



MRGC BULLETIN

Summer 2025



Dear friends,

With the summer solstice only a few weeks away, many of us who stayed in the area start thinking about summer watering schedules and siestas. What are your summer goals? Keeping with my administration's theme of "sowing seeds for tomorrow", I've been experimenting with different vegetable seeds to see how late I can keep having fresh, home-grown lettuce. So far, the Parris Island variety has resisted bolting. I neglected to get my summer vegetable seeds planted during this hectic past spring, so I will soon be sowing some hot weather favorites such as okra, tropical spinach, and Everglades tomatoes.

In my ornamental garden, native *Encyclia tampensis* (AKA butterfly orchid) my husband and I salvaged from live oak branches after Milton are coming into bloom, as are the various native tillandsia (air plants) we've salvaged. As we get to know more of our neighbors, I hope to start offering to plant some natives in their yards as a neighborly gesture. Of course, there's also the ulterior motive of hoping to share the horticulture bug with them! I also have the ulterior motive of spreading my plants over a larger area than just our yard, which makes them collectively more likely to survive than they would be if they were all in one place.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy summer until we gather again in September,

Melanie

I will be assembling the Bulletin again this year for Melanie. If you have anything you would like to share with the club, please call, text or email me!

Carol Friedman

friedymom@aol.com 941-238-8561.

Our Flower Show "The Luck of the Irish" will

be March 13th and 14th. But, before we get there, lots needs to be done. Our first Flower Show meeting is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 24th at 10:30 at the club. We need to brainstorm!

I will be calling to get committees lined up. If you want to volunteer for anything, let me know! In the meantime, save anything Irish that you can find!

Thanks,



LUNCH & LEARN

Save the date:

AUGUST 12, Davis Islands Garden Club
Learn about **CANVA**, a graphic design program and negotiating the FFGC website.

Canva is a free photo editor, logo maker, collage maker, and video editor.

More info will be sent later.

FLORAL DESIGN SERIES

Many of you expressed interest in learning floral design. The basic six Floral Design series will be offered at Sarasota Garden Club with advanced classes 7-9 being given here at MRGC. We will arrange car-pooling for anyone interested. These are fun and informative classes, taught by some of the best designers in Florida. Some people take them several times. You will come home with an arrangement every week. Learn to make beautiful arrangements for your home. Its also perfect for entering a flower show so you can join the fun.

Design Series 1-6 Sarasota GC: October 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th, November 3rd, and 10th.

Design Series 7-9 MRGC: January 5th, 12th and 19th.

See flyer and registration form on the last 2 pages.



Send me pictures of your garden to share with the club. This year I would like to have a page in the bulletin featuring pictures of member's yards, gardens and plants. Email to Carol Friedman; friedymom@aol.com or text to 941-238-8561.

How Does Your Garden Grow?

This was my back yard before we left for the summer. I planted my butterfly plants and the trees that Dee Ferreira gave me. Thanks Dee! The curly ginger and the Lady palms in back are among the few things that survived the salt water flood of Hurricane Helene. Our patio was destroyed when we had a fallen tree removed. So, I created dry stacked walls with the pavers (quite a job!). Then we had sod (I hope it survives the summer!) put down for our new puppy!



Carol's Backyard



My **Tillandsia funckiana** bloomed!

It is mounted on one of Susan Palmieri's plant mounts. Susan showed me how to use ShoeGoo to attach it. Thanks Susan!



Sarasota Garden Club

October & November 2025



Sarasota Garden Club presents: *NGC'S Floral Design Study Classes*

WHEN?

Sarasota Garden Club will host
Classes 1-6 9am to 2pm -
Mondays October 6, 13, 20, 27
November 3, 10)

WHAT? 9 Units in total:

- **Unit 1:** Containers, Basic Tools and Vertical Designs
- **Unit 2:** Conditioning Plant Materials & Triangular Designs
- **Unit 3:** Elements and Design Principles of Design and Curved Designs
- **Unit 4:** Table Settings and Horizontal Designs
- **Unit 5:** Accessories, Features and Bases
- **Unit 6:** Transporting Materials and Expressive Designs

Manatee River Garden Club (MRGC) will be offering the Advanced Classes 7-9 in January 2026. Sign-up for these will happen during the first 6 classes and there will be additional costs.

- **Unit 7:** Dried Materials and Decorative Wood
- **Unit 8:** Advanced Creative Designs
- **Unit 9:** Creative Containers and Designers Choice Award

This is a terrific opportunity for all garden club members in this district who have an interest in improving their designing skills, and give you a creative insight to a whole new world of floral design.

Cost: \$120 per student – payment due with reservation (Units 1-6)

Reservations accepted between

June 16 and August 16

*If SGC reaches the **capacity of 25 students**, the cut-off will be announced and a waiting list will be formed.*

- **PAYMENT:** Mail your check and the reservation form to Dorinda Wilkinson, Registrar, 400E MacEwen Drive, Osprey, FL 34229

Those of you who acquire a reservation will receive a Student Manual with full explanations of all six classes, needed materials/tools and which designs you will be creating.

SGC will provide a designer starter kit with some mechanics, a container, plant material needed for your first class.

SGC will also provide plant materials for Classes 2 & 3.

We look forward to hosting you and helping you learn about this truly fun and creative art form!

If you have questions about these classes:

Emily Yaffe
emily.sarasotagardenclub@gmail.com / 941-780-7808

Sarasota Garden Club

NGC's Floral Design Study Course

Classes 1-6: \$120 per person - October 6, 13, 20, 27, November 3, 10

RESERVATION FORM: Send check to Dorinda Wilkinson (see flyer).

Name

Address

Cell #

Email address

Your Garden Club
