

# The Garden Gate

Lemon Bay Garden Club 480 Yale Street Englewood Florida

October 2020

## Greeting from Co-Presidents

Hello Everyone! We miss our LBGC friends but life as we know it has changed. Email messages can never substitute for the warmth, laughter and stimulating conversation we've had in person earlier this year. Our Club members care about each other, so stay in touch.

Barbara Rao, District VIII Director, has invited the whole club to be part of a Zoom district meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup>. We need to designate delegates to vote on new bylaws. If interested in "attending" the Zoom meeting and/or becoming a delegate, let one of us know so we can send the link and name you as a delegate.

Ladies and Gentlemen, plant sales made news in the Wall Street Journal on September 19. Headline: "Money May Not Grow on Trees but it is Growing on Rare Plants." Interest has grown in greenery during the pandemic. Growers, nurseries, and shops are scrambling to keep up with demand. The most coveted flora fetches thousands of \$\$\$! Plant flippers have jumped in to make a buck. Two small cuttings of a highly coveted Varigated Monsters Adansonii just sold in San Diego for \$2,000 each!

Enid Offolter, a grower in Plantation, Florida, is working 12 hours days, 7 days a week to meet demand. On Labor Day, Enid listed a variety of 300 plants for sale online. All 300 were sold in 7 minutes! Plants are definitely an obsession now. Is another Bromeliad Blowout in LBGC's future??

All the best to you and yours,  
Angie Erickson and Jan Beshoner

## Crafting Continues

Crafters continue to meet every Friday at the Clubhouse. Face masks are optional provided social distancing is possible. Please join us.

Karen Purdue

## Gardens and Grounds are On-going

Gardeners continue to meet every Friday to get their hands and knees dirty. Face masks are optional provided social distancing is possible. Please join us as the weeds are not aware of the pandemic so they continue to grow!

Joan Tyrer, Suzanne Bayley, Christine Hannula

## Clubhouse Open to the Public

The Clubhouse will be open each Friday from 9am till 11am. Guests are invited to purchase cards, crafts and plants.

The following safety factors will be observed:

1. Masks covering nose and mouth must be worn by everyone in the Clubhouse. If necessary, masks will be provided.
2. Hand sanitizer will be available at the door. Gloves will also be available if needed.
3. Maximum of 2 guests in the Clubhouse simultaneously - and only on the stage.
4. Should there be more than 2 guests at the same time, a guided tour of our gardens should be offered to the additional guests, and they can browse and/or purchase some of our many plants that are for sale.

Thanks to all who offered input into this decision.

Angie and Jan

## Field Trips and Programs

All Field Trips and Programs have been canceled until January. We will re-think the rest of the year later this Fall.

Marca Markwitz

## Designing Women

October 28 --- We'll meet outside in the gazebo area at the Clubhouse - weather permitting. If we have more than 10 people sign up, we will meet at the large picnic table at the Englewood Sports Complex. (Parking is in the lot next to the building. Walk back down the trail towards the playground. Bring your own chair.) We will make a fall table centerpiece or a front door piece. They can be fresh flowers or permanent botanicals.

Your choices:

1. A make-it-take-it kit with a finished project to take home
2. Bring your own materials and get help putting them together
3. Bring something you put together at home - just to share and say hello.

**If** all goes well in October and no date conflicts arise, then...

Wednesday, December 2 --- We'll meet outside in the gazebo area at the Clubhouse - weather permitting. If we have more than 10 people sign up, we will meet at the large picnic table at the Englewood Sports Complex. (Parking is in the lot next to the building. Walk back down the trail towards the playground. Bring your own chair.) We will make a Christmas/holiday centerpiece or wreath. Fresh flowers or permanent botanicals. IF, by some stroke of luck LBGCC can hold our usual December luncheon on December 7 (first Monday), we may open up the December 2 date to the whole club so we can use the finished products for centerpieces.

Your choices:

1. A make-it-take-it kit with a finished project to take home
2. Bring your own materials and get help putting them together
3. Bring something you put together at home - just to share and say hello.

Elaine Schweitzer will send a sign up sheet (email) closer to the date, some sample pictures, cost for "Your Choices" option 1, and ask you to choose your option.

Just know that my NEW middle name is "Be Flexible" and don't stress.... We're all in this together...

Elaine Schweitzer

## Membership

As of September 2020

Active members=108

Friends=9

Linda Geoghegan and Bonnie Moore

## House

When the Executive BOD met in August they recommended vinyl flooring be installed in the clubhouse meeting room. Wanda Smith and Linda Geoghegan have been researching ways to help reduce the moisture and odor in the meeting room before a new floor is installed. We are meeting with carpenters, insulation installers and flooring people to get ideas and suggestions as to how we should proceed. We are still in the research phase and will keep you posted on our findings.

Linda Geoghegan and Wanda Smith

## Hospitality

I'm thinking you are cooking more than ever these past Corona months. I found it dangerous to make Big Bottom Biscuits! The good news is some of you get a break from monthly hostess duties. We will not be serving luncheons during 2020-2021 at the clubhouse. Those of you wonderful volunteers who signed up on hostess committees are asked to simply move your hostess calendar forward one season to 2021-2022.

We tentatively have two events on our 2021 calendar. First is a fundraiser Wine Tasting Dimmer Party at Englewood Elks in March. (It might be too much fun, so here's hoping for a healthy new year. More to come!) The second is our May Membership Luncheon meeting at Venezia Restaurant in Venice. I put on my "optimist hat" and hope to see you all soon. Stay well!

Angie Erickson