



# District I The Busy Bee



"How doth the busy bee improve each shining hour and gather honey all day from every opening flower." - Isaac Watts

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/FFGCDistrict 1](https://www.facebook.com/FFGCDistrict1)  
**District Website:** [gardenclubsNWFL.com](http://gardenclubsNWFL.com)  
**Betty White, Newsletter Editor**  
**District Director-Elect**

**Jenny Weber**  
**Director**  
**April 2025**

We won't be saying "good-bye" to our District Director, but we do say "Thank you Jenny!" She will be finishing her term as District 1 Director of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs and serving on the State Board. She has also spent the last two years as State Convention Chair .....last year as the 100th Anniversary Convention Chair .. not an easy feat, and this year with the Tri-Refresher....she excelled in both.



Jennifer Cupery Weber was born in Torrance, California. She is a graduate of the University of California at Irvine where she studied Psychology and Criminology. Jenny met her husband Barry while country dancing at a German restaurant and has been happily married for 30 years. Jenny and Barry moved to Blackwater River State Forest in 2002. Bored, she took up gardening and planted a tomato.

That defeat led to her determination to learn more, so she joined the Milton Garden Club in 2010. She has served in several positions in the club, currently as former President. In 2014, she studied under UF/IFAS extension and became a Santa Rosa County Master Gardener. Being challenged, she became a nationally accredited Flower Show Judge in 2016 and has served as Director of the District 1 Flower Show Judges Council.

Jenny is the creator, founder and President of Butterflies in Motion, a mobile butterfly house. First launched in 2022, Butterflies in Motion has had three successful seasons of teaching about Florida's native butterflies and their environment to over four thousand people each year.

Jenny is looking forward to getting back to her neglected gardens this summer and spending time with her very tolerant husband and all the critters on her hobby farm (three horses, 2 cows, 2 dogs, 3 ducks and 17 chickens)!

**Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. 62nd Annual Convention - Valdosta, Georgia March 11 - 13, 2025 - "Charms of the South."** This convention was well attended with about 197 members from Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana. This was my first convention at Deep South, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. The speakers were excellent, the food was excellent, lots of interesting vendors, and members were very friendly. Here is the Florida contingent. Very good attendance!



The Flower Design Show was "Simply Southern," an NGC Petite Design Specialty Flower Show. All entries were "simply darling" petite designs. Here are the winners from Florida - Congratulations ladies! Gina Jogan, Chair

Helen Purvis - First Award and Design Excellence; Table Artistry Award - "Lounging by the Pool"

Carole Martin - Honorable Mention - "Sitting on the Front Porch"

Chris Parrish - First Award, Designer's Choice Award - "Celebrating the Win"

Kat Spieker - Honorable Mention - "Shop til you Drop"

Kat Spieker - Third Award - "The Amusement Park"

Kat Spieker - Honorable Mention - "Day at the Beauty Shop"

Christy Linke - 90+ Award - "Start Your Engines"

Erica Chatham - First Place and Tricolor Award - "Debutante Ball"

Beverly Williams - First Award and Award of Distinction - "Start Your Engines"

Gail Hill - Third Award - "Shop Til You Drop"

Lori Busy - First Award - "The Beach"

Tina Tuttle - Honorable Mention - "Madame President"

Claudia Bates - First Award - "Shop til You Drop"

Jenny Weber - Third Award - "Sitting on the Front Porch - Sipping Sweet Tea"

## ***Smokey Bear Contest Poster Contest Winners:***

Only first place is listed:

1st Grade:  
Wyatt Phillips, Odum Garden Club, GA

2nd Grade:  
Ellie McComas, Lily Garden Club, GA

3rd Grade:  
Claire Page, Millen Garden Club, GA

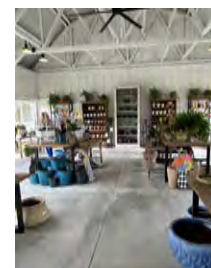
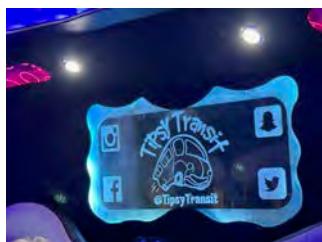
4th Grade:  
Kyna Potdar, Starkville Town & Country  
Garden Club, MS

5th Grade:  
Kristen Kumar, Spade & Trowel Garden Club,  
GA



Unfortunately, we did not have a winner from Florida, but “darn it, we should have!” Green Thumb Garden Club had a presentation for the children who participated in the poster contest, and they all received this necklace. Thank you Jan Shuttleworth!

One of our fun adventures was riding the Topsy Transit complete with “dancing pole” and some psychedelic lights to tours and one to where we were able to do some shopping. Lots of plants and vegetables! (Alas, we were told not to get on the pole!)





**Plant America - National Garden Clubs, Inc.** - Plant America Community Project Grant Applications open to NGC member clubs from **April 1 to October 15** of the calendar year to fund new or continuing projects carried out during the following year. Recipients will be notified in December. Funds are released in January or February for projects implemented during that year. Project completion must be within approximately one year but no later than February 28th of the year after funds are received. Final reports are due by April 1 of that year. There is more information on the NGC website even though the information needs updating i.e. dates. Organizer: Chair: David Robson - [plantamericagrants@gardenclub.org](mailto:plantamericagrants@gardenclub.org).



**Coming up at Christmastime:** Christmas Markets River Cruise - December 4 - 11, 2025 - Embark on a remarkable Christmas Markets River Cruise from Basel to Amsterdam immersing yourself in enchanting spirits and exploring European cities.

**Philadelphia Flower Show:** - March 1 - 6, 2026. This is the nation's largest and longest-running horticultural event and fundraiser featuring stunning displays by the world's premier floral, garden, and landscape designers.

**Eastern Caribbean Cruise:** Aboard the Explorer of the Seas - 5 nights March 16 - 21- 2026 - Spend a Perfect Day at Cocoa Cay! All Board Members should attend.

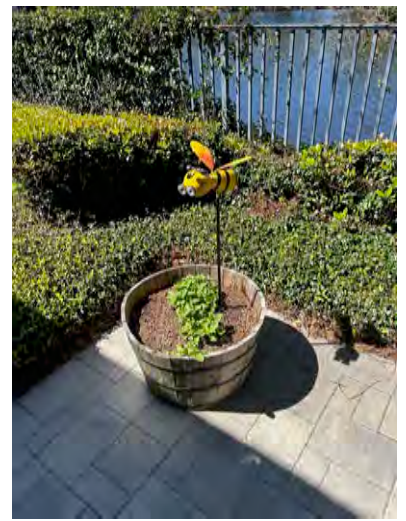


Save June 10th for a Summit/Lunch and Learn for new presidents and anyone else wanting to attend. Agenda is being worked on and will be sent out soon. When you have your installations for new officers, be sure to send your information to Sheila Salerno [ffcdistrict1secretatry@gmail.com](mailto:ffcdistrict1secretatry@gmail.com). We need to update the directory.

**ATTENTION:**

**National Garden Week - Theme “America the Beautiful”** - Plant red, white and blue bulbs now for June blooming! Be sure to celebrate National Garden Week in your community: Join NGC clubs across the country to celebrate National Garden Week **June 1 - 7, 2025**. This week is an opportunity to encourage pride in your community, interest new members, and work with other groups to be a part of those efforts. Send me your great photos - your club might win a prize. And remember, we will have a rededication of the Bartram Trail Marker on Friday, June 6th. Plant now to get ready for June week! **PLACE RED, WHITE, OR BLUE FLOWERS ON YOUR FRONT PORCH AREA.**

**Destin Garden Club:** I am always amazed at the wonderful and creative ideas of the garden clubs. Destin has excelled again. Using some donated cups and saucers, volunteers filled the cups and “planted” small artificial flowers in the cups. The cups will be delivered to a nursing home on March 21st. They will love them and will especially love that they are remembered. Thank you ladies! Pictured: Laura Hall, Jane Waters, Carolyn Williams. - “Busy Bees at Work!”



**Pensacola Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. - Tour of Tables** held March 11 - 12th. Preview night was the 11th, and was open to the public. Luncheon on March 12th. Great presentations by members of many circles of PFGC. Some got their first experience in doing this type of event. We all had fun and look forward to creating something new next year. Deborah Kay. Photos below.



**People's Choice:** 1st: Kay Krauskoph - Sassafrass; 2nd: Joan Domange, Virginia Page - Day Lily; 3rd Bernie Hagon, Susan Kieper - Pick 'N Poke.

**Judge's Choice:** 1st: Kristina Martin, Rhonda Ford, Seay Murphy - Pick 'N Poke; 2nd: Irene Carranante - Pick 'N Poke; 3rd: Kay Krauskoph - Sassafrass



Beautiful job ladies!



***Be sure to sign up for the Spring District Meeting, May 6th at the Pensacola Garden Center. April 25th is the deadline to sign up. The theme is "Daisies." And the hosts have lots of nice things planned. Are you a Daisy? Let's all be a Daisy!***

***You are down to earth and genuine,  
You are a ray of sunshine,  
You are a loyal friend  
You are simple, yet beautiful!***



***Happy Easter , Sunday, April 20, 2025***

