The Grapevine

October 2026 Newsletter

VOLUME 67 ISSUE NO. 2

Created by & for members

In this newsletter you can find:

October Events

November Calendar

New Events

Message from the President

It seems like October just blew away with all the windy weather we have had lately. It also might be the Garden Club of St Petersburg has far more activities than any other garden club I know.

Our Fall Plant sale was a great success, we made $2670 which is slightly less than we did last year after expenses. This was the largest number of plants we have had since Hurricane Helene upended many of our yards. We learned some lessons, we need more landscape plants, bushes and small trees always sell really well. So if you have hibiscus, ti, dracaena, snow bush, please propagate them as they were in high demand. We never get enough natives and always too many aloes. Large full plants are always the first to go and at premium prices. So please start propagating as the Christamas Recycle and Home and Garden Sales will be here sooner than you expect.

We are grateful for all those plants Besides having more plants to sell and the baked goodies, it was wonderful to see so many of you turn out including Aubrey Kalbaugh, Bea Rahter, Bethia Nier, Bessie Morse, Catherine Gore, Cathy Holzwart, Deb Bibeault, Ellen Rapp, Emily Suppe, Glenda Fahey, Glenda Gustafson, Helen Tilden, Jan Ankerberg, Karen McKenna, Kat Klingerman, Kathleen Hendrixson, Kris Carlock, Kris Wahl, Kristie O'Hara, Linda Myers, Madison Tucker, Mary Pat Troy, Michelle Fitzgerald, Nance Francisco, Nancy Glass, Natalie Oliver, Pat Danahey, Pat Ekert, Pat Doyle, Sally Dozier, Suzanne Bareham, and our dedicated chair Sally Far.

We have received the building plans from the City for the renovations which will begin once the City Council approves them in January. While we are not able to make changes, we can begin planning what we need to do in order make the building functional for us and renters.

As we continue to improve our communication efforts, here is some contact information to reach us:
For Flyers or to Make Changes to events email:
Flyers@gardenclubstpetersburg.org
For the weekly email blasts including non-club events that may be of interest must be submitted the Sunday of the week you want them to go out by email to:
GCSPNews@gardenclubstpetersburg.org
For articles and pictures in the Grapevine email to
Grapevine@gardenclubstpetersburg.org

I am sure you are all aware that Tuesday is election day. There are a lot of important positions and referendums on the ballot. Your vote is important and really matters when fewer people vote the full ballot, a few votes make a critical difference. Worried about election integrity, I chose to be a poll worker. I have been impressed with just how many checks and balances are built into the Pinellas County voting system. Your vote does make a differrence!

Recovering the Essence Of The Garden Club

Bessie Morse

GCSP President





Cathy Holzwart has been busy sprucing up the GCSP Garden Center grounds. First, many days of weeding and mulching renewed the sign beds. The Tropical Garden was refreshed with new plantings and mulch. A very rainy day did not deter Cathy, Pat Doyle, Michelle Fitzgerald, Monica Gray, Glenda Fahey, from attacking the weeds in the Native Garden in preparation for new plantings.

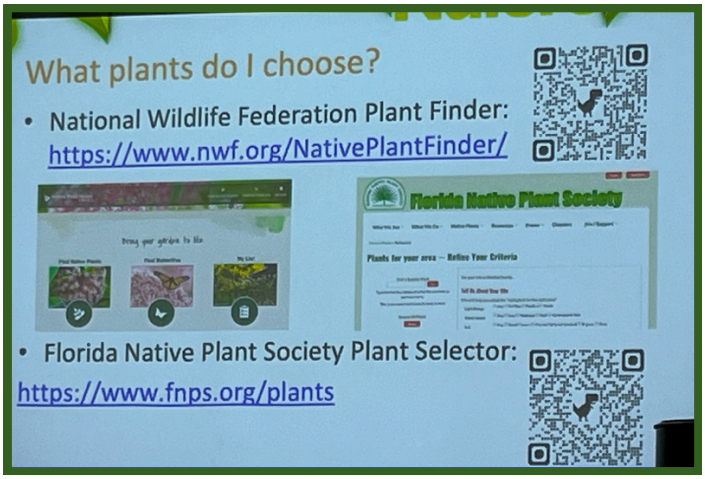
The City has also been a huge help, delivering mulch, making the concrete pad and attaching the Diane Smith Memorial Bench. They have begun building connecting path from the Japanese Garden to the Native Garden and from the Bromeliad Garden to the Butterfly Garden.











Liza Ryan on Rewilding Your landscape for the Octtober General Meeting

Rewild by planting natives, add brush piles or rock piles to help create a new habitat.

Rewilding your yard leads to**:**
Less maintenance, no dead-heading, less mowing
no leaf blowers that cause noise and air pollution

When rewilding you can't really restore the habitat but you can recreate a more wild habitat. Start by reintroducing native plants. It is likely that many of the weeds you've been pulling for years are native plants. It is not necessary to plant 100% native plants. Try for just 70% native plants, select different height plants. Keep in mind going native does not result in a manicured yard.
Native gardens are a stop over for migrating birds. Florida Native flowers have a large number of small yellow flowers. Even dormant winter plants contribute to wilding. Hollow stems are habitat for native bees.



The Importance of Trees

KEEP PINELLAS Beautiful
KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE

Trees provide shelter, food, protection and even prey opportunities for our wildlife. They filter our air, act like carbon sinks to reduce air pollution, and absorb heavy rains to stabilize the ground. They also help cool our increasingly hotter environment. Planting native species gives trees the best growth opportunities as they have adapted over thousands of years to our local climate and soil conditions.

The Garden Variety meeting not only shared the importance of trees with us, they introduced us to Keep Pinellas Beautiful that works on beautifying our public spaces by removing litter and invasive species, educating on ways to reduce waste to keep plastics out of landfills and our waterways, planting native plants and working in community gardens. They are also help people assigned to community service find places to work.



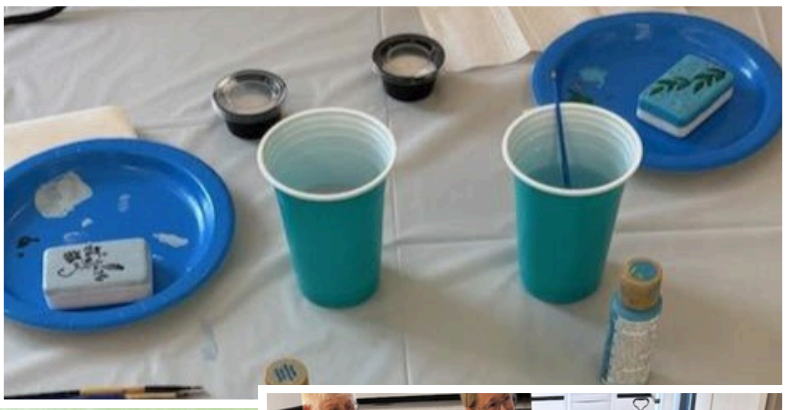






Nightbloomers

ANYTHING BUT A POT







Soap Painting at Artistic Crafts


FALL PLANT
SALE






Double
Ground
Log Mulch


Bromeliad
Boss









Floral Design Community Outreach

Floral Design made 50 bud vase arrangements to distribute to residents of Pinellas Point Nursing and Rehab, as part of our community outreach.



Garden Tour

This month's Garden Tour was so spectacular that we will devote a full page to it in the next issue. Our host, Bernard Taylor, has spent 9 years cultivating a yard full of sculptures, artistically enhanced benches, art works desert roses and tropical plants. Glass and tile pieces transform every day objects into works of art.



November Events



Hosted by Creative Crafts



Monday Nov 2 • 10am

Upcycle Jewelry into Framed Art

Turn broken jewelry into framed art. Materials provided. Feel free to bring your old jewelry to use or share.

Cost: $5 Members - $6 Guests. Please Register.

Azalea Rec Center 1600 72nd St. N

Hosted by Garden Variety

Monday Nov 2 • Noon

House Plant Care and Plant Swap

Noon - Potluck (bring a dish to share)
12:45 - Top ten easy care house plants for Florida. Bring a house plant to swap!

Azalea Rec Center 1600 72nd St. N





Hosted by Garden Buds

Thurs Nov 5 • 10am

Native Herbs Walk

Walk club grounds with Bob Linde to learn about native herbs that have medicinal properties.

GCSP Garden Center 500 Sunset Dr. S.

Visit gardenclubstpetersburg.org for event details

November Events



GCSP General Meeting



Monday Nov 9 - 10am

Succulent Pumpkin Fall Decor

Hands-on workshop. Bring an 8-inch (or larger) white, blue or orange pumpkin. All other materials provided.

Cost: $20 per Member. Please call Suzzane Bareham to Register.

Azalea Rec Center 1600 72nd St. N

Hosted by Night Bloomers

Weds Nov 11 - 6pm

Hoyas for Suc's Sake

Hoya care and propagation. Gorgeous selection of Hoyas available for purchase

Azalea Rec Center 1600 72nd St. N





Hosted by Floral Design

Monday Nov 16 - 10am

What's in Your DesignToolkit?

Award winning floral designer Pat Eckert will demonstrate design and horticulture mechanics and share her must have tools .

Azalea Rec Center 1600 72nd St. N

Visit gardenclubstpetersburg.org for event details



Succulents on a Pumpkin

HANDS-ON CRAFT WORKSHOP

Make a succulent pumpkin centerpiece for your Autumn table. Bring your own 8-10" pumpkin as well as scissors. Succulents provided.

NOVEMBER 9 • 10AM

Azalea Rec Center 1600 72nd St. N St. Pete

COST: **$20** Please Call Suzanne Bareham to Register

Free & Open to the Public

NIGHTBLOOMERS PRESENTS

HOYA'S FOR SUC'S SAKE



Garden Club of St. Petersburg, Inc. Est. 1928

Learn Hoya care & propagation.
A gorgeous selection of Hoyas
available for purchase.

Wednesday November 11th
6:00pm

Azalea Recreation Center
1600 72 St N 33710

YOUR INVITED TO

NEW(ER) MEMBER MINGLE



Let's Gather Where Our Garden Grows

This is an opportunity to better understand how the Garden Club works in a relaxed settings. Feel free to join us if you want to learn how to participate more.
All membbers welcome.

Saturday, November 14 • 10 am

GCSP Clubhouse • 500 Sunset Dr. S. St. Pete

Christmas RECYLE PLUS SALE NOV 21

Ho ho ho! Tis the Season is almost upon us. Let's get ready for our 9th annual Christmas Recycle Sale. **This is a one day event on Nov. 21.** Set up is 7am – 9am. Sale is 9am to 1pm. Tables will be marked: trees, ornaments, lights, misc., etc. Please bring your items priced (what you think the public will pay) and place on appropriate table. We will also have a boutique area for jewelry and nicer gifts. Any items left over will be donated to Boley or Goodwill.



BAKE SALE This is very popular with our community. **Last year we made over $700 just on baked goods.** So, dig out your special recipes and get baking. Bring baked items to the club on November 21 7am – 9am. Arlene and Bea will price your baked goods.



PLANT SALE We will also sell plants! If you forgot your plants for the plant sale, bring them to this event 7am - 9am.

NEW MEMBERS This is a one-day event and **everyone has fun** while raising money for our club. Please go through things and if you are tired of seeing the same holiday items, donate them.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!
CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!



Congratulations!

MADISON TUCKER



Winner of St. Petersburg's Water Wise Landscape Award!

Welcome New Members!

Nancy Glass
Cici Fougere
Elizabeth Schmidt
Annie Ellis

facebook.com/gardenclubstpetersburg

The Garden Club of St. Petersburg, Inc.	Email: GardenClubofStPetersburg@gmail.com
Visit our website for the most up to date information: GardenClubStPetersburg.org	The building at Sunset Drive is temporarily closed due to hurricane damage. Until then, join us at: **Azalea Recreation Center**, 1600 72nd St N.

Edited by: Madison Tucker, Glenda Fahey, & Bessie Morse