

BLOOMING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

by Joyce Laubach

More planters. More plants. More downtown beautification. The Punta Gorda in Bloom volunteers vowed that after winning the America in Bloom People's Choice Video Award, they would not rest on their laurels. And with the upcoming holidays as inspiration, the Bloomers once again set out to dazzle the city.

Pictured below: Richard Polk with Alan Schulman. Right: Marilyn Larkin



This time, the planter footprint has expanded to Marion Ave. between 41 North and Taylor St. The motif includes that holiday plant favorite – Poinsettias – along with other complimentary flowering plants, all topped with the “icing” of mini-solar lights. Look for two flowering fountains and multiple sidewalk level planters all along this city block.

How is this feat possible? Founder Richard Polk and benefactor Alan Schulman have again called on their faithful “Bloomer” volunteers, who appeared like a peaceful army

with their trowels and garden gloves to fill the planters with gorgeous new plants. Volunteers are the essential backbone of the program, not only on planting day but also on an ongoing basis, tending to the plants to assure they remain beautiful.

Punta Gorda in Bloom is looking for additional volunteers to share the joy of participating in this community beautification project. Visit www.PuntaGordaInBloom.org or www.teampuntagorda.org/pginbloom for more information about this initiative and find out how YOU can volunteer.

