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Enjoy the Gardens Tuesdays-Sundays from 9-2 each week from June 1st-September 30th. Members get in free every day! If you would like to become a member and get this as well as free access to over 350 participating gardens around the US, please visit our [website](#) for more information.

While visiting, stop by our gift shop to cool off in the AC, have a refreshing beverage, and pick up a one-of-a-kind, hand-made gift crafted by local artisans.



INCREASING OUR ACCESSIBILITY

We now have a ride service for guests with limited mobility to better access our Gardens. This service is offered on Saturdays and Sundays from 9-2 and transports visitors from the South property to the North and back again. This service is due to the generous donations received from this year's Giving Challenge through the Sarasota Community Foundation and the Patterson Foundation.

If you are interested in being a volunteer to drive guests on the golf cart on Sundays in July and August, please [reach](#) out!

JUNE HAPPENINGS



TAIL WAGGIN' TUESDAYS

Every Tuesday in June, we welcome guests to bring along their furry companions from 9AM – 12PM. As a perk for Members, they can bring along their K9 for free! Guests will pay general admission and \$5 per dog to enter OR a donation of dog food/supplies that will be donated to the Charlotte County Animal Welfare League. Dogs must be up to date on vaccines, dog friendly and must always remain on a leash.



STORY TIME IN THE GARDENS: JUNE 12

From 10-11 am, Out-of-Door Academy master teacher, Ms. Jaiswal, will be in the Gardens celebrating National Children's Day with a story and craft for children 3-8. A tour of the butterfly garden will follow. In order to have an accurate count for the activity, please register on Eventbrite. Families and children attending this event will get in free.



FREE COVID SHOTS: JUNE 23

Community Volunteer Clinic will be in the Gardens (2nd floor of Gift Shop) to provide free Covid-19 vaccinations from 11-2.

A \$25 gift card to Walmart will be given to each individual that receives their shot. Free entrance to the Gardens for those getting the vaccine.



"BOLD IDEA"



"CAJUN ORANGE"



"LOVE BITE"

HAPPY HIBISCUS!

Did you know that the hibiscus flower only lasts a day, although many new hybrids have been bred to last up to three to five days? This isn't a bad thing as many plants bloom only once a year for only a couple of weeks while the hibiscus bloom cycle repeats from early spring to late fall outdoors. During this bloom cycle, when one flower drops, a new bud opens. On most varieties, the buds emerge on the branch tips, open in the morning and start to wilt late afternoon, then drop in the evening or the next day. When hibiscus are in their blooming stage, they require large amounts of water. Your hibiscus will need daily watering in the warm summer weather.

Come check out the beautiful blooms now on display in our hibiscus garden to get inspiration for your own garden!

SAVE THE DATES!

JOIN US FOR THE FIRST EVER.....



Registration and details will be available on June 15th at
<http://gogophotocontest.com/PeaceRiverGardens>

In what will become an annual contest PRBSG will host entries from Amateurs and Professionals, with fan favorites determining who wins the amazing prizes in each category. Registration for amateurs is \$25. and Professionals \$50. Those registering will have a special opportunity to come to the Gardens during sunrise and/or sunset.

So come on out to the Gardens NOW and start snapping some of your favorite plants and sculptures. A few ground rules to keep in mind as you take photos:

- Photo must be taken in Peace River Botanical & Sculpture Gardens
- No zimsulpt photo can be entered into the contest
- All photos must be in original copy format and be submitted digitally
- No outside/digital manipulation can be done to the photo
- Photographer must provide written permission for PRBSG to publish and use the winning photo(s) as determined by the organization in advancement of their work

Check out the website in June to see the timeline, to register, and to see a list of the amazing prizes that will be awarded! For those of you who are curious, first place is valued at over \$750. in each category, Second place \$300. and third \$150. So come out to the Gardens in June and July for some relaxation, fun, and a few photos that may bring you some luck!



MASS WEDDING AND VOW RENEWAL CEREMONY: OCTOBER 8TH

Are you planning a wedding, commitment, or renewal ceremony? Have you dreamed of saying "I do" in a lavish garden with friends and family, but your budget says "I can't"? Well we want you to know that you can! Peace River Botanical & Sculpture Gardens is opening our gates (literally) for a "all who want to gather to say I do". On October 8th, 2022 you can bring your license (if getting married), a group of eight guests and say "I Do" amongst the beautiful gardens located in Punta Gorda, FL. Reverend Bill Klossner will lead a first ever "en masse" wedding with all those making a commitment to each other. The all inclusive fee of \$600 includes ceremony music, decorations, invitations, two bottles of champagne for each couple, a wedding cupcake for each guest after the ceremony, and three digital photos (one of couple, couple with wedding party, mass wedding party photo) and an annual membership so you can celebrate your first anniversary in the Gardens! Of course your group is welcome to take photos throughout the Gardens on this special day! So save the date, and watch for more information!

BUILDING OUR LEADERSHIP CAPACITY



We are excited to welcome aboard Thomas Hecker. Mr. Hecker begins his role as Director of Horticulture at the Gardens following a notable career throughout various natural resource management positions in southwest Florida gardens and environmental centers. His experiences at Sarasota Jungle Gardens, Everglades Wonder Gardens, Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center and Naples Botanical Garden will provide strong leadership as the botanical displays continue to be developed through his new position, which begins on June 13.



Ann Bates has served in the role of Guest Services at the Gardens for 2 and 1/2 years. She is now excited to take on the role of Volunteer Coordinator. Ann has a huge heart for people! She served her community as a social worker for 12 years before going back to school to become a nurse. There she worked in occupational therapy and Hospice. In the final years of her nursing career, she managed a family practice clinic. Ann moved from Indiana to Florida in 2015 with her husband (and Garden volunteer) Gary. Together they have 3 children and 4 beautiful grandchildren. She loves the Garden and is eager to begin her work with our growing volunteer tribe!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Peace River Botanical and Sculpture Gardens is a vibrant volunteer hub and cultural center for Southwest Florida. Our volunteer community is a place to share knowledge and continue learning in a tranquil and creative setting. We welcome volunteers in a variety of roles, as our volunteers play an integral role in all aspects of the growth and development of The Gardens.

One of these areas of development for the Gardens is in Sculpture Preservation. We are seeking 2-3 people to help us maintain the world-class art in our collection so that it can be enjoyed by our community for generations to come. This group will help to pressure wash, wax, check hardware, and report any concerns. It will require 2-3 days per month of commitment. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact [Ann Bates](#).

Please help us spread the word that we love summer interns! This is a great way for your high school or college student to make a difference, complete service hours, and learn new skills!



YOUR DONATIONS AT WORK!

Thanks again to your contributions to the Giving Challenge, we have just completed phase 2 of 7 of our electrical infrastructure needs. In order to provide an exceptional experience for Gardens Aglow, fully enable us to safely traverse the Gardens for evening events, and light our sculptures up so that guests can fully appreciate the world-class art after the sun goes down, we still have a long way to go! If you are interested in helping us to see the Gardens in a whole new light, please contact [Kelly Brigham-Steiner](#), our Director of Development, for more information or click on the donate button below.

We'd also like to thank Masters Electric for their support in working with our nonprofit to complete this on-going project!

DONATE NOW: BRIGHT LIGHTS, BRIGHT NIGHTS



PEACE RIVER BOTANICAL & SCULPTURE GARDENS, INC.

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Peace River Botanical & Sculpture Gardens, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) Florida Nonprofit Corporation; A copy of its most recently filed IRS Form 990 is available by contacting the organization. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free within the State, registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State. 1-(800)-HELP-FLA.

Your donation is tax deductible as allowed by law.

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