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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I invite you to sit down with a cup of coffee or tea and reflect about our Garden Club year. When we look at September programing, it was erased. Why? Irma came to visit us. We need to keep these programs for another time. GCSP is having summer programs and if you have an idea, please let me know. Yes, Irma did a lot of damage to our grounds and damaged our Japanese bridge. The City of St. Pete rebuilt the bridge and we are in process of planting trees. All of this takes time. A thank you note was sent to the City of St. Pete for all they did to restore our gardens and your help in the gardens is very much appreciated.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU for a very successful plant sale. All of the proceeds are not in as of this writing but from what I can see you did a wonderful job. Our plants were very green and beautiful. Our circles came through on their responsibilities and a special thanks goes to the Manpower unit, Sharen Heins did an outstanding job of organizing the team who even setup in the rain. Wet or not they got the job done. And at the last minute Terry Pinckney found someone to do the tool sharpening. Advertising was great. So, GCSP members, **THANK YOU!**

Our wonderful club won some awards recently at the District VIII meeting held at the Tampa Garden Club. We are paid for .50 per member to District VIII, 2017 FFGC Calendar won a NGC award (thanks to Jill Anderson) and our Flower Show, "Wild, Wild West won an NGC Award. (Way to go!) Your circle can apply for awards and some examples were given to the circle presidents.

We are walking through our garden and we have picked up a few members along the way. We started off the year with 218 and now have 223. Now we want to retain those members with good programing and most of all a smile on our face. I have attended several meetings this week and the best part is we can laugh even if we make a mistake. That is what our club is all about, laughing and crying, and having a good time. So remember this Holiday season, when you are with friends and family, take time to laugh and have a good time.

Wishing you and your family a Happy Holiday!

Jan Ankerberg,

President of the Garden Club of St. Petersburg

Save the Date

Most sessions are at the Garden Center unless noted)

DECEMBER 2017

- Dec. 4 10:00 a CREATIVE CRAFTS
Program: Gum Drop Pops
- Dec. 8 9:00 am Executive Committee Meeting
10:30 am Board of Directors Meeting
- Dec 12 11:30 pm Dracaena Circle Meeting
Program: Holiday Plant or Garden Related Item
- Dec. 12 6:30 pm Night Bloomers Circle Meeting
Program: Holiday Party
- Dec. 13 11:30 am Flower Arranging Circle Meeting
Program: Holiday Luncheon
- Dec. 14 9:30 am Isla del Sol Country Club
Daylily Circle Meeting
Program: Holiday Get together;
- Dec. 19 12:00 pm Jungle Circle Meeting
Program: Holiday - Potluck Luncheon

JANUARY 2018

- Jan. 5 9:00 am Executive Committee Meeting
10:30 am Board of Directors Meeting
- Jan. 8 10:00 am CREATIVE CRAFTS
Program: Heritage Lace Postcards
- Jan. 9 6:30 pm Night Bloomers Circle Meeting
Program: Preparing Horticulture for Flower Show
- Jan. 9 1:00 pm GCSP All Members Meeting
Program: Back Roads of Florida
- Jan. 11 10:00 am Speakers: Cathy Salustri
Horticulture Seminar
Program: Mini Flower Show
- Jan. 16 Dracaena Circle Meeting
Program: Snowbird Luncheon
- Jan. 17 10:00 am Flower Arranging Circle Meeting
Program: Design Challenge
- Jan 18 Horticulture Extravaganza in Tampa
- Jan. 18 9:30 am Daylily Circle Meeting
Program: Yard & Garden Design
Speaker: Landscape Consultants,
- Jan. 23 1:00 pm Jungle Circle Meeting
Program: Patio/Container Gardening
Speaker: Pam Brown
- Jan. 23 3:00 pm Set up for Card & Game Party
- Jan. 24 11 -3 pm Card and Game Party

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Upcoming Events

Save the Date continued

(Most sessions are at the Garden Center unless noted)

FEBRUARY 2018

Feb. 5	10:00 am	CREATIVE CRAFTS Program: Gumball Pot Candy Dish
Feb. 6	12:30 pm	Dracaena Circle Meeting Program: Trash to Treasures Speaker: Melissa Claycomb, Appraiser & Estate Services
Feb. 8	10:00 am	HORTICULTURE SEMINAR Program: Propagation.
Feb. 9	9:00 am 10:30 am	Executive Committee Meeting Board of Directors Meeting
Feb. 12-15	9 - 12 pm	Set up for Flea Market
Feb. 15	5 - 7 pm	Wine & Cheese Opening Night Sales
Feb. 16-17		FLEA MARKET & PLANT SALE
Feb. 17	9 - 3 pm	FLEA MARKET & PLANT SALE
Feb. 18	9 - 1 pm	FLEA MARKET & PLANT SALE
Feb. 20	6:30 pm	Night Bloomers Circle Meeting Program: Kitchen Botany Speaker: James Stephenson, Pinellas Extension
Feb. 21	10:00 am	Flower Arranging Circle Meeting Workshop: Tray Table Designs Presenter: Barbara Rao, Designer & Accredited Judge
Feb. 22	9:30 am	Daylily Circle Meeting Program: Container Gardening Speaker: Anne Luviner
Feb. 27	1:00 pm	Jungle Circle Meeting Program: Trip to Gizella Kopsick Palm Arboretum Presenter: guided tour

Card and Game Party

Make plans to attend our annual Card & Game Party on January 24th. This fun event starts at 11am and runs until 3pm. Once again we'll be chowing down on pizza hot from the oven. The cost is \$12. If you've never attended, this is a day of cards and board games. Last year we had rousing games of mahjong, scrabble, and all kinds of card games. There will be door prizes and opportunity baskets to win as well. All the net proceeds will help improve our grounds. Have a fun time, meet some new people and help our club all at the same time. Reservations for the Card & Game Party need to be made through Liz Coerver by January 5th.

Do you need a facility for an Event?

The Garden Club is available to rent. Contact Carol Lucia, or see Rental Information on our website, www.gardenclubstpetersburg.org

HORTICULTURE

The Horticulture Lecture Series moves to a new time for the 2017-2018 year and features interesting programs. The Lectures will now begin at 9:30 am with coffee and light snacks followed by the program at 10 am. As always we ask you to bring your own coffee cup. Let's do away with Styrofoam.

Want to improve your chances of winning a blue ribbon in the Horticulture Division of the 2018 GCSP Flower Show in April? Then bring your plant(s) and enter our "Mini Flower Show" Program on Thursday, **Jan. 11**. Want to learn what the judge's look for when you bring in a plant for competition? We'll have a panel of three accredited judges to help you score a blue. Tips include proper pot selection and grooming. Bessie Morse, Horticulture Chairman, will go over the show horticulture schedule and how to identify your plants.

On **Feb. 8**, Master Gardeners Phyl Lawson and Bessie Morse will demonstrate how to propagate all most any plant. There is no better way to share your love of gardening then to give a plant to a friend.

On **March 8**, Pam Brown, Extension Agent Emeritus, of the Pampered Gardener will cover drought tolerant plants so your yard is better prepared for those dry spells before the summer rain comes.

The series ends on **April 12** with a plant identification session for the Green Thumb Flower Show at Walter Fuller Park on April 26. Bring your plants or pictures and get help on writing the proper botanical name and additional things you can do to make your plant look its very best.

All meetings will be held at the Club on the second Thursday of the month from October through April with the no meeting in December. They are free and open to the public.

CREATIVE CRAFTS

Susan Cooper and Liz Coerver, Co-Chairmen The Garden Club of St. Petersburg welcomes all adults to our Craft Programs. It is \$3.50 for members and \$4.50 for guests for materials. The class is from 10:00 – 12:00 at the Garden Center.

CRAFT SCHEDULE

Dec 4	Gum Drop Pops
Jan 8	Heritage Lace Postcards, <i>guest instructor</i>
Feb 5	Gumball Pot Candy Dish
May 7	<i>Surprise</i>

We are looking for Christmas cookie cutters. When was the last time you used yours? We could also use beads.

Upcoming Events

GCSP Flea Market

February 15 through 17

Sandi Fox & Kathy Garner

Now is the time to start collecting treasures for your contribution. We need some "better" items for the Wine & Cheese Party on Thursday night, Feb. 15. Especially items for our smashing, "On Stage" display like small, quality furniture, art work, rugs, & glassware.

Don't forget to solicit donations from friends and neighbors for this good cause. Your support helps to make this vital fund raiser a success. This event is really fun to work amidst an eclectic array of objects you may or may not have ever seen before! New members especially, you will have a chance to make a friend or two while working beside members you meet during your shift. And it's a rare Garden Clubber who doesn't leave the sale without at least one new treasure.

Schedule:

<u>Opening Night Sales</u>	\$5
Feb. 15, 5 to 7 pm	Wine and Cheese Party
<u>Selling Days</u>	free admission
Feb. 16	9am to 3pm
Feb. 17	9am to 1pm

FFGC Trash or Treasure

So do you have a trash or treasure? You can find out on Saturday, **January 20** at FFGC Headquarters in Winter Park, Fl. 9am- 4pm.

This is an event where you can bring your valuables, (silver, paintings, coins, china, etc. to have an accredited appraiser give you a verbal approximation of their value. A limit of two items per person and items that can be carried. There will also be an accredited gemologist to buy gems, gold and silver.

Yes there will also be vendors. Also, there will be a plant sale and a fairy garden vendor selling gardens and components. FOOD ANYONE? There will be a crepe food truck. EVERYONE WANTS TO KNOW WHAT SOMETHING IS WORTH! So tell your members and organize a road trip. It will be fun!!!! Did I say FUN! Check out the FFGC website or Facebook for more information. Registration for FFGC members \$5.00, Appraisals - Limit two items per person. \$15.00 per item.

<https://ffgc.wildapricot.org/events>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1342295685882555/>

Property Sisters Florida

<p>Donna Marie Bartoli Realtor® GRI, PSA 831-261-7338 dmbartoli@hotmail.com</p>		<p>Deborah Schnitzler Realtor® GRI, ABR, GREEN 727-215-3127 deborahschnitzler@hotmail.com</p>
		
<p>Real Estate Champions 4350 Duhme Road Madeira Beach, FL 33708</p>		
<p>The Realtors® that treat you like family!</p>		

2017 - 2018 Executive Committee

President – Jan Ankerberg
 First Vice President - Programs – Cindy Ordes
 Second Vice President - Membership – Kathy Matthews
 Third Vice President - Budget & Finance – Joanne Keohane
 Recording Secretary – Jan Band
 Corresponding Secretary – Terry Pinckley
 Treasurer – Pat Strawn
 Assistant Treasurer – Liz Coerver
 Also serving on the Executive Committee – non-voting members
 Parliamentarian – Bea Rahter
 Advisor (past President) – Mary Frances Lawrie

The Garden Club of St. Petersburg offers a beautiful venue for special occasions.
GCSP Members receive a 10% discount!

- Weddings
- Memorials
- Receptions
- Fund Raisers
- Bar Mitzvah
- Civic Affairs
- Bat Mitzvah
- Meetings
- Anniversaries
- Reunions

For information and rental rates call:
Carol Lucia @ 393-8276
gardenclubstpete@aol.com

Circle Highlights

Dracaena Circle

Our **December 12th** meeting is a covered dish luncheon and we will have a **Holiday Plant or Garden Related Item Exchange**.

Daylily Circle

Daylily Circle is having a busy fall. We had a record turnout of members attend and assist at our successful October plant sale. Thanks to all and special thanks to Deb Schnitzler and Vicky Lohmann, Co-Chairs. In addition to learning about native plants at our October meeting, we, and other club members, worked in our butterfly garden on the first Saturday in November. We look forward to learning about awards in November and enjoying our Christmas potluck in December. We plan on spreading some Christmas cheer by filling gift bags for nursing home residents at our December luncheon.



Join the Daylily Circle on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/GCSPDaylilyCircle>

Night Bloomers Circle

Night Bloomers are hosting a talk on Preparing Horticulture for a Flower Show at 7:00 p.m. on **January 9, 2018**, and Ashley Graham will be our speaker. She is a member of Night Bloomers. On **February 20, 2018** at 7:00 p.m. our speaker is James B. Stephenson from the Pinellas County Extension talking on Kitchen Botany. Also, check out our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/NightBloomers/>

Flower Arranging Circle

Christmas is around the corner and our circle donates gifts to the Brookwood Home for Girls. We enjoy lunch with a beautiful view at the Isla de Sol Country Club. We wrap the gifts and have a little contest on the decorated gifts. So, a little fun and delicious meal for \$22.00. Contact Bea Rahter
In January, time to get creative and are you up to a Design Challenge where everyone is asked to bring all materials needed to create a design. The challenge is you use another person's materials to create a design. In February, we look at table designs with Master Judge, Barbara Rao and in March we look at our new low profile design introduced this year in the new Flower Show handbook. Our designer for the low profile is Carol Lucia, Accredited Master Judge. In April we are off to a field trip to Halls wholesale flowers. Also, check out our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1470446193265755/>

Jungle Circle

The last program of 2017 will be our Holiday Party on **December 19**, a Pot Luck Luncheon at Noon. It will be our annual Toys for Tots gift giving; a very meaningful way to close out this very special year. More information will be coming in our Jungle Drums newsletter.

On **January 23** Pam Brown of Pampered Gardeners will be presenting a program on gardening in small places. This is a great program for those who have a limited space to have a garden or who want to garden in containers.

February 27 Jungle Circle will be taking a field trip to Gizella Kopsic Palm Arboretum. We will have a guided tour by one of the Arboretum's experts. Meet at the Garden Club for car pooling or meet us there.

The third Tuesday of each month at 9:00 in the morning you will find busy Jungle Circle members working in our Bromeliad garden. Please bring basic gardening tools and join us.

Charitable Donations

FREE CLINIC NEEDS DONATIONS OF PERSONAL HYGIENE ITEMS

The St. Petersburg Free Clinic says it has run out of hygiene items. The clinic posted a photo of empty bins on Facebook this week with a plea for donations. "We need your help! Our hygiene shelves are empty. We are in need of body soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo and conditioner," the post says. "Pick some up at the store, bring it into the Free Clinic or purchase it from our Amazon Wishlist and it will be sent directly to us. Or do you travel a lot? We accept hotel toiletries." The clinic's Amazon Wishlist can be found at <http://a.co/4Ct501i>, and the clinic is at 863 Third Ave. N. The center offers free medical services for low-income people who are uninsured, as well as a food bank. The nonprofit provided services 13,000 times last year, from wellness screenings to more specialized care.

Pinellas Hope needs Blankets for the Homeless

Pinellas Hope relies on the generosity of individuals, families, and organizations that donate the following items year round which help our residents stay warm and have basic items needed for daily life, such as clothing and hygiene essentials.

Staying warm is something many of us don't think about. Our residents at Pinellas Hope live in tents that have no heat. Their survival lies in coats, blankets, sweatshirts, socks, and gloves. You can be a part of our mission to keep Pinellas Hope warm this winter!

Contact Joyce Sutherland, she will pick up items.
727 397-1157 or joysuthe@gmail.com

See Pinellas Hope website for other needs
<http://pinellashope.org/our-needs-list/>

Brookwood

Donations don't need to be monetary! Brookwood Florida typically serves between 100 and 110 girls every year who have suffered abuse, neglect, homelessness and serious family dysfunction. Sometimes these girls come in with only the clothes on their backs. See the website for needs list: <http://www.brookwoodflorida.org/get-involved/in-kind-donations/>
<http://www.brookwoodflorida.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support, including the **Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Inc.**

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

Which products on AmazonSmile are eligible for charitable donations?

Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. Recurring **Subscribe-and-Save** purchases and subscription renewals are not currently eligible

Can I use my existing Amazon.com account on AmazonSmile?

Yes, you use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

How do I select a charitable organization to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile smile.amazon.com, you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation. Choose **Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Inc.**