

2022 . 603 . 0046



Upper Keys Garden Club

Francis Tracy Garden Center
MM94

Post Office Box 373
Tavernier, FL 33070

2005-2006

SCHEDULE Meetings begin at 11:30 am the third Tuesday of the month.

September 20 J.C. Costello, Tropical Maintenance "Color Through Foliage"

October 18 Field Trip: Banyan Tree, Islamorada

November 15 To Be Announced

November 19 Plant Sale and Educational Day

December 13 Holiday Party, Pot Luck Lunch, Auction

January 17 To Be Announced

January 27 Garden Walk

February 21 Daniel Holmes, Holmes Bamboo

March 21 Field Trip: Kerry's Bromeliads, Homestead

April 18 To Be Announced

May 17 Potluck, end of season

OFFICERS 2005-2006

PRESIDENT

Edna Waldorf

VICE PRESIDENT

Mary Nelson

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Miki Bruninga

RECORDING SECRETARY

Susan Genevish

TREASURER

Lynn Shullaw

DIRECTORS

Gay Sacharoff

Carolyn Friedman

Irma Richardson

Gunilla Wade

Chris Childree

Susan Matthews

Nancy Klokke

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY, PHONE TREE, EMAIL TREE

Chris Childree

SPEAKERS AND FIELD TRIPS

Miki Bruninga

GROUNDS BEAUTIFICATION

Marylee Mobley, Sharon Anderson, Nancy Klokke

CLUBHOUSE

Susan Matthews

MEETING DECORATIONS AND REFRESHMENTS

Edna Waldorf

MONTHLY PRESS AND PUBLICITY

Mary Nelson, Nancy Klokke, Carolyn Friedman

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Chris Childree

EVENTS

GARDEN WALK

Gay Sacharoff

PLANT SALE

Marylee Mobley, Sharon Anderson

SEPTEMBER 20, 2005

**REFRESHMENTS: BONNIE FJELDE, SHARON ANDERSON,
SHARON O'BRIEN**

TABLES: BETH SCHWALBERT, EILEEN SYLVESTER

OCTOBER 18, 2005

FIELD TRIP

NOVEMBER 15, 2005

**REFRESHMENTS: GLADDY ROBERTS, ANNETTE KAPPERS,
PAT CULLIN, PEGGY LOU BANKS**

TABLES: KARIN WOLFE, MARTY FRITCH

NOVEMBER 19, 2005

PLANT SALE

DECEMBER 13, 2005

POT LUCK—ALL BRING A DISH

TABLES: PAT CULLIN, SUZIE LEY, GLADDY ROBERTS

JANUARY 17, 2006

**REFRESHMENTS: IRMA RICHARDSON, DONNA
NUSSENBLATT, LENORA ALBURY**

**TABLES: SUSAN GENEVISH, JOSIE ARNOLD, EVELYN
MCGLONE**

JANUARY 27, 2006

GARDEN WALK

FEBRUARY 21, 2006

**REFRESHMENTS: MARGARET GERLOFF, EVELYN
MCGLONE, JOSIE ARNOLD**

TABLES: JOY LEITH, MARY NRLSON

MARCH 21, 2006

FIELD TRIP

APRIL 18, 2006

**REFRESHMENTS: EVELYN MCGLONE, SHARON ALVARADO,
CAROLYN FRIEDMAN**

TABLES: MARY NELSON, EDNA WALDORF

MAY 9, 2006

POT LUCK, EVERYONE BRING A DISH

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A Brief History

In June of 1952, 10 women formed the Key Largo Garden Club, a club "of civic and cultural advantage to native plant growth in the Keys."

Membership was limited to 20 because meetings were held in private homes. By 1954 membership had increased so much that members voted to form a second club, the original to serve Key Largo, and the new Upper Keys Garden Club to serve Islamorada, Matecumbe, and Plantation Key. Charter Members, including Francis Tracy and Margaret Bond, signed our charter as a non-profit organization on September 11, 1956, in Key West.

Article 11 states, "The general nature and objects of the Corporation shall be to foster, promote, develop, protect and conserve the natural beauties of the Upper Keys through education and publicity; to encourage cooperation of all members, residents and visitors in these matters..."

The Club's first flower show was held at Coral Shores School in 1956. Beautification of Coral Shores School got under way in 1957. By 1960 the school's grounds were written up as the most beautiful in the state.

With 60 members in 1962, the need for larger space became urgent. Under the presidency of Millie Gasser, Dr. Fred Bond offered the current property, stipulating that it never be sold for commercial use and that it be named Francis Tracy Garden Center to honor our "Angel of Mercy of the Keys." Many hours and much work went into raising money for the building. A mortgage of \$8,000 was secured for the remainder.

George Coffin of Miami drew the plans without cost, and D.L. Skidmore of Islamorada was the builder. A granite cornerstone, salvaged by Rodney Albury from a ship that sunk off Tavernier in 1890, was placed in the south side front wall. It features the names of the members.

The first meeting in the new building was held September 1964, followed by an official opening in November. More than 200 friends attended. Many donations of furnishings and equipment were received. Each member purchased a chair at \$3.75. One hundred chairs were bought. Through fundraising, the \$8,000 mortgage was satisfied on December 4, 1967. Mrs. Tracy, at age 90, lit the flame to burn the mortgage.

Mrs. Tracy served the club faithfully for 18 years, until her death in 1970.

