



# Allamanda News

The Newsletter of the Wellington Garden Club

**MAY/JUN 2017**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Members:

Yes, we are very close to the end of our Wellington Garden Club year and of my 2015-2017 term as President of our Club. When I read my acceptance speech on May 3, 2015 at Wycliffe Golf and Country Club, it seemed like two years to the end of my term was very far away. Yet, here we are fast approaching the closing of a two-year term of Executive Committee Officers.

I would like to thank WGC members for their tremendous support to me during my term and for making our Club the great Club that it is today. I would like to thank the new Board of Directors consisting of the Executive Committee Officers, Committee Chairs and Members at Large for their continuous and supportive work as leaders of our club. Our Committee Chairs did a great job preparing for events, fundraisers, providing food at our meetings and plant raffles, nurturing our youth in gardens, youth contests and scholarships, and providing fun and interesting classes and workshops, and so much more!

We had some very interesting members' meeting speakers and amazing Around & About events. We gave back to our community in so many ways. Thank you for helping me with my 2015-2017 theme: "Nurture Our Gardens, Ourselves, and Our Leaders of Tomorrow" through these activities.

I wish the new Executive Committee Officers a great, new 2017-2019 term leading our Club in each of their various jobs. A lot of responsibility comes with the jobs that you were elected for by your members. Your new President will appreciate all the support and encouragement you can give her as well. Please know that I am always available for any help I can give.

The 2017-2019 National Garden Club administration's theme is "Plant America" which focuses on gardens and gardening and includes horticulture, garden design and community service. Best to you all,

*Kathy*

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

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS - MAY - JUNE 2017

May 1	Spring Luncheon, 2017-19 Installation & Scholarships Wellington National Golf Club, 11:00 a.m.
May 2	Adopt-a-Street – Wellington Dog Park, 9:30 AM
May 3	District X Spring Meeting – Abacoa Golf Club – Jupiter
May 16-21 (Tues-Sun)	National Garden Clubs Convention – Richmond, VA Days 1-6
Jun 4-10 (Sun-Sat)	Celebrate National Garden Week Days 1-7
June 12-14 (Mon-Wed)	FFGC/UF Short Course – NGC Tri-Refresher, Gainesville Days 1-3

### TREASURERS REPORT

*By Danese Sloan-Kendall, Treasurer*

**April 1, 2017**

Wellington Garden Club began March 1, 2017 with a checking account balance of \$24,580.12.

Income since then totaled \$4,854.91 primarily from the very successful Wellington Garden Week “*Plants Galore and More*” plant sale and membership dues.

Expenses since March 1<sup>st</sup> were \$5,192.53 primarily for management expenses of \$1,030.45, program services of \$2,480.78 and Garden Week plant sale expenses of \$1,648.65.

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

Current balance as of March 31, 2017 in the Wellington Garden Club checking account is \$24,242.50.

## RECAP OF AROUND AND ABOUT ON Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> Polly Reed Garden, Pam Bohm and the Brady Property

*By Deb Russell, Chair*



*Tranquil sitting area in Pam's garden*

On March 30th 20 members of the WGC went on a mini "Around and About" garden tour on Palm Beach Island, which was totally free, to visit with Polly Reed and her fabulous piece of paradise located at 231 Chilean Ave. She was so gracious in explaining her way of doing things with her plants and even allowed us to tour inside her house! After that, we crossed back over to West Palm to visit Pam Bohm's garden located in Flamingo Park historic district, 728 Avon Road. If you recall, Pamela was our February speaker. We got to see her beautiful garden and all the great things she has done. She then escorted us over to William Brady's garden, her neighbor, also located at 713 Avon Road, Flamingo Park. It was another piece of heaven! These gardens

have all been on the Mounts Connoisseur Garden Tour in the past.

Not only were we super impressed with what our eyes had just seen, but it was all capped off with a lovely lunch! We had a really good time with the friends we have made thanks to the Wellington Garden Club.

## WGC MEETING – Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>



Kathy Siena presenting orchid plant to Donna Berger

Donna Berger attended our April 3, 2017 Members Meeting as our Special Guest. She is the 2015-2017 District X Director. Donna has done a great job serving as director of 17 garden clubs in our district. We thank her for coming and sharing a few words with WGC members and guests. A lovely potted orchid was presented to her by our club in appreciation for her services and all she has done for our garden clubs.



Also at the April meeting, two beautiful planters containing gorgeous *Calathea Zebrina* plants were presented to the Wellington Community Center as a token of thanks from Wellington Garden Club for all the support and use of meeting space given to the club by Village staff. Additional planters and plants will be given to the Community Center in the coming months. Shown here are: L-R, Carol Coleman, WGC President-Elect; Kathy Siena, WGC President; Joe Piconcelli, Cultural Programs & Facilities Manager; Debbie Liquori, Community Center Administrative Coordinator; and Twig Morris, WGC Former President.

## **ADOPT-A-STREET** **Tuesday, March 21, 2017** *By Mary Ann Hesser*



This was a good year for the Adopt-a-Street committee--- we increased the number of participants, had fun meeting new friends and continued our effort to thank the village for their support. A big "thumbs up" to everyone who helped to make this a successful year.

Shown here, L to R: Stormi Bivin, Mary Ann Hesser, Marilyn Walvoord, Diana Thompson, Kathy Siena and Cheryl Karlo.

## **Youth Contests** *Kathy Siena, Chair*

The purpose of the National Garden Club Youth Contests is to educate our youth about environmental conservation, pollinators, amphibians and more. Each Fall, these contests are emailed out to several local schools from elementary to high school age. In the spring, the winning students are recognized at their schools for their participation with certificates.

I am happy to share with our members that we received almost 175 youth contest entries from local schools in Palm Beach County. We received poetry, recycled sculptures, high school essays and poster contest entries. With the Florida Forest Rangers help, we gave Smokey Bear presentations at Binks Forest, Equestrian Trails, and New Horizons Elementary schools.

The Rangers brought Smokey to meet and greet the students who were thrilled to shake hands with him. FFGC Spring Convention will reveal the big winners of the youth contests. Let's keep our fingers crossed that these talented and creative students will be recognized for their participation in these contests.



Kathy Siena, Michelle Johnson, Elizabeth Richards, Victoria Stedt, Equestrian Trails Elementary Youth Contest local winners for NGC 2017 Recycled Sculptures.

We need a Youth Contest Chair for the next club year. Please contact me if you are interested in this wonderful job working with our students, teachers and forest rangers. We also need a Youth Garden Club leader to organize and help the youth garden clubs.



Karen Clawson, Wellington High School NGC 2017 Essay Contest local winners, Kathy Siena



Smokey Bear donning cool denim shorts ready for hot summer days!

## NEWS OF OUR JUNIOR GARDEN CLUBS

*Twig Morris, Youth Garden Clubs Chair*



Can you find the caterpillar?  
Hint: it's not on the plants.

**Binks Forest Elementary** - The courtyard butterfly garden project of this junior garden club is almost completed! Students are continuing to add paver pathways, mulch and butterfly plants; the garden is blooming with flowers, caterpillars and butterflies!



The Mulch Mavens

**Pine Jog Elementary** – This group has an amazing hydroponic garden (background, right) and several raised bed gardens. They're harvesting lots of veggies and selling them in the school office. The fifth grade kids work in the garden with the science teacher, Susan Hahn, during the school day so volunteers from the club are not required. However, funds from Wellington Garden Club enable the school to buy much-needed garden supplies, such as hoses, wheelbarrows, garden tools, etc. for the students.



**Girl Scout Troop 22222** - The girls and their leaders have been working on cleaning up and adding new plants to the native plant garden near the Wellington Dog Park. Funding from our club has been used to purchase new plants and add plant markers to the garden. Below are photos of the troop at work and the beautiful native flowers blooming in the garden.



**Wynnebrook Elementary –Janet Stein and Tim Hadsell, WGC Co-Leaders**

On May 10 at 3:00 p.m. this group will hold its final meeting of the year. The afternoon will include make your own pizzas using produce planted by the kids, after which the students will receive the Mother's Day flowers they have grown in special pots they decorated and make Mother's Day cards to take home. Concluding the afternoon's activities will be a presentation of certificates for the Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl poster contest and special T-shirts for each student printed with logos of the Wellington Garden Club and the Elks Lodge 1352. What a wonderful keepsake for their summer vacation!



From little plants, big pizza ingredients grow!

## NEWS OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL GARDEN CLUBS

*By Twig Morris, Youth Garden Clubs Chair*

**Palm Beach Central High School, Lisa Ferrano, WGC Leader** The PBCHS Environmental Club is planting an urban wetland around a retention pond in front of the school. This is the second year for this ongoing project. Funds from our club were used by the Environmental Club to purchase eight Florida native trees. According to Toni Riebe, Faculty Advisor to the PBCHS Environmental Club, "Your club's help and mentorship are extremely valuable to this endeavor. Thank you for your contribution to our environmental program."



**Wellington High School, Roxanne Henry, WGC Leader** - This Environmental Garden Club continues to improve the plantings surrounding the school campus. Shown below are photos from the most recent landscaping day that was funded by WGC and WHS. Over 200 plants were installed in the school courtyard where students gather during the school day.



## HORTICULTURE

The Life and Times of Elbridge Gale

Larry Grosser, Master Gardener and Past President of the Rare Fruit Council

Many WGC members have probably driven past the Elbridge Gale Elementary School in Wellington without ever knowing who Elbridge Gale was and what he meant to our area. He is best known to local historians as the father of Hattie Gale, who in 1886 was Dade County's first school teacher. She taught at the Little Red Schoolhouse in Palm Beach, which has been restored and is now located in Phipps Park in Palm Beach. But her father was just as important as he was the area's first minister and an accomplished botanist who contributed greatly to the developing mango industry in south Florida.

Elbridge Gale (1824-1907) was born in Vermont and graduated from the Free Will Baptist Theological School in New Hampshire. He would move west to Kansas with his wife and three

children where he would become professor of Horticulture and Agriculture at Kansas State Agricultural College. One of his students was David Fairchild (namesake of Fairchild Tropical Garden) who would later present his teacher with several improved varieties of mango trees including a Mulgoba tree from India. Professor Gale would retire from teaching in 1884 and for health reasons chose to relocate to the wild frontier of south Florida.

In 1884, this area was a virtual wilderness and was part of Dade County, which extended north to the St. Lucie River. Locally, this was called The Lake Worth Area, as West Palm Beach would not be named for another 10 years. Because of the lack of roads, most of the early settlers settled on the shores of Lake Worth as the lake provided the primary means of transportation. Elbridge Gale arrived at the Lake Worth Area in November of 1884 and chose his 160 acre homestead on the west shore of Lake Worth near today's 29<sup>th</sup> Street in the Northwood section of West Palm Beach. His property extended west over a ridge to a lake he named Mangonia after his mango grove, which included his soon to be famous Mulgoba mango tree.

In 1902, Captain John Haden sailed up from Miami and purchased four dozen Mulgoba mangos from Professor Gale. He planted the seeds at his property in Coconut Grove and one of these seeds produced the Haden mango in 1910. The Haden mango was far superior to any mango grown in Florida at that time and was reproduced (propagated by grafting) far and wide. Even though the Haden variety is not as popular today due to its susceptibility to anthracnose (a fungal disease), its dozens of descendants are the basis of the mango industry in Florida.

As a side note, in 2015 Elbridge Gale Elementary School was among four schools in Palm Beach County to receive the "Golden Shovel Award" for outstanding school gardens from Adam Putnam, Florida's Commissioner of Agriculture.



Rev. & Mrs. Elbridge Gale



Sign of historic West Palm Beach



Elbridge Gale next to his mango trees





WEKIVA

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



**OPPORTUNITY FOR 2018 WEKIVA CAMPERSHIPS**

As of April 3rd, I am happy to report that Wellington Garden Club is proud to sponsor eight young campers for the 2017 season at Camp Wekiva. Also, Stormi Bivin will once again be serving as an adult volunteer. We are all proud of this accomplishment. Please keep Wekiva Youth Camp in your conversations to encourage other youth to apply next year.

If you are 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.**

Any questions, please contact Harriet Samuels at 561-715-0950 or [hiswpbwh@gmail.com](mailto:hiswpbwh@gmail.com)

**BLUE STAR MEMORIAL HIGHWAY DEDICATION**

*By Donna Berger, FFGC District X Director*



*L to R: Mayor Greg Oravec, City of Port St. Lucie; Donna Berger, FFGC District X Director; Jeanne-Marie Parkes, Bd. of Directors, National Garden Clubs, Inc. Ron Finks, City of PSL Parks & Recreation*

On Sunday March 19, Donna Berger, District X Director, attended the Dedication of two By-Way Markers of the Blue Star and Gold Star Families Memorial Highway adjacent to a new garden planted with red, white and blue flowering plants. It was hosted by members of the Oleander Garden Club of the Palm Beaches and West

Palm Beach Elks Lodge No. 1352. They had a parade, honored veterans and this director unveiled the markers. The National Anthem was sung by WGC President, Kathy Siena. On April 1st, the Rio Lindo Garden Club hosted one in Port St. Lucie which your Director attended. What a privilege to be a part of these events.

Visitors will see:

- \* The first Gold Star Marker in Florida in honor of those who lost their lives in military service
- \* A Blue Star Memorial Marker honoring those who have served in the military

We are proud that both By-Way Markers were the first in the United States funded entirely by an Elks National Foundation Gratitude Grant. Visitors will note National Garden Clubs, Inc. appears at the bottom of each marker.

## NEW COMMUNITY GARDEN AT THE BOY & GIRLS CLUB

*By John Siena, Chair*



The Community Garden at the Boys & Girls Club on Wellington Trace has made great strides in large part because of the dedication of WGC volunteers (Deb Russell, Lisa Ferrano, Sandy Sklar, Anne Hlasnicek, Maria Wolfe, Jim Thomson, Kathy Siena, John Siena), the Young Professionals of Wellington (YPoW), the Village of Wellington, various local businesses, and most importantly the enthusiastic children of the Boys & Girls Club. It's a BIG garden! We have planted tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, broccoli, eggplant, several varieties of beans, kale, sweet potatoes, okra, watermelon, sunflowers, peanuts, herbs, and flowers...even a papaya tree! The children have harvested tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, beans, kale, etc. It has been a great experience for everyone involved; just look at the photos! We are in the planning stages for preparing the garden for the summer "sleepy time" and the next growing season.

By the time you read this article, there will have been a harvest event planned and orchestrated by the YPoW on April 22, 2017 at the garden behind the Boys & Girls Club. The children, their parents, our club, the YPoW, Village of Wellington officials, and some local businesses were in attendance. Our club is participating in projects that make a difference.



We even had officials from Royal Palm Beach coming to see what we are doing and if they can replicate a community garden in their town. Fellow Gardeners, this is "good stuff", and thank all of you for voting for a budget of \$300.00 to help subsidize this garden. In my opinion, we are a wonderful club...again, thank you all.



## FLORAL DESIGN CLASSES

February 16, 2017 and March 16, 2017  
Bernice Correra and Jayne Kiesewetter, Co-chairs



The second half of our six floral design classes transitioned from more traditional arrangements, to “creative” designs. Creative designs can be dramatic, adorable, artistic, or include components used in a non-realistic manner. Among the elements of design to be considered in a creative arrangement is the element of *space*. Obviously, when one is dealing with more than just a free-standing arrangement, a plan is needed to bring order out of *form* and *space*. Our assignment for the February class was to bring a four-inch pot and six-inch saucer to use



as the container. We also supplied our own plant material, a plate, placemat, and any other accessories we chose. Papyrus stems were provided.



The March class allowed us to bring any container and plant material we liked, but the design was to have a theme. The variety of student creations for these two classes was limited only by the number of students. And so many in the class have said that one of the things they have most enjoyed about these classes is seeing what others have created. Imaginations, guided by *principles* and *elements* of design, can bring forth a creation of beauty, harmony, distinction, and expression. The two expressions we will feel in our final class will include both joy and



sadness. Joy for what we’ve learned from our instructors, Chris Biscoglio and Susan Hillson, as well as from each other. And sadness that the classes have to end for now.

## PLANTS GALORE AND MORE PLANT SALE A Wild Success!

Joan Kaplan, Chair

Stormi Bivin & Beth Stewart, Co-Chairs



Mother Nature sure messed with our heads throughout the week before and threatened a *wash out* of our Sunday event, but I am quite pleased to say it went off without a hitch. Once again, we had an array of beautiful plants from local nurseries to sell. Adding to our profits for the day was an amazing supply of donated member-grown plants. Think this was our best showcase, ever! The result was a net profit of \$1678 – well above our budget! That's what I call a very successful day!

Our primary supplier of consigned plants this year was Quintessence Nursery in Loxahatchee and we thank Joey & Carmen Quinn for partnering with WGC. I'd like to share something special with all of you. We typically shop for our native plants at Indian Trails Native Nursery and over the years have developed a very nice relationship with the owner, Jane Thompson. This year, like usual, we acquired an inventory of plants from Jane for this sale. To our surprise,

Jane informed us that she wanted to show her appreciation of our long-standing relationship and partnership by donating \$200 worth of plants for our March event. We are most appreciative of her generosity and hope you will shop at Indian Trails when looking for quality native plants. Certainly, that donation didn't hurt our bottom line for the day!

Beth Stewart and I co-chaired this plant sale, but so many hands contributed to its success. The volunteers really made it happen - from setting up, to tear down and every step in between. Our volunteers are the best! Lastly, a special THANK YOU to Linda & Leonard De Santi for the use of the box-truck once again to pick-up and transport plants. We couldn't have done it without all of you. Thanks so much for making the event an awesome one!



Kudos also go to Jan Seagrave and everyone who contributed to an amazingly successful raffle that added another \$830 to the total profit for Plants Galore and More. And a big shout-out to Lawnkeeper Services "Jerry", owner, of Port St. Lucie, FL 34953, Phone 561-602-3456 who donated and delivered a pallet of mulch. Regretfully, Jerry never received any advertising or recognition for his service. Jerry, please accept our humble apologies for this oversight and, hopefully, we will be working with you again in the very near future.

Joan Kaplan, Chair of Plants Galore and More, expressed thanks to everyone who volunteered, participated, and supported this event. "The response for member grown plants was wonderful and helped to increase the profits of the plant sale. Everyone cheerfully gave of their time and energy to make the day a great success. It was truly a pleasure to work with such a special group of people. This is what our garden club is all about."

**WGC LUNCHEON COMMITTEE MEETING AT  
THE WELLINGTON NATIONAL GOLF CLUB**

**Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

*By Evvy Bartley*

Getting ready and laying plans for our exciting May luncheon at the Wellington National Golf Club on May 1<sup>st</sup> headed up by our infamous, energized and exuberant Mary Drexler, social director.



Here's Mary getting our attention, giving us valuable information, checking out the table appointments, colors, table decorations, raffles and all the great things that go into making our Spring luncheon a great success!

Now the question was, should we use the purple material over the white table cloth, or should we use the gold tablecloth; then again, maybe we should use beads around the folded napkins; but then again, maybe the decorated napkin rings! And once again the question was....should we use the round mirror on the tables under the center piece, or maybe the square mirrors? Holy Smokes, so many questions... do we use beads or feathers in the center pieces or on the tables? And, what should we do about the hats? Should they be green, gold, black or what?? Maybe on the centerpieces, oh no, better on the tables!. Oh my goodness.....I'm so glad I'm not in charge!! Mary, you are such a wonder and as patient as Job, but you can all be sure, everyone working together as a team under Mary's direction will make this luncheon a beautiful and successful Mardi Gras.

## FFGC and District X Represented in Reclaiming Florida's Future Program in Tallahassee

by Diane Rice



Left - Kim Ross - President of Rethink Energy  
Right-Diane Rice-Env Chairman of WGC & Distr X

A big thank you goes to Kim Ross - President of Rethink Energy who along with her foundation made it possible for our Wellington Garden Club and District X Environment Chairman to attend this year's Reclaiming Florida's Future on March 21-22. It was both an ecstatic and somber moment because even though we now have both Republicans and Democrats working together towards a Ban Fracking Bill in committees ... at the same time Big Cypress has been approved for seismic testing

So first ... let us celebrate this momentous change in attitudes towards fracking in Florida. And I want to give credit to all the garden club members who followed the advice of Inger Jones, Pat Carver

and Jackie Host and called or wrote to their legislators with their last minute requests. I say this because for 3 years we have banded together writing and calling our members of Congress to ban fracking. And now it seems that they have listened. I stood at the ban fracking rally in pure disbelief that members of both parties were together in this cause as shown in the adjacent picture with Democrat Florida Senate Gary M. Farmer, Jr. of Broward County next to Republican Florida Senate Dana Young of Hillsborough County. Tears were rolling down my face. But as we were all working hard to ban fracking in Florida .... we all took our eyes off another sinister environmental issue and that is the building of the Sabal Trail Pipeline to transport natural gas.



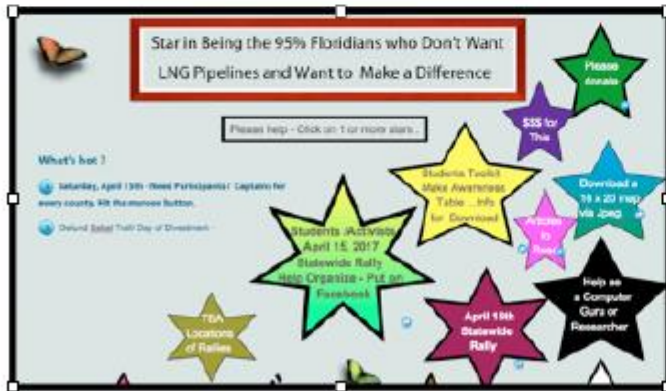
Left - FL Senator Gary M. Farmer, Jr. of Broward County  
Right - FL Senator Dana Young of Hillsborough County



Recalled from my last newsletter where I quoted -- Noah Kuger- M.S., P.G. report, "[Geology of Florida: Challenges and Risks of Unconventional Oil Exploration](#)" on page 11 which explained that Florida was once underwater and because of this now sits on sand, limestone and dolomite as shown in the adjacent picture. And it is this geology that is instrumental in providing the groundwater that 93% of the Floridians depend for drinking.

But it is not until you see the Fracktracker Alliance's map of the proposed Sabal Pipeline on the next page that you get a sense of fear that several large sinkholes could open up right on the pathway to the pipeline and this or other leaks could contaminate our groundwater. Note from the map that the pipeline sits mainly on limestone deposits as show in bright green. Note also yellow dots indicate sinkholes and the blue dots indicate underground springs - both within 5 miles of the pipeline -- which I counted to be over a hundred. To ascertain this yourself click on the hyperlink below that goes to the November 29, 2016 report: " The Sabal Trail Pipeline: A Sinking Feeling " and includes an interactive map: <https://www.fracktracker.org/2016/11/sabal-trail-pipeline/>

So ... are we as both Floridians and garden club members ready to band together again ? Let's start with going to the web site [www.sinkholestateofmine.org](http://www.sinkholestateofmine.org) Here you can participate by hitting one of the stars.



And I would suggest coming to one of the rallies nearest to you on Saturday, April 15th if this date has not passed. All starbursts are related to the forthcoming statewide rally but the gold one states the locations. April 15th was chosen because Sierra Club and others have filed a law suit with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) against the Sabal Trail Pipeline declaring that an adequate Environment Impact Study was not made and oral arguments are to be heard in Washington DC on April 18th. By participating either in the rally or in

donations you will show the Federal Government just how upset you are in their efforts to destroy our natural resources and if all Floridians rally then I believe we will all win again ..... just like we are about to win with Ban Fracking in Florida .

## WGC PRESENTS SPRING FLOWERS TO VILLAGE LOCATIONS

By Twig Morris

Beautiful spring floral designs were presented recently to various locations in Wellington as a token of our club's appreciation for all they do for our community and our club. Christine



Twig Morris and Kathy Siena at Town Hall

Biscoglio and Twig Morris collaborated to create the floral designs that were delivered by Twig and WGC President Kathy Siena to various locations including Wellington's Town Hall, Public Works Department, Village Park, Wellington Library and Fire Station 30. They were delighted to receive fresh flowers and proudly displayed them for all to see.



Margaret Barry, Branch Manager, and Catherine Windecker, Library Associate

A very gracious thank you note was received from Margaret Barry which read:

*"Thank you, Wellington Garden Club, for the lovely Spring Bouquet! It is so nice that you always think of us in the most beautiful way - with flowers!! Enjoy your summer! Fondly, The Wellington Branch Library.*

*P.S. The flowers are also appreciated and admired by the members!!!"*

## WGC RECOGNITION OF LOCAL NURSERIES

### Shop our Partner Nurseries

By Stormi Bivin

Let's support our supporters! Over the years, we have developed great relationships with several local nurseries that provide beautiful plants for our fundraising events. These nurseries have partnered with us by consigning plants and allowing us to reap great rewards with very little risk. We would like to recognize their support and also encourage YOU, Wellington Garden Club members, to patronize their businesses, hence showing our support! It's springtime and flowering plants are bountiful in the nurseries, just waiting for you to take them home to beautify your garden!

On the next page are the names and addresses of these various nurseries:

**Quintessence Nursery** – 14650 Okeechobee Blvd., Loxahatchee 33421  
(561) 792-9175 (closes at 4 PM M-F; Sat. – closes at 1 PM)

**Indian Trails Native Nursery** – 6315 Park Lane West, Lake Worth 33449  
(561) 641-9488 (A little challenging to find...definitely call ahead)

**Southern Gardens** – 7777 Southern Blvd., West Palm Beach 33411  
(561) 793-0733

**Excelsa Gardens** – 12839 25<sup>th</sup> Street North, Loxahatchee 33470  
(561) 790-3789

Be sure to mention that you are a WGC member - quite sure they'll appreciate your business!



# SPRING HAS SPRUNG

**100's of WILDFLOWERS are READY NOW!**  
Celebrate your spring festivities. Give us a call today: **561-641-9488.**

If you are looking for Florida native plants to fill in your spring garden, check out these beauties from Indian Trails Native Nursery. Jane Thompson is the owner and has been very supportive of Wellington Garden Club over the years. Always a good idea to call ahead and let her know you are coming - her phone number is listed above. Happy planting!



**Indian Trails Native Nursery**  
~ Native Plants for Florida's Wildlife ~  
6315 Park Lane West, Lake Worth, FL 33467  
DPI:04723384 LBTR:201140615  
[www.indiantrails.vpweb.com](http://www.indiantrails.vpweb.com)



## RECAP OF AROUND AND ABOUT ON Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at HEATHCOTE Botanical Gardens, Ft. Pierce, FL

On Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 26 members of the WGC embarked on a bus trip to Ft. Pierce to visit five acres of the Heathcote Botanical Garden. It was a perfect dry, sunny day with temperatures in the 70s to low 80s. When we arrived, we were met by two lovely and knowledgeable guides, both volunteers, who first corralled us to the Bonsai garden, the largest public tropical bonsai collection in the U.S. featuring 100 bonsai trees. Here they gave us an overview of the history of Heathcote and the original owners and how it became a garden open to the public. We then took a tour through the Bonsai Garden and given a short talk on the do's and don'ts of starting Bonsai. The garden was quite impressive as all the Bonsai plants were placed on rugged stone pedestals which stone was procured from the City of Ft. Pierce many years ago when an old building was demolished. Having a very creative mind, the widow of the owner salvaged the stone and had it hauled and installed to create these stands for the Bonsai. She also used it throughout the garden for making stairs and paved pathways in several other gardens.



From there, our guides took us through all of the specialty gardens including a Japanese Garden, Reflection Garden, Herb Garden, Rainforest Display, Native Plants Garden and a Palm & Cycad Walk. These area convey an atmosphere of individual garden rooms. Gracing the areas in between are borders of flowering shrubs, bulbs, trees, vines and assorted herbaceous plants. There were many garden sculptures that were made from old machinery, garden rakes and garden tools and were painted in bright colors. What an imagination the artist had because they were so cleverly constructed. But the best of all, was

the Pot Man made of lots of pots piled on top of each other reclining in a chair under a gigantic tree. The spreading undergrowth of trees made this entire botanical experience an enchanted garden! We then went back to the gift shop where many folks bought some delightful curios, and we were back on the bus at 12:15.

The bus then took us to the Tiki Restaurant located at the marina overlooking the waterfront in Ft. Pierce where 26 of us dined on a great lunch. Can you believe, we were all at the same table along the water. Believe it or not, separate checks and the meals were served unbelievably fast. On the way home, Debbie broke out a few bottles of red and white wine and chips to celebrate the success of our fabulous day! The ride home seemed short, but the memories of the day will last a long time.



**The Gang's all here!**



**Lunch at the Tiki along the Indian River**



**Guess Where?**



**On the bus headed for home.....**

**Hip Hip Hoorah for WGC Around Abouts!!!!**

**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.

**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/>

**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 Sept-Oct. Issue: Aug. 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 Strauss
Treasurer	Danese Sloan-Kendall
Assistant Treasurer	Silvia Evans
Corresponding Sec'y	Bobbi Ziegler
Recording Secretary	Maria Wolfe
Acting Parliamentarian	Stormi Bivin
Former President <i>ex-officio</i>	Twig Morris