



*Floral City Garden Club
proudly presents*

A SECRET GARDENS
AND
ART TOUR

*September 24, 2005
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

"Treasures of the Garden should be shared"

Welcome to this special fundraiser event!

All profits will be used to support the Floral City Garden Club's community projects which include maintaining established Memorial, Butterfly and Floral City Elementary Gardens, sending children to Camp Wekiva, a \$500 scholarship to a college student, and working with the FC Heritage Council to maintain and replace, as needed, our magnificent live oak trees.

Our most grateful appreciation goes out to the homeowners and artists who have donated their time and hard work to make this event a success.

The homeowners

Cathi Ayers and Barry Pendry
Debbie and Joe Barney
Pam and Dave Bellman
Lynda and Jim Fenton
Cathy Foley and Gene Coats
Joan Knippen
Residents of Ferris Court

The artists

Mary Nigels
Ryan Jenkins
Tina Estes
Sharon Aldrich
Alicia & Denise Lowe
Laura Sloop Hennings

Garden Tour Committee:

Chairmen:	Dave and Thelma Noble, Frank Peters
Artists:	Thelma Noble
Hostesses:	Sheila O'Dell
Programs:	Cathi Ayers, Marcia Beasley
Publicity:	Marcia Beasley, Cathi Ayers
Signage & Maps:	Dave Noble, Frank Peters
Ticket Sales:	Kathy Hoffman
Webmaster:	Diane Dowthitt

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. Your **PROGRAM** is required for you to enter each garden.
2. **RESTROOMS** are available in the Community Building
3. Bottled water is available at ^{Community Club} ~~each garden~~.

Thank You for Coming!

*We Hope You Enjoy Your Tour
As Much As We Have Enjoyed
Planning It*

The Artists

Sharon Aldrich - Stained Glass:

After earning a PhD in art and working as a professor at Tennessee State University, Sharon has now settled in Homosassa where she works from her "Earth-Star Designs" Gallery. She uses traditional lead foil, attaining a substantial look and grace not possible with today's commonly used copper foil. Sharon is known for her large fountains, dramatic mermaid designs and three-dimensional, kiln-work floral pieces. Designs she believes to be most meaningful to herself and others come to her in dreams.

Tina Bristol Estes - Wind-chimes:

With a Bachelors Degree in Fine Arts, Tina has done sculpting, ceramics, drawing, and painting. Living in Brooksville, Tina has recently settled into putting her creative eye toward production of gorgeous windchimes. Utilizing ordinary items along with heirloom jewelry, crystals and fragments of stained glass, each chime has its own look, sound, personality and spirit, making it an individual expression in any garden.

Laura Sloop Hennings - Fish Prints:

Laura is a nationally known *Gyotaku* artist. Gyo means "fish" and taku means "stone rubbing." The technique has been used in Japan and China for centuries to make permanent records of the appearance of various species of fish. It is now considered as a decorative, interpretive art form which shows expressions of composition, form, texture, color and use of materials. After spending several years on the art circuit, Laura has now limited her attendance to the Coconut Grove Art Festival in Miami, the Ann Arbor, MI and the Florida Folk Festivals in White Springs and Homosassa. Her work can be seen adorning walls of well-known restaurants, offices and homes around the country. She has recently expanded her medium to include clothing and jewelry, creating one-of-a-kind wearable art.

The Artists continued

Ryan Jenkins- Copper Sculpture:

Growing up in a family of artists, it was only natural that Ryan would also develop and express himself through creative art. Working primarily in copper and brass he uses his experiences with the ocean, gulf and rivers as inspiration for his work. Riverworks Studio in Old Homosassa is home to Ryan's work where twisting, bending, cutting and shaping copper yields one of a kind works of intriguing sculpture suitable for any Florida garden.

Alicia Lowe - Stoneware pottery:

Alicia's passion is making pieces of functional pottery that people will use with friends and family in their homes. She is always looking for new ideas, designs and colors for the clay to keep her work interesting and challenging. With 28 years of experience, Alicia continues to be intrigued by the fact that every time the kiln is opened, there's always a surprise.

Denise Lowe - Decorative clay:

Denise's gift of whimsy and spontaneity with clay is expressed through her creation of one-of-a-kind busts, "hurricane houses" and unique decorative pieces. Subtle design and details in her work are striking. The hurricane houses with the appearance of being on the water's edge remind viewers of Florida's natural heritage. Each house has a back door and ledge to hold a candle.

Mary L. Nigels - Glass bead and Silversmith:

Mary creates her own glass beads making them into unique designs in beaded lamp-work and jewelry. An avid collector of vintage beads and jewelry for years, and enamored by shiny baubles, creating glass beads became a natural choice for a creative outlet. Her latest designs lean toward florals and botanicals.

*wrong address
many people
couldn't find it*

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MORNING GLORY CHALET - 11296 Turner Ave.

Owners: Gene Coats and Cathy Foley

Featured Artists: Alicia and Denise Lowe - Pottery

Wild vines and whimsical cottage gardens await you at Morning Glory Country Chalet. Five acres of dogwoods, oaks and majestic pines create a park-like setting. From the gated entry, hand-painted signs welcome visitors down the narrow drive which leads past a charming garden shed, many antique tools and a n authentic "John Deere" mower surrounded by an array of colorful flowers. ~ A cottage garden at the front of the Chalet showcases perennials such as obedient plants, Mexican petunias, narrow-leaf sunflowers, blue and red porter weed, salvias, mums, four o'clocks, golden dew-drop, butterfly flower and butterfly bush. ~ One acre of the property is laid out in charming theme gardens with names such as the "Tea Cup Garden," "Mimi's Secret Garden," "Memory Garden" and "Butterfly Garden." The "Moonlight Fairy Garden" includes a pond complete with rippling stone waterfall, dotted with colorful flowers peeking out among the rocks. This garden forms a backdrop for the intimate weddings often held in the gazebo in front of the romantic falls. ~ Stone walkways and rustic arbors created by the owners from the abundant natural materials on the property, are covered with honesuckle, morning glory and cypress vines which add to the fairy tale charm of these. ~ Last but not least, be sure to say 'hello' to "Miss Good Cow," the family pet. She loves to give big kisses!

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RECLAIMED AND REFLECTIVE – 8219 E. Orange Ave.

Owners: Dave and Pam Bellman

Featured Artist: Tina Estes - Wind Chimes

In the very heart of old Floral City, under a giant mulberry tree, sits one of the areas most recently restored historic homes. When the property was rescued in 1997, the Bellmans immediately began to develop their landscaping plan utilizing the many treasures salvaged from renovation work on homes and buildings in Central Florida. ~ Decorative ironwork placed between wooden posts fronts the property and west side. Recovered old brick is used to tie together the many walkways and flower beds. Recycled windows are used to construct the productive green house. ~ Circling the wrap-around porch are a variety of plantings, some new, some nearly as old as the house itself. ~ At the back of the garage is a lattice potting alcove and a large pokeweed plant, used by Native Americans for dye. Beyond the alcove is an almost-hidden seating area surrounded by hibiscus, firecracker and pineapple plants. ~ The yard is dotted with small gardens featuring various plants: mimosa encircled by bromeliads and lantana; a fig tree planted beneath with coleus and beauty bush; a bushy cassia planted with lirioppe, lantana and old roses below. ~ Behind the green house and bordered by a knee-high, wide-board fence can be found a sky-reaching tithonia, narrow-leaf sunflowers, cranberry hibiscus, glorybower, jatropha and assorted herbs. ~ East of the greenhouse is the focal point of the yard, the double pond with raised, wooden deck. At ponds' edge can be found old roses, cat's whiskers, coleus, dwarf Mexican petunia, lantana, mums, firecracker plants and varieties of jew groundcover. ~ The east side of the house is framed by plumbago leading into the courtyard where a pomegranate tree grows. ~ This old home, whose owners are dedicated to rescuing, reusing and recycling, serves them and our community well.

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DELIGHTFULLY DECKED OUT - 7080 S. Duval Island Drive

Owners: Joe and Debbie Barney

Featured Artist: Ryan Jenkins - Copper Sculpture

A cassia tree surrounded by pentas and white vinca (periwinkle) greets visitors at the driveway entrance. It's hard to believe that the large garden at the front of the house is less than a year old. Anchored by a small magnolia tree in front and two weeping bottlebrush behind a length of round rail fencing, the bed is planted with impatiens, bush daises, portulaca, blue daze, buttercup daisy and fire cracker plants. A bird bath, garden cart and stair-stepped log border further accent the area. ~ To the left of the front door, tall red pentas attract butterflies. A walk through the carport opens to a bed of aspidistra the full length of the narrow side yard leading to the pool deck area. Allamanda shrub, caladiums, variegated hibiscus and peacock ginger are some of the plants seen along the edge of the walkway, while the pool is screened by Carolina jasmine and coral honeysuckle for privacy. ~ Facing the lake, at the left is a stone circled bed featuring a cluster of mature yucca plant along with texas and red sage, scaevola, buddleia, jatropha and cannas. ~ The right edge of the lakefront offers a wooden walkway to the spacious deck where a boat awaits a day on the lake. On the bank above, a huge chinaberry tree is surrounded by pentas, blue daze, dwarf Mexican petunia. Along the property border is the potting shed and another patio with umbrella table and benches banked by a bed of ground cover mexican petunia, plumbago, impatiens, pentas and a huge golden dew drop shrub in the background. ~ Here is also seen a flagstone-lined pond accented by a fountain, wooden bridge and a not-so-live, great blue heron. To the right is a circular stone wall sustaining the slope of the yard. It repeats the circular plantings of caladiums and bromeliads under a laurel oak tree. Following along the left fence, pagoda plants, African iris, rose of Sharon are some of the plants that lead to the gate, while plumbago, lorepetalum, pentas, cannas, narrow-leaf sunflower, and four o'clocks form a wide bed at the back of the house.

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FERRIS COURT

The Round-about at the end of Ferris Court is planted with a variety of bromeliads and is maintained by the residents of the court.

Enroute to admiring this small community garden, tour visitors will pass two Floral City Garden Club award winning gardens which can be admired from the road. These gardens are not designated Secret Gardens, so please enjoy them from your car.

On the northside of the street is a beautifully landscaped home with a bountiful border garden as well as a classic rose garden near the front door.

At the southwest property of the court, the property owners have enhanced their beautiful waterfront property with numerous beds, foundation and container plants.

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Garden Collage - 6540 S. Duval Island Drive

Owners: Barry Pendry and Cathi Ayers

Artist: Mary Nigels - Lampwork beads & silver jewelry

Picket fence corners and a low hedge of *lorepetalum* create a streetside border for this property. To the left of the driveway, the lawn is broken up by several beds. Foundation plants include crepe myrtle, Rose of Sharon, and bottlebrush. Perennials near the house are *tibouchina*, *thryalis*, and pentas. In the free-form bed are several varieties of sage, fountain grass, coleus and other perennials. Focal point of the smaller center bed is a standardized *pittosporum* bordered with oyster plant. To the right of the driveway a wooden swing offers peaceful respite under a live oak in a natural area, free of lawn. Plantings include bromeliads, philodendron, beauty berry, ferns, gingers and a Chinese fan palm. Following the walkway to the right of the house, pass the arbor with young bleeding heart plants to enter the back yard with its welcoming lake view. Confederate jasmine covers the privacy screen erected along the sidewalk. The backyard features numerous garden areas which include a "mostly herbs" garden, butterfly garden, deep shade garden and fence-lines banked with coral honeysuckle, wild honeysuckle, morning glory, rancoon creeper, star jasmine, gingers, and cannas. Banana plants mixed with cannas and gingers near the back corner create a tropical view over the lakefront.

GARDEN POINTE- 6400 S. Duval Island Drive

Owners: Jim and Lynda Fenton

Featured Artist: Sharon Aldrich - Stained Glass, Glass
Fountains, Garden Art

Enter the gate just past an elevated oak tree skirted by cascading plumbago and park off the limerock lane before the second gate. Pass through the gate to where lorepetalum, crepe myrtle and cultivated yellow lantana are encircled by the wide driveway. Two antique-looking lamp posts, flanked by young firecracker plants announce the entryway to the new Florida "cracker-style" two-story house. There, vinca (periwinkle), lorepetalum and mona lavender grow between plumbago and the golden dew drop (Durantas) plants that anchor each corner of the house. ~ Walking toward the boat dock you will pass by a garden of red Florida "Knock-out" roses which reside with plumbago and many varieties of day lilies. Past the dock and along the waterfront are continuous beds of crepe myrtles, cannas, hibiscus, heliconia choconiana (false bird of paradise) and gingers. In the midst of the beds a cast iron wheel or lock key of a drag line is partially embedded and adapted to hold an iron kettle for seasonal plantings. Continuing along the waterfront are plantings of Amazon lilies, Rhapsis palm (lady palm), African iris and more cannas and gingers. At this point, the impact of the home's placement can be appreciated with the open lake in full view beyond the broad expanse of lush lawn under the ancient oaks circled with azaleas. On this property was the location of "Doc" L.C. Ferris' vegetable garden and old well. "Doc," whose great uncle invented the Ferris Wheel, owned this land as well as the vast citrus groves on the island from the early 1930s until the 1980s. As the far side of the house is approached, a hand carved sign hanging between twocypress trees can be seen. It reads: "Garden Pointe" the name "Doc" Ferris chose for this point of land.

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NATURE RETREAT - 7764 S. Four Oaks Drive

Owner: Joan Knippen

Artist: Laura Sloop Hennings - Nature Rubbings

All requirements are present for the official designations bestowed on this property! A walk through the grounds will reveal why this is both a "Back Yard Wildlife Habitat" registered with the National Wildlife Federation and a "Certified Florida Yard" registered with the University of Florida. ~ Follow the wooden walkway around the left side of the house past a shade garden of ferns, caladiums and peace lilies to the back deck with its "cathedral" greenhouse complete with crystal chandelier! ~ Step down into the "Bird Diner" where, in addition to several feeders, a fountain has been created featuring a mosaic watering can. Stepping stone squares lead past a small pond surrounded by pentas, impatiens, coleus and cats'whiskers. A turn to the left where the path approaches the potting shed and where window boxes are planted with lantana and ivy, leads towards the canal. The careful observer discovers a simple arch leading into a "Secret Garden" with its small table set for afternoon tea. Foundation and potted plants in this area include fern, ginger and impatiens. Returning to the shed, vegetable and herb gardens may be viewed behind the picket fence. ~ Following the path along the left rear side of the house and behind shrubs of azalea is a view of a large, inviting gazebo with seating around a free-standing fireplace. Further on, another small pond of lime rock and a wooden and lattice privacy fence provide a back drop for Shasta daisies, begonia and caladiums. ~ Going through the fence's gateway to return to the front yard, discloses seating for a meditation area under an old southern red cedar tree. In the center of the front yard stands an obelisk-shaped trellis covered in passion vine. Near the courtyard, a colorful cassia tree stands guard at the entryway to the home and a picket fence displays certification that this is a wildlife friendly area. ~ Having walked this property, visitors can attest to the fact that this property provides a well-tended sanctuary with abundant food and water for the wildlife of this area.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Watch for Garden Tour direction signs posted at the turns on the way to each home as well as Secret Garden signs posted in front of each home on the tour.

Directions to all gardens begin at the Community Building

2. 1. Bellman Garden - Go West on Orange Avenue. Cross US41 at the light. Second house on the right.
1. 2. Foley Garden - Go West on Orange Avenue. Turn left at the light at US41. Proceed south to CR480/Stagecoach Trail. Turn onto 480. Go west about 3.5 miles to Turner Avenue. Left on Turner for about 2 miles to Foley property on the right (home is not visible from the road). 12296 Turner
3. 4. and 5. Barney (7080), Pendry-Ayers (6540), Ferris Court and Fenton Gardens (6400) - Go East on Orange Avenue to ORANGE AVENUE to DUVAL ISLAND DRIVE sign. Bear left. Proceed over the bridge at the boat ramp onto Duval Island Drive. All three homes as well as Ferris Court are on the left (west) side of the street.
7. 6. Knippen Garden - Go east on Orange Avenue then CR 48 towards Bushnell approximately 2 miles to Trails End Road. Turn left and follow Trails End another 2 miles to the stop sign. Turn right at the stop sign and follow Trails End approximately 1.5 miles to Four Oaks Drive. Right onto Four Oaks to 7764.

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