

March 2020

# Leaf Newsletter

Apollo Beach Garden Club, Inc.



# Board messages

## Message from the President

Article by: *Paula Olesen*, President of the ABGC

Hello Fellow Gardeners:

Welcome to March, a perfect growing time, not too hot, but the danger of frost is over.

The 2nd Annual Plant Sale was last Saturday. We made **\$1655.25**. I saw a lot of old friends & made some new ones. We had two groups of Corr Elementary Honor/Key Club students with Annafe Colburn & Mrs Rush-who were such a pleasure to work with. They did a 'sweep' of the park to clean up, then carried plants, & helped clean up.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you that donated plants & gave of your time and energy by helping on Saturday. I have a special thanks to Joanne who helped me prep plants, price, make signs all day Friday, & then worked 6am to 3pm Saturday. A huge thank you to Raleigh & Annie for all the plants & trees, set-up, take down Saturday, workshop in the garden & overall giving advice & consultation to the many customers with so many questions! Annie for great social media announcements. The Observer & Tampa Bay Times for articles & ad.

So many of you came to set-up & help on Saturday, Cindy Hoos, Mark De Frazio, Jeanette Doyle, Chris Deno, Jan Chaber, Nancy Alexander, Maureen Brady, Ling Darwin, Phoebe McLelland, & Judy Siemonsma.

Jill Conson, Mark, Chris, Joanne, Judy, Maureen & Phoebe also brought loads of plants. The garden decor went fairly well, especially the garden statues. I believe a long-time friend & member Vince visited & I missed a needed chat. The Center's staff Jack & Angela were so helpful, & the hot dogs were a hit.

A grateful heart for those of you who came to buy & brought friends! Now we can plan for an even better sale next year!!

Aside from this subject I would like to mention some important things for the weeks ahead:

- Please remember to bring \$5 - \$10 in 'scratch offs' for our FFGC Convention basket to this month's meeting. The convention is held in Tampa, April 16-19th.

- Remember we vote on the Bylaws article change this meeting (you can review the change in last month's newsletter, which is posted to our website [apollobeachgardenclub.com/newsletters/](http://apollobeachgardenclub.com/newsletters/)).

- I hope you have saved a nice 14-24 oz can to make a bee house. I have the bamboo. Christy Linke will speak on the use, attraction & protection of our bee pollinators.

Thank you all for being the wonderful people you are.

*Paula*



## Community articles

### *Invasives?*

Article by: *Annie Jiménez*, Third Insight Design & nursery

In the upcoming years more and more animal migrations will take place do to climate change. It is said the temperate areas of the World now, will slowly turn into the new tropics. We encourage you to read more [here](#) about current fish migrations, which is one of the groups of animals that is showing more evidence of this pattern.

For this reason, I pose the question: *Invasives?* How can we be centered on killing “invasive pests” today, if in the near future or even now they might be trying to migrate and survive? How are we going to differentiate from those who are migrating to those who are *not*? Aren't they all migrating? Already? Isn't it a constant migration, constant change? Not all species and structures that are here now where always here before this very moment.

It is a fact that some organisms have been introduced into ecosystems were they reproduce and have no local controller and therefore thrive more than other organisms that had been there before. But, isn't this the course of life? Some will say this introduction has very often been due to human activity or accident, and therefore these introduced organisms don't belong there. But, haven't humans always, like many other species, too, engaged in migration and brought with them seeds and animals that are key to their culture and ways of life?

Why are we so set on killing *pests* like frogs, plants and insects if we really don't know what the impact of killing them will be in the future? What if they indeed take over and create an ecosystem for others to thrive, too? Didn't algae do that and “by accident” created the atmosphere? What if we kill some individuals we consider a pest now, and in the future they turned out to be migrants? What if the fact that they are already here, is part of the migration that we as humans have accelerated? What if we kill *invasives* in our ecosystem and they disappear in their original area (because they were migrating) and we wind up without them everywhere in the World because we humans elevated ourselves to the task of killing them because they were *invasive*?

That brings us to a bigger dilemma. Humans are part of nature and everything we have done until now is therefore part of nature. Where those decisions humans have made will take us, is natural. We are nature. A person is not different from nature. When humans talk of nature they picture a forest. What about the city? Is the city not part of our way of life as humans? Is the city not a construct of human life just like an anthill is a result of ant life? And therefore, isn't a city nature?

But after all humans have fooled themselves to believe they are the rulers of nature, nature does not work as a hierarchy it works as a deeply interconnected system of connections. Nobody has named the human species the “invasive's police”, only humans have adopted this job believing their judgment is the right one and everyone else does not have judgment or say in it, because everyone else is nature and humans are above it.

Humans tend to think two things: that natural things are natural because they do not have control over them and that natural things are good because they are natural. In my opinion this is an expired way to see nature and probably one of the thoughts that made humans set themselves apart from nature. The fact of not having control over it made the idea of *nature*, you call it nature, the wilderness, that thing that happens and you don't belong to because it is not controlled by you. Human society has always sought duality, me and you. Us and nature. We are thinking sentient beings, the stone is inert. We humans are special because we rule and dominate the world, therefore the distance from the idea of belonging to nature.

Again, human action and humans are natural and part of nature, even if humans have tried to separate themselves from it. The evidence of this is that human action still affects the whole of nature. Not all human action in spite of being part of nature can be labeled as being good or even bad, it just is. Natural things are neither good or bad, they just are. Introducing a species, bringing seeds during a mass migration is a natural phenomenon because humans are nature. The problem arises when we seek solutions to *invasions* by pretending to go back to the point where it all started. Change is constant. We cannot go back to the point where the Spanish conquerers brought wild hogs, it happened. How can we adapt to coexist? I do not believe the solution lies in trying to eradicate species, but allowing things to find their balance even if it is beyond our lifetime. It is hard to accept it is beyond us.

Since humans have deliberately lost the idea of connection, of being part of nature, of belonging to it the idea of the interconnectedness of everything has been lost. Humans have made decisions and choices of which the consequences have affected deeply what they used to be connected to. This is nature, too.

Whichever is your view on invasives is natural. We are humans who belong to nature after all. If you feel the need to expose the interconnection of everything, you can reconnect with nature and understand from a less human centered point of view that we are it, and therefore our actions affect it and also everything.

They are not invading us, they are trying to survive or simply live, being the beings they are and it bothers us humans because it makes the system unstable for us.

Killing *invasive* species is not my answer. My question is: What is “invasive”? What is a “pest”? Imagine, a migrating fish might soon be doomed to be eradicated from a location and even brought close to extinction because it did not belong in that temperate area before. The World has always witnessed change, long before humans were even able to walk its land. I wonder what the Cuban tree frogs think about this, or the wild hogs.

This image from The Nature Conservancy depicts the predicted migrations of amphibians, mammals and birds. You can see the full animation on their website [Migrations in Motion](#). One of the key points that this map shows, is how amphibians- which are especially sensitive to climate change- will be seeking higher altitudes where the temperatures are cooler.

## Pictures of the month



By Angela Mortenson, March 1st, Volunteer work day



By Raleigh Barnes, March 1st, Volunteer work day



By Raleigh Barnes, March 7th, AB Plant Sale



By Raleigh Barnes, March 7th, AB Plant Sale



By Raleigh Barnes, March 7th, AB Plant Sale workshop



By Raleigh Barnes, March 7th, AB Plant Sale



By Paula Olesen, March 7th, AB Plant Sale



By Paula Olesen, March 7th, AB Plant Sale



By Paula Olesen, March 7th, AB Plant Sale



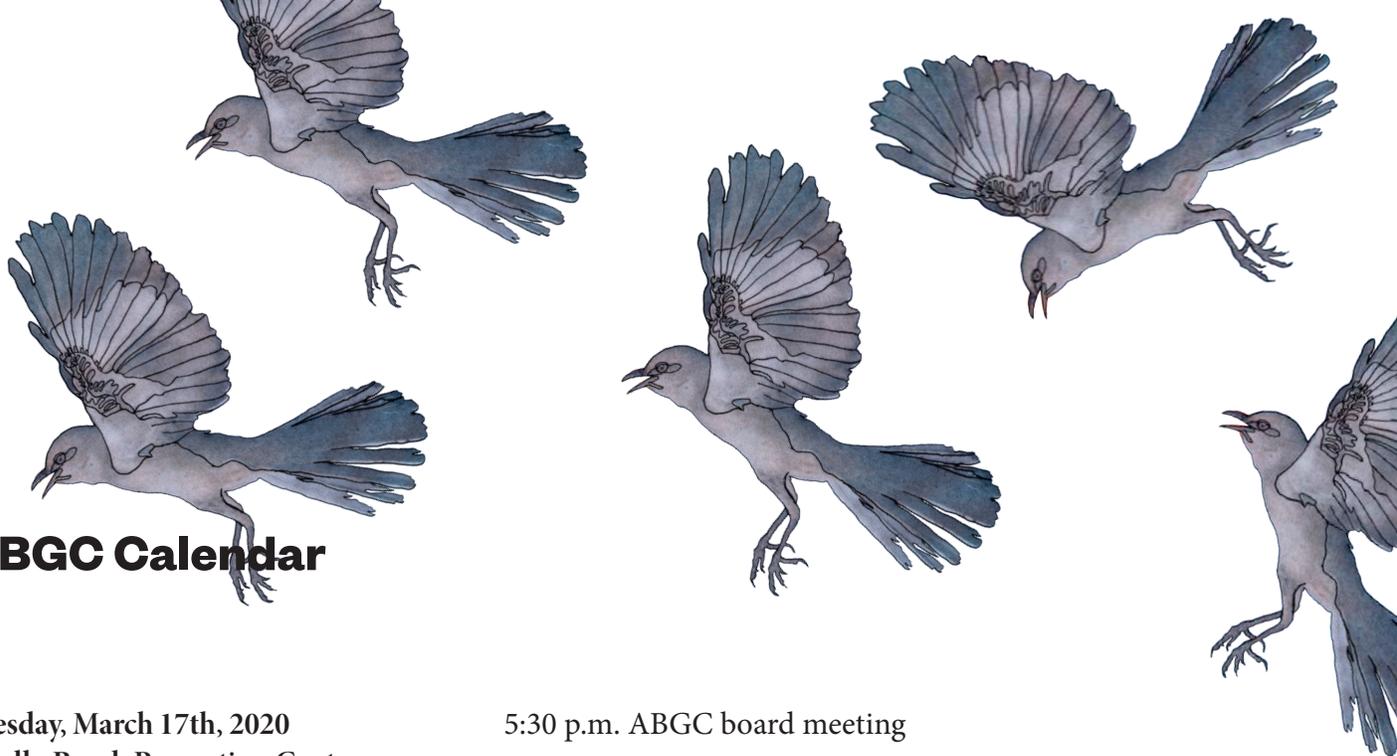
By Annie J., March 7th, AB Plant Sale



By Raleigh Barnes, March 7th, AB Plant Sale



By Annie J., March 7th, AB Plant Sale



## ABGC Calendar

Tuesday, March 17th, 2020  
Apollo Beach Recreation Center  
664 Golf & Sea Blvd, Apollo Beach, FL 33572

5:30 p.m. ABGC board meeting

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Tuesday, March 17th, 2020  
Apollo Beach Recreation Center  
664 Golf & Sea Blvd, Apollo Beach, FL 33572

7 p.m. All about native bees  
Presenter: Christy Linke

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Tuesday, April 21st, 2020  
Apollo Beach Recreation Center  
664 Golf & Sea Blvd, Apollo Beach, FL 33572

7 p.m. Herb, Carnivorous, Perennials, Figs, Gingers  
Presenter: Dennis Gretton D&D growers



## Community Calendar

Saturday, March 28th and  
Sunday, March 29th, 2020  
Tampa Garden Club  
2629 Bayshore Blvd, Tampa, FL 33629

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free and open to the public. One of Tampa's premier horticulture events. There is also a Flower Show going on inside the building. Members display their show-worthy specimens and floral designs. Parking on the grounds available for donation.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/797367557450201/>

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Saturday, April 4th  
Manatee River Garden Club  
3120 First Av. West, Bradenton, FL 34205

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Manatee River Garden Club garden tour. \$15-\$20 tickets.

<https://www.manateerivergardenclub.com/>

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Sunday, April 5th  
Fred Ball Park  
2621 Bayshore Blvd, Tampa, FL 33629

12 p.m. - 5 p.m. South Tampa 5 gardens tour. \$20-\$25 tickets.

Tickets here: <https://embed.showclix.com/event/ep2020>

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Saturday, April 11th and  
Sunday, April 12th, 2020  
USF Botanical Gardens  
12210 USF Pine Dr, Tampa, FL 33612

Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. The USF Botanical Gardens hosts their 31st annual Spring Plant Festival admission is \$5 for the general public and free for Botanical Garden members and children under 12 years old. Educational workshops throughout the festival included. Free parking.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1023632214666298/>

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April 16th - 19th, 2020  
Hilton Tampa Downtown  
211 N Tampa St, Tampa, FL 33602

94th Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Annual Convention. Perfect Harmony & the State Flower Show will be held at the Hilton Downtown Hotel. This year our District VIII is sponsoring the convention led by Christy Linke. Register to attend at [www.ffgc.org](http://www.ffgc.org)

<https://www.ffgc.org/FFGC-Convention-2020>

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Sunday, May 17th, 2020  
Bradenton Convention Center  
1 Haben Blvd, Palmetto, FL 34221

10:00am - 4:00pm Largest, one day tropical fruit tree sale! This is a once-a-year opportunity to purchase rare and unusual fruiting trees and plants. 20+ vendors, indoors, air conditioned, over 5000 plants, and expert advice.



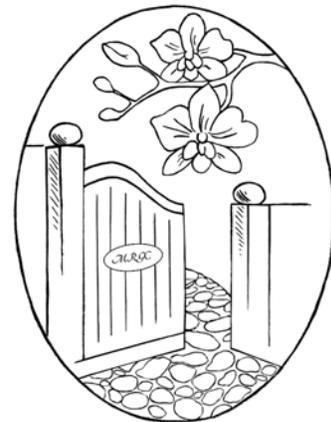
**MANATEE RIVER GARDEN CLUB  
PRESENTS:  
"BRADENTON IN BLOOM" -**

**Saturday, April 4, 2020**

**10 AM to 4 PM**

**Five lovely gardens &  
gourmet luncheon**

- ◆ Presale tickets are \$15; \$20 at the clubhouse (**3120 First Avenue West**) on day of tour
- ◆ Buy tickets **in advance** at *Crowder's Gifts & Gadgets* (Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch), *Cortez Ace Hardware*, and *Holmes Beach Ace Hardware* or on our website (via PayPal)
- ◆ Will-call tickets will be available at the MRGC clubhouse on day of tour
- ◆ On the day of the tour, go to the clubhouse and pick up your tour brochure that contains directions to the homes
- ◆ Vendors at the clubhouse - open & free to the public
- ◆ Tour the clubhouse gardens
- ◆ Gourmet luncheon from 11:00 am—2 pm at clubhouse for only \$12
- ◆ Rain or shine
- ◆ Information: 941.870.2259



Don't forget your camera!

[www.manateerivergardenclub.com](http://www.manateerivergardenclub.com)

Rose Garden Circle presents

28th Annual

THE EARTHLY PARADISE

# Garden Tour

Five beautiful South Tampa gardens are open from 12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m.  
Enjoy a Musical Tea Party in Fred Ball Park from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 5 - 12:00 - 5:00pm

TICKETS: \$20 in advance • \$25 day of tour

Advance tickets are available at many South Tampa garden shops and at the Tampa Garden Club.

Online advance sales available through April 4th at [www.showclix.com/event/ep2020](http://www.showclix.com/event/ep2020)

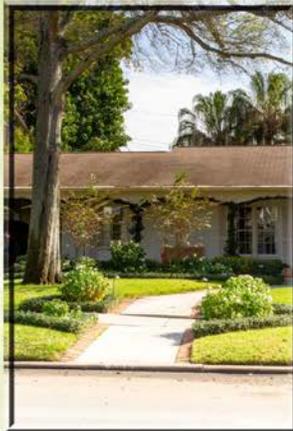
Day of Tour tickets on sale at Fred Ball Park.

For more information

[rosegardencircle@gmail.com](mailto:rosegardencircle@gmail.com)

813.832.4712

Tickets to the Garden Tour will also be sold from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., March 28-29, at Tampa GardenFest at the Tampa Garden Club, 2629 Bayshore Blvd., Tampa 33629.



# Minutes of February 18th, 2020

## Attendees

14 members, 5 guests. Total: 19

## Treasurer's Report

Maureen Brady reported there are currently \$304.65 in the BBT account. No expenses this month.

## Old Business

- Florida Federation of Garden Club's Annual Convention is hosted by District VIII. Date: April 17-19th at the Hilton Tampa Downtown. As members of District VIII we would like to see support for our region. Hostesses are needed for each day. The volunteer activity allows you to participate in the conference for only \$5 and you receive a scarf that will designate you as a hostess. There are opportunity tickets for great prizes (Paula Olesen has some you can purchase). **Each club is to provide a basket and we are doing a Lotto scratch-off ticket basket. Please bring \$5 to \$10 in 'scratch off tickets' to the February or March meeting to help create a much wanted basket.**

## New Business

- ABGC shirt presentation and order.
- Plant sale schedule and volunteer sign up.
- Organize volunteer work day to prep for Plant Sale.

## Community Forest Garden

- Volunteer work day to be held on March 1st.
- Some plants should be planted for the day of the Plant Sale.
- Trench needs to be finished.
- Beds still need some filling.
- Re-mulching paths in between beds is necessary.

## Speaker

Raleigh Barnes spoke about orchids in Florida. He taught attendees how to repot different orchids with different growing needs.

## Recorder

Annie Jiménez

## Reminders for this month

- ADA beds need to be built, we have all the materials.
- Planning for Community Forest Garden Grand Opening
- Find sponsorship for irrigation system for raised beds
- Cardboard and mulch outside north perimeter of Community Forest Garden
- Plan/design Forest Garden in progress by Third Insight Design & nursery
- Creation/Revision of contract document for raised bed rentals inside the AB Community Forest Garden
- **We need more “community articles” for our newsletter!!!!**
- Please stay tuned to Facebook for our next **Volunteer Work Days** at the Community Forest Garden

## Reminders for next meeting

- Bring 14-24 oz clean can
- Bring \$5-\$10 in scratch off tickets for FFGC basket

**If you are interested in writing an article for the “Community articles” section or sharing pictures of your garden/nature related adventures on the “Pictures of the month” section of the Leaf Newsletter please email [annie.ji.ki@hotmail.com](mailto:annie.ji.ki@hotmail.com). Articles have to be sent in by the first Tuesday of the month at the latest.**