



# Allamanda News

The Newsletter of the Wellington Garden Club November, 2022

I saw my first Swallow-tailed Kite of the season today. That sign indicates that fall has arrived in the western communities of Palm Beach County.

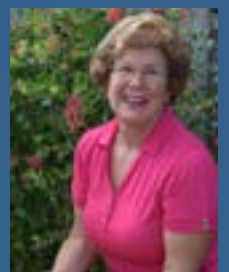
I can now have my pumpkin lattes and butternut squash ravioli. It also means I can work in my garden without sweat pouring down my brow. What signifies autumn for you?

The Wellington Garden Club has joined forces with the Wellington Art Society to host our first Holiday Gift Boutique which will be held on Wednesday, November 16th, from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM at the Wellington Community Center. Beautiful gifts and plants will be available to purchase along with 100 native milkweed plants for sale.

Our annual Holiday luncheon is an event we all look forward to attending. *Women of Note* chorus will be serenading us with popular songs and a few holiday tunes thrown in. Reserve your spot at the next meeting or by contacting me.

Please participate in one of our volunteer or social events...

...You will meet some wonderful people and help to make our community even more "green."  
—Maria Wolfe



# *A Brief History of the Annual Tree Plantings*

—*Kathy Siena, Event Organizer*  
*Photos by Kathy Siena*  
*and Paige Griffin*

Wellington Garden Club held its first tree planting in 2013, when club member, Lisa Ferrano, investigated the possibility of planting and growing more trees in our Village. She worked with a former public works department supervisor to organize planting more trees in the Wellington Environmental Preserve and invited some high school students, members of the Garden Club and town officials to join in.

Club member and chairperson, Kathy Siena helped Lisa manage the tree plantings, making them a larger community-wide event, and helping to educate everyone involved in the importance of planting trees to beautify the Village of Wellington.

Kathy and Lisa planned the tree plantings to coincide with National Public Lands Day (NPLD) which is usually held on the fourth Saturday of September.

All the tree plantings have been held at the Wellington Environmental Preserve, except for the one in 2018, which was held at Peaceful Waters Sanctuary.

With the help of Village Landscape Superintendent, Will Gurney, Native Florida Slash Pine (*Pinus elliotti* “Densa”) seedlings are ordered and grown from native plant nurseries and planted in pre-dug holes by the volunteers. Over the years we have also planted firebush (*Hamelia patens*), Simpson’s red stopper (*Eugenia confusa*), elderberry (*Myrsine gerianensis*) and native cardinal shrubs (*Lobelia cardinalis*).

***Here’s how we do it... 1,000 slash pine seedlings arrive by truck.***



***What looks like chaos becomes an organized assembly line...***



***...and within two hours 1,000 trees are planted!***



***Since 2013, we have planted about 7,000 native trees and shrubs and WGC has won many FFGC and NGC awards.***

# 8th Annual Tree Planting at Wellington Preserve

National Public Lands Day, September 24, 2022



*This year we had so many volunteers that we had to split the group photo in half!*



Mayor Gerwig



Kathy & John Siena with Son, Todd and Friend

***We had close to 90 volunteers including WGC members, the Village Manager, scouts, Council members, local high school students, church groups and many more. Please plan to join us next year at The 9th Annual Tree Planting on September 30, 2023.***

# Continuing the WGC Legacy with the 2022 International Coastal Cleanup

—Diane Rice, Environmental Chairman



No one was more touched than Environmental Chair, Diane Rice, to receive a picture from Chris Tiner and the Wellington Garden Club, depicting a cleaned-up beach and a parked red bicycle in memory of Diane's husband, Phil Macnak, and all the great meals he cooked at our previous cleanups during the past 7-10 years.

Perhaps the most rewarding moment was when our President, Maria Wolfe, passed the baton to a FAU group and showed them how much fun it can be to clean the beach and how to look for the little plastic pieces buried in the sand. Diane explained that by using the *Clean Swell® App* we became part of the International Coastal Cleanup® community of volunteers working for a cleaner ocean by picking up millions of pounds of trash each year.



L-R: Maria Wolfe, Linda Messina, Huguette Damas, Irene Oknewski and Diane Rice

In spite of record breaking heat— in the 90's during the first half of September—the Wellington Garden Club participated in the International Coastal Cleanup, and were surprised with a refreshing early morning rain on Saturday, September 17th at John D. MacArthur Beach State Park.

For the first time the Environmental Chairman, Diane Rice used the *Clean Swell App* on her phone to record buckets of beach trash while Maria Wolfe, Linda Messina and Huguette Damas picked it up. We even welcomed a new volunteer, Irene Oknewski.

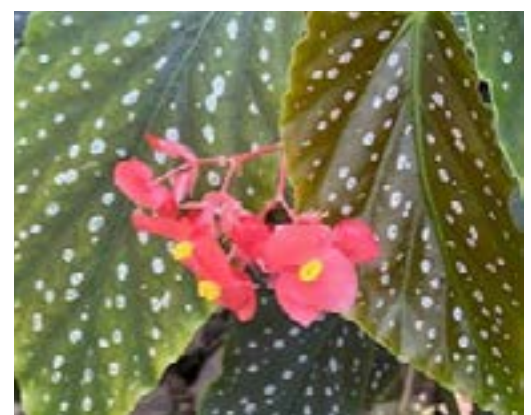


Wellington Garden Club members are true environmentalists, who not only do beach cleanups but more than once have gone to the Village of Wellington meetings to save our green space at the Wellington Mall. This year we were blessed when Village of Wellington Councilman, John McGovern, who was a deciding vote in keeping our green space, became a Wellington Garden Club member along with his wife, Michelle. Diane said, “Multiple WGC members went to the Village of Wellington meeting and were in shock when our cause actually won. Proof that hard work and continual effort pays off in the end.”

*We Had an Unbelievably Good Time!—Twig Morris and Maria Wolfe*



*Our Host, Gene Joyner, is the Creator of Unbelievable Acres*



Unbelievable Acres Botanic Garden was created by Gene Joyner beginning in 1970 in a 2-1/2-acre empty cow pasture. The Garden is well-named. It is truly unbelievable to visit the tropical rainforest and marvel at this collection of tropical foliage. Eighteen lucky WGC members did just that on October 27th, and were treated to a guided tour by Gene and WGC member Larry Grosser who has worked with Gene in the garden for many years.

Everyone on the tour was invited to bring garden clippers and a bag for cuttings and were encouraged to take as much as they wanted. The garden always needs pruning and Gene welcomes volunteers to help themselves. If you missed this trip, the garden is open once a month to visitors.

Check the website for more details: [www.unbelievableacresbotanicgardens.org](http://www.unbelievableacresbotanicgardens.org)

# *How Does Your Garden Grow?*



*Mary Kastner's beautiful patio plantings survived Hurricane Ian.*



*Maxine Fisher's amazing orchids brighten the day.*

*Joan Kaplan's Croton Standards set a new standard of excellence.*

*Barbara Hadsell's mammoth Dutchman's Pipe Vine (Aristolochia) provides food for swallowtail butterfly caterpillars.*

# Questions, Suggestions & Tips

Can anyone identify this plant???  
**Joan Kaplan** wants to know...  
 If you know the answer send her a text.

“What an interesting garden feature!”  
**Kathy Perinoff** says, “My neighbor gave me this  
 cross section of a Royal Poinciana trunk. I love it.



## Attract More Hummingbirds with These Tips from Helga Mesmer



**Hummingbird Care:**  
 Clean Feeder Every Time You Fill  
 No Color Dyed Nectar  
 No Preservatives  
 Use Ant Mote  
 No Oils or Grease on Feeder or Pole

Changing Guide Based on Temperature Outside

|               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| 71-75 degrees | 6 days |
| 76-80 degrees | 5 days |
| 81-84 degrees | 4 days |
| 85-88 degrees | 3 days |
| 89-92 degrees | 2 days |
| 93 + degrees  | DAILY  |



This is a GUIDE ONLY.  
 PLEASE check your feeder DAILY  
[www.HummingbirdPots.com](http://www.HummingbirdPots.com)

**Nectar Recipe:**

4 Cups Water  
 1 Cup Sugar  
 --- OR ---  
 2 Cups Water  
 1/2 Cup Sugar  
 --- OR ---  
 1 Cup Water  
 1/4 Cup Sugar  
 No Organic  
 Mix WELL




Mix warm water with the sugar until dissolved.  
 Use immediately. -OR- You may store it in the  
 fridge for a week, or in freezer for a few weeks.

 <https://www.facebook.com/HummingbirdPots>

## *Date Changes for Butterfly Garden Volunteers*



Volunteers normally meet to work at the butterfly garden on the fourth Thursday of each month.

Unfortunately, after looking at the calendar, it became clear that the fourth Thursday will not work well for the next two months. The fourth Thursday in November is Thanksgiving and the fourth Thursday in December is three days before Christmas.

So, in November and December, we will meet on the 3rd Thursday of the month—**November 17th and December 15th—both at 9:00 AM.**

In January, we will return to the fourth Thursday, which is January 26th.

We could certainly use more people who are willing to be immersed in a beautiful butterfly garden during the most enjoyable months of the year, to talk, pull weeds, laugh, trim plants, mulch pathways, plant new plants, meet new people, and have fun.

Text Kimberly Helms at 561-350-8681 if you have questions or want to volunteer.

Marjorie Stoneman Douglas Nature Preserve  
3491 Flying Cow Ranch Road  
Wellington, FL 33414

### **CALLING ALL WGC SHUTTERBUGS!**

Here's your chance to win an FF&C Award for all the wonderful photos you have taken. There are several categories for the FF&C Digital Photography Award that may interest you.

You need just 5 (five) photos in any one of the categories described in the Awards section of the FF&C web site. Everything is done electronically, so you don't have to print hard copies of your photos or mat them or mail them.

If you have questions or wish to submit an application, contact me so I can help get your entry correctly submitted. The deadline for submissions is November 23, 2022.

[Twig\\_Morris@hotmail.com](mailto:Twig_Morris@hotmail.com)





**Florida Federation of Garden Clubs  
District X Fall Meeting and  
FFGC Officers' Tour**

***A Tribute  
to American Heroes***

**October 21, 2022**



**Adrianna Siena Sang  
the National Anthem a Cappella**



**The Wellington Color Guards**



**District X Officers and District Director Elect, Maria Wolfe**



**Maria Wolfe was Elected District X Director  
by Unanimous Vote!**



**The butterfly ladies illustrated  
a Talk on Monarchs**



**Kathy Siena and Talented  
Granddaughter, Adrianna**



**Kimberly Helms was One of Many Vendors**



**Mary Barbara Alexander, Maria Wolfe and Speaker,  
Steve (Gonzo) Gonzales of Force Blue**



## *TDK Performances, Save These Dates*

**WGC will once again be offering group ticket events for three musicals at The King's Academy during 2023. We can purchase advance group tickets well before tickets go on sale to the general public—that means great seats for us.**



The TKA Theatre Company will partner with Sight and Sound Theatre for their original musical production, **Ruth**. Ruth is a remarkable story of second chances. Based on the beloved book of the Bible, this inspiring musical takes you on a journey alongside Ruth and Naomi, two widows whose faith in God ignited a chain of events that changed the course of history. The King's Academy is the first High School to ever partner with Sight and Sound. **We will attend the Saturday, January 28, 2023 matinee performance at 1:00 PM and tickets can be ordered now. Deadline for ticket orders is November 21, 2022**



By turns wicked, funny, warm, romantic and touching, **The Music Man** is family entertainment at its best. Meredith Willson's six-time, Tony Award-winning musical comedy has been entertaining audiences since 1957 and is a family-friendly story to be shared with every generation.

**The Music Man** follows fast-talking traveling salesman, Harold Hill, as he cons the people of River City, Iowa, into buying instruments and uniforms for a boys' band that he vows to organize—this, despite the fact that he doesn't know a trombone from a treble clef. His plans to skip town with the cash are foiled when he falls for Marian, the librarian, who transforms him into a respectable citizen by curtain's fall. **We'll be offering tickets for the Saturday, March 18, 2023 matinee performance at 1:00 PM. Ticket order forms will be available at our January membership meeting and have a January deadline TBA.**



Based on the popular comic strip and adapted from the Tony Award-winning Best Musical, with a beloved book and score by Tony Award winners, Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse and Martin Charnin, **Annie JR.** features everyone's favorite little redhead in her very first adventure. With equal measures of pluck and positivity, little orphan Annie charms everyone's hearts despite a next-to-nothing start in 1930s New York City. Annie is determined to find the parents who abandoned her years ago on the doorstep of an orphanage run by the cruel Miss Hannigan. Annie eventually foils Miss Hannigan's evil machinations, finding a new home and family with billionaire Oliver Warbucks, his personal secretary Grace Farrell, and a lovable mutt named Sandy. **We'll be offering tickets for the Saturday, April 29, 2023 matinee performance at 1:00 PM. Ticket order forms will be available at our February meeting and have a February deadline TBA.**

**Great entertainment and an easy fund raiser! As in past years, if we purchase 25 or more tickets, WGC derives \$5.00 from each ticket sold, so invite your family and friends. Ticket prices through WGC are the same as from the box office (\$32- \$47). What a great way to see a wonderful theatre performance and also support your Club—it's a win/win for everyone involved. So, plan ahead and be sure to mark your calendar. Order forms with details will be made available throughout the year, well in advance of each show. **SAVE THE DATES!!!****

# Calendar of Events



**WGC Cub Meeting—9:30 AM**  
**Wellington Community Center**  
 Coffee service, begins at 9:30 AM.  
 guest presentation at 10:15 sharp,  
 business meeting to follow.

**November Presentation:** Who made the Everglades with Sara Ayers, Director, Florida Public Archeology Network.

**Garden Art Workshop**  
**Wellington Community Center**  
**Wednesday, 9:00 AM–1:00 PM**



**Veterans' Day Parade**  
**Village of Wellington**  
**Veterans Park 8:15 AM**

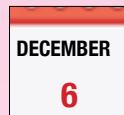
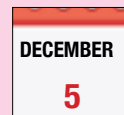
**11/11 and 11/12—FFGC Gardening School Course 1,**  
**Mounts Botanical Gardens 8:30 AM–3:30 PM**

**Wellington Art Society & Wellington Garden Club First Annual Holiday Gift Festival—**  
 A showcase of artists, gardeners and floral designers. An opportunity to shop and view talents of members from both organizations. **Wellington Community Center, 10:00 AM - 2:30 PM**



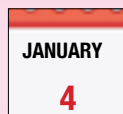
**FFGC Awards Judging Day**

**Holiday Luncheon**  
 See back page for info.



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

## Looking Ahead to 2023!



**WGC Cub Meeting— 9:30 AM**  
**Wellington Community Center**  
 Coffee service, begins at 9:30 AM.

Guest presentation at 10:15 sharp, business meeting to follow. **January Presentation:** Using Native Plants in the Public Landscape with Will Gurney, Superintendent of Landscape, Village of Wellington.

**January 25 - 26, 2023 (Wed. & Thurs.)**

### **66th Annual Tropical Short Course** **Gardening for Life Part II** **Hosted by FFGC District X**

Cost: \$75 for two fun-filled days of entertaining speakers, demonstrations and great shopping. 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

Chair: Michelle Maguire, 772-485-3279  
 email: mouthmom@yahoo.com

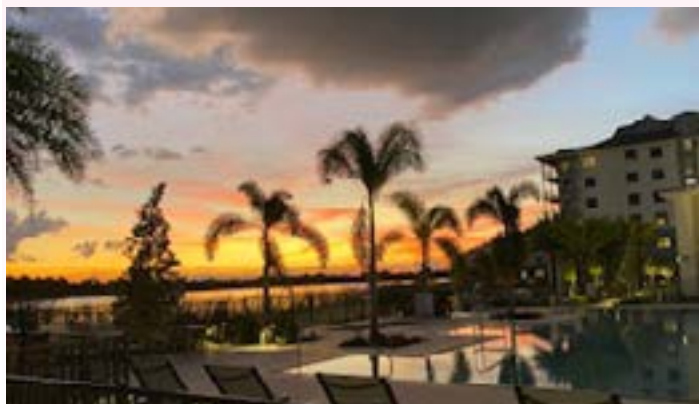
## *Around & About*



**Potting Begonias with Linda DeSanti**  
**14022 Greentree Trail Wellington**  
**10:00 AM**



**Plants that love Florida Summer**  
**Workshop with Nada Vergili**  
**Mounts Botanical Gardens 10:00 AM**



Wellington sunset captured by Bobbi Ziegler

Helga Mesmer's thought for the day:



# HAPPY HOLIDAYS

*Wellington Garden Club  
Holiday Luncheon  
Monday, December 5th, 2022*

*Lots of holiday festivities plus  
a performance by Women of Note*

*Madison Green Country Club  
2001 Crestwood Blvd., North  
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411  
11:00 AM  
\$45.00 pp*

*Find out more at the November meeting!*

## 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, photos, tips and articles to the Newsletter Editor: Tina Richter [tinaj.richter@gmail.com](mailto:tinaj.richter@gmail.com)  
Deadline for January 2023  
Issue: December 19, 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