



# THE HIBISCUS LEAFLET

February 2017

## As Life goes On... Change is a necessary “Norm.”

~ PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE —

**Past-** time gone by/history

**Present-** happening now

**Future-** the time that is to come - what is going to be In this new year

I find myself reflecting on where I have been and what is in the future for me. Maybe you do that too. I now live in a new home -in a new city- newness surrounds me. Everything is different and seemingly not the “norm”.

But, in time I know that this new “norm” will become my “norm.” As life goes on, change is necessary. As I reflect on our garden club, I think about all those women through the years who stepped up and led on into their future starting back in 1925. As I wind down my presidency, I wonder who will be leading and where this community of garden club members will venture. I pray

that we  
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pledge to be ever moving forward -not be stuck in the past. Let us not continue to do things this “way” simply because “We’ve always done it that way”.

Let us pledge to unite with new officers, new members, new activities, new ideas, new by-laws (are some of our by-laws enhancing our future or endangering our future?) and new commitment. We have much to look forward to in the days, weeks and months ahead. There is only one more month for you to bring your “guest” to a meeting- February 27. No one knows what the future will bring as we welcome new officers, new members, fund raisers, the field trip, Garden Therapy, the celebration of Arbor Day and the May Luncheon and maybe more- who knows? As we welcome renewed enthusiasm and hope- we are anticipating a fruitful and beautiful FUTURE!

*~ Never let the Past Spoil your Present or Govern your Future ~ Author Unknown*

*We may have Birds of Paradise, Heliconia, and tropical plants here in Miami, but President Jana has beautiful Azaleas and Magnolias at her new home in Tallahassee. Beautiful changes to become Jana’s new “norm.”*



# Congratulations! District XII Nominee... Our Kay Murff



FFGC President asked that each District nominate a member from their District to be recognized during a special luncheon at the FFGC Convention April 28 2017.

The criteria was that the nominee should have made a "significant contributions to garden club and fields of horticulture, botany, youth gardening, environmental awareness, civic beautification, landscape design and/or floral design."

A four member panel reviewed nominees and our member, Kay Murff, was selected to represent District XII for this well deserved award.

### February 27, 2017 Meeting Laguna Room

**Workshop:** 10:30 am - Fun with Flowers: Session 2. of "ABC's of Flower Arranging". This will be designed to help you know the basics of Flower Arranging whether it be for home or competition. Workshop will be headed up by Sharon Trbovich, Donna Box and Sandy Milledge.

**Program:** Tropical Fruit Collecting in the Modern World with Dr. Richard Campbell, Director of Horticulture, Fairchild Tropical Gardens.

**Lunch Committee:** Mona Coll\*, Jean Ann Davis, Martha Mensch, Rosina Pellerano-Gomez, Kitty Winkler

**Buffet Centerpiece:** Derita Downey

### Raffle du Jour- A lovely Fundraiser

The Raffle du Jour kicked off at our January meeting. The Club made \$220 needed dollars in ticket sales, and Denise West won the wine basket prize. Coming up for February will be an exciting Raffle du Jour prize developed by Sharon Trbovich. It is too early to disclose details, but the prize will relate to food and fun in Coral Gables.

Be sure to bring some extra dollars to the February 27 meeting. Raffle tickets are \$5 each, or five tickets for \$20. For each of the next three meetings, you will have a chance to win fabulous prizes; come prepared to buy tickets and join in.  
*- Kitty Winkler*

### Environmental News

For any member interested in learning more about Everglades Restoration there is a well done, informative 11 minute film produced by The Weather Channel titled: "Toxic Lake - the Untold Story of Lake Okeechobee." The film can be accessed by typing the title into your cursor.

The Sustainability Board's next electronic recycling day will be Saturday, April 22 - Earth Day. More next month  
*- Marlin Ebbert, Environmental Chairman*

### Field Trip to Organic Farm

Join us for an educational and interactive walking tour about organic farming/ gardening followed by a delicious lunch prepared from ingredients right from the farm.

Meet at Teresa Zohn's House 9999 Fairchild Way, Coral Gables, Fla. 33156 (Snapper Creek Lakes off Old Cutler) at 10:00 AM to carpool. Travel to [Paradise Farms](#), 19801 SW 320 Street, Homestead, Fla 33030, 305-248-4181 2-hour Tour and Lunch Cost \$44.00 a person. RSVP by February 27 to Teresa 305-773-0262 or [Teresa.zohn@gmail.com](mailto:Teresa.zohn@gmail.com)

### By-Laws Review

The following amendment was approved by the Board of Managers on February 8, 2017 for recommendation to the General Membership which will be asked to vote on the amendment at the February 27th meeting.

Page 23 in Yearbook

#### Article IV. MEMBERSHIP

**Section 2 c:** Letters of sponsors and letters of endorsers for a prospective member must be submitted to the Membership Chairman no later than **one (1) week (changed from two)** prior to the March Board of Managers meeting for presentation to the Board of Managers for vote by ballot.

### In Memoriam:

Martie McCullough, an active and faithful member who contributed much to our club since joining in 2000. She died February 1. We thank God for her time with us.

Our loving thoughts and prayers for the days ahead to our dear members, Janice Pryor in the death of her husband, Hunter and to Michele Wiseheart in the death of her husband, Malcolm.

## Garden Happenings to interest CGGC members

### Farmer's Market: Saturday February 25 at 9am in the City Hall Courtyard Patio

Come to the Coral Gables Farmer's Market for an informative talk on "Landscaping in the Shade" given by Victor Lazzari Landscape Designer and Jorge Rivera, Landscape Supervisor with the City of Coral Gables. They will talk about plants that thrive in shade and the proper pruning techniques for trees. There will also be information about proper improvements to the swale areas and the city's landscape permitting process. The talk is sponsored by the CG Landscape Beautification Advisory Board. It is free and open to the public. For more details, contact Kay Murff.

**The NGC Gardening Study Course #4** will be on March 21 and 22 in Davie FL on the University of Florida campus. Interesting speakers and professors will participate in this two day course. Cost is \$70.00 (includes lunch each day).

**A day trip to E.C.H.O. Global Farm in Ft. Myers** is being planned for Friday, March 31. We will carpool. Reserved Group Tour (min. of 10) will begin at 11:00am (lasts about 2 hrs) Lunch at own expense at nearby restaurant. We will drive over to Ft. Myers and back in same day....will ask for drivers and carpools. Entrance is \$10.50 ea.

The farm and nursery, which teaches sustainable gardening techniques to teachers/volunteers who will go to 3rd-world countries to help improve their lives and nutrition through gardening. Interested? Sign up with Kay Murff.

## Dwarf Powderpuff attracts many Honey Bees

For the next few months we are going to concentrate on plants that attract bees. In case you don't know there is a looming crisis with bees. Not enough plants, too many pesticides and some sort of virus are all causing an alarming decline in the bee population. As they are one of the main pollinators of food plants, it behoves us to take care of them. In my yard, one of their favorites is the dwarf powderpuff bush. They love it. And since honey bees are non threatening, I can work near them without any concern. It is a pretty bush, topping out around 5 feet and about as round. It does do well with careful pruning, I keep mine around 4 feet. It flowers almost year round. A terrific addition to any yard. ~Susan Thomas



### Membership News:

February 23 is the DEADLINE to submit a membership application which is two weeks prior to the March Board Meeting. Although applications and letters of recommendation are due February 23, the prospective member can be introduced at the February 28 general meeting.

The following are the guidelines for sponsoring prospective members:

The membership process requires an application and a letter of recommendation from the sponsor and two endorsers. The sponsor and the endorsers must have known the prospective member for a minimum of one year. The prospective member must be a resident of Coral Gables.

These should be sent to the membership chairman, Connie Cabeza. Applications will be available at all meetings or by contacting the membership chairman.

- Connie Cabeza, Membership Chairman

# January Meeting begins 2017 with Pizzaz and Interest



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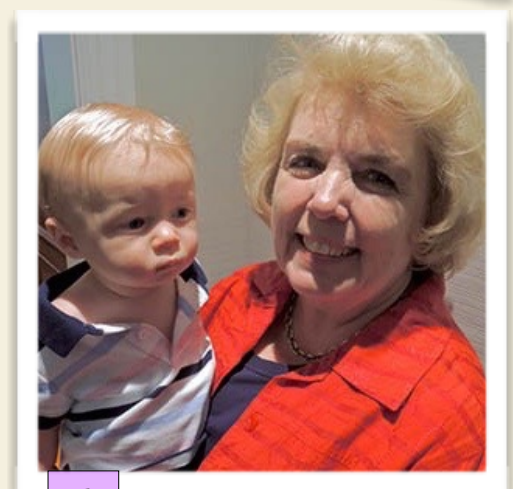
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1. Kay Murff surprised everyone with her magnificent Veggie centerpiece. 2. Judy Mangasarian with program speaker, Ian Simpkins. 4. Derita Downey headed up Lunch Committee. 5. Betsy Tilghman 6. Teresa Zohn with special guest, grandson, Emerson Parker.