

The Garden Club of Stuart, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Bylaws of The Garden Club of Stuart, Inc. (as amended)

Article III – Membership

SECTION 1. CANDIDATES: Candidates for membership shall be invited to attend no more than two (2) meetings as guests during the current Club year. After attending two (2) meetings, candidates shall be asked to decide if they would like to join, and to select a class of membership (Active or Patron). Candidates shall be sponsored by two (2) members, one of whom has held membership for at least one (1) year.

SECTION 2. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP: To be eligible for Active membership, one must have an interest in the objectives of The Garden Club of Stuart, Inc., as stated in the Articles of Incorporation, and must demonstrate a willingness to work on committees, support projects, attend meetings and take an active part in general garden club work, and shall hold voting privileges.

- Applications for Active membership shall require a payment of \$60.00, which includes an initiation fee of \$25.00 and annual dues of \$35.00. A check made payable to The Garden Club of Stuart, Inc. shall be presented to the Second Vice President, along with the application.
- Applications for Active membership, together with initiation fee and current dues, shall be presented to the Executive Board by the Second Vice President at any meeting of the Board. Upon approval by the Executive Board, he/she shall notify applicant of his/her acceptance with an invitation to attend meetings and assume responsibilities of membership.
- Membership fees paid in March for any class of membership shall constitute paid dues for the following Club year.

SECTION 3. Additional classes of membership shall include three (3) classes, Associate, Patron, and Honorary.

- ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: Associate members shall have a continued interest in the objectives of the Club; shall support Club projects; shall be exempt from committee responsibilities; shall not hold voting privileges or the right to hold office. Associate members would hold the same Associate status in any Circle to which they previously belonged. To be eligible for Associate membership, one must have been an Active, contributing member of The Garden Club of Stuart, Inc. for at least five (5) years.
- Requests for Associate membership shall be sent to the Second Vice President and may be granted by vote of the Executive Board. No more than ten percent (10%) of the total membership may become associate members. (Dues for an Associate member, as shown below, are \$75.00 per Club year.)
- PATRON MEMBERSHIP: Patron members shall have an interest in the objectives of the Club; shall support Club projects; shall be exempt from committee responsibilities; shall not hold voting privileges or the right to hold office. Patron members are not eligible for Circle membership. Applications for Patron membership shall be sent to the Second Vice President and may be granted by a vote of the Executive Board. No more than ten percent (10%) of the total membership may become Patron members. (Dues for a Patron member, as shown below, are \$125.00 per Club year.)
- HONORARY MEMBERSHIP: The Executive Board may confer Honorary membership upon any member who has made an outstanding effort to promote the purposes of The Garden Club of Stuart, Inc. Honorary members have the privilege of electing the extent of their participation; however, they shall not hold voting privileges or the right to hold office. (Honorary members are exempt from the payment of dues.)

SECTION 4. A member in good standing in any Federated club of the National Garden Clubs, Inc., upon presentation of a letter of transfer from his/her club, may become a member of The Garden Club of Stuart, Inc. upon payment of appropriate dues for Active or Patron membership. Such transfer members would be required to maintain membership for five (5) years before attaining eligibility to request Associate membership.

SECTION 5. A member who resigns while in good standing may, at a later date, return to the Club, with Executive Board approval and payment of current dues for appropriate class of membership.

Article IV – Dues

SECTION 1. The fiscal year shall be from May 1 through April 30 of the following year.

SECTION 2. The annual dues for an Active member shall be \$35.00.

SECTION 3. The annual dues for an Associate member shall be \$75.00.

SECTION 4. The annual dues for a Patron member shall be \$125.00.

SECTION 5. Honorary members shall be exempt from payment of dues.

SECTION 6. Dues shall be payable on April 1 of the current year and delinquent after May 1. Members whose dues are unpaid by May 1 shall be suspended from the Club, and forfeit membership listing in, and receipt of, a yearbook. To be reinstated as a member in good standing, current New Member's dues, plus a \$25.00 fee, must be paid in full.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- The fiscal year is from May 1 to April 30. Dues are for the current Club year. This means that new members joining during the club year will pay upon joining for the current year AND dues for the next year will be due on April 1 and delinquent after May 1.
- Dues Notices are distributed in March. Unfortunately, if dues are NOT paid by May 1, your listing will not be in the Yearbook, you will not receive a yearbook and you will be suspended from the Club.
- Members can be reinstated and receive a yearbook by paying the New Member's Dues (currently \$60.00) and a fee of \$25.00. However, as the closing date is May 1, their listing will not be in that yearbook.
- All resignations should be in writing and addressed to the Second Vice President.
- The Second Vice President is: Cathy Gerzina, 6800 SE South Marina Way, Stuart, FL 34996-1996

The Garden Club of Stuart, Inc.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP 2018-19

Date: _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: First _____ Last _____

The applicant has attended the two required meetings on:

Dates: _____ and _____

Home Address — Street, City, Zip Code (9 digits)

Mailing Address (if different)

Telephone

Work phone

Cellphone

Email

Birthday (Month/Day)

Spouse/Partner First Name

Please enclose check payable to **The Garden Club of Stuart, Inc.** for **\$60.00**. Dues submitted with this application are for the current (2018-2019) Club year ending April 30th. (*Dues for the 2019-2020 Club year will be due on April 1, 2019.*) Mail form and check to: Cathy Gerzina, 6800 SE South Marina Way, Stuart, FL 34996-1996

ANNUAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF GARDEN CLUB OF STUART, INC. MEMBERS:

Active participation is expected from members. Members may choose to be involved on Committees or Projects. However, generally speaking, ALL members have FOUR responsibilities each year.

- DUES:** Payment of \$35 Active Members; \$75 Associate Members; \$125 Patron Members; or \$23 FFBC Life Members.
- REFRESHMENTS:** Two platters of table-ready refreshments for one meeting, as assigned (or an advance payment of \$15 for Refreshment Committee to handle this for you).
- WAYS & MEANS:** Participation in prizes for Opportunity Drawings for one assigned meeting and hostess assistance (ticket sales, greeting or refreshment service) at the same meeting.
- MAJOR PROJECT:** Our major project alternates each year between Secret Gardens Tour and Flower Show. This year's major project is the Secret Gardens Tour. Member participation will be coordinated through the Circles (*with Members at Large affiliating with their assigned Ways & Means Circle*).

Please indicate which activities applicant pledges to support and participate in:

MANDATORY	_____ Horticulture Study	_____ Joining a Circle
ITEMS BELOW:	_____ Floral Design Study	_____ Publicity & Promotion
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REFRESHMENTS	_____ Computers/Photography	_____ Hands-on Gardening Projects
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WAYS & MEANS	_____ Committee Work	_____ Registration & Tickets
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FLOWER SHOW	_____ Website	_____ Finance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GARDEN TOUR	_____ School Gardeners	_____ Environmental Projects

Applicant understands membership requirements, which include active participation including a willingness to work on committees, support projects, and volunteer time for general Garden Club work.

Signature of Applicant: _____

We, the undersigned two sponsors, propose the above person for membership in The Garden Club of Stuart, Inc.

Sponsor Signature

☐ (will mentor)

Sponsor Signature

☐ (will mentor)