

# PROJECTS

## Rummage Sale and the “Leftovers”

Each year in February we hold a Rummage Sale as a fundraiser for our scholarships to Camp Wekiva, the SEEK Conference, FFA, and the High College Scholarship.

When the sale has been completed we attempt to find community organizations which can utilize the items that were not sold. This year we were again able to find new homes for nearly all our “leftovers”. Professional clothing (dresses, suits, shoes) was sent to the Student Clothes Closet at Daytona State College for students to wear at job interviews. Toys, books, and other small gifts went to Chisholm Elementary School for student incentives. The remainder of the clothing, sporting goods, toys, and other household goods were given to Save the Animals rescue organization for their re-sale store.

## Flower Power



Twice each month a group of members meets at the Clubhouse to maintain the gardens on the property. Three to five members bring gardening utensils to spruce up the grounds by weeding, planting, controlling pests. Our members are proud of our grounds and we consider them always a loving work in progress.

## Hospital Floral Design

Members create a monthly floral design displayed at the Advent Health Oncology waiting room. It is immediately visible upon entering the room and has been well received by hospital employees and patients.



## Garden of the Month

The Garden of the Month is selected every month by Chair of the Committee. She accepts nominations, suggestions, and the recommended gardens from people who call her and from her travels around New Smyrna Beach doing "drive by observation." When she spies an impressive garden, she will approach the homeowner and it develops from there. This idea has nurtured much enthusiasm and a sense of community. It promotes sharing of information to residents





and helps them get to know others who love gardening and working in the yard. Flower, plant and landscaping enthusiasts, among others, watch for notification of New Smyrna Beach's "Garden of the Month" in local newspapers. Taking a walk, bike ride, or getting into the car to visit a location is something many folks look forward to monthly.

Creativity and beauty are displayed within these special situated in and around cute beach quaint bungalows, new condos stately southern style homes. The of the Month" can be found in

diverse areas both old and new in our small beach town and truly adds to the flavor of our city.

**Community Garden**

Nestled within the boundaries of New Smyrna Beach's "Westside Historic District," visitors will find our Community Gardens. These Community Gardens began with the diligence and hard work of Dee Chism, a Club member who worked for almost a year doing research



and obtaining "how to" information. She attended meetings with representatives from churches, community, and from the City of New Smyrna Beach. Our gardens became possible after partnering with the City of New Smyrna Beach and with donations from individuals, organizations and our own Club members. Eight free gardening classes have been offered to the public with an average of 25 men and women participants in attendance.

After adding an additional 15 garden plots the next year, to the already existing 14 raised beds (including four handicapped-accessible gardens), the count now stands at 29 garden plots. NSBGC's name will appear on each bed we sponsor and a few Garden Club members are leasing their plots and sharing their know-how and experience with other community gardeners. Information relating to the gardens was handed out at the Black Heritage Festival. In addition, Club members have donated picnic tables, a Mason bee house and a Pollinator Friendly Garden sign. This spring after the city of New Smyrna Beach was named a Monarch City USA, our Club began a program to certify Monarch Butterfly Sanctuary Gardens. One of the garden plots in the Community Garden was planted the required host/larval and nectar plants and received its certification official sign.



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### **Marine Discovery Center Floral Arrangements**



At our October meeting our speaker was Jessy Wayles, the Conservation Science Coordinator for the Marine Discovery Center in New Smyrna. She spoke of the efforts of her organization to provide protection for our shoreline with shell mats and other living materials rather than build artificial seawalls. She asked if our Club would help with centerpieces for their Gala in October. Fifteen of our members volunteered and

participated in a workshop to design and create 12 topiaries for their tables. The beautiful creations were then donated at no cost to the Marine Discovery Center.

