

# The Gabby Gardener

## The Garden Club of DeLand

*Gardening for the Future*

Volume 30, Issue 6

### President's Corner



Leadership is on our minds. It is the elections time of year when it is a good time to think about what we can do for the Garden Club both at the Circle and Governing Board levels.

The decision to step up starts with self-awareness of your own set of circumstances, and a desire to give back. Covid cast a dark shadow over two administrations limiting the number of members willing to assume leadership. This is the time to reconsider your involvement.

***We need more positive team players with vision who communicate clearly, have the ability to follow through and are willing to keep us going forward in the right direction and are supportive of this club and its members.***

Look through your yearbook – there are committee descriptions, pages 7-10. Post elections, no matter who our leaders are, all our officers start looking for help. Please consider helping them.

*Marshall*

The Garden Club of DeLand  
**General Meeting**

February 2, 2023, 9:30 Social, 10 am meeting  
Speaker: Central Florida Zoo & Botanical Garden  
Topic: Be Bear Aware  
Host: Magnolia Circle

### Circle Around

The Circles have been very busy learning with a variety of excellent programs. Please remember that any member is welcome to attend Circle meetings – please check with the Circle president to make sure there is available space.

The **Firecrackers** were refreshing their Florida Friendly Landscaping techniques.

At the **Magnolia Circle** they learned that member Helen Benet is so talented she can teach anyone to draw a person, even stick figure “artists”!

The **Marigolds** visited EFG Orchids for a tour with George Hausermann – they seemed to have spent every moment of Covid updating and enhancing the greenhouse and gardens!

At the **Milkweed Circle** meeting Master Gardener Coordinator and Horticultural Agent Brittany Council Morton gave a brief presentation on gardening for wildlife.

Ben George of the Camellia Society demonstrated his extensive knowledge on gardening with camellias for the **Rose Circle**. Members also learned about the lovely Ben George camellia.

Austin Spivey of Cherrylake, a tree farm in Lake County, spoke to the **Wild Coffees** about the challenges of bringing native trees into commercial production and their goal to shift landscaping towards a more sustainable model with natives.

**GCD Book Club, Thursday, February 15,  
1pm at the clubhouse**

**“Founding Gardeners ” by Andrea Wulf**

The Founding Gardeners offers a fascinating look at the revolutionary generation from the unique and intimate perspective of their lives as gardeners, plantsmen, and farmers.

Marshall, our very own President, will facilitate this illuminating book.

Contact:

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**Congratulations to Louise Caccamise**

As a long-time Garden Club member, formerly in the Daisy Circle, Louise is now in the Rose Circle. She was recently honored by the Friends of the DeLand Library. Their bookstore was proudly renamed to the **Louise Caccamise Friends of the DeLand Library Bookstore**.

Louise has been a member of this organization for 50 years and their president for the last 20 years. She authored for the GCD A Quest for Beauty, A History of The Garden Club of DeLand, Florida, Inc., 1927- 2017. Louise is a leader known for her dedication, hard work and vision. **What a well-deserved honor!**



*Celebrating*  
THE LIFE OF



**JUDY JOINER MAURER**

**MARCH 27, 1942 - NOVEMBER 15, 2022**

*Memorial to be held at*

Garden Club of DeLand Clubhouse  
865 South Alabama Avenue, DeLand, FL 32724  
Sunday, February 5, 2023 from 12:00pm - 2:00pm

*Judy had an incredible flair for style and zest for life.  
Let's celebrate her by wearing beautiful colors  
and bold patterns!*

All are welcome to attend the celebration of Life for **Judy Maurer**, former President of the Garden Club of DeLand. It will take place at the Garden Club on **Sunday, February 5th, 12 -2 pm**. Judy was a welcoming, hardworking and appreciative leader over the years who could be counted on to step in wherever help was needed. Thanks to the Rose Circle and Karen Hall she has been honored on the Clubhouse grounds with a lovely birdbath and bench with walkway bricks to follow. This lovely contemplative area is to the right of the main walkway and close to the parking area.

The **Mardi Gras Dog parade** is coming up on **Saturday February 18**, we'll plan to meet downtown at **10:00am**. The parade begins at 11am sharp. The theme this year is "Mardi Gras in La Habana!"

**We will be walking again this year.** Please bring your wagons or wheelbarrows festively decorated and filled with plants and/or stuffed dogs. If you need stuffed dogs, shoot me an email. I have quite a few. Real dogs are welcome too!

Please come dressed in your green Garden Club shirt and festive Mardi Gras attire or all black with pollinator wings of your choosing. We have a limited amount of beads to share if you do not have any Mardi Gras attire. Dollar Tree generally has a decent selection of Mardi Gras accessories if you go early, they do sell out quickly.

If you want to decorate your wagon or wheelbarrow or dog stroller, etc please join us at the clubhouse on **Wednesday 2/15 at 4:30pm**. I will have a few boxes of Mardi Gras themed decor items available. Please bring your own scissors.

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### Kudos to Sharyn Marzullo!

The Garden Club of DeLand celebrated Florida Arbor Day on Friday, January 20th. Chair Sharyn Marzullo did an excellent job of taking us from the first Florida Arbor Day in 1886 to encouraging residents to plant trees. A beautiful native Dahoon holly (*Ilex cassine*) was selected. This small tree (20-30 feet tall with an 8-12 spread) prefers moist soil (thank you sprinkler system) and grows naturally from Florida to Texas. It is not picky about soil type growing in sand, loam or clay, or whether it is in full sun or partial shade. The brilliant red berries are an excellent food source for wildlife, especially squirrels and mammals, although you need both a male and female to produce berries. The holly is located in the azalea bed to the left of the kitchen walkway and looks stunning.

***Thank you, Sharyn for your well thought out vision in planting for the future.***



### Nature Strolls, lead by Jim Vanover



Come join Jim, GCD members and friends on a walk through some of our local parks. Jim gives the group history information and leads us on a easy walk, on trails, to show us the plants and wildlife available in each park.

The walk is always on a trail, between 1 and 2 miles. Jim stops frequently to talk about history and answer questions. After the walk we usually head to a local restaurant and enjoy our time together. Check your emails for the scheduled monthly walk. **The next walk will be at Lake Beresford Park, February 20th at 10am.**

The Gabby Gardener cover wildflower

### Coreopsis

**Coreopsis is a pollinator magnet, attracting bees and butterflies to their blossoms and birds to their seeds.**

In 1991 the flower of the genus *Coreopsis* was designated as **Florida's official wildflower**. The state legislature made this designation after the colorful flowers were used extensively in Florida's roadside plantings and highway beautification programs. The coreopsis is found in a variety of colors, ranging from golden to pink

*Coreopsis* is a genus of flowering plants in the family Asteraceae. Common names include calliopsis and tickseed, a name shared with various other plants. [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coreopsis)

Light/Watering: Full sun brings out the best in *Coreopsis*, especially in well-drained soils. Water during drought, but *Coreopsis* is quite drought-tolerant once established. *Coreopsis* is not fussy about soil, and will bloom exuberantly under a variety of conditions.



<https://dos.myflorida.com/florida-facts/florida-state-symbols/state-wildflower/>