



The Camellia Newsletter

Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs

May 2026 Issue

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In Memoriam



Honoring
cherished
members.

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Gardener of the Year Award



Congratulations
to this year's
recipient!

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Membership Tea



Kick off the
2026–2027
season with us!

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Dollar Clothing Sale



A first time
event in June—
don't miss it!

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Wildflowers & Weeds



With Master
Gardener,
M' Adele Carson.

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From the *President*

May has already been a very active month for us. We've had our Annual Meeting and the District 1 Spring meeting.

At the Annual Meeting I introduced a couple of new events to our calendar. The first one is coming up soon on Friday, June 12th. It will be a Dollar Clothing and Boutique Sale. We will be accepting donations at the Garden Center on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 8th, 9th and 10th 10:00 – 2:00, and Thursday June 11th 10:00 -12:00. Please see the flyer for additional information. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Come help us get things set up, meet some new friends, and have fun along the way. Let's get started cleaning out our closets!

I'm wishing everyone a Safe and Happy Summer.

Suzi Matteson 

850-748-2132

smatteson1974@gmail.com



*“Come help us
get things set up,
meet some new
friends, and have
fun along the way.”*



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Past Events

Valparaiso Flower Show

On April 24th, four certified flower show judges from the Pensacola area, **Judy Keliher, Tina Tuttle, Gina Jogan, and Deanna Gordon**, traveled to judge the “Viva Sweet Spring” flower show. The standard flower show was packed with attractive traditional and creative designs, table settings, Botanical Arts division decorated umbrellas, wreaths, topiaries, and other inventive design types, as well as dozens of vases and pots containing impressive horticulture specimens. The visible proof of efforts by devoted gardeners and designers was a pleasure to view.

Deanna Gordon, Camellia Reporter

PFGC Annual Meeting

The 94th Annual Meeting was called to order on May 7, 2026, at 10:15 a.m. allowing circle members to get continental breakfast and refreshments and chat with their fellow and cross circle members. PFGC board members and event chairs shared highlights and financial results from the many successful programs and events hosted throughout the year. The meeting included a time of remembrance honoring members who passed away during the year. To encourage participation in this important year-end gathering, a monetary award was presented to the garden circle with the highest percentage of member attendance at the Annual Meeting -- awarded to *Daylily circle -- congratulations!*

A highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the prestigious **Pillar of Pride Award** to **Suzi Matteson** in recognition of her outstanding leadership, tireless dedication, and the countless hours she devoted to organizing and chairing many of the year’s successful events and activities. The Pillar of Pride Award is a prestigious honor presented by the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs (FFGC) to recognize members demonstrating outstanding pride, purpose, and productivity in club work.



The **2026 Gardener of the Year Award** was presented to **Ann Morris** for her hard work and the hundreds of volunteer hours she has devoted to beautifying and maintaining the Garden Center grounds, organizing volunteers, and having the creative energy to design the much-needed changes to the garden center, and helping create continuity and a welcoming environment for members and visitors alike.

In closing, Suzi Matteson, PFGC president, announced new or expended event planning for this coming year, including our first annual Dollar Clothing & Boutique sale coming up on June 12 (Circles, look for a request for your help and items to help make this new event successful!) as well as potential expansion of the Tour of



Tables and Ed Series to two times a year.

Stacy Swift, Camellia Reporter

Upcoming Events

Art in The Garden

Art, flowers, and fresh inspiration—all in one place! Join us for a lively garden experience filled with talented artists, hands-on demonstrations, and family-friendly fun.

It's the perfect way to kick off your weekend —📌 *Mark your calendar!*

📅 Saturday, May 16th, 9 AM - Noon

📍 [Escambia County Extension, Cantonment](#)

Contact [Ann Luther](#) if you have any questions about this event.

The poster features a light green background with a floral border of yellow daisies and pink flowers. At the top, the title "ART IN THE Garden" is written in a mix of green serif and cursive fonts, with a yellow flower and green leaves to the right. Below the title are three circular images: a painting of purple irises, a collection of wooden bowls, and a person in a hat painting outdoors. A white curved banner contains the event details. At the bottom are logos for UF IFAS Extension, Florida Master Gardener Volunteer, and Escambia County Florida.

ART IN THE *Garden*

Join the Master Gardener Volunteers in the demonstration garden as we enjoy a variety of artists that will be showcasing their talents. It will be a day of woodturning, pottery, painting and so much more. Children's activities will be offered.

MAY 16, 2026
9:00AM–12:00PM

Escambia County Extension
3740 Stefani Road
Cantonment, FL 32533

UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

FLORIDA
MASTER
GARDENER
VOLUNTEER

ESCAMBIA COUNTY
FLORIDA

Dollar Clothing & Boutique Event

♥ Mark your calendar for a first time ever event!!

Questions? Contact [Suzi Matteson via email to let her know if you are able to contribute or volunteer for this new event.](#)

How can you help with this event?

I have items to contribute!

I can help at the event

I have items and can volunteer!!

Dollar Clothing & Boutique Sale

♥ A FIRST TIME EVENT!

A Community Outreach Program

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2026
8:00 am - 2:00 pm



PENSACOLA
GARDEN • CENTER
AUDITORIUM



\$1

\$1 ITEMS –
MOSTLY CLOTHING



DESIGNER &
STILL TAGGED ITEMS



JEWELRY



PLANT SALE

♥
*Great finds.
Great prices.
Supporting
our community.*



17 Friday, June 12th – stay tuned for more information to be sent in email
📍 [Pensacola Garden Center Auditorium](#)

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR

Community Outreach Program and National Garden Week

Short Course North "Possibilities"

🌸🌿 now is the time to submit your
form to reserve your spot 🌿🌸
Print this form and mail it in
with your payment

🌿 Discover New Gardening Possibilities!

Gardeners and Master Gardeners are
invited to [Short Course North:
"Possibilities,"](#) a two-day
educational event hosted by **Florida
Federation of Garden Clubs
District I** in partnership with
UF/IFS.

📅 17 Thursday, August 13th – Friday,
August 14th
📍 [Escambia County Extension,
Cantonment](#)

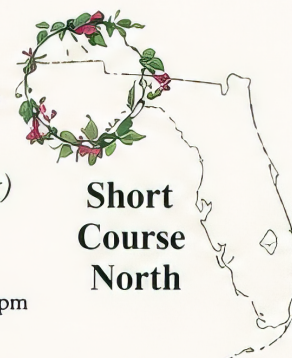
This inspiring program will explore
topics including **urban forestry, soil
challenges, new smaller plant
varieties, invasive species,
foodscaping, birds, and oyster
gardening**, plus an optional hands-
on project. Along with expert
instruction, attendees can enjoy
**plant vendors, plant sales, door
prizes, raffle baskets, and garden-
themed freebies.**

Join fellow **garden** enthusiasts at
**the Escambia County 4H Office in
Cantonment** for two days of
learning, inspiration, and fun.

For more information, contact
[Tina Tuttle](#) via email.

SHORT COURSE NORTH "POSSIBILITIES"

(Advanced Master Gardener Training)



Date: August 13–14, 2026



Daily hours: 8am Registration, 8:45 Welcome, 9–3pm



Sponsored by:

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., District I
University of Florida, IFAS



Location: Escambia County 4-H Office
3740 Stefani Road, Cantonment, FL 32533



For more info: Truttle1954@gmail.com

🌿 TOPICS OF STUDY WILL INCLUDE: 🌿

- 🌿 The Urban Forest
- 🌿 Chemical Spraying
- 🌿 Soil problems
- 🌿 New, smaller Plants
- 🌿 Invasives
- 🌿 Foodscaping
- 🌿 Oyster Gardening
- 🌿 Birds
- 🌿 Optional project

COME LEARN, COME BUY, COME WIN:
Vendors, Door Prizes, Plant Sales, Raffle Baskets, Freebies!



CUT HERE

REGISTRATION:

Entire Course (two days—includes handouts and lunch) \$60.00 _____

Name of Garden Club _____

Master Gardener County _____

Thursday only \$35.00 _____

Friday only \$35.00 _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

MUST BE INCLUDED (please print clearly):

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ E-Mail _____

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION (OR REFUND) IS AUGUST 1, 2026



Make Checks payable to:

FFGC District I
(Please indicate Short Course North
in the Memo line)



Mail to:

Gina V. Jogan, Registrar
6727 Highway 99,
Molino, FL 32577-4048



Send SASE for
confirmation of registration.

Hotel accommodations are on your own.

Membership Tea

Are you coming to this PFGC event to kick off the 2026-2027 year? SAVE THE DATE

Membership tea to kick off the 2026-2027 season for members and their guests, a friend or neighbor, that may share your love for gardening.

For more information, contact [Debbie Kay](#) via email.

Are you coming to this PFGC event to kick off the 2026-2027 year?
SAVE THE DATE

LOCATION
Pensacola Garden Center Auditorium

DATE AND TIME
08/20/26 1:00pm - 08/20/26 3:00pm America/Chicago

Membership tea to kick off the 2026-2027 season for members and their guests.

I'll Be There!

I Can't Make It

I'll be there and am bringing someone!!



SHARE YOUR JOY OF GARDENING
WITH MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Pensacola Garden Clubs

Membership Tea

Thursday, August 20, 2026 • 1:00 – 3:00 PM
Pensacola Garden Center • 1850 N 9th Ave • Pensacola

Join us for an afternoon of tea, conversation, and inspiration.

A Membership Tea is a special time to share ideas, learn from one another, and celebrate the joy of gardening across our garden circles. Bring a friend or neighbor and introduce them to our welcoming community.

Members Make It Grow

Members are the heart of our clubs. Please invite a friend or neighbor who shares your love of gardening to join us for this special afternoon.

Together, we grow friendships, gardens, and our community.

Afternoon Highlights

-  Afternoon Tea with Light Refreshments
-  Share Conversation and Ideas Across Garden Circles
-  Meet & Greet with Garden Circles

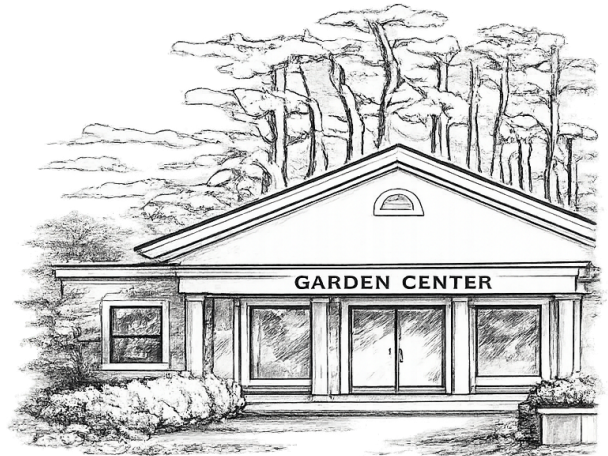
Opportunity Drawing – Win One Year Membership!

Announcements

Office Staff

Our current staff consisting of (in alphabetical order) **Deanna Gordon** (Pineglades), **Christine Ketnick** (Magnolia), **Mary Anne Lyle** (Dogwood), **Gigi Massingill** (Daylily), and **Pat Stephenson** (Daylily) has been joined by two trainees, **Diane Gagnon** (Sassafras) and **Donna Holdnak** (Dogwood). Welcome!

That doesn't mean we couldn't use more help! If you'd like to join us in our lovely re-styled office space to feel virtuous about helping PFGC while having fun dealing with members of the public planning happy events, give us a call at (850) 432-6095 or email [or email the office](#).



To Those We Lost This Year...

As we wrap up another year of friendship, service, and gardening together, we pause to lovingly remember and honor the cherished members we lost this past year. Each of these individuals brought unique gifts of kindness, dedication, wisdom, and a deep love of gardening to our Federation and to their individual garden circles. Through their volunteerism, fellowship, creativity, and caring hearts, they helped shape the spirit and beauty of the Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs in lasting and meaningful ways.



Though they are no longer with us, their influence continues to bloom in the gardens they nurtured, the projects they supported, the friendships they cultivated, and the lives they touched along the way. Their legacy lives on in every flower planted, every act of service shared, and every moment of fellowship enjoyed within our garden community. May we honor their memories by continuing the work they cared for so deeply and by carrying forward the spirit of friendship, beauty, and community they so lovingly helped cultivate.

Bloomin' Buck\$ - Year-Round Fund Raiser

Bloomin' Bucks supports PFGC throughout the year from summer season purchases from mid-January to mid-May and again for Spring/Fall season which runs from mid-March to mid-November. If you are purchasing bulbs, we encourage you to do so through Brent and Becky's. **Thank you in advance for your support!**

Click the link here to go directly to the [Pensacola Garden Club organization selection](#), then place your order; **25% of your non-discounted order comes back to the Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs.**

Bloomin' Buck\$

with Brent and Becky's Bulbs

Every Order Blooms More Good!

Bloomin' Bucks with Brent and Becky's Bulbs is a fundraising program designed to earn select non-profit organizations cash for every order received through the Brent and Becky's Bulbs website! On behalf of **Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs**, *thank you for your support!*

Ordering is easy!

Go to Brent and Becky's website
"Bloomin Bucks"

- 1) Scroll down and select the organization that you'd like to support - **Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs**
- 2) Click **"Go"**
- 3) You will be directed to a special REMINDER page. Read it and click **YES** to continue.
- 4) You will be taken to the Brent and Becky's Bulbs website where 25% of every dollar you spend on **non-discounted items** goes to support the **Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs**.
- 5) If you have questions, call **Brent and Becky's Bulbs** at **877-661-2852**

25%
OF EVERY DOLLAR
YOU SPEND ON
**NON-DISCOUNTED
ITEMS** GOES TO
SUPPORT OUR
ORGANIZATION!


*Your purchase
helps our gardens
grow and our
community
thrive!*


*Thank you for
helping us grow
beautiful things
together!*

SHOP. SUPPORT. GROW TOGETHER.
www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com

Secret Garden Tour 2027 Planning

The Secret Garden Tour has long been one of the most cherished traditions of the Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs—a beautiful expression of who we are and what we share with our community.

Today, we find ourselves at an important moment: We are still seeking a Circle member to step forward as **Chair for the 2027 Tour** so that this beloved event may continue to flourish.



This is more than an event to organize—it is an opportunity to:

- Shape one of PFGC’s signature experiences
- Work alongside fellow members in a meaningful, creative way
- Help sustain an important fundraiser that supports all we do

Just as importantly—you will not be doing this alone. There is a strong foundation, past experience to draw from, parties interested in being a

garden on the tour (13+ and counting), and garden circle members who are ready to help.

With a chair in place, we can begin early planning and build a tour that reflects the beauty, spirit, and hospitality that PFGC is known for. If you have ever enjoyed the Secret Garden Tour, admired its impact, or thought “*I’d love to be part of something like that,*”—this is your moment.

Leadership doesn’t require perfection—only a willingness to begin. *If you are interested—or would simply like to learn more before deciding—please reach out. A conversation is a great place to start; please contact [Suzi Matteson](#).*

Garden Circles

In this section of the Camellia Newsletter, we will hear from each of our garden circles about their club activities this month from the fantastic volunteer Camellia Reporters in each Circle.

- 1. Bud 'N' Bloom**
- 2. Dogwood**
- 3. Lazy Daisy**
- 4. Magnolia**
- 5. Oleander**
- 6. Pick N' Poke**
- 7. Pineglades**
- 8. Sassafras**
- 9. Sweet Bay**

Bud 'n Bloom

Spring is road trip time and Bud 'n' Bloom took advantage of the weather and paid a visit to [Slay's Nursery in Elberta, AL](#). It was well worth the trip to this huge emporium of loveliness and fortunes were gladly handed over! The staff were very helpful and knowledgeable and there was a fabulous selection of shrubs, annuals, succulents, and garden whimsy-all definitely worth the drive.

The PFGC Annul Meeting was held this month, and our very own **Suzi Matteson** was presented with the **Pillar of Pride Award** for her sterling work as President of the Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs. *Well done, Suzi!*



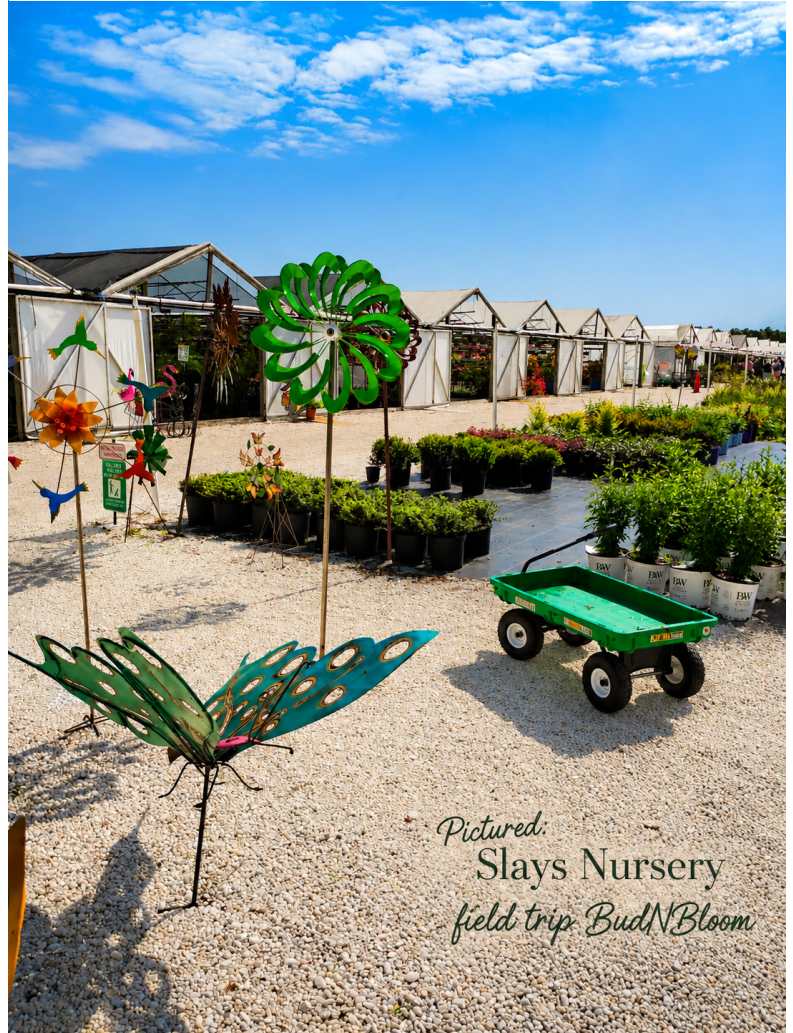
Suzi Matteson: Pillar of Pride Recipient

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery go to **Judy Kerr** who took a nasty tumble and ended up in hospital. *Big hugs Judy and we hope to see you out and about soon.*

BnB's last meeting before the summer break will be our end of season

potluck lunch 18th May @ 10 a.m. in the Garden Center Café. You can find our meeting times posted on the [Pensacola Garden Center calendar](#). Look for "Bud 'n Bloom Garden Circle meeting".

Pictured: Slay's Nursery fieldtrip Elberta, AL.



*Pictured:
Slays Nursery
field trip BudNBloom*

Carolyn Prime, Reporter

Dogwood

On April 24th Dogwood hosted master organic gardener and co-founder of [East Hill Edible Gardening](#) **Renée Perry** as a keynote educator, she did not disappoint. Renée and **Tom Garner** founded [East Hill Edible Gardening](#) in spring 2014 promoting backyard gardening and food production throughout the Pensacola and gulf coast area. Renée's more than thirty years organic gardening experience showed through clearly sharing pictures and stories of growing more than 200 species of edible plants; many of the plants not typically being found in the gulf coast area. She explained the importance of plant diversity as well as showing us the best way to create a healthy organic garden. She also brought plants for purchase and let us know you can find her most weekends at the Palafox open market. She and Tom have taught over more than students their cutting-edge organic gardening techniques. If your circle has not yet hosted her- Dogwood highly recommends you do so.

Pictured: Renée Perry, East Hill Edible Gardening



On the Dogwood business side of the house, Dogwood worked on May 1 continuing the rebirth of our circle garden outside of the Garden Center Café. We also discussed the upcoming Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs upcoming annual meeting on May 7th at the Pensacola Garden Center.



Our circle also discussed the upcoming National Garden Week, June 7-13 led by the National Garden Clubs. Dogwood Circle will host a tea on June 6 in celebration of National Garden Week, mark your calendar. Family members and friends, with an interest in supporting the garden center goals, are welcome as long as their attendance is coordinated with Mary Anne Lyle or other committee members preparing for the tea. Look for an upcoming invitation.

You can find our meeting times posted on the [Pensacola Garden Center calendar](#). Visitors are always welcome at Dogwood monthly meetings.

Mary Anne Lyle, Reporter

Lazy Daisy

WOW!! As the Lazy Daisies looked forward to our April meeting at **Cottage Lavender** with **Danny Monk**, we were surprised to learn *that he had closed!!!!* Unfortunately, he had lost so much of his lavender. Perhaps another year.... we really were disappointed! A small group of us rallied and enjoyed an outdoor lunch at the [Pensacola Yacht Club](#)! We also had representation at the Annual PFGC Meeting.

We are planning our final "organized" meeting on **May 22** with our annual "salad lunch" *at the beautiful home of Pat Leidner*. We always look forward to social get togethers during the summer months! You can find our meeting times posted on the [Pensacola Garden Center calendar](#). Look for "Lazy Daisy Garden Circle meeting".



Lastly, we extend our heartfelt condolences to **Veronica Greskovich** and her family on the passing of her husband, **Dr. Frank John Greskovich, Jr.** ([obituary](#)) Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time as they mourn the loss of a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and cherished member of the Pensacola community.

You can find our meeting times posted on the [Pensacola Garden Center calendar](#). Look for "Lazy Daisy Garden Circle meeting".

Linda Pallin, Reporter

Magnolia

At our April 25th meeting, Magnolia enjoyed our Master Gardener speaker, **M'Adele Carson**, talk about **Wildflowers and Weeds**. "Weeds are just wildflowers with bad PR"! We got our hands dirty as we learned an innovative way of planting seeds. M'Adele provided all of us with 10 different packets of wildflower seeds and showed us how to plant them. Very cool!



Speaker:
Master Gardener, M'Adele Carson

We made a big decision at this meeting to **CHANGE OUR MEETING DAY** to the **FOURTH THURSDAY** of each month. This decision was not made lightly. We feel that meeting on a weekday will better serve the majority of our current members. Our next meeting will be on **THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2026** in the Café.

No meeting in May due to the Memorial Holiday weekend.

You can find our meeting times posted on the [Pensacola Garden Center calendar](#). Look for "Magnolia Garden Circle meeting"; visitors welcome!

Christine Ketnick, Reporter

Oleander

Established 1949, Oleander meets 4th Wednesday of each month at 9:30 am in the Garden Center café.

You can find our meeting times posted on the [Pensacola Garden Center calendar](#). Look for “Oleander Garden Circle meeting”.

Gail Pisz, Reporter

Pick 'n' Poke

PNP recently had a field trip to [Tarkiln Bayou Preserve](#). Our guide was Mickey Quigley of Sweet Bay. Beautiful day to see the pitcher plants and wild orchids. Picnic lunch followed.

PNP monthly meeting on April 23, 2026 at the Garden Center. Our program was a mother and daughter duo on Bromeliads.

We learned these plants are native to America, they feed through their leaves, there are *over 2000 varieties plus manmade varieties*. They are classified by their blooms, and they contain 3 petals and 6 stamens. Keep the center tube filled with water, hang them from a tree, mount them on wood and they will be happy. Thanks to Lana and Suzanne Weathers.



Speakers: Lana and Suzanne Weathers —
Bromeliads 

Marilyn Powitzky will be retiring as President of Pick N Poke at the end of May. After 30, 40, or 50 years of service (we're not sure) she will be able to enjoy some time off after all the years of looking after each one of us. Time off well deserved. **Congratulations Marilyn!!**

New officers nominated for the upcoming year(s); **President - Shea Murphy, Vice President - Angela Marchetti, and Secretary – Lynn Hall**. Voting has taken place and installation of new officers will be in May.

Bag lunches, with salad, deviled eggs, and dessert - we were good to go for the rest of the day. Thanks to all for your contributions.

Debbie Kay, Reporter

Pineglades

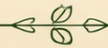
For its April meeting, Pineglades members experienced what all circles have faced at some point, the last-minute cancellation by its scheduled speaker. That didn't matter to this group, though. We had delicious refreshments prepared by the month's hostesses to please our tastebuds, and we also managed to please our minds.

As Pineglades members love to talk, we entertained ourselves for more than an hour by sharing our latest gardening projects, both amusing and educating each other.

For our May gathering, we will tour the lovely yard of a local homeowner and then enjoy lunch out. You can find our meeting times posted on the [Pensacola Garden Center calendar](#). Look for "Pineglades Garden Circle meeting"; visitors welcome!



Pineglades garden plot on the Garden Center grounds



Deanna Gordon, Reporter

Sassafras

The Sassafras Garden Circle had a sweet treat for their April meeting. [Cher Clary with Beachin' Bees](#), gave a spectacular presentation on pollinators and had quite the show and tell. She brought some of her bees with her, including the Queen. Did you know that the Queen isn't the most important bee in the hive? Cher explained the importance of our honey bees and even gave out some plants for our pollinators and had honey for sale.



Sassafras Garden Circle meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. You can find our meeting times posted on the [Pensacola Garden Center calendar](#). Look for "Sassafras Garden Circle meeting"; visitors welcome!



Nora Emling, submitted a butterfly photograph for the 40th Biennial State Flower Show at this years Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. state convention and received an honorable mention.



Nora Emling, Reporter



Taverniti Gardens

Hosted by Joe and Nancy Taverniti

PFGC's 2023 Secret Garden Tour Participant

Well, April didn't bring a lot of showers but we were happy to have a sunny day for our April 27th meeting. Sweet Bay took our group to **Taverniti Gardens**, located off of Bauer Road. Hosted by **Joe and Nancy Taverniti**, the property was featured in the PFGC's 2023 Secret Garden Tour. Joe took us through his special garden, focusing on the many vegetables and flowers grown there. We found out that every palm tree on the site was lovingly planted by the Tavernitis.

With that many vegetables, of course they can have a lot of their harvest! Sweet Bay saw, in the hurricane bunker that they built, jars of beans, tomatoes and other goodies. Made us all hungry.

Good thing we had lunch planned, provided by Ann Curry and Anne Gilbert, held under the shady trees at Taverniti Gardens.

Our meeting times are posted on the **[Pensacola Garden Center calendar](#)**. Look for "Sweet Bay Garden Circle Meeting".

KB Baldwin, Reporter

WHAT TO DO IN THE GARDEN IN JUNE

What to Plant

Annuals/Perennials/Wildflowers: Annuals that can take full sun during hot summer months include celosia, portulaca, vinca, and some coleus. See

- [Ask IFAS: Annuals](#)
- [Ask IFAS: Perennials](#)
- [Florida Wildflower Foundation](#)

Palms: Summer's warm, rainy weather is the perfect time to plant palms. Make sure not to cover the trunk with soil. See

- [Ask IFAS: Palms](#)

Herbs: Plant heat-loving herbs, including basil, Mexican tarragon, and rosemary. Pinch back regularly to prevent flowering and enhance branching. See

- [Ask IFAS: Herbs](#)

Vegetables: Plant okra, southern pea, and sweet potato. See

- [Ask IFAS: Vegetable Gardening in Florida](#)



Eggplant

Credit: UF/IFAS Photo by Tyler Jones

What to Do

Pests: Monitor the landscape weekly for harmful insects. Knowing which insects commonly attack a plant can aid in identification and treatment. See

- [Ask IFAS: Lawn and Garden Care: Pest Management](#)

Irrigation: If rainfall has been lacking, watch for drought stress and water as needed. See

- [Ask IFAS: Lawn and Garden Care: Irrigation](#)

Palms and cycads: Watch for nutrient deficiencies or environmental problems with palms and correct using an appropriate treatment. See

- [Ask IFAS: Palm Nutrient Management](#)

Summer-flowering shrubs: Prune lightly during the warmer months to encourage more branching and blooming. Azaleas can still be pruned in June without removing next spring's flower buds. See

- [Ask IFAS: Lawn and Garden Care: Pruning](#)

Fertilizer Bans: Certain municipalities in north Florida prohibit the application of fertilizer to lawns and/or landscape plants during the summer rainy season (June–September). See if such an ordinance exists in your area. See [Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program Fertilizer Ordinances App](#)

Lawns: Yellow and brown patches in St. Augustine grass can be caused by chinch bugs, disease, or lack of water. Take time to determine the cause so your remedy is effective. Rejuvenate areas where grass does not grow well by replacing it with a more adapted turf or groundcover. See

- [Ask IFAS: Lawn and Garden Care: Pest Management](#)
- [Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Guide to Plant Selection & Landscape Design](#)

Click this link to access the [entire growing/planting calendar](#) on AskIFAS.

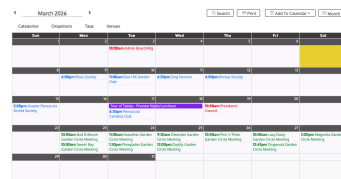
Susan Fawcett
Esc Co Master Gardener

Affiliated Clubs

Several organizations call the **Pensacola Garden Center** their meeting home. These affiliated clubs bring together people who share a passion for gardening, horticulture, flowers, and community activities. If you are interested in learning more about any of these groups, explore the links provided below each club description.

View the Interactive Calendar on the PFGC website for up-to-date **affiliate club meetings, programs, and Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs events.**

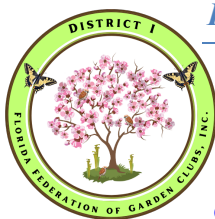
[Link to Calendar on PFGC Website](#)



Calendar	Month 2024	Day	Event
May	1	Monday	
May	2	Tuesday	East Hill Garden Club
May	3	Wednesday	
May	4	Thursday	
May	5	Friday	
May	6	Saturday	
May	7	Sunday	
May	8	Monday	
May	9	Tuesday	Florida Flower Show Judges, District 1
May	10	Wednesday	
May	11	Thursday	
May	12	Friday	
May	13	Saturday	
May	14	Sunday	
May	15	Monday	
May	16	Tuesday	
May	17	Wednesday	
May	18	Thursday	
May	19	Friday	
May	20	Saturday	
May	21	Sunday	
May	22	Monday	
May	23	Tuesday	
May	24	Wednesday	
May	25	Thursday	
May	26	Friday	
May	27	Saturday	
May	28	Sunday	
May	29	Monday	
May	30	Tuesday	
May	31	Wednesday	

East Hill Garden Club

Established in 2003, East Hill Garden Club meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 11:30 AM in the Garden Center Auditorium in September, October, December, February, March and May.



Florida Flower Show Judges, District 1

This organization promotes excellence in flower show judging and horticultural education throughout the region. Florida Flower Show Judges for District 1 meet in September, November, February and April in the Garden Center Cafe. Learn more about [the organization on their website](#) or follow them on [Facebook](#).

The Greater Pensacola Orchid Society

An active community of orchid enthusiasts dedicated to growing, learning, and sharing the beauty of orchids. In April, Andy gave an awesome talk on easy to grow orchids and there were two raffle winners!



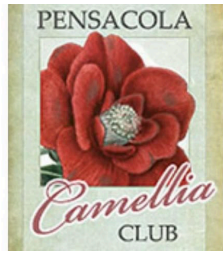
April 2026 - GPOS Meeting



Congrats to our Plantapalooza and Festival of Flowers raffle winners, *Grizz W* and *Angelica W*, you have won a free membership for 2026!

Learn more about by **the GPOS society** on their [Facebook](#), or contact them by [email](#) for information on events, and membership.

Kelsey Erdos
President GPOS



Pensacola Camellia Club

Dedicated to the appreciation and cultivation of beautiful camellias along the Gulf Coast. April was an active and productive month for the Pensacola Camellia Club, with members participating in numerous air layering events across the Pensacola area to help propagate and preserve beautiful camellias while teaching newer members this valuable technique.

Club members also volunteered at the **Spring Festival of Flowers** sales event hosted at UF/IFAS and Pensacola State College Milton Campus, sharing camellias and gardening knowledge with the community. Additional activities included a successful **“Pot Party”** to repot grafts for future growth, a **work day at the UWF Camellia Garden** featuring pruning and plant reduction demonstrations, and our monthly club meeting where guest speaker **Forrest Latta** presented on the *International Camellia Society* and how camellia shows differ around the world. These hands-on activities continue to strengthen both our gardens and our fellowship.

As the camellia season comes to a close, the club will take a break from formal summer activities while the board gathers to plan an exciting 2026–2027 season. Learn about Pensacola Camellia Club [at their website](#) or read the Camellia Club's [latest newsletter](#).

Louise Seitz
PCC President



Pensacola Dog Fanciers Association (dogs are not allowed at the meeting)

Established in **1936**, this long-standing organization brings together dog enthusiasts for education, shows, and community events. Learn more about [the association](#) or connect with them on [Facebook](#). Visitors welcome!

Pensacola Gulf Coast Bonsai Society

Established in 1970, learn about Pensacola Gulf Cost Bonsai Society by [on their event website](#) or connect with them on [Facebook](#). Come join us; visitors are welcome!





Pensacola Rose Society

Pensacola Rose Society participated in the [Flower Festival at Pensacola State in Milton April 10-12](#) again this year. We sold our roses and met many enthusiastic rose growers. This is always a wonderful event for us. Our members enjoy talking to other rose enthusiasts!

On a sadder note, we mourn the passing of our past president, [Laura Porter \(obituary\)](#), who



passed away **April 14th**. She was a past member of PRS, and rejoined several years ago. She brought enthusiasm, new ideas, and energy to our group. We send our condolences to her husband, [Sonny](#), and their family.

We meet the 2nd Monday of the month at the Garden Center, please join us at 5:30 for social time, program begin at 6 pm. Our meetings can be found on the [Pensacola Garden Center website](#).

To learn more about Pensacola Rose Society [at our website](#) or read our latest news on [Facebook](#).

Gail Pisz, PRS

A Note from Editor

As another beautiful gardening season unfolds across Pensacola, we are reminded that our Federation is about so much more than flowers and gardens. It is about friendships nurtured over time, knowledge shared across generations, and the many volunteers whose creativity, kindness, and dedication help our Garden Center continue to bloom.

This issue celebrates the heart of our organization — from award recognitions and special events to circle activities, educational programs, and the memories of members who left a lasting mark on our gardening community. Every page reflects the hard work, enthusiasm, and generosity of the individuals and circles that make the Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs such a special place.

A heartfelt thank you goes to all of our Camellia Reporters, photographers, event organizers, contributors, and volunteers who helped bring this issue together. Your stories, photographs, and shared experiences help preserve the spirit and history of our Federation for future generations.

As we move into the summer season, we hope this newsletter inspires you to stay connected, continue growing, and perhaps even discover a new way to become involved — whether through a garden circle, a volunteer project, an educational event, or simply sharing your love of gardening with others.

We welcome your announcements, photographs, gardening stories, and ideas for future issues of The Camellia Newsletter.

Stacy Swift

Editor, The Camellia Report
camellia@pensacolagardencent.com

Reach out if you have any [questions](#), [concerns](#), [comments](#), and [recommendations](#).

What topics in the Camellia Newsletter do you like most?

Presidents' Message /
Announcements

Future Events / Past Event
Recaps

Circle Meeting Recaps

What to do in the Garden

Affiliate Clubs

Location Links

Email Links

Links to Presenters

What new potential functionality interests you the most?

RSVP online for Events

Buy Tickets to Events
Online

Forms accessible Online

Seeing all events on the
PFGC Calendar

How did you like this PDF

