



# Allamanda News

The Newsletter of the Wellington Garden Club

SPRING-SUMMER 2019

## Season of Accomplishments

*To all our members who planted trees,  
taught children to garden,  
cleaned up the beach,  
adopted a street,  
created fun crafts,  
took kids to camp,  
went on day trips,  
hosted the garden tour,  
won prestigious awards  
and lunched in fancy hats...*

*Thank you one and all for making  
Wellington Garden Club the best club ever!*

## You Rock!



# *A Once-in-a-Lifetime Garden Tour*

—Carol Coleman

On April 13, 2019 the Wellington Garden Club sponsored *A Once-in-a-Lifetime Garden Tour* at Deeridge Farms in Wellington, Florida. The sold-out tour of Mrs. Margaret Jacobs' magnificent gardens was truly a feast for the eyes.

Golf carts piloted by our volunteers drove visitors through the property while our master gardeners described the beautiful plantings, landscaping and answered questions.

The tour program book described how the Jacobs chose this property and the loving efforts they took to create a true masterpiece. Inspired by the gardens at her farm in East Aurora NY, which were designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, Mrs. Jacobs incorporated many of his landscape designs here in Wellington while using plant, tree and flower materials suited for south Florida.

In 2018, Mrs. Jacobs received the Olmsted Award for her farm in New York. The Wellington Garden Club awarded Mrs. Jacobs the Earth Steward Recognition from FFGC and a certificate to certify her butterfly garden, also from FFGC.



Larry Grosser with Mrs. Jacobs and Rochelle Wohlberg, Director, Mounts Botanical Garden





Vendors featured orchids, bromeliads, begonias, succulents, jewelry, tea, garden art, and more. We had note cards, honey and syrup from the Deeridge Farms, both North and South.



Mrs. Margaret Jacobs provided drinks, ice cream and cookies specially decorated with our club logo.



Entertainment included the Young Singers of the Palm Beaches, who the Jacobs family has supported. This was a lovely addition to an already beautiful day.

*It was an unforgettable day!*



Tom's golf cart



Michael Whitlow, Tom Romah, Kate Kouba, Joyce Smith, Peggy Jacobs, Mary Drexler, Doreen Baxter, Linda DeSanti



# *WGC Spring Happenings*

## **WGC Members Welcome the Easter Bunny at the Mall at Wellington Green**

On Saturday, March 30, the Easter Bunny paid WGC members a visit as they planted spring blooms in the flower boxes at the Mall at Wellington Green.



Dee Rolfe, planting with the kids



L-R: Dee Rolfe, Kay Brown Susan Hillson,  
Twig Morris, Caroline Kessman, and Joan Kaplan

## **Earth Day Festivities**

WGC members participated in the Earth Day celebrations at Pratt & Whitney and at the Village of Wellington. What a great way to celebrate this special day and to let people know about our club and its activities including Camp Wekiva and junior garden clubs.



Carol Coleman, Twig Morris, Carol Ralph and  
Jan Seagrave at Pratt & Whitney



Kathy Siena and Larry Grosser at the Village of Wellington

## Wellington Garden Club Shines at FFGC Convention

—Twig Morris



Carol's Winning Bromeliad

Wellington was in the spotlight at the 93rd FFGC Convention held April 7-9 in St. Augustine. The excitement began when the FFGC award winners were announced. Wellington captured six awards in District X for a wide variety of projects in 2018 including the year's best flower show and best horticulture programs. Carol Ralph also won an individual award for her amazing bromeliad which was entered in the flower show. The youth were recognized with three awards for the Girl Scout Arbor Day project and Isabella Elstein of Wellington High School won the national poetry contest sponsored by National Garden Clubs. Last, but not least, a certificate was awarded to the club for 2,192 trees planted in Wellington in 2018.

The culmination of the convention occurred on Tuesday evening when Carol Coleman was installed as Director, District X along with other new District Directors representing the districts throughout the state. Carol will now be responsible for overseeing the activities of the 17 clubs in five counties in District X. We are so proud of our former president and wish her every success in her next adventure as District X Director. We extend our sincere congratulations and hope her new duties will still permit her to attend our monthly WGC meetings.



Congrats to Carol Coleman

It was a complete surprise to Barbara Hadsell when she was called to the stage by outgoing FFGC president Claudia Bates who presented her with a special Certificate of Distinguished Service to an FFGC president. To say Barbara was stunned and overwhelmed is an understatement! Claudia noted that the certificate was being presented in grateful appreciation of Barbara's outstanding achievement, guidance and loyal service during Claudia's two-year tenure as FFGC president. Congratulations, Barbara, for this well-deserved recognition.



Barbara Hadsell and Claudia Bates

Another member in the spotlight at the convention was Susan Hillson who was installed as Director, District X Flower Show Judges Council. She will also be the Florida Flower Show Schools Chairman for the next two years. With her impressive credentials as an NGC Accredited Life Flower Show Judge and blue ribbon exhibitor in numerous flower shows, it is certain that District X Flower Show Judges Council is in good hands.



Congrats to  
Susan Hillson



# Happy Planting!

## Youth Gardens Wrap-up

—Kathy Siena, Chairman

2018-2019 Youth Gardens year is ending soon, and the gardens will be put to bed for the long, hot Florida summer. The school leaders and WGC liaisons have done great work with the kids nurturing and teaching them how to grow gardens. Our Wynnebrook Jr. Garden Club co-leader, Tim Hadsell, informed me that they had a solar installation in their Junior garden in April. Kathy Schneider, Binks Forest Elementary leader, said that the Binks Junior Garden kids gave up their recess for the entire growing season to work in the garden and Starla Davis, school leader and teacher, used some of her prep time every day to work in the junior garden as well. That's dedication!

Our Wellington High School liaison, Roxanne Henry, has this update: "I would like to thank WGC for their financial support for the Wellington High School gardens and landscaping. This year we were able to purchase 14 new Christmas "triple" palms (15 gallon) which we planted around the portables. This area was quite barren and had no plants or trees at all, so it looks nice now with the additional plantings. The faculty, parents and students noticed the additional landscaping and were very complimentary.

We also purchased a 25-gallon Royal Poinciana tree (Delonix Regia) which was planted in the middle of the bus loop. When the tree has grown, you will be able to see the bright, orange blooms in June as you pass by the school. It can grow to a mature height of 40 feet and is shaped liked an umbrella. This tree may become an important landmark and a great place for students to have their pictures taken.

Many thanks to our WGC volunteers and school leaders of Binks Forest Elementary School, Girls Scout Troop 22222, Palm Beach Central High School, Pine Jog Elementary School, Wellington High School and Wynnebrook Elementary School for their season of work.



We hope that one day our newly planted royal poinciana will be as beautiful as the one below.



Wellington HS gardeners planting Christmas Palms



## Community Garden at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Wellington

—John Siena, Chairman

This past year was a challenge due to a fire ant infestation which caused us to lose half of the growing season. We beat back the ants, got rid of them and were still able to get a “crop in” (we are farmer/gardeners). The yield was better than we hoped—a bumper green bean harvest as well as peppers, tomatoes and other veggies. We are making progress with our butterfly garden and saw many monarch and swallowtail caterpillars...we even spotted a few chrysalides.

Funding from the Young Professionals of Wellington allowed us to erect a storage shed and complete our drip irrigation system. We also appreciate the financial support we received from WGC to purchase various garden supplies. What started out as fight for survival ended successfully thanks to the dedication and persistence of the WGC team and the support of our Club. See you next year.



## Winner's Circle!

### Our Garden Placed First in the Nation

The Community Garden at the Wellington Boys & Girls Clubs was granted **two first place awards by National Garden Clubs Inc.** There were hundreds of applications and we were selected first place in the nation for two categories:

- Overall Winner Community Gardens
- Overall Winner Organic Gardening Practices

An integral part of The Community Garden is the collaboration between the Young Professionals of Wellington, the Village of Wellington, the Boys & Girls Clubs and the Wellington Garden Club. In addition to hands-on gardening, we teach young boys and girls about the science and practice of gardening and our WGC volunteers are key to its success.

Many, many thanks to Deb Russell who wrote the award application, Kathy Siena who edited it and supplied photos, John Siena, Community Garden Chairman and to all the WGC volunteers who assist our young gardeners on Tuesdays from 3:30-5:30 PM. We always need help!

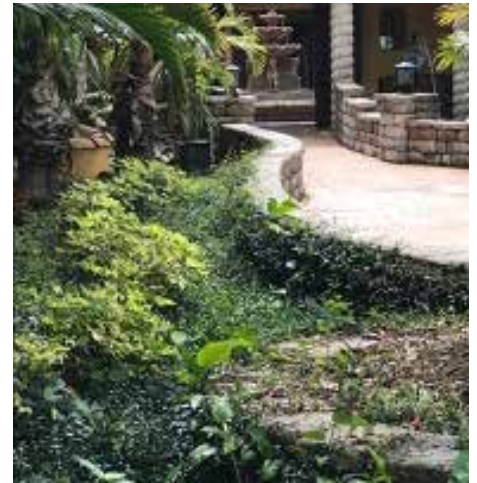




# Day Trippin' Was a Blast!

## We Had so Much Fun at our Spring Around & Abouts

Alison Albury sent in these photos from the River Lilly Cruise and the Hippocrates Institue. A sincere thank-you goes out to Terrienne Tuskes for putting together such a terrific series of *Around & Abouts*.



## A Tip From the Toolbox

—Barbara Ricksen

Using epsom salt is a great way to add magnesium to your garden.

- An ideal supplement for palms, cycads, ferns
- Keeps bougainvillea from yellowing
- Helps speed up plant growth
- Increases nutrient uptake
- Increase flavor of fruit and veggies
- A pesticide-free cure for slimy slugs and snails...  
...just sprinkle it where slugs are

It's also a great weed killer. Mix 2 cups with a gallon of vinegar, add some liquid dish soap and spray directly on the weeds without damaging your plants.







## Succulent Dish Gardens

On Tuesday, April 30, WGC members gathered at Kimberly Helms' house to learn about creating succulent dish gardens. Everyone had a great time and took home beautiful creations. Thanks, Kimberly. L-R: Bobbi Ziegler, Dora Bellomo, Ann Cavaleri, Nan Geiger, Mary Anne Greely, Kimberly Helms, Maria Wolfe, Jan Seagrave and Barbara Zenker.



## Merry Christmas Begonia

"I won this beautiful begonia at the Holiday raffle. It's doing well on my front porch. It's called Begonia Ruhrthal."—Claire Falik



## Adopt-a-Street

One of the ways the WGC gives back to the community is through the Adopt-a-Street program. Club volunteers meet quarterly at the Village dog park and walk about a mile up and down Greebriar picking up trash. Co-chairs Kay Brown and Jim Thompspon did a great job organizing the clean-up effort. Thank you, Kay and Jim.

# Hands-on Fun



# Awards & Recognition

## Scholarship Award Winners WGC Awards Four Scholarships

—Maria Wolfe & John Siena

The Wellington Garden Club Scholarship Committee reviewed applications and interviewed selected candidates. They are outstanding candidates! It was decided to award four scholarships, which we did at our Spring Luncheon. The recipients are:

- Denise Price entering Palm Beach Atlantic for a dual major in Environmental Science and Marine Biology.
- Georgia Brooks, senior at Palm Beach Central HS, entering University of Florida majoring in Environmental Engineering
- Talia Marcus, senior at Wellington HS, entering Florida State University majoring in Environmental Science and Policy
- Ethan R. Hilson, freshman at PBSC, continues his education in Environmental Science with emphasis on topographical geography.

These outstanding students will be among tomorrow's leaders, protecting our earth, oceans, gardens, flowers and pollinators. We wish them success and proudly support them!



Back Row: WHS Teacher, Jim Rigoto; Recipient, Ethan Hilson; John Siena, Chair; Front Row: Recipients, Georgia Brooks, Talia Marcus, Denise Price

## Best Hats Winners at the Run for the Roses Luncheon, May 6, 2019

### Earth Steward, 2019



Brian Hopper- WGC 2019 Earth Steward  
Recipient with Kathy Siena-FFGC  
Earth Steward Chairman



Carol Krenkel, Left with Andra Karp, Guest of Connie Kilgore



## Wellington Garden Club Wins Top Awards

Below are the awards won by Wellington Garden Club for projects completed between January and November 2018. Our members worked hard on all these projects and should be very proud that their accomplishments were recognized as the best in their category by state (FFGC), regional (DSR) and national (NGC) organizations.

### Florida Federation of Garden Clubs (FFGC) Awards:

- Year's Horticulture Programs for some of the meeting speakers and all the workshops held in preparation for the 2018 standard flower show.
- Arbor Day Celebration to restore Gene Joyner's garden after the hurricane
- Girl Scout Arbor Day also to restore Gene Joyner's garden
- Standard Flower Show in a Public Building
- Grower's Choice won by Carol Ralph for the fabulous bromeliad she entered in the flower show
- National Poetry Contest by Isabella Elstein, 9th grade Wellington High School
- Tree Planting Certificate for 2,172 trees planted

### Deep South Region (DSR) Awards:

- Horticulture award for the same application submitted to FFGC for Year's Horticulture programs
- Arbor Day award for the same application submitted to FFGC for Gene Joyner's garden

### National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC) Awards:

- Special Media (Arbor Day video)
- Community Gardens at Boys & Girls Clubs
- Organic Gardening at Boys & Girls Clubs
- Standard Flower Show in a Public Building

### New Board of Directors on May 6, 2019



L-R: Danese Sloan-Kendall, Treasurer; John Siena, 2nd Vice President; Jan Seagrave, President; Kate Kouba, Corresponding Secretary; Carol Ralph, Recording Secretary; Carol Coleman



### National Garden Week June 2-8, 2019

Wellington Mayor, Anne Gerwig presents a proclamation declaring June 2-8, 2019 as National Garden Week. Accepting the proclamation are Wellington Garden Club members Twig Morris, National Garden Week Chair, (left) and Jan Seagrave, President.

During National Garden Week, club members and the public are urged to "plant, feed and nurture their gardens to make this community more beautiful than ever."

# *Kudos to All!*

# Environmental Update

## District X Environment Chair Revisits Fracking in Florida

—by Diane Rice

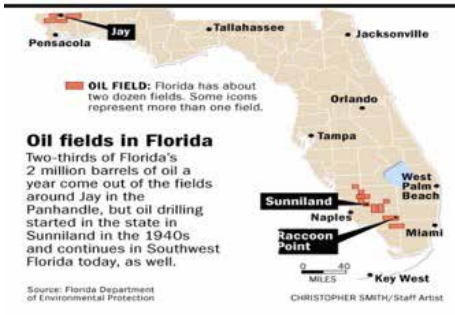
I have a dream—that one day our state legislators will vote against all fracking and well stimulation processes in Florida. At present only New York, Vermont and Maryland have enacted state bans on fracking.



Remember that most of Florida sits on sand, limestone and dolomite, as shown in the picture on the left. This geology is instrumental in providing the groundwater that **93% of all Floridians depend on for drinking water**. If you were to open an oil-capped well and put water, sand and toxic fracking fluids into a well that uses a well stimulation process that breaks up the existing limestone, you might create a sink hole.



Can a company actually create new sink holes as they extract minerals from the land? That has actually happened in a Tampa suburb and most believe it is due to Mosaic, which operates one of the world's largest phosphate mines. As shown in the second photo, sink holes can swallow a street. But in spite of this and other incidents in Florida's "Sinkhole Alley," Mosaic is still in operation. Now visualize oil companies who want to use fracking and well stimulation processes to extract the oil in trapped limestone.



The Conservancy of Southwest Florida located in Naples, states that Florida's oil reserves are just one tenth of one percent of the total US oil reserves. Further, the quality of the oil in the Sunniland Trend is poor and not typically used for gasoline. Therefore is not worth the risk to our water resources to utilize fracking/water stimulation processes in Florida. See FI ( <https://www.conservancy.org/our-work/policy/eye-on-the-issues>)

On March 11, 2019, US News reported that a senate panel voted to ban some forms of fracking in Florida. But Kim Ross, executive director of Rethink Energy Florida said, "You can't call it a ban unless it bans all forms of fracking." And Democrat Senator, Kevin Radnor of Boca Raton said "This is a risky proposition." But Republican Senator Doug Broxson of Pensacola said, "We have to have that oil production." And now Florida judges say that such decisions have to be made based on Florida law and that FL Dept. of EPA improperly relied on an unadopted rule which would prohibit all exploratory drilling in the Everglades. But wait—Everglades is a National Park. Does this new ruling mean that oil companies can go ahead and drill for oil if we do not get a state law that specifically prohibits it?

Citizens must band together at their local, city, and county commission meetings to stop the oil permits from being issued. In 2018, Broward County banned all types of hydraulic and acid fracturing. It took 10 years for New York State to ban fracking. But if it happened there, we can do it here.

**Lets share the dream of a clean Florida for our children**

For more information, please visit [banfrackinginfl.com](http://banfrackinginfl.com)



# Treasurer's Report

## Year-end Report

—Danese Sloan-Kendall, Treasurer

Income in April totaled approximately \$26, 519 primarily, from Garden Tour ticket sales, advertisers and sponsors.

***The Once-in-a-Lifetime Tour had a total income of approximately \$34, 068 and expenses of approximately \$6,355, leaving an incredible profit from the tour of approximately \$27, 713!***

Other expenses this month totaled \$3,612, primarily for general management expenses, Wekiva camperships, youth programs and member education. Current balance as of April 30, 2019 in the Wellington Garden Club checking account is \$47,714.29. Additional expenses to be paid in this club year ending, May 31 are approximately \$7,500.

Due the hard volunteer work of our members and the incredible success of our fundraising, this balance will cover the operating deficit for Wellington Garden Club for several years. The 2019-2020 club budget has been created and sent to members for review. Please note the budget is an estimate of the income and expense for that year. Additionally, for more detailed information please review the WGC profit & loss versus annual budget to date report.



## Bulletin Board

This season has literally flown by.

As we say goodbye to our seasonal friends, we wish you all a safe and healthy summer. If you hear of a member who is ill, hospitalized, or needs a helping hand please contact Corresponding Secretary, Kate Kouba, [ktkuba@yahoo.com](mailto:ktkuba@yahoo.com)

If you have not sent your renewal checks in,  
PLEASE RENEW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.  
IT WILL MAKE LIFE SO MUCH EASIER  
FOR THOSE OF US PROCESS YOUR RENEWALS.

Make checks out to Wellington Garden Club and mail to:  
Carol Ralph  
16785 93rd Rd. N  
Loxahatchee, FL 33470

# *The Kentucky Derby*



Carol Krenkel's a Winner



A Bevy of Beauties  
Front L-R: JoAnn Akins, Kathy Hood, Caroline Kessman, Top: Caren Griffin



Joan & Harvet Kaplan



Carol Lazzarino, Janet Stein & Dee Rolfe, Chair of Luncheon



Goodies on the Raffle Table



The Incoming Board of Directors with Carol Coleman



# *Run for the Roses*



Ladies Who Lunch



Wow!



Checking in with Mary Anne Greedy,  
Deb Russel & Bernice Correra



The Changing of the Guard



Ann Finch, Lisa Ferrano, Kate Kouba  
& Linda DeSanti



Tom & Stormi Bivin

*Wellington Garden Club  
Spring Luncheon  
The Kentucky Derby  
Run for the Roses  
Monday, May 6, 2019*

# More Mad Hatters



Thanks to Paige Griffin for the beautiful luncheon and Garden Tour photos and to Twig Morris and Kathy Siena for their coverage of recent events.

The Wellington Garden Club meets on the first Monday of the month at the Wellington Community Center, 12150 Forest Hill Blvd., Wellington, FL in the Lakeview Room on the ground floor. Guests are welcome. If you plan to bring a guest, please call Alison Albury, Membership Chair at (H) 561-372-5952, (C) 315-681-8867 or email [kaalbury@gmail.com](mailto:kaalbury@gmail.com)



Wellington Garden Club,  
2087 Guadeloupe Drive,  
Wellington, FL 33414

## Wellington Garden Club Officers

President	Jan Seagrave
1st Vice President	Maria Wolfe
2nd Vice President	John Siena
Treasurer	Danese Sloan-Kendall
Assistant Treasurer	Kathy Hernicz
Corresponding Secretary	Kate Kouba
Recording Secretary	Carol Ralph
Parliamentarian	Kathy Schneider
Former President ex-officio	Carol Coleman

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