

## Donations

The FBG Foundation received donations from:

Rene Giannaras in memory of **Margaret Crawford**

John and Donna Breznai; Paul and Dolores Brust; Max and Georgianne Farley; Gus and Mary Hillenbrand; Margaret and John McAllister; Ed and Mary Paglione; Karen and Ron Seel in memory of **Nels Rasmussen**

Katie Hoffman Tukey in honor of **Jeannie Hoffman and Tony Tuntasit on their marriage**

## Paving The Pathway

The Foundation sponsors a beautiful garden pathway wherein pavers are engraved with memorials for family, friends and those who loved our gardens. Pavers are available through the Foundation and/or gift shop.

Recent additions to the pathway have been provided by:

Gene & Laurie Jerichow for **Elizabeth Thomas**

Laurie Jerichow, Josh and Amberly Jerichow for **Elizabeth Thomas**

Marian & Joel Cirello for **Bert Turner**

Bette Smith, Mary Ellen and Lyle Warner, Donna and Joe Zacharczyk, Joanne and Davis Drake for **Lia Cunniff**

## Events Committee

By MONIQUE NOUJAIM

The Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation will be strolling hand in hand with Pinellas County Extension on Saturday, November 3, at the 8 a.m. opening of Market in the Park. The foundation will showcase new and future installations for the gardens.

Plans are underway for our new Inspiration Corner, which is a sweet spot for a good book or quiet meditation. Ask about it and we'll show you where the fountain splashes and the butterflies peek into a quiet corner of our world at The Florida Botanical Gardens. Next, the greatest fun for kids is the future of FBG. The Foundation and Master Gardener Association are in the initial planning stages for a "Children's Trail." Little

## Survey results

Members responded in higher than expected numbers to the survey that was in the last newsletter.

The results show high ratings for subscription to newsletter, discount on classes, discount at Botanical Bounty, reciprocal admission to other gardens and early admission to the Master Gardener Plant Sale. Many of you who responded attended HerbFest in February, and we hope everyone will continue to come. The comments were enlightening.

Answers to some of your questions:

We are doing Plant I.D. on an ongoing basis

New buildings for Extension are not on the county's agenda

The board is working on a method to offer the most requested classes.

Thank you all for caring and giving us your comments.

Anne Rousonelos for **Rev. Tony Rousonelos**

Tom McNaughton for **Bea Fox**

Tom McNaughton for **Lynn McNaughton**

Yasha Brandt, Katherine Genzer, Meike Beermand, and Cheryl Drew for **Lia Cunniff**

Jean Krause for **Louise Nelson**

Diana Persha for **Minnie Chandler**

Diana Persha for **Cephus Chandler**

Paula Jensen for **Ethel Maple and Rusty Evers**

Jason Sharp for **Melissa and Jason Sharp**

Pinellas County Master Gardeners for **Dick Klimpel**

Bert Henderson for **"Bud" Evans**

Martha Cunniff Smith for **Lia Cunniff**

Joanne Zacharczyk, and Davis Drake for **Lia Cunniff**

ones up to age 10 will enjoy learning about animals, bugs and the plants that they love. Your donations will help create fantasy kiosks in the gardens for kids of all ages.

Lastly, review plans for the bridge entrance into The Florida Botanical Gardens. We will appreciate your participation by purchasing your own large metal bromeliad that will be placed on the arch to the Gardens.

The Foundation is planning to present sensational seasonal music on Fridays in the Gardens during December when everyone comes to view the spectacular lighting of the gardens. The music will be in the Palm Plaza starting at 6 p.m. every Friday. Refreshments will be available.

**Linda Snook, CPA, CFP™**  
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\*Linda Snook, CPA, CFP - Securities offered through BD Vest Investment Services®. Member, SIPC. Advisory Services offered through BD Vest Advisory Services®. Member, SIPC. Member of the bank subsidiary of Wells Fargo & Company, 6333 North State Highway 161, Ft. Worth, Texas 76108 (817) 870-6000.

Linda Snook has graciously undertaken the writing of checks and bookkeeping for the Foundation. She is professional, organized and a delight to work with.

## Membership Committee

By MARY ELLEN WARNER

Membership and garden talks go together like peas in a pod. Some of the opportunities to talk about the gardens were at the St. Petersburg Garden Club, HerbFest, rain barrel classes at Extension, the Master Gardener Plant Sale, Earth Fest, Green Thumb, St. Petersburg Clay Factory as well as during certification of Florida Friendly Yards & Neighborhoods.

We welcome all new members to enjoy the benefits offered. Memberships makes great gifts. See a board member, me, or purchase in the Botanical Bounty gift shop

## Art in the garden

Mary Ellen Warner, membership chair, hosted a membership opportunity for attendees at the St. Petersburg Clay Factory annual open house. The display repeated the theme of Art in the Garden.



Photo by RUTH DAVIES

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AT PINWOOD CULTURAL PARK  
**THE FLORIDA BOTANICAL GARDENS**  
Bulletin of The Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation, Inc.  
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Largo, FL 33774

Volume 10 Fall 2007

**THE FLORIDA BOTANICAL GARDENS**  
AT PINWOOD CULTURAL PARK

Editor: Ruth Davies

Bulletin of The Florida Botanical Garden Foundation

## A Flourishing Fall

By DIANNE WHEATLEY-GILLOTTI, Foundation Chair

The season is ready for change; cooler and wetter. Some leaves will fall; some plants will go dormant but there will remain a flourishing of flora and fauna daily at the Florida Botanical Gardens like fire bush and frangipani.

And, the Florida Botanical Gardens Foundation is ready to change your garden experiences with three structural enhancements:

A soaring entry arch at the bridge leading from the Extension parking lot across McKay Creek. This landmark will draw you into the more formal wedding and palm gardens. The arch will feature our signature bromeliad logo.

An Inspiration Corner within the herb garden where visitors may relax and reflect surrounded by fountain sounds and herbal scents.

A self-guided trail for children with interactive stations to playfully learn about plants and critters. Stations are being designed for kids at the butterfly garden, fruit garden, the tiki hut, and the pond observation deck. Kids will learn about the four cycles of butterflies, nutritious fruit, the benefits of trees and life around water, respectively. WOW!!

We invite you to preview these additions on Sat-

urday, Nov. 3, at our annual Foundation meeting for members. And, this same day you may shop at the Market in the Park, a green market of produce and other organics that will run weekly 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. through April 26.

We urge you to bring a prospective member or two. Those persons joining on that day will be given a complimentary Florida Botanical Gardens license plate.

We encourage you to take a fresh look at the many gardens within The Florida Botanical Gardens and select a project that you would like to support with financial assistance and/or your time. Choices are plentiful: a seat on the Foundation board, an engraved bromeliad on the entry arch, a station on the children's trail, a paver for a walkway, a leaf on the Botanica Omega Tree, purchases from the Botanical Bounty gift shop, and/or cash for the new Tree Bank. Come visit with us on Saturday, November 3 to learn about changes within the gardens and how you can help it grow.



## Green market to open in November

By MARY CAMPBELL, Extension Director

Market in the Park - A new green market every Saturday will offer fresh produce, green products, plants, children's activities, music and fresh foods.

The market will be open Nov. 3, 2007, through April, in the parking lot in front of the Welcome Center of the Pinellas County Extension and the Florida Botanical Gardens, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays through April.

Each week there will be interesting programs and educational opportunities.

Check your green commitment - buy local products and don't forget to bring your reusable bag for all the great things you will find.



## Books hold gardening secrets

By STACEY ZIDI

Botanical Bounty carries a practical collection of gardening books for the Florida gardener. Our featured author is Monica Brandies, Brandon resident and expert on a wide variety of Florida gardening techniques. To raise nine children, time is at a premium. So, it's no wonder that Monica, who did just that, found effective and enjoyable means to master her gardens.



"Herbs & Spices for Florida Gardens" (\$15.50) is a comprehensive volume containing valuable tips on herbs and spices used for health, scent, garden color, beauty and, of course, flavor. Her plant directory rates herbs and spices for ease of growth in Northern, Central and Southern Florida. She is a terrific read! Have fun finding herbs and spices for your specific zone.



## The Florida Botanical Gardens history, part II

By RUTH DAVIES/JUDY YATES

**Mary Mary quite contrary,  
How does your garden grow?  
With silver bells and cockle shells  
And pretty maids all in a row.**

And The Florida Botanical Gardens does grow through the help of many "Friends."

In 1991 an advisory committee was formed to discuss the formation of a botanical garden on land next to Extension. This group evolved into a 501©(3) Community Advisory Committee in 1997. As growth continued, fundraising was necessary, and in 2001 a development committee with community leaders formed a foundation. As one can imagine, this was not an easy evolution, there were many meetings and many people involved.

Some of the goals that were set by the foundation members have not been approved, but others have. Palm, butterfly and patio gardens and the new Ulmerton Road entry have been realized.

This newsletter completes the history and introduces three new projects. This is a huge undertaking for a small organization; please offer your help in whatever way you can.

It took so long to get the gardens started because every time everything looked like it was ready to go, things would change. The key that broke it loose was a day in 1997 before the eagle's nest was discovered – a field trip for commissioners and elected officials.

Just south of Ridgecrest Park, an eagle's nest was spotted, which stopped all construction, and then plans had to be modified. They were right in the middle of 30 or 40 acres. So Fred Marquis, county administrator, gave Extension half of the property on the east side of McKay Creek that was once an old landfill to expand the gardens. The highway department used the other half. Next the county vacated the rest of the landfill area (35 acres) north of the Whitesell property. The master plan calls for trial gardens, a Florida Friendly house with Florida Friendly yard, maintenance building and greenhouses. However, since the property was a landfill and the methanol gas needs to be mitigated, it was determined that it is not feasible to use it for heating a greenhouse, nor is there any guarantee what the life of methanol is. At this time, there are no plans to use that area. In 1998 Vernon Bryant

interviewed for a position to bring the botanical dream to reality. The property qualified to be called a jungle – nothing was cleared. As he traveled down the berm by McKay Creek, all he could see were Brazilian pepper trees and potato vines. He had to use his imagination if he was going to be able to build a botanical garden. Of course, all that is history now.

In 1999 Gus Whitesell wanted to sell the family's 60 acres with the stipulation that it be preserved with trails and native plants. An education center with parking also was acceptable. This is known as the P2000 site. Design work was again necessary. The first bridge was installed in 1999, near Walsingham Road between Heritage Village and the new gardens.

Florida Power gave \$25K in October 1999 thanks to the help of Laura and Bruce McManus of the Friends of the Florida Botanical Gardens. A plaque commemorating the donation was placed in the Tropical Garden, although at that time it was not complete. The ceremony was near GCMA because the gardens at that time were dust and dirt. It took two years from groundbreaking to finish up to the wedding garden. By the looks of it today, it was well worth the wait.

The north bridge was built in 2000, mainly for maintenance vehicles, but also for people to get to the wedding garden and formed a circular pattern from Heritage Village. The newer, main bridge was in the budget but not built until 2004.

The palm plaza, tropical garden, pavilion, and beach garden were designed to be in the same phase.

One of the memorable events in the creation of the gardens was when a construction worker was putting in the orange construction barriers and a silt fence with a trencher, north of the mitigation pond and north of the beach garden, he exposed a large yellow jacket nest. He jumped off the trencher and ran like the dickens. The trencher continued until it ran into a tree. No great damage to man, beast or tree.

To continue the growth, so there is more history to write, come to Members Day on Saturday, Nov. 3, 8 a.m. to noon, and see the plans and progress. With your help, the gardens will grow.

## Charter members

Just like any garden, there are flowers, seeds and sometimes a dormant period, The Florida Botanical Gardens has gone through the same process. The people who sewed the seeds, watered and nurtured the gardens are to be commended and profusely thanked for their foresight and support for helping to create this beautiful showcase of plants and nature. Charter members of the FBG are:

Dr. & Mrs. Greg Arterburn	Richard Estes	Carla Levesque	Mrs Jackie Shewmaker
Arthur & Elaine Bicknell	Loraine Faust	Joanne R. Lewis	Jack Siebenthaler
Carol Bilbrey	Alice Frame	Marydell R. Lowe	Sam Skemp Jr.
James Blackwell	Muriel Friese	Carol Lucia	Bette Smith
Dorothy Bornemann	Bay Bouquet Garden Club	R. Bruce McManus	John & Dorothy Stewart
Elna & Harry A. Bozarth Sr.	Dunedin Garden Club	Barbara Nelson	Leslie & Verda Stull
Ray & Marjorie Bradshaw	Marva Gurley	Jean Overby	Phyllis Swift
Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society	Vivian Haicken	Frank & Irene Palmer	Eva Lorene Walker
Elsie Sestrap Brown	John & Vickie Hayden	Sallie Parks	Anna C. Watkins
Vernon & Letitia Bryant	John & Robin Herring	Betty L. Parrish	Lois Weber
Ruth Campagna	American Hibiscus Society	Harriet B. Reed	Susan Wendling
Peter & Rose Celeste	Mc & Eileen Jackson	Dee & William Robinson	Marsha Williams
E. Gregorina Cooper	Doris & William Jacobs	Ronald L. & Joan Robinson	Lillian Wolfinger
Irene Costello	Jim & Pat Johnson	Richard Roesler	James Wolfinger
James & Brenda Cremona	Barbara B. Jones	Debra Roman, John Jewell	Mr. & Mrs. Robert D Woltil
Amelia Cuniff	Eleanor Jones	John & Janet Rosenquist	Judy Yates & Mike Lyles
Robert Dennington	Mark & Lynn Jones	Arthur & Natalie Rudin	Gregory H. Young
Josephine Detert	Rex & Diane Jones	Dr. & Mrs. Mickey Salmon	Joseph & Donna Zacharczyk
Diane Dickinson	Alice Keator	Corinne Samartino	Lane & Terri Ziegler
Davis & Joanne Drake	Mrs. Larry King	Walter Sanford	
Donald & Patti Easterday	Dr. Bernard F. Krause	Dennis Schanen	
Louis & Elizabeth Ely	Mildred Krause	Ruby Searer	
Virginia England	Linda Krodel	Mr. & Mrs. R.A. Muriel M. Shea	

## 2007 Appreciation Luncheon



Dianne Wheatley-Giliotti presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Chuck Scaffidi, chair of the Master Gardeners Advisory Association for the continuing contributions members provide the gardens.

## Master Gardener Plant Sale

The Master Gardener Plant Sale will be on Saturday, Oct. 6, at the Extension building at 12520 Ulmerton Road in Largo. Members of The Florida Botanical Gardens can shop before the general public at 8 a.m. The sale will end at noon.

By popular demand, the star potato will be for sale along with other unusual plants. Many varieties of bananas, ground covers cactus garden bowls, and hanging baskets will be available. As usual, prices are affordable and choices are in the thousands. Gift certificates to be used at the sale are available from Mary Crowe, 582-2247 or at mcrowe@tampabay.rr.com. Memberships will be available for purchase at the gate so your friends can enjoy this privilege of early shopping.

## Where are you?

Do you know where this garden treasure is located? If you can identify this location in the gardens, call 727-582-2205. The 10th caller will receive a gift from Botanical Bounty.

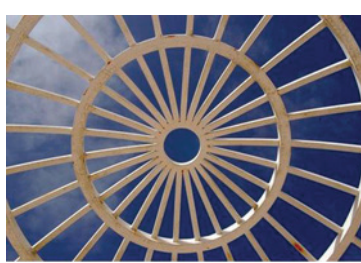


Photo By CHUCK RENNICK