



# **GARDEN CLUB OF CAPE CORAL**

*Member of National Garden Clubs, Inc., Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc.,  
Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., (District IX) and  
Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council*

## **READ ALL ABOUT IT!**

### **SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER**

### **OUR 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

### **CELEBRATION, 14 MAY 2022**

On Saturday, May 14, many members of the Club dropped their gardening tools, put on their finery and made their way to the lovely Palmetto Pines Country Club on Skyline Blvd for a special luncheon to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our great Club, generously sponsored by club member, Babu Mathew.

More than 80 members and guests were present at a luncheon graced by the presence of Mayor John Gunter who spoke to us about his plans for the future of our great City; Dale DeFeo, Director, Florida Federation of Garden Clubs District IX; and Janel Trull, Executive Director of the Historical Museum of Cape Coral.

Diners arriving at the luncheon were able to view three beautiful displays of all the photos submitted for this year's Directory Cover Photography Competition plus many from prior years, together with a short history of how the competition was established. There was also a continuously looping slideshow of photos playing both before and during lunch, for members to enjoy some bygone memories of people, places and things that have meant a lot to our Garden Club.

Barbara Sery, our Horticulture Chair, designed and put together the fabulous table centerpieces. She commented how grateful she was to her employers Cape Coral House of Flowers for their help in procuring the beautiful flowers and their assistance in assembling the lovely arrangements.

Luncheon choices were Palmetto Pines Shrimp Salad; or Tomato stuffed with Tuna or Chicken Salad; or Waldorf Salad. The food was delicious.



Ann Block and Elsa Schutzman, our Co-Presidents, hosted the event and proposed the Champagne Toast congratulating the club on its anniversary.

Lady Cakes made our beautiful anniversary cake. It looked beautiful and was even more lovely to eat!

Immediately following lunch, we were entertained by our dynamic and energetic speaker, Adrienne Diaz who, with the aid of a PowerPoint Presentation, gave us much great information on the why's and why not's of gardening here in our sub-tropical Zone 10a/b.



Following Adrienne's presentation, several Past Presidents, all wearing the beautiful corsages made by club member, Nancy Colgan, reminisced about notable happenings during their terms of office, including our very first President, Sherie Bleiler.

The photo boards were brought into the dining room after lunch and Nora made a presentation to this year's winner, Jane Anderson, in respect of her photo of *Hibiscus Seminole Pink*.

At the end of the festivities, many members were loath to leave and repaired to the Bar for drinks and to reminisce over happy times and good times to come as members of the great Garden Club of Cape Coral. Photos of this very happy event follow. If you would like to receive a copy of a particular photo, please contact Sylvia Swartz.



**THE ELEGANT TABLE SETTINGS AND BARBARA SERY'S BEAUTIFUL TABLE CENTERPIECES**

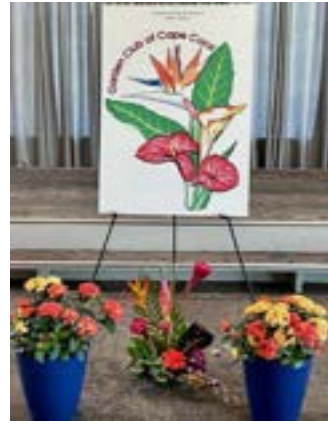


**PALMETTO PINES FOYER**



**CATHY DUNN AND MARTI HOWARD AT THE RECEPTION TABLE**

**OUR BEAUTIFUL LOGO, PROUDLY DISPLAYED**



# OUR GUESTS



*FFGC DISTRICT IX DIRECTOR DALE DEFEO  
AND*



*JANEL TRULL, EXEC DIRECTOR CC MUSEUM OF HISTORY  
SEATED NEXT TO 2<sup>nd</sup> VP CATHY DUNN*

## SOCIALIZING BEFORE LUNCH



*ANN, BABU AND MAYOR GUNTER*



*ANN AND CLIFF BLOCK  
WITH CHERYL BYRD*



*CYNTHIA MAHONEY and  
MARILOU LUCAS*



*BECKY RUBEN AND DEBBIE COOPER*



*VICKI TAYLOR AND CAROL WINDSOR*



*DALE DEFFO, PAULA NOVANDER & KATHY WOODLOCK*



*JANE ANDERSON AND DEBBIE CLEMENTS*



*JANET FRANZEN, SALLY STEPHENS, BARBARA SALAFIA*



*DEB LEH, NANCY COLGAN, DEBBIE COOPER, DENISE GASTRINGER, FRAN MCINTYRE*



***PAULA NOVANDER, VALORIE BREEN, PAM DAWSON***

***KATHY WOODLOCK AND GRANDDAUGHTER, NOW MEMBER, SARAH HOGAN***



***BETTY MCCULLOUGH, KATHY RABASSI, KATHY'S GUEST, AND CHERYL BUCKLEY***



***LINDA BAUSCHEK,  
BETTY WETHINGTON,  
RIA BENTON AND SYLVIA  
SWARTZ (STANDING)***



*FRAN MCINTYRE, PAULA NOVANDER, SUE LAWSON*



*BETTY MCCULLOUGH, CHARLENE ANDERSON, BARBARA SALAFIA  
AND KATHY RABASSI*



*GENERAL SHOT OF THE ROOM*

## **PAST PRESIDENTS**

Six Past Presidents, including our very first President - Sherie Bleiler, were present at the luncheon. Past President Ginny Huffer had a milestone family event that prevented her attending. Pictured below are six of our past Presidents reminiscing about their leadership of the club:



Left to right:  
Kathy Woodlock,  
2007-2009

Linda Keirstead  
Barbara Salafia  
2009-2011

Kathy Rabassi  
Co-President  
with Ginny  
Huffer  
2011-2013

Sylvia Swartz  
2015-2017



Sue Lawson,  
2017-2019

 **Sherie Bleiler, our very First President, 1997-1999** 





# PRESENTATION TO THE WINNER OF OUR DIRECTORY COVER PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Jane Anderson's photo of the brilliant pink *Hibiscus Seminole* was the winner of this year's Photography Competition, which is judged by the Board. The photo will appear on the front cover of our 2022-2023 Program and Membership Directory. This year there were more than 70 entries.



*HIBISCUS SEMINOLE PINK*



*JANE RECEIVING THE AWARD FROM NORA HOOVER,  
CHAIR OF THE PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION*

## MORE PICTURES OF MEMBERS ENJOYING THIS SPECIAL OCCASION



*MARY ANN SLOAN GREINER AND  
SHERIE BLEILER*



*LYNNE AND JOE VIACAVAL*



*SHERRY EMBREY AND  
CINDY WASILAK*