

October 2020

Volume 27 Issue 2

Gabby Gardener

Garden Club of DeLand Newsletter

Valerie Seinfeld, Editor

Visit our website www.gardenclubofdeland.org
Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. www.ffgc.org
National Garden Clubs, Inc. www.nationalclub.org

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Time to Grow in Gardening School!

Hello! I hope everyone is doing well. Just a friendly reminder when meeting at a garden club event or circle meeting, we still need to wear our masks and social distance. This is our new "normal" now and I hope you are learning a lot about gardening and yourselves as we go through this difficult time together. Don't forget! There are so many educational opportunities available to you right now: Master Gardeners and the University of Florida have daily webinars, NGC Gardening Schools, Environmental Schools, and Landscape Design courses are all offered online! Our Garden Club is hosting the gardening school, so please support us and attend. Please let me know if you need assistance on the computer to access these valuable courses. I hope to "see" you there!

Jennifer Condo

Executive Board of the Garden Club of DeLand 2019 - 2021

President - Jennifer Condo

1st Vice President - Joyce Fisher

2nd Vice President - Valerie Seinfeld

Recording Secretary - Sara Zollinger

Corresponding Secretary - Marshall Rawson

Treasurer - Richard (Rich) Fisher

Upcoming Programs and Events

October 20 District VI Meeting on Zoom

October 27-28

NGC Gardening Study School 3 on Zoom

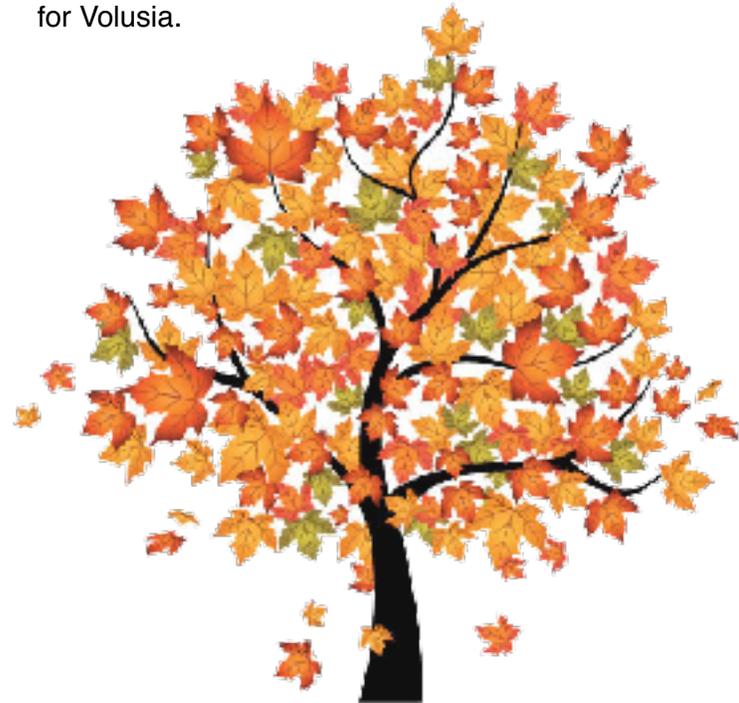
November 5, 2020 Meeting

9:30 am-11:30 am

Speaker: Deirdre Irwin

Host: Magnolia Circle

November 5th speaker will be Deirdre Irwin, Water Conservation Coordinator for St. Johns River Water Management District. An overview of Florida Water Star and its landscaping vision for water efficiency. I will also share details of the future of water supply for Volusia.



The Weedette Report by Norma Thomas

08.03.20 Weedettes off today due to wind and rain from the downgraded Cat 1 hurricane Isaias now, a tropical storm. Winds and rains hit last night and into the morning hours.

08.10.20 It is as if we were not on the grounds for weeks. We literally stood and shook our heads. Nut grass is back with a vengeance along with a variety of other pesky weeds. Now we have been spraying and pulling weeds each week that we are on the property but just like your gardens, we are losing the battle. Heavy rains have wiped out our rudbeckia and half of our gallardia in the pollinator bed. We put in ten 4-inch pots of native porterweed to fill the bed with a hardier blooming plant.

The County or City have decided again to not mow the grass on the property between our parking lot and Sanborn's sidewalk. Spoke with the Director on Thursday and still nothing is done. We run into this problem every two years or so.

Did I say it was hot? We had to quit in only an hour's time, but the roses were deadheaded, weeds were pulled, and little rubies trimmed. We did, however, get to enjoy an hour of conversation sitting under the fans on the patio. Was lovely.

08.17.20 It is a steam bath this morning. But we laid 3 bales of pine needles in the rear hawthorn bed and laid newspaper and one bale under the bougainvillea. Sprayed for weeds, pulled weeds. Moved 4 large container plantings to new locations. Planted a yellow walking iris where a concrete urn was in the front bed. Trying to figure out how to make room for outdoor meetings if there is no surge in positive cases and deaths. Oh yeah, we have a baby raccoon living in our holding bay. So cute.

Tropical Storm Josephine and TS Kyle are staying out in the Atlantic. Two more are rolling off the coast of Africa.

08.18.20 EF2 Tornado

08.24.20 Marco was downgraded overnight from a Cat 1 to a Tropical Storm heading towards Louisiana and the Panhandle. TS Laura is behind it and may become a Cat 2 striking Louisiana.

The grounds of the Club were spared the damage from the EF2 earlier last week. Our plantings look wonderful and lush.

Every few years the City or County decides not to mow the grass between our parking lot and the sidewalk at the Sanborn Center. In the seven years that our lawn man has been mowing the Club, he has never mowed that area except once where the Club planted the oak trees. I called to find out why and was told that they do not mow that area of grass, but they would check on it. Two weeks later, no mow so I called Rusty like I did two years ago and again, she was able to help us. The lawn was finally mowed. Thanks again Rusty. It would not have been done without your assistance.

Today began in liquid air, a real sauna, no wind. The Weedettes decided to volunteer clearing debris at the Oakdale Cemetery. The Cemetery suffered damage from the tornado that destroyed trees and threw palm debris everywhere. We lasted only a few hours because it was so hot and muggy, but we cleared a flat area (the place is hilly) getting the debris to where the claw could pick it up. Yesterday on Sunday, I volunteered there and found it a mess. Heavy limbs fell into the earth, burying itself a foot or so into the ground where love ones are buried. Headstones covered in debris or knocked over. Water hydrants were opened and flooded Plymouth. (Broken water main on Stone). The cemetery crew and volunteers accomplished a lot yesterday. The grounds looked better today but they have a lot of work ahead of them.

Want to say that we are there for you Evelyn K, Debbie J, Sara Z and Darcy. All you need to do is call. Our hearts go out to all the families that are suffering and to our beautiful community. In the end, we are, DeLand Strong.

08.31.20 What a nice morning. The threat of storms later this morning has brought us cooler temps.

We split into teams of two. One team worked by the Club's sign, trimming back the yellow elder, trimming back the crinum and pulling the nut grass from in and around the society garlic. Looks like it can breathe again. The other team moved pots from the holding bay to a new location in attempt to get more sun and save them from rot. Planted all the leggy little rubies and red coleus around the big oak. Cut back the Turks Cap, Anise and lemon grass. We used the cut lemon grass as a mulch to retard weed growth. Then the storm rolled in. Nice.

Note: Cat 3 Laura rolled into Louisiana. We have 5 more disturbances coming in off Africa.

09.07.20 Rainy morning, we took the day off. Heavy rains last Friday stopped Ken from mowing the property. I asked him to hold off on Saturday because there was a rental. He came in on Sunday and found the backflow damaged, turned off the water to the building and called me. Briand Plumbing was called this morning to handle the repair tomorrow as today is a legal holiday, Labor Day. The cement and building need to be pressure cleaned, badly.

When we were in between storms, I went in for two hours and planted and weeded and pruned. Dropped off desert rose seeds to Barbara M then headed home. We have so much to do on the grounds. Just like your gardens, it is never done.

09.14.20 We have rain, lots of rain. TS Sally headed over the Keys towards Louisiana possibly as a Cat 1 hurricane. There are a bunch of tropical depressions in the Atlantic. One after another is peeling off the coast of Africa. The Weedettes decided to put a green wire fencing around the backflow and secure it with rebar as a deterrent to vandals. We are deciding what to place around it to camouflage it yet still give it access to the yearly inspection and to the main water main to the building. It must take full day sun and the sprinklers will water it twice a week.

Stay safe everyone and keep gardening.



Recipe with a little DeLand History

Sally Bohon has been sharing a bit of DeLand History and Recipes from a 1978 Cookbook published in DeLeon Springs called “Florida’s Good Eating” by Blanche Mercer Fearington,

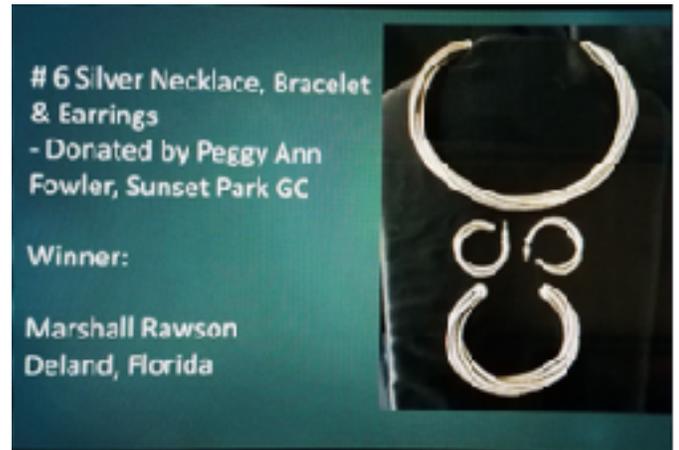
Ella’s Biscuits.

This recipe from Ella DeBerard gives me the impression that Ella didn’t spend a whole lot of time in the kitchen. She scraps the usual time-consuming cutting together of shortening, baking powder, flour, salt and milk that produces the tender flaky biscuit. Ella just stirs together two ingredients. And amazingly: it works!

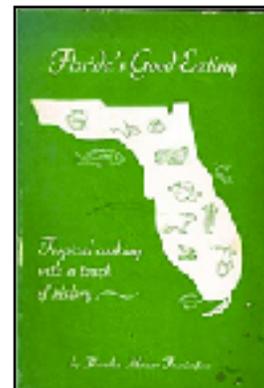
Now Ella DeBerard was a woman, short of stature but with a large personality. You knew when she was in the room. She sparkled. She was also a gifted writer and was really smart. She wrote a Chatterbox-type column for the Orlando Sentinel that kept us all up to date on who was doing what. As President of the Democratic Women’s Club of Florida in 1966, she took politics seriously. But she was best known, I think, for her writing. A member of the National League of American Pen Women, she was a past President of Florida Pen Women and she had dozens of publications under her belt, including books, magazine articles and plays.

Ella was a founding member of Shoestring Theatre created by a handful of DeLand citizens back in the late 1940s. In its meager beginnings in the old Naval Air Station mess hall at the DeLand Municipal Airport, it was Ella DeBerard who took the reins and for many years was the driving force. “Ella was President, directed many shows, acted, built sets and did the janitor work. Ella wrote 6 plays that were produced at Shoestring.”

When I knew her, she and her husband Phil lived in a beautiful home on Tuxedo Avenue in University Terrace. But they travelled in style on a 41-ft yacht and you would find them out at the DeLand Yacht Club as often as not. Phil became a Commodore of the Yacht Club. Curiously, I cannot recall him so well, but I will never forget Ella!



Congratulations Marigold Circle for winning the FFGC Opportunity Drawing Prize Silver Necklace, Earrings and Bracelet! Remember to mail in your checks and stubs for the 94th FFGC Convention Opportunity Drawing. See your Circle President and if you want more of them feel free to ask for them. Contact: Laura Ennis, 321-543-7130 laura.e.ennis@gmail.com



Ella’s Biscuits

1 cup self-rising flour

1 cup heavy cream (unwhipped)

“Mix flour and cream with a fork, knead and roll out. Cut to desired size and bake on a greased cookie sheet at 400 degrees until light brown. Take out of oven and let get cold, seal in plastic bags and freeze. At serving time take out of refrigerator, place on cookie sheet and put in 400 degree oven for 4 minutes or until a fork can stick through them. They will be flaky and just as good as when they were originally cooked.”

So says Ella DeBerard

Combatting The News Blues

Many of us are experiencing "bad news fatigue." Even though this might be the worst I've ever felt this way, I remember something similar following 9/11. In the 60's, when Vietnam War deaths were reported every night on television, I'm sure they felt the "news blues." Our parents must have felt it during the 4 long years of World War II. "Bad news fatigue" has been around ever since humans have been around, & I'm sure it will return again before the end times.

Instead of focusing on the awful news of the day, we should think about: ... things that are true, things that are noble, things that are right, things that are pure, things that are lovely, things that are admirable, things that are excellent, & things that are praiseworthy - think about THESE things.

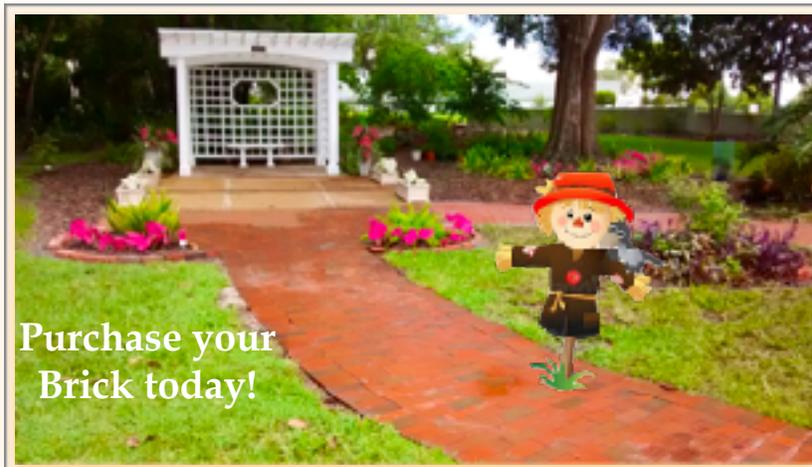
You cannot focus on good things if your brain is overflowing with bad news. Conversely, you cannot have the "news blues" if you fill your mind with true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent & praiseworthy thoughts.

The human heart is created for life in a harmonious world. We have trouble finding our footing in a world of disunity, pain, & sorrow.

So if we turn off the news & take a break from the sorrow, the funny thing it'll be there tomorrow. If something bad happens, you won't miss it, & if something good happens, someone will fill you in.

If you spend your day thinking positive thoughts, you're likely to do positive things. If you do positive things, the world will be a better place! Isn't that what you were hoping to find by watching the news in the first place? Instead of watching the news, let's make news! Let good thoughts generate good deeds. That will make it a great day - Amen?!?

NuSu Bauerle, inspirational Message



Brick Pathway

Pat DeSalvo, Chair

Give the gift of love by planning to buy a brick to honor a loved one. We have planted over 170 bricks over the years. 1 brick for \$50, 2 bricks for \$90. We have the Memorial Walk (members that have traveled to the prettiest gardens). The Veterans Garden for all that have served in the Military. The Honorary Garden for anyone or anything. Our latest Walk - the Bridal Walk. This is for our members to remember their special day OR for any of our many brides. Please make check payable to Garden Club of DeLand and mail to the attention of Brick Chair, P.O. Box 1965, DeLand, FL 32724-6947

To download Brick Form or see the Map of each Brick Walkway area visit www.gardenclubofdeland.org

PUMPKIN CRANBERRY BREAD



This bread is great as a hostess gift, fundraisers and freezes well.

PREHEAT oven to 350° F. Grease and flour two 9 x 5-inch loaf pans.

COMBINE flour, pumpkin pie spice, baking soda and salt in large bowl. Combine sugar, pumpkin, eggs, oil and juice in large mixer bowl; beat until just blended. Add pumpkin mixture to flour mixture; stir just until moistened. Fold in cranberries. Spoon batter into prepared loaf pans.

BAKE for 60 to 65 minutes or until wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pans on wire racks for 10 minutes; remove to wire racks to cool completely.

Recipe makes two loaves.

FOR THREE 8 x 4-INCH LOAF PANS:
PREPARE as above. Bake for 55 to 60 minutes.

FOR FIVE OR SIX 5 x 3-INCH MINI-LOAF

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon plus 2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 3 cups granulated sugar
- 1 can (15 ounces) LIBBY'S® 100% Pure Pumpkin
- 4 large eggs
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup orange juice or water
- 1 cup sweetened dried, fresh or frozen cranberries



District VI News!

Circle Presidents are encouraged to attend District VI Fall Meeting Tuesday, October 20, 2020, 10:00A-3:00P.

You are considered a delegate. You may send another in your place. All Members are also welcome to attend and you do not have to travel.

This meeting will be a virtual Zoom Meeting in the comfort of your own home. There will also be a virtual Zoom Orientation Tuesday, October 13, 2020 10:00A-12:00N to instruct the entire District VI Garden Club membership what to expect and be prepared for the October 20, FFGC District VI Fall Meeting. Morning, and afternoon breaks will be scheduled in the agenda also a lunch break.

Please let President, Jennifer Condo know if you will be attending.

Judi Jodoin, District VI Director.

Thank you Valerie for creating our new logo!

