



NAPLES GARDEN CLUB

nurturing, growing & contributing

General Membership Meeting at Buehler Auditorium November 01, 2021

Pre-Meeting: *Naples Garden Club 2021-22 Yearbook* was available to meeting members.

WELCOME

Call to Order: President Sally Lutz called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM

Pledge of Allegiance: Jane Ewy

Motion to Approve: General Meeting Minutes from March 01, 2021. **Terry Aufranc**

APPROVED

Business Meeting

President

Sally Lutz

Via the *Rules of Civility* Sally thanked all attendees for wearing a mask and asked them to turn off cell phones

Meeting Attendance: 119 Registered

Raffle: Jackie Malloy supplied an Aechmea Thomasito plant to be raffled per a designated meeting registration number. Janet Studley was the winner.

Season Theme: Last season's President's theme was, *Stop and Smell the Roses*. This season's theme will be: *Friends in Flowers*.

House & Garden Tour 2022 *Behind the Hedges*

Mary Schmidek

- Mary read from her handout that was presented to each attendee. (See Attached end of minutes)
- She displayed a slide of the cover of the program, which is a painting of a gate within a garden created by the husband of one of our members.
- Tour includes seven sites, which will be available either three hours in morning or 3 hours in afternoon.
- Participants will receive two gifts: picnic tote with food in insulated bag and garden tote with garden swag.
- We will be hosting half the number of guests this year. \$275 for Patrons on sale Nov 15. \$150 for all others. Members Tickets on sale Nov 22. General Admission on sale Dec 1.
- A member preview tour is not available. Club members will need to purchase tickets to attend.
- There will be many volunteer opportunities and members will be able to drive themselves to view the tour after their assignment.
- Members are encouraged to be ambassadors and spread the word of the tour.
- Members are strongly encouraged to contact the various chairpersons listed on the back of the handout to volunteer for different aspects of the tour.

- Contact Carole Whittemore to volunteer for tote stuffing.
- A handout was provided with a table display of the *2022 Behind the Hedges Raffle* items.

Flower Show

Terry Aufranc

- A slide was displayed of the cover of the Flower Show program: *Visions: Past Present Future*
- Program is being printed in new colors (pink/purples). Dates March 18-19, 2022
- For questions contact Terry.

Idea Garden

Sudie Minammyer

- 10 years ago NGC was awarded the Idea Garden area with the premise that our garden would provide visitors with ideas that they can use in their home gardening. The last five years we have become more involved and today has culminated in a water feature with waterfall and pond.
- NGC has helped finance the water feature. We contracted with Octopus Arts (Rich Lewis) is who recently created a water feature at the Everglades Wonder Gardens in Bonita.
- Looking for members to create and assist with the Pop-up and Idea Cart Programs. Contact Sudie if interested.
- In need of horticulture volunteers who will provide minimum of four hours per month for garden upkeep, weeding, planting. New volunteers will need to complete NBG volunteer training offered November 9 and January 5.
- The courtyard at the NGC office is also under the Idea Garden Committee.

Membership

Donna Lindberg

- Donna thanked her General Meeting Membership staff of 12 members.
- Via two slides and having members stand, Donna acknowledged: **2019-2020 Provisional Class of 18 members:** BETTY ANN ARTANDI, DONNA BANKS, JOSETTE BLACKMORE, MIKE BREWER, JANE CAMPBELL, PATTI DEUSTER, DONNA DORAN, MEG DWYER, JUDY EAKIN, CHERYL HARDY, ANN HUNTER, BARBARA LASWELL, TES MANLEY, DIANNE MURRAY, KATHLEEN STAUDINGER, LESLIE STRICKLEN, EDITH WATSON, COLLEEN WERNIG
2020-2022 Provisional Class of 24 members: LOIS CARTER, DONNA CULTRA, CAROL FALKENBERG, EVELYN FORD, PATRICIA FREEMAN, ELLEN HAFFA, DENISE HALE, SUSAN HICKEY, RITA HIRSCHFIELD, MELANIE HOVLAND, SUSAN MERRICK, NANCY PATON, KRISTIN PURTILL, KATHY RENO, JANE SCHLATER, MARIA SCHOENFELDER, ELISE SPINA, GIGI STEWART, JANET STUDLEY, MARGIE SULLIVAN, GAYLE SWETT, TRACY TOLMIE, MERLENE TREUHAFT, JILL WENHAM
- New provisionals have flowers on their NGC nametag.

20-Year Pins

Ann Hunter

- Pins were awarded for the last two years to:
In person: Leslie Branda, Bobbye Raye Womack, Varick Niles
In Absentia: Barbara Ricci, Barbara Sill, Ingrid Maquire

Governance

Kathleen Hawryluk

- The main responsibility is to staff the Board Positions for next year. They need to identify individuals to lead the organization in the future.

Due to a lag in time between the end of the formal program and the arrival of Dr. Parsons, our Program speaker, two Board Members spoke extemporaneously below.

Program & Education

Carole Whittemore

- Members must be logged into the website to register for workshops and programs.

- Workshops available to members include 8 environmental, 7 horticulture, 10 design.
- Our future General Meeting programs:
 - Rufino Designs for the Holidays in December – designs to be raffled off to members.
 - Jan Canaan Marshall, Flower Whisperer in January.
 - Margot Shaw editor of Flower Magazine in February.
 - Laura Dowling, publisher of several design books and former White House Chief Floral Designer will produce several designs to be raffled off to members in March.
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Hospitality

Raynelle Perkins

The Holiday Luncheon venue will be December 16 at the Kensington Golf & Country Club of Naples at 2700 Pine Ridge Rd for \$45/member. Bar drinks are extra. A sign-up sheet will be available next week.

Program Introduction

Carole Whittemore *Harmful Algae*

in SW Florida: Is 2018 the New Normal? is the program presented by Dr. Michael Parsons a Professor of marine science in the Water School at Florida Gulf Coast University and Director of FGCU's Vester Field Station. In addition to his teaching duties focused on marine ecology, Parsons has built a successful research career, receiving over \$20 million of extramural funding to study harmful algal blooms and ecosystem health.

In lieu of an honorarium Dr. Parsons requested that we donate to the FGCU's Vester Field Station. Dr. Michael Parsons can be reached at 239-596-7526 mparsons@fgcu.edu

**Post Program
Communication**

Sally Lutz

Members were encouraged to visit the Idea Garden after the meeting to view the newly installed water feature and partake in beverages and light snacks hosted by Naples Botanical Garden. Golf carts were available for transport.

Meeting Adjourned 2:40pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Jane Ewy, Secretary

Naples Garden Club House & Garden Tour 2022 “Behind the Hedges”

As the safety and enjoyment of our members and guests are paramount to our Tour, for just this year, we are focusing on the 'Garden' part of our House & Garden Tour and taking our guests “**Behind the Hedges**” into seven of the most beautiful and horticulturally interesting gardens and outdoor living spaces in the Naples area. Each of the outdoor living spaces will be enhanced with a themed partyscape created by one of the famous floral designers of Naples and by our own floral design team. The exciting scenarios for outdoor entertaining are enchanting ... bursting with ideas for you to reimagine in your own spot of Paradise!

Utilizing the unique open-air trolleys of Naples, we are only inviting 500 guests so that personal space can be respected. We realize that in past years there has been a custom that all members can attend the Tour the day before the actual Tour. The Preview Tour is not feasible this year and we have only half the number of seats as usual, so, again, just in this unusual year, members either volunteer or they purchase a ticket to the Tour. It is very customary in other clubs for members to buy tickets in support of their fundraisers.

Patron tickets go on sale **November 15th** at \$275 and include preferred parking as well as the ability to buy three more Patron Companion tickets so that their group might tour together. As we know that many members will want to attend, after the Patron tickets have been available for a week, we have created a special Member ticket category on sale **November 22nd** at \$150. General Admission tickets open up **December 1st** at \$150. The Online Raffle goes on sale the same day as the tickets, November 15th and is open until February 6th.

A précis of the guest experience: Guests, who will be asked to carpool, park their cars at one of two parking areas in Old Naples or Port Royal. There they check in, receive their program with highlights of what they are about to see, and board their trolley for a three-hour morning or afternoon Tour. Trolley Hostesses greet the guests and, at each stop, Garden Hostesses assist small groups through the gardens. Garden Docents are on hand to assist with specific horticultural questions. Each garden presents a unique theme. Some are bursting with horticultural exuberance! Others focus on the fantastic floral arrangements of our teams creating exquisitely charming outdoor partyscapes for celebration. One site holds an irresistible surprise. At one of the gardens, light refreshments reminiscent of an English Garden Party are served and some of the fabulous online Raffle items are displayed. As guests return to their cars, they receive a delightfully elegant picnic take-away tote to go off and dine with friends where they wish (suggestions for some spots are included) and also a beautiful garden tote filled with useful garden related goodies to take home.

A précis of the volunteer experience: There are volunteer opportunities both before the actual Tour date as well as four-hour shifts on the day. Volunteers are invited to view the gardens when they are not working. As in the past, transportation for the volunteers is up to themselves but we will provide suggested parking opportunities for each spot.

Just as it takes a village to raise a child, it takes many volunteers to present an event of this magnitude. We are most grateful to all of our wonderful volunteers as well as to our gracious and generous sponsors and donors.

On the reverse side are the names of the Chairmen to contact to offer your time for their team or to learn what is involved. Sign Up Genius will go online on our website very soon also.

Please share the news of this exciting day with friends and family. Ticket announcements will be mailed soon but you are all our best ambassadors. The painting on our program cover, seen on the slide, was created and graciously donated to us by the husband of a member. It expresses the beauty and extravagance of the gardens and outdoor entertainment areas that await our guests on what will be the gloriously sunny day of **February 5, 2022**, when we all go **"Behind the Hedges"**.

House & Garden Tour 2022 Chairmen Seeking Volunteers

The majority of the volunteer positions are four-hour shifts, either morning or afternoon. Water, snacks and facilities are provided. Some seated positions are also available.

Chair of the Logistics Team

Chairman: Diane Friscaro dfrisicaro@gmail.com

She is assisting volunteers seeking information on the various positions available.

Garden Hostesses

Chairman: Sally Sammis srjsammis@aol.com

The role of any hostess: to make our guests comfortable, assist them with the route, if applicable, and answer their questions. You will be provided with the interesting information about your site. Garden docents will be on site for the horticultural questions. Guests visit in small groups of 35.

Garden Docents

Chairman: Brenda O'Neill bmoneill2012@gmail.com

To share your horticultural knowledge with our guests who seek plant identification.

Trolley Hostesses

Chairman: Katie Ryan kbryan@yahoo.com

To greet our guests and introduce this exciting adventure to them. The distances between the sites are small so there are no other duties this year like the raffle or the survey. Assisting with keeping our guests and trolleys on schedule.

Hospitality

Chairman: Carol Greenwood ctgreenwood@earthlink.net

So as to allay COVID concerns, we have replaced the seated breakfast and seated lunch with elegant take-away picnics in charming insulated totes. Volunteers hand these and lovely garden tote bags, filled with garden related goodies, to guests at the end of their Tour. They serve light refreshments at the English Garden Tea Party site and distribute water and snacks to volunteers at their positions.

Transportation

Chairman: Connie Fuller conniewfuller@gmail.com

To assist with the flow schedule of the trolleys.

Parking

Chairman: Mary Ellen Bigham mebigham@aol.com

To assist at the two main guest parking sites and to help assemble a list of suggested parking spots for volunteers. A great job for those who are unable to be here on Tour Day is the coordination of the printing of the signage.

Ticketing

Chairman: Abbie Sladick abbie@abbiejoan.com

To assist with the ticketing system. Computer experience preferred.

Raffle

Chairman: Lois Helwig loiscamp@comcast.net

To assist with a display of Raffle items at the Tour.

Tote Bag Stuffers

Chairman: Carole Whittemore whittemore.carole@gmail.com

To assist with the stuffing of the goodies into the gift garden totes.