

# President's Message 2021 -2022

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of being your President for The Garden Club of Stuart, Inc. I'm honored and looking forward to embracing the next two years.

We will continue our meetings with COVID restriction in place to fulfill activities which are both charitable and educational to our members and the public. In this time of change, gardening is a constant equation that many find comforting and now, more than ever, it's a time to share our gardening knowledge and mentor new gardeners.

Our Executive Board is a terrific team, ready for a successful and enlightening new year. Many thanks to all who have accepted these positions. We look forward to fulfilling our responsibilities and building confidence in our members as they participate and take advantage of all The Garden Club of Stuart, Inc. has to offer.

The Monthly Programs will reflect our goals for a successful year as well as a Secret Gardens Tour "The Joy of Gardening" which is our main fundraiser. The funds will allow for five scholarships plus our community service obligations. Floral design taught at our workshops and during some of our monthly meetings will help inspire and prepare us for the 2023 Flower Show which is a gift to the community as to ourselves. Please read your yearbook and familiarize yourself with the programs, workshops, field trips, month meeting, District X meetings, FFGS convention 2022, and members' information, all designed to keep you informed and stay in touch with your gardening friends.

I have chosen as a theme "Plant Native." Florida's native plants will thrive in our subtropical climate and possibly add a diverse selection of beautiful plants that will look great in your landscape. Native plants grow naturally in our area so you can be sure they'll thrive in the Florida heat, humidity, and occasional overnight freeze. Landscaping with native plants supports our local ecosystem and prevents the spread of invasive non-native species. I've listed some recommended native plants on page 50 just in case you need a little inspiration.

I encourage you to share garden photos, events, and related items of interest to our Facebook page, and please don't hesitate to contact me with any concerns or suggestion you may have. Happy Gardening and remember, if you plant, Plant Native.

Karen Bonney,  
*Karen Bonney, President*