



Allamanda News

The Newsletter of the Wellington Garden Club November 2020

Dear Members,
Our Garden Club is saying goodbye to last year and looking forward to a new garden year. We are continuing our plans for fund raisers, speakers, Around & About activities, and horticultural moments, as well as our monthly meetings even though, for now, they will be conducted via Zoom.

We need a quorum to conduct any official business such as approving the minutes of previous meetings. We were not able to do that at the last General Meeting. It is still wonderful to see your faces so please continue to join us to stay abreast of the latest happenings.

We need you to attend!

Your officers and chairmen are working and planning for your education and enjoyment.

Take a moment. Make yourself a pumpkin spice latte and enjoy the articles in this newsletter. It is filled with first-hand accounts from our members who are doing some awesome gardening.

—Jan Seagrave, President



**I want this Newsletter to fill you
with hope for the future.**

Village of Wellington's F.L.O.W.E.R. Award goes to Kay Brown—Stormi Bivin



Kay Brown in her award-winning garden.

Earlier this year, WGC member, Kay Brown, was awarded the Village of Wellington F.L.O.W.E.R. Award for her beautiful garden.

This award was created by Wellington's Tree Board, an advisory committee to the Village Council.

F.L.O.W.E.R. stands for Fabulous Landscapes of Wellington Earning Recognition.

It focuses on the curb appeal of the front side and/or street side of each property nominated and is open to private residences, businesses, churches, congregations, synagogues and rental properties. Favorable consideration is given to landscapes that include at least fifty percent native plantings. In 2017, the award was expanded to include recognition of impressive tree specimens that now fall under the *Treemendous Tree* category.

Nominees may be submitted by anyone who feels they merit consideration, even by property owners themselves. Submissions are to be sent to the Public Works Department and are reviewed by the Tree Board, usually in January. The recommended winners are presented to the Village Council for approval. Typically there are multiple winners representing various styles of landscaping and fabulous trees. Each year at the Village's Earth Day & Arbor Day Celebration in April, the awards are presented by the Tree Board Chair.

Winners are invited to attend the celebration where they ascend to the stage and are presented with an award certificate and a beautiful lawn sign to be displayed for the upcoming year.



IMG_2919.jpeg

Homeowners like Kay Brown take pride in their landscapes which results in a shared benefit to neighbors and to the community of Wellington. Congratulations, Kay!



Winners receive a lawn sign recognizing their achievement.

Wellington Garden Club Wins State, Regional and National Awards

—Twig Morris

Wellington Garden Club was recognized by Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Deep South Garden Clubs and National Garden Clubs, Inc. with multiple awards for a variety of projects the club has undertaken in Wellington and surrounding communities.

Award certificates were presented recently to the club in recognition of its installation of a Blue Star Memorial Marker in Wellington's Veterans Park; the activities surrounding National Garden Week; and a program for elementary school children, *Bee Understanding* by Al Salopek that helps children understand the importance of bees in our environment.



Club members (L-R) Carol Coleman, District X Director; Jan Seagrave, 2019-2021 WGC President; and Twig Morris, WGC and District X Awards Chairman display award certificates.

Around & Abouts

On October 15th, we enjoyed our first *Around & About* of the season at the beautiful Mounts Botanical Garden. We had a lovely day strolling the trails. The gardens are colorful with various plants and trees in bloom. It was so nice to enjoy the Garden with such knowledgeable garden club members.



In attendance were: Stormi Bivin, Caren Griffin, Tom Roman, Bobbi Ziegler, Maria Richardson, Sandy Sklar, Joyce Smith, Carol Brody and Jan Seagrave.

Tuesday November 10, 2020
White Trail Social and Garden Club
18877 131st Trail N, Jupiter, FL 33478

Please join us for a delightful morning at White Trail Social and Garden Club. Enjoy a self-guided tour of the gardens and nursery plus a rose workshop led by Katie, the club's Rosarian. A box lunch will feature quiche, salad, and a nut bread.

All activities are socially distanced in an open air atmosphere. Please wear a mask.

Make out your check for \$35.00 to Wellington Garden Club. Mail to Jan Seagrave, 658 Spinnaker Court, Wellington Fl 33414 to hold your spot.
Hard deadline is Friday, November 6, 2020.

Please let Jan know if you will be carpooling from either the East location or the West location or driving to the destination by yourself. Carpools will meet will meet at 9:00 AM and depart at 9:15 AM SHARP so please be on time.

For more information: www.whitetrailjupiter.com

My Pollinator Garden

— Lisa Ferrano

My backyard pollinator garden is a work in progress. I started with a small 10 foot square area and a package of seeds from the Florida Wildflower Cooperative about five years ago. Each year I added another 10 x 10 plot. All the plants and grasses are Florida natives including: Muhlygrass, Lopsided Indian Grass, Chalky Bluestem, Redtop and Elliott's Lovegrass. Some of the wildflowers include October Flower, Bluecurls, Honeycomb Head, Piroquetta, Tropical Sage and White Crownbeard. Blazing-Star and Golden Silky Aster are not blooming yet.

The garden goes through many changes throughout the year, looking sparse at times and looking lush at times. It needs no fertilizer or supplemental watering unless I add more seeds or plants.

Pollinators are responsible for one out of every three bites of food. 90% of all wild plants rely on pollinators for the survival of their species. Pollinators support healthy ecosystems that clean the air, stabilize soils and support other wildlife.



October Flower



Forked Blue Curls and Scarlet Sage



Coastal Plain Honeycomb Head



Pitted Stripeseed



Lopsided Indian Grass



Muhlygrass or Hair Grass



White Crown Beard or Frost Weed

Ferns are fun!

—Alison Albury

Let me begin by saying I am no expert on ferns. I am not a master gardener like so many of our members; but I love gardening and learning new things about plants and how to propagate them. So I humbly come to you with this article about my adventure with ferns.

When we lived in Nassau, Peter and I had a lovely little house with a stone-floored patio. We built some wood rafters across the area to provide a bit of shade and also make the patio more aesthetically pleasing. We began to hang plants in baskets from the rafters, but realized we had a little too much light. We added some light shade-cloth (similar to the nursery cloth used in their enclosures) that would give us the type of sunlight that would be perfect for several of our ferns. Yes, perfect.

We tried our hand at a number of fern varieties and soon we had so many that we ceased using the name *patio* and began calling it the *shade house*!

Here are a few pics of our ferns. We find them harder to grow here in Florida because we don't have the same growing conditions.

Just give your ferns fresh air, water some sun, and watch 'em grow!

Ferns Need:

- Moderate humidity
- Moist warm temperatures (though hardy ferns can grow in temps that drop to freezing because they go dormant in winter)
- Partial shade/filtered light
- Moist soil and a container that drains well
- Occasional fertilizer such as Osemocone, fish oil or Miracle-Gro once a month. All are good boosters
- Avoid manure, compost or peat

Ferns Do Not Like:

- Full Florida summer heat
 - Being kept indoors
- A salty environment near the ocean



Bird's Nest Fancy



Blue Star



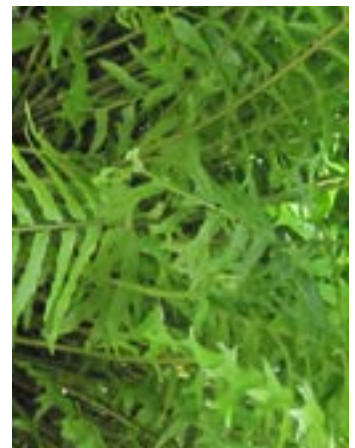
Button



Dwarf Holly



East Indian Holly



Fancy Frill-Hybrid



Fishtail



Lacy-Hare's Foot

Medicinal Plants—Uma Bhatti

The Neem Tree is a tropical evergreen tree that can grow up to 30 feet tall. It is native to India but grows beautifully in my Wellington backyard. It is called the **village pharmacy** because of its healing versatility and has been used in Ayurvedic medicine for more than 4,000 years.

Every part of the neem tree is useful. Seeds, bark and leaves have **proven antiseptic, antifungal, anti-inflammatory and anti-acid uses**. Neem is also a powerful natural fungicide and insecticide for the garden. Products with neem can be found in garden centers and in health food stores.



Neem Leaves



Neem Seeds



Neem Tree, *Azadirachta indica* a member of the mahogany family (Meliaceae)

Moringa Oleifera is known for its distinctive seedpods that hang from its branches. This tropical plant is grown for its nutritious leafy-greens, flower buds and mineral rich fruit pods. It grows into a medium size evergreen tree and is perfectly suited for South Florida.

Moringa is a superfood that contains:

- 7 times more Vitamin C than oranges
- 4 times more Vitamin A than carrots
- 4 times more Calcium than milk

Add fresh leaves to soups, salads, omelets or steam it like spinach. Leaf powder can be added to smoothies or sprinkled on food.



Moringa Drumstick Seed Pods



Leaf powder is great in smoothies



Moringa Oleifera, the Drumstick Tree

Susan Hillson...

Thanks for Sharing!—Twig Morris

Congratulations to Susan Hillson on receiving the 2020 Florida Federation of Garden Clubs (FFGC) Floral Designer Award.

The objective of the Award is to recognize a garden club member/floral designer who has shared her/his design knowledge for five or more years by giving design programs, teaching Floral Design Study classes, Fun with Flowers, or other design-related educational opportunities.

Since she first joined Wellington Garden Club over 10 years ago, Susan has honed her skills as a floral designer, instructor and National Garden Clubs (NGC) Flower Show Judge. As an FFGC Floral Design Instructor, she has taught multiple design workshops to WGC members in preparation for the Club's flower shows, and has given design demonstrations at the FFGC Tropical Short Course.

A talented designer, Susan has entered and won top NGC Awards in Standard Flower Shows and has developed a fondness for and expertise in creating petite designs.

Her contributions to NGC, FFGC and District X are impressive. Susan currently serves as District X Director Judges Council and FFGC Flower Show School Chair, Florida. She is an FFGC Landscape Design Consultant, Tri-Council member and previously served on the FFGC Board as Penny Pines Chair and Edible Landscape Chair. She became an NGC Accredited Flower Show Judge in 2013 and recently became an NGC Accredited Master Flower Show Judge.

In addition to serving as president of WGC for two years and working full time, Susan has a fascinating life with her husband and family that includes taking her therapy dog, Sophie, to visit patients at a local hospital and growing amazing veggies and flowers at her summer home in Maine and her winter home in Florida.

This amazing, talented woman, whose infectious smile, giggle and cheerful personality have endeared her to everyone she meets, is highly qualified to be recognized with the FFGC Floral Designer's Award. We're sure you will agree.



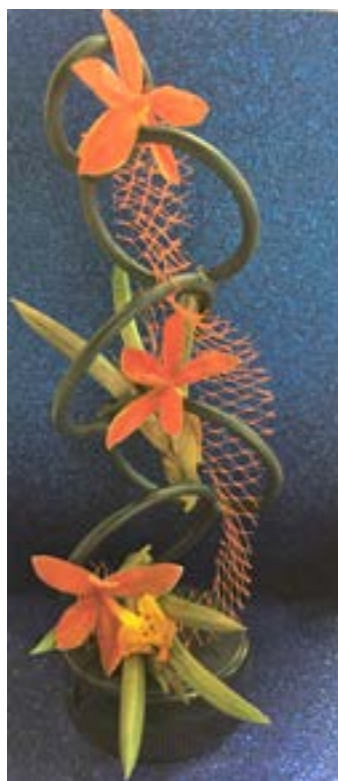
Susan and husband, Max



Crazy Eights Petite Design



Susan and Sophie



Susan's Petite Award Winners,
Motown & Downtown

Face time in the garden—Joan Kaplan



My very happy orchid



Her hair is a hoyo plant

Who knew?

Bell peppers have different amounts of lobes, which can help determine their use. Four lobes are sweeter and are best raw, three lobes are best cooked.



Greetings

from Sharon Millette's Garden



Dendrobium Orchid



Night Blooming Cereus



A Very Busy Bee

Old and sometimes nasty, this one is now my new darling!—Anne Hlasnicek

I am always searching for something new that will solve my latest gardening challenge. This time, I wanted a plant that would remain under one foot in height, not be invasive in any way, totally sun tolerant and constantly in bloom. What, you say? There's no such plant in zone 10? Well, I found one, and I recommend it for edging, window box/planters and for bug-free formal gardening.

Helena White Miniature Hybrid Crown of Thorns

The bush in this photo has spent one year in my planter, never pruned, about 10 inches tall. The hybrid also comes in pink, orange, yellow, but the other colors have larger leaves and are less sun/drought tolerant. Cost is less than \$6.00 per pot and I found them at Giverny Gardens.



My new plant discovery—Carol Lazzarino

I always love finding new and unusual plants. I bought this one today. It is **Rotheca incisa, Clerodendrum incisum macrosiphon Lamiaceae (previously Verbenaceae)**. More interesting than the open flowers are the buds which look like pure white musical notes standing at attention in clusters atop the stems.

The buds open at night to widely flaring pure white flowers with three to four inch long tubes and often last well into morning.

This is definitely a perfect plant for the patio, where it can be enjoyed up close on a warm summer evening.

Blooms come in waves almost continuously throughout the warmer months. I love it.



Bulletin Board

Mary Anne Greely sent this lovely photo. It was taken at her son's home in Travelers Rest, South Carolina on the occasion of Jerry's 80th birthday celebration.



The Greely family: Jerry, Mary Anne, Jay, Susan Johnson, Cynthia Beck

It is with sadness...

...that I inform you of the passing of our dear member, Carolyn Lowe. She passed away suddenly on Friday, September 18, 2020. Her wonderful smile and greeting will be dearly missed by all. A memorial service will be held at a later date where family and friends can celebrate her life.—Jan

Help is always welcome

The Wellington Garden Club and the Village of Wellington take care of a native garden at the Marjorie Stoneman Preserve on Flying Cow Road.

We have a great group of gardeners and invite anyone interested in helping to join us.

Contact: Kate Kuuba at ktkouba@yahoo.com.

Calling all mentors

If you would like to be a mentor to a new member, contact Alison Albury at kaalbury@gmail.com.

District X - Zoom Meeting News

— Kimberlee Pompeo, Chair, PAT Plant America with Trees, Barrier Islands

Autumn is our second spring, and Carol Coleman, District X Director, offered a springboard into the new season with George Gann's empowering educational presentation on nature conservation, *Fall into Natives*.

George spoke to a well-attended group of district delegates on the many restorative opportunities that surround each of us to do our 'Plant One' part. There are native planting commonalities within our region and, more importantly, regional differences as to where to, what kind, and how to plant ecologically sustainable natives.

Local garden clubs and native plant societies can really make a difference with the right information, and getting started in your neighborhood is more accessible than you may think. District X attendees were invited to check out the IRC website for their tailor-made biodiversity starter kits and *Natives in Your Neighborhood* search engine for native planting directions. For more information, click on this link: <https://www.regionalconservation.org/donation-RGC-KP.html>



2020 Holiday House Craft Bazaar and Plant Sale

Presented by Boca Raton Garden Club

**OUR MEMBERS HAVE HANDCRAFTED
HOLIDAY DECORATIONS FOR
THANKSGIVING, CHRISTMAS AND YEAR-ROUND**

Thursday	October 29	9:00-3:00
Friday	October 30	9:00-3:00
Saturday	October 31	9:00-3:00
Sunday	November 1	9:00-3:00

*Bring some friends and start your
holiday shopping!!!!*

**Parts of this event will be held outdoors.
Masks will be required, as well as social distancing.**

4281 NW 3rd Avenue, Boca Raton, FL 33431 (East of I-95, between Spanish River Blvd and Yamato)
561-995-0176

Attention Lychee Tree Owners... You need to act NOW!

—Larry Grosser

You may have heard about the LEM (Lychee Erinose Mite) that has been spreading through Palm Beach County after being discovered in Lee County several years ago. It has hit many Lychee groves from Loxahatchee to Delray Beach. I self-reported the Erinose Mite on my property to FDACS back in April. The State Inspector and the contractor came to my property last Thursday.



My Lychee trees before Treatment

The treatment consists of removing all green growth as well as all branches less than 1/2" in diameter followed by regular sprays of sulfur for several months. Here are two photos of my lychee trees, a day before the treatment and just after the vegetation removal.

I am also providing a link to a video posted two days ago by Chris of Truly Tropical Mango Farm in Delray Beach. I believe that the WGC paid a visit to Truly Tropical last year. You may remember the huge Lychee tree in front of the house, it's amazing (and sad) to see it now.

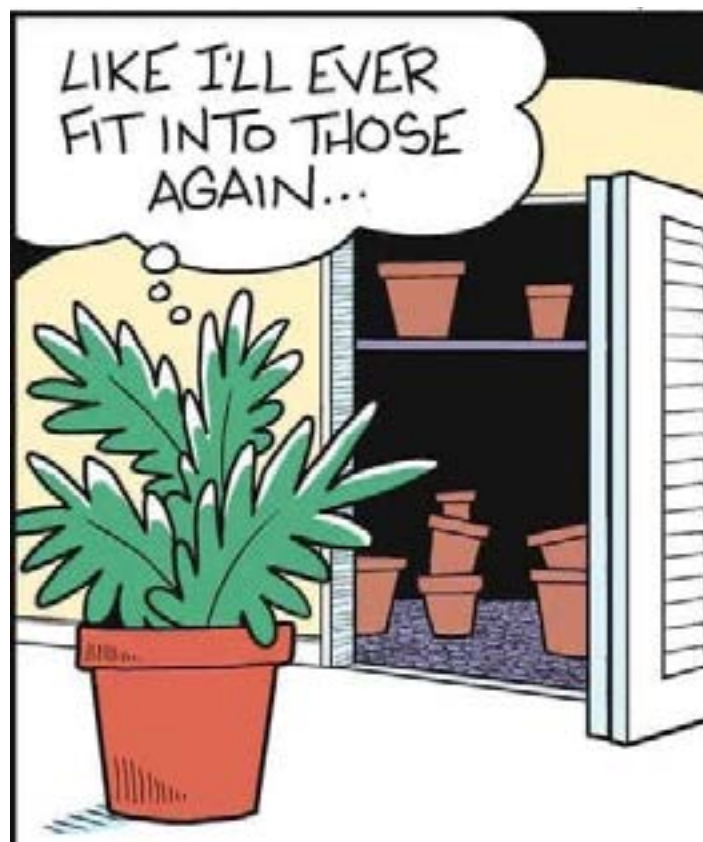
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YqEiq5SzHU8>

Note: The Erinose Mite ONLY affects Lychee trees, even the closely related Longan is immune.



My Trees After Treatment

And this from Joan Kaplan...



Virtual Gardening

Carol Lazzarino has been watching virtual gardening clinics all summer from Mounts. Here's one on YouTube with particular interest to all of us.

Invasive Plants Commonly Found in Nurseries and Garden Centers:

https://youtu.be/BxY73JCe0_s

Be Inspired



*Bobbi Ziegler sent an MP3
with the most beautiful
pictures. Here are just a few.*

Enjoy!



Wellington Garden Club

Wellington Garden Club is a member of NGC, FFGC, DSR, District X. The 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 contact:

Alison Albury, Membership Chair at (H) 561-372-5952, (C) 315-681-8867 or email kaalbury@gmail.com



1989 South Club Drive
Wellington, FL 33414

Alamanda News

The WGC Newsletter is published five times a year. Please send news, photos, tips and articles to the Newsletter Editor: Tina Richter tinaj.richter@gmail.com
Deadline for January Issue: December 15, 2020

Wellington Garden Club Officers

President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Treasurer
Assistant Treasurer
Corresponding Secretary
Recording Secretary
Parliamentarian
Former President ex-officio

Jan Seagrave
Maria Wolfe
John Siena
Danese Sloan-Kendall
Evvy Bartley
Kate Kouba
Carol Ralph
Kathy Schneider
Carol Coleman