

Rio Lindo Garden Club at
Arbor Day at PSL
Botanical Gardens

January 20, 2023

Port St. Lucie, FL

FLORIDA ARBOR DAY PROGRAM

Ceremonies Commence at 11 AM

Master of Ceremonies

Jeff Chambers
Friends of the PSL Botanical Gardens

Invocation

Stew Feketa
Nature's Keeper

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions

Welcome

Mayor Shannon Martin
Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo
City of Port St. Lucie

Greetings

Russ Blackburn, City Manager
City of Port St. Lucie

The Tree

Dwarf Sugar Palm
Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens

Recitation

Bea Cooper
Jeanette Kostival
Moses Hill

Reading of the Names

Stephanie Alessandrini - Giarraffa

Ceremonial Tree Planting

Closing Remarks

Benediction

Stew Feketa
Nature's Keeper

Hospitality Courtesy of Rio Lindo Garden Club

The Heart Of The Tree

By Henry Cuyler Bunner 1855-1896

What does he plant who plants a tree?

He plants a friend of sun and sky;
He plants the flag of breezes free;
The shaft of beauty, towering high.
He plants a home to heaven anigh
For song and mother-croon of bird
In hushed and happy twilight heard -
The treble of heaven's harmony -
These things he plants who plants a tree.

What does he plant who plants a tree?

He plants cool shade and tender rain,
And seed and bud of days to be,
And years that fade and flush again;
He plants the glory of the plain;
He plants the forest's heritage;
The harvest of a coming age;
The joy that unborn eyes shall see -
These things he plants who plants a tree.

What does he plant who plants a tree?

He plants, in sap and leaf and wood,
In love of home and loyalty
And far-cast thought of civic good -
His blessing on the neighborhood
Who in the hollow of His hand
Holds all the growth of all our land -
A nation's growth from sea to sea
Stirs in his heart who plants a tree.



Friends of PSLBG
President, Jeff Chambers,
in front of the Dwarf
Sugar Palm being
dedicated.



Left: Judy Wade passed out programs to all.

Right: Master of Ceremonies, Jeff Chambers, President of the Friends of PSL Botanical Gardens opening the program.





Left: Stew Feketa,
Nature's Keeper, gave the
Invocation.

Right: Russ Blackburn,
City Manager of PSL gave
Greetings.





From Left to Right: Bea Cooper, Jeanette Kostival and Judy Wade presented a reading of "The Heart of the Tree", a poem by Henry Cuyler Bunner



Left: Stephanie Alessandrini-Giarraffa reads the names –
In Memory.

SETH WALTON
by Gramma & Grandpa

SEANN FORREST KING
by Joleen King (Stepmother)

MARION GILBERTSON
by Joleen King (Daughter)

EMILY WHITNEY EPLER
by "P.M" & Eleanor Epler (Grandparents)

VIRGINIA WILSON
by The Furnari's & Magett's

GEORGE S. COOPER
by Bea Cooper (Wife)

JOYCE WARNER
by Aunt Binnie & Uncle Jim

JOANNA KIJEWski
by Georgette Beck (Daughter)

JUDITH SIROIS
by Nicole Sirois (Daughter)

ROBERT GAIDA
by Jeanette Kostival (Daughter)

In Memory...

Arbor Day 2023



The Ceremonial Tree
Planting of the
Dwarf Sugar Palm



Left: Stew Feketa gives the Benediction

Right: Arbor Day Info and Credits

The Friends of the Port St Lucie Botanical Gardens wish to thank the following organizations for their support:

Nature's Keeper
Port St Lucie Parks & Recreation
The City of Port St. Lucie
Port St. Lucie Police Department

FPSLBG 2022-2023 Board of Directors

Jeff Chambers, President
Heather Furnari, Vice President
Mary Petrone, Secretary
Moses Hill, Treasurer
Mark Barnes, Director
John Erickson, Director
Judy Nash-Wade, Director

Arbor Day

The origins of Arbor Day dates back to the early 1870s in Nebraska City, Nebraska. A journalist by the name of Julius Sterling Morton moved to the state with his wife, Caroline, in 1854 (a little more than 10 years after Nebraska gained its statehood in 1867). As newcomers to the young state, the couple purchased 160 acres in Nebraska City and planted a wide variety of trees and shrubs in what was a primarily a flat stretch of desolate plain.

On January 7, 1872, Morton proposed a day that would encourage all Nebraskans to plant trees in their community. The agriculture board agreed, and after some back-and-forth about the title, the event was originally going to be called "Sylvan Day" in reference to forest trees but Morton noted that the day should reflect the appreciation of all trees - Arbor Day was born.

It wasn't until 1970, however, that Arbor Day became recognized nationwide, thanks to Richard Nixon. This move was in line with other environmentally-friendly actions taken by Nixon in the 1970s, including the passing of the Clean Air Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act and the National Environmental Protection Act, along with the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Although some states celebrate Arbor Day at different times of year to ensure that the trees are in the best environment to thrive, the national observance falls on the last Friday in April. In Florida we celebrate it on the third Friday of January. *Happy Arbor Day!*



Rio Lindo volunteers provided refreshments. From left to right, standing: Joleen King, Darlene Enzian and Angela Vanella Seated: Marilyn Zeller, President Karen York and Linda Giddens



The event was
enjoyed by all.



PHOTOS

COURTESY OF

DARLENE ENZIAN

