



## FFGC Award Application Cover Sheet 2025-2027

Complete this cover sheet and additional pages as noted below.  
Email your completed application to the FFGC Awards chair, Sylvia Swartz:  
[sswartzffgcawards@gmail.com](mailto:sswartzffgcawards@gmail.com). Most awards are due November 27, 2025.  
Check Awards Handbook for variations.

FFGC Award # 5 Category/ Class A FFGC Award SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Name of Group/Club/Individual applying for Award Awards Committee

Club Lake Placid Garden Club

Number of members 104

Contact Name Doris Rohner

FFGC District # IX

Email gardenclub4me@gmail.com

Phone 954.792.7500

Address 156 Red Water Pt

City Lake Placid

ST. FL Zip 33852

Name of Club President Doris Rohner

Email: gardenclub4me@gmail.com

Phone 954.792.7500

Is this project new? Yes

Continuing from previous work? Yes

Ongoing? YES

Beginning date 8-2025

Expected completion date 12-2025

Complete this cover sheet and attach the following information (**do not exceed 3 additional single-sided sheets unless you are submitting a BOE which requires more pages**).

1. A brief summary and objectives of the project;
2. Description of the involvement of other club members, other organizations, etc. ;
3. Project expenses and means of funding;
4. Continuing involvement, follow-up, or maintenance;
5. Include Landscape plan if applicable – does not need to be professionally drawn;
6. Photos as applicable (inserted into your document – do not send photo prints).

All award applications are to be typed and submitted electronically unless otherwise noted in the award description. Applicants must use this cover sheet and may attach up to three additional single-sided pages. Indicate the Award Name and Number and the name of the applicant on each sheet. Number the pages .



PO Box 2193, Lake Placid, FL 33862

[www.lakeplacidgardenclub.org](http://www.lakeplacidgardenclub.org)

November 2, 2025

**Award# 5**

**Award Name: SPECIAL ACHEIVEMENT AWARD**

**Applicant Name: Lake Placid Garden Club**

**To: Sylvia Swartz**  
**FFGC Awards Chair**

**Re: Blue Star Memorial Project**

**1. A brief summary and objectives of the project;**

The Blue Star Memorial Garden project, led by Mark Ponsler and Donna Ferchen, has been a meaningful and collaborative effort dedicated to honoring the men and women who have served in the United States Armed Forces. Under their leadership, the garden has become a living tribute that combines natural beauty with patriotic pride. Designed and maintained with care, the project reflects a deep respect for those who have sacrificed for our country, offering a serene and welcoming space for reflection and remembrance.

**2. Description of the involvement of other club members, other organizations, etc.**

Many club members have generously contributed their time and talents to the success of this endeavor—installing a sprinkler system, planting, maintaining, and enhancing the garden throughout the season. Their teamwork and dedication have ensured that the garden remains both beautiful and purposeful, serving as a symbol of community spirit and gratitude. The area surrounding the memorial marker showed significant neglect, with visible rain ruts and extensive weed growth prior to completing this project.

**3. Project expenses and means of funding;**

All labor for the project was In-Kind. The club was responsible for a portion of the plants and supplies. Mark Ponsler was reimbursed.



Award #5

Award Name: SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Applicant Name: Lake Placid Garden Club

SEP 11 2025 5B719ITP, MARK PONSLER, 2334038, ELECTRONIC BILL PAY

- \$134.71  
\$3,239.17

#### 4. Continuing involvement, follow-up, or maintenance;

The American Legion, Post 25 has been extremely generous in allowing us to use their facility for **monthly membership meetings**. In appreciation, our club members monthly maintain the **Blue Star Memorial Garden** on their grounds as well as planting and maintaining the raised garden around the American Flag. It's our way of giving back— and it allows us to showcase our gardening skills by adding to the beauty of Lake Placid, FL.

Deceased veterans & members of the American Legion are recognized with small markers. During the garden renovation a broken marker was found, cleaned, and repaired by Toni Surface, a non member of the club and Legion. The marker was in memory of Trudy Ricketts husband, Raymond Ricketts, serving 1942-1968. Trudy is a longtime member of the LPGC. Bottom right picture.

This project exemplifies the **objectives of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs (FFGC)** by promoting civic responsibility, fostering love of country, and encouraging the beautification of public spaces. The Blue Star Memorial Garden not only honors veterans but also inspires appreciation for nature, community service, and the values that unite us all.

#### 5. Include Landscape plan if applicable – does not need to be professionally drawn;

NONE

#### 6. Photos as applicable (inserted into your document – do not send photo prints).

Mark Ponsler did most of the physical work installing a sprinkler system, leveling the ground, rock and brick placement, as well as planting of the greenery. He was assisted by several club members. To name a few; Donna Ferchen, Cecelia Chuplus, Sherill Trevino, Vicki Maxwell.





Award # 5

AwardName: SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Applicant Name: Lake Placid Garden Club

Pictures of the garden and members hard at work are enclosed.

SEP 11 2025 5B719ITP,MARK PONSLER,2334038,ELECTRONIC BILL PAY

- \$134.71  
\$3,239.17



*Mark Ponsler maintaining the raised garden*



*Memorial markers for those that served*

Respectfully submitted,

*Doris Rohner*

Doris Rohner  
President  
LPGC  
954.792.7500

