



Volume 34, Issue 8

## The Gabby Gardener



### President's Corner

As we change leadership on May 1<sup>st</sup>, it is with excitement that we look forward to new ideas, knowing the GCD will be in excellent hands.

Most of this Executive Board started 4 years ago in the Pandemic with the clubhouse closed. Programming was via zoom. While it enabled excellent speakers, the companionship of friends was missing. Downtown planters never stopped needing us! The new HVAC system that for the first time included the bathrooms, kitchen and storage area was installed.

It was the second term that focused on the physical plant that got very busy. A formal inspection of the Clubhouse identified critical repairs that were all addressed and additionally the parking lot was paved. We are grateful for the financial support from the membership whether it was individual or circle donations or support of activities like Whimsy in the Garden. The other major accomplishment, thanks to our diligent treasurer, was the untangling of our finances with a Treasurer's Guide of what to expect.

I am very grateful to the Executive Board, especially those who went well beyond their job descriptions to ensure the best for our membership. Having continuity between terms was the key to these accomplishments. Thank you all for your support.

Marshall

### Circle Around

The Gabby May 2025 Circle Around

Firecrackers --Business Meeting

Magnolia – *Were scheduled to have Lynn Ventura speak on Orchids.*

Marigolds – *Enjoyed a garden visit to Sara Zollinger's lovely garden and koi ponds.*

Milkweed – Enjoyed member talks on the Butterflies of Central Florida

Rose – Potluck at the Garden Club

Wild Coffee – *Field trip was canceled with Business Meeting added on April 28<sup>th</sup>*



I pledge to be mindful of my lawn's maintenance needs and to mow it less frequently in spring, committing to mow it no more than twice a month. This will allow the early pollinators using my lawn as a habitat to grow more naturally and contribute positively to the local ecosystem."

Thank you, **Garden Club of DeLand**

## The Garden Club of DeLand



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### School Butterfly Garden Project

At the March Milkweed Circle meeting, the members listened to a School Butterfly Garden Project concept presented by Carole Gilbert, for the purpose of education regarding local pollinators, especially the Monarch butterfly's life cycle and the role of native milkweed for its health; other host and nectar plants, and to promote further interest in the Garden Club from the children and families of the selected school. Due to the number of members who enthusiastically volunteered to work on this idea, the concept moved to an active project with Phase 1 already in motion with volunteers working through the "how do we want..." decisions of the project, and moving into Phase 2, with the action steps and time frames included in a school's application letter and an acceptance letter. Due to the GCD's many ongoing commitments, it was felt important to be specific that all the Milkweed's energies, support, encouragement and knowledge (excluding fundraising) would be available to the selected school from planning to the actual day of creating the garden, but that ongoing maintenance could not be offered.

We are planning our initial School Butterfly Garden adventure for the 2025-26 school year and we already have an interested school!! Milkweed member, Lynda Stein, has an existing link with Starke Elementary, and with this being our initial endeavor and Starke building a new school, this appears to be a match made in compost soil heaven!! Stay tuned for updates and the date of the garden creation at the school so each of you can join us to take pictures and celebrate the garden and the children!

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## Members and Friends of The Garden Club of DeLand

**You are invited to a Garden Party  
and Daylily Giveaway**

**GCD End of Year Social and Meet & Greet the new  
2025 - 2027 GCD Officers**

**Wednesday, May 7, 8:30 - 10:30**

**Garden of Barbara and Harland  
Merriam**

**526 N. Sans Souci Ave.**



Harland is a Daylily hybridizer.  
Garden maintained by Lance  
Harding.

Please come and enjoy the fellowship and take home some plants for your own garden.

We will have brunch - type refreshments and seating so you can sit and enjoy the company of other GCD members and friends. If you are able, bring a lawn chair.

Harland will have Daylily plants to give away.  
Please wear your name badge.

Guests are welcome.

Suggested donation: \$5 for the Garden Club of DeLand. Those contributing food do not need to make a monetary donation.

**Please RSVP**

**Barbara Meriam** [gcd2ndvp@gmail.com](mailto:gcd2ndvp@gmail.com) or text to 409-673-6982

(If you are bringing food, please let Barbara know what you are bringing.)

