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## Meeting Safety Considerations

One of the outgrowths of our Seedlings emails to the North & Central American Ikebana chapters, is the exchange of information that has grown between the chapters and their respective Regional Advocates. This message is a prime example of how we can all work together for each other.

Linked to this email and posted on our website ([Fall 2020 Programs](#)) is an extremely valuable summary of issues related to holding live and virtual chapter meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[This report](#) was prepared by a special Safety Committee of the St. Petersburg Chapter #65. Their assignment was to outline the various considerations and options for meeting again this fall. We have been given permission by the committee and St. Petersburg Chapter to share their work with all NCAR chapters.

The task force examined:

- The context of the changing pandemic
- The fall flu season converging with a potential 2nd wave of COVID-19
- A variety of meeting formats (business, demonstration, workshop)
- Indoor, outdoor and virtual meeting options
- State, local and CDC guidelines
- Member confidence and health issues

We hope you find this report useful **and share it with your board and even all your members**. Use it as a guide to your chapter's thought process with respect to holding chapter board and regular meetings going forward, be they live or virtual. This report is effective July 1, 2020 and reflects COVID-19 advisories effective at that time for the St. Petersburg and Florida areas. Each chapter should consider this report in combination with your own local and state government entities COVID-19 guidelines and advisories.

Thanks again to the hard working members of the St. Petersburg Safety Committee for giving careful thought to this issue, producing and sharing it with the NCAR Ikebana chapters.

The Regional Advocates would like to remind you that we are keenly aware of chapters' concerns to provide programs this fall. To that end, we have initiated several projects to provide quality programming to all NCAR chapters at a nominal sliding scale price. Here is our earlier "[Coming Attractions](#)" email announcing these plans. Stay tuned for more details.

### **Your NCAR Regional Advocates**

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[Elizabeth Biddle](#) - East and Ohio

[Janet Knowlton](#) - Midwest

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