

FLORAL CITY HERITAGE COUNCIL

PRESENTS A

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

TO

FLORAL CITY GARDEN CLUB

FOR

THEIR GENEROUS DONATION

OF A LARGE, 15 FOOT, GRADE A, LIVE OAK TREE AND FOR THE PLANTING IT AND ANOTHER
OAK TO REPLACE LOST HISTORIC OAKS ON THE AVENUE OF OAKS IN THE
NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT, FLORAL CITY, FLORIDA



March 19, 2005
Date

Harold J. Beasley
Council Chairman





How do we part with a lovely flower without feeling sadness and loss?

By remembering how its beauty gave us joy and enriched our lives.

Today, our bouquet is smaller and less vibrant than it once was.

But we rejoice in the beauty of the life of our treasured friend Alice.

Called to begin the New Year eternally in heaven's garden above.

But when we gather together Alice will be close to our hearts.

Thus, with both sorrow and joy we part for now, Dear Alice,

Remembering you with love and affection.

Your Garden Club Sisters

Obituaries 01/02/06

Alice Reed, 93 Floral City, Caroga Lake, N.Y.
Earl Spangenberg Jr., 49 Ocala

Alice Reed, 93 Floral City, Caroga Lake, N.Y.

Alice L. Reed, 93, a seasonal resident of Floral City, died Friday, Dec. 30, 2005, at the Hospice House of Citrus County.

A native of Nanticoke, Pa., she was born Oct. 8, 1912, to Simon and Anna (Kiszka) Lehowicz, and lived in Caroga Lake, N.Y., during the winter months.

She retired from Sperry Rand in Ilion, N.Y., with 25 years of service.

She was a member of Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Inverness and Annuciation Catholic Church of Ilion, N.Y.

Other affiliations included the Floral City Garden Club, Citrus County Historical Society, Citrus County Home Extension Club, Upstate New York Club and the Golden Agers.

She enjoyed life to its fullest and loved spending time with her family. She loved to travel, crochet and read good books.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Miller Dean Reed; two brothers, Sigmund and Raymond; and a grandson, Timothy Scott Bulson.

Surviving are one daughter, Sylvia Bulson and her husband, Robert, of Caroga Lake, N.Y.; two sisters, Elizabeth Sumner, of Floral City and Utica, N.Y., and Janis Lehowicz, of Floral City and Utica, N.Y.; three grandchildren, Robin, Michele and Patricia; six great-grandchildren, Brooke, Kelsey, Leanne, Luran, Benjamin and Audrey; and many nieces and nephews.

Chas. E. Davis Funeral Home with Crematory, Inverness.

Earl Spangenberg Jr., 49 Ocala

Earl Everett Spangenberg Jr., 49, of Ocala, died Thursday, Dec. 29, 2005, in Nashville.

He was born in Franklin, N.J., and came to this area 25 years ago from California.

He was Catholic, and attended Our lady of the Springs Catholic Church.

He was an Air Force veteran, and an avid fisherman, traveler and camper.

Survivors include his mother, Mary Spangenberg, of Ocala; one daughter, Eden Spangenberg, of Miltonvale, Kan.; one sister, Carol and her husband, Henry Katzenstein, of Lafayette, N.J.; two grandchildren.

Roberts Funeral Home of Dunnellon.

Pioneer 11/21/06

Garden club offers pruning advice

Although this is not the month to prune any plant or tree, it is a good month to learn what, when and how to prune plants in the Florida landscape.

The public is invited to attend a 2 p.m. program on Friday, Jan. 13, in the Floral City Community Building concerning proper pruning by Floral City Garden Club member Kathy Davis.

Davis is chairman of the club's School Garden and serves on the following garden club commit-

tees: Junior Gardeners, Landscape Design/Yard of the Year Awards, Memorial Garden, Roadside Beautification, Secret Garden Tour and Wildflowers & Native Plants. She has been an active member since joining the Club in early 2004 and lives with her husband Louis on Lake Tsala Apopka in the Devil's Neck area of Floral City.

Club members will gather at the monthly meeting on the Jan. 13 at 12:30 p.m. to discuss horticulture with the Club Chairman,

Lynn Bassett after being greeted by Terry Newberry, Cathy Foley and Shirley McAllen.

During this period, refreshments with a birthday theme will be served by hostesses: Joan Knippen, Pattie Barber, Ginny Andrew and Mary Lu Sloop. At the January meeting the Club traditionally celebrates its birthday by each member dropping a penny for each year of their own age into the "Birthday Bowl." The club is going on fifty years old this year.

It was founded in 1956 and federated with the state organization, the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs in 1958.

President Jo Ann Quackebush will call to order the monthly business meeting at 1 p.m., where plans for the Jan. 20 Florida Arbor Day tree planting will be discussed.

Annual Plant Sale Chairman Lynn Bassett, will initiate discussion about the up coming Sale to be held on Saturday, April 8, and reports from other-

committee chairmen will be heard. The program on proper pruning by Kathy Davis will follow the meeting at 2 p.m.

There will be no tour of members' gardens this month.

The Floral City Garden Club meets monthly from September through May on the second Friday of the month at 12:30 p.m. in the Floral City Community Building unless otherwise announced. For more information please call 344-4447.



Meeting pictures from January 2006

Pictures from January 2006 Meet
Patricia "Dinner"



Jo Gardner
President
Kathy Davis
giving flowers



Lynda Mary Ann

Thelma



At "Share"
Plants table

Garden club will convene Feb. 10

Floral City Garden Club members will gather for its monthly meeting on Friday, Feb. 10, at 12:30 p.m. to discuss horticulture with the Lynn Bassett, club chairman, after being greeted by Terry Newberry, Debra Owens and Betty Welte.

During this period, hostesses Cathy Foley, Pamela Browning and Shirley McAllen will serve refreshments.

Jo Ann Quackenbush, president, will call the business meet-

ing to order at 1 p.m.

Returning from the Fall District V Meeting, Quackenbush will give the members an up-date on the affairs of the District V Garden Club and the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.

Bassett, annual plant sale chairman, will discuss the results of the initial committee meeting for the up-coming plant sale to be held on Saturday, April 8. Reports from other committee

chairmen will be heard to include a report on a plan to develop a Special Overlay District for Floral City and a follow-up report from the Decorating Committee.

At the end of the business meeting the monthly Petal Power Award will be presented to another club member by the January recipient, Terry Newberry.

Reminder to the school counselors that Floral City Garden

Club Scholarships are available and a reminder to club members to bring in Campbell's Soup labels for the Wekiva Youth Camp.

The program for the month will be on butterflies and butterfly gardening by Christine Small. This program, so dear to the hearts of most garden clubbers, will follow the meeting at 2 p.m. and is open to the public.

Following the program, the tour of members' gardens this

month will include the gardens of Bobbie Schoss, Dottie Sherman and Cathi and Betty Ayers all of which are on Duval Island.

The Floral City Garden Club meets monthly: September through May on the second Friday of the month at 12:30 p.m. in the Floral City Community Building unless otherwise announced. For more information please call 344-4447.



Floral City Heritage Council

A rendering shows a park setting in front of three county buildings along Orange Avenue in Floral City: the former fire station, left, the community center and the library.

Flags 3/12/06

■ An overlay district and town center would seal efforts to preserve Floral City's ambience.

By BARBARA BEHRENDT
Times Staff Writer

FLORAL CITY — The scene repeats itself several times each week across the street from David Noble's historic home.

A passer-by pulls off the road, hops out of the car and aims a camera down Floral City's famed avenue of oaks.

The sight reminds Noble

how lucky he is to live in the historic district on Orange Avenue. "It's a common occurrence," he said. "The canopy, it's what first drew me."

The public fascination with the oak-tunnel thoroughfare reinforces why Noble and a core group of residents want to be sure that Floral City's special ambience never fades.

These days they have a special ally: Citrus County government.

The Floral City Heritage Council, which Noble heads, has been working with county officials on two major projects designed to seal the communi-

ty's historical roots and guide future development and redevelopment to fit the existing motif.

The community has supported the effort in several surveys and a visioning process in 1999. Floral City residents had just been through the difficult discussions about the widening of U.S. 41 through their community and wanted to weigh in on their own future.

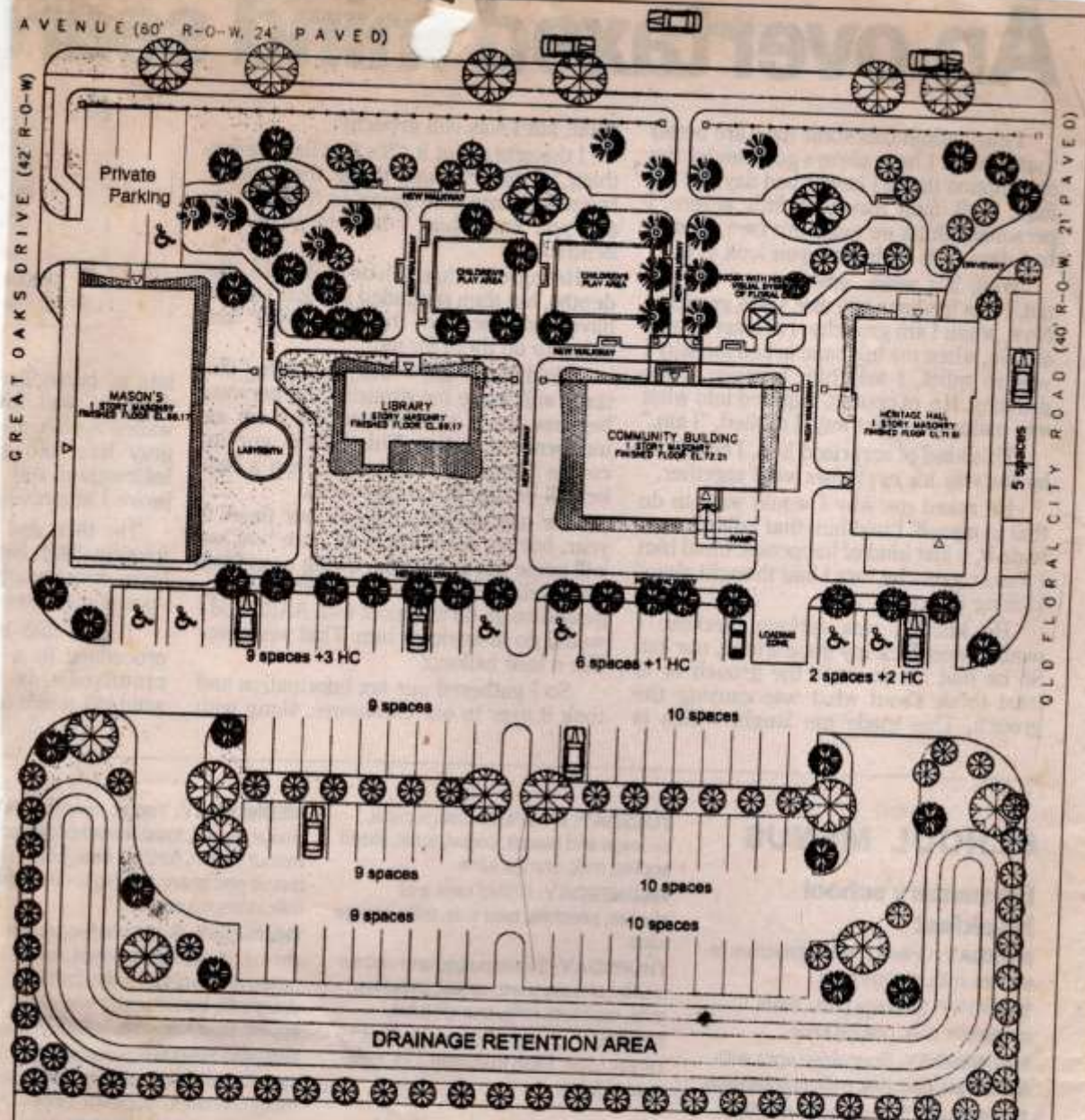
"We had known that we needed to take an active part in the direction we were going in Floral City," Noble said. "We

Please see **HISTORIC** Page 4



Times photo — RON THOMPSON

The National Historic District in Floral City encompasses 18 properties and the oak trees that line Orange Avenue and Aroostook Way, shown above.



- AREA:**
 19,400 sq. ft. PAVED PARKING LOT
 23,400 sq. ft. UNPAVED PARKING LOT
 48,000 sq. ft. REMODELING SITE PLAN
 13,500 sq. ft. DRAINAGE RETENTION AREA
 3,895 sq. ft. MASON'S
 1,125 sq. ft. LIBRARY
 2,712 sq. ft. COMMUNITY CENTER
 3,080 sq. ft. HERITAGE HALL

wanted to say how we want the community to go and not have something done to us."

Since then the Heritage Council has worked on several projects identified in the visioning process. But the county's help is needed to make two large goals a reality.

One goal is to establish a special overlay district in the core of historic Floral City, a zone that would be governed by a unique set of tailor-made county rules ensuring that whatever is built or rebuilt in that zone would match the existing community theme.

The other plan has been to establish a "Town Center" focused on three county-owned buildings near Orange and U.S. 41.

Areas in front of the three county-owned buildings (the fire station is at left) are now used primarily for parking, which would move to the back.

The red brick firehouse sits largely empty, its yawning bay doors no longer entryways for fire engines and volunteer firefighters.

Since a new fire station was built elsewhere several years ago, the old one has been a focal point for the Heritage Council. During the annual Heritage Days, council members staff a museum.

Someday they would like to see that as a full-time display.

They also dream of other uses for the building, ranging from an activities hub for young people to a sheriff's substation.

Their dreams stretch to the two adjacent buildings: the stone-fronted community center now leased by the Lions Club and the Floral City Library.

Long-abandoned shuffleboard courts, a basketball hoop backboard and portable signs now provide an unappealing frontage on Orange Avenue. The council wants a green, inviting linear park.

The Town Center idea has been approved by the County Commission, although the funding has not. But council members recently learned that the county will fund the linear park along Orange through park impact fees. It will become part of the county's plan to expand the Floral City Library in the coming months.

The county has recently purchased property behind the three county buildings, a swath where a new parking lot is planned. That means the area in front of the buildings will no longer be needed for parking, and the long-awaited beautification can begin.

Grass will replace gravel parking areas. Onks will be added, extending the avenue's canopy.

Limestone pillars similar to what once stood at the start of the walkway to the community building are planned, tying in to the historical theme and tying the buildings together. A two-rail fence will surround the park.

The hope is that all three community buildings will eventually have facades similar to the community building, which is wrapped with limestone from old mines.

Design work is under way for the library and the new parking lot, according to Brad Thorpe, the county's community services director. If the library design is ready by fall, the county can apply for grants to help with the project.

The library designer has a copy of the Town Center plan and "he's trying to design it so it fits with the town center concept," Thorpe said.

The hope is that the old fire station will also get that same architectural style when the time comes to renovate that building.

For now the county's efforts are focused on the library and the park.

"We're attempting to put the project together this year in phases," Thorpe said.

St. Petersburg native Frank Peters has been visiting Floral City for decades. While he loves his native Pinellas County, he retired here because he loves the area. He doesn't want to see that change.

"Growth is inevitable," Peters said. "The smart thing would be to plan responsible growth. That's what an overlay will do."

Last year the County Commission approved an overlay district for old Homosassa. It focused on keeping the fishing village character intact. The process took several years.

Floral City residents have a head start. They already have their vision.

"We wanted to have a say instead of just sitting back and complaining about what was happening to us. We wanted to have a say," said Marla Beasley, past chairwoman of the Heritage Council and a longtime community advocate for preserving Citrus County's historical resources.

For Beasley, the Town Center and the overlay district are the next logical steps in a process that Citrus County and Floral City have taken during the past quarter century. Since the early 1980s, the county has been through a process of identifying, defining and protecting historical resources.

In Floral City the work began in 1982, when the then-vice president of the Citrus County Historical Society, Francis Yonkin, cataloged and photographed the historic architecture of the town, which was first surveyed in 1883.

County surveys of historical buildings followed, with awareness peaking in 1987, when the county celebrated its centennial.

In Floral City, residents devised a driving tour in 1991. The National Historic District was recognized, encompassing 18 properties and the oak trees that line Orange Avenue and Aroostook Way. A listing in the National Register of Historic Places came in 1993.

"Floral City is extremely unique. There is no other historical district in the county," Beasley said. "It's time we recognize the value of having that, and it's not just for Floral City. It's a jewel for the whole county."

As for the overlay, the first step is to define the area it would cover.

Noble said the group is looking at a zone larger than the actual historic district. The district lines follow the oldest homes and the oak-lined Orange Avenue and Aroostook Way.

Expanding the area of the overlay would mean taking in some zones north and south of Orange, where properties are getting more rundown and where modern-style structures have replaced the old, rustic and historic styles from the past.

The group is also looking to the immediate waterfront areas and extending to the west side of U.S. 41 into areas as far west as the family home of the late Hampton Dunn, newspaper man, historian and author of *Back Home: A History of Citrus County*.

"In Floral City we're looking at preserving their heritage and their sense of place," said Chuck Dixon, the county's community development director.

He is in the earliest stages of preparing the overlay district, examining aerial maps, looking at the existing buildings and working on a list of interested stakeholders. Soon they will sit together at the table and begin to talk about what a Floral City overlay should include. "It will be tailored to their needs," Dixon said.

The process could stretch into 2007.

"We have to look at both the residential and the commercial component, the height and bulk of buildings, whether to restrict the size of buildings, what to do with institutional buildings," Dixon said. "There are a lot of components to Floral City."

Unlike the overlay district that the County Commission recently approved for Old Homosassa, which set up design standards based on the Cracker style of many homes in that area, Floral City doesn't have a standard house design in its historic area.

"We don't have a particular style, but we have a time period" which is roughly 1800 through the 1920s, Noble said. "We have various styles within that time frame. If we can approve that kind of architectural restriction, that would be good."

County Commissioner Dennis Damato doesn't have to look far to see why communities need to plan ahead for growth.

Just across the Withlacoochee River from Citrus County, Yanketown is facing the possibility of resort-style residential and commercial development that many citizens don't favor. They say it will destroy their town, taking away the very features that drew them there in the first place.

That developer, Damato said, "He's wanting to do stuff that those people never, never believed could happen."

Floral City can avert that in their town if they can accomplish their overlay district.

"To me, Floral City is the perfect scenario for a redevelopment overlay district," Damato said. It has a "blighted little commercial corridor" that could use some revitalizing and faces real problems if the roadway widening moves forward.

"It's far better to have the planning in place before the DOT widens the road," he said.

One reason Damato is confident that Floral City will make an overlay work is because "we have the type of people in Floral City who have the mind-set to make it work."

Damato said the county really needs to step up and be the leader on the project, especially since the county owns the three buildings. "We should lead the way, and the private sector will follow," he said.

Yellowed photographs show what Floral City's downtown looked like just after the turn of the century. Visible in the pictures are vaguely familiar roof lines of a building or two in what remains Floral City's commercial zone. But what's missing in the town's business district these days is businesses.

Of the 14 business locations at the busy corner, nine are vacant. "Our business center downtown here is virtually non-existent," Noble said.

He said the hope is that, with an overlay in place, as new businesses come in, they can meet the design standards set out in those new rules.

"We're not opposed to commercial development," but hope that it will fit with the surrounding community, Noble said. Standards need to be in place as the growth comes "so we don't get the big box stores."

Damato said that revitalizing the town will do wonders to turn the commercial zone around.

He said he is confident that once the projects are going, the downtown area will see private interests wanting to be a part of the new Floral City. "Business people will invest in a place where there is a plan," Damato said. Lenders will be more willing to lend. Business people will feel more confident that they will be able to succeed.

"That's why it needs to be done. The county shows a plan, and the county becomes a facilitator," he said. By not making planning choices, "we set the county back."

Damato was integral to the downtown redevelopment of Crystal River, spending more than a

A site plan includes three county structures and one privately owned building (the Masonic hall at far left) along E Orange Avenue. The Floral City Heritage Council wants a green, inviting linear park in front of the three buildings.

dozen years on that project.

"Good things don't just happen. They happen because you are working toward a final goal," he said.

The Floral City residents and county officials all know that the time to set up a plan is now be-

cause development is racing across the region.

"Citrus County is growing right now," said county Commissioner Joyce Valentino. "If we can get this plan in place, the quicker, the better."

She favors the projects the Her-

itage Council has undertaken.

"Our heritage here in Citrus County, it's part of what we are," she said. "This will protect our heritage. It will protect our citizens."

Barbara Behrendt can be reached at 564-3621 or behrendt@sptimes.com.

Gardeners think 'small'

Chronicle 3-10-06

Special to the Chronicle

Think small, think time and skill, think beautiful.

The public is invited to attend a bonsai program of history, styles, care and a sculpturing demonstration at 2 p.m. today in the Floral City Community Building. Members and guests will be greeted at 12:30 p.m. by Terry Newberry, Ginny Andrews and Peggy Pattillo, while refreshments are served by Dorothy Clark, Beatrice Rahbideau and Christine Harnden.

Bonsai is the art of sculptur-

ing normal-size living plants into miniature plants through time. It is an ancient art form. Introduced in Japan about 1,000 years ago and arriving in Britain at the beginning of the 20th century, bonsai really caught the eye of the public in the United States about 25 years ago. Bonsai plants can now be found in all sorts of gardening shops.

The sight of a miniature tree or plant growing in a small pot draws a special fascination for many. At first sight, one would expect these to be ideal for indoor houseplants, but be-

warned — popular types of evergreens or maples belong outside, growing in the climate that they would ordinarily grow in if they had not been dwarfed.

There are exceptions, and some plants are selected for inside bonsai.

A horticulture question-and-answer period with a grow and share table will be held prior to the business meeting at 1 p.m.

During the business meeting, President Jo Ann Quackenbush will ask for a full report from the Annual Plant Sale Committee. Chairman Lynn

Bassett will outline the work to be done prior to and during the sale.

The Annual Plant Sale will be Saturday, April 8, at the Old Fire Station next to the Floral City Community Building. The sale will include both home-grown plants and a wide variety of first-class nursery stock.

A convenient pick-up area will be provided for the plant shoppers.

After the business meeting and following a short break, Program Chairman Carol DeLisle will introduce members of the Buttonwood Bonsai

Club for the program at 2 p.m. Roy William will present the narrative history and instructional guidelines, while Sandy and Jesse Seeders, both 20-year-experienced bonsai artists, will demonstrate the technique of creating bonsai from ordinary trees and plants.

This program is provided to the members and public free of charge.

For information about the Floral City Garden Club, call 344-4447; about the program call 341-7745; or about the annual plant sale, call 341-0064



Pictures at March 2006 "Bonzai" Mat
Cathy Ours Anne Dropp Christine Harnden



Jo

Judy
Drew
5th
District
Treasurer



"Bonzai"
Program

Butterfly Garden Committee
Shirley McAllen Nancy
Chair Kathy Fuller Anne
Proff



Plant Sale 2004

Pioneer 3123106
Garden club plans plant sale

Trailers full of plants, tables full of plants and racks full of plants. All will be available for purchase at the Floral City Garden Club Annual Spring Plant Sale.

This large, well-stocked, and popular Plant Sale will be opened to the public at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 8, in the Old Fire Station on the corner of Orange Avenue (County Road 48) and Old Floral City Road in downtown Floral City.

A wide selection of potted plants are purchased from top quality wholesale nurseries through out central Florida, native plants will be prominent and home grown plants have been potted by members for the sale.

Various kinds of gingers; Yesterday/today/tomorrow plants; big leafed Tobouchinas, unusual cacti and succulents; double petunia hanging baskets, merlot pelagoniums; bush allemandas; a few rose cented geraniums and borage plants and herb baskets are included in the

**Floral City
Garden Club**

many nursery plants.

Plus other potted plant varieties too numerous to list will be offered for sale.

The native plants include coontie and Walters viburnum and a number of other plants depending on availability at the native nurseries where the plants will be purchased the week of the Sale.

Some of the home grown plants include: lemon grass, bananas, assorted ferns; amaryllis bulbs; crotons; confederate roses; blue iris, walking iris, and African iris; kalancho, cannas, large bird of paradise plants; purple queen jew; sweet potato vines and passion vines; aloe; jasmines; loquats; bromeliads; fanjaangi; sago palms, goldfish plants; pine cone gingers; gardenias, crinum lilies, small loquat trees and many others.

Returning this year are bags of

"Rabbit Berries," a natural fertilizer for plants.

This manure product is packaged in three-foot tall bags weighing approximately 25 to 30 pounds and will be offered for \$8.50 per bag. "Rabbit Berries" will not "burn" plants like some manures do. It is wonderful for roses or any other blooming plant.

Club members who have been using "Rabbit Berries" for more than a year, claim it has doubled or tripled the blooms on their plants and it can be sprinkled directly on the plant without the need to dig it into the soil or fear of burning the plant.

The bags will have some straw and odor that may last for a couple of days unless it is placed under mulch which is recommended.

Plant cuttings may be started directly in the "Rabbit Berries" without fear of burning the plants.

To assist each shopper, Club members will be available to write up each order, expediting check out.

Holding areas for the shopper will be marked for temporary storage of plants during the shopper's selection process.

Wagons, carts and trailers will be on hand to assist transporting plants at the sales site. Also, to facilitate purchasing, there will be a drive-up, pick-up area designated in front of the building.

Parking for shoppers will be in the community center parking lot and on the side streets.

For further information concerning the Plant Sale call chairman, L. Bassett at 341-0064 and visit the club website at www.floralcitygardenclub.com.

Plant Sale 2006

Diavren 3-06

Annual plant sale is April 8

Trailers full of plants, tables full of plants and racks full of plants—all will be available for purchase at the Floral City Garden Club Annual Spring Plant Sale, at 8 a.m. Saturday, April 8, in the Old Fire Station on the corner of Orange Avenue and County Road 48, and Old Floral City Road in Floral City.

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For information, call chairman, L. Bassett at 341-0064 or visit the club Web site at www.floralcitygardenclub.com.

Chronicle 3-3006

Garden club to sell plants

Special to the Chronicle

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Also available this year will be bags of "Rabbit Berries," a natural fertilizer for plants.

■ **WHAT:** Floral City Garden Club Annual Spring Plant Sale.

■ **WHEN:** 8 a.m. Saturday, April 8.

■ **WHERE:** Old Fire Station on the corner of Orange Avenue/County Road 48 and Old Floral City Road, Floral City.

■ **GET INFO:** Call L. Bassett at 341-0064 or visit the Web site at www.floralcitygardenclub.com.

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Plant Sale 2006

Anna
DUMP
Green
Kruppa

Carol Baker

Ruth Davis



customers



I think this one says it all:



working
to get
plants
ready

Plant Sale 2006

The "Boys"
Frank Peters
Barry Pendry
"H." Bassett



Jo &
Phyllis
Peters
Answer
questions



Plant Sale 2006

Aslin
Pestina
before
purchase



Kelley
& John
Winters



Kathy
Heffner
Worben



Marsha Bessley "Mama" the Country Store



Customers at Plant Sale 2014



Don Bellman & Doree Hovee



Selling
"Rabbit Berries"

Floral City Garden Club is all a-buzz

Hostesses Faith Coleman, Diane Freund and Mary Van Eepoel will serve refreshments as members of the Floral City Garden Club and visitors are greeted by Terry Newberry, Cathi Ayers and Jackie Ross at 12:30 p.m. for the Friday, April

14, meeting of the garden club.

During this period horticulture questions and answers will be provided at the Grow 'N' Share Table where members have brought to the Floral City Community Building their cuttings, starts, bulbs and seeds to share with all who attend.

President Jo Ann Quackenbush will call the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

The main topic of interest will be the report on the successful Annual Plant Sale held on April 8.

Certified arborist Michael Harnden will discuss the plans to plant the very large grade A live oak to be planted on Orange Avenue as in-fill for lost historic oaks.

This planting will take place on Friday, April 28, for National Arbor Day.

After a short break, Program

Chairman, Carol DeLisle will introduce the program. The public is welcome to attend. Mr Fred Born is a apiarist who will discuss apiculture, the keeping of honey bees.

He will discuss his own apiary and an emphasis on bees relationship to gardening, including the plants and blooms that bees favor in this area. He has been keeping bees for the past five years and resides in Crystal River.

Born will have some of his honey available to purchase at the program. Following the program members and visitors are invited to tour the private gardens of Carol Hart, Julia Sukolow and Barbara Burke.

For more information visit the web site: floralcitygradenclub.com or call 344-4447. For further information about the program call 341-7745.

Do you know the origins of Arbor Day? If not, here's a modified version of the National Arbor Day History [<http://www.arborday.org/arborday/history.cfm>] <<< check here if you want to read the full article.

"I never before knew the full value of trees. Under them I breakfast, dine, write, read and receive my company."

Thomas Jefferson



The History of Arbor Day

The idea for Arbor Day originally came from Nebraska ... a treeless plain. It was the lack of trees there that led to the founding of Arbor Day in the 1800s by J. Sterling Morton ... He and his wife, lovers of nature, quickly planted trees, shrubs and flowers around their new home after moving from Detroit.

Morton, a journalist, became editor of Nebraska's first newspaper and spread agricultural information and his enthusiasm for trees and encouraged everyone including civic organizations and groups to join in. They missed their trees, but trees were needed as windbreaks to keep soil in place, for fuel and building materials, and for shade from the hot sun.

[Click Here for a Historical Photo Album](#)



Arbor Day's Beginnings

On January 4, 1872, Morton first proposed a tree-planting holiday to be called "Arbor Day" at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture. The date was set for April 10, 1872. Prizes were offered to counties and individuals for planting properly the largest number of trees on that day. It was estimated that more than one million trees were planted in Nebraska on the first Arbor Day.

Arbor Day was officially proclaimed by the young state's Gov. Robert W. Furnas on March 12, 1874, and the day itself was observed April 10, 1874. In 1885, Arbor Day was named a legal holiday in Nebraska and April 22, Morton's birthday, was selected as the date for its permanent observance.

This ended the first celebration of Arbor Day as a legal holiday, and, as reported by the newspaper, "... to say that it was a complete success but faintly expresses it. A celebration of this kind results in good to all, and is worthy of imitation by every school in the state."

During the 1870s, other states passed legislation to observe Arbor Day, and the tradition began in schools nationwide in 1882.

Arbor Day has now spread beyond the United States and is observed in many countries of the world.

The Floral City Garden Club is proud to continue this very worthy tradition by having a part in adding these 2 Live Oaks to the Avenue of Oaks and donating them to Floral City.

April 28, 2006

Re-planting history

Floral City Garden Club celebrated another successful Arbor Day on April 27. Two Live Oaks were planted with the help and support of garden club members and friends. Special recognition is given to Certified Arborist Michael Harnden and his helper Joe Steed for selecting these 15-foot tall Grade 1A live oak trees and along with Dave Noble, Frank Peters, Dave Bellman and Barry Pendry for digging the two large holes for planting.

One of these trees was donated by Mark and Michelle Chamberlain and the other was donated by the Floral City Garden Club. The Club, with support from the residents along Orange Avenue, continues purchase high quality live oak trees to in-fill the areas where historic trees have been lost over the 100+ plus years since the original trees were planted.

The Floral City Garden Club meets monthly in the Floral City Community Building on the second Friday at 12:30 p.m. from

Floral City Garden Club

September through May. Visitors and potential members are always welcome. Visit us at or call President Jo Ann Quackenbush at 344-4447.

Representing the Floral City Garden Club are: from left, Frank Peters, Mark Chamberlain, Christine and Michael Harnden, Joe Steed, Pam and Dave Bellman, Dave Noble, Cathi Ayers and Barry Pendry.

Inverness Pioneer, Thursday, May 4, 2006 ■ 13

Community





Proud planters



Special to the Chronicle

Floral City Garden Club celebrated a successful Arbor Day on April 27. Two Live Oaks were planted with the help and support of garden club members and friends. Special recognition is given to Certified Arborist Michael Harnden and his helper, Joe Steed, for selecting these 15-foot tall Grade 1A live oak trees, and to Dave Noble, Frank Peters, Dave Bellman and Barry Pendry for digging the two large holes for planting. One of the trees was donated by Mark and Michelle Chamberlain, and the other was donated by the Floral City Garden Club. The club, with support from the residents along Orange Avenue, continue to purchase live oak trees to fill in areas where historic trees have been lost during the 100-plus years since the original trees were planted. From left are: Frank Peters, Mark Chamberlain, Christine Harnden, Michael Harnden, Joe Steed, Pam Bellman, Dave Bellman, Dave Noble, Cathi Ayers and Barry Pendry.



Garden club honors 2 members

Special to the Chronicle

Two longtime members of the Floral City Garden Club were specially honored at the Annual Awards Luncheon in May during the last meeting of the club year.

College Scholarship Awards and Wekiva Youth Camp Scholarship Awards are presented annually, and the club has chosen to name these awards in honor of two longtime, active members.

"The Marie Jones Scholarship Award" honors 31-year member Marie Jones (Mrs. James). The club had previously awarded Jones with a Life Membership in the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs. She is a past president of the Floral City Garden Club, has served as chairwoman on many of the club's standing committees and has presented numerous programs to the organization.

Jones is an advocate of "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle" and, through the years, has combined this philosophy

with her artistic talent, the results of which she has generously shared with the club in various ways. One of her creations was the "Petal Power Award." This award is given monthly to a club member who has demonstrated the goals and principles of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs by outstanding service during the previous month. The actual award is a framed design of an elegant lady in evening dress, all of which is contrived from natural plant materials.

"The Dorothy Clark Wekiva Youth Camp Scholarship Award" honors 23 years of service by member Dorothy Clark (Mrs. Edward). The club had previously awarded Clark with an entry in the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs' Golden Book, maintained at federation headquarters in Winter Park. Clark has been a past president of the club on two occasions. During her early membership years, she established the club's Junior Gardener Program, chaired that program for many years and still participates in teaching our

youth principles of gardening.

Clark was president when the club initiated the Floral City Community Memorial Garden, a red, white and blue garden and later an exhibition "xeriscape" garden at the post office. She was president when the Club joined the county's "Project Pride" in the fall of 1989 to "Adopt-A-Highway." The club has continued this two-mile roadside clean-up program to date.

In honoring these two outstanding members, the Floral City Garden Club presented two \$500 "Marie Jones Scholarship Awards," one to Summer Wyllie, a homeschooled student and a student at the Academy of Environmental Sciences. The other Marie Jones Scholarship Award was presented to Rex Wilson, a student at Citrus High School and a resident of

Floral City.

The club presented one "Dorothy Clark Wekiva Youth Camp Scholarship Award" to Tiffany Owens, daughter of member Debra Owens.

The club will resume programs in September and meets at 12:30 p.m. the second Friday monthly in the Floral City Community Building.

Membership is open to those interested in protecting and conserving natural resources; improving the beautification of roadsides, parks and civic areas; in studying landscape design, floral design, horticulture and gardening, and in working with other organizations with like objectives. Membership is not limited to residents of the Floral City area.

For more information, call Jo Ann Quackenbush, president, at 344-4447 and/or visit its Web site at www.floralcitygardenclub.com.

INFORMATION

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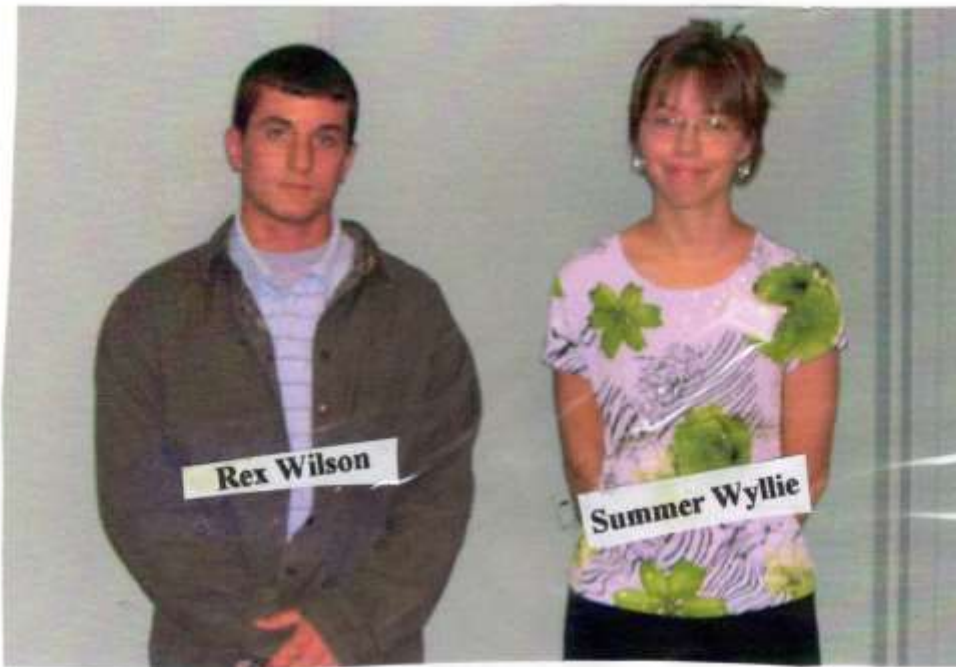








**Awarding the Marie Jones Scholarship Award to Summer Wyllie and Rex Wilson
With Cathi Ayers at Microphone**



Awarding the Marie Jones Scholarship Award to Summer Wyllie and Rex Wil



**Awarding the Marie Jones Scholarship Award to Summer Wyllie and Rex Wilson
With Cathi Ayers at Microphone**







Sep. 2006 Petal Power Award
From Pam DeGruen to Cathy DeLise



Sep. 2006 Hostesses: Sheila O'Dell,
Cathy Foley / Carol Hart & Carol Baker



Garden club meets Friday in Floral City

The first meeting of the Floral City Garden Club will be at 1 p.m. Friday at the Floral City Community Building.

Members and visitors will be greeted and enjoy refreshments from 12:30 until meeting time. Following the meeting and at 2 p.m., the program, "Back Porch Gourds" by Carol Varn, will be presented.

The public is welcome to attend meetings and is invited to join the club. Membership is not restricted to the Floral City area.

Call 344-4447 or visit www.floralcitygardenclub.com.



Floral City Garden Club

[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Calendar](#) [Projects](#) [Gardening Guide](#)

[Photo Album](#) [Tips & Tools](#) [What's it?](#) [Links](#) [Sponsors](#) [Forum](#)

Photo Album

Decorating the Town

A lot of effort goes into presenting our gift to the town in preparation for the Holiday Season and Heritage Days



Community Gardens are sprused up



Litter Patrol cleans the road sides



The Giant Christmas Card is placed to greet the town



Christmas Bows decorate the Avenue of Oaks



... as well as the Memorial Gardens, Library and

Community Building



The Gazebo is Decorated

... in addition to trail entrances



Pam & Dave added decorations

... to our Orange Av spot garden [@ US 41]

Garden club seeks nominations for Yard of the Year awards

Fall in Florida is the perfect time to observe local landscapes in their full splendor, especially after all the frequent rains this summer.

The Floral City Garden Club is providing residents with an opportunity to nominate a neighbor, a friend or even themselves for these Awards.

You, your friends and neighbors deserve recognition for their efforts at landscaping and keeping their yard or a special garden looking attractive.

Annually in October the Club presents Yards of the Year Awards in a number of categories.

Judges from the Garden Club personally visit each nominated garden/yard and assign it to an

Awards will be presented to the property owners at the end of October.

Award Category. From each group the best is selected for the Category Award.

Categories include: The Best Overall Yard of the Year, the Best Landscape Design, the Best Floral Design, the Best Variety Garden, the Best Yard Grown from Propagation's, the Best Creative Design, the Best Business Design or Small Community Public Area Design.

In addition to these seven awards each property owner nominated shall receive honor-

able mention and a certificate of recognition.

Reviewing the list of awards, one can see that many yards could qualify for nomination.

Recognition does not have to be for the entire property, but a specialty garden such as herbs, or roses, or day lilies, or a wild-flower garden, or vegetables.

Recognition is not limited to those who have landscaped with the purchase of expensive plants, because the club will recognize individuals who have taken cuttings, seeds and starts from friends and neighbors and used these to landscape or form a garden in their yards.

Nominations will be accepted until Oct. 15 and can be made by sending an e-mail to Mornglo1@aol.com or by calling 341-0043 or 344-4447.

State your name and phone number, the name and address of the property being nominated.

If you do not know the property owner's name, then make the nomination anyway using the address and location.

Properties are limited to the Floral City zip code.

Awards will be presented to the property owners at the end of October and announced at the November meeting of the Floral City Garden Club.

For additional information please call or e-mail the Yard of the Year Awards chair, Cathy Foley, at 342-0043 Mornglo1@aol.com or the Club President Jo Ann Quackenbush at 344-4447 or dquacken@tampabay.rr.com.

Nominations sought for yard awards

Earn recognition for hard work

Special to the Chronicle

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Nominations will be accepted until Oct. 30 and can be made by sending an e-mail to Mornglo1@aol.com or by calling 341-0043 or 344-4447.

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of the property being nominated. If you do not know the property

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FLORAL CITY YARDS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

- Seven categories include complete yards, as well as specialty gardens.
- Nominations are accepted through Oct. 31. Call 341-0043 or 344-4447, or e-mail Mornglo1@aol.com

Floral City Garden Club to give yard awards

Special to the Chronicle

In preparation for selecting this year's private and public property landscape awards, the Floral City Garden Club invites the public to recommend nominations for "special" gardens and yards.

The only limitation is that property nominated must be

in the Floral City ZIP code.

If you think you or someone else deserves recognition for planting, improving or maintaining their yard, garden or specially planting area, call the Yards of the Year chairman at 341-0043 or e-mail her at Mornglo1@aol.com.

Recipients of seven major

awards will have the special recognition sign placed in their yards for next year, and others shall receive honorable mention. All will receive a certificate of recognition.

The club will accept nominations until Tuesday.

For additional information about the awards, visit the club Web site at www.floralcitygardenclub.com.

Inverness Pioneer, Thursday, October 26, 2006

Got a nice yard? Get an award

In preparation for selecting this year's private and public property landscape awards, the

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CITRUS COUNTY (FL) CHRONICLE OCTOBER 29, 2006

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News Notes

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Garden club announces Yards of the Year Awards – 2006

SIX FLORAL CITY AREA RESIDENTS RECEIVE AWARDS FOR LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

Special to Blueprints

Not long before the holidays, the Floral City Garden Club presented their annual Yards of the Year Awards to residents of the community. Nominations for the seven awards were reviewed by the Yards of the Year Awards Committee chaired by Club member Cathy Foley.

More than half of the awards were presented to residents in the Devil's Neck area of Floral City. This is a quiet lakeside residential area to the north of the National Historic District and is off Baker Street at its northern end.

The top overall Yard of the Year Award went to Hazel Stype, a resident of Eastlake Drive. The Best Creative Yard Design was given to Janis Gosman, whose home is on Merleing Loop. Kathy Davis of Merleing Loop received the Best Yard with a Variety Garden Award and Diane Schwartz, also of Merleing Loop, received the Best Yard with a Floral Display Award. The Best Natural Garden Award was presented to Marianne Lee of Merleing Loop, while the Best Landscaped Design Yard Award was given to Steve and Judy Lane of

Brierwood Point. Shirley McAllen was the recipient of the Best Improved Yard of the Year Award. She and her husband live on Salmon Drive in the Withlapopka Isles area of Floral City.

The residents for each of these seven top awards received the traveling yard plaques which recognize their accomplishments and are placed in their yards until the awards are made for 2007. In addition to these seven awardees, another 15 nominated residents received Certificates of Merit for their accomplishments to beautify Floral City with attractive yards.

The Garden Club accepts nominations for various categories of landscape improvements for properties within the Floral City ZIP code. Anyone may make a nomination to the committee by contacting the Floral City Garden Club with the address of the property to be nominated and mailing it to the club at P.O. Box 833, Floral City, FL 34436.

Please visit the club's Web site at www.floralcitygardenclub.com to obtain more information about the club activities, awards and other programs or call President Jo Ann Quackenbush at 344-4447.

Plant manager



Special to the Pioneer

The top over-all Floral City Garden Club Yard of the Year Award went to Hazel Stype, a resident of East-lake Drive.



JO ANN QUACKENBUSH | Special to the Times

HER YARD VOTED BEST OF THE YEAR:
Floral City resident Hazel Stype recently received the 2006 Best Yard of the Year award from the Floral City Garden Club. The award is a rotating award and nominations for the 2007 award are being accepted. For information about club activities, awards and other programs visit the Club's Web site at www.floralcitygardenclub.com, or call the President Jo Ann Quackenbush at 344-4447.

1/31/07



Best Creative Design: Janis Gosman



Best Natural Garden: Mary Ann Lee



Best Variety Garden: Kathy Davis



Best Improved Garden: Shirley McAllen



Best Floral Display: Diane Schwartz



Best Landscape Design: Steve and Judy Lane

Gardening greatness



Yard of the Year: Hazel Stype

Floral City residents beautify outdoors

Special to the Chronicle 1-30-08



Best Improved Garden: Shirley McAllen



Best Creative Design: Janice Gosman



Best Variety Garden: Kathy Davis



Best Natural Garden: Mary Ann Lee

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Kathy Davis of Merleing Loop received the Best Variety Garden Award and Diane Schwartz, also of Merleing Loop, received the Best Floral Display Award.

The Best Natural Garden Award was presented to Marianne Lee of Merleing Loop, while the Best Landscape Design Award was given to Steve and Judy Lane of Brierwood Point.

Shirley McAllen was the recipient of



Best Floral Display: Diane Schwartz



Best Landscape Design: The Lanes

the Best Improved Garden of the Year Award. She and her husband live on Salmon Drive in the Withlapopka Isles area of Floral City.

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MATTHEW BECK/Chronicle

Marcia Beasley, publicity chairwoman of the Floral City Heritage Council, shows the Floral City 2007 Calendar that is being sold as a fundraiser to develop the future Heritage Hall Museum.

Heritage calendar

Special to the Chronicle

Dark sepia photos dot the front cover, and brilliantly colored photos fill the interior pages of the first edition Floral City 2007 Calendar. As a bold, colorful attempt by the Floral City Heritage Council to recapture this quaint rural village, the 2007 wall calendar depicts the historic community, grounded firmly in the rural, water-laden environment of west central Florida.

The cover and monthly pages are adapted from photos by professional photographer Ursula Casutt Von Batemberg of CvB Photography, also a member of the Heritage Council. The calendar project was conceived and carried out by member Thelma Noble, who unveiled the calendar at the summer quarterly membership meeting the end of August.

Since then, numerous businesses are selling the popular calendar for the council as a fundraiser to develop the future Heritage Hall Museum. Calendars can be obtained for \$8 each at the following locations: in Floral City at Off the Beaten Path, Aunt Martha's Farm Market, Capital City Bank, Moonrise Resort and The Brass Frog & Co.; in

Inverness at Home Stuff on Tompkins Street; in Crystal River at the Coastal Heritage Museum on Citrus Avenue; and in Homosassa at the Visitors & Convention Bureau on Yulee Drive, next to the Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park.

Calendars will be available again at the fall quarterly meeting at 7 p.m. Oct. 31 in the Floral City Community Building and FCHC members in good standing may purchase the calendars at a special rate of two for \$15. Later, during Floral City Heritage Days, Dec. 1 through 3, the calendars will be on sale at the "Country Store" in the proposed Heritage Hall of the old fire station.

Just in time for Christmas, these calendars can make an interesting gift for family and friends or a souvenir of the area for visitors. Calendars can be mailed directly to individuals anywhere in the states for a postage and handling rate of \$2 per calendar.

Orders can be accepted with checks payable to Floral City Heritage Council and mailed to: P.O. Box 328, Floral City, FL 34436. For more information and for mail orders of calendars call 726-7740 or 726-2431 or send an e-mail message to the-fchc@hotmail.com.

Heritage thanks

Following a recent critique, the members of Floral City Heritage Council, wish to extend our sincere appreciation to the many individuals, organizations, churches and businesses for making the 16th Floral City Heritage Days 2006 the most successful yet.

This historical/educational program is held annually on the first weekend of December.

We thank the *Citrus County Chronicle* and staff for the outstanding special paper and many advertisements, and WYKE TV-TV for having us on the air to promote the event. We are most grateful to our Heritage Day 2006 Sponsors who financed the educational aspect of this event:

Diamond Cluster sponsor: Citrus County Chronicle.

Platinum sponsors: Floral City Lions Foundation Inc. and Throgmartin-Henke Ranch LLP.

Gold sponsors: Capital City Bank; John D. Gelin M.D.; Progress Energy; Moonrise Resort; and TOO FAR.

Silver sponsors: The Hagar Group; Bank of Inverness; FDS Disposal Inc.; Chas. Davis Funeral Home Inc.; Stanley Steamer Carpet Cleaner; and Friends of The Floral City Library.

Special "thank yous" go to all committee chairmen of the event, to the eight historic home owners and four other historic property owners for opening their doors for the Blue Banner Tour of Historic Homes, to the 117 volunteers and to the businesses, organizations and individuals who put up Giant Christmas Cards, served as hosts/hostesses and assisted us in safety and other ways.

To the property owners throughout the village who allowed us to schedule this event on their property, in adjacent areas or were tolerant of the increase in visitors. To the BOCC, the Engineer Division and Roadside Maintenance Division who permitted and gave assistance for this event, we thank you.

Also, appreciation is extended to all those who prepared

the village with Christmas decorations and grounds preparation. To all those organizations who prepared the mouth-watering foods, to those who demonstrated early Florida Folklife daily living skills, to the many musicians on Saturday and the carolers and musicians on Friday night, and to all the other clubs, organizations, exhibitors and activity participants in period costumes, we express our sincere gratitude for your participation. You are the ones who make the event and create the atmosphere!

We are grateful to those who provided "Special Assistance," as named in our special Chronicle paper, for this event: Camp E-Nini-Hassee; Shamrock Inn; Floral City Volunteer Fire Department; Sheriff's Office Community Patrol Unit 5; Nature Coast EMS at Floral City; Crystal River Heritage Council; Floral City Garden Club; Inverness Woman's Club; and FDS Disposal Inc.

For those individuals who loaned items to make the event happen: Cecil Crews, Keith Barco, Janice Zeoli, Earl Seay, Wayne Dean and Mary Craven. To the many who loaned or made exhibits and volunteered in other areas, we are thankful for your assistance.

Again, on behalf of the Floral City Heritage Council,

we say a sincere "Thank You" to all who made this historical/educational event happen and, also, to all the many visitors who attended Floral City Heritage Days 2006, a big "Thank you" goes out to each of you.

See you next year...under the oaks!

**Marcia L. Beasley, Event
Chairwoman**
Floral City Heritage Council

Heritage thanks

As presenters of Floral City Heritage Days 2006, the members of Floral City Heritage Council wish to extend our sincere appreciation to the many individuals, organizations, churches and businesses that made this 16th historical/educational event on the first weekend of December the most successful yet.

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Again, on behalf of the Floral City Heritage Council, we say a sincere "Thank You" to the *Citrus County Chronicle* and WYKE TV, to our sponsors, to providers of "Special Assistance," to property owners, to the volunteers who prepared for and presented this event, to all food, music, exhibit and other activity participants and a personal note of gratitude is extended to our 2006 committee chairmen and members who made it all happen.

And now to all the many visitors who attended Floral City Heritage Days 2006, a big "Thank you" goes out to you.

See you next year...Under The Oaks!!

Marcia L. Beasley
event chairwoman
Floral City

Talk turns to worms

Club to learn about environmental friends

Special to the Chronicle

Earthworms are good for more than just fishing. Learn about how worms aid the environment by Fran Thompson. Thompson will present the free public program for the Floral City Garden Club on Friday afternoon in the Floral City Community Building.

Members and guests will be greeted at 12:30 by Terry Newberry, Norm Schoss and Mary Ann Jaksina, while hostesses Pam Bellman, Peggy Pattillo and Judy Lane offer refreshments prior to the business meeting.

January is the annual birthday recognition event for both the club and for members. Members contribute a penny for each year of their life into the Birthday Bowl and donations are used to benefit the objectives of the Garden Club.

President Jo Ann Quackenbush will call the meeting to order at 1 p.m. The election

of officers for the 2007-09 administration will take place at this meeting, and they will assume the duties of their respective office following the closing of the May 2007 meeting.

The slate of officers nominated and presented at the December meeting were: president, Kathy Davis; first vice president, Christine Hartman; second vice president, Debbie Barney; treasurer, Kathy Hofmann; recording secretary, Diane Dowthitt; corresponding secretary, Peggy Pattillo; and chaplain, Jeanne Henson.

Committees will give reports to include the club representatives Lynn Bassett and Pam Bellman, who are serving on the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs District 5 Water Extravaganza on Feb. 23 and 24.

Kathy Davis will report about plans for the spring plant sale to be Saturday, May 5, and Cathi Ayers will report about the

Junior Gardeners, who meet the second Tuesday monthly at Floral City Elementary School. Plans for Florida's Arbor Day on Friday, Jan. 19, will be discussed.

Farewell remarks will be given to club members Norm and Bobbie Schoss at this, their last meeting, as they will be moving out of state. Schoss has served the club as first vice president for the past two terms (four years) of office, as the club's ways and means chair, as chair of the hostesses and as chair of the luncheon committee when the club hosted the District 5 Meeting in April 2004.

Following a brief recess, the public is invited to attend the 2 p.m. program about "Earthworms, Their Cultivation and Benefits" presented by Fran Thompson. A "Grow 'N' Share" table will be available for all to select samples of seeds, cuttings, saplings and bulbs that members have brought to share with others.

Visit the Web site at www.floralcitygradenclub.com. The president may also be called at 344-4447.

Garden club to learn about earthworms

By Marcia Beasley
Special to the Pioneer

Floral City Garden Club

Earthworms are good for more than just fishing. Learn about how worms aid the environment by Fran Thompson. Thompson will present the free public program for the Floral City Garden Club on Friday in the Floral City Community Building.

Members and guests will be greeted at 12:30 and be offered refreshments prior to the business meeting.

January is the annual birthday recognition event for both the club and for members. Members contribute a penny for each year of their life into the Birthday Bowl and donations are used to benefit the objectives of the Garden Club.

President Jo Ann Quackenbush will call the meeting to order at 1 p.m. The election of officers for the 2007-09 administration will take place at this meeting, and they will assume the duties of their respective office following the closing of the May 2007 meeting.

The slate of officers nominated and presented at the December meeting were: president, Kathy Davis; first vice president, Christine Hartman; second vice president, Debbie Barney; treasurer, Kathy Hofmann; recording secretary, Diane Dowthitt; corresponding secretary, Peggy Pattillo; and chaplain, Jeanne Henson.

Committees will give reports to include the club representatives Lynn Bassett and Parr Bellman who are serving on the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs District V's Water Extravaganza on Feb. 23 and 24. Kathy Davis will report about plans for the spring plant sale to be Saturday, May 5, and Cathi Ayers will report about the

Junior Gardeners, who meet the second Tuesday monthly at Floral City Elementary School. Plans for Florida's Arbor Day, Jan. 19, will be discussed.

Farewell remarks will be given to club members Norm and Bobbie Schoss at this, their last meeting, as they will be moving out of state.

Bobbie has served the club as first vice president for the past two terms (four years) of office, as the club's ways and means chair, as chair of the hostesses and as chair of the luncheon committee when the club hosted the District V Meeting in April 2004.

Following a brief recess, the public is invited to attend the 2 p.m. program about "Earthworms, Their Cultivation and Benefits" presented by Fran Thompson. A "Grow 'N' Share" table will be available for all to select samples of seeds, cuttings, saplings and bulbs that members have brought to share with others.

Visit the Web site at www.floralcitygardenclub.com.

The president may also be called at 344-4447.

Festival to honor area H₂O

JIM HUNTER

jhunter@
chronicleonline.com

Chronicle 1-31-09

The garden clubs of Citrus County are joining with those from seven other counties in February to celebrate water and to emphasize the importance of the natural resource to the region and the state.

District V of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs is putting on "Water — A Celebration of Life: Naturally" on Feb. 23 and 24 at Fanning Springs State Park and in the town of Trenton.

Fanning Springs is north of Citrus County on U.S. 19. It's about 10 miles north of Chiefland. The educational festival is designed to engage state and county officials and to educate citizens about water issues.

The festival will have various activities and displays designed to interrelate watershed protection practices in the three regional water districts that cover District V, including the Southwest Florida Water Management District, which includes Citrus County.

Lynn Bassett of the Floral City Garden Club said the garden clubs from Floral City, Crystal River, Inverness, Riverhaven, Homosassa and Dunnellon are expected to take part. She said TOOFAR and the Friends of Chassahowitzka National Wildlife Refuge are other local groups participating in displays.

Friday, Feb 23, is Legislative Day and primarily for garden club members and state and local leaders. The Federated Garden Clubs are currently urging the state legislature to put environmental and water resource protection on the same level with growth and economic development in the Florida Water Resources Act.

Saturday, Feb. 24, is the day for the public, and entry fees at Fanning Springs State Park will be waived for the day. The town of Trenton, about five miles east, will have numerous water information displays, as well as entertainment and various artists' exhibits.

The public is invited to bring families to celebrate at either site and to get involved in activities that will include music, food, canoeing, viewing the educational displays, cycling and walking the Nature Coast Trail. There also will be Native American Painted Pony art and storytelling. Bringing lawn chairs is recommended.

Rain barrels that Crystal River Middle School environmental club students made will be sold to raise money for scholarships for students who will take environmental studies at Florida colleges.

"I think people can have fun on Saturday, and they can learn a lot," said Bassett. She said the festival illustrates that not only has Citrus County set water as its first concern, but so have the other counties in District V: Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Levy and Marion. The event, with maps, is explained on a Web site at: www.celebrate-water.com.

We lost Sheila O,Dell on
January 25, 2007 in Gainesville
at Shands Hospital

COPY

With Deepest Sympathy



#2907
Dearest Lloyd & family:

No one can know exactly how you feel,
but it may help to know that our thoughts
and our prayers are with you ... our hearts
grieve with you ... we are here if you need
us.

May you find comfort in the enduring
beauty of God's world, and in the warmth of
cherished memories of a love that lasts
forever. May the Lord hold you in his hand
and comfort you in this difficult time.
May his peace, which passes understanding
enfold you.

Jo Zuackenbush, President
Floral City Garden Club

Sheila O'Dell, 65

FLORAL CITY

Sheila Jean O'Dell, 65, Floral City, died Thursday, Jan. 25, 2007, at Shands Hospital in Gainesville.

Born Oct. 24, 1941, in Richmond, Ind., to the late Ira and Mildred Dillman, she moved here 17 years ago from Lebanon, Ind.

Mrs. O'Dell worked for Howard W. Sams book publishing.

She was a member of the Floral City Garden Club and served as president of the Citrus Four & More Club.

She enjoyed painting, gardening and antiques.

She was Protestant.

Survivors include her husband of 46 years, Lloyd E.

sheavids
O'Dell; two sons, Kyle E. O'Dell of Indianapolis, Ind., and Mark A. O'Dell of Palm Bay; five brothers, John Dillman, Curt Dillman both of Richmond, Ind., James Dillman of Hagerstown, Ind., George Dillman of Centerville, Ind., and Richard Dillman of Dade City; four sisters, Doris Fickler, Judy Kobes both of Dayton, Ohio, Gerry Risor and Pat Miles both of Richmond, Ind.; and four grandchildren.

Chas. E. Davis Funeral Home with Crematory, Inverness.

Click on www.chronicleonline.com to view archived local obituaries.

Date: Sun, 28 Jan 2007 11:37:34 -0500

Dear Garden Club Members:

Today at 2PM we will gather at Davis Funeral Home to honor Sheila with the Floral City Garden Club Procession of Flowers. Chaplain Terry wrote a eulogy in remembrance of members who pass, which is printed on the back of this card and will be given to Lloyd. I thought I'd send you a copy just in case you aren't able to attend.

Sheila will be missed so very much ... she was such a sweet person, so helpful and caring ... in addition to being our Corresponding Secretary, sending all club birthday and get well cards; she was also the the Grow 'N Share Chairman; very community minded. I'm still having trouble believing she won't be with us any longer as those of you who knew her probably feel too.

Those who of you who would like to donate a food dish to Lloyd when he gets back from Ohio may bring it to Pam's house as close to noon as possible [or come at 10A and join in on our board meeting]. If anyone would like to make a donation on Sheila's behalf to the Memorial Garden, it will be collected at the next regular business meeting.

jo

To All Garden Club Members:

To honor Sheila we are asking all members who can to meet at the Davis Funeral Home this Sunday at 2PM to join in the club's flower procession [see instructions from your BOI below] then we will sit together ... the viewing is scheduled from 2-4PM. No local service will be held ... she will be buried in Ohio. Thanks, jo



How do we part with such a lovely flower without feeling sadness and loss? By remembering how its beauty gave us joy and enriched our lives.

Today our bouquet is smaller and less vibrant than it once was, but we rejoice in the beauty of the life of our dear friend Sheila ... called to eternity in Heaven's garden above. When we gather together, Sheila will be close to our hearts. Thus with both sorrow and joy we part for now dear Sheila ...

Remembering you with love and affection,

Your Garden Club Sisters

In Loving Memory

SHEILA JEAN O'DELL

Oct. 24, 1941 - Jan. 25, 2007

You toiled so hard for those you loved,
You said good-bye to none.
Your spirit flew before we knew
Your work on earth was done.

We miss you now, our hearts are sore,
As times goes by, we miss you more.
Your loving smile, your gentle face,
No one can fill your vacant place.

Your life was love and labor,
Your love for your family true,
You did the best for all of us,
We will always remember you.

The Lord be with you, Sheila,
now and for evermore.

Chas. E. Davis Funeral Home with Crematory
Inverness, Florida

Perhaps you sent a lovely card,

Or sat quietly in a chair.

Perhaps you sent a funeral spray,

If so we saw it there.

Perhaps you spoke the kindest words,

As any friend could say;

Perhaps you were not there at all,

Just thought of us that day.

Whatever you did to console our hearts,

We thank you so much whatever the part.

By the family of

Sheila J. O'Dell

Lloyd, Kyle and Mark
10-24-41
1/25/07

Garden club will install new officers

By Marcia Beasley
Special to the Pioneer

2/8/07

Board members of the Flora City Garden Club met recently at the historic home of Pam Bellman to review information to be presented to the membership at the next meeting. The February meeting of the club will be held at noon on Tuesday, Feb. 9, in the Floral City Community Building.

Terry Newberry, Carol Hart and Pattie Barber will greet members as they arrive with their food item, plate and tableware for the Pot Luck Installation Luncheon. The table will be set up and beverages furnished by hostesses Kathy Hofmann and Carole DeLisle.

At 1 p.m. following the luncheon, member Cathi Ayers will install the officers elect and the business meeting will be called to order by President Jo Ann Quackenbush. Committee chairpersons for the coming administration will be announced and volun-

teers requested to fill any remaining positions.

Committees will report accomplished and on-going projects and announce programs of interest to all. The Helping Hands committee has need for volunteers who are asked to call Debbie Barney. Decorating committee will recognize Joan Knippen, Carol Hart and Cathy Foley for the installation table decorations. Junior gardeners chair will report the plan to carry out short interesting instructional presentations to the junior gardeners by garden club members outside the immediate committee. Questions concerning the impact to the Floral City Community Memorial Garden by the building of the new Floral City Library will be addressed. Member Michael Harnden, certified arborist and chairman of the Arbor Day program, will announce that the club will honor the national Arbor Day date this year with the planting of an additional prime quality live oak on historic Orange Avenue.

Club representatives Lynn Bassett and Pam Bellman will encourage members to attend the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs District V "Water A Celebration Of Life; Naturally" extravaganza to be held at Fanning Springs, Gilchrist County on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 23-24.

Bassett will report on the "Save Our Springs" meeting and the Citrus 2020 Vision Check which she recently attended. Annual plant sale chair Kathy Davis will review plans to date for that sale to be held on May 5 at Adventure Land north of Floral City on U.S. 41.

Club members will be reminded of the county watering restrictions and the advisable of not using cypress mulch since most of it is now being produced from the young, immature cypress that have not yet developed rot and insect repellent qualities for which former cypress mulch was known and therefore it is now just wood chips. The public is welcome to attend meeting of the Floral City Garden Club and membership is not restricted to the local area.

The club meets in the Floral City Community Building at 12:30 p.m. on the second Friday of the month except for June, July and August. For additional information about the club and its programs and projects visit www.floralcitygardenclub.com or call Quackenbush at 344-4447.

2/9/07
7

Floral City Garden Club to meet today

The February meeting of the Floral City Garden Club will be at noon today in the Floral City Community Building. Officers elect will be installed, members will discuss plans for Arbor Day and for the May 5 sale at Adventure Land north of Floral City on U.S. 41.

The public is welcome to attend. The club meets at 12:30 p.m. the second Friday monthly in the Floral City Community Building, except for June, July and August. Visit www.floralcitygardclub.com or call President Jo Ann Quackenbush at 344-4447.

Garden club looks to spring

Special to the Chronicle

The Floral City Garden Club will meet at 12:30 p.m. Friday in the Floral City Community Building. The message for the meeting will be renewal, regrowth and propagation: the message of spring.

Terry Newberry, and Carol Kanka will greet members and visitors. Hostesses Dottie Sherman, Bea Rabideau and Joan Knippen will serve refreshments.

President Jo Ann Quackenbush will call the meeting to order. Members eager to hear about the Florida Federation of Garden Club, District V's Water Extravaganza Conference at

Fanning Springs in February will be rewarded by the review from member and participant Lynn Bassett.

Chairwoman Cathi Ayers, who was successful in seeking club support and funding last meeting to send four Junior Gardeners to the Florida Federation of Garden Club's Camp Wekiva this summer, will give an update about the Junior Gardeners Program. This popular Junior Gardeners program meets monthly during the school year.

After a brief recess, club members will demonstrate a program about Propagating Techniques. This is a timely program for spring and will be useful for both the home owner

and the members preparing for the upcoming annual plant sale Saturday, May 5, at Adventure Land on U.S. 41, north of Floral City. The Grow 'N' Share Table, coordinated by member Peggy Pattillo, will follow the program. Members and visitors may select samples of cuttings, seeds, bulbs or small plants that have been shared by members.

The public is welcome to attend the meeting and program free of charge.

Membership is open to all who share the objectives of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs. For information, call Quackenbush at 344-4447 and visit the Club Web site at www.floralcitygardclub.com.

Inverness Pioneer, Thursday, April 12, 2007

African violets topic for garden club gathering

By Marcia Beasley
Special to the Pioneer

Floral City Garden Club

"Under the lights, that is where you will find the African violets owned by serious growers of the plant," promises Pamela Morgan Lund speaker at 2 p.m. for the Friday, April 13, program of the Floral City Garden Club in the Floral City Community Building.

Lund should know. She has 32 feet of Grow-Lux lights nurturing her plants. This avid grower got started after returning from Africa in 1972 where she was in the Peace Corps. Coming to Citrus County from Colorado in 2001, Lund is a member of the African Violet Society of America and the African Violet Club of Ocala which meets monthly at the Freedom Library off State Road 200. Also, she is an active member of the Inverness Garden Club.

At 12:30 p.m. on the April 13, Floral City Garden Club members Terry Newberry, Becca Martin and Peggy Pattillo will greet members and visitors as hostesses Christine Harnden, Alice Sawyer and Bette Ayers serve refreshments. President Jo Ann Quackenbush will call the business meeting to order promptly at 1 p.m. Committee members will report on current and on-going activities.

Also certified arborist and member Michael Harnden, will

discuss plan for the live oak tree planting for National Arbor Day later in the month and Kathy Davis will present the plans for the Annual Garden Plant Sale. The sale will take place on Saturday, May 5, at Adventure Land north of Floral City on U.S. 41. Many homegrown plants will be offered including a generous donation of 100 bromeliads that has been made for the sale by David Jensen. He cares for the Ferris Court bromeliad garden on Duval Island, an area that received Yard of the Year Award recognition by the club in the past and is available for public viewing.

The monthly Petal Power Award will be presented to a surprised recipient and following the program, members and visitors may select samplings from the Grow 'N' Share Table chaired by member Peggy Pattillo. For additional information about the Floral City Garden Club, please visit the web site: www.floralcitygardenclub.com or call President Quackenbush at 344-4447. For more call Davis at 726-5733.

Floral City Garden Club to meet Friday

African Violet growing will be the topic of the Floral City Garden Club program at 2 p.m. Friday.

The doors will open at 12:30 with refreshments, the business meeting will be called to order at 1

and the program will follow at 2. Pamela Morgan Lund, member of the African Violet Society of America will show examples and present her methods for the successful growing of African Violets. Programs are open to the public and free of charge.

Kathy Davis, annual plant sale chairwoman for 2007, will discuss plans for the annual plant sale on Saturday, May 5, at Adventureland, north of Floral City on U.S. 41.

For more information, visit www.floralcitygardenclub.com or call President J.A. Quackenbush at 344-4447. For more information about the plant sale, call Kathy Davis at 726-5733.

Plant sale prep



Dave Jensen, the caretaker of the Ferris Court Bromeliad Garden, and Floral City Garden Club member Cathi Ayers are shown after Jensen single-handedly potted 100 bromeliads of different varieties for the club's annual plant sale. The sale will be held Saturday, May 5, at Adventureland, north of Floral City on U.S. 41.

Special to the Chronicle
4/25/07

This recreation facility is located north of Floral City on U.S. 41. Signs will indicate location of the sale during the week prior to the event. The vast majority of the plants will be located inside the Adventureland building so selections may be made in the comfort of an air conditioned atmosphere. A very large selection of home grown plants will complement the wide selection of nursery-grown plants. Tropical, natives, grasses, flowering shrubs, shade plants and butterfly and humming bird attractors are among the types of plants offered.

Everything will be at a great price. In addition, Dave Jensen who maintains the award winning Ferris Court Bromeliad Garden on Duval Island, single-handedly potted 100 bromeliads for the club's sale.

These will be the best buy in Citrus County with prices from \$4 to \$12. Their selection will be a great way to begin an easy-care shade garden.

Knowledgeable members including a Master Gardener will be set up at an information table to assist the buyers with questions.

As in past years the club will be offering rabbit fertilizer in approximately 30-pound bags at a very reasonable price. Members have had extremely good success with the locally produced product. For additional information or directions call Chair K. Davis at 726-5733 or visit floralcitygradenclub.com.

Phonetic 4/26/07

Plant sale has new location

Only the location has changed for the Floral City Garden Club's Annual Plant Sale. The large plant sale will be open at 8 a.m. on Saturday May 4, at Adventureland.

Garden club to host annual plant sale

Floral City Garden Club will host its annual plant sale at 8 a.m. Saturday at the Adventureland building on U.S. 41 north of Floral City. A wide variety of tropicals, natives, grasses, flowering shrubs and butterfly and hummingbird attractors will be available. A plentiful selection of bromeliads will be a special feature. A drive-up area will be designated for convenient loading.

Call Plant Sales Chairwoman K. Davis at 726-5733 or visit www.floralcitygardenclub.com.

Chronicle 5/3/07

Garden club

to host plant sale

Floral City Garden Club will host its annual plant sale at 8 a.m. Saturday, May 5, at the Adventureland building on U.S. 41 north of Floral City.

A wide variety of tropicals, natives, grasses, flowering shrubs and butterfly and hummingbird attractors will be available. A plentiful selection of bromeliads will be a special feature. A drive-up area will be designated for convenient loading.

For more information, call Plant Sales Chairwoman K. Davis at 726-5733 or visit www.floralcitygardenclub.com.

Garden club to host plant sale

Bromeliads will be special feature

Special to the Chronicle

Floral City Garden Club will host its annual plant sale at 8 a.m. Saturday at the Ad-

ventureland building on U.S. 41 north of Floral City.

A wide variety of tropicals, natives, grasses, flowering shrubs and butterfly and hummingbird

attractors will be available. A plentiful selection of bromeliads will be a special feature.

A drive-up area will be designated for convenient loading.

For information, call K. Davis at 726-5733 or go to www.floralcitygardenclub.com.

Chronicle 5/4/07

Arbor Day activity

Chronicle
5/7/07



Special to the Chronicle

On April 28, some members of the Floral City Garden Club planted a native Fringe Tree in the Floral City Community Memorial Garden for Arbor Day. Members who helped plant the tree, from left, are: President-elect Kathy Davis, Bernice Culbath, President Jo Ann Quackenbush, Vice President-elect Christine Harnden and Roadside Beautification Chairwoman Pam Bellman. Member Michael Harnden, a certified arborist, selected the tree for placement in the garden.



LAURA LEE PUTZBACK/Special to the Pioneer

Keep Citrus County Beautiful (KCCB) recognized the Floral City Garden Club at its Volunteer Appreciation Social on April 22. Josh Wooten, KCCB executive director, and Mike Colbert, president, gave Marcia Beasley an award honoring the club for its 17 years as an Adopt-A-Highway participant. More than a dozen Floral City Garden Club volunteers maintain a two-mile stretch of the community's roadway.

Garden club gathers for final meeting

As the 2006-07 club year ends, members of the Floral City Garden Club will gather on Friday, May 11, for the closing meeting and Annual Awards Banquet.

Lunch will be served at noon by hostesses Bernice Colbath, Jeanne Henson and Diane Dowthitt from the assortment of food items prepared and brought to the event by the culinary talented members.

Each member shall furnish their own plate and tableware and a serving piece for their dish. Beverages will be furnished by the hostesses.

A review of the Annual Plant Sale will be given to the members by Plant Sale Chair Kathy Davis.

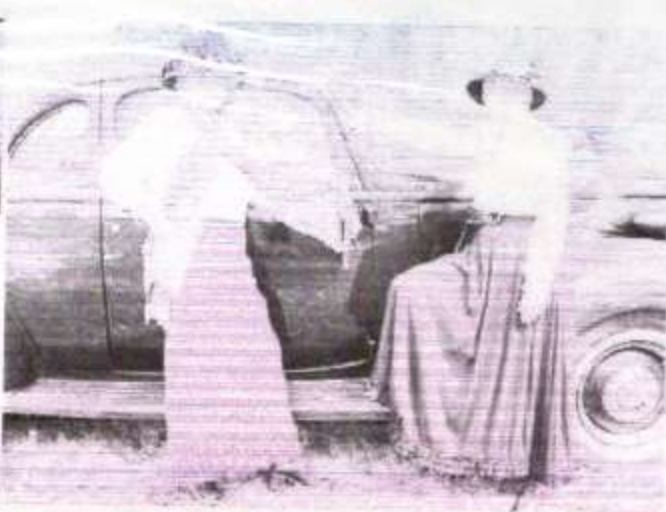
Out-going President Jo Ann Quackenbush will present the Awards and recognize all members who have worked toward

the goals of the club during the year. Members will give special commendations to the retiring officers. At the end of the meeting, the Officers-Elected and installed will assume the leadership role of the club for the next two years.

They are: President Kathy Davis, First Vice President Christine Harnden, Second Vice President Debbie Barney,

Treasurer Kathy Hofmann, Recording Secretary Dianne Dowthitt, Corresponding Secretary Peggy Pattillo and Chaplain Jeanne Henson.

For more information about the Floral City Garden Club which meets monthly on the second Friday from September through May visit the web site: www.floralcitygardenclub.com or call Davis at 726-5733.



Joe & Lona Bassett provided wonderful refreshments for volunteers



Members volunteering in other community events

"Florida Friendly Yards" a number of residential yards in Citrus County have already qualified and many more may qualify with a small amount of adjustments.

Now is the time to learn the criteria to be listed in this Florida State program. The University of Florida, County Extension Service, Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Division sponsors the program.

Audrey Durr, director of the county's program, will be on hand to guide members and visitors through the process at the first meeting of the season for the Floral City Garden Club at 1:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 14, on

Duval Island in Floral City at the home of Second Vice President Debra Barney.

Joe and Debra Barney's yard will be reviewed for the program to determine if the yard meets the criteria set forth by the state.

Members and guest will learn about irrigation, invasive plants, hedge planting, how to attract wildlife and much, more.

Comfortable shoes and warm weather clothing is recommended. This out-door program will follow the brief business meeting held indoors.

Board members and committee chairmen are asked to arrive at noon for a board meeting. Members desiring to hear committee reports are encouraged to attend, as reports will not be repeated at the brief business meeting.

At 12:30, members and visitors will be greeted and Christine Harnden and Debra Barney will serve refreshments.

There will be a "Grow 'N' Share" exchange at the end of the day, so members are reminded to bring cuttings, seeds, bulbs and small planting starts to "Share."

Meanwhile members can look forward to a field trip to Shearer's Nursery on Oct. 19 and one to shalom Gardens on Nov. 14.

Other workshops and programs during the year will include making bluebird houses and learning about pest control, problem plants, annuals and water issues affecting Citrus County.

Floral City Garden Club is an affiliate of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and the National Council of Garden Clubs.

The club is open for membership or visitation to any resident or visitor of Citrus County or surrounding areas.

The Club meets at 12:30 p.m. the second Friday monthly from September through May in the Floral City Community Building unless otherwise noted.

Debra Barney 8/14/27

Garden Club slated to meet

Members volunteered to help the Salvation Army with some bell ringing to collect donations that benefit under-privileged families. Shown on the right are Kathy, Anne & Diane ... other volunteers are not pictured



Subject: gardens in town cleanup pictures

Date: Thu, 27 Sep 2007 13:03:36 -0400

We had a really productive day cleaning up our gardens in town:

Kathy Davis, Cathi Ayers and Judy Lane worked the corner of 41 and Orange Ave. Look for great things too come to that corner. I just know its going to be wonderful when they are done planting there.

Christine Hamden and new member Lona Bassett and my self cleaned up the rose gardens (2) both on the bike trail.

Joann Quackenbush, Kathy Hofmann, and Bernice Colbath have the memorial garden really looking wonderful. Everyone needs to take a stroll though the gardens now before they start the construction of the new library.

After all the weeds were pulled and roses pruned and plants fertilized we went to the bagel shop that was the best part of the morning sharing conversation and eating a great bagel or cinnamon rolls, and we may have recruited some new members for the garden club.

Thank you for taking time to volunteer it really does make a difference. Pam

Attachments

Photos:



IMG_0288_1_1.JPG (91k) [\[View\]](#)



IMG_0289_2_1.JPG (78k) [\[View\]](#)



IMG_0290_3_1.JPG (70k) [\[View\]](#)



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Club carries on work for environment

This fall marks the beginning of the 17th year for the Floral City Garden Club's participation in Adopt-A-Highway trash removal along the two-mile stretch from the traffic light on Orange Avenue/County Road 48 to Trails End Road on C.R. 48.

The club was the first garden club in the county to join the county's Project Pride program in 1989. The trash has not lessened, but the club is getting more adept at picking it up. Pam Bellman is the chair of the roadside beautification committee and her longtime dedication to this goal is commendable.

Committed to environmental and horticultural education, the club has initiated a unique fundraiser for the Academy of Environmental Sciences, a charter school, not funded with county taxes but accountable to the school board. This is the first year that ninth graders will attend. Visit www.environmental-school.org for more information about the school. The garden club is presenting "A No-Ball-At-All" "non-event."

All proceeds will benefit the academy and this non-event is being given on any day one chooses or at the Oct. 13 club meeting, which is open to the public.

At this non-event, participants can dance to a favorite band, enjoy refreshments from one's own cupboard and sit in the comfort of one's home.

Dress for the event is to one's preference, black tie is optional and parking is in one's own garage or not.

This ball is promoted as "a party you'll be glad you missed!" Cost of the non-event is as deep into one's wallet as one can go. Checks are payable to the Floral City Garden Club, note: "for the Academy," and mailed to: FCGC Treasurer, P.O. Box 833, Floral City, FL 34436

or brought to the meeting. The public is invited to participate.

In keeping with environmental concerns, "All About Trees" is the title of the club's program by Michael Harnden, certified arborist. The program will begin at 2 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13, in the Floral City Community Building, a block east of the traffic light. The public is welcome to attend, participate and ask questions.

Members and visitors will be greeted by Terry Newberry and Diane Dowthitt as early as 12:30 p.m. and fall-flavored refreshments served by Andy Gumaskas, Pattie Barber and Marcia Beasley. Preceding the program, the monthly business meeting will be called to order at 1 p.m. by president Jo Ann Quackenbush.

For additional information, call 344-4447 and visit the club's Web site: www.floralcitygardenclub.com.



Special to the Pioneer

Five members of the Floral City Garden Club gathered recently in front of the Old Fire Station to initiate the club's 18th year in the Citrus County Adopt-A-Highway Clean Up Program. Those shown are from the left: Pam Bellman, Roadside Chairman; Anne Propp; Kathy Davis, President; and new members Lona and Joe Bassett.

D. Lona 10/11/07

Floral City garden club cleans up

This fall begins the 18th year for the Floral City Garden Club to be a part of the Adopt-A-Highway program for Citrus County. They were recognized for their efforts by the Keep Citrus Beautiful organization in

May of this year.

For more information about the Floral City Garden Club and to view photos of recent projects please visit www.floralcitygardenclub.com or call President Kathy Davis at 726-5733.

Membership is open to all and visitors are welcome to the monthly meetings held at noon on the second Friday of September through May in the Floral City Community Building.

Club prepares for a new season

By Marcia Beasley

Special to the Pioneer

10/11/07

Your garden can be bursting with bloom as we head into the fall and winter seasons.

Attend the Oct. 12 program of the Floral City Garden Club at 1:30 p.m. and learn the secrets of growing lush fall annuals from Teresa of Florida Contract Growers.

Formerly known locally as Shearer's Nursery at 7667 County Road 575 off County Road 48 east of Floral City. This nursery has been one of the sources of premier plants for the garden club's annual plant sale in the spring. Join club members on the Oct. 19 and tour the nursery. We will be meeting to car-pool from the Duval Island boat ramp parking lot (east end of Orange Ave.) and leaving there

at 10 a.m. Visitors are cordially invited to attend the October meeting of the Club and be greeted at noon in the Floral City Community Building by members Jean Potter and Carole Baker.

Refreshments will be served at noon by hostesses Diane Schwartz and Donna Thomas. A business meeting will be called to order by President Kathy Davis at 12:30 p.m. and followed by the program. A "Grow 'N' Share" table will be set up by member Peggy Pattillo to accept the plant cuttings, starts, seeds and bulbs brought in by members to be share with all in attendance free of charge.

So many of our gardens in the Floral City area have benefited by the items gained through this "Grow 'N' Share" program! Members of the club will have attended the District V meeting of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs on Oct. 9 at Lake City and will be reporting to the club.

More about our club and membership forms call President Kathy Davis at 726-5733 or membership chair Christine Harnden at 341-3247.

Marcia Beasley is the public relations chair for the Floral City Garden Club.



Special to the Pioneer

Teresa Burr of FL Contract Growers (formerly Share's Nursery) shows members of the Floral City Garden Club a tray of 440 petunia seedlings. At a recent meeting, club members learned how labor intensive the growing of bedding plants is as they participated in replanting these seedlings. They also learned the specifics of soil type, planting depth and watering requirements in various weather conditions for. Blooming geraniums and petunias or vegetable plants were given to each member.

12/14/2007 FCGC Annual Christmas Pot Luck Luncheon and Monthly Meeting



Many thanks to the Decorating Committee for the beautiful table decorations



Theme: "Learning & Growing"



What's blooming this month in Central Florida
See how to grow these plants at the links below the photos



Poinsettia (*Euphorbia pulcherrima*)

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poinsettia>
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/MG352>
<http://mgonline.com/poinsettia.html>



Christmas Cactus

<http://www.humeseeds.com/xmasccts.htm>
http://oror.essortment.com/howtotakecar_rhtu.htm
<http://www.hort.purdue.edu/ext/cactusFAQs.html>

Roses are topic for meeting

Do you think you can't grow roses in Florida's hot climate and sandy soil? Attend the Floral City Garden Club program on Friday, Nov. 10, and learn from an experienced rose grower.

The guest speaker at the 2 p.m. program in the Floral City Community Building will be Richard Zimik who has grown them all - hybrid teas, floribundas, old English and Florida "Cracker" roses. He will share his successes and answer questions.

Terry Newberry, Nancy Mirgon and Pam Bellman will greet members and visitors at 12:30 p.m. while hostesses, Kathy Davis and Anne Propp, serve refreshments.

At 1 p.m. President Jo Ann Quackenbush will call the meeting to order. Plans for roadside clean-up and holiday decoration of the village for Floral City Heritage Days will be discussed.

The decorating party will take place on Nov. 27.

The roadside clean up will be held on Nov. 29. Members will be asked to sign up to hostess at historic homes for the Dec. 2

Blue Banner Tour of Historic Homes.

Co-chairs Kathy Davis and Ann Propp will present advance plans for the annual March plant sale and Terry Newberry will report on progress of the nominating committee.

The president will recognize new members: Bernice Colbath, Dian Schwartz, both of Floral City, and Pat Timmerman of Inverness. Visitors in attendance will be invited to join the club.

The "No-Ball-At-All" fundraiser is doing well and the final donations will be collected at this November meeting. Proceeds go to the Academy of Environmental Science. Anyone interested in supporting the school may donate by sending their check to Floral City Garden Club, P. O. Box 833, Floral City, FL 34436, noting the academy. Names of all donors will be sent to the Academy.

A grow and share table will be available following the meeting.

For additional information call Quackenbush at 433-4447 or visit our web site at www.floral-citygardenclub.com.

Garden club to celebrate with song

Chronicle 12/13/07
Betty Ayers, member and favorite "sing-along" chorus director of the Floral City Garden Club will lead the group in Christmas Carols at the annual Christmas party luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Friday at the Floral City Community Building.

The Floral City Garden Club meets at 11:30 a.m. the second Friday monthly from September through May in the Floral City Community Building. Visitors are always welcome and are invited to view the club's Web site at www.floralcitygardenclub.com or call Kathy Davis at 726-5733 or Christine Hamden at 341-3247.

Garden Club to host party luncheon

Betty Ayers, member and favorite "sing-along" chorus director of the Floral City Garden Club, will lead the group in Christmas Carols at the annual Christmas party luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Friday at the Floral City Community Building.

Oweda Harris and Mary Ann Jaksina will greet members and guests at the door, while hostesses Judy Lane and Ruth Ailes will assemble the menu items for the luncheon at noon.

Following a short business meeting by president Kathy

Women 12/13/07
Club Notes
Davis and the announcement of the Year of the Year Awardees by Chairman Cathy Foley, members will exchange gifts of show-worthy plants or other garden

related items that each member has brought for this holiday occasion.

The Floral City Garden Club meets at 11:30 a.m. the second Friday monthly from September through May in the Floral City Community Building. Visitors

are always welcome and are invited to view the Club's Web site at www.floralcitygardenclub.com or call Kathy Davis at 726-5733 or Christine Hamden at 341-3247.



1st VP, Christine, filled in for Kathy during her absence



Peggy read a Thank You letter from the Floral City Heritage Council written by Marcia



Petal Power Award was presented to Diane Freund for volunteering to chair the Decorating Committee



Yard of the Year Honorable Mention was presented by Cathy to Melodie



Bette led our Christmas sing-a-long ... she had everyone laughing and singing



Gifts were exchanged and the meeting was adjourned



Greeters: Oweda & Mary Ann



Hostesses: Ruth & Judy



Some were a little more festive than others



A banquet feast fit for a king



The Pride Award was presented to the Floral City Garden Club by Frank and other members of the Keep Citrus County Beautiful organization in recognition of all the community gardens we donated and maintain. [Memorial Gardens, Bird and Butterfly Garden, Gateway Garden, Rose Garden, School Garden, Trail Garden and Orange Avenue Spots and Pots]



MURAL at school

12-07

Pioneer appeared 2/14-08

Ready to fly



Special to the Pioneer

Member of the Floral City Garden Club recently gave a sprucing up to their butterfly exhibition garden at the Floral City Elementary School. In the background is the nature mural that the club painted on a wall of one of the buildings. From the left is Anne Propp, Carole Baker, Lynn Bassett and President Kathy Davis. Visit the club online at www.floralcitygardenclub.com.

ANNE / CAROL / LYNN / KATHY
(PROPP) / BAKER / BASSETT / DAVIS



Mulching & Weeding School Garden also mural



Jim Freund

Diane Freund

Chairperson of this committee

Kathy Davis

Sharon Thompson

Pam Bellman

Lona Bassett

Ann Propp

Carol Baker

Sandy

Decorating the Town





Carol Baker

Sandy Van Tassel

Anne Propp



Barry Pendry

Lynn Bassett





Floral City Garden Club receives KCCB award



DAVE SIGLER/Chronicle

Members of Keep Citrus County Beautiful recently presented the December Pride Award to the Floral City Garden Club. The Floral City Garden Club tends to the Memorial Garden and other beautification projects along Orange Avenue.

Garden Club to discuss water quality

Special to the Chronicle

"Water Quality and Conservation Concerns," a hot issue for Citrus County will be the topic of the program Friday at the Floral City Garden Club's January meeting.

Members and visitors will gather at 11:30 a.m. in the Floral City Community Building. The business meeting will follow the Annual Club birthday reception; this year marks the club's 50th year with the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and will be followed at noon by the business meeting called to order by President Kathy Davis.

At 1 p.m., after a short break, Program Chairwoman Deb

Barney will introduce the guest speaker a knowledgeable columnist on Florida water concerns, Don Cox, also known as "Gator Man." Cox will talk about water issues that affect Citrus County. All concerned citizens are welcome to attend all or part of the meeting.

Residents from throughout the county are invited to become a member of this organization and support the environmental and other goals of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.

For more information about the Floral City Garden Club call Davis at 726-5733 or visit online at www.floralcitygardenclub.com.

How to handle pests topic for garden club meeting

As one gazes through the seed catalogs, visions of colorful spring flowers and luscious vegetables can quickly turn to dread of those pesky Florida insects and infestations that beset local gardeners.

Never fear, Audrey Durr with the County's Florida Yards & Neighborhoods is here.

Durr will present a comprehensive program on Integrated Pest Management at the February meeting of the Floral City Garden Club on Friday, Feb. 8, in the Floral City Community Building.

Pat Timmerman and Shirley McAllen will greet members and visitors at 11:30 a.m. while Cathy Foley and Bernice Colbath prepare and serve refreshments. President Kathy Davis will call the business meeting to order at noon and standing committees will report.

A topic of interest will be preparations for the demolition of the present Library building and the construction of the new building.

Angel Award. There will be a horticulture question and answer period and a drawing for numerous gardening items.

Following the 1 p.m. program by Durr, members and visitors are invited to participate in the Grow 'N' Share Table and select cuttings, bulbs, seeds and starts free of charge that have been

Floral City Garden Club

furnished by members.

Also available following the meeting will be bags and bags of "rabbit berries." This natural, non-burning fertilizer has been proven successful for use by club members and the public is

welcome to stop by to purchase a bag. Large 25-pound feed bags have been filled with the dried "berries" and will sell for \$8.50 per bag. If one has not tried this before, now is the time. For more information on this product call Pam Bellman at 860-2953.

The Floral City Garden Club

is open to all who are interested in the objectives of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and meets monthly on the second Friday from September through May. Please call Harnden at 341-3247 to learn more about the club or print out an application at the Club's web site at www.floralcitygardenclub.com.

On Saturday, Feb. 16, and again on the Feb. 23 club members will meet in the Memorial Garden adjacent to the library to remove the Celtic cross and plants in preparation for constructing barriers to protect the Labyrinth and the rest of the garden during the construction.

On Saturday Feb. 10 members are invited to attend an open house at Camp Wekiva, the youth camp sponsored by the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and a camp that the club has sponsored and sent youth to for more than twenty years.

Club members are reminded of the roadside clean up on Thursday, Feb. 21, the Field Trip to Shearer's Nursery on Friday, March 21, and the annual spring plant sale on Saturday, April 4.

The Petal Power Award, received by Lona Bassett last month, will be presented to a member this month, as will the new President's Gardening

Inverness Pioneer, Thursday, February 7, 2008

Garden club honors yards of the year

The Floral City Garden Club has presented its Yard Of The Year Awards to area residents and businesses who have improved or maintained outstanding landscapes or specialty gardens.

This is an annual program of the garden club and its purpose is to recognize citizens and encourage others to improve the up keep of their yards.

Top awards were presented to the following:

- Richard and Doris Lane: Most Improved
- Ray and Willa Heronema :Best Manicured
- Carol Hart : Best Conservascape

- Cathy Foley: Best Yard Of the Year
- Elmer and Sue Wagner: Best Landscape Design
- Denise Ball: Best Commercial Landscape
- Bill and Betty Bishop: Best Floral Design

In addition honorable mention certificates were presented to the following: Melodie Henderson; Kathy Baker; Tom and Mary Fowler; and Bill and Janet Weber.

For more information about club activities please visit the Web site at www.floralcitygardenclub.com or call Kathy Davis, club president, at 726-5733.



The Floral City Garden Club Best Yard Of the Year winner is Cathy Foley.



The Floral City Garden Club Best Commercial Landscape winner is Denise Ball.



The Floral City Garden Club Most Improved award winner is Richard and Doris Lane.



The Floral City Garden Club Best Manicured winner is Ray and Willa Heronema.



The Floral City Garden Club Best Landscape Design winner is Elmer and Sue Wagner.



The Floral City Garden Club Best Conservascape winner is Carol Hart.

- Best Improved Yard of the Year: Richard & Doris Lane**
- Best Manicured Yard of the Year: Ray & Willa Heronema**
- Best Conservascape Yard of the Year: Carol Hart**
- Best Landscape Design Yard of the Year: Elmer & Sue Wagner**
- Best Commercial Yard of the Year: Denise Ball(Off The Beaten Path)**
- Best Floral Design Yard of the Year: Mr. & Mrs. William Bishop**
- Best Yard of the Year: Cathy Foley**

- Certificates:**
- Melodie Henderson: Best Variety Yard of the Year**
 - Bill & Janet Weber (no category)**
 - Sharon Gunn**
 - Kathy Baker**
 - Tom & Mary Fowler**

Spanish moss: Love it or leave it

Dinner 3/6/08
**Floral City
Garden Club**

Some hate it and think it is ghostly. Others love it and think it depicts the old south. Some say, "What is it good for?" Others know it has a long history of usefulness.

What is it? "Spanish Moss: the History, Industry and Current Uses" will be the program presented to the Floral City Garden Club at their monthly meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, March 14 in the Floral City Community Building.

Kathy Baker and Ginny Andrews will greet members and visitors at 11:30 a.m. while Joan Knippen and Marcia Beasley prepare and serve refreshments.

At noon President Kathy Davis will call the business meeting to order and committee reports will be given. Junior Gardener Chair, Cathi Ayers will report that the club is still accepting scholarship applications from high school seniors and college students planning to major in horticulture, botany, forestry, environmental studies or related fields. The deadline for receipt of applications is March 28. Call 637-6345 for more information.

The club is expecting to send two fourth graders to the Florida Federation of Garden Club's

Camp Wekiva this summer. Junior gardeners enjoyed a program last month given by Audrey Durr from the Florida Yards and Neighborhood program on soil and sink holes.

In March the junior gardeners will tour Ferris Farms and end up picking strawberries and they also will visit the home of member and Second Vice President Debbie Barney to tour her yard and gardens.

Anne Propp, chair of the Annual Plant Sale set for at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 5 at Adventure Land north of Floral City on U.S. 41, will be reporting on plans for the sale.

She has announced that among the nursery-grown plants for sale will be variegated gardenias, variegated duranta, white powder-puff trees, kings mantle, tricolor ginger, flowering maple, confederate rose, elkhorn ferns, variegated cremin lilies, beefsteak plants, crotons, bottlebrush tree and lily of the Nile.

Home-grown plants will include Mexican flame vine, butterfly weed, Philippine violets and mother's day ginger tubers and many more varieties.

Birthday greetings for March will be extended to Bernice Colbath, Bea Rabideau, Shirley McAllen, Peggy Pattillo and Carol Hart.

The Petal Power Award and the President's Gardening Angel Award will be presented to worthy club members.

At 1:30 the program on Spanish Moss will be presented by Frank Peters and H. D. Bassett.

Both native Floridians and residents of Floral City, these men know their moss and have first hand experiences to share, as well as history and culture concerning this non-parasitic plant that when seen is a well recognized sign one has entered "The South."

Much maligned, this plant has numerous beneficial uses. After learning more, one may never look at moss in the same way again.

There will be no Grow and Share Table this month. Cuttings, bulbs, seeds and starts have all been potted for the club's annual plant sale.

There will be a field trip to Shearer's Nursery for spring annuals on March 21.

Meet at the Duval Island boat ramp parking lot to car pool. Membership is open to all interested in preserving the environment and growing native and non-invasive plants.

The public is welcome to attend all programs free of charge.

For additional information visit the club's Web site at www.floralcitygardenclub.com or call Davis at 726-5733.

Ch... 2/27/08

Floral City Garden Club has scholarship

The Floral City Garden Club will award a \$500 scholarship to a graduating high school senior or a currently enrolled college student in May of this year. The recipient must be planning to major in one of the following areas of study: environmental sciences, horticulture, botany, forestry, conservation or an allied subject. Applicants must have a "B" or better average. Students whose permanent address is in Citrus County will be given priority. Application deadline is March 31. For information or to request an application, contact: Cathi Ayers at e-mail: cabp6540@tampabay.rr.com.

Ch... 3/19/08

Floral City Garden Club has scholarship

The Floral City Garden Club will award a \$500 scholarship to a graduating high school senior or a currently enrolled college student in May of this year. The recipient must be planning to major in one of the following areas of study: environmental sciences, horticulture, botany, forestry, conservation or an allied subject. Applicants must have a "B" or better average. Students whose permanent address is in Citrus County will be given priority. Application deadline is March 31. For information or to request an application, contact: Cathi Ayers at e-mail: cabp6540@tampabay.rr.com.

Ch... 3/20/08

Floral City Garden Club has scholarship

The Floral City Garden Club will award a \$500 scholarship to a graduating high school senior or a currently enrolled college student in May of this year. The recipient must be planning to major in one of the following areas of study: environmental sciences, horticulture, botany, forestry, conservation or an allied subject. Applicants must have a "B" or better average. Students whose permanent address is in Citrus County will be given priority. Application deadline is March 31. For information or to request an application, contact: Cathi Ayers at e-mail: cabp6540@tampabay.rr.com.

Ch... 2/22/08

Floral City Garden Club has scholarship

The Floral City Garden Club will award a \$500 scholarship to a graduating high school senior or a currently enrolled college student in May of this year. The recipient must be planning to major in one of the following areas of study: environmental sciences, horticulture, botany, forestry, conservation or an allied subject. Applicants must have a "B" or better average. Students whose permanent address is in Citrus County will be given priority. Application deadline is March 31. For information or to request an application, contact: Cathi Ayers at cabp6540@tampabay.rr.com.

Water supply plan

To the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners:

The Floral City Garden Club, in its 50 years' existence, has been dedicated to beautification, conservation and overall community awareness and care for nature. We have, at times, taken on a cause if it concerns our beautiful city and county.

It has recently come to our attention that while several Central Florida counties have water supply plans that address projected future water use and needs, our county does not. This concerns us and we are interested in hearing from our BOCC with regards to the commission's efforts to develop a Citrus County water supply plan. Such a plan is necessary to assist our county in future legal issues and negotiations to protect our water from outside demands.

We want the BOCC to know that we, as citizens, are concerned and believe this to be a critical issue relative to quality of life in Citrus County in the near and distant future. We feel strongly that this is an issue the BOCC needs to give high priority.

In closing, we challenge and encourage other Citrus County garden clubs, organizations and individual citizens to let our commissioners know that you, too, want to see a future use water plan in place for Citrus County and will hold our commissioners accountable for addressing this concern.

**Lynn Bassett, co-chair
and Debbie Barney, co-chair**
Floral City Garden Club

Ch... 3/13/08

Floral City Garden Club has scholarship

The Floral City Garden Club will award a \$500 scholarship to a graduating high school senior or a currently enrolled college student in May of this year. The recipient must be planning to major in one of the following areas of study: environmental sciences, horticulture, botany, forestry, conservation or an allied subject. Applicants must have a "B" or better average. Students whose permanent address is in Citrus County will be given priority. Application deadline is March 31. For information or to request an application, contact: Cathi Ayers at e-mail: cabp6540@tampabay.rr.com.

Ch... 3/14-08 Letter to Editor

Put down some roots

*Floral City Garden
Club's preparing for
annual plant sale*

Special to the Pioneer

3/20/05
"Members have potted up some real-
ly nice plants in a broad variety of
specimens for this year's Plant Sale on
Saturday, April 5, at Adventureland
north of Floral City on U.S. 41," says
Ann Propp chairwoman for the Floral
City Garden Club's Annual Plant Sale.
She told the members recently that
initial trips had been made to some
local nurseries to determine plants to
be selected for the sale and that other
trips were planned for this month.

Floral City gardeners offer plants

Floral City Garden Club
The Annual Plant Sale of the Floral City Garden Club will be held beginning at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 5, at Adventureland, which is located north of Floral City on U.S. 41 near Kabrick Road.

Many varieties of nursery, natives and homegrown plants will be available to the public. For

more information please call Ann Propp, plant sale chair, at 560-0047 or visit www.floralcitygardenclub.com.

Civic club to have potluck at meeting

Hernando Civic Center will host its monthly potluck dinner and meeting at 6:15 p.m. today

north of Floral City on U.S. 41.

The sale will open with variegated gardenias, variegated duranta, white powder-puff trees, kings mantle, tricolor ginger, flowering maple, confederate rose, elkhorn ferns, variegated cremin lilies, beef-stake plants, crotons, bottlebrush tree and lily of the Nile, among the nursery-grown plants for buyers to select.

For information, call Ann Propp, chairwoman for the annual plant sale, at 560-0047 and visit the Web site at www.floralcitygardenclub.com. The club meets monthly from September to May at 11:30 a.m. on the second Friday in the Floral City Community Building.

Garden club plant sale this weekend

Chewie
The Floral City Garden Club will have its annual plant sale at 8 a.m. Saturday at Adventureland,

Garden Club reaches 50

By Marcia Beasley
Contributing Writer

*A*mong the various environments one sees when entering Floral City on U.S. Highway 41 South Florida Avenue are forty-one sable palms located in the state right-of-way and north and south of the traffic light at County Road 48. Over the years these palms have gotten rather "lost" with the addition of signs, businesses and other vegetation along the road that began as State Road 5 — Cleveland Avenue.

Back in the 1960s continuous rows of these palms lined either side of the highway and were planted as one of many beautification projects by the relatively new Floral Garden Club. The group formed in 1956 and joined the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs two years later. As the number of garden clubs in the federation increased, the Floral Garden Club changed its name to Floral City Garden Club to better associate itself with the historic village. However, membership is not restricted to Floral City.

Residents today greatly appreciate how the lovely Floral City Park south of town has developed into a well used, well cared-for recreation area. When the park was first established, it was the Floral Garden Club who planted and maintained the entrance.

And when the little Floral City Library was constructed on Orange Avenue, it was the Floral Garden Club that planted and maintained the landscaping.

An attempt in the early '70s at beautifying the town with

wooden half-barrels over flowing with flowers met with disaster when the barrels were stolen. For more than a decade that put the proverbial "damper" on the club's interest in beautification. However, as new members joined the club in the early '80s, sunnier days returned for the club as well as for the town.

The club continued its strong support of the Citrus County Fair by providing Standard Flower Shows each year in the Horticulture Building. "Xeriscape" became the buzz word during this time and the club designed and installed an exhibition garden with interpretive signage in front of the Floral City Post Office. This was a project for the 20th anniversary of Earth Day and that garden was maintained by the club for many years until the post office took it over.

In the '90s, and to date, the club has taken a leadership role in beautification of Floral City. Much remains to be accomplished, but much has been done by the club joining forces with the county's roadside maintenance division, other organizations and with private individuals in the community.

Joining the county's Project Pride which established the Adopt-a-Highway program in 1989, club members have been picking up other people's trash along a two mile stretch, four times a year for the



From left to right, the Memorial Garden and the labyrinth next to the community center in Floral City, and the historic oaks overhanging Orange Avenue. All nature projects supported by the Garden Club

past 17 years. Part of Project Pride was historic preservation and along those lines the club began an effort with the county to replace lost historic oak trees in the National Register Historic District.

Two major, multiple plantings were accomplished before a certified arborist joined the club and now one or two top grade, 15 to 20-foot tall trees are purchased and planted an-

Please see **CLUB** page 53

CLUB, from page 10

nually. In preparation for the Orange Avenue Aroostook Way Historic Corridor, the club joined finances with the Floral City Heritage Council to have each of the 126 trees on the full length of Orange Avenue, Aroostook Way and the three trees on the northwest corner of U.S. 41 evaluated for health and preservation. A Tree Preservation Plan has been developed.

Other major beautification/education projects that the club has planned, developed and maintained are the Floral City Community Memorial Garden next to the library with the first in-ground laby-

rinth in the county, the native plantings at the Jenrette Gazebo Site and a butterfly garden, both on the Withlacoochee State Trail, the Floral City Elementary School butterfly garden and nature mural across the full length of one building and native plantings and the painting at the east-end gateway welcome sign.

In alignment with the Floral City Vision Action Plan, the club also supports and works closely with the Floral City Heritage Council on the overall preservation and enhancement of Floral City's rural historic character and natu- ❖ ❖ ❖ ral waterways.



Thank
You



Kathy Davis, President Floral City GC ,

Thank you for providing the Native Gardening Raffle basket for the District V events March 3-6. Your basket was a winner ! We had many who vied for the opportunity to take the basket home. Great idea!!

Everyone appreciated your contribution . This was the most sought after basket and we thank you and Lynn Bassett for her time and effort with the basket and for the week and her green bags, very handy and environmentally correct.

Sincerely,
Nancy Smith, HRGC

Nancy Smith Thank you!

Marie Jones, 87

FLORAL CITY

Marie F. Jones, 87, Floral City, died Wednesday, July 2, 2008, at Hospice of Citrus County Care Unit at Citrus Memorial hospital with her loving family at her side. Friends will be received on Monday, July 7, 2008, at the Chas. E. Davis Funeral Home

CHRONICLE

SEPTEMBER, JULY 5, 2

of Inverness from 1:00 P.M. until 2:45 P.M. prior to the Mass of Christian Burial, which will be offered at 3:00 P.M. from Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church with Fr. Charles Leke as celebrant. Inurnment will take place at a later date at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell.

A native of Aurora, Illinois, Marie was born February 10, 1921, to the late John and Felicie Backes and came to this area in 1978 from West Chicago, Illinois. Marie worked as an accountant in many venues, primarily for municipal airports. She enjoyed her employment opportunities but mostly enjoyed being a Wife and Mother. She was a life member of the Floral City Garden Club and served as President for two terms. She took great pride in the club's accomplishment in establishing the Memorial Garden next to the library in Floral City. Planting and gardening were her joys and loves along with crafts. She was an extremely devout Catholic her entire life and parishioner at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church.

Survivors include two sons, Jeffery and wife Amie Jones, Floral City, and James and wife Rita Jones, West Chicago, IL; one brother, Robert Backes, Nobleton, FL; five grandchildren, Katie, Megan, Brian, Brianna and Bailee and two great-grandchildren, Adem and Emri. She was preceded in death by her husband, James D. Jones, on 11/06/1998, one brother, Peter J. Backes and one sister, Marge Burbank. Memorial donations are requested to Hospice of Citrus County, P.O. Box 641270, Beverly Hills, FL 34464; Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, 550 U.S. Hwy. 41 South, Inverness, FL 34450; or The Floral City Garden Club, c/o Treasurer Kathy Hofmann, 9155 E. Gobbler Drive, Floral City, FL 34436, in lieu of flowers.

Sign the online guest book at www.chronicleonline.com

Cherokee 9-9-08

Garden club to talk about bunnies

Floral City Garden Club will meet at noon Friday at the Floral City Community Building on Orange Avenue (County Road 48).

General club business will be from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., with the program starting at 1:30. Chery Webster will speak about rabbits.

All meetings are open to the public. Mark your calendar to join us to learn everything you ever wanted to know about rabbits and about using "rabbit berries" as a natural fertilizer for your gardens.

Pioneer 9-11-08

Rabbits topic for Sept. 12 meeting

Floral City Garden Club will meet at noon Friday at the Floral City Community Building, E. Orange Avenue (County Road 48). General club business will be from 12:30-1:30 p.m. with the program starting at 1:30 p.m. Cheryl Webster will be speaking about rabbits.

Pioneer 10/2/08

Floral City Garden Club will meet at noon Friday, Oct. 10, at the Floral City Community Building, East Orange Ave. (County Road 48).

General club business will be covered from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., with the program starting at 1:30 p.m. Secret Garden Tour details will be discussed. The program will be a walking tour of FCGC's local community gardens and Amanda Mullin's yard.

All meetings are open to the public.

Cherokee 10-7-08

Garden club to discuss tour plans

Floral City Garden Club will meet at noon Friday at the Floral City Community Building, East Orange Ave (County Road 48).

General club business will be covered from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., with the program starting at 1:30. Secret Garden Tour details will be discussed. The program will be a walking tour of FCGC's local community gardens and Amanda Mullin's yard.

All meetings are open to the public.



COMING
SOON

A Floral City Garden Club

Secret Garden

The Floral City Garden Club proudly presents

Secret Garden Tour

Come to beautiful Floral City and tour six outstanding home gardens, each individually developed to enhance the natural setting. Refreshments served. Plus, an added attraction of vintage cars...see one at each location.

Saturday, October 11
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Tickets \$10

Flowering plants will be available for purchase. Tickets may be purchased on tour day at the Floral City Community Building, 8370 E. Orange Ave. beginning at 9:30 a.m.

For more information call 341-0043

CHRONICLE

The Floral City Garden Club proudly presents

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For more information call 341-0043

CHRONICLE

Gardeners give Secret Garden Tour

Special to the Chronicle 10/8/01

Plants will be available for sale.

A Floral City Garden Club third Bi-Annual Secret Garden Tour will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Come to beautiful Floral City and tour six outstanding home gardens, each individually developed to enhance the natural setting. Refresh-

ments will be served. An added attraction will be a vintage car at each location.

Ticket price is \$10; tickets will be available starting at 9:30 a.m. the day of the tour at Floral City Community

Building, 8370 E. Orange Ave. (County Road 48).

Plants will be available for sale the day of the tour.

For more information, call Cathy at 341-0043 or Deb at 341-1366.

Garden club to meet in Floral City

Special to the Chronicle

The Floral City Garden Club will meet at noon on Friday, March 13 at the Floral City Community Building on East Orange Avenue (County Road 48).

General club business will be from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. with the program starting at 1:30. Program for March will be given by Robert Knight, Water Resources Dept. Citrus Co. and Bernadine Flood Nichols Conservation & Outreach Coordinator for Citrus Co. Citrus Resource Plan, Water Conservation and Storm Water Mgmt. All meetings are open to the public.

Art show will help paint the town pretty

By Marcia Beasley
Special to the Pioneer

The pulchritude of Floral City is improving by the day! Dogwoods and azaleas are blooming and the new Town Center and library are receiving finishing touches.

New and enhanced businesses are popping up and well...there will be more than just a word to be learned about Floral City when visitors spend the day on Saturday, March 21.

The First Floral City Art Show will be held that day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The show is sponsored by a new business, Forgotten Treasures & Gifts. It is owned by Pamela Bellman and is located on the corner of Great Oaks Drive and Magnolia Street, one block south of Orange Avenue and behind the Floral City Hardware Store. Space for 27 artists has been designated on the oak shaded property. Artists may

Spend the day in Floral City

Art

continued from Page 1

make arrangements to participate by calling 860-2953 or pbellman@tampabay.rr.com.

The new store is housed inside the historic Harrison House. Normal store hours are Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.

North of Orange Avenue on Marvin Street and inside the Fellowship Hall of the Floral City United Methodist Church,

the Friends of the Floral City Library will be holding their Annual Book Sale.

Hundreds and hundreds of previously read books, cherished audio and video tapes, gently used puzzles and other literary related items will be offered for sale from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday. The book sale will begin the preceding Friday from 5 to 8 p.m. with a \$3 pre-sale admission charge. During the early morning hours on Saturday, visitors will see cyclists with the Annual Clean Air Ride passing through town on the Withlacoochee State Trail.

Benefactor for this Ride is the Key Training Center and advance registration may be made by calling (352) 637-2475 or visiting www.cleanairride.com. Registration is \$25 for adults and \$12 for children under 12 and with registration prior to March 10, one receives a T-shirt.

While stopping in Floral City, one is encouraged to stay and lunch at the numerous eating establishments, visit the shops in the village, view the almost completed New Town Center

Linear Park in front of the yet-to-be-opened, new county library and drop into the Heritage Hall Museum and Country Store at the old fire station. The temporary museum and Museum Country Store will be open for the day with no admission charge. The museum features a diorama of how the village looked between 1907 and 1911 during the town's brief incorporation and at its peak phosphate boom period. Many items of local history are available for purchase in the Country Store.

Grab a "Guide to Floral City's Historic Architecture" at the Country Store, the Art Show or Hampton's Edge bicycle shop and walk or drive under the 125-year old oak-tree canopy through the National Historic District and along the other tree-lined streets of town. Visit the site of the original town and its steamboat landing. See, possibly the oldest continuously occupied, home in Citrus County (c.1860) and a church restored to its 1884 grandeur.

For additional information call 860-2953.

Garden club welcomes officers

New officers were installed at the February meeting of the Floral City Garden Club by District V Director Barbara Grimes. New officers are: Kathy Davis, chaplain; Sharon Thompson, corresponding secretary; Diane Dowthitt, recording secretary; Grimes; Kathy Hoffmann, treasurer; Sheila Finch, second vice president; and Debbie Barney, first vice president. New President Christine Harnden was unable to attend.

DUANE FINCH/
Special to the Pioneer





Feb. 13, 2009

Flora for sale

*Garden club
fundraiser -
Where else?
Floral City*

By Cathy Kapulka
Pioneer Editor

Floral City is known for its beautiful plants, trees and flowers. So it

would seem appropriate for the Floral City Garden Club to hold its annual plant sale in the heart of the city.

"The garden club in Floral City is a very active community organization. We do a lot for the community."

- Lona Bassett

The sale takes place on Saturday, April 18, starting at 8 a.m. at the pavilion next to the Floral City Church of Christ at 8599 E. Marvin St.

Lona Bassett, publicity chairperson for the club, said that the club has held



*Plant Sale
April 18, 2009*

Garden club to have plant sale

Special to the Chronicle

The Floral City Garden Club will have its annual plant sale Saturday, April 18, at the Floral City Church of Christ pavilion at 8599 E. Marvin St., in Floral City.

The plant sale will start at 8 a.m. and go until all

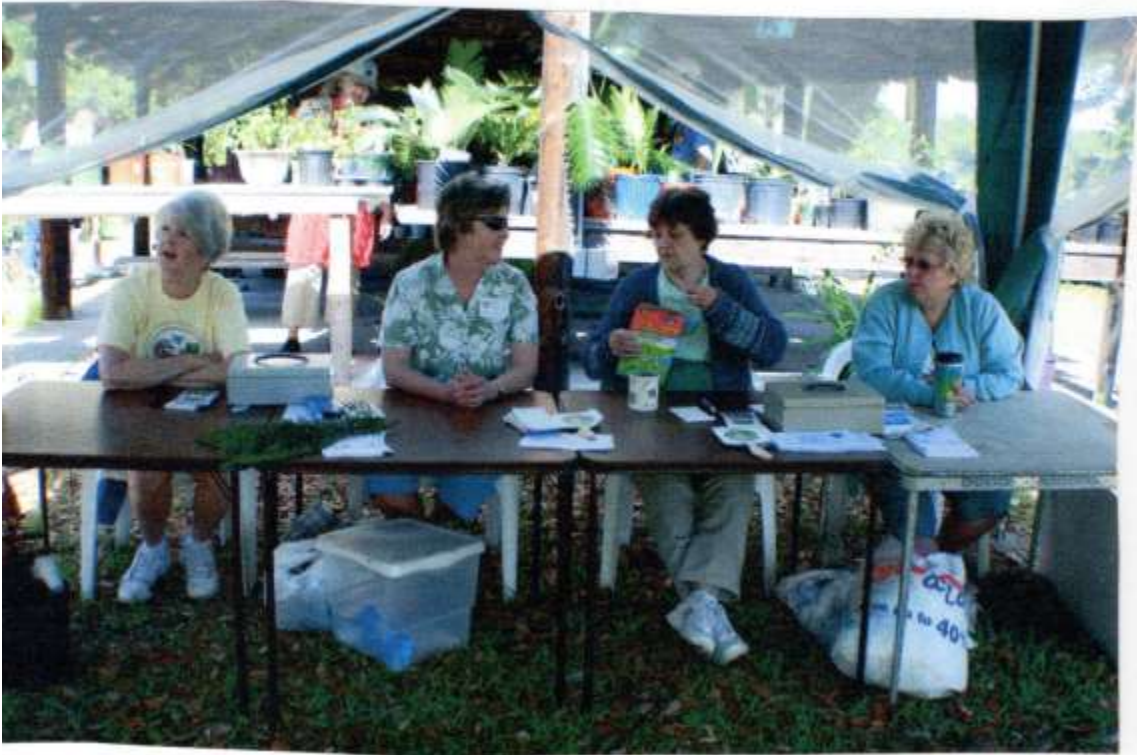
Plants will range from native, home grown and special interest.

plants are sold.

Plants will range from na-

tive, home grown and special interest. "Rabbit Berries" a natural fertilizer will also be available at \$8.50 per bag. Mark the date on your calendar and join us.

For more information or donations of orphan plants, call plant sale chairwoman Anne Propp at 560-0047.





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May Mtg '09





May 11th '09