



www.pggc.org

Punta Gorda Garden Club

Garden Tales

GARDENING FOR TOMORROW

*Members of Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and
National Garden Clubs, Inc.*

President's Message

Save the Date!

Sept 12, 2018

Board Meeting

9:30 am in Room 5 at First
United Methodist Church

Sept 15, 2018

Coastal Cleanup

Help keep Charlotte Harbor
clean! Sign up with Carol
Moore:
carol25582002@gmail.com

Sept 19, 2018

General Meeting

Refreshments at 1:00 pm,
Meeting at 1:30 in
Fellowship Hall at FUMC

Dear Garden Friends,

This summer has flown by and my return to Florida is coming up soon - a month earlier than usual and in time for the September Board and General Meetings. I am looking forward to a fun and busy year.



And, we are all looking forward with anticipation to our 25th Home Tour celebration! Our chairpersons, Carol Moore and Elaine LaWell, are busy putting together the ticket and organizing the committees for each of our four homes. If your chairperson contacts you, please try to be available as some of them are already starting workshops. Our theme is, "Silver Bells, Our 25th Holly Days Home Tour." Let's all work together to make this a spectacular 25th. The price is still just \$15.00 and we will again have the poinsettias for sale. If you need gift ideas, this is a great one to give to friends and relatives and of course, yourselves. Remember that the proceeds from this event go to help many community organizations and provide student scholarships. This past year we were able to give six \$2,000 scholarships to some worthy students who are furthering their education and also \$3,000 towards an FFGC Scholarship. The student's names and fields of study will be listed in your new yearbook.

Continued on page 2



This is a photo of Joyce's morning glories (Ipomoea). The morning glories were a few vines lying on the ground and she put up a trellis and within a week they were wrapping around and growing like crazy. She does not plant any seeds - they always come back by themselves!

General Meeting

September 19th, 1:00 pm Refreshments, 1:30 pm Meeting

Fellowship Hall, First United Methodist Church, 507 W. Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda



INVASIVE PLANTS IN FLORIDA: WE DON'T WANT THEM!

Mr. Lynn Buth, Master Gardener, will present a program on invasive plants found in Florida which will include pictures to help us spot them and to help us know how to control them.

~ Carol Houston, 1st Vice President and Program Chair

President's Message, Continued from page 1

We are hoping that our new yearbooks will be ready for the September 19th General Meeting so if you are in town, please try to attend. The program is "Invasive Plants in Florida; We Don't Want Them." This is definitely a topic in which I am interested as I have no idea what is invasive and what is not. Carol Houston has planned some wonderful programs for this year and I sincerely hope that all of our members can take time out of their busy schedules to attend each month. As you know there is always great food, friends to catch up with, and wonderful plants at our Plant Exchange table thanks to other generous green thumbs of our members.

Joy Price has assigned hostesses for the upcoming General Meetings and Luncheons. If she was unable to get ahold of you, she had to just pick a month for you to help with refreshments and decorations. Please check your new yearbook and if you have a conflict with where you were placed, please let Joy know as soon as possible so she can make revisions.

During the summer, Carolyn Honour and Claudia Chopp have been working to put together Floral Design Classes. We will be discussing this at our first Board Meeting and then more information will be shared with the membership at future meetings. See you all soon!

Joyce Stanley, President

(The photo on p. 1 is of a white moon flower (*Ipomoea Alba*) which is also one that I do not need to plant every year. The seeds fall when the plant dies and I have hundreds of them coming up. I am going to try to bring some seeds to Florida and see if they will grow.)

PGGC Awards Six College Scholarships!

Thanks to another successful year of fundraising and strong community support the Punta Gorda Garden Club is delighted to award PGGC Higher Education Scholarships of \$2,000 each to six students from our local area. Three of the winners are seniors in nearby high schools and three are currently enrolled in universities in Florida. They were chosen from a diverse and highly qualified field of candidates who have demonstrated academic excellence, extra-curricular involvement and clearly defined goals for their future studies and career plans. A committee headed by Anne Simpson reviewed the applications and selected the recipients in April. Awardees were announced at each school's awards or commencement ceremony. PGGC's annual Holly Days Home Tour generates the funding for these awards, so many thanks for the efforts of all of our members to make this event more fantastic each year!

~ Betsy Foster, Publicity Chair



2018 Holly Days Home Tour

November 30 & December 1

Silver Bells

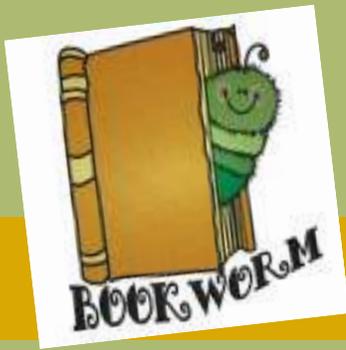
<i>Locations</i>	<i>Chairs</i>	<i>Owners</i>
821 Kings Court	Claudia Chopp & Marianne Bjorkman	Betzy & Marty Blaustein
668 Olympia Ave	Vinita Jones & Molly Reifeis	Mike & Karen Wooster
431 Harvey Street	Sarah Corey & Pat Juliano	Joy Price
1420 McGregor St.	Carol Houston & Sandy Kirk	David Wirth

The **Home Tour** assignments are completed and each of you has something to do to help make this event a success. It takes a lot of work to make this happen - decorating the houses, setting up poinsettias for sale, getting food ready, decorating the church, and working on Nov. 30th and Dec. 1st as a docent at a house or as a hostess at the church. Whatever your assignment, please show up and get involved!

If you are assigned to an activity that takes place only on the two event days, please consider helping one of the four teams that are decorating the houses. It is a big job; those who have worked on the decorating also work two shifts as docents in their house so extra help is much appreciated. Working one shift on an event day, while it is a help, does not accomplish much in the huge tasks that lead up the event.

To our long-time members, you are part of our history and we are celebrating our history with this 25th home tour. If you are unable to participate in any other way, please consider serving as a docent in one of our houses. You have a lot to offer, we need you, and we will try to accommodate your needs, such as providing a place where you can sit, greet, and talk to our guests. It seems that involvement in the Home Tour is waning and this cannot happen if we want to continue this event which is the major fundraiser for our club. It cannot be stressed enough how much we need your help; there is always something you can do. We are short of help in many areas for this year. Get involved, participate, get to know your fellow club members better, learn something new, and have fun! That is what this Club is all about!

Elaine LaWell & Carol Moore, Holly Days Home Tour Co-Chairs



In each issue,
BOOKWORM suggests a
book about plants, nature,
and/or the environment

*recommended for
members by members.*

Flight Behavior

By Barbara Kingsolver



This novel provides the reader with much information about monarch butterflies, ecology, and effects of changes in climate in a fictional story. A summary found on the internet follows:

Dellarobia Turnbow is a restless farm wife who gave up her own plans when she accidentally became pregnant at seventeen. Now, after a decade of domestic disharmony on a failing farm, she seeks momentary escape through an obsessive flirtation with a younger man.

She hikes up a mountain road behind her house toward a secret tryst, but instead encounters a shocking sight: a silent, forested valley filled with what looks like a lake of fire. She can only understand it as a cautionary miracle, but it sparks a raft of other explanations from scientists, religious leaders, and the media. The bewildering emergency draws rural farmers into unexpected acquaintance with urbane journalists, opportunists, sightseers, and a striking biologist with his own stake in the outcome.

As the community lines up to judge the woman and her miracle, Dellarobia confronts her family, her church, her town, and a larger world, in a flight toward truth that could undo all she has ever believed.



Susan Pymm, PGGC's Sunshine Chair, recommends this book to those who enjoy reading novels based on well-researched topics. I took her suggestion to read it and learned many interesting facts about monarchs and the possible effects of a warming climate.

~ Mary Yeomans, *Environmental Chair*

Purple Coneflower

Many gardeners are brightening their landscapes with purple coneflower, a beautiful perennial that isn't always purple!

Some choose improved cultivars like 'Hot Papaya', 'Mac 'n' Cheese', or 'Raspberry Truffle' because of their shocking colors, while others plant the native purple species in order to attract and feed butterflies.

Known scientifically as echinacea, the plants can grow to a three-foot clump, and the daisy-like flowers bloom throughout spring and summer on tall flower stalks.

However, not all forms of purple coneflower perform well in every part of Florida. Some may grow for a year or two and then fizzle out, though enriched, well-drained soil can help them last longer. But plant breeders are always coming up with new selections you can add to your perennial beds.

Published by Jennifer Sykes, Digital Platforms Coordinator for the UF/IFAS Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology.

~ Paula Jenkins, *Horticulture Chair*





Thinning prolific garden plants? Too many seedlings survive? Pruning a shrub that will root? Bring specimens to the next meeting to share with other members. Put them on the Plant Exchange table when you arrive. An index card or sticky note that names and describes the plant is very helpful!

Share your Green Thumb!

www.plantexchange.com

Interested in learning more about local flora and fauna? Head to the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center website to learn about various events held in the area. Guided tours, historic tours, informative talks, and camps for children are offered throughout the year. Go to www.CHECFlorida.org for more information!



The **Fall Home and Garden Show** is scheduled for October 20th and 21st. Volunteers will be needed to “woman” the PGGC table. Please sign up at the Club Store table at the September meeting!

~ Monica Lucey, 2nd Vice President



WANTED

Used Wine Corks

Only those made of real cork – no plastic corks please!

Bring to PGGC monthly meetings!

We offer our condolences to Anne Simpson on the recent loss of her sister. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

**Don't miss the September meeting!!
Yearbooks will be available for pick up!**



September Hostess Committee

Bonnie Verminski, Chair

- Louise DiNino
- Barbara Drake
- Diane Felstein
- Bonnie Rehling
- Joyce Tilden
- Liz Vantine
- Dottie Williams
- Beverlee Winslow
- Caroline Wooters
- Marion Wester
- Nancy Ziegenbein



September Birthday Wishes

- | | |
|-----------------|------|
| Susan Pymm | 9/05 |
| Betsy Moschetti | 9/14 |
| Marge Town | 9/16 |
| Bev Robbins | 9/17 |
| Nancy French | 9/17 |
| Pat Sandler | 9/21 |

And many happy returns!

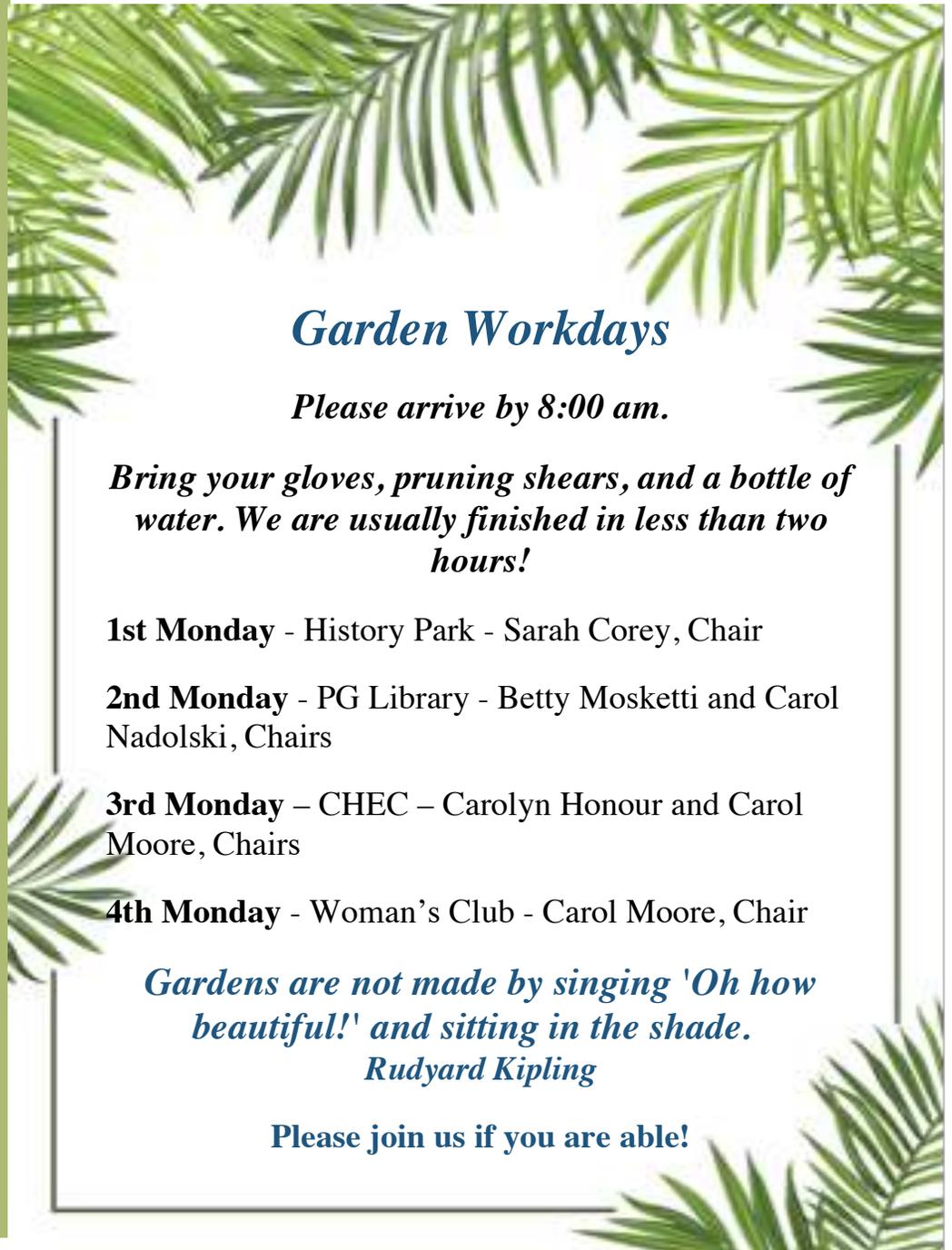


Monthly Hospitality Committees

Per Club By-Laws Standing Rule #7:

“Members of the committee are expected to share in the expenses by contributing a donation which may be refreshments or a centerpiece or money to cover the costs of providing refreshments and/or a centerpiece.”

Please let Joy Price, Hospitality Chair, know if you are unable to fulfill your assigned month. (317) 372-7614



Garden Workdays

Please arrive by 8:00 am.

Bring your gloves, pruning shears, and a bottle of water. We are usually finished in less than two hours!

1st Monday - History Park - Sarah Corey, Chair

2nd Monday - PG Library - Betty Moschetti and Carol Nadolski, Chairs

3rd Monday – CHEC – Carolyn Honour and Carol Moore, Chairs

4th Monday - Woman’s Club - Carol Moore, Chair

Gardens are not made by singing 'Oh how beautiful!' and sitting in the shade.

Rudyard Kipling

Please join us if you are able!

Meet the Beautiful, Remarkable Tree That Survived 9/11

By Melissa Breyer, Treehugger

One can only imagine the grim job that 9/11 workers had at Ground Zero, working day in and day out to clean up the wreckage of such devastation. And one can only imagine the surprise they must have felt when, a month into the job, they discovered a bit of life sticking out from the rubble – the charred remains of a callery pear tree.



With little more than a few leaves issuing from a single branch – with snapped roots and burned and broken boughs – this perseverant tree was sent to Van Cortlandt Park for convalescence under the care of the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. Park workers say they weren't sure the tree would make it, but the little tree that could, did. In the spring of 2002 she sprouted a riot of leaves; a dove made a nest in her boughs.

When Ronaldo Vega was hired as special project manager in 2007, he remembered the story of the tree and went to the Bronx to find it. "I fell in love with her the second I saw her," he recounts in the video found at the link below. "She was a fighter. We knew she was going to come back here."

And so after nine years of rehab in the Bronx, the Survivor Tree went home. Planted at the National 9/11 Memorial & Museum, it thrives amongst a solemn place that is filled with both memories and life. Scarred but robust, she offers her branches to birds and shade to passersby ... and remains a potent reminder of resilience in the face of destruction.

"New, smooth limbs extended from the gnarled stumps, creating a visible demarcation between the tree's past and present," notes the Museum. "Today, the tree stands as a living reminder of resilience, survival and rebirth."

You can learn more of the story in the video at the site below ... and if you ever make it to the memorial in New York City, give her a visit and say hello.

Source: <https://www.treehugger.com/natural-sciences/meet-beautiful-remarkable-tree-survived-911.html>



On Saturday, September 15th *TEAM Punta Gorda* and *Keep Charlotte Beautiful* are hosting this volunteer event to pick up litter in the area of the Harbor Walk in Punta Gorda.

Please contact Carol Moore (email carol25582002@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining our volunteer group! What a great way to keep our waterfront clean, and you get a free T shirt!



Metal polishes, such as those for brass, copper, stainless steel, and chrome, often contain hazardous chemicals. Most metal polishes contain ammonia and usually at least one type of acid, among other undisclosed ingredients. Why not try greener methods first before plunging into the use of harsh commercial products? You can give copper or brass antiques loads of shine without doing any damage by bringing in salt and vinegar and adding one more ingredient from your kitchen cupboard: flour.

Make a paste using equal parts of the three ingredients; rub the paste onto the brass or copper item with a soft cloth. Cover the entire surface and let the whole thing dry out (this will take about an hour). Wipe off the dried paste with a clean, soft cloth – be sure to remove all the salt, or the item will turn green. Rinse and dry if necessary. Lemon can also be used for lightly tarnished brass or copper pieces. Halve a lemon and dip it in salt, then rub the item with the salted lemon. Afterward, rinse and dry thoroughly. Repeat if necessary. ~ Mary Yeomans, *Environmental Chair*

Source: <http://www.sweetandgreencleaning.com/hints-and-tips-for-house-cleaning/>

**DON'T TOSS
THAT WINE CORK!**

Bring in your corks to any
Whole Foods Market
to be recycled.

**CORK
REHARVEST**



As mentioned at the District IX Spring Meeting hosted by PGGC in May, **Whole Foods Markets** are now collecting used wine corks to be recycled.

Whole Foods Markets Cork ReHarvest recycles wine corks in a different way depending on the regional delivery location.

On the East Coast and in the UK, corks will be transported to Jelinek Cork Group, where old corks will be made into post-consumer products of many kinds.

All you have to do is visit a Whole Foods Market and drop your corks into the convenient Cork ReHarvest box or **bring corks to our monthly meetings and place them in the labeled receptacle.** They will be delivered to a Whole Foods Market for you.

Remember, only real corks qualify!

~

Mary Yeomans, *Environmental Chair*

The deadline for the October newsletter articles is September 20, 2018. Submit any items of interest or photographs to Mary Yeomans, Newsletter Editor, mymrsphysics@aol.com.

