



*Sarasota, Fl. Chapter #115  
May, 2017*



Ikebana International Sarasota, Fl.  
Chapter #115  
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### Message from President, Gil Lee

I am thrilled to once again be your Chapter president for the 2017-2018 season. The Board recently met for a program planning session and has put together an exciting year of activities. The 2017-2018 season will also be our 50th anniversary celebration year. Not only will we be having a special demonstration/workshop in November, but the entire year is planned as a celebration. We will need everyone's help to make this a success, so please be sure and share your time and talent. The Board will be meeting throughout the summer months to complete plans for these very special events.

This past season we enjoyed many new activities and celebrated having our first Ikebana exhibition at the Sarasota Garden Club, which was a great success. I wish to especially thank past president Jennifer Walker for leading the Chapter the past two years. She faced many challenges and always came out on top.

Have a great summer. Be safe in your travels. And we'll see each other again in September.

### Election and Installation of Executive Board

Please welcome your 2017-18 Board of Directors. They are all eager to get started:

President  
1<sup>st</sup> VP, Programs  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Membership  
Recording Sec'y

Gil Lee  
Gwen Lawry  
Pat Bonarek  
Doris Botshon

Corresponding Sec'y  
Treasurer

The election and installation was held at our April 24<sup>th</sup> general meeting. Nominating Chair, Sara Ryskamp, presiding.

Margaret Boehm  
Adrienne Wagner



This was followed by a cake cutting ceremony wishing out-going President Jennifer Walker, who steps off the Board and welcome incoming President, Gil Lee.

### Sayonara - end of season Party



Our Sayonara Party was held at Lolita Tartine Restaurant celebrating a very successful year and a look forward to the future.

### Message from 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Gwen Lawry, Program Chair

I am pleased to announce the programs for our coming year 2017-2018. We have given a lot of thought to offering you unique and one of a kind programs to challenge your creativity. This program is attached to this email. Please print this, mark your calendars so you will not miss any of them.

Message from Historian, Terri Ruebusch

**Did You Know?**

In the time period between our Chapter's 30th and 40th anniversaries, a number of new members joined who are happily still with us today as we celebrate our 50th. The year 2006 saw the beginning of Selby Garden's Asian Fest, which we supported annually with our Exhibition in the Mansion Museum and in later years in the Great Room by the Bay. In 2007/2008 we celebrated our 40th with a variety of programs focused on: Palms, Fall Grasses, the Kimono, and Japanese Garnishes- the ancient art of "Mukimono". Now, we are eagerly looking forward to a year full of programs planned for our 50th anniversary and welcome all to join us and bring a guest!

Children's Ikebana Workshop

**A SPECIAL CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP at GULF GATE LIBRARY**

During the past 9 years, children from the ages of 5 to 17 years have participated in a Mother's Day Workshop sponsored by the Sogetsu Study Group and funded by The Friends of the Gulf Gate Library. Each student, with the assistance of study group members, create an Ikebana arrangement using the basic skills of Ikebana to present to their Mothers for Mother's Day. Many of the same children have returned each year. This is a way to promote the art of Ikebana to the next generation.



In CELEBRATION of the 90th ANNIVERSARY of the Sogetsu School.

This year we added a Mawari-ike display in the hallway of the library to celebrate the Sogetsu School 90th Anniversary. Each child placed a flower, leaf, or branch as a special element to celebrate this anniversary.



I want to thank the helpers  
Margaretta Rower,  
Adrienne Wagner, Gwen Lawry, Doris

Botshon, Dorinda Wilkinson, Joan Gushiken, Penny Hendry, and Kimiko Ikeda. Doris Botshon, Adrienne Wagner and John Wagner came to prepare the containers a few days before, plus John Wagner, Joan Gushiken, Adrienne Wagner and Gwen Lawry who helped with the pre-set-up on Friday afternoon. The best of all was the lunch that Kimiko Ikeda prepared for us to eat in between the class sessions.

A special Ringling Teahouse event



A special memorial dedication was held at the Teahouse at Ringling Museum. Pat Bonarek and Adrienne Wagner created a special chabana in the tokonoma in honor of the donor.

Special Member Recognition

We would like to thank Gail Dutt, who has been our Parliamentarian and before that Corresponding Secretary for all her years of participation in our Chapter activities. Gail has returned to her former home in New Hampshire and we all want to wish her well. She will remain our sincere 'Flower Friend' and will keep her informed of our Chapter activities. Thank you Gail.

In 2011-13 and again 2016-17, Jennifer Walker has served as our President. Jennifer is now stepping off the Board and we want to thank her for all her good work. We have had very successful programs, exhibitions and other special events under her leadership. Thank you Jennifer.

Message from your Chapter News Editor

It has been my pleasure to be your Newsletter Editor for the past 8 years. It has been a challenging, learning experience. It is now time to turn this over to a new editor with new ideas, always sharing your Chapter activities and events to keep you informed and involved.

**Polly Curran – Signing off**