



Allamanda News

The Newsletter of the Wellington Garden Club September 2022

**Welcome to the 2022-2023
Wellington Garden Club year!**

The next nine months are filled with educational opportunities for you and opportunities for you to influence the youth of the western communities.

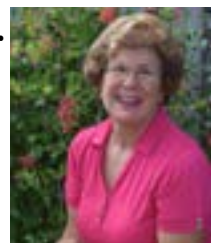
We have some great Around & Abouts and Sip 'n Strolls planned plus a joint fundraiser with the Wellington Art Society. All that to say, we have a lot to look forward to.

Plant Diversity is the Key to Insect Diversity. That's the theme I chose for my Presidency. And it became very real to me this week. As I was walking through my garden, I discovered the larvae of the Blue Atala butterfly on my coontie plants.

I did a happy dance in my yard!

The neighbors must have thought I was crazy. This species of butterfly was thought to be extinct; however, due to the efforts of the naturalist, Roger Hammerer and his efforts to educate gardeners to plant coontie plants in Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach County, the Atala is flourishing. After my success, I encourage all of you to plant coonties in your yard.

This newsletter is your window to our members' summer activities and our future programs. I can't wait to see you on Monday, September 12 at 9:30 for our first meeting.



A Summer Field Trip with WGC

—Carol Lazzarino

On July 30, 2022, fifteen WGC Members visited the annual ***Caladium Festival in Lake Placid, Florida.*** There was so much to do and so little time!

The group enjoyed an hour-long narrated bus tour to see the actual Caladium fields, learn about Caladiums and tour the small town of Lake Placid.

Following the tour, we broke up into small groups to visit the Lake Placid Garden Club Flower Show, the Arts and Craft Co-op and of course we shopped for Caladium plants and bulbs for our own gardens.

We re-grouped to enjoy lunch together before heading home.

Teresa Cummings and Carol Lazzarino made it a two-day trip. It was a great opportunity to see all that Lake Placid has to offer at a more leisurely pace.

The town of Lake Placid has more than 49 large painted murals and awesome hand painted trash containers, all over the town, depicting the history of the area. There's the historic train depot and museum as well as a wonderful clown museum and even a clown school.

A terrific time was had by all!



Lake Placid has a wonderful clown museum and even a clown school!



From left: Uma Bhatti, Kathy Siena, Kathleen Gove, Bobbi Ziegler, Mary Barbara Alexander, Evvy Bartley, Barbara Zenker, Petra Russell, Carol Ralph, Pat Charlton, Stormi Bivin, Deb Russell. Maria Wolfe was the photographer so not pictured.



Don't miss the historic train depot and museum.



Wowsa!

More fun at the Caladium Festival



An Award Winner



Even the trash in Lake Placid is beautiful!



Intrepid shopper, Carol Lazzarino



Alison Albury, Joan Kaplan, Ann Finch, Lisa Ferrano, Linda DeSanti



Sheree Biafore and Stormi Bivin

On June 17, 2022 a group of us met to show off our miniature golf skills... Just Puttin' Around!



Tina Richter, Kathleen, Gigi Bard, Evvy Bartley



Teresa Cummings, Mary Ann Greely, Carol Lazzarino, Shirley Horn

WGC and the Village of Wellington maintain a native butterfly garden at the Marjorie Stoneman Preserve off of Flying Cow Road. We need someone to pick up the reins from Kate Kouba who spearheaded the maintenance of the garden for the past 7 years. Interested? See Maria Wolfe at the Member Meeting, Sept. 12.



The Preserve needs... YOU!

Dear Club Members,

My husband, Bill and I love to walk at the Marjorie Stoneman Preserve off of Flying Cow Road. In 2015, we noticed a native garden that had been started, but needed maintenance. I was excited to take on this as a Garden Club project.

I am no longer able to continue the full responsibility of the garden. I am hoping another member of our club would like to step in. We have a wonderful group of members who come out and help, and of course, I will be part of that group. The gratitude shown by the visitors to the Garden truly made this worthwhile.

*Sincerely,
Kate Kouba*

Calendar of Events

Wellington Garden Club Membership Meetings take place on the first Monday of every month at 9:30 AM at the Wellington Community Center. Coffee service begins at 9:30 AM, the guest presentation at 10:15, followed by the business meeting.

SEPTEMBER

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**September Presentation:
Forecasting the Weather in South Florida: How Do They Do It?**

Speaker: Sammy Hadi, NOAA (National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association)

Sammy Hadi, has been passionate about Meteorology since the age of four. He aspires to inspire the next generation of meteorologists, and help educate and inform the community about Weather and Climate Change. Aside from his studies in the field of Meteorology, Hadi is deeply involved in the South Florida community through various philanthropic organizations such as Habitat for Humanity.

**September 28, WGC Board Meeting
Wellington Community Center.
Wednesday, 9:30 AM**

**October Presentation:
The Water State:
How Florida issues permits
for pumping water is broken.**

OCTOBER

3

Speaker: Kent Anderson, Project Paradise

Project Paradise was founded by a group of native Floridians who are passionate about protecting Florida's environment and telling Florida's stories through the arts. The goal of Project Paradise is to advocate for conservation efforts through impactful and inspired story-telling, knowing that it is much easier to bring the Florida Wildlife Corridor to its audience than vice versa. Kent has traveled the globe creating content that focuses on the world's most environmentally sensitive areas. He is a pilot, an eagle scout, and an award-winning filmmaker and has worked with numerous non-profits, both locally in Florida and abroad.

SEPTEMBER

17

**Coastal Cleanup
John D. MacArthur Beach
State Park, N. Palm Beach, FL
Saturday, 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**8th Annual Tree Planting at the
Wellington Environmental Preserve
Saturday, 8:30 AM**

SEPTEMBER

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Last year we planted over 1,000 native Florida slash pine seedlings in pre-dug holes at the Preserve. Let's celebrate Public Lands Day by planting more trees at the Preserve. Bring your own gloves and small trowel. Hat, sunscreen, and water are recommended as well. We should be able to accomplish the planting in about two hours or less if we get a good volunteer turnout.

OCTOBER

4

**Adopt-a-Street
Wellington Dog Park
Tuesday, 9:00 AM**

OCTOBER

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**District X Fall Meeting
& FFGC Officers' Tour
"A Tribute to American Heroes"
Friday, 9:30 AM-2:00 PM**

**Hosted by Wellington Garden Club at
The Wanderers Club,
1900 Aero Club Dr., Wellington**

*You're invited to our next
Sip 'n Strolls*

**Friday, September 16th from 4-6 PM,
Carol Ralph, 15694 Citrus Grove Blvd,
Loxahatchee**

**Friday, October 7th from 4-6 PM,
Joan Kaplan 9245 Via Grande West,
Wellington, FL**

**Bring a bottle of your favorite beverage
and an appetizer. Spouses are welcome.**

Around & About

Thursday, September 22, 2022 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

**The Richard and Pat Johnson Palm Beach County History Museum
300 North Dixie Highway, in downtown West Palm Beach**

Cost: \$5.00, which will be given to the museum as a donation.

Carpools will leave no later than 9:20 AM

Lunch: E.R Bradley's Saloon at 104 S. Clematis St.

The Historical Society of Palm Beach County is the world's leading resource for Palm Beach County history. In addition to its permanent People and Places galleries, the Johnson Palm Beach County History Museum presents temporary exhibits on a wide variety of topics. The current exhibit, "From Houses to Hospitals," examines how Palm Beach County's modern healthcare system developed and expanded during the Roaring '20s. Join us for an docent-led tour.



Thursday, October 13, 2022 10:00 AM

**White Fences Equestrian Center, 3978 Hanover Circle,
Loxahatchee, FL 33470. Visitors must use Seminole Pratt Whitney
Rd. to Sycamore Dr. Do not use Lion Country Safari Rd.**

Cost: Free. Leave carpool locations at 9:40 AM sharp.

Lunch: Wellington National Golf Club

White Fences Equestrian Center is the birthplace of the Palm Beach Dressage Derby. Farms line a circular road that features many different flowering trees, tropical palms, and forestry trees. By far, the largest collection of trees represented throughout White Fences are the Floss Silk Trees. Native to South America, they are one South Florida's of showiest flowering trees. The main bloom season is September through November. Join us to see them in their blooming glory!



Thursday, October 27, 2022 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Unbelievable Acres Botanical Gardens, 470 63rd Trail North

Cost: \$10.00 is the suggested donation.

Unbelievable Acres Botanic Gardens was designed and created by Gene Joyner. While studying the rainforests of South America, he decided to create his own rainforest. The 2-1/2 acre garden in West Palm Beach has a large collection of tropical foliage and flowering plants that are usually considered greenhouse plants because of their cold tenderness. In the rainforest setting that Gene Joyner has developed over the years, these plants can be grown outside just as you would see them in the actual rainforest.



CARPPOOL MEETING LOCATIONS

**Westside: Wellington Community Center Parking Lot (next to pool)
12150 Forest Hill Blvd., Wellington, FL 3341**

**Eastside: Parking lot behind IHOP, River Bridge Shopping Center,
6708 Forest Hill Blvd., Greenacres, FL 33413**



With every Amazon purchase **you** can make **WGC Smile!**

AmazonSmile is a great way WGC members and families can support their favorite charitable organization—every time they shop with Amazon, at no additional cost. Customers who shop at smile.amazon.com will find the same Amazon they know and love, with the added bonus that **AmazonSmile** will donate a portion of the eligible purchase price to the charity of your choice.

How to sign up for **AmazonSmile** and use it on a web browser:

1. Visit smile.amazon.com
2. Sign in with the same account you use for Amazon.com
3. Select your charity
4. Start shopping! Remember to checkout at smile.amazon.com to generate donations for your chosen charity.

Tip: Add a bookmark to make it easier to shop at smile.amazon.com.

How to use **AmazonSmile** using the Amazon app on your mobile phone:

1. Open the Amazon Shopping app
2. Navigate to the main menu (=)
3. Tap on Settings and then select "**AmazonSmile**"

Wellington Garden Club is a 501 (c)(3) organization. A copy of the official registration #CH21151 and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling (800) 435-7352 toll-free within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.

Educational Opportunities

November 14 - 15, 2022 (Mon. & Tues.)
NGC GARDENING SCHOOLS
8:30 AM - 3:30PM

NGC Gardening School, Course 1
(Interactive Brochure/Registration Form)
Cost: \$73 Registration Deadline: 11/7/2022
Mounts Botanical Garden Auditorium
531 N. Military Trail
West Palm Beach, FL 33415

Hosted by FFGC District X
Chair: Carol Stender, 610-297-1224
email: carol.stender@gmail.com

January 25 - 26, 2023 (Wed. & Thurs.)
66th Annual Tropical Short Course

Gardening for Life Part II

The **Tropical Short Course** is two fun-filled days of entertaining speakers, demonstrations and great shopping.
Cost: \$75 Fill out the interactive registration form by 1/13/23. No refunds after 1/18/23.
Green Acres Community Center, 501 Swain Blvd.
Green Acres, FL 33463

Hosted by FFGC District X
Chair: Michelle Maguire, 772-485-3279
email: mouthmom@yahoo.com

Wellington Art Society & Wellington Garden Club Present the First Annual Holiday Gift Festival

**A showcase of artists, gardeners and floral designers. An opportunity
to shop and view talents from members of both organizations.**

Wednesday, November 16, 2022
10:00 AM - 2:30 PM
Wellington Community Center
12150 Forest Hill Blvd.
Wellington, FL 33414

From Caren Griffin...



**Stop building a
spaceship to Mars
and just plant
some damn trees**

...And Helga Messmer

NAILS

OTHER GALS

ME



Youth Garden Update

— Roxanne Henry, Liason, Wellington High School



Here is an update on the Royal Poinciana tree we planted at the Wellington High School in 2019. Look how beautiful it is growing!!! I bet next year it will be full of ORANGE blossoms!!! And it will look majestic as people drive by on Greenview Shores Blvd. or drive around the bus loop.

Here is a photo of the 25 gallon Royal Poinciana tree we planted with the Wellington High School students in 2019.



Garden Art and Crafts With Carol Lazzarino and Dee Rolfe



Thanksgiving Table Design

Wednesday, November 9, 2022
Wellington Community Center, Everglades
Room, 12150 Forest Hills Blvd., 9:30 AM
Cost, \$10.00

This class will be limited to 12 participants. Sign up at the next meeting and make sure you bring a check or cash to hold your spot. There will be a waiting list in the event of cancellations. Make check payable to Wellington Garden Club.
Carol Lazzarino 561-312-2082

What do you know about...the Blue Atala?



Class: Insecta, Order: Lepidoptera, Subfamily: Theclinae,
Genus species: Eumaeus Atala

The Atala is the largest, most iridescent hairstreak in Southeast Florida, with a velvety black surface and turquoise shimmer on the dorsal side of its wings. Blue scales are more common in summer months, while the wings take on a greener shade in winter. The abdomen is orangish-red, matching the butterfly's hindwing spot.

The Atala uses aposematic coloration — bright warning colors — to alert predators that it is poisonous. Probably because of the security they have with their protective toxin, these butterflies are usually not frightened off easily and do not have many natural predators.

Foraging Preferences

Coontie (*Zamia integrifolia*), North America's only native cycad, is the host plant for the Atala butterfly. The two have a symbiotic relationship. The caterpillars eat the plant's leaves and their abundant fecal droppings fertilize the surrounding soil. The leaves contain cycasin, a toxic chemical that the larva ingests and keeps in its body throughout its life cycle. This chemical is even found in the eggs.



Atala larvae munching on
Maria Wolfe's Coonties



Coontie (*Zamia integrifolia*)



Favorite nectar plants include indigoberry (*Randia aculeata*)
and Wild Coffee (*Psychotria nervosa*)



The Atala has a short proboscis and requires easily accessible nectar. Their preference is for white flowers. Atalas are relatively sedentary. They have a slow flight pattern similar to that of moths and they are most active in early morning or late afternoon.



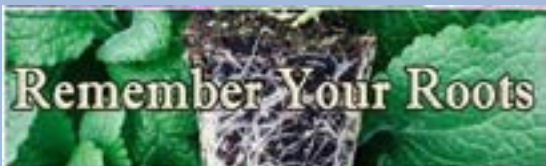
In Memoriam



Kevin P. Morris
May 2, 1938 – July 29, 2022

Our sincere condolences go out to our dear friend, Twig Morris, her daughter Chrissy and son-in-law, Steve Wood.

Wisdom from the Garden



Maxine Fischer's flowering Desert Rose. And can you believe the size of her Pineapple???



2022-2023 Yearbook
 Pick up your copy at the
 membership meeting
 September 12th

Wellington Garden Club

Wellington, Florida

2022-2023 Yearbook



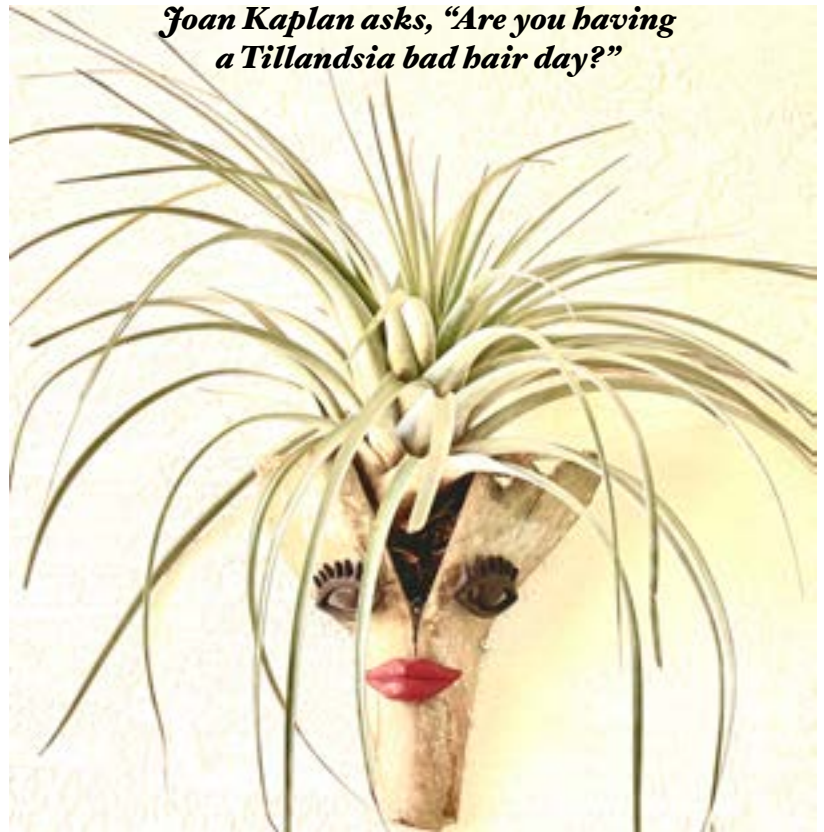
*Member of
 National Garden Clubs, Inc.,
 Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, and
 District X*

2022-2023 Yearbook Contributors

Design: Carol Ralph
Around & About Copy and Layout: Carol Ralph, Maria Wolfe
Speakers: Mary Barbara Alexander
Editing and Proof Reading: Stormi Bivin, Tina Richter
Member List Editing and Proofreading: Margaret Tamsberg
District X Meeting Flyer: Demi Wolfe

Photos: Carol Lazzarino, Grace Monaco, Jan Seagrave, Joan Kaplan, Kathy Siena, Kathy Hood, Paige Griffin, Ronnie Levay, Stormi Bivin, Susan Hillson and Carol Ralph

Joan Kaplan asks, "Are you having a Tillandsia bad hair day?"



Membership Update

Here is a wonderful statistic to report. We now have 139 members, up from 81 just one year ago!!! Maybe it's our fun activities. Maybe it's these great business cards or our welcoming members, but we're something right. Do not forget—**October 3, 2022, is Bring A Friend Month.** I hope you will bring a friend (or 3) to the meeting. It will be fun!

"Gardening makes a world of difference"

Join us for monthly educational garden programs.

Contact Maria Wolfe below for more information.

www.wellingtongardenclub.org • tcacal_registrar@yahoo.com

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



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 November Issue: October 10, 2022

Wellington Garden Club Officers

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|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| President | Maria Wolfe |
| 1st Vice President | Carol Ralph |
| 2nd Vice President | Mary Barbara Alexander |
| Treasurer | Danese Sloan-Kendall |
| Assistant Treasurer | Evvy Bartley |
| Corresponding Secretary | Joan Kaplan |
| Recording Secretary | Amy Schwed |
| Parliamentarian | Kathy Hood |
| Former President ex-officio | Jan Seagrave |