubs are all having their first meetings of the new season. Floral City Garden Club board members met at the home of Vice President Marcia Beasley last week to discuss plans for the new garden year.

We have some fresh ideas from several of our new members who are taking an active part this year. Each month, we have a "Grow and Share" table of seeds, cuttings, plants and garden magazines to share with others. This year our Grow and Share chairmen will be Evelyn Hallowell,

who is a master gardener, and Terri Beck. Terri is the granddaughter of a former member.

Each month, designated members bring the "plant of the month" and describe how it is grown and propagated. This plant then becomes the raffle plant for World Gardening and other funds.

This year, community education at the Floral City Library will some months be in the form of gardening information on the bulletin board (look for it). Other months, it will be a floral design, as has been our policy for many

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GARDEN

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years.

Many interesting meetings are planned throughout the year. Any newcomers to our area can learn what to plant where, when, and how to take care of it. Floral City Garden Club invites you to come to our meeting and learn with the rest of us gardeners.

The first meeting will be at 1 p.m. Friday Sept. 9 at the Floral City Community Building. The

program will be "Back to Basics — The Three R's: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle," by Terri Beck.

Refreshment chairman will be Peggy Weyl, assisted by Tamiko Figley, Virginia Ankrom and Millie Stanger. The roll-call answer this month will be: "What I Recycle." Plants of the month will be brought by Mary Dietz and Ruth Kenny. Frances Simpson will bring the design of the month.

Special guests will be Amy Johnson and Misty Chapman. These were the girls the club sent to Wekiva Youth Camp this summer.





Christmas potluck dinner was a fun day

By Dorothy Clark

Floral City Garden Club members enjoyed a delicious Christmas potluck luncheon at the Singing Forest recreation building in Floral City Friday, Dec. 9.

Caroline Gazzano and her assistants, Toni Meyer, Helen Lockrow, Phyllis Colpitts and Dorothy Colarusso, did a great job hosting the party. Guests introduced were Florence Figley, Vera Barber, Lou Anna Perry, Merrell Edwards, Mrs. Archer, and Betty Collier.

Special guests were "Granny Litter-not and her bag ladies," who later sang and danced for us while telling us ways not to litter. Their performance was enjoyed by all. "Granny" is Norma Redmond from Crystal River Women's Club.

There was only a short business meeting as this was a "fun day," President Mary Pritchard said. As members answered the roll call, they told of the oldest item that they are using to decorate this year.

Marcia Beasley, Floral City Heritage Council Chairman, reported on the recent Floral City Heritage Days celebration, saying that 3,000 people had attended this year; 365 took the homes tour. She thanked the 18 Garden Club members who participated.

Toni Meyer was congratulated on the 65th wedding anniversary that she and her husband, John, celebrated last month. Toni said that they had decided long ago that it was better to "fight than switch," as the old commercial went. The meeting ended with a gift plant exchange. There were many nice plants — some unusual — brought in.

The next meeting will be at 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13 at the Floral City community building. This is the meeting that we celebrate everyone's birthday. members put a penny in the pot for every birth-

City's own "Cracker Barrel Band will be there to play for us. Marcia Beasley will present "Avenue of the Oaks," an Arbor Day and historic preservation program.

Leona Diederick will be hostess chairman, with Juanita Cole, Barbara Luciano and Theresa Rydzewski assisting. Roll call answers will be "the number of trees and kind that I planted since last January." Plants of the month will be brought by Alice Reed and Dorothy Sherman. This month, community education at the library will be an Arbor Day bulletin board by Marcia Beasley.

As always, Evelyn Hallowell and Terri Beck, horticulture chairman, will be there with cuttings, plants and seeds to share. Guests are always welcome.

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Floral Garden Club installs officers during ceremony

By Marie Jones
Floral Garden Club

The Floral Garden Club met at the Central Motel Restaurant in Inverness for lunch on May 10. Marie Morris arranged a lovely ceremony for the installation of newly elected officers. Guiding the club for the next two years will be president Dorothy Clark, first vice president Kathy Mueller, second vice president Marcia Beasley, secretary Carolyn Gazzano, and treasurer Arlene Sokol. Although the leadership is different and there are no club meetings until September, the projects which the members are involved in will continue throughout the summer months.

Marcia Beasley has signed up members to monitor the plantings at the post office, community building, and library as to water

needs and weeding. Hopefully, June, July and August will produce an abundance of rainfall (preferably in daily showers) and the mulch we have applied will discourage weed growth.

In cooperation with the road department, wild flower seeds were planted along County Road 48 from Duval Island Road to the entrance of the Department of Transportation. Lack of moisture delayed seeing any results thus far, but now that the rainy season has arrived and taking an optimistic view the seeds will germinate and next year the roadside will be ablaze with color.

Our aim is to put "Floral" back in Floral City. As funds permit and men/women power are available we will be broadening our scope of plantings. Wouldn't it be nice to see a blanket of blossoms beneath the canopy of oaks?

The Floral Garden Club meets the second Friday of every month September through May at 1 p.m. in the Community Building (located between the fire station and library on C.R. 48 also known as Orange Ave.). We invite both men and women of the community to come to a meeting and see what we are all about. Our programs are interesting and varied, covering subjects of community interest as well as information about flora and fauna. We even have fun times — this past year we enjoyed a bus trip to Selby Gardens, a super-duper salad luncheon Christmas party and even as you are reading this plans are being formulated for our next year's programs. Won't you come join us on September 13. That is a Friday the 13th, but we guarantee to bring you nothing but good tidings.



The new officers for the Floral Garden Club for the next two years are pictured left to right: Dorothy Clark, president; Arlene Sokol, treasurer; Carolyn Gazzano, secretary; Marcia Beasley, second vice president; and Kathy Mueller, first vice president. The next club meeting will be Friday, Sept. 13.

Protect ornamental plants from cold

By Kathy Mueller

Lake Life correspondent

Winter temperatures in Florida are frequently low enough to cause cold injury to plants not adapted to Florida's climactic conditions. Freezing temperatures occur annually in north and central Florida.

Cold injury can occur to an entire plant or to parts of a plant. Leaf and stem tissue will not survive ice formation inside the cells as a result of rapid freezing. Cold injury to roots of plants is common and is not evident until the plant is stressed by higher temperatures.

One type of winter injury is desiccation or drying out due to dry winds and solar radiation, resulting in totally brown leaves. Home owners can help protect plants from cold injury by proper selection of planting sites and providing good care and maintenance. Temperature fluctuations can vary from one location to another within a home landscape. Tender plants should be placed in an area with good air circulation, not where cold air settles.

Landscape plants in north and central Florida should be fertilized four times a year. Two-thirds the standard rate of fertilizer should be applied in the fall and

plants consume less nutrients in the colder season.

Tree canopies raise night temperatures under them by reducing heat loss from the ground to

the atmosphere, thus plants in shade usually show less desiccation than plants in full sun. Fences, buildings and adjacent plantings can protect plants from cold winds.

COMMUNITY LIFE

Don't forget the decorations

By Marie Jones
Lake Life correspondent

FLORAL GARDEN CLUB

A few years ago while spending the holidays with friends in South Carolina we visited a city where every household had decorated the outside of the house in Christmas decor. Some were simple and some were elaborate, but no two were alike. Traffic moved slowly as cars drove down the street admiring the sights.

I have often thought of the cooperation, perhaps friendly rivalry and the planning sessions enjoyed by the neighborhoods. The Floral Garden Club will be making wreaths and door swags to be distributed to the Floral City businesses this year as decorations to be enjoyed by all who pass through. This is a new project this year and we would like to make it a tradition.

By the time you read this the club will have enjoyed films from Wekiva Camp, been on a field

trip to the home of Henry and Viva Bolton to tour their hibiscus garden, worked on the flower beds at the post office, gone to Ocala for the district meeting hosted by the Pioneer Garden Club and had an Adopt-A-Highway pickup. Be sure to stop by the library in Floral City to get acquainted with all it offers, and while you are there, take a look at the floral arrangement — a new one each month.

Yet to come are the trees and treasures sales and the planting of dogwood seedlings between the oaks on Orange Avenue in January. Two workshops in February to learn more about floral design in preparation for our flower show to be presented with the Citrus Garden Club at the Community Building on March 28 and 29, 1992. Now is the time to prepare your plants for winter.



Citrus seeds can make lovely plants for house

By Marie Jones

Lake Life correspondent

Welcome to our winter residents. We are back to talking about recycling and this time it is about seeds.

One does not need a green thumb to develop a nice house plant from citrus seeds. With very little care, lemon, grapefruit, orange or kumquat seeds will sprout into tiny trees which make lovely house plants.

To prepare the seeds, wash them thoroughly in water to remove any vestige of pulp. Using

small pots and moist potting soil, insert two or three seeds in each pot to a depth of about 1/2 inch. Place the pots in a warm sunny window and keep the soil moist but not wet. When the seedlings have four or more true leaves, pull out all but the sturdiest plant in each pot.

When the roots begin growing through the drainage hole in the bottom of the pot, shift it to a larger pot. In a couple of months knock the plant out of the pot to see if the soil is fairly well filled

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with roots. If it is, shift it to a larger pot, if it isn't, replace the root ball and soil back into the pot and check it again in a month. The thing to avoid is allowing them to become root bound until they are finally in the largest container you have room for or find convenient to handle.

Once the citrus is in the ultimate size pot, feed it lightly once

a month with any balanced plant food. Citrus seeds in pot develop into small bushy trees, with glossy deep green foliage. Slightly bruising a couple of leaves as you walk by will release a pleasant odor. Most potted citrus will flower but don't expect it to bear fruit unless you set it outside and let the bees and other insects pollinize it for you. If you set it outdoors when you leave for the summer, do remember that it can get badly sunburned and/or windburned unless it is well protected. Keep it on a shaded porch or in a sheltered corner.

Floral City historian Marie Morris dies

By Mike Wright
Staff writer

When it came to the history of Floral City, Marie L. Morris was quite an expert. After all, she wrote the book on it.

Today friends and other long-time residents of Floral City will bid a final farewell to Mrs. Morris, who died Saturday at age 82.

"She was an inspiration, a true glowing light," said Marcia Beasley, who had known Mrs. Morris for 10



Marie Morris

years. "She will be sorely missed by all of us."

Mrs. Morris came to Floral City 38 years ago from Windfall, Ind., and she immediately thrust herself into the workings of the quiet community. She was a charter member of the Floral Garden Club, one of the oldest garden clubs in Citrus County.

"She very much dedicated her life to horticulture. She did beautiful flower designs," Mrs. Beasley said.

Mrs. Morris took an instant liking to the history and tradition of Floral City. In 1986, shortly before Citrus County's centennial, she published "A History of Floral City," a virtual who's who of people and activities in the community,

which around the turn of the century had more residents than Miami.

Mrs. Morris was active in community events, even as recent as the last few weeks. She was a leader in the Floral City Heritage Days event in early November, where she explained simply her devotion to Floral City's origin.

"You don't live her very long without wondering what happened before," Mrs. Morris told a reporter that weekend.

Vivian Higginbotham, who had known Mrs. Morris for 38 years, said she went out of her way to assist the community and its people.

"Words cannot describe how wonderful she was for our community," Mrs.

Higginbotham said. "She helped people without other people knowing about it. Her right hand didn't know what her left hand was doing."

Mrs. Higginbotham said Mrs. Morris was active in her church, the Floral City United Methodist Church. She also volunteered many hours to the Floral City Library.

"She dedicated her life to this community," Mrs. Higginbotham said. "It's hard for me to describe just how wonderful she was."

Services for Mrs. Morris will be 2 p.m. today at the Chas. E. Davis Funeral Home of Inverness. Entombment will follow in the family mausoleum of Hills of Rest Cemetery in Floral City.

Garden club members distribute decorations

By Marie Jones

Lake Life correspondent

Have you noticed the Christmas decorations made and distributed by the floral garden club members? This is the first year for the project but we hope to improve and expand next year.

Have you attended a meeting of the garden club this year? Meetings are the second Friday of each month September through June at the community building next to the fire station starting at 1 p.m. We have a committee to welcome you at the door and they need to be kept busy.

I'd like to share some interesting facts and dispel a couple of myths, this week. Weeds — the dictionary says a weed is "a plant of no value," but every plant has some redeeming features. Thick growth of weeds prevent soil erosion and their extensive root systems break up hard soil. Any plants with deep root systems lift valuable minerals and trace elements to the surface where they become available to other plants. Weeds are tough, vigorous opportunists. Before they were tamed all of our cultivated crops were so-called weeds. Weeds in some cases are sources of medicines, dyes and other useful products. Wild creatures depend on weeds for food, but humans also eat such weeds as watercress, chicory and dandelion greens. Weeds can be attractive too, their foliage delicate, their fruit fascinating and their blossoms welcome bursts of color.

Parasites — a plant that draws sustenance from others and supplies no benefit in return. Some, like Spanish moss, attach themselves to others only to gain better exposure to sunlight. They take nothing from their hosts. One of our most familiar Christmas decorations — mistletoe — is a perching plant living on branches of trees and shrubs. Its seeds reach their position through the courtesy of birds

Meetings are the second Friday of each month September through June at the community building.

which eat the berries, then deposit the sticky seeds on branches. The plant is able to make its own food (it has chlorophyll) but it must tap into the tree's pipeline for its water.



Garden club installs officers

The Floral Garden Club recently installed its officers at the Central Motel in Inverness. The officers will serve for a term of two years. Seated at left, Clarice Jordan, installing officer; Marie Jones, standing in for Mary Pritchard who is not pictured; June Schmidt, new treasurer; standing from left, Barbara Littlefield, 1st vice president; Dorothy Colarusso, 2nd vice president; Kathleen Mueller, recording secretary, Carolyne Gazzano, corresponding secretary. (Chronicle staff photo)