

Allamanda News

The Newsletter of the Wellington Garden Club

JAN – FEB 2018

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Our Holiday luncheon was a tremendous success. Over 100 members and guests enjoyed dressing up for the festivities. The entertainment was outstanding and enjoyed by all. I extend my thanks to all who helped make this a wonderful event. My co-chair, Jayne Kiesewetter, should be commended for her great organization. Thanks to Deb Russell for taking care of the reservations. Because of Barbara Ricksen and those who contributed to the raffles, we made over \$1000.00 for our club. Christine Biscoglio and Linda DeSanti created the beautiful centerpieces which some were lucky enough to take home. All in all the holiday season started off with great food, great singing, stunning decorations and fun for those who attended.

I am happy to report that we have two new master gardeners in our club. Ann Hlasnicek and Nancy Cinieri successfully completed the course and passed the exam in June and December, respectively. Congratulations to them both.

We had a lovely new member's reception at the home of Amy Schwed. With the help of Doreen Baxter and her husband, we were able to show a video of what National Garden Clubs (NGC) is all about and what our garden club contributes. I think the new members who attended were shocked at what activities our club is active in and many old and new members filled out member surveys which will help us fill some empty slots and add to our growing list of those who have already signed up. It was amazing to see so many offering their skills and knowledge to help make our club even better. At this time we have welcomed six new members and several more are already looking to join in 2018.

January 2018 will be a busy month. The deadline to register for the Tropical Short Course is fast approaching along with the Around and About at Mounts Botanical Garden. A kick-off meeting for the Flower Show is scheduled for January 11 at the Wellington Library. Many members already have signed up to help Twig Morris in one way or another with activities for the show. However, much more help as well as financial support from local businesses and members is needed. We urge you to attend on January 11 to find out more. Also new on the WGC schedule are two workshops on succulents being given by Kimberly Helms. Details are found on page 6 of this issue. You can attend both or just one.

I have scheduled a Board of Directors meeting on January 4th at the Community Center that members are invited to attend. Our members meeting will be January 8th also at the Community Center.

Of great importance is the sign up for Wekiva. This is a highly sought after activity for our youth. There is limited space and the registration starts at 12:00 AM, January 1st. If you have questions, please contact Harriet Samuels about the youth camp or Stormi Bivin for the leadership program.

May you all have a safe and healthy holiday season and a Happy New Year.

Respectfully,
Carol Coleman
President – 2017 – 2019

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2018

Jan 4	NEW WGC Board Meeting – Wellington Community Center (9:30 AM)
Jan 8	Garden Club Meeting – Wellington Community Center (9:30 AM)
Jan 11	NEW Flower Show Kick Off Meeting – Wellington Library (1:30 PM)
Jan 11	Registration Deadline for Tropical Short Course
Jan 17-19	FFGC Board Meeting, Winter Park (Wed-Fri)
Jan 18	Around & About-Washed Ashore Sculptures at Mounts Botanical Garden (9:30 AM), followed by Solid Waste Authority Recycling Tour (1:00 PM), West Palm Beach
Jan 19	Florida Arbor Day
Jan 24-25	62 nd Annual Tropical Short Course, NGC Tri-Refresher – Mounts Botanical Garden, WPB (Wed-Thurs)
Jan 26	NEW Hypertufa Container Class – Kimberly Helms’ home – (12:00 noon)
Jan 29	WGC Board Meeting – Wellington Community Center (9:30 AM)
Feb 5	Garden Club Meeting – Wellington Community Center (9:30 AM)
Feb 8	Garden Art Workshop – Fire Station 30 (9:00 AM-1:00 PM)
Feb 9-11	Wekiva Leadership Training – Apopka (Fri-Sun)
Feb 11	Wekiva Youth Camp Open House
Feb 13	Adopt-a-Street – Wellington Dog Park (9:00 AM)
Feb 15	Around & About-Gumbo Limbo Nature Ctr., Boca Raton (10:00 AM)
Feb. 22	NEW Succulent Container Garden Class – Kimberly Helms’ Home (12:00 noon)
Feb 26	WGC Board Meeting – Wellington Community Center (9:30 AM)

TREASURERS REPORT November 2017

Wellington Garden Club began November 1, 2017 with a checking account balance of \$16,311.76

Income, since then, income totaled \$6,235.35 primarily from a restricted grant in the amount of \$4,000, and the remainder from Holiday Luncheon sales, Membership Dues, Plant raffles, Garden Art and Penny Pines.

Expenses since November 1st were \$514.02 primarily from Around and Abouts and Hospitality, as well as small amounts for newsletter and bank fee.

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

Current balance as of November 30, 2017 in the Wellington Garden Club checking account is 22,033.09

Silvia Evans
Treasurer

WGC MEETING – Monday, January 8, 2018 The Dangers of Plastic Pollution By Kathy Siena



Kathy Siena is a member of WGC and is the current FFGC District X Assistant Director and Tropical Short Course Assistant to the Chair. She is our former 2015-2017 President and, prior to that, served as First Vice President and Youth Contest Chair. Kathy is a retired educator who is passionate about



educating adults and children about the dangers of plastic pollution and how it affects our environment, especially our beautiful oceans, beaches and lakes here in South Florida. She has delivered her inspirational and informative PowerPoint presentation to garden clubs, schools and libraries in Palm Beach, St. Lucie and Martin Counties. Her goal is to further Florida Federation of Garden Clubs' position statement by educating our adults and youth on how to respect and protect the environment and how we can all help alleviate plastic pollution. "Keep Our Oceans and Beaches Beautiful".

AROUND & ABOUT – Thursday, January 18, 2018

Venue #1: Washed Ashore Sculptures at Mounts Botanical Garden

559 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach

<http://www.mounts.org>

Venue #2: Solid Waste Authority Recycling

7501 N. Jog Rd., West Palm Beach

<http://www.swa.org>

CARPOOL LOCATIONS: 9:00 AM SHARP

TOUR: 9:30-11:00 AM at Mounts: 1:00 PM at Solid Waste

COST: \$18.00 for Mounts; SWA is FREE **LUNCH:** BYO lunch and dine in the garden.



Venue #1 - Washed Ashore: This exciting exhibit features 10 giant sea life sculptures made entirely of marine debris collected from beaches to graphically illustrate the tragedy of plastic pollution in our oceans and waterways and to encourage conservation.

January 18 Around and About (Continued)

Venue #2 at 1:00 PM - SWA Recycling

Get an up-close look at the SWA's integrated Solid Waste Management System. See what happens when your garbage and recycling leave the curb. Gain a deeper understanding of why it is important to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rethink waste! This is both a walking and bus tour of this innovative state-of-the-art recycling center.



NOTE: Closed-toe shoes required.

WGC MEETING – Monday, February 5, 2018

DRAGONFLIES

Sydelle Dombrowsky



Sydelle Dombrowsky is a certified Master Gardener and Master Naturalist from Green Cay Wetlands & Nature Center who will share her extensive expertise about the evolution, anatomy, habitats, behaviors and beauty of these unique iridescent winged super flyers. Her presentations are not only educational but entertaining and often humorous. Sydelle is a sought after lecturer at Mounts Botanical Garden and garden clubs throughout Palm Beach County, as well as an educator, docent and member of the Board of Directors at Green Cay Wetlands & Nature Center.

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SAVE THE DATE!
Thursday, January 11, 2018
By Twig Morris, Flower Show Chair

AN INVITATION TO A SPECIAL GATHERING

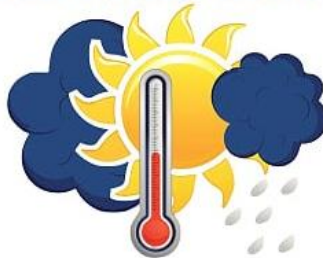
All WGC Members are cordially invited to attend the Kick-off meeting for the WGC Standard Flower Show at the **Wellington Library on Thursday, January 11 at 1:30 PM**. Here's your chance to find out how you can help make the **Tropical Heat Wave** Flower Show a huge success. This is a major undertaking for our club and all members are urgently needed to contribute to this event. Many members have already agreed to chair various committees, and they need your help to ensure that all aspects of the flower show are handled in an efficient and organized manner. You can help before, during and after the show – whatever fits your schedule. You know the old saying, "Many hands make light work", so come to the library on Thursday, January 11 at 1:30 PM and find out how you can do your part to support your club. I promise you it will be a rewarding experience that will make you proud to be a member of Wellington Garden Club. You also will learn how to become an exhibitor in the show by entering your prized horticulture specimens or creating a spectacular floral design.

WELLINGTON GARDEN CLUB

PRESENTS

"Tropical Heat Wave"

AN NGC STANDARD FLOWER SHOW



SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2018
10 AM - 7 PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 15, 2018
10 AM - 5:30 PM

AT THE MALL AT WELLINGTON GREEN
10300 W. FOREST HILL BOULEVARD
WELLINGTON, FLORIDA 33414

OPEN AND FREE TO THE PUBLIC

TWO NEW UPCOMING CLASSES
JANUARY 26 AND FEBRUARY 22, 2018

By Kimberly Helms Cell: 561-350-8681

ATTENTION MEMBERS

We are pleased to be able to offer two new and exciting classes to the monthly schedule. We hope they pique your interest and look forward to seeing you in both classes. We recommend taking both classes as the hypertufa container you make in January will be great to use as your succulent container in the February class. Cost for both classes is \$35.00. Cost for any one class is \$20.00

January 26 – HYPERTUFA CONTAINER CLASS

1. Intro to and history of Hypertufa
2. Recipe
3. Make recipe in class
4. Create your own container to take home

DATE: Thursday, January 26, 2018

TIME: 12:00 TO 2:00 pm

PLACE: Stonehaven Estates, 9443 Granite Ridge Lane, WPB 33411

February 22 – SUCCULENT CONTAINER GARDEN CLASS

1. Condensed history of Succulents
2. How to choose a container
3. Soil composition
4. Additional plants that can successfully coexist with and enhance succulents

Make your own garden with plants included

DATE: Thursday, February 22, 2018

TIME: 12:00 – 2:00 pm

PLACE: Stonehaven Estates, 8443 Granite Ridge Lane, WPB 33411

If you did not take the hypertufa class previously, you may either bring your own alternate container or buy one before the class begins. The containers offered at the class will range from \$5 - \$10 each. We hope to see many members at both classes.

COMING IN JANUARY

THE 62nd TROPICAL SHORT COURSE AT MOUNTS BOTANICAL GARDEN



It's not too early to register for the 62nd annual Tropical Short Course "Tropical Waters" presented by District X to be held at Mounts Botanical Garden January 24 & 25, 2017. This event promises to be an exciting and educational two days filled with presentations by top experts in a wide variety of horticulture, landscape and environmental issues. It also is a Tri-Refresher for NGC Consultants and Master Gardeners. Early registration is encouraged as **your seat assignment will depend on the date your registration was received.** So if you want a good seat up front, **register now!** Registrar Bobbi Ziegler says that she's already received several registration forms from other clubs.

For more details and to register: [Click Here](#) Reimbursement for course fee is available from WGC. **WGC Member Education Reimbursement form is posted on the Member Login section of the club's website.**

SHREDDING EVENT



Save the Date
&
Prepare to Purge Your Sensitive Documents

WGC will be partnering up with Total Shredding, Inc. for our
1st Document Shredding Fundraising Event.

Saturday
January 20, 2018

Location and Time
Village Town Hall/Community Center Parking Area
10 -12 am



Fee as Donation
\$5 per letter-size banker box
\$10 per legal-size banker box

Contact for this event
Kathy Hernicz
561-791-4419
ckhernicz@yahoo.com

RECYCLING EYEGLASSES By Cass Stryker

Just a note to advise you that Cass Stryker will be collecting used eye glasses, prescription sun glasses and new contact lens at this time. Please bring them to the November, January, February and March meetings. A box marked "Eyeglasses" will be behind the registration desk where you can kindly drop your contributions.

Glasses will be taken to Lighthouse for the Blind. They will use them for U.S. families, as well as for Third World countries. FYI, this will be Cass's 4th year collecting these items, so I hope we can help her out by gathering up all these dusty old glasses and disposing of them with her at our meetings. If you have any questions, kindly contact me at 561-790-6353 or 561-629-2665 Caslib036@aol.com

RECAP OF WGC 35TH ANNIVERSARY HOLIDAY LUNCHEON
Monday, December 4th at Mayacoo Lakes Country Club
Co-chairs: Carol Coleman & Jayne Kiesewetter

The club's Holiday Luncheon seemed to have been appreciated by those who attended, so this article is dedicated to *thank you's* to some of those who made the outing the fun event that it was. First, a bouquet of roses to my co-chair and our club president, Carol Coleman. Easy to work with and she even went the extra mile to procure the dainty gold/enamel butterfly necklace from Jack Van Dell Jewelers so we could have the added dimension of a Silent Auction.

The setting and food supplied by Mayacoo Lakes Country Club were lovely and delicious, respectively. Barbara Rickson not only organized and put the Raffle Baskets together, she donated over seven baskets herself; and her committee did an outstanding job selling tickets and distributing the prizes to the winners. Thanks to each of you who made contributions to the Raffle Baskets...didn't you love the daring Segway Tour for 2 Basket and the Group Therapy Basket which happened to include a bottle of Cabernet Sauvignon Wine! Stormi Bivin, in particular, wanted a shout out and she gets it because she took the time to share her years of raffle basket experience and sage advice with Barbara prior to the luncheon; and as it turns out, she donated two of the baskets which placed as second and third "best sellers." BTW, it seems that raffle basket popularity was somehow connected to wine, champagne, and chocolate!

Now gals, when you walked into the dining room and saw the elegant green and white floral arrangements perched on top of the four feet high crystal vases in the center of the silver and white table clothed tables, didn't you find yourself smiling at the beauty of the sight. Chris Biscoglio and Linda DeSanti and their entire committee spent hours putting those arrangements together. And we extend special thanks to Marcela Gergin of Natures Bouquet who gave us an excellent price for the flowers and provided the use of her shop and cooler for assembly and storage. Deb Russell and her team were efficient and meticulous with taking reservations, so sign-in on "the day" went as smoothly as a still lake. Deb did all of that organizing by hand and without the use of her computer, so thank you Deb for the hours of work you gave. And then the standing ovation for the Wellington High School Chorus and their leader, Bradford Chase kind of said it all. Had we closed our eyes, we might have thought we were at the Kravis Center. Thank you to all of you who attended, purchased raffle tickets, and donated so generously in other ways. It all came together to make the Holiday Luncheon an event to remember. And lastly, thanks to Doreen Baxter for helping to document the day!



Evvy & Marsha sharing a scarf with Rickie wearing her napkin....brrhhh!



Bradford Chase receiving an ovation for beautiful Christmas carols sung by Wellington H.S. chorus



Christine Biscoglio, Carol Coleman, Linda DeSanti, Jayne Kiesewetter, Bernice Correra Mary Anne Greely & Deb Russell, Reception Desk



Connie Kellner, Stormi Bivin, Beverly Ginn, & Betty Naulty selling raffle tickets for gift baskets.



Bradford Chase leading WHS chorus



Irmgard Letourneau, A.Karp, D. Schiff, C.Kilgore



Barbara Hadsell Jan Warshauer, Barbara May



Centerpiece atop four-foot vase on each table



Ann Hlasnicek, Ann Finch, Lisa Ferrano

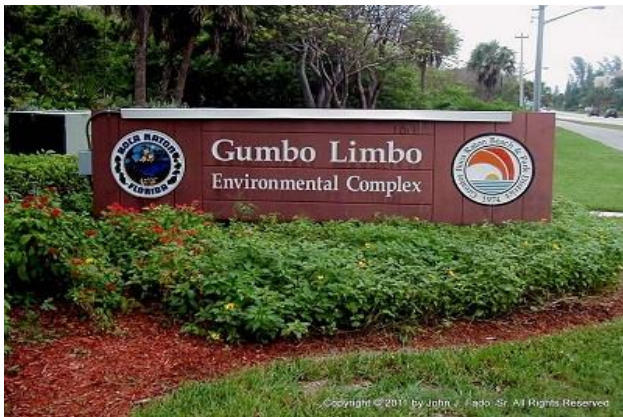


C.Griffin, C.Kessman, P.Griffin, K.Hood, J. Akins

See WGC website for more pictures: [CLICK HERE](#)

AROUND & ABOUT – Thursday, February 15, 2018
Gumbo Limbo Nature Center
1801 North Ocean Blvd., Boca Raton, FL 33432
Susan Elliot, Tour Guide
561-544-8605 <http://www.gumbolimbo.org/>

CARPOOL LOCATIONS: Depart at 9:00 AM SHARP
TOUR: 10:00 AM **COST:** \$5.00 **LUNCH:** Optional



Gumbo Limbo Nature Center, an advocate for sea life, has an indoor museum with exhibits, small aquariums and a gift shop. It also offers major outdoor facilities including several large aquariums featuring ecosystems for fish, turtles and other sea life, a boardwalk trail through the adjacent woods with an observation tower, and a garden designed for observing butterflies. The morning includes a guided tour.

GARDEN HAT CRAFT CLASS

Hosted by Carol Lazzarino and Dee Rolfe
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2018, 9AM – 1PM
LOCATED AT FIRE STATION 30
Cost \$12.00



Join us for a fun filled morning and create a lovely garden hat to hang on your wall or front door. All of the supplies needed to make the hat will be included. Each hat will be your own creation. If you prefer to bring any of your own silk flowers and embellishments, feel free to do so.

The class will be located at Fire Station 30 located at 9610 Stribling Road, Wellington, just east of 441.

Sign up at the January meeting and bring a check payable to the Wellington Garden Club to hold your spot. If you can't make it to the meeting, please mail your check to:

Carol Lazzarino -561-312-2082
2168 Appaloosa Trail, Wellington, Florida 33414

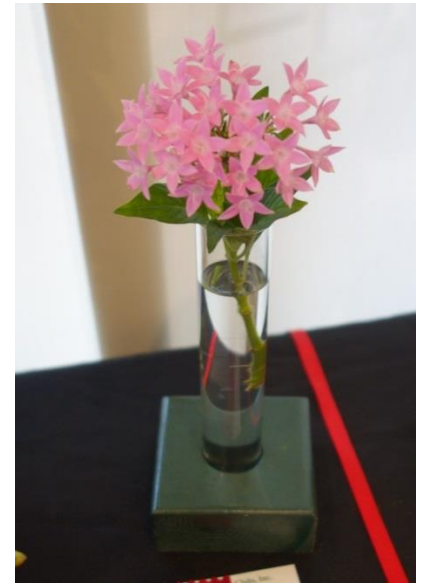
RECAP OF AROUND & ABOUT AT MORIKAMI MUSEUM AND JAPANESE GARDENS

Despite the rainy weather, a hardy group of Wellington Garden Club members and friends ventured out last November to the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens in Delray Beach. Many members arrived early and enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Museum's Cornell Café. Instead of touring the gardens in the rain, the Morikami guides graciously gave our group a special lecture and demonstration of the Japanese tea ceremony, followed by a tour of the Museum gallery special exhibit, "Out of the Blue: Japanese Indigo Textiles". Drawn primarily from the Morikami Museum Collections, this exhibition features a range of indigo-dyed costume and textiles, including kimono, samurai jackets, festival robes, firemen's coats, futon covers, and wrapping cloths. Once the rain ended, many of us enjoyed a self-guided tour of the exquisite gardens.



Terrienne Tuskes, leader, with Caren Griffin, Tom Romah, Elizabeth Tremblay, Gwen Marcus, Rebecca Bolivar, Jan Hoyt and Petra Russell

DISTRICT X FLOWER SHOW - DECEMBER 2ND & 3RD PORT ST. LUCIE



WGC members Susan Hillson, Christine Biscoglio and Twig Morris exhibited floral designs and horticulture in the District X Holiday-themed Small Standard Flower Show in December at the Port St. Lucie Botanical Garden. Shown left to right are designs by Susan and Christine and horticulture by Twig Morris. Thanks to all WGC members who traveled to Port St. Lucie to view the show.



WEKIVA YOUTH CAMP

Wekiva Open House and Leader Training

HEAR YE!! HEAR YE!!

**Camp Wekiva registration opens at
12:00 AM on January 1, 2018**

Register on line and list Wellington Garden Club as the youngster's sponsor. Be sure to send a check for all fees with the registration form. To obtain a campership, contact Harriet Samuels at 661-715-0950 or go to hiswpbwh@gmail.com

A NOTE FROM STORMI BIVIN

Each year there is a Wekiva Open House and WLT (Wekiva Leader Training) weekend. This year the dates are Friday, February 9 through Sunday, February 11. This is a chance for you to attend the campground in Apopka, FL and get a preview of this wonderful youth camp. Friday & Saturday is WLT and Sunday is the open House. I personally invite and encourage you to attend February's Wekiva Open House and maybe even WLT with me. We need to send more volunteers from Wellington Garden Club. Please feel free to ask me any questions about Wekiva. Choose from Boys' Weeks, Girls' Weeks or Co-ed week. For more information, visit www.wekivayouthcamp.org.

ELKS VEGETABLE GARDEN Wynnebrook Jr. Garden Club

Barbara Hadsell
NGC and FFGC Gardening Schools Chairman



Our Wynnebrook Junior "chefs" make a nutritious snack for their fellow junior gardeners each Wednesday afternoon after school. The 4th and 5th graders meet at the Elks where 3 or 4 students volunteer to cook while their classmates plant and harvest in the Loaves and Fishes garden. The Jr. Gardeners in the photo made deviled eggs garnished with tomato bits and parsley from the garden along with "ants on a log" celery stuffed with peanut butter and garnished with raisins. If you would like to help occasionally in the kitchen please contact Janet Stein, jrstein@bellsouth.net.

COMMUNITY GARDEN AT THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF WELLINGTON

John C Siena
Community Garden Chair

May all our gardens flourish! The Community Garden at the Boys & Girls Club of Wellington is truly flourishing. Just a short note to keep our members abreast of what we are doing.

We planted:

Radishes (3 kinds); green beans; corn; lettuce (4 kinds); lima beans; grape tomatoes; beefsteak tomatoes; bell peppers; jalapeno peppers; onions; cabbage; broccoli; Brussel sprouts; parsley; basil; rosemary; sage; oregano; eggplants; okra; squash

We harvested:

Radishes, tomatoes, peppers, beans, etc. and a bunch of smiles!

We had a lot of help from our WGC volunteers (Deb, Lisa, Sandy, Ann, Maria, Kathy, Jim, Petra), from the Young Professionals of Wellington (YPoW), the Village of Wellington (VoW), and the kids from the B&G Club. Tanya Siskind from the VoW council came to visit and encouraged us with some praise; thank you Tanya for your support!

We have an organic garden and there were issues...the worms eating the squash and the red ants eating us; the worms won, and the ants lost. So far, we are even with the bugs, but we are far ahead with excitement and community support. There are things coming that the YPoW are planning; stay tuned.

Come and see what we are growing. We meet every Tuesday from 3:30 to 5:30 PM but often stay till dark. You don't have to work, unless you want to. We would love to harvest one of your smiles! Following are some great photos to show you what we are doing with the kids in the community.



John Siena, Jim Thompson and the Garden Kids smiling and proud of their garden and harvest.



Lisa Ferrano, our team members and kids hard at work.



Jessica Merrill, YPoW, Deb Russell & John Siena, WGC Volunteers & VoW Councilwoman Tanya Siskind on a Saturday Community work day in the Garden.



A great harvest of green beans to take home and share with the family. Happiness!



A couple of our kids taking a break after harvesting green beans and enjoying an orange from dinner.

WGC NEW MEMBER RECEPTION Monday, November 20th, 2018

A hearty thanks to Amy Schwed for offering to host our New Members Reception on November 20th. Carol Coleman, our WGC president, made the introductions and familiarized the new members with our Mission statement along with the opportunity to become involved with National Garden Clubs, Deep South Region, Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, District X, Mounts Botanical Garden and the Wellington Chamber of Commerce.

Carol invited the new members to hopefully become involved with many of the club's committees, be it civic, communication, education, gardening or social events. Afterwards, a lovely lunch was served for everyone to enjoy and become acquainted with each other.



Carol Coleman, President, opening the reception and defining the club's activities



Maria Richardson & Amy Schwed, hostess, enjoying lunch



New members listening intently!

Youth Gardens

Girls Scout Troop 22222 Update
By Allison Zimmerman, Troop Leader

Girl Scout Troop 22222 is off to a great start with gardening this year! On September 30th several of our girls along with volunteers from Cub Scout Pack 222 joined the Wellington Garden Club and the Village of Wellington at National Public Lands Day for a seedling planting in the Wellington Environmental Preserve. Our troop has participated in this event each year and we appreciate the community service opportunity. Our troop members often spend time hiking at the Environmental Preserve and love to look at the trees growing from past years of planting.

Our troop continues to maintain the Florida native butterfly plant garden at the Wellington Dog Park. We got off to a rocky start with a series of rainouts and Hurricane Irma in our way, but we finally made it out to the garden to get our gloves dirty! The girls came out for a rotation between garden maintenance and PBC rock painting. After the work was complete, the girls hid their rocks in the garden for visitors to find after they enjoy the garden. We will continue our garden maintenance events throughout the year to encourage the girls to learn more about the Florida native plants and the butterflies that love them!

Photos courtesy of Melanie Straub, Nan Su and Arlene Gustave, Scout Leaders.



Girl Scout and Parent Volunteer planting a native Florida slash pine seedling.



Boy Scout teaches a Cub Scout how to Plant a seedling



Girl Scout Troop 22222 doing maintenance at the Butterfly garden



Girl Scouts & leaders doing rock painting to leave in the Butterfly garden

Engaging the Youth ... in Environmental Issues

by Diane Rice, WGC and District X Environmental Chair



What is our reward when we plunge ourselves into another Environmental issue? Our reward is plentiful when the youth join with us in saving Florida by explaining to others why we need to save our natural resources.

The Wellington Garden Club (WGC) and District X through me (Diane Rice) have been Engaging the Youth --- with several annual events. For example, every year the Wellington Garden Club partners with Keep Palm Beach Beautiful, Inc. and the International Coastal Cleanup and invites many high school students to come out and engage in picking

up the plastics from our beaches. Then, in mid-January for 3 weekends, students from the Environmental Club of Wellington High School come out to the South Florida Fair to explain the threats of fracking in the Big Preserve and how this carelessly uses our precious resource of water and puts our Florida aquifer in jeopardy. And just this year, one of those students independently joined us in the October 23rd Everglades Symposium held by the Everglades Foundation as shown in the adjacent picture. Had this application been accepted, then there could have been a possibility of oil companies fracking near people's homes.

No doubt we need the youth to join the local grass roots efforts in safe guarding our land, air and water. Just this year, Martin and Palm Beach Counties had three months of algae bloom and lost a great deal of the fishing economy because of past decisions made by the state and federal level on the preservation and flow of water into and out of Lake Okeechobee. And this year, the state permitted seismic testing as a means to explore for more oil in Big Cypress Preserve. And though we were not allowed to see exactly what they were doing in the deep preserve where endangered Florida Panthers and other endangered species live, there was a glimmer of hope when young and old, alike, made their voices heard against Kanter Realty's application to drill for oil in the Broward Everglades. Against all odds, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) sided with South Florida Wildlands and community, disagreeing with a state administrative judge and writing a Final Order denying Kanter Realty's application. (see <http://www.nwfdailynews.com/news/20171210/guest-editorial-no-oil-drilling-in-river-of-grass>). Had this application been accepted, then there could have been a possibility of oil companies fracking near people's homes.

Yes, I have a dream that one day the young will show the old just how to take back our state parks, preserve our water, wetlands and watershed and prevent fracking and most recent LNG (liquefied natural gas) production in this state before it is too late.

NEWS FROM OTHER CLUBS IN DISTRICT X

Tuesday, February 6, 2018 – Bus Trip to Homestead Fruit & Spice Park, RF Orchid Nursery & Robert Is Here Fruit Stand. Sponsored by Boynton Beach Garden Club
Bus leaves 8AM SHARP from Barnes & Noble parking lot, Boynton Beach, FL
Cost: \$55 (Includes bus, admission to park, tips and lunch)
Info, questions, reservations: Cyndy DiVeto, email: 622dixie@bellsouth.net
Deadline for registration/payment/cancellation: 1/19/18 (Only 6 spaces left - Reserve Soon)
To register, [CLICK HERE](#)

Wednesday, February 14, 2018 - Oleander Garden Club of the Palm Beaches is holding a garden salad luncheon and fundraiser at Pine Jog Environmental Center. Featured speaker is Bob Saporito of Tropical Bamboo Nursery and Gardens. For an interactive registration form and more information [CLICK HERE](#)

NGC KEEPING IN TOUCH www.gardenclub.org

You can now access the NGC newsletter "*Keeping in Touch*" on line. Password is **pumpkin**
Please remember, 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.

Please note that the NGC password on page 37 of the 2017-2018 Yearbook is **INCORRECT**.

Wellington Garden Club Meetings

Our garden club meetings are held on the first Monday of the month 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 Mary Drexler, Membership Chair, at 561-506-7404 or email mkdrexler@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.

Deadline for Mar-Apr Issue: Feb.15th
Newsletter Editor Evvy Bartley

Wellington Garden Club Officers

President	Carol Coleman
1 st Vice President	Tom Wenham
2 nd Vice President	Caren Griffin
Treasurer	Silvia Evans
Assistant Treasurer	Carol Krenkel
Corresponding Secretary	Maria Wolfe
Recording Secretary	Mary Drexler
Parliamentarian	Jan Seagrave
Former President <i>ex-officio</i>	Kathy Siena