



THE MORNING GLORY

Newsletter of the Garden Club of St. Augustine SEPTEMBER 2020

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hope you, your families and friends are well. We continue working in our gardens here in New Jersey and are enjoying our zinnias, wildflowers, tomatoes and basil from them. For now, we plan to be back in St Augustine in early September.

The GCSA Board met 8/19 via Zoom to discuss the 2020-21 budget, meeting formats for Circle and other club meetings, and club activities and fundraisers. Soon we will be sending the budget to the Circle Presidents for review, possible questions and discussion and approval. So that these actions do not delay the printing of the 2020-21 Yearbook, we will not include the new budget in that yearbook. For the near future, all our Board and club/council meetings will be done remotely via Zoom. The next council meeting will be **Saturday September 12 at 10 AM**. District 4 and FFGC meetings will also be on Zoom. The Board is encouraging you to remotely hold your Circle meetings for at least several months. Covid-19 is an extremely communicable disease that is so unique that scientists continue learning about its characteristics and effects. Because the Board cannot risk any member getting sick from attending a meeting in the GCSA clubhouse, we have closed the building.

I sent an email to Circle Presidents asking them to think of and discuss with their members the format for your upcoming meetings. Outdoor meetings with masks and social distancing are possible. Please think carefully about keeping your fellow members and yourselves healthy and your comfort level with meeting in person.

For GCSA activities, the Board encourages you to enjoy going to see our Clubhouse gardens. You are welcome to bring a spouse or friend and lunch. Maggie Ouellette has started labelling plants there and we are planning to do a virtual tour of the gardens. Angela Demetriades has placed orders for 9 new pavers from members, so those will be installed before long. Power washing of the clubhouse and existing pavers will happen soon.

For GCSA fundraisers, we plan to hold the open house with plants and crafts for sale in May. Do save seeds for winter planting and start rooting cuttings. The Board is running with Sue Swain's great

suggestion that the Club hold a sale of artificial and dried wreaths at the clubhouse Saturday December 5. (See the related article on page 2.) Not a fundraiser but definitely a fun event, EPIC has set the Flower Show date for the weekend of March 27. Finally, I knew generally that coordinating the GCSA Yearbook involves much time-consuming, eye straining, but necessary work. I reviewed Marla's proofs before she prepared them to send to the printer and have unending respect and limitless thanks for the work she did last year and is doing this year on it. We will get the 2020-21 Yearbook out to you safely this year as soon as possible. Please be patient and let Marla know you appreciate her hard work on the yearbook. Be safe and stay well,
Shirley

FOR THOSE AUTHORIZED TO USED THE GARDEN CLUB

You must first call Beverly Stuart, 904-825-3641 and reserve the building for your requested specific time. (For example, if you are setting up a table outside for your Members to pick up their Yearbooks.)

Once inside, to the immediate right of the door, there will be an instruction sheet on what must be done to sanitize when you exit the building. Housekeepers are only there once a month at this time.

Thank you for your understanding and support.



From Maggie O's garden: Eastern Black Swallowtail Caterpillar



Wreath Sale!

By Sue Swain

Due to the cancellation of this year's Tour of Homes, the Garden Club of St. Augustine will host a wreath sale to raise much-needed funds on **Saturday, December 5, 2020**. To have a minimum of 50 wreaths for sale, the Board of Directors is requesting that each Circle make at least five artificial or dry wreaths of varying sizes as donations for the sale. We hope to sell these well-constructed, attractive wreaths for \$25 to \$35 or more per wreath. The event will be held at the Garden Club.

The Board of Directors will assume responsibility for setup and breakdown of the event, as well as the sale of the wreaths. If other Garden Club members would like to help, we would be pleased to have some additional assistance. All Covid-19 precautions will be taken by Board members and visitors alike. Our tentative plan is to have people call in for a time slot from 15 to 20 minutes, let them purchase the wreaths they choose, then exit the building to pay outside. Our present thinking is to have no more than five customers in the building at one time with perhaps two Board members to help them, plus cashiers outside.

As this is our first time doing such a sale, any and all suggestions from members are heartily welcome. Please send suggestions to Sue Swain at Email: swain.ellen@comcast.net, Phone: 904-794-5274 or contact any Board Member.



Night-blooming Cereus
From Jan Litchfield

From the NGC Magazine "Keeping in Touch"

By Gerianne Hozman

Community and Compassion - both strong words for all of us to remember during these trying times. The pandemic, protests and politics are just a few of the things that push us apart or keep us together in 2020. Whatever your views, keep in mind that you are part of a community of relatives, neighbors, friends, colleagues and strangers. Unless you can "walk in their shoes," you cannot understand what brought them to this point. Take a minute to breathe and give them some compassion. You just might find that you are also giving yourself a bit of inner peace. As a community of gardeners, NGC members across the globe share a connection. Be sure to stay connected, be well and safe and please Keep in Touch.



From Joanne Rosenberg, on a walk near Lake Ontario



Gomphrena -- From Fran DeSteno's gardens

Please send your ideas and photos for our next edition to Jan Litchfield or Sue Swain.