



Sweet Water Oaks
Garden Club

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

October 2023

Editor

Gay Momberger



FIELD TRIP!

This will replace our October general meeting.

Join us for an interesting trip to see where our scholarships money goes.

We will tour the facility and have a short meeting afterwards.



MID-FLORIDA RESEARCH
AND EDUCATION CENTER

Meet at the Publix parking lot
3883 Wekiva Springs Rd
at 9:30 to car pool.
to
2725 S. Binion Road
Apopka, FL 32703



Executive Board

President

Lynn Griffis

First Vice President/Programs

Pam Frisbey

2nd Vice President/Membership

Marjorie Abbas

Jacque Body

3rd Vice President/Hospitality

Nancy Kelly

Laurie Kennedy

Janet McIntyre

Recording Secretary

Cheryl Nordstedt

Corresponding Secretary

Linda Richcreek

Treasurer

Pat Neff

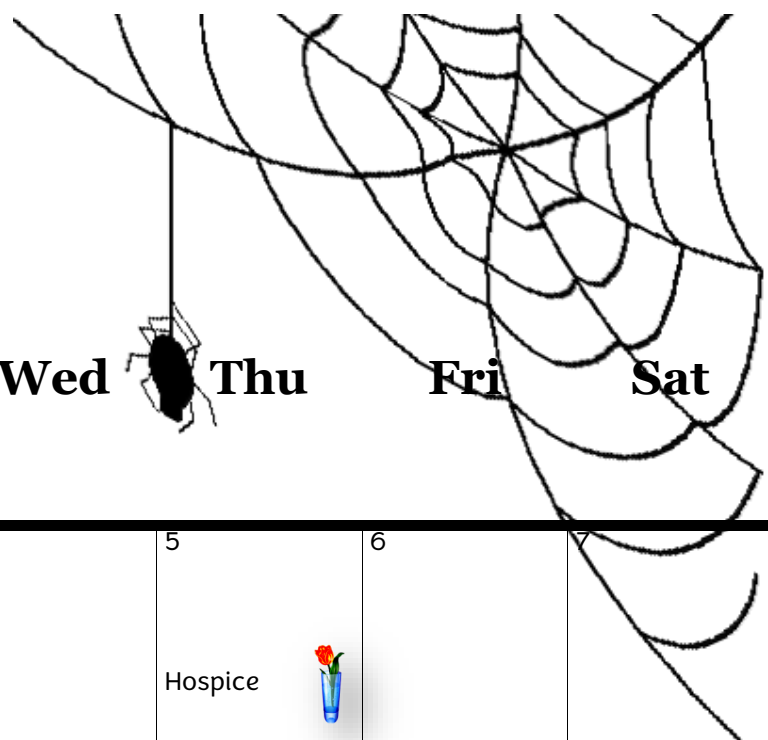
Parliamentarian

Joyce Anderson








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October 2023



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2 Board Meeting	3	4	5 Hospice 	6	7
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15	16	17	18	19 Plant Sale setup Hospice 	20  PLANT SALE	21 
22 BD Marge Lynch 	23	24	25	26 District VII Fall Meeting in Mt. Dora	27	28
29	30	31  Happy Halloween				

A Word From Our President

Happy Autumn SWOGC members!

September has just whizzed by, and pumpkins are popping up everywhere. October is a busy month for us.

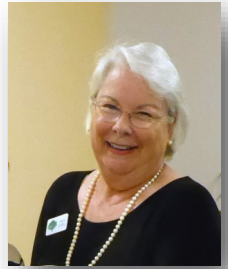
We have our tour of University of Florida Horticulture, Apopka, on October 9th. We will car pool out to the school and have a very short meeting after the tour.

Then comes our October Plant Sale! Plant and table drop off is October 19th at 210 Lonesome Pine, Longwood. If you are going to be traveling on this date, you can drop off plants and tables anytime the week before at my home, 106 Knollcrest Drive, Longwood.

October 26th is our District VII meeting. Each club is asked to bring a basket to raffle off. I'm open to your ideas for a theme. The District meetings are open to all garden club members. Gay posted a registration form for you to fill out and send in with a check for \$30. Pat Neff and I are going and would love to have you carpool with us.

Regards from the garden.

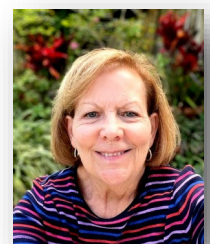
*Claire Griffis
President*



HOSPITALITY

We are having our next meeting at the University of Florida Research Center in Apopka instead of Village on the Green on October 9th. So you ladies who graciously volunteered to bring snacks or plants do NOT have to this month but hopefully you'll be available to do so later on in the year.

Can't wait to see all the plants at the Ag Center!!



*Nancy Kelly
Laurie Kennedy
Janet McIntyre
3rd Vice President, Hospitality*

SPOKES GAME DAY



Join us for

GAME DAY 2023

Wednesday, October 11

10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Heathrow Country Club

Sign-up for Game Day is open -- Form Your Groups -- Advance Payment for This Luncheon Only -- Details Below!

Game Day is our annual event where groups of 4 or more come together to play any game you wish to raise money for our selected charities. Last year we raised nearly \$2,000 on Game Day from the bake sale, book club raffle, 50/50 raffle, and silent auction of new and gently-used and un-needed treasures donated by Spokes members. *Game Day was moved to Heathrow due to increased room and set-up charges at DeBary Country Club, which would have decreased our proceeds by at least \$250 off the top.*

PARTICIPATION/SIGN-UP & ADVANCE LUNCHEON PAYMENT: Four or more members choose a game, designate a table leader, and pay for lunch in advance by sending an individual check for \$30/member (memo names of each player) or the team leader can collect the checks and send them in together.

- Checks, payable to CF Spokes, must be **received** by Tuesday, October 3, in person or mailed to Sonia Beltran @ address below. Questions about groups/payment? 407-474-7460

CF Spokes
1686 Shadow Moss Circle
Lake Mary, FL 32746

Note that this event has been moved to Heathrow Country Club which is much more convenient for most of our members.

BUTTERFLY GARDEN

A new committee to oversee the butterfly garden is being formed. If you are interested in

- researching and learning about the best plants for butterflies and all pollinators.
- the best native plants for your own garden and how to maintain and develop a butterfly garden.
- taking photographs of plants and butterflies.
- composing articles of interest on this subject for publication.
- joining a group of like-minded members.

this may interest you.

Call: Marjorie Abbas



Marjorie Abbas

Location: Wekiwa Springs State Park

GAME DAY 2024

Wekiva Youth Camp Cafeteria

Date: Monday, January 15

Cost: TBD



Remember the wonderful time we had last year? Well we are lucky to be able to repeat and improve this year's Game Day at the Park.

You were all so generous last year donating to our Silent Auction, and they were so appreciated that we had very few items left to add to this year's stockpile. I am humbly asking you to scour your home for other items of good quality that we might include in this year's Silent auction. I will be coming back from the north country in Maine at the end of October to collect your wonderful items. In the meantime, Diane Hennessy is helping with our plans and would be glad to take anything that you may have until I get back.

Thank you for your consideration and there will be more news as we progress with our plans.

YOUTH GARDENERS

Our Starchild Academy Youth Gardner 5th graders started off their first meeting by learning about Florida soil (sand) and how to enhance it from Louise Gould. The children started their garden by planting seeds of their choice in peat pellets. Once the plants grow to 2" the children will transplant the seedlings to container gardens. Hopefully they will harvest corn, peas, lettuce and dwarf sunflowers. Pam Frisbey, Linda Richter and Lynn Griffis assisted with the planting. Ann Todd provided a word puzzle and a prize for the winner. Next month we study Florida shells and beach conservation.



If any member is interested in joining this committee, please contact Pam Frisbey or Claire Griffis. We meet at the school at 9:30 the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

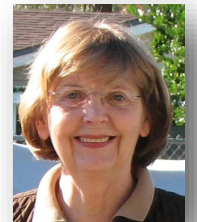


Ann Todd
Chairman, Youth Gardeners

MEMBERSHIP



We welcomed 32 members and three guests to our first general meeting of the year on September 11, 2023. Two new members who joined at the Welcome Back Coffee, Karen Fichthorn, and Sue Skambis, were in attendance. Sue sold the 50/50 tickets and Karen took the picture of members enjoying lunch after the meeting.



Our total membership is fifty-eight. Please continue to introduce your friends and neighbors to the club.

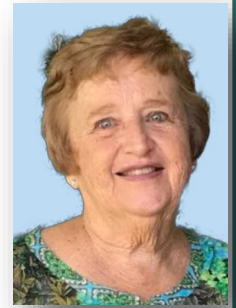


Marjorie Abbas
Jacque Body
Membership Chairs

WAYS AND MEANS - FALL PLANT SALE



Fall Plant Sale October 20-21, 2023



210 Lonesome Pine Dr
Longwood

Can't do a volunteer shift? What else can you do to support the Plant Sale? You can

Shop and buy!

Bring your friends and neighbors. Come early and come back several times during the two days because the inventory changes hour by hour.

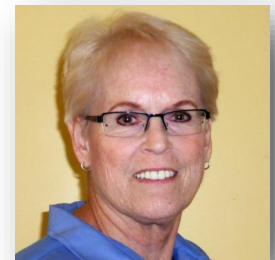
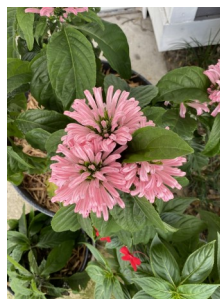
All of these beautiful plants and more will be available at some point during the sale.

Don't lose out!!

Begonia
Angel Wing Begonia
Coral Plant
Eucharist Lily
Pink Jacobina
Clubbed Begonia
Day Lily

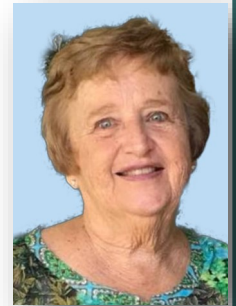
Shell Ginger
Red Angel Wing Begonia
Dessert Rose
Red Star Amaryllis
Stink Plant
Florida Rain Lilies

Kansas Rain Lily
Croton
Red Christmas Cactus
White Jacobina
Oak Leaf Hydrangea
Rose Cactus



Ways & Means Committee Co Chairmen
Lynn Griffis
Shirley Hungerford
Cheryl Nordstedt

WAYS AND MEANS - FALL PLANT SALE VOLUNTEERS



Fall Plant Sale
October 20-21, 2023

210 Lonesome Pine Dr
Longwood, FL 32778

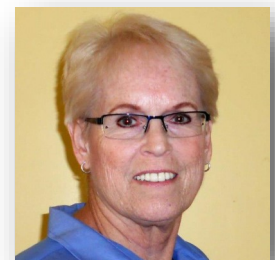
Plant Sales are among three events that support our scholarships to the University of Florida Department of Horticulture and underwrite tuition for young children attending Camp Wekiva. These scholarships are our most important community service projects as a garden club. What can you do to help?

VOLUNTEER!!

Check the schedule below and contact Shirley Hungerford by phone or text at 407-399-7330. Let her know when you are available to volunteer.

- Thursday, Oct. 19 9:00 - 12:00 Set up tents and tables, deliver your plants, arrange and label plants
Friday, Oct. 20 9:00 - 4:00 Pant Sale - meet customers, discuss plants and how to care for them. Encourage purchasing
Saturday, Oct. 21 9:00 - 3:00 Plant Sale - continues
2:30 - 4:00 Prepare for closing and tear down equipment and plants.

Note: Set up and Tear Down-- Some of these chores benefit from help by those who are strong and/or tall. Bring along your willing husbands, stalwart sons, grandsons, and sturdy daughters and granddaughters to help with these lifting and lugging chores. They will be appreciated as will you!



Ways and Means Co-Chairmen
Lynn Griffis,
Shirley Hungerford,

FLORAL DESIGN

Our annual Thanksgiving Floral Design Workshop will be Monday, November 20th, 9:30 am at the Sweetwater Oaks Community Center. The cost is \$25.00 and includes all the flowers and materials you need to create a beautiful design for your Thanksgiving Table. The workshop will be limited to the first 20 that pay and sign up. Step-by-step instruction will be given so even if you have never done a floral design before you will be successful. Join us for a fun time.



A sign-up sheet will be available at the October meeting or you may send a check to:

Margaret Kirkpatrick

Happy Designing,
Margaret

GARDEN FAIR

CALLING ALL MEMBERS

Our annual Garden Fair, March 2 -3, 2024, needs your help! We need all of members to participate to make your Garden Fair successful!. A sign-up list of the committee is available at our meeting. We realize some of us may have physical or time limitations, but you can still participate in other important ways:

- Suggestions and contact information for vendors, sponsors, and individual donations.
- Suggestion of someone who would be able to provide a large speaker system. It is important we are able to make announcements to the visitors regarding Special Speakers and Children activities, Vendor specials and general information.
- Radio/TV Stations (might come out and play music)
- Individuals
- Churches
- Business
- We need help with set up and clean up
- Helpers at the information booth

We need everyone's help! Come out and get 1st choice of the great plants available from our vendors.

Margaret Kirkpatrick
Garden Fair Chair

HORTICULTURE

Worm Composting

Worm composting or vermicomposting is a process where you convert garbage wastes into something the farmers call *black gold.*, which is a black product produced from worm castings.

It is said that it is 5 times better than commercial fertilizers.

The worm to use is the red wiggler. The reason is this worm eats right under the mulch. Other types of worms drag their food into a burrow, and this would lead to anaerobic activity in your bin.

You can make your own worm bin. Use a plastic bin with a lid, long and wide is better than tall and narrow. Use a drill or hammer and nail to make holes on the bottom sides and lid. There are some worm bins that are manufactured, and they will cost about 100.00 Dollars or more.

To make your bedding, shred up uncoated newspaper and some soil as worms have gizzards and this helps them process the food. Make the bedding 3 to 6 inches high. Then moisten the newspaper. If you use a moisture meter, it should be in the green in the middle of the meter. If you squeeze the paper in your hand, you should only get a drop or two. The worms require moisture so you should check your bed regularly for moisture. Worms do best at temperatures ranging from 55 to 75 degrees so make sure that you have a shaded area or inside of a building.

For feeding you should use food scraps

- Melon rinds
- Roots, leaves
- Tea leaves and coffee grounds
- Egg shells



You should have a ratio of 70% brown matter to 30 percent green matter.

Put in about a 1/2 to about a pound of worms, then put your food on top of them and put sheets of paper on top of the food. Wet the paper using a mister bottle.

Check the food once a week to make sure that there is a layer there. If you can, it is better to chop up their food and shred the paper. This allows more surface area for worms to eat faster.

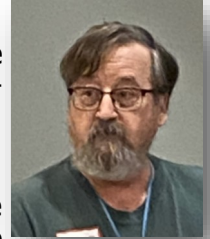
What not put in your worm bin:

- Salt, pepper and other spices
- Milk, dairy or dairy products
- Diseased or infested plants
- Meats, fats, bones or oils
- Cat or dog feces
- Treated wood products

Harvesting:

The best way to harvest the worms is to dump the bin on a table. Have a light overhead, remove the castings until the worms show. Shine the light on the worms; this will cause them to burrow into the soil. Remove soil again until worms are exposed and shine light on them.

Repeat this process until all you have is a ball of worms; then put them back in your bin.



William Petrie
Horticulture Chair



Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 915233

Longwood, Florida 32791

Club Flower—Rose

Club Bird—Cardinal

Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Deep South Region

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

District VII

Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole & Sumter Counties

Organized—January 9, 1974

Federated—January 27, 1975

Incorporated—September 14, 1992

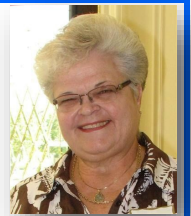
We're on the web!

www.swogc.org



If you know of a member who could use an extra kind thought, please contact me. I would prefer receiving the information by email, but please call me if you don't have email access.

Linda Richcreek



The purpose of Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club is the education of its members and the community in their relationship to horticulture, conservation and environmental needs, as well as the art of floral design.

Sweetwater Oaks Garden Club, Inc. Meeting Schedule

BOARD MEETINGS

First Monday of the Month September-May at 10:00 AM
810 Fox Valley Drive, Longwood, Florida or Zoom

GENERAL MEETINGS

Second Monday of the Month
September 2022-May 2023, 9:30 AM Social, 10:00 AM Meeting
Village on the Green, 500 Village Place, Longwood
Off Sabal Palm Drive South in the "Longwood Meeting Room"

HORTICULTURE GROUP MEETINGS

Throughout the Year - See the Calendar of Events for Dates, Times and Locations

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Second Tuesday of the Month at 9:00 AM

FLORAL DESIGN

Every Other Thursday at Hospice of the Comforter 1:30-3:00 PM



**SEPTEMBER
MEETING
PHOTOS**

Photos courtesy of Gay Momberger

