



The Grapevine

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St. Petersburg, FL 33707

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December 2021

Volume 62

Issue II

President's Message

Dear Garden Club Members:

Now that's what I call a garden club mission statement!

I am talking about the incredible Garden Club tour that our indefatigable vice president Nancy Steinbuechler worked so hard to make a reality, and boy was it worth every penny and then some. I am talking about none other than the all day tour on Tuesday November 9th to Echo Global Farm in North Fort Myers.

It was uplifting to learn that Echo Global Farm is one of the recipients of our charity outreach from the Garden Club. This outfit is deserving of every donation they receive. Their mission is overwhelmingly inspirational. I highly encourage members to check out their website at www.echonet.org. This "Farm" is actually a scientific test farm. The convergence of agronomy, horticulture and livestock is beautifully displayed in all it's natural awe.

The club was given the red carpet extra long tour, but the Farm offers approximately a 1 and a half our tour to the public. If you ever get the chance, don't pass it up.

The Echo Farm Science is truly global and reaches all people, but not exclusively to third world countries. It was particularly impressive that their program teaches such advant garde sustenance farming that a family of four can thrive throughout the year on just 5 acres of land. On a global scale, teaching farmers these agricultural skill sets positively dispells poverty and its ensuing sociopolitical displacement.

Yes the science of farming that is so evidently displayed at Echo Farm has positive and far reaching impact. It is undoubtedly an inspirational and humanitarian service, and all in the name of gardening.

I jokingly told Nancy Steinbuechler that this was going to be a hard one to top, but maybe that can be done with a command performance repeated for next year. Stay tuned.

Alan Comeau
President



Garden Club Calendar 2021

The Garden Club of St. Petersburg, Inc.

General Members Meetings

Second Tuesday of Month's September, October,
, February, March & May

**Note: Please go to Calendars for additional information.
Meetings at Garden Club unless a different location indicated.**

NOVEMBER 2021

- Nov. 20 9 am-3 pm Christmas Recycle Plus, Plus Sale
Set up 7 - 9 am
- Nov. 24 Award Applications
Due F.F.G.C. Headquarters
- Nov. 30 Flower Show Achievement Awards
Applications Due at F.F.G.C.
Headquarters

DECEMBER 2021

- Dec. 6 10:00 am **Creative Crafts**-for all GCSP members
Garden Center
Program: Making Gnomes
Bring crew sock
Guest Artist- Jan Ankerberg
Material Cost: \$4 members/\$5 guests
- Dec. 6 **Deadline** to register for Holiday Luncheon
\$30/pp, Karen McKenna registrar.
- Dec. 10 9:00 am **Executive Board Meeting**
Garden Center
- Dec. 10 10:30 am **Board of Directors Meeting**
Garden Center
Host: Suzanne Bareham
- Dec. 14 11:30 am **"Let's Celebrate the year in Flowers"**
Hosts Nancy Steinbuechler & Bea Rahter
All members of the G.C.S.P. and guests are invited to a festive **Holiday Luncheon** at Isla Del At Sol Yacht & Country Club 6000 Sun Blvd. St. Pete. FL 33715
A year in bloom, opportunities & much more.
Hope to see you there.
Donations to Brookwood Florida, Inc. or Daystar Life Center greatly appreciated.
- Dec. 15 **January Grapevine Deadline**

JANUARY 2022

- Jan. 3 **Creative Crafts** for all GCSP Members
Garden Center
Program: Valentine cards
Instructor: Helen Tilden
Material Cost: \$4 members/\$5 guests

2021—2022 Executive Committee

President	Alan W. Comeau	Recording Secretary	Suzanne Bareham
First Vice President—Programs	Nancy Steinbuechler	Corresponding Secretary	Helen Tilden
Second Vice President—Membership	Helen Harvey	Also serving on the Executive Committee—non-voting members:	
Third Vice President—Budget & Finance	Liz Coerver	Past President & Advisor	Cindy Ordes
Treasurer	Joyce Drew	Parliamentarian	
Assistant Treasurer	Beth Timberlake		

Jan. 7	10:30 am	Board of Directors Meeting Garden Center Host: Helen Tilden	Jan. 13	10:30 am	Garden Buds Meeting Garden Center Program: Pruning. Learn the correct way and time to prune your plants. Speaker: Stefan Babjack
Jan. 8	1:00 pm	Botanical Road Rally , Garden Center Program: A treasure hunt on wheels. Public welcome. Your team's vehicle will drive a 35 mile course with designated stops to obtain photos, botanical/historical information and puzzle clues, returning to the Club for scoring and prizes. \$20 pre-register; \$30 day of. The car can have up to 4 passengers (including driver). This is not a race against time, only your car's combined wit. Register on line or with Nancy Steinbuechler.	Jan. 15		February Grapevine Deadline
			Jan. 18	12:30 pm	Garden Variety Meeting Garden Center Program: Antique Appraisal Speaker: George Higby ISA-AM
Jan. 11	6:30 pm	Night Gardeners Meeting Garden Center Program: Getting ready for the Green Thumb. Speaker: Bessie Morse, Cathy Holzwart	Jan. 19	10:00	Floral Design Meeting Garden Center Program: Alcohol Inks Presenter: Barb Jacobson
			Jan. 30		Junior Gardeners Awards Application due FFGC headquarters

GREEN THUMB FESTIVAL

**APRIL 23 AND 24, 2022
EVENT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
WALTER FULLER PARK
7891 26TH AVE. N
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33710**

Members, please mark your calendars for the *Green Thumb Festival* on April 23 and 24th, 2022. The Garden Club of St. Petersburg will present their Flower Show, "Let's Go" at the festival. This is our big Community Service event of the year.

Don't keep a secret and tell all of your friends. Think membership!

Jan Ankerberg, Flower Show Chairman



Recycle you did. THANK YOU to all who donated and volunteered at our 4th annual Recycle Christmas sale. We made \$2488.75 and exceeded our budgeted amount. Best sale ever. The newer gift items at the boutique were a big hit as people were buying their Christmas gifts. Bake sale exceeded all of their expectations and taste was and is

delicious as I sit here eating on a cookie. Plants brought greenery to our space and to other homes and OH the Christmas items put us in the spirit. Membership sign up a member and prospects for others. A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE! Remember, when looking at this Christmas items in your homes, to decide what you can live without and put aside for our Christmas Sale next year.

Judy Zimmerman, Recycle Christmas Chairman
Jan Ankerberg, Fundraising Chairman

Botanical Road Rally

Start your engines on Saturday, January 8th, 2022 for our Botanical Road Rally

Entry fee is \$20.00 per vehicle with up to four people on board. The registration fee goes up to \$30.00 per vehicle if collected on the day of the event. So register on-line and early.

Your vehicle and passengers will check in at the Garden Club beginning at 1:00pm. Your group will receive their vehicle number and a "road map" containing designated stops along a 35 mile course around St. Petersburg. This is

not a race against time, but more like a riddle to solve with clues along the way. The "road map" will instruct you on what information you will need to retrieve at each stop (examples: take a picture of a specific plant, a historical date on a monument, a founders name. etc.) Each stop (around ten total) will have a point value attached to it based on what clues you gather. Your vehicle will record your answers in the "road map" and someone in the car will be the photographer (phone). Upon completing your rally you will return to the club to have your "road map" scored, and refreshments. There will

be prizes awarded to the top finishers. All vehicles must return to the club by 5:00pm.



**We are Rockin
St. Petersburg:
Carry-Out Craft**

Have you ever heard of geocaching? It is a world wide activity of locating hidden objects typically placed in a natural setting. Similar to geocaching, and with the help of our newly updated website, we are able to track the journey of

our painted rocks throughout St. Petersburg or beyond. The "carryout" crafts are now available from our boutique for \$4.00 to cover all the supplies you need to complete this craft and instructions on what to do with your creation once you finish. This is open to all members and guests and is a big hit with any children in your life.



Plant Sale Images



Oct. 23, 2021



Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's plant a success.



General (All Members) Meeting Entrance

You will notice a few small changes that will make a big difference in our environmental impact when you arrive for Garden Club General Meetings. As you enter the building you will “sign-in”. This attendance record will be compiled and analyzed to determine future programs of interest to you. If you bring a guest, be sure they include a phone number on the sign-in sheet so our Membership Committee can follow up.

Next, you will see “sign-up” sheets for any volunteer needs in the coming months.

Bring your calendars. Our new website will enable you to sign-up on-line as well and receive email reminders prior to the event. After you sign-in and sign-up you can “drop off.”

Collection banks are eager to put your loose change to good use (World Gardening, Penny for Pines). Also, bring your donation items for resale in our Boutique, wine corks, local charity essentials (Brookwood, Daystar, Pinellas Hope, etc.) The General Meeting programs scheduled for this year are all “interactive,” meaning you will be

asked to bring something from home to fully participate. Be sure to check the Grapevine or your Yearbook for specifics. Name tags will not be stored at the club but distributed to each member, so before you leave home to attend a meeting at the garden club, run through this checklist. Do I have my nametag, calendar, loose change, donation items, money for boutique shopping, opportunities or 50/50, checkbook for events and the General Meeting requested item? This club belongs to each of us and you are a critical member to its success!

Special Interest Groups

As a benefit of membership, the club offers several special interest groups. These groups have a specific focus, but they are also a chance to get together in smaller groups and socialize with other members.

Come try one out—you’ll find many friendly faces! Anyone can introduce a new special interest group by presenting the idea to the president.

ECHO Global Farm Tour:

Twenty-one members and guests attended the enlightening excursion to ECHO Global Farm in North Fort Myers on Tuesday November 9th. The Deluxe motor coach bus and catered box lunches added comfort and relaxation to our educational outing. Discussions on the bus ride back to the club turned into a planning session for our next excursion. If you have a destination of interest, please email the 1st VP Nancy Steinbuechler with your suggestion. We hope to make this an annual event. Some of the current considerations are: Bok Tower, Botanical Gardens in Naples, Caladium Festival (summer event), Thomas Edison’s Museum and Gardens, Winery in Plant City, Operation ECO-Vets.



Quotes from attendees of the ECHO Global Farm Tour

“ECHO is so impressive! Of the many great aspects, the two that stood out to me especially are that they focus on farmers with small farms of 5 acres or less and that they help them improve the same plot of land year over year to reduce clearing of more rain forest land.”

“No doubt, our continued support for this worthy cause is motivating and deserving”

“We have the capability to feed the world. Let’s do more. No child should be hungry. Let’s help all we can! In addition to monetary contributions let’s spread the ECHO mission verbally and in our publications”



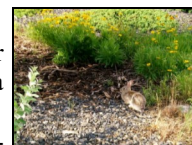
Julie Benedict and Lisa Benedict, members of GCSP visited Manatee River GC, Bradenton, for their lovely Small Standard Flower Show on Nov.12th. Guided tour was presented by Rita Mixer, chairman of the show.

Garden Variety

Garden Variety will not have a December meeting in lieu of Holiday Luncheon at Isla Del Sol Yacht and Country Club.

January’s meeting will be Antique Appraisal presented by George Higby, ISA-AM with Accredited Appraisals, Ltd. Please bring an item to be appraised.

Due to COVID Regulations we will NOT be able to have a Pot-Luck luncheon.



Night Gardeners

Please let all club members know that we are having our December 14th meeting at 6:30 pm at the club. It will be a plant swap/steal!

Those of you who want to meet and eat also, can bring your meal and beverages.



Garden Buds—GBs

This Horticulture interest group meets the second Thursday of the month at 10:30. For more information on the BGs programs please contact:

Sally Farr 727-515-0517 68mustangsal@gmail.com

or

Sandee Doherty 727-388-3464 sandee@johnsbay.com



Our next meeting will be: January 13, 2022 at 10:30. The first part of the program will be identifying plants or cuttings that are brought in by our members. This is a good time to find out what popped up in your yard or maybe something someone gave you but didn’t know what it was! We also are invited to bring in a cutting or a plant ...and then take a new plant or cutting home with you! A fun way to get new plants in your yard! Our speaker this month will be Stefan Babjack. He will be teaching us the correct way to prune a plant and also the correct time of the year to prune your plants.

The Garden Club is Available to Rent.

Do You Need a Facility for an Event?

Contact Carol Lucia,
or see Rental Information on our website,
www.gardenclubstpetersburg.org

THE GARDEN CLUB OF ST. PETERSBURG'S HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

“Celebrate the Year with Flowers”

Tuesday, December 14th, 2021 – 11:30 AM

At Isla del Sol Yacht and Country Club—6000 Sun Boulevard, St. Petersburg

Time is running out to make your reservations for this special holiday social event!

Seating is limited, so HURRY!

Reservation Forms are available at the Club and attached here.

Reserved seating will be in the order that **paid reservations**
are received by Karen McKenna.

A wait-list will be started when the capacity is reached.

**Enjoy a special luncheon, beautiful floral designs, wonderful views,
opportunities, door prizes, holiday music, and a time to enjoy friends!**

CASH OR CHECKS ONLY for the “Self-pay” beverages available at 11:30 AM,
Opportunities and a 50/50 drawing!

Note: Club portion of the 50/50 drawing will be donated to Brookwood and Daystar.

Donations may be brought for Brookwood Florida, Inc. and/or Daystar Life Center
goods, gift cards, or monetary—to be delivered to the organization from
The Garden Club of St. Petersburg.

Value of donations may be declared on the Volunteer Hours Form.

Hosts: Bea Rahter and Nancy Steinbuechler
Call Bea Rahter at 727-343-7937 for information.

Reservation Form

\$30.00 DONATION PER PERSON

Name: _____

E-Mail _____ # of Reservations: Amount Received: _____

Phone: _____ Amount Received _____

Date Received: _____ (Before 12/6/2021) Cash or check #: _____

I would like to be seated with: _____

(Names of others in group may be listed on other side.)

Send Checks to:

“The Garden Club of St. Petersburg”

Karen McKenna, Reservation Chairman
6287 Bahia Del Mar Circle, #1206
St. Petersburg, FL 33715-1074

CHRISTMAS RECYCLE PLUS PLUS!



Recycle Christmas Sale Was a Big Success!!

I am so excited to make this edition of the newsletter and tell you our sale was very successful this year. You brought your donations of Christmas items, new gift items, delicious baked goods and plants. Thank you so very much and as a result we have had our most successful sale this year.

Last year we made a little over \$1,900.00 and this year we made \$2,488.75. So, pat yourself on the back for such a good job. You came through with wonderful baked goods and Bea's corner did a bang-up job and the best year ever. Congratulations to Bea and her crew. As I write this article, I am munching on Shay's cookies. OMG too good! Our new gift section was very popular with people who told our boutique group they were buying gifts for friends and relatives. Way to go Helen and Barbara! Yes, there were plants left over from the plant sale plus some new plants and Helen Harvey did a good job of selling those with just a few left over. We were very happy to see so many Christmas items and thanks to our Chairman, Judy Zimmerman 80% of those items sold. Thank you, Judy for a successful sale!

What we learned! All Christmas items must be priced as we have no time to price from 7am to 9am; plan to group items in dollars; group items in bags; save those gifts you are not fond of for next year's newer gift shop and most of all save your secret recipes for next years sale. We did real well on Pat Strawn's rum cake.

So, thank you to all who volunteered and worked this event and to those who donated the beautiful items. Well done!

I am wishing each of you and your families a very Merry Christmas.

Jan Ankerberg, Fundraising Chairman



Our boutique has been popular these last few months despite the virus and would benefit from donations to sell. Many thanks to Jill Anderson for making masks, they made a huge difference in the bottom line and Ruthie Jeffords's carload of things from her neighbor.



A big thank you to all members who shopped and donated to the garden club boutique, we had a successful fund raising year.

Stock is needed for the coming season. Donations of nice things in good condition are appreciated and can be left on the garden club front porch or on the desk during meetings.

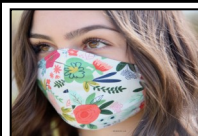
Tee Shirts

Come and get one for yourself or a friend. Contact your Circle President for more information.



Show your support for your Garden Club.

Send Grapevine Articles to:
gcsppgrapevinenews@gmail.com



MASKS FOR SALE

We have masks for sale in boutique, handmade by our "Jill Anderson." Available Two kinds for you. \$2 and \$4 each.

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 AmazonSmile, 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 and support FFGC? Log into the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs web page at ffgc.org. You will see the following the image to the right. Scroll down to the word Amazon in blue and underlined. Click on the work Amazon and it will take you to the Amazon page where you can place your order.

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.

Junior Gardening

Junior Gardeners

Like many other things, Summer Camp was cancelled last summer. So we were very excited to be able to have our "The Importance of Pollinators" Summer Camp program this year! We met at the garden club June 13-18, 9:00am-12:00noon. We had 10 wonderful, energetic, inquisitive children ages 6-10.

Each day we learned about pollinators (butterflies, moths, bees, birds) and how very valuable their job is here on our earth!! We had a beekeeper who brought bees for us to see and learn about! What a fun day that was.

We took our 'walk-about' each day exploring our gardens and looking for our pollinator friends. We also made crafts that went with the pollinators we studied each day.

Next year we hope to have 20 children in our Summer Camp. Our dates are June 6-10, 2022. We always need volunteers!!

MARK THIS DATE..... 'Junior Gardeners' will start back up **FEBRUARY 6, 2022...1:00-3:30pm**. Open to boys and girls 1st grade thru 5th grade. Hope to see you there.

Sally Farr



Gardening

Dear GCSP Members,

Welcome to some modern technology at our club. The QR scanner code on page 107 of our yearbook is a quick and easy way to access our website. Simply hold your mobile camera over the code and our website will pop up on your screen. You can be up to date on the happening at our club in no time at all.

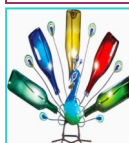


Cindy Ordes



SAVE YOUR WINE CORKS

Save your wine corks and bring them to the Garden Club. Whole Foods Market sends them to be recycled. Another way to save our earth and enjoy wine at same time!



MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE

All members can add notices and pictures for the Garden Club's Facebook page

by sending them to:

gcspfacebookpage@gmail.com



The Garden Club of St. Petersburg offers a beautiful venue for special occasions.

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

For information and rental rates call:
Carol Lucia @ 727-393-8276
gardenclubstpete@aol.com

You could have your Wedding or Reception at the Garden Club of St. Petersburg. Our grounds feature a beautiful Wisteria covered Arbor. A wonderful place to have a Garden Wedding.

Then come into the COOL Garden Club of St. Petersburg for your reception. Decorated to your liking.



GCSP IS ON FACEBOOK

The Garden Club of St. Petersburg's Facebook page was started on May 16, 2015 by member and Master Gardener Terry Jordan. Since its creation the page has grown to a following of 733 readers. Our reader base consists of 534 followers from the Tampa Bay Area and 199 readers from places such as Canada, Philippines, Italy, Bulgaria, Bolivia, The Bahamas, Costa Rica, France and India!

The purpose of the GCSP Facebook page is to promote the mission of the GCSP by encouraging an interest in gardening, horticultural study, preservation, beautification, and community service. Our posts give our readers UF/IFAS research based gardening information with topics including: beneficial insects, native plants, pollinators, palm care, vegetables, garden safety, wildlife, wildflowers, yard art, recycling and much more. Short and informative posts are put up every other day at 2:00 a.m. The beauty of social media is that it provides FREE advertising for all GCSP events, meetings and fundraisers. Pinned to the top of our



Facebook page you will see a listing of all upcoming events and meetings.

We would like to increase

our members' interaction on our page. To LIKE our Facebook page please go to

<https://www.facebook.com/gardenclubstpetersburg>

and click like. To increase our post outreach and thus increase our FREE advertising please interact with our posts by making a comment, sharing our posts or clicking like.

If your circle has had an activity that would be of interest to our community or you have an amazing plant you would like to share with our Facebook readers please send a high quality photo and a short informative message telling our readers about your activity or plant. Send photos and articles to Terry Jordan at

gcsppfacebookpage@gmail.com

The Garden Club of St. Petersburg's Facebook page recently reached a huge milestone passing over **2,000 Likes**. Currently the page has 2,144 followers, the bulk being from the Tampa Bay area and Central Florida. The page also has some international followers from 31 countries such as the Philippines, South Africa, Canada, Mexico, India, Brazil, South Korea, Russia, Sweden, Turkey, and Australia to name a few.

The Garden Club's page continues to be an excellent community outreach by giving our followers UF/IFAS research based gardening information, and a means to promote the mission of the Garden

Club of St. Petersburg by encouraging an interest in gardening, horticultural study, preservation, beautification, and community service.

Some of our most popular posts are photos of Garden Club member plants, gardens and circle field trips. The virtual flower in April reached 1.6K individuals. We would love to showcase your beautiful plants and gardens on the Facebook page. Simply send a photo to gcsppfacebookpage@gmail.com along with any information you would like to share. I hope to hear from you soon!

Terry Jordan, Facebook Page Admin.