



Allamanda News

The Newsletter of the Wellington Garden Club

MAY/JUNE 2016

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Members:

The May-June newsletter is the final one for our garden club year that talks about so many wonderful activities and events for our members' benefit and enjoyment. Thank you, Evvy Bartley, our Editor, and all members for your contributions throughout the year. "Glorious Gardens" Tour 2016 certainly tops the list of special events this year. It was a great success and important fundraiser showing five private, beautiful gardens in the area. Floral Design workshop classes, NGC flower show judge's school courses and Gardening Study schools were well attended by our members to further their education in what they love to learn about. Our speakers on tropical bamboo and on succulents that work in South Florida were quite informational and interesting. Our youth learned more about gardening and protecting our environment at our many youth garden clubs. Earth Day was a great event with the Village where we gave out free milkweed plants to visitors to our booth. The challenge by NGC to our members to "Leap into Action" was certainly fulfilled.

Around & Abouts are always fun and exciting. Please let me know if you're able to chair or help organize these trips during the next club year. Our recent trips to Grassy Waters Preserve and Butterfly World are described in this issue on pages 5 and 2, respectively. Chris Tiner is preparing a summer fun time and tour at a mango grove on June 27, 9-11 AM in Delray. If interested, please sign up and pay \$3.00 at the May lunch if you haven't already. More details to follow by email.

We are winding up the year with our final meeting and spring luncheon on Monday, May 2 at the beautiful Wycliffe Golf and Country Club. As usual, we will be voting on one important item only: our proposed 2016-2017 Budget for next year and we will enjoy seeing the college scholarships awarded to our bright and talented young people in the area. The Co-chairs are preparing a wonderful lunch and social time for all to wrap up the garden club year. **This is your last chance to renew your membership** when you register as you come in for your lunch. Bring your checkbook to renew and \$3.00 for the Mango outing.

After the club year is ended for our general meetings and activities, the summer is a very busy time preparing for the next club year. Member volunteers will continue working on some important items for our club. We will be preparing the yearbook, setting up a brand new and exciting website, finalizing the Articles of Association Amendments, working on the new meeting structure, coordinating committee chairs, finding monthly speakers and Around and About activities. I ask all members to please review the Articles of Association Amendments (Revisions) that I will send by email blast as soon as they are finalized. This is not one to delete. We will vote on these changes at our Tuesday, September 6 meeting at 9:30 AM. This will be a business meeting only with no guests or visitors. We look forward to our meetings at the new Village of Wellington Community Center on Forest Hill Boulevard.

Have a wonderful summer; enjoy your gardens and our beautiful earth. We look forward to seeing you in September. Don't forget to **"Nurture Ourselves, Our Gardens and Our Leaders of Tomorrow"**.

Happy gardening days always,

Nathy

WGC CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MARCH – APRIL 2016

May 2	WGC Spring Luncheon – Wycliffe Golf & Country Club – 11:00 AM
May 2-7	NGC Convention – Grand Rapids, MI (Mon – Sat)
May 3	Adopt-a-Street – Wellington Dog Park (9:00 AM)
May 19-20	NGC Environmental Studies Course I, Pine Jog Environmental Center
June 5-11	Celebrate National Garden Week
June 27	Mango Grove Tour, Delray Beach (9-11:00 AM)

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Danese Sloan-Kendall, Treasurer

April 2, 2016

Wellington Garden Club began March 1, 2016 with a checking account balance of \$19,064.22.

Income since then totaled \$7,642.54 primarily from the Garden tour, donations and boutique sales.

Expenses since March 1st were \$2,466.16, primarily for program services to include youth garden expenses, program speakers, member education, SEEK & Wekiva Capital funds and the Wellington Preserve Native Plant Garden.

A new update will be sent once all monies from the Glorious Garden Tour is complete. Additionally, for more detailed information, the WGC profit & loss versus annual budget report is being sent.

Balance as of April 2 in the Wellington Garden Club checking account is \$24,240.60.

HOSPITALITY

Since we will be meeting at 9:30 a.m. beginning with our September members-only meeting, we request members to bring breakfast-type foods. Please contact our Hospitality Chair, Kathy Hernicz, at ckhernicz@yahoo.com or by phone at 561-358-4995 during the summer for further information and to sign up to bring food.

RECAP OF AROUND AND ABOUT TO BUTTERFLY WORLD Wednesday, April 20th



On Wednesday, April 20th, 17 members of the WGC enjoyed a wonderful tour with Jessica, our very knowledgeable and gregarious guide at the Butterfly World in Coconut Creek. She enlightened us on the life of butterflies, their metamorphosis, explained their unique larva and pupa from the butterfly farms and showed us displays that change daily. These large, brilliantly-colored butterflies were in giant aviaries brimming with tens of thousands of rain forest flyers. We also saw exotic bird aviaries and hummibirds, not to mention the magnificent landscape and exotic plants within. We also saw the fascinating Macaw landing, butterfly museum and the live bug zoo. What a thrilling experience and one not to be missed in the future for anyone interested in these beautiful creatures.



RECAP OF FLORAL DESIGN CLASS

Monday, March 14th

*Jane Kiesewetter, Bernice Correra
Susan Hillson, Chris Biscoglio*



Spring time is a smile as we think of new fresh flowers and a lightness to the air. So having our final class for the year with a "Spring" theme and using a cradling Crescent design, was fitting: this class has not only enjoyed creating its floral arrangements but has also experienced the aliveness we feel when we get to know and make new friends. It's interesting how 20 women suddenly become silent while working on their floral creations. But then, once we have completed them, it becomes a bee hive of happy noise as we enjoy what each other has done. We learned so much from the gentle and

constructive comments from our professors Susan and Chris. We learned from seeing each other's design. And we learned how uplifting it can be to share a common interest and get better acquainted with each other. Susan and Chris surprised us with coffee, cookies, and other tasty treats to socialize over, and by the end of the day, we were abuzz with conversation, and then hugging and saying a temporary good-bye to one another. Our season ended with a spring in our walk. We were a family.



Earth Day at Wellington Amphitheatre Sunday, April 17, 2016



Each year the Village of Wellington invites the Garden Club to participate in Earth Day celebrations. This year Earth Day was celebrated at the Wellington Amphitheatre. on April 17, 2016, Our volunteers, Uma Bhatti, Rehana Potter and Linda Motzer represented the Garden Club. Our President, Kathy Siena, was on the stage with the new Village of Wellington Mayor, Anne Gerwig, and gave a brief speech highlighting the Club's activities. Uma Bhatti and

Rehana Potter manned the Garden club table and distributed Milkweed seedlings and various informative pamphlets to visitors.



YOUTH GARDEN CLUBS NEWS

By Barbara Hadsell, NGC and FFGC Gardening Study Schools Chairman

PALM BEACH CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL MARY KASTNER ENDOWMENT FRESHMAN GARDENER AWARD



On April 19, 2016, the Mary Kastner freshman gardener chosen for 2016 was Camille Douglass. For her project, she planted a fruit tree in the garden at Palm Beach Central High School. She and fellow freshmen from the Environmental Society along with last year's freshman gardener, Elizabeth Clarkson, researched potential fruit trees to use and decided on an Avocado, Lychee and Carambola. Camille and her teacher, Mrs. Toni Riebe, planted the trees and the environmental club will help with the watering until the trees are



established. Camille should enjoy the fruits of her labor in about 18 months. Nurturing the trees throughout her high school career will instill a lifelong love of gardening. Thanks go to WGC member Mary Kastner who provided the funds for this valuable youth project.



Camille Douglass, left, with her teacher, Mrs. Toni Riebe as they work to plant fruit trees at Palm Beach Central High School.

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

By Barbara Hadsell, NGC and FFGC Earth Steward Chairman



At the 90th FFGC State Convention, Barbara Hadsell, FFGC Earth Steward Chairman, shown at right, presented the Earth Steward recognition to Diane Rice for her tireless efforts to ban fracking and thereby protect and preserve Florida's clean water.

Go Back to a Moment in Time

Go to Grassy Waters Everglades Preserve

by Diane Rice , District X Environmental Chairman



One cannot help but be thrilled to go to Grassy Waters Everglades Preserve to experience nature and the Everglades itself. Nestled in West Palm Beach this is 23 square miles of original ...pristine ... Florida with nature hikes, wetlands and birds galore. According to the Dept. of Environment Protection of Florida in their June 2004 article titled: Grassy Waters Preserve/City of West Palm Beach Water Catchment Area and found at: <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/southeast/ecosum/ecosums/Grassy%20Waters.pdf> --- this land now called Grassy Waters Everglades Preserve was

purchased by Henry Flagler around the 1890's and the water filtered from it supplied the water for the Town of Palm Beach as well as West Palm Beach, Fl. It still is the main reason why West Palm Beach continues to enjoy good water and why we have not run out. And yet, according to Grassy Waters Preserve web site at: <http://wpb.org/Departments/Grassy-Waters-Preserve/Grassy-Waters-Preserve-Home> the Florida State Dept. of Transportation and Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization want to alter this Preserve full of pristine wilderness by constructing SR7 through a portion of it in spite of two letters from the US Environmental Protection Agency giving its disapproval and claiming it as a violation of the Clean Water and Air Act. Floridians cannot help but wonder why any State governmental organization would want to destroy a portion of wetlands when it is the wetlands that filters a significant portion of the county's water supply ?

For the moment though on March 31, 2016 the Wellington Garden Club put on their hiking boots and trailed the Grassy Waters Everglades Preserve and pretended to be the pioneers of the 1890's.





They discovered the natural beauty of wetlands and gained an appreciation for the pristine natural ecosystem it provided. They carried their binoculars and cameras to capture the sheer wonder of it all. They watched in awe all those pretty birds and amazing alligators. And they made a new friend for their Nature Center Educator and tour guide Nandi Boliek had announced that she wanted to become a Wellington Garden Club member. And we are now going to work with her in keeping this luscious remnant of the Everglades because without this preserve we would surely run out of water for even the smallest of our gardens.

Many thanks go to the people involved in making this trip possible. First was our own Diane Patterson who made initial contact with Nandi Boliek in planning this tour. Next is Jan Seagrave who graciously accepted the chairmanship of Round and About in January 2016. Thirdly is our Environmental Chairpersons, Diane Rice and Phil Macnak who became the Wellington Garden Club hosts and with other garden club members the earth stewards for this trip.

All photos were obtained from the Grassy Waters Everglades Preserve web site. Why not come out yourself to see the spectacular beauty of it all.





WEKIVA

**HEAR YE! HEAR YE!!
WEKIVA NEWS ALERTS**

**WILL THE YOUNGSTERS IN YOUR LIFE
BE WEKIVA CAMPERS?**

FINAL OPPORTUNITY FOR 2016 WEKIVA CAMPERSHIPS

Wellington Garden Club has funds available to sponsor students who have completed grades 3-8 and want to attend this outstanding environmental and nature camp.

Your youngsters -- children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, neighbors' children, friends' children—are eligible to attend this summer's Wekiva Youth Camp. Registration forms are only available online www.wekivayouthcamp.org. Be sure to indicate on the registration form that Wellington Garden Club is your sponsor, send a copy of your registration form to Harriet Samuels and contact Harriet to discuss the procedure for obtaining club funding for your camper. Check the Camp Wekiva web site for full detail on the summer camp program.

HURRY ~~~~ HURRY ~~~~HURRY

For further information, contact Harriet Samuels at 561-715-0950 or hiswpbwh@gmail.com

Adopt-A-Street Program on Tuesday, May 3, 2016

By Mary Ann Hesser

Wellington Garden Club has participated in the Village of Wellington's Adopt-A-Street program for several years. Volunteers meet at the parking lot adjacent to the dog park near the corner of Greenbriar Blvd. and Aero Club Drive at 9:00 a.m. on designated dates four times during the Garden Club's calendar year. We pick up litter beginning at the parking lot and continue to the corner of Wellington Trace and Greenbrier Blvd. Grabbers, gloves, trash bags, and orange vests are supplied by the Public Works Dept. Sign up at Monday's meeting. Contact Mary Ann Hesser if you have questions.

REPORT ON GLORIOUS GARDENS TOUR Saturday, April 9th

Barbara Hadsell & Twig Morris, Co-Chairs



What a glorious day it was for Wellington Garden Club's *Glorious Gardens* tour of five spectacular, private gardens in and around Wellington! If you weren't able to participate in the tour, either as a volunteer or ticket holder, you missed a very special day of beauty, camaraderie and joy. Four of the five spectacular gardens belonged to our members Stormi Bivin, Laure Hristov, Anne Hlasnicek and Kimberly Helms. The owners of the fifth garden, Regina Smit-Sio and Carlos Sio, are both avid gardeners and their garden contributed much to the success of the tour. All the garden owners devoted countless hours to ensure that their gardens were at the peak of perfection on April 9th. It was a delight to see so many members who volunteered their time to make this important fundraising event a great success. We extend our sincere thanks and applause to everyone who worked so willingly and diligently for the months leading up to the tour and on the tour day to support the 2016 *Glorious Gardens* tour. We could not have done it without your support and tireless efforts.



Superb plant sale staff (L-R): JoAnn Akins, Cass Stryker, Kathy Hood, Linda DeSanti and Mary Drexler.

And all your hard work paid off. Net proceeds from the tour were over \$14,900! These funds will be used over the next two years to fund our college scholarships, youth activities, Wekiva and SEEK camperships, Habitat for Humanity landscaping and other civic beautification projects. Well done, Wellington Garden Club!



A beautiful array of goodies served by (L-R): Jackie Anderson, Mary Anne Greely and Beverly Ginn

Glimpses of the Glorious Gardens



Vivid color at Stormi & Tom Bivin's Back Yard Haven



A garden statue with bromeliads at Anne & Steve Hlasnicek's



Time to relax at Laure & Plamen Hristov's garden



Sensational succulents at Kimberly & Tom Helms' oasis



Bromeliads and bamboo accent Regina Smit-Sio and Carlos Sio's lakefront acre

REPORT ON THE 90TH FFGC STATE CONVENTION AND FLOWER SHOW

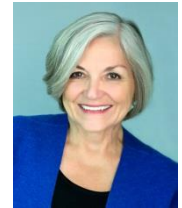
By Twig Morris, Former WGC President



L to R: Susan Hillson, Diane Rice, Linda Motzer, Kathy Siena, Barbara Hadsell and Twig Morris. Barbara May, not pictured, also attended.

The 90th FFGC State Convention and Biennial Flower Show were held recently in Kissimmee from April 17-19 and a great time was had by all attendees. Seven members of our club journeyed north to attend the Convention along with District X Director Donna Berger and numerous other members from the 16 clubs in our District. Shown at left are Susan Hillson, Diane Rice, Linda Motzer, Kathy Siena and Twig Morris. We were joined at the Convention by over 300 garden club members from clubs and Districts throughout Florida. This was a great opportunity for us to compare notes with other FFGC club members, some of whom we met for the first time and some of whom we've seen before at other District or FFGC events.

The honored guest and speaker at the Convention was National Garden Clubs President Sandy Robinson, shown at right, who was presented with the Earth Steward recognition by FFGC Earth Steward Chairman and WGC member Barbara Hadsell. As NGC President, Sandy has taken a very proactive stance toward protecting our environment, pollinators and other creatures that inhabit the earth. She is certainly a most deserving recipient of the Earth Steward recognition.



In addition to hearing from Sandy Robinson and learning more about her, other highlights of this convention were the incredible biennial state flower show that ran concurrently with the Convention and the awards luncheon on Tuesday when the Wellington Garden Club was recognized again and again for its achievements during the past calendar year. More details of WGC awards are on the following page. And in case you missed it on page 4, Diane Rice also received the Earth Steward recognition for her work as WGC and District X Environmental Chairman. Kudos to Diane for a job well done.

The Biennial State Flower Show was spectacular, as were the many special exhibit floral designs that adorned the hallways of the convention center. Shown below are a few of the award winning designs and one of the special hallway designs that caught Kathy Siena's attention. The Sansevieria "Moonlight" in the clay pot was my blue ribbon winner in the horticulture division! So exciting, as it was my first blue ribbon after becoming an NGC Student Flower Show Judge! Susan Hillson and Christine Biscoglio, who are NGC Accredited Flower Show Judges also entered award-winning designs and horticulture in the show and Barbara May, an NGC Accredited Master Judge, was one of the judges and a design exhibitor. So you can see that Wellington was well-represented in this important flower show.



Sansevieria "Moonlight"



Design with palm spaths and woven palm fronds



Design depicting roadside treasures using items from a dumpster



Kathy Siena with a design honoring an FFGC officer

WGC WINS NUMEROUS AWARDS AT 90TH FFGC STATE CONVENTION

By Barbara Hadsell, WGC Awards Chair

WGC won many awards this year at the 90th FFGC State Convention and also at the Deep South Convention in March. These awards are in recognition for all the time, hard work and expertise that our members give to our club. We won first in Florida and first in the Deep South Region (Includes six states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee) in the following categories:

- **Year's Horticulture Programs** – For the most outstanding activities in the field of horticulture for WGC programs at membership meetings and Around & About activities from January 1, 2015 to November 30, 2015. Sincere thanks to Diane Patterson and Doreen Baxter who planned and organized these programs. \$25 award to WGC
- **Community Service Award** – For WGC Partnership activities with Wynnebrook Elementary, Elks Lodge #1352-WPB and Pratt & Whitney, which include school grounds enhancement and growing veggies to teach good nutrition with weekly culinary experiences. \$25 award to WGC.
- **Eloise Sniffen Conservation Award** - WGC sponsored Girl Scout Troop 22222's landscaping/creating a native plant garden at the Wellington Dog Park under the guidance of Linda DeSanti and Lisa Ferrano. This award recognizes those who encourage effective and productive accomplishments in conservation, particularly in the field of preserving native trees and plants. \$25 to WGC

Individual Awards:

- **Environmental Education – To Diane Rice** – Awarded to an individual who demonstrates the most comprehensive accomplishment in the field of environmental education

Environmental Education Involving Youth – To Starla Davis – Awarded to an individual who demonstrates the most comprehensive accomplishment in the field of environmental education that involves children. Starla was recognized for her comprehensive curriculum and After-Care Junior Garden Clubs

And there were more first place awards for youth:

- **Wildflower Whiz Award** - WGC sponsored Girl Scout troop 22222's efforts to landscape with wildflowers at the Wellington Dog Park
- **National Youth Poetry Contest "Croaking Leaping Frogs"**
 - Second Grade Jasmine Plummer, Equestrian Trails Elementary School
 - Third Grade Taylor Vernie, Equestrian Trails Elementary School
 - Fourth Grade Amelia Adams, Pine Jog Elementary School
 - Fifth Grade Anjali Kumar, Equestrian Trails Elementary School
- **Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest**
 - First Grade Winner Devi Ramprasad, Binks Forest Elementary School
- **NGC Youth Sculpture Contest – First place at FFGC and Deep South Region**
 - Fourth Grade Maya Malek, H.L. Johnson Elementary School
- **FFGC High School Essay Contest "Don't Let the Frogs Croak"**
 - Jamie Moubarak, Wellington High School. Also won Honorable Mention at Deep South.

Many thanks to all those who assisted in compiling and writing up the award submissions. Thanks also go to Carol Richardson and Martie Spaier, Youth Contest Chairs, who worked diligently to bring the contest information to the schools and coordinate the submission process with FFGC.

Environmental Studies School - Course I

The Living Earth – Introduction

May 19 & 20, 2016

Sponsored by The Oleander Garden Club of the Palm Beaches

Chairman: Nancy Richards – (561) 702-0550

Don't miss this great opportunity to enroll in National Garden Clubs (NGC) Environmental Studies School (ESS) Course I. It will be held right here in our own back yard at the Pine Jog Environmental Center on Summit Avenue just east of Jog Road. This is the first in a series of four NGC courses on Environmental Studies. The cost is for the two-day course is \$65, plus a \$7 optional exam fee, both of which are reimbursable through our club's Member Education Program.

The interactive registration form and Course I schedule may be found on the District X website, www.districtx.org under Upcoming Events. For your convenience, links to the ESS registration form and course description are below. Also below is a link to the WGC Member Education Reimbursement form found on the WGC website. Deadline for registration is May 4, so don't delay – send in your registration today. You'll be glad you did.

[Environmental Studies Registration Form](#)

[Environmental Studies Course I Schedule](#)

[WGC Member Education Reimbursement Form](#)

Things to do over the summer.....

TAKE A TOUR OF A MANGO GROVE

Chris Tiner has organized a tour of a Mango Grove in Delray Beach on Monday, June 27 from 9-11 AM. Cost is \$3.00 per person. To sign up and attend, RSVP to Chris Tiner at ctiner@mac.com

FACEBOOK

By Linda Motzer, Facebook Chair

Remember WGC's Facebook page and send your photos of gardens you visit during the summer or other info for the WGC Facebook page to Linda Motzer at immotzer@aol.com.

Go to wellingtongardenclub/facebook to view our page. Click the "Like" button to receive the latest Pics and Posts on your FB newsfeed.

RECYCLING

Save UPC labels from Campbell's and other products as part of the "Labels for Education Program" that helps buy supplies for FFGC Wekiva Youth Camp.

Save plastic bottle caps for "Caps for Love" that helps the disabled by providing them with wheelchairs and service dogs. Click on the following link to find out more.

Save empty packaging from: cosmetics, M&M bags and Mars candy bars, cell phones, ink pens, pencils, markers, Colgate oral care, hair care, skin care and bring them to a meeting in the fall when notified in the newsletter.

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER AND HAPPY GARDENING TO ALL!

Wellington Garden Club Meetings

Wellington Garden Club meets monthly, September through April, at the Wellington Community Center, 12150 Forest Hill Blvd., Wellington, FL 33414. Our first business meeting of the 2016-2017 club year to be held in September will be for members only. Meetings will be open to members and non-members beginning the first Monday in October.

For any questions, please contact us via email at: info@wellingtongardenclub.org.

Newsletter

The *Allamanda News* is published five times a year. Please send your news, photos, tips, and advertising to Evvy Bartley at evvy35@comcast.net.

Deadline for Sept/Oct Issue: Aug.15

Newsletter Editor Evvy Bartley

2016-17 Wellington Garden Club Officers

President	Kathy Siena
1 st Vice President	Carol Coleman
2 nd Vice President	Linda Motzer
Treasurer	Danese Sloan-Kendall
Assistant Treasurer	Silvia Evans
Corresponding Secretary	Bobbi Ziegler
Recording Secretary	Open
Parliamentarian	Open

Wellington Garden Club

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