

2005 TGOA/MGCA NATIONAL CONVENTION WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

Three words come to mind as I recall the wonderful experiences Ed and I had at the TGOA Florida Convention – “Graciousness, Elegance and Surprises.” Our first surprise was the elegant room we had. The beds were the talk of the members as we jumped to get into our beds then because of their height, had to slide off. Our view from the patio was wonderful. Thursday morning was National Committee Meetings. I attended the Youth Gardening meeting and part of the Website Committee Meeting. I wish more members would check out the national website



(<http://www.tgoa-mgca.org>).

Webmaster, Frank Mitch has done an outstanding job. You will find info on incoming national officers, 2006 and 2007 national conventions, club activities and much more. I keep updated by pulling up the “what’s new” site.

Ed would have enjoyed the Walking Tours for Spouses but it poured rain. In the afternoon, I attended the Director’s Meeting. We were ready for the Welcome Reception followed by the best Power Point Photography Slide Show & Awards, I have ever seen.



Some of the slides almost took your breath away, they were so beautiful. Rodney Toth of our CGLR (Youngstown Club) was one of the awardees. There will be more info coming on the Directors Meeting.

Friday’s Members Meeting was most informative. There were about 90 in attendance which is a drop in attendance, mostly I believe, from the western part of the states. I missed seeing many of the great friends I have seen in the past. Our club treasurer will have a copy of literature we received covering “what our dues are used for.” I have tried to share this information after every convention. Please avail yourself of this information.

On the national web site, you will find info on upcoming conventions. I will have some literature to share on the April 20-22, 2006 convention in Spartansburg, S.C. and on the July 18 – 21, 2007 in Rockfort, Ill.

the April 20-22, 2006 convention in Spartansburg, S.C. and on the July 18 – 21, 2007 in Rockfort, Ill. The chairs of these upcoming conventions were most enthusiastic and excited about their plans. It would be great if the CGL region could make a grand appearance.



The American Orchid Society Headquarters was really a beautiful site. There were orchids everywhere, in the greenhouse, on trees and on posts. There were also many other trees and shrubs that caught the eye, like the shrimp plant.



Everyone was anxious to hear the outcome of the ballots. The dues increase passed by 18 votes. Regular membership will be \$30, Family membership will be \$45 for two people, life membership will be \$300. We should be aware that we are now members of both The Gardeners of America/Men’s Garden Clubs of America and The American Horticultural Society (this includes the magazine and passes to gardens)

Saturday, Ed attended the Growing and Using Herbs followed by Florida Wildlife seminars. I attended the Florida Everglades and Planning the Landscape to Outfox Mother Nature seminar. (This was an upfront presentation on the devastation after the hurricanes and how plantings were changed to hopefully outfox Mother Nature.)

The banquet was delicious as were the other meals. The convention chair, Gale Langford, did a wonderful job assisted by West Palm Club President, Wayne Gardner and his club members.



L to R: Dale Davies, 2006 Incoming President, Marcia Davies; Anita, CGLR Director & Bill Lanning, Past Nat’l Pres, Gale Langford, Chair of 2005 Convention