



# Allamanda News

The Newsletter of the Wellington Garden Club

**MAR/APR 2017**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Members:

Once again, we started our 2017 by recognizing our amazing and talented youth at the January 3<sup>rd</sup> General Members Meeting. Our special guests for the day were Camp Wekiva campership winners and high school SEEK winners who shared some thoughts about their experiences at each of the two programs during last summer 2016. Our youth contest 1<sup>st</sup> place winner was also asked to attend the meeting as our guest to show us her winning recycled sculpture. Maya Malec, 4<sup>th</sup> grader, won the NGC 1<sup>st</sup> place for her creative sculpture made from recycled materials.

The new Community Garden chaired by John Siena and a team of volunteers has begun work since January with the Boys and Girls Club of Wellington, the Young Professionals of Wellington and a company called Growums. More details and photos on a separate page follow.

The Nominating Committee has been chosen to select the new Executive Committee Officers for the 2017-2019 term. The members are Jan Seagrave, Chair, Caren Griffin, Bobbi Ziegler and Doreen Baxter. The Chair will present the list of eligible candidates at the March 6 meeting.

The speaker for the March 6 meeting will be Pamela Bohn from Pamela's Petals. She will share some fun-filled facts and information about orchids.

We want to thank Deb Russell for handling the remaining Around & About activities for the year. If you have any questions about any of the events, please contact Deb.

Our committee chairs are busy preparing for the important fundraiser, Plants Galore and More, to take place and kick off Wellington Garden Week on Sunday, March 12, 2017 from 11-5 pm at the Wellington Amphitheater park area. There will be some fantastic events, demonstrations, classes and plant sales that each of our members and their friends and guests should be sure to attend. We were honored to receive Mayor Anne Gerwig's Proclamation for Wellington Garden Week on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at the Village Council Hall Meeting. We look forward to her attending our meeting on March 6 as our guest to once again honor us with this proclamation for all the members to see and enjoy.

April brings some important club business and fun events such as our bus trip to Heathcote Botanical Gardens in Fort Pierce, Earth Day on Saturday, April 22 at the Wellington Amphitheater grounds and FFGC Convention in Orlando/Kissimmee April 26-28. Our final members meeting of the club year will be on April 3 when we will nominate and vote on the new EC officers, vote on the new Proposed 2017-2018 Budget and hear from our speaker, David Bates, nature and wildlife photographer. There is a lot to accomplish at the meeting. Please don't miss it.

*Kathy*

**Nurture our gardens, ourselves and our leaders of tomorrow**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MARCH - APRIL 2017

Mar 6	Garden Club Meeting – Wellington Community Center (9:30 AM) Orchid Design – Pamela Graf Bohm, Speaker
Mar 12	Wellington Garden Day “Plants Galore and More” Amphitheater Park Area (11:00 AM – 5:00 PM)
Mar 12 – 18 (Sun-Sat)	Wellington Garden Week Days 1-7
Mar 15	Around & About – “Raisin’ Cane”– U.S. Sugar Headquarters, Clewiston
Mar 16	Floral Design Workshop – Village Park (9:00 AM-2:30 PM)
Mar 21	Adopt-a-Street – Wellington Dog Park (9:00 AM)
Mar 26 – 28 (Sun – Tues)	Deep South Region Convention – New Orleans Days 1-3
Mar 28	Board Meeting – Wellington Community Center (9:00 – 10:30 AM)
Mar 30	Around & About – Polly Reed and Pan’s Garden, Palm Beach
Apr 3	Garden Club Meeting – Wellington Community Center (9:30 AM) Nature and Wildlife Photographer – David Bates, Speaker
Apr 18	Around & About – Heathcote Botanical Gardens, Ft. Pierce
Apr 20	Floral Design Workshop – Village Park (9:00 AM – 2:30 PM)
Apr 22	Earth Day Celebration – Wellington Amphitheater (4:00 – 7:00 PM)
Apr 25	Board Meeting – Wellington Community Center (9:00 – 10:30 AM)
Apr 26 – 28 (Wed – Fri)	FFGC Convention – Orlando – Days 1-3

### TREASURERS REPORT

*By Danese Sloan-Kendall, Treasurer*

February 1, 2017

Wellington Garden Club began January 1, 2017 with a checking account balance of \$24,636.61.

Income since then totaled \$3,413.79 primarily from a generous grant from Holy Trinity Church for the Elks Garden and from the Around and About.

Expenses since January 1<sup>st</sup> were \$1,203.75 primarily for floral design plant arrangements given to the Community of Wellington for meeting trade out and for speaker fees and website update.

Additionally, for more detailed information the WGC profit & loss versus annual budget report will be emailed.

Current balance as of January 31, 2017 in the Wellington Garden Club checking account is \$26,846.50.

**WGC MEETING – Monday, March 6, 2017**

**ORCHID DESIGN**

Pamela Graf Bohm, Speaker

[pamelaspetsllc@gmail.com](mailto:pamelaspetsllc@gmail.com)



Pamela Bohm found her green thumb surrounded by the great botanical gardens of San Diego's Balboa Park. Bohm moved to West Palm in 1989 where she worked 13 years for Floral Emporium. In 2009, she established Pamela's Petals to propagate her love of orchid and plant design. Her historical Flamingo Park home, nestled in a grove of tropical trees, is adorned with orchids and bromeliads peeking from every bough. In 2014 Bohm revived the dormant Flamingo Park Garden Tour, which has blossomed into a cultural event blending gardening, horticulture, live music and tastings from local restaurants.

**WGC MEETING – MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2017**

**NATURE AND WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER**

David Bates, Speaker

[VitalLongevity@gmail.com](mailto:VitalLongevity@gmail.com)



David Bates is a passionate photographer specializing in wildlife photography. He has lived in Florida for over 40 years, where he was instilled with a love of wildlife and nature. David will share his photos and experiences of photographing at wildlife hot spots in Palm Beach County, in the State of Florida and throughout the World.



When David has a particular image in mind, it is not uncommon for him to spend fifty hours or more waiting patiently for what he refers to as that split one thousandth of a second when he, nature, and the camera are perfectly synchronized. The same passion and attention to detail that David applies to his photography, he applies to the business world as a trusted counselor and attorney.

**AROUND & ABOUT – Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**“Raisin’ Cane” – U.S. Sugar Headquarters, Clewiston**  
**Sugar Harvest Tour**  
Deb Russell, Chair

On March 15<sup>th</sup>, a bus will take 50 lucky Garden Club members and their guests to Clewiston and the surrounding sugar cane land. The Viking Bus Line leaves the Community Center parking lot located at 12150 Forest Hill Blvd., Wellington (near the pool) at **8:30 A.M. sharp**. Best to be there by 8:00 A.M. **Please do not be late!** There will be stops at the interesting Clewiston Museum both before and after the tour.

We will have lunch at a marina restaurant right on Lake Okeechobee which U.S. Sugar will provide. Since lunch choices must be made ahead of time, there is a **NEW** Registration form that must be filled out with a place to check off your menu choice. Sorry, I know this is inconvenient, but it will only take a minute. The Registration Form is required by the Tour organizers. If we do not provide a form for each person on the tour, you will not be able to attend.

Now about the sign-ups: The Tour is popular and overbooked and only 50 people are allowed, so there is a **Wait-List**. Please, be considerate of your fellow members and contact me if you need to cancel. Let me know as soon as possible so I can notify the next person on the list. The Tour is complimentary, a great learning experience and a really fun but long day event. You will arrive back in Wellington between 3:30 and 4:00 PM.

**AROUND & ABOUT – Thursday, March 30, 2017**  
**POLLY REED GARDEN & PAN’S GARDEN**  
**231 Chilean Avenue and 386 Chilean Avenue, Palm Beach**

This is a Two-Part Venue. Please note that each event is located on the same avenue. Our visit to Polly Reed Garden will be followed by a visit to Pan’s Garden.



**Polly Reed Garden:** Polly’s house has been on numerous garden tours. Her garden is a study in how to utilize small spaces for a dramatic effect. It is filled with orchids, bromeliads, and numerous other tropical plants. <http://video.palmbeachpost.com/Polly-Reed-Grden-30731676>

**Pan’s Garden:** Enter a whimsical garden showcasing over 300 species of native plants. Pan’s Garden is run by the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach. As an educational garden, it was designed to provide students a glimpse into the wonders of plants and the importance of preserving the world’s natural resources. <http://www.palmbeachpreservation.org/>  
See carpool information on following page.

**CARPOOL LOCATIONS:** Depart at 9:15 AM Sharp  
**TOUR:** 10:00 – 10:45 AM and 11:10 – 11:45 AM  
**COST:** Free  
**LUNCH:** Serenity Garden Tea House & Café  
316 Valette Way, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

**AROUND & ABOUT – Tuesday, April 18, 2017**  
**Heathcote Botanical Gardens**  
**210 Savannah Road, Ft. Pierce, FL**  
<https://www.heathcotebotanicalgardens.org/>



Heathcote is a treasure trove of horticultural, botanical, and ecological knowledge. You will meander through numerous themed garden rooms. The rooms include a butterfly garden, children's garden, as well as a community garden, native plant &



pioneer garden, herb garden, Japanese garden, rainforest, reflection garden, and a Bonsai Gallery. Bonsai enthusiasts will be enthralled by the largest tropical bonsai collection in the USA. Be sure to visit the gift shop. There is not a cafe on location, so we will have bottled water available.

**COST:** \$9.00 Guided Tour (if we use a private bus it's an extra \$20-30.00 per member)  
**TOURS:** 10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM  
**LUNCH:** If time allows, dine at a local restaurant. Possibly the Tiki Bar, located on the banks of the Indian River and recommended by one of our long time members: <http://www.originaltikibar.com/>  
**CARPOOL:**

- West – Wellington Community Center Parking lot: Leave 8:00 AM Sharp
- East — IHOP 6708 Forest Hill Blvd: Leave 8:00 AM Sharp
- 

Contact: Deb Russell at <mailto:debrusl@bellsouth.net>. Phone: 561-290-9959

**RECAP OF US Sugar Tour December 13, 2016 in Clewiston**  
*By A Laura Allen*



On Tuesday December 13th, bright and early, about 40 members, family and friends boarded "Agvard's" tour bus and off we went to "Sugarland". The adventure, compliments of US Sugar, started with fresh bagels served by our lovely hostess, Morgan.

Our first stop was at the Clewiston Museum and Chamber of Commerce. After browsing the artifacts, we were greeted by Hunter Latham, our tour guide. A fourth-generation Floridian, Hunter unraveled the development of Florida farmland intertwining with the story of US Sugar as we ventured from the town of Clewiston on to the rural sugar cane fields.



As we traveled on, Hunter pointed out the smoke stacks from the sugar refinery in the far landscape and explained that it is actually harmless steam that dissipates into the Florida sky; our first lesson as to the ecological responsibility of US Sugar. It was interesting to learn about the cycle of sugar cane harvesting. Sugar has a flower! It is called a tassel.

We arrived at our first destination; a sugar cane field. Surrounded by fields of sugar cane, Hunter led us off the bus and harvested and sliced "cane" for us to "chew". Carol Lazzarino saved hers for her horses. Another member recalled stories of her father-in-law riding out on horseback to map the area. We forget how recent Florida development is! Although sugar cane farming existed in Florida for many years, it was only after the Cuba sanctions that Florida's sugar industry burgeoned. And yes, Cuban expatriates took it over and ran with it.



Hunter pointed out the irrigation and canals and then took us to the operation that controls all of the water coming through the canals from Lake Okeechobee, US Sugar's economic and ecological use of the sugar harvesting eco system is quite amazing; from the water that irrigates the plants to the trains that pick up the harvest. US Sugar has 120 miles of train tracks, more than any company in the world. The harvested cane is picked up and deposited in the processing plant.



After a lunch at Sunny's, compliments of US Sugar, Agvard took us to the US Sugar processing plant. We came up close and personal with the trains full of harvested cane! We watched the cane dumped into processing bins and saw it refined in the warehouse. There is no purer product than refined sugar. Unfortunately, most sodas and sweet products are sweetened with corn syrup, the major cause of diabetes, NOT refined sugar.

After educating us on the life cycle of sugar from cane to processing, we toured orange groves and orange juice processing. We learned that most Florida oranges are grown for juice only and of course Florida orange juice is the best! US standards require a minimum use of artificial fertilizers and pesticides. Buyer beware of South American products!

As we toured the orange groves, it was interesting to learn that the irrigation for the groves was copied from those used by Israel to cultivate the desert. The ecological system incorporated by both sugar and oranges is quite delicate. This year Florida will harvest 40% of previous years' harvest. After an aggressive campaign against citrus canker, a new menace, "greening" has destroyed the Florida orange crop. Oranges turn green and drop before ripening. Ecologists have found a solution by grafting lemon and lime trees on orange trees but it is a slow process.

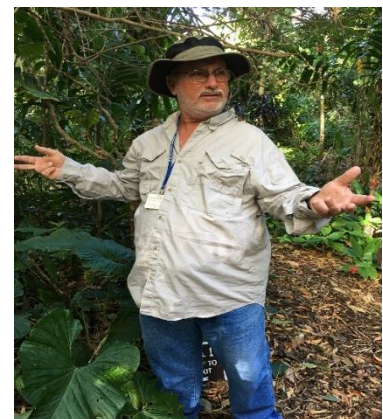
Just before returning to our final stop at the Clewiston Historical Society, Agvard, skillfully maneuvered the bus past the dikes that surround the lake to prevent flooding to a narrow platform with a magnificent view of the lake. It was a poignant ending as Lake Okeechobee waters irrigate both sugar cane and orange groves! However you feel about "agribusiness", witnessing the careful engineering used to bring sugar to our bowls and orange to our glasses was fascinating and certainly gave us all a new appreciation of these Florida staples.

Those that missed this trip will be embarking on another trip to U.S. Sugar on March 15, 2017. Hope you are already signed up.

## RECAP OF AROUND AND ABOUT ON Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> Gene Joyner's Unbelievable Acres



On Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, approximately 33 members of the WGC toured with Gene Joyner and his wife and assistant at their working rain forest which was started in 1970 from an empty cow pasture containing only two pine trees. In spite of the drizzling weather we first encountered, the sun finally managed to come out which certainly was a blessing and made our tour most enjoyable. The tour led us



through winding paths of a most unbelievable rainforest botanical garden. We saw thousands of colorful shrubs, flowering trees, foliage plants, palms and rare tropical fruits. Especially fascinating was the Sausage Tree with sausage-like fruit up to 2 feet long; Jakfruit, the world's largest fruit which can weigh over 70 pounds; Jaboticaba, a grape-like fruit that is chocolate colored inside and similar to grapes with a rather thick

skin; Carambola (Star Fruit), gingers, heliconias, ferns and many more tropical plants. We were treated to samples of some of the fruit.



After the tour, a number of members met for lunch at the Wild, Wild West Restaurant in Wellington where we enjoyed good food and lots of comradery!



**WEKIVA**



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

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

Outside the big city of Orlando lies Wekiwa Spring State Park, a park of large oaks with hanging moss, pines and palmetto. Inside the park is Wekiwa Youth Camp, a camp for Kindergarten through 8th graders. From mid-June through July, campers attend for a week to take part in programs led by adult garden club volunteers. The programs emphasize nature study, conservation, and crafts. Several of our club members have attended the leadership training weekend where they learned teaching strategies for working with children. Once again this year, Wellington Garden Club will be awarding scholarships to several campers, paying a portion of their tuition costs. We have also made financial donations to the Wekiwa Building Fund and are an active participant in the Labels for Education program which helps pay for supplies for the camp.



## OPPORTUNITY FOR 2017 WEKIVA CAMPERSHIPS

Are you interested in registering your youngsters -- children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, neighbors children, friends children-- for next summer's Wekiva camp? Upon registration, make sure you indicate that the Wellington Garden Club is your sponsor. Check the Camp Wekiva web site for full details. <http://www.wekivayouthcamp.org/> As of February 6<sup>th</sup>, I am happy to report that we have signed up six applicants for our camp. Any questions, please contact Harriet Samuels at 561-715-0950 or [hiswpbwh@gmail.com](mailto:hiswpbwh@gmail.com)

**Applications are available for summer 2017 CAMP WEKIVA.**

## Tea Party Affair at Mounts Botanical Gardens Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>



On a lovely Saturday morning in February, a group of Wellington Garden Club members donned their best garden party attire and fabulous hats and convened at Mounts Botanical Garden for the first annual Mounts fund raising Tea Party. Attendees were greeted upon arrival with their choice of mimosas or sparkling water and encouraged to take a self-guided tour of the garden while enjoying the delightful sounds of a harpist. The tea party tables were set on the spacious lawn near the butterfly garden and adorned with white tablecloths, fancy chinaware and center pieces of succulents planted in collectible tea pots created by our talented member, Kimberly Helms. A superb selection of unique teas, tea sandwiches, scones, clotted cream, jam, and petit fours were provided by Serenity Garden Tea House in West Palm Beach. Not to be missed were the raffle items, many of which were created by....you guessed it.....Kimberly Helms! The highlight of the afternoon was a hat contest won by WGC member Carol Krenkel! As you see in the photos, it was a magnificent creation. For those of you who didn't attend this year, you can look forward to joining us next year for the second annual Mounts Tea Party! You'll have a great time in a gorgeous setting with wonderful WGC friends and other friends of Mounts Botanical Garden.

sandwiches, scones, clotted cream, jam, and petit fours were provided by Serenity Garden Tea House in West Palm Beach. Not to be missed were the raffle items, many of which were created by....you guessed it.....Kimberly Helms! The highlight of the afternoon was a hat contest won by WGC member Carol Krenkel! As you see in the photos, it was a magnificent creation. For those of you who didn't attend this year, you can look forward to joining us next year for the second annual Mounts Tea Party! You'll have a great time in a gorgeous setting with wonderful WGC friends and other friends of Mounts Botanical Garden.



Carol Krenkel, with birds on her hat



Not surprisingly, Carol was the winner of the hat contest



High Tea Luncheon on the lawn at Mounts – those are Mimosas on the table!

## YOUTH NEWS

### NewCommunity Garden at the Boys & Girls Club

*By John Siena, Chair*



Two of four raised beds under construction by community leaders

The new Community Garden project is moving along at full steam with diligent and hard-working WGC volunteers. This new effort involves several parts of the community. The idea of having a Community Garden was created by the Young Professionals of Wellington several months ago. With the help of the Village of Wellington and several other charitable organizations, four very large raised beds were constructed on the Village-owned property behind the Boys and Girls Club of Wellington on Wellington Trace. With

assistance from our WGC member and former Mayor of Wellington, Tom Wenham, Wellington Garden Club was asked by the Young Professionals if we would be willing to participate in the community garden project to help teach and educate the youth at the Boys and Girls Club.



WGC volunteers John Siena, Chair, volunteer Lisa Ferrano showing kids how to plant

Growums Inc is a local business that sells products to teach children how to grow their own gardens. They also helped with the planning and development of the raised beds. Because of an invitation from our Plants Galore and More Chair, Joan Kaplan, we are looking forward to seeing more from Growums at the event on Sunday, March 12 which will be held at the Wellington Amphitheater park area. They plan to have a teaching and demonstration area set up for the event and for the education and entertainment for the children in the community.



Boys & Girls Club kids & WGC volunteers Ann Hlasnicek, Sandy Sklar and Jim Thompson

### **The boys and girls look forward to our volunteers coming every week to teach them**

more and more about how to take care of their gardens. There are about 25 eager children who have signed up to work and help in the gardens. An event is being planned to take place in a couple of months by the community volunteers to "show off" the gardens to anyone in the community interested in seeing them, especially the parents of our new young gardeners. Our young "gardeners in training" are very proud of themselves and love our volunteers. The children give them big hugs.



Boys & Girls Club children with Kendra Peterson, B&G Club Director and President, Kathy Siena



Deb Russell showing kids how to weed & plant veggies

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup> CRAFT WORKSHOP

*By Carol Lazzarino and Dee Rolfe*

On Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM, 14 members of the Wellington Garden Club attended the craft workshop at the Fire Station on Stribling Road to make fan blade message boards. Dee Rolfe was our instructor along with Carol Lazzarino. All paint and supplies were included gratis. We had great fun free-hand painting our boards and doing the trim work that followed. Each person lent their individual style, and we had a great sense of satisfaction taking our finished products home for ourselves or as gifts. One of our members did a free-hand of a beautiful pink butterfly, as seen below.



## FLORAL DESIGN CLASS

February 16, 2017

Bernice Correra and Jayne Kieseewetter, Co-chairs



As we continue to learn about floral design *elements* and *principles* and how they mirror certain aspects of our lives, we are more and more drawn in to this challenging yet relaxing world of



beauty and rhythm commonly called floral arranging. We

learn and we have fun. For example, how would you answer the question, "How do you get the best curves." My first thoughts were: the gym, or a good surgeon! But no, ladies, we are talking about floral design. So if you are working on an "S" curve (Hogarth design) or a Crescent design, three good plants to help you form a curve are foxtail ferns, Bells of Ireland, and eucalyptus.. We learned that to help you review and see your finished arrangement you should walk away from it for an hour or two and then return to examine if for faults and corrections. And let's face it, sometimes walking away for a period of time in life, helps us gain a new perspective on any given situation. Floral Design lessons are turning out to be life lessons. Our January class focused on creating a Crescent design. With its graceful lines and natural beauty our creations are like a gift to self, gracing our homes for days to come...and a reminder of our delightful instructors, Chris and Susan, the "FloralDora Girls.

## PLANTS GALORE AND MORE

Wellington Amphitheater

March 12<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM



Spring is approaching and it's time to think about gardening and about supporting your club. The March 12 Plant sale is an opportunity to do both!

Your club is asking you to participate. Sign up to sell plants. Make room on your calendar to attend. There is much to attract: big, beautiful healthy plants for a reasonable price -plants you won't find at the big box stores. Lots of raffle items, such as a flowering tree, an outdoor rug, a palate of mulch, a flower-filled window box, and two floral arrangements. Also of great interest will be the three seminars presented by local experts- orchid care and re-potting, quick and easy flower arrangements, and how to select and nurture a tree for your property.

New and exciting this year is a free Home Depot Children's Spring Craft Workshop, from 12-3:00 PM where kids will build a craft to take home. Tell your neighbors!

Proceeds benefit our civic beatifications, scholarships, Habitat landscaping and environmental and youth programs. Your Plants Galore and More Committee is planning a wonderful event. We hope to see you there. Joan Kaplan, Chairman; Stormi Bivin, Twig Morris, Jan Seagrave, Fran Strauss, Beth Stewart, Deb Russell

## HORTICULTURE

### How I Stopped Killing my Orchids

*By Laure Hristov*



Give me a plant that goes in the ground and you don't see the roots and most would say I have a Green Thumb. Orchids on the other hand have never had the best fate in my garden until I started mounting them in trees.

It took me a while to get used to the idea that they would be just fine without the security of a terra cotta or plastic pot. We are lucky in South Florida to have a humid environment for growing orchids au naturel, so why not. I began collecting different mounting materials, such as cork, tree fern, driftwood, manzanita, cedar and teak which are excellent hard woods and materials that work great. You can also use roof tiles or any tile that is porous and wooden orchid baskets also work well. Instead of using a medium in the orchid baskets, I use red lava rock. No messy medium that can smother the roots, however you must water more often especially during the dry winter season. Always remember to water your orchids early in the day so the roots can dry out before nighttime.

Part of the challenge is mounting the orchid to the proper size mount. You don't want one too large for a smaller orchid and it's important to observe and know the growth habit of the orchid you are mounting so as not to choose a piece that the orchid will outgrow too quickly. Always better to err on the side of smallness. Oncidium and Phalaenopsis do very well mounted right onto the bark of a tree or palm, so no need to purchase any mounts. Again I must stress that watering is key to it thriving in our dry season and with Phalaenopsis make sure that it is tilted so that water can easily drain off of the leaves.

The best time to mount orchids is when the orchid has new roots emerging and is actively growing, although I have also mounted them in full bloom with equal success. Once you decide on a plant to mount, take it out of the pot and soak the roots in lukewarm water to ease it out of the pot. Try to save as many roots as possible and then spray them with hydrogen peroxide full strength to kill any bacteria.

Determine where on the mount you want the plant to be placed. Usually toward the bottom, but a bit up from the edge. Be sure to note the growing points of the plant so that you can maximize the space on which it will grow. While most will mount orchids rather vertically in nature most orchids grow on horizontal branches and limbs, so you may find that some types thrive on a recumbent slab. Now tie the plant to the mount, careful not to harm any roots with flexible wire (similar to tie wraps, works best when working alone) You can also use fishing line. Wrap the wire around the plant several times to make sure the roots and the

plant are firmly secured to the mount. There is no need for any Sphagnum to be tucked under the roots. As I am sure you have heard, nylon stockings also work well for securing these plants. You can cut them in strips and use them to tie plants to trees also as they have the ability to stretch as the plant grows.

Fertilizing can be done by spraying the plants after watering and It's a good idea to tie little mesh bags of Nutriccoat fertilizer near the roots so that they get a slow release of food, even when you forget to fertilize. You can decorate the mounts especially the ones on trees with some live Spanish moss, which looks beautiful draped over the roots.

I have found that most of my mounted orchids send their new roots onto their new home very quickly and then I can cut the ties that were holding them after just a few months. So free up some room on that patio and get those plants out into their natural environment. You will be rewarded with beautiful blooms and an easy inexpensive way of growing your orchids with much success.

## ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

FFGC Encourages High School Students to Talk  
About Fracking at the 2017 South Florida Fair  
*by Diane Rice - District X and WGC Environmental Chairman*



Save the date, save the Earth ..... no, this time save the State of Florida from fracking / well stimulation processes. That was the message that these high school students relayed as people passed by their booth. Fracking is short for hydraulic fracturing, and in other states, it is done under high pressure where you have granite-type rock. But in Florida, where limestone is the norm for underground rock acid etching, which is a low-pressure well stimulation process, it is all that is needed to dissolve the limestone and retrieve trapped oil. An estimated 4.4 million gallons of water are needed to drill and frack / well stimulate one well according to <https://stateimpact.npr.org/pennsylvania/2013/03/12/how-much-water-it-takes-to-frack-a-well/> in its March 12 , 2013 issue article “

How Much Water Does It take to Frack a Well ?” And because these fluids are so toxic, and the water with the fracking fluids can never be cleaned up for safe drinking, there is an additional problem of what to do with the millions of gallons of fracking water created.

And just why do high school students feel it is so important to get this message out this year? Could it be oil permits are now merely unregulated fracking / well stimulation permits since, [according to Conservancy.org](https://www.conservancy.org/our-work/policy/oil) at <https://www.conservancy.org/our-work/policy/oil>, current oil and gas laws allow hydraulic fracturing, acidizing and other chemical treatment in an essentially unregulated manner with a permit. Could it be that 70,000 acres of Big Cypress Preserve could be in for a fracking / well stimulation process since the National Park Service approved seismic mapping in this area [as illustrated here](https://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?parkId=352&projectId=53498) on their web site: <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?parkId=352&projectId=53498> .



Or could it be the awareness of new sink holes popping up all over Florida? Whatever the reason, you can sense that more Floridians and, in particular, young people are ready to step up to the plate to protect the land and water of the state that they call home. They want the legacy of Everglades National Park, Big Cypress Preserve and State Parks to be left for them and their children and grandchildren. They want to rightly believe that when they are drinking tap or well water, it is not laced with fracked waste water. In essence, they want the State of Florida to remain a paradise and not be ruined by Big Oil like so many other states in this country.

The preceding article was prepared by Florida Federation of Garden Club's District X Environmental Chairman Diane Rice, who along with NGC and Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Gardening Study School Chairman Barbara Hadsell, was instrumental in getting this space allocated so that the young people could tell their side of the story. For more information please visit the web site: BanFrackinginFL.com (you can use all lower case).

## ELKS VEGETABLE GARDEN Wynnebrook Jr. Garden Club

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

More volunteers are needed to work with the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students from Wynnebrook Elementary School. We meet every Wednesday afternoon from 2:45 until 4:00 PM.

We meet the students who walk to the Elks Club on Belvedere Road just east of Jog Road. We need volunteers who will enjoy helping in the vegetable garden that Tim Hadsell is in charge of, helping in the kitchen where Janet Stein guides the students preparing a healthy snack, or assisting students doing a craft inside the air conditioned Elks Lodge . The crafts are a new venture for those of you who can't work in the garden and are not able to stand for long periods of time in the kitchen. The ideas and materials for the crafts will be provided. The students are a delight to work with and the Wynnebrook Aftercare teachers are there to assist us with the 25+ students who participate. Please email Janet, [jrstein@bellsouth.net](mailto:jrstein@bellsouth.net) for more information.

Volunteers are also needed to assist and advise our established Youth Garden Club students and teachers at Binks Forest with teacher, Starla Davis, and at Pine Jog Elementary with teacher, Lori Vanis. Please contact Kathy Siena if you would like to help.





MARDI GRAS

# SPRING LUNCHEON

Monday, May 1st 2017

WELLINGTON NATIONAL  
GOLF CLUB

400 BINKS FOREST DRIVE  
WELLINGTON, FL 33414

Monday, May 1st, 2017

11:00 AM - 2:30 PM

Social Hour 11:00am - Luncheon Noon

\* \$30.00 \* per person \*includes Gratuity \*

SIGN UP & PAY at March 6th, Wellington Garden Club Meeting  
OR

SIGN UP & PAY at Meeting on April 3rd

Check or Cash accepted

Make check payable to: Wellington Garden Club

You may also mail Checks & Menu Choice by April 22 to:

Caroline Kessman

3068 Florence Street

Wellington, FL 33414-4327

Suggested Attire- MARDI GRAS COLORS of PURPLE, GOLD, GREEN

Accessories, trappings, trimmings, adornments & regalia

## MENU

*CHICKEN PICATTA~ Lemon White Wine & Capers*

*SOLE FLORENTINE~ Spinach, Shallots & Béchamel*

*VEGETABLE MOZZARELLA STACK~ A Seasonal Selection of Grilled  
Vegetables Layered with Panko Crusted Fresh Mozzarella Cheese, Balsamic Glaze*

Cocktail Service \*CASH BAR\*



LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL



RESERVATIONS CANNOT BE REFUNDED AFTER April 22 nd, 2017



## NEWS FROM DISTRICT X, FFGC AND NGC

### Environmental Studies School

The following information was received from Nancy Richards, NGC Environmental Studies State School Chairman.

Course III of the Environmental Studies School is scheduled for March 14 and 15 at Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, 5301 Summit Blvd., West Palm Beach. The course on air and related issues will cover topics such as the rain forest, endangered plants and wildlife, pollution, etc. In addition to the coursework, participants will be taking a two-hour tour of the new Solid Waste Authority facility in West Palm Beach. There we will be learning about the recycling process, and the SWA pollution abatement controls. Make sure you wear your comfy shoes...

Please join us. An interactive registration form and course brochure can be found at [www.districtx.org](http://www.districtx.org). Nancy Richards can be reached at (561) 702-0550 or [NancyRRichards@gmail.com](mailto:NancyRRichards@gmail.com)

### From Judy Alderman, President, Boynton Beach Garden Club

We'd love to see your members at our "Art In Bloom" FUN Flower Show on March 10-11 from 10 AM to 5 PM at the Children's Schoolhouse Museum, 129 E. Ocean Ave., Boynton Beach. We're excited to do a different take on the usual interpretation of fine art in fresh flowers by taking imagination from kids' art (Plumosa Magnet School of the Arts) this year! The Children's Schoolhouse Museum and Learning Center is a truly wonderful place so it'll be quite a unique show where we toss out the NGC rule book and have FUN!

### From Susan Lerner, President, Florida Native Plant Society

GOING NATIVE! NativeScape Marketplace and Film  
"HOMETOWN HABITAT: STORIES OF BRINGING NATURE HOME"

Tuesday, March 7 from 4-9pm  
West Palm Beach Waterfront  
Flagler Drive & Clematis Street in Downtown West Palm Beach

Find your place in Florida's eco-future! Be inspired! Create your sustainable home sanctuary! Shop, purchase native plants, and learn from the vendors and exhibitors at this premier free event!

### FFGC Convention – April 26-28

The 91<sup>st</sup> FFGC Annual Convention will be held on April 26-28 at the Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista South, Kissimmee. Hotel reservations at a special convention rate may be made until April 5. For more details see the Winter 2016 edition of *The Florida Gardener*. WGC member reimbursement available for convention registration fee. Registration form on following page.



PLEASE PRINT AND USE SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH REGISTRANT

NAME (Last) \_\_\_\_\_ (First) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_ CLUB/CIRCLE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ EMERGENCY CONTACT (Name/Phone) \_\_\_\_\_

**CIRCLE ALL CATEGORIES WHICH APPLY TO YOU**

- |                                |                       |                        |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| FFGC Former President          | Delegate or Alternate | First Time Attendee    |
| FFGC Officer/District Director | Club/Circle President | Spouse/Guest/Companion |
| FFGC Board Member              | Club/Circle Member    | FFGC Life Member       |

**FULL CONVENTION PACKAGE PLAN for MEMBERS**

*TWO DAY PLAN includes: registration fee; 2 lunches, 2 evening banquets*  
 Thursday, April 27, 2017 and Friday, April 28, 2017 (\$ 177.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ONE DAY A LA CARTE PLAN for MEMBERS** (Please circle one or more options)

Thursday, April 27, 2017: Registration Fee (\$25) and/or Lunch (\$35) and/or Banquet (\$50) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Friday, April 28, 2017: Registration Fee (\$25) and/or Lunch (\$35) and/or Banquet (\$50) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**SPOUSE/GUEST REGISTRATION** Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fee (\$10): (Access to Hospitality Room during convention) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Meals: (Please circle meals attending)

Thursday, April 27, 2017: Lunch (\$35) Banquet (\$50) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Friday, April 28, 2017: Lunch (\$35) Banquet (\$50) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Tours: Open to Spouse/Guests only

Thursday, April 27, 2017: Visit Canine Companions for Independence site (\$5) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Friday, April 28, 2017: Visit Warbirds Air Museum (\$10) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total for Spouse/Guest Options \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**EARLY ARRIVALS DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT - WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2017**

This event is open to all attendees. It is *COMPLIMENTARY* for FFGC Board members. (Please circle appropriate option)

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| DINNER & SHOW for FFGC Board Member (\$0)       | \$ _____ |
| DINNER & SHOW for FFGC Non-Board Members (\$44) | \$ _____ |
| DINNER & SHOW for Spouse/Guest/Companion (\$44) | \$ _____ |

Please check if planning to attend show only (\$0) Total for Early Arrival Dinner & Show \$ \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATIONS POSTMARKED AFTER TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2017—ADD LATE FEE (\$35) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Check Payable to "FFGC 2017 CONVENTION" and Mail it Along with this Registration Form to:  
 Karen Smith, Registrar, P.O. Box 292646, Tampa, FL 33687-2646 • kanns@verizon.net • 813-980-3470

**No registrations accepted after April 12, 2017. No refunds after April 17, 2017. Registration fee is non-refundable.**

You must be registered to attend ANY programs, meals OR workshops. **NO WALK-INS ACCEPTED.**

**Dietary Restrictions for extreme health issues must accompany registration. Every effort will be made to meet extreme health issues.**

**Hotel may not be able to honor all requests. NO SHELLFISH SERVED.**

Hotel Reservations must be made directly with hotel. Embassy Suites: 4955 Kyngs Heath Road; Kissimmee, FL 34746

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS: April 5, 2017. NO EXCEPTIONS! Call: 407-597-4000 Group Code: "FLC"

For hotel reservations, please click on the link below or enter the address in your browser.

[https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome\\_ei\\_new&eventID=15245520](https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=15245520)

Registrar Use Only: Reg. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ Dep. No. \_\_\_\_\_

**NGC KEEPING IN TOUCH**  
[www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)

You can now access the NGC newsletter "Keeping in Touch" on line. Password is **flight**. Please remember, the NGC is no longer mailing this newsletter to garden club presidents so it will be necessary for you to access the website as mentioned above. If you experience any problem in opening the attachment, please contact Katie Roth at [kroth@gardenclub.org](mailto:kroth@gardenclub.org) Hardcopy sent upon request only.

**FACEBOOK**

WGC Facebook Page and Our Website  
*By Kathy Siena*

Please send your photos for posting to me or you can post them directly on the Wellington Garden Club Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/Wellington-Garden-Club-150607948306971/>

I hope you all have had a chance by now to view and browse our new Website which is continually being updated and enlarged. The next new page we are working on will be our Photo Gallery. Let me know if you have any difficulties "Joining" the Website. It is important for you to sign up, create a new user ID and new password so that you have member-only access to Membership Resources. If you find any errors or have questions about our Website please let me know by email. <http://wellingtongardenclub.org/>

**CAPS OF LOVE**

Kimberly Helms is coordinating with Royal Palm School for the donation of our Caps of Love. **Please bring any collections of caps you have to our meetings, and she will deliver them for us.** Remember, **plastic only**..... no tin caps.

## **Wellington Garden Club Meetings**

**Our garden club meetings are held at Wellington Community Center  
12150 Forest Hill Blvd., Lakeview Room (Ground Floor), Wellington, FL  
Guests are always welcome. If you plan to bring a guest please call Doreen Baxter,  
Membership Chair, at 561-793-6013 or email [doreenspot@comcast.net](mailto:doreenspot@comcast.net)**

### **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](mailto:evvy35@comcast.net).

Deadline for May/June Issue: April 20th  
Newsletter Editor      Evvy Bartley

### **Wellington Garden Club Officers**

President	Kathy Siena
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Carol Coleman
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Francine Stauss
Treasurer	Danese Sloan-Kendall
Assistant Treasurer	Silvia Evans
Corresponding Secretary	Bobbi Ziegler
Recording Secretary	Maria Wolfe
Acting Parliamentarian	Stormi Bivin
Former President <i>ex-officio</i>	Twig Morris

Wellington Garden Club  
1634 S. Club Drive  
Wellington, FL 33414

