

District V Meeting ~ Fall 2006
Floral City Garden Club
President's Report

The Floral City Garden Club plans to have a good year.

Membership: We began in the fall with 61 members, but within 2 months we have gained another 7 members for a total of 68.

Fund Raiser: We held a "No Ball At All" fundraiser to make a donation to the Academy of Environmental Science. Invitations to not attend a ball but rather make a donation were given to each member. This is a good option when funds aren't in the budget to donate to a worthy cause. Our annual plant sale will be held the first Saturday in May this coming year at a different location due to the library expansion ... it will be held at the recreation center, driving range and putt putt golf on US 41 in Floral City. Our coffers are down a little this year so we're exploring extra fundraisers for our scholarship funds.

Arbor Day: FCGC celebrated Arbor Day by planting two 12 ft. Live Oaks this past spring to extend our beautiful "Avenue of Oaks" [aka E. Orange Avenue] a little further west beyond the traffic light on US 41.

Horticulture: Our programs always highlight one area of horticulture or another ... it seems to be one of the most popular reasons listed for joining our club. We also incorporate a horticulture Q&A period in the meeting to give members an opportunity to learn about new plants for their garden, to ask questions about plants they have and to inform them of horticulture or flower show events in the area.

Civic Beautification: Members have been maintaining five community gardens for the past several years, but this year we adopted several more Orange Avenue Garden Spots & Pots. Installation of a drip system for planted pots along the street and a retaining wall will be built on the corner of US 41 & Orange Ave to beautify a garden there. We adopted a 4 mile stretch of highway to keep litter under control in our area for the past 18 years.

Junior Gardeners: Junior Gardeners has grown to 11 enthusiastic children this school year. This past summer 2 children were awarded full scholarships to attend Camp Wekiva. A \$100 grant was given to another girl to attend camp and she met the requirements to go on and be accepted at the Academy of Environmental Science..

Scholarship: FCGC presented two \$500 scholarships in May to graduating high school students who are pursuing horticultural sciences in college.

Website: Our website has a brand new look ... Check it out at www.floralcitygardenclub.com

Respectfully submitted,
Jo Ann Quackenbush, President
Tuesday, October 17, 2006