



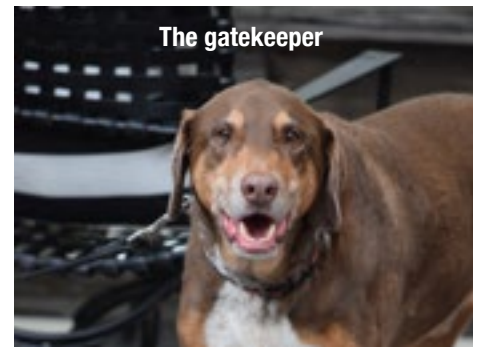
# Allamanda News

The Newsletter of the Wellington Garden Club March 2022



## *Sip & Stroll, February 11, 2022*

Our February Sip & Stroll was at the home of Linda and Leonard DeSanti. The cover photos are all from Linda's beautiful Monet-like garden. This page features some of the grateful guests. All the photos are by our photographer extraordinaire, Paige Griffin.



**Hostess with the Mostest**



*Don't miss our next event at  
Jan Warshaurer's garden  
on March 11th.*

# We Won!

## Wellington Garden Club Helps in the Decision to Maintain Green Space at Wellington Mall

by Diane Rice, WGC Environmental Chairman



In the middle of Covid pandemic, when WGC in person meetings were shut down, development builder Brefrank Inc. was on the Village of Wellington March 23, 2021 Tuesday night agenda to ask that the 1997 conservation easement be erased from the existing map in order that he may proceed to develop 17.62 acres of what was deemed “conservation for perpetuity”. More than any other group in attendance was the Wellington Garden Club to offer their environmental support. Some picketed on Forest Hill Blvd before the meeting while others gave their three minute speeches on why keeping the green at the Wellington Green is so important. No one though could argue that Drew Martin – Conservation Chairman of the Loxahatchee chapter of the Sierra Club, Board Member of Friends of Florida and was recognized by the Wellington Garden Club as an FFGC (Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.) Earth Steward - was the most influential speaker as he repeatedly said that Brefrank Inc. agreed to using this map with conservation

easements in 1997 when the company built the Wellington Green Mall and there was no reason to change the map now. Eventually, there was a motion and a second to vote on whether to keep the original map and the vote 3-2 in favor of the environmentalists won the day - something that rarely happens. Vice Mayor John T. McGovern, Michael Drahos and Tanya Siskind were the three that voted in favor of keeping the original map with the conservation easements while Mayor Anne Gerwig and Michael J. Napoleone were the two that voted against it.

Mind you it is the greenery in Wellington that soothes the soul. The 17.62 acres includes the vast amount of trees you see on the south side of Forest Hill Blvd between Stribling and Starbucks while going to SR 7 and it would only have taken one council person to have flipped the results.

Election matters. Your vote matters. And let us not forget that on this evening Wellington Garden Club mattered too.



# Tropical Short Course January 19-20, 2022

Photos by Carol Lazzarino



Jan Seagrave, Maria Wolf, Denise Friedlander, Larry Grosser, Carol Lazzarino, Evy Bartley and Barbara Zenker



Cass Stryker



Ann Cavaleri



Bonsai Floral Design by Kathy Jones and Kaoru Vrana



*Mary Alexander made this beautiful "shrimp" bouquet for Valentine's Day*

As of February 7th, WGC has welcomed 22 new members and issued an addendum to the yearbook!

# Have you ever wanted to make your own bonsai?

—Kimberly Helms with photos by Carol Lazzarino

**Are you a big fan of recycling and repurposing nature? Do you love succulents?**

Then, you should take one of my classes. You'll make a garden project of your choice while enjoying great friends and beautiful weather. Choose from the projects below or make multiple projects in the same class.

If you can't make the scheduled class, call me to set up an alternate time that fits you schedule.

**Next Classes—March 31 and April 28th 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.**

**Projects cost \$30.00, all materials included.**

**Kimberly Helms, 9443 Granite Ridge Lane West Palm Beach FL 33411**

**Text me at 561-350-8681**



**Jade Bonsai**



**Bougainvillea Bonsai**



**Cypress Bonsai**



**Create a porcelain dish succulent garden...**



**...Or a seed pod succulent garden like this beauty Carol Lazzarino went home with.**



**Kimberly Helm teaches bonsai basics to her students on January 27, 2022**



**Kimberly works one-on-one with Teresa Cummings**



**Ta dah! The results are impressive!**

Gayle Bard has a way with  
*Tillandsia*

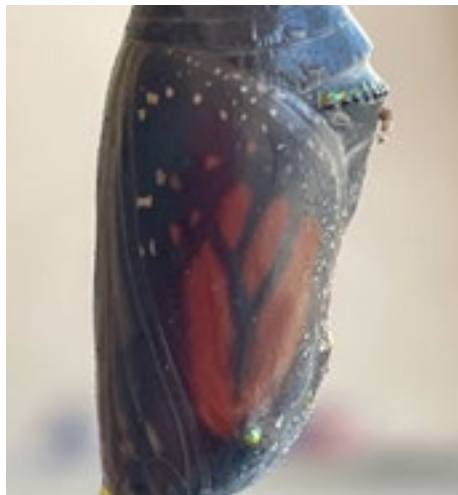


## *Butterfly babies on my patio*

—Nancy Cinieri

I feel fortunate that I was able to watch, from the start, a caterpillar eating the leaves on my milkweed plant and then making a chrysalis, which evolved from green to blackish green just before the wings were visible. Shortly after, the butterfly emerged...in my backyard! I actually had two. The first butterfly had with deformed wings that were folded. It was sad to watch it struggling and it died a couple days later. Something got to it as I found remnants of its wings.

The second chrysalis I put on my patio so I could watch it and the butterfly emerged the next morning. I watched it till it flew off. The next day I was in my yard and it flew around me. I don't know for sure if it was the same one, but I like to think it was.



*This book will amaze you!*—Anne Hlasnicek



### ***Entangled Life***

by English biologist, Merlin Sheldrake

I read many books; this past year more than 200! But this one is a treasure of new knowledge and ideas that outpaced the best mysteries and histories on my Kindle, on Audible, on library loans or gift books.

Here is a simple and eye-opening look at the original life on earth and how Ikea and other corporations are buying into a new understanding of symbiosis and mycology. Did you know that there are blooming plants that do not use photosynthesis? Get this book and learn!! Go slowly, make notes, wake up to a new awareness. I guarantee you will be amazed.

## *Gardening on the patio*



Imagine taking a walk in Joan Kaplan's fairy garden...



...or past the geraniums that light up Mary Kastner's Patio.

### **Look what Kathy Siena is growing on her patio!**



Since we have a great granddaughter, gardening has taken on a new meaning. I'm teaching 2 year-old Maya how to care for plants on our pool patio. Every time she visits, she wants to go out to the patio and water all of my (she calls me GiGi) plants. I have opportunities to teach her about taking care of plants, trees and gardens. I guess it is never too soon to start teaching our children about caring for our gardens.



Alison Albury 's 9 foot tall Pilea is 4 years old and wins the prize for tallest plant.

# A Whole New Garden, Oh My!

—Stormi Bivin

My backyard garden in Wellington developed slowly over 21 years and was a real learning experience, sometimes successful and sometimes not. All in all, it gave me great joy and many hours of pleasure, not to mention back breaking work! I now find myself with a new challenge—a brand new space and basically a blank palette, albeit much smaller. The builder installed the usual low-maintenance plants and a few trees on the property. And so it begins.

## Where to start? Which plants to choose? Is there a theme?

In my last garden, it just evolved. I would see a new plant, buy it and find an empty spot in the yard. That can happen in a larger space, but not so much here.

My focus was the back yard since enjoying the water/patio view is a definite priority. A crepe myrtle and gumbo limbo are the anchor trees for my two new planting beds, placed at the outer corners of the yard to enhance, not block the main view.



I used spray paint to outline a modified triangular area at the back corners. The unwanted grass was sprayed with a non-selective herbicide (Roundup). A week later the dead sod was removed.



lantana, crossandra, milkweed, and white sweet alyssum for the front border. After taking into consideration their growth habits (width and height), I placed them accordingly and began to plant. I made both beds symmetrical. The soil was pretty decent so I did not feel the need to amend, but I did broadcast a granular, slow-release type fertilizer over the entire bed after planting. Then mulched to finish it off.

Lastly, I thoroughly watered all my new babies and hoped for the best. They would be irrigated by the HOA controlled watering system,

but for the first two weeks I hand-watered them each morning with my hose. Morning watering is best to keep plants hydrated through the heat of the day. Watering at night promotes fungus.

It's been four months since installation and everything is doing well. We are in winter so growth has been at a minimum and the color is muted. But come April, the gardens will be flourishing, bursting with color, butterflies and bees. I did bring some plants from my former property and plan to add them to other garden spaces, but that will happen slowly. ***The old gray mare, she ain't what she used to be!***



I wanted color, plants that wouldn't grow too tall and some that would attract butterflies. The new children would be in full sun all day so that needed to be factored in as well. Lower plants in the front, taller ones in the back. That was the basic plan. Off to the nursery I went.

I chose some mammy croton as foundational plants in the back, blue salvia, red pentas, blue daze,





At our general meeting on February 7, 2022, Mark Peters presented a wonderfully informative talk about crotons and how easy they are to grow and propagate in our area. For more information and to order plants go to Marks website:  
[www.peterscrotonnursery.com](http://www.peterscrotonnursery.com)  
 Photos by Paige Griffin



Mary, Deidre, Maria and Mark



It looks like Joan Kaplan knows a thing or two about crotons, too!



Mark Peters wields his knife to demonstrate the technique of air layering.



*So Much Fun with Air Plants*—Garden Art Workshop, February 9, 2022



Helga Mesmer, Shirley Horn and Uma Bhatti display their work



Ann Finch, Lisa Ferraro, Denise Friedlander, Amy Schwed, Dora Bellamo, Linda Messina



Caren Griffin, Petra Russell, Dee Rolfe & Helga Mesmer

St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2022  
Pelican Harbor Seabird Station  
NE 79th Street Causeway  
Miami, Florida 33138

Tour: 4:30 pm-5:30 pm  
to be followed by

Full Moon Cruise of Biscayne Bay  
6:00 pm-8:00 pm

BYOB and snacks—Bring a friend!  
(Limit one per District member.)  
\$60/person

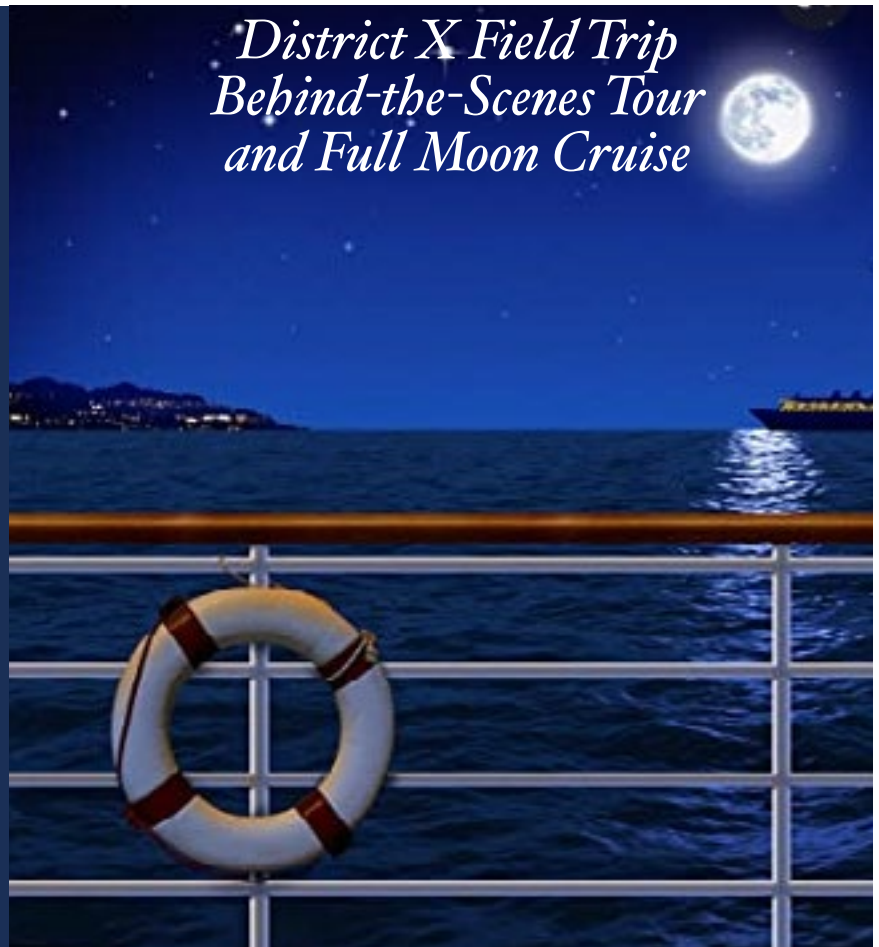
Open ONLY to District X members and  
their guests—so please, you must use the  
link below exclusively!

**You must use this link to register:**

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=m87wk7rab&oeid-k=a07eiqn6wso22fd1357>

Space is limited to 47 passengers, first  
come, first serve. For more info. contact:  
Stephanie@pelicanharbor.org or  
Reina Snyder, Environmental Chairman,  
District X, reinasnyder@gmail.com.

*District X Field Trip  
Behind-the-Scenes Tour  
and Full Moon Cruise*



**FFGC District X Spring Meeting 2022**

in conjunction with

**District X Judges Council Flower Show**

*"The Ocean is Our Garden"*

Tuesday, April 26, 2022



Hosted by Ocean Ridge Garden Club  
Little Club Private Golf Course  
100 Little Club Road (off A1A)  
Gulfstream FL 33483

Registration begins at 8:30am, Meeting begins at 9:30  
With Flower Show immediately following lunch  
Guest Speakers and Presentations  
by Flower Show Judges  
Cost is \$50 for registration, continental breakfast & lunch  
Registration deadline is April 12, 2022  
Registration form & information can be found online at  
[www.districtx.org](http://www.districtx.org)

Questions? Call or text  
Co-chairs: Mary Ann Cody 518-506-2578  
& Jackie Reed 571-225-2773  
Registrar: Polly Joa  
561-632-3518



**TIME RELEASE FERTILIZER FOR SALE**

This season the Oleander Garden Club is  
offering 2lb. bags of fertilizer for \$10  
to benefit Camp Wekiva and other of our  
community projects for youth.

Florikan with Nutricote  
18-6-8, 9 MONTH

2 LB. BAG \$10

Contact Barbara Hadsell  
Fertilizer Sales Chairman, Oleander G.C  
561-635-8809  
[barbarahadsell@cs.com](mailto:barbarahadsell@cs.com)

# WGC raises \$784 in 2 hours!

Saturday, February 19, 2022 Wellington Garden Club hosted its annual Shredding Event and it was a total success. Special guests were former Mayor Tom Wenham and his wife Regis, current Vice Mayor (and new WGC member) John McGovern, club members and many community residents who were able to take advantage of the opportunity to shred their confidential papers. Our youngest participants covered their ears at the loud sounds of the truck. WGC thanks the community for its support in honor of Habitat for Humanity, Scholarships, Youth Gardens, SEEK and Camp Wekiva participants.

**We raised a total of \$784.00.**



Maria Wolfe with Vice Mayor John McGovern



This truck is too loud.



Gwen Marcus, Barbara Zenker, Caroline Kessman, Vice Mayor John McGovern, Dora Bellamo, Kathy Hood, Alison Albury, Kristy Floyd

**You are invited to a**

## **New Member Reception**



**Date: Thursday, March 10, 2022**

**Place: Wellington Community Center  
12150 Forest Hill Blvd.  
Wellington, FL 33414**

**Time: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

**We would like to get to know you better and we would like you to meet all the Mentors and Committee Chairs.**

**Maria Wolfe will share a few words and a delightful lunch will be provided.**

**RSVP immediately to  
Maria Wolfe, 561-386-4903 or  
TCACAD\_registrar@yahoo.com**

## Rare photo of a vegan being born — Shared by Helga Mesmer



# Gardens of Distinction

A Garden Tour  
presented by  
Wellington Garden Club



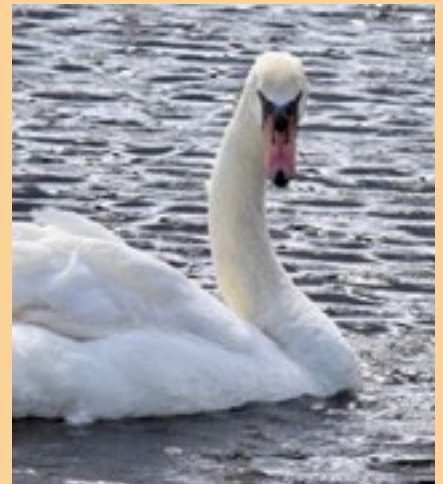
Saturday  
April 2nd, 2022  
10 am to 4 pm



\$25 in advance



Proceeds benefit our:  
Scholarship Funds  
Landscaping  
Youth Gardens  
&  
Community Projects



**Buy Your Tickets Today!**

Go to:

<http://www.WellingtonGardenClub.org>

Click on the tab that says "2022 Garden Tour"

Please share this information with your family, friends & neighbors.

More information will be shared at the meeting on Monday.

ANYONE WHO HAS ITEMS TO DONATE  
FOR THE GARDEN BOUTIQUE  
AT THE GARDEN TOUR

JEWELRY, CRAFTS, OR KITCHEN ITEMS, ETC.  
CALL DEE ROLFE AT 561-753-9813

THANKS,  
DEE ROLFE

# Bulletin Board

## What's Next

**March 7**—Garden Club Meeting  
Wellington Community Center  
9:30 AM

**March 8**—Adopt-a-Street  
Wellington Dog Park 9:00 AM

**March 11**—Sip & Stroll,  
Jan Warshauer 144 Viera Dr.  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL  
4:00-6:00 PM

**March 17**— Around & About  
to the Gardens of Ed Hand and  
Hank Bonner Palm City, FL

**April 4**—Garden Club Meeting  
Wellington Community Center  
9:30 AM

**April 12-14**—FFGC Convention  
Kissimmee, FL

**April 23**—Earth Day/Arbor Day/  
Great American Clean-Up  
Wellington Amphitheater

**April 26**—District X Spring  
Meeting The Little Club,  
Gulf Stream FL 8:30 AM-3:30 PM



## It's Time...

### to Renew Your Membership

First, I want to thank you for your continued involvement with the Wellington Garden Club. Without your loyalty and support, WGC would not be able to provide our support to youth, Butterfly Gardens, Habitat for Humanity, scholarships, beach clean-ups, Adopt-A-Street, and Earth Day. Put simply, you make what we do possible.

**Our dues are \$45.00 for the year for an individual and \$65.00 for a couple.**

If all your information is correct, you can bring your check to the March 7 and April 5 meetings, or mail it to Margaret Tamsberg (address below). If any information we have on file for you (in the Yearbook) needs to be updated, please visit our website at [www.WellingtonGardenClub.org](http://www.WellingtonGardenClub.org) and under Member login, complete the Member Renewal Form and attach your check and send to:

**Margaret Tamsberg**  
121 Sulky Way  
Wellington, FL 33414

# 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:

(H) 561-372-5952, (C) 315-681-8867 or email [kaalbury@gmail.com](mailto:kaalbury@gmail.com)



1989 South Club Drive  
Wellington, FL 33414

## Alamanda News

The WGC Newsletter is published five times a year. Please send news, tips, photos and articles to Editor: Tina Richter [tinaj.richter@gmail.com](mailto:tinaj.richter@gmail.com)  
Deadline for May 2022 Issue: May 6, 2022

## Wellington Garden Club Officers

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

Maria Wolfe  
Carol Ralph  
Mary Barbara Alexander  
Danese Sloan-Kendall  
Evy Bartley  
Joan Kaplan  
Amy Schwed  
Kathy Hood  
Jan Seagrave