

**Award #8 Garden Club of the Year Class 4 District VI  
New Smyrna Beach Garden Club New Smyrna Beach, Florida**

**Membership Increase:** We are pleased to report that the New Smyrna Beach Garden Club has inducted 24 new members this year. The increase from January to December is from 124 to 129 for a total of 5 new members. We sadly lost 19 members primarily due to issues such as aging or relocation, as is common in most clubs. We welcome new members to our Club, but are sad to say good bye to friends who have been with us for several years. Our involvement in the community has helped bring recognition, and we maintain a website, <http://www.newsmyrnabeachgardenclub.org/> and Facebook page to provide information on our club and an update on our activities. Our local newspaper provides publicity concerning our fundraising events and activities, and publishes a notice of our monthly meeting. Our meetings and workshops are open to everyone. Our own members invite friends to our meetings, who often join our Club after realizing all the activities in which they can participate.

**Communications:** The New Smyrna Beach Garden Club members receive a monthly newsletter by email. For those without a computer, a member "buddy" provides a printed copy. Our newsletter, "Growing Coastal", provides information on our committee activities, the Garden of the Month selection, upcoming events, and reminders for Food Pantry and Pet food and supplies donations. We also maintain a Website and Facebook page which is always updated. The Sunshine Chair sends sympathy and get well cards when needed. Each month when new members are inducted, a short biography is read, followed by an opportunity for each new member to speak about themselves. Their picture, biography, and contact information is also included in the newsletter. Our membership application form asks prospective members about their interests, and committee chairs contact them to become involved in club activities. Each new member at the time of induction receives a small loose leaf binder which serves as a Handbook. It contains pertinent information about our Club, including programs for the year and members' names, addresses, email addresses, and phone numbers. This section is updated annually and then distributed each year to all members.

**Club Representation:** The average number of members attending meetings: General business meetings 75-80, District meetings 10-12, FFGC Convention 9-12, Deep South 2, and National Convention 1.

**Club Finances:** Our Garden Club dues each year are used for maintenance of the Clubhouse and grounds, insurance, and utilities. Our fundraisers provide financial support for our projects and services, such as High School Academic Scholarship, Camp Wekiva and SEEK scholarships, and FFA donations. Maintaining our Clubhouse can be costly some years when unexpected repairs are needed that are not in our budget. Often members will donate the funds necessary. Our grounds are maintained by our volunteer Flower Power team, and spouses have also been recruited for various repairs.

Funds raised:

Educational Offerings \$3366  
Holiday Festival \$7083

Rummage Sale \$9,561.41  
Clubhouse Rental \$5130  
Ways and Means \$1123

Monarch Butterfly Gardens \$535

Bingo night \$605

50/50 and Raffle tickets \$1104

Club expenses:

Program speakers \$400

Camp Wekiva and SEEK. \$1180

Habitat for Humanity homes. \$105

High School Scholarship. \$1000

FFA. \$500

Community involved expenses. \$1384.23

## CLUB PROGRAMS

January 2, 2019

Program: Prettiest Blooms in Town

Presenter: Holly Yates, Orchids and Exotics Specialist

Ms. Yates raises her own exotic orchids to sell at the local Farmer's Market each Saturday. She introduced members to unusual varieties and discussed their care.



February 6, 2019

Program: Primitive and Prehistoric Plants in the Garden

Presenter: Eric Schmidt, Botanist at Leu Gardens in Orlando

Mr. Schmidt returned to our Club for a new presentation showing plants in Florida landscapes today that are "descendants" of plants on earth thousands of years ago.

March 6, 2019

Program: African Mini Series

Presenters: Kathy and Joe McClusky

Kathy, a New Smyrna Beach Garden Club member, and her husband shared their adventures in Africa last summer.

April 3, 2019

Program: E.F.G. Orchids, Inc. ABC's and More

Presenter: George Hauserman, Owner and Grower

Mr. Hauserman brought several varieties of his orchids and educated members in their propagation, potting, and care.



May 1, 2019

Program: Celebrating the Year and Induction of New Officers

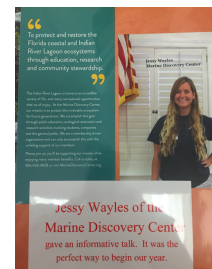
Presenter: Members of the NSB Garden Club Board of Directors

At this meeting we installed our new Officers for 2019-2021, recognized our High School Scholarship recipients, received a report on the FFGC State Convention by our Club delegates, and celebrated the Club's accomplishments this year.

October 9, 2019

Program: Florida's Living Shoreline

Presenter: Jessy Wayles, Conservation Science Coordinator of the Marine Discovery Center of New Smyrna Beach



Ms Wayles reported on the Marine Discovery Center's efforts to maintain the shoreline by developing and creating a living barrier rather than an artificial seawall made by man.

November 6, 2019

Program: A Historical Walk in the Garden

Presenter: NSBGC Flower Power Team and Master Gardeners

Our Flower Power team, who volunteers to tend our Clubhouse grounds twice a month, led members on a tour of 5 areas including our plantings, shrubbery, specialty gardens, Gazebo, and Memorial Walkway. Those not able to walk around were given a "vocal tour".



December 11, 2019

Program: Holiday Creations

Presenter: Angela Tully of Pink Flamingo at Petals

Ms. Tully, owner of the floral shop and professional Floral Designer, educated our members in the art of creating holiday centerpieces for the home by demonstrating how to design and construct them.

