



Allamanda News

The Newsletter of the Wellington Garden Club January, 2023

***I do not make resolutions, but I do set goals.
Thoreau said, "If you have built castles in the air,
your works need not be lost...
put foundations under them."***

***Won't you join me this year
as we build foundations under
the projects that are ahead of us?***

***2023 is filled with possibilities and opportunities.
Looking ahead we have the Horticulture Specialty
Flower Show, our Annual Plant Sale, Earth Day
and more. Whatever your interests, there is a place
for you in the Wellington Garden Club. Come join us.***

—Maria Wolfe, President

Here's to our best year ever!



We ended the year...



Linda & Maria were everywhere

Holiday Luncheon

December 5, 2022



Hangin' out with the Raffle Committee



Gwen & Amy Welcomed us all



The talented group that created these lovely centerpieces



Santa's Helpers

with a Winter Serenade



The acapella chorus, Women of Note, serenaded 96 members of the Wellington Garden Club. They sared popular and holiday tunes and their beautiful harmonies lifted our spirits.



Winter Serenade

December 5, 2022



Around & About

On Thursday, December 15, 2022, 12 WGC members attended a class at Mounts called *Plants That Love Florida Summers*. Our instructor, Nada Vergilli, explained which ornamentals, vegetables, annuals, and trees are especially well suited to the heat of our Florida summers.

Following the class, our instructor gave us a guided tour of the garden which currently features *Tropical Holiday Trees* comprised of Bromeliads and Orchids. The weather was perfect and so was the company...



Our group enjoying the magnificent bromeliad Christmas tree



Another current exposition "Stickwork" by Patrick Dougherty.

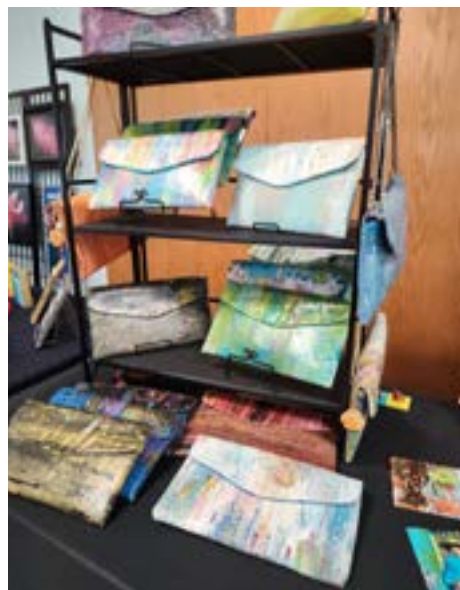
Fun at Mounts

1st Annual Wellington Art Society & Wellington Garden Club Holiday Gift Festival



**This successful collaboration of artists, gardeners and floral designers gave us a great opportunity to view talents from members of both organizations...
And SHOP!**

Best of all WGC earned \$1,265 in 4 hours!!!



Learning About



Begonias

Linda DeSanti and Sandy Sklar instructed the club on the beauty and versatility of begonias at the November 7th member meeting and then gave us a hands-on tutorial at Linda's home on November 17th, as our November *Around & About*. We enjoyed a tour of Linda's spectacular garden plus a luncheon on her screened patio.

It was a great day of learning. And fun, too!



Trees, trees, & more trees

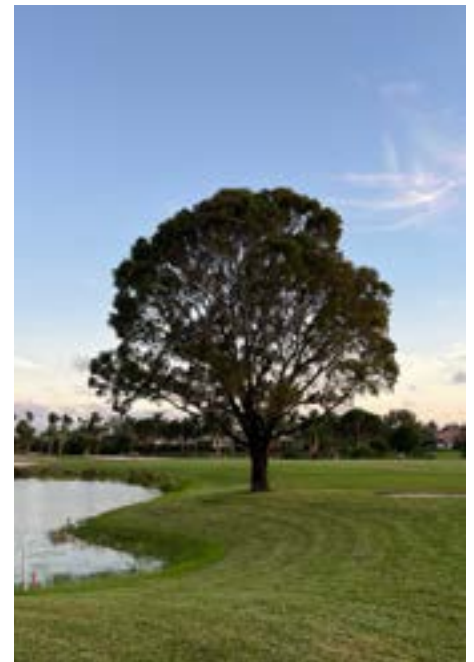
(and shrubs too)
—Kathy Siena, Tree Count
and Tree Planting Organizer

FFGC Trees and Reforestation Chairman, Kat Spieker sent out a message recently to encourage our members to “keep planting trees.” She gave these guidelines for watering in newly planted trees. The secret? Water your new transplants a lot!

For a tree with a 2–4 inch caliper, water DAILY for one month, then every other day for three months, then weekly until established. For a tree with a greater than 4 inch caliper, water DAILY for six weeks, every other day for five months, then weekly until established. These guidelines are good to know, especially if you are assisting schools, churches, parks, etc. in planting trees. It’s not just “One and Done.”

When we have our annual community-wide tree planting in September, we are fortunate to have the guidance and expertise of the Village of Wellington staff. They select the best native trees and optimum locations as well.

WGC has been honored to receive an award for one of the most trees planted in the state. Let’s try to do it again. Please send me the number of trees you have planted in the past year. I need both the common and botanical names if possible, as well as location and how many. I will include them with the total tree count I will submit in March 2023 when I apply for an FFGC award.



Signup sheets are available at our monthly members meetings. So you have January, February, and March to submit your trees planted.

*This could be a good earth steward learning lesson with your children or grandchildren to do together from selection of a native tree to planting and nourishing. It's not too late to **START NOW!***

Gardeners'



When you visit Joan Kaplan's garden you'll be greeted by this sign from a friend and then you'll see her Corn Dracena in bloom!



May Anne Greely says, "This cattleya blooming in my yard reminds me of the corsages we wore back in the day!"

Gallery



This little staghorn fern is growing on the trunk of my dwarf date palm with no help from me! A spore must have blown from a staghorn that grew on a separate trunk of this palm.—Katherine Wagner-Reiss



Anita Schatz has a very hungry caterpillar



And Bobbi Zeigler has a nocturnal friend



Karin Teston's Florida penguins ...



... And their cousins in snowy Ohio

Gardening with Kids

The Community Garden at the Boys & Girls Club started when Tom Wenham approached past President, Kathy Siena, to ask if our club would be interested in joining the young professionals of Wellington to have a community garden at the Boys and Girls Club, especially for the kids. The garden has been in continuous operation through four WGC presidents, Kathy Siena, Carol Colman, Jan Seagrave, and Maria Wolfe. Today the garden includes 6 vegetable beds, a butterfly garden and a native flower garden.

—John Siena, Chairman
Community Garden at
the Boys & Girls Club

The primary purpose of our garden is to grow edibles. We incorporate flowers e.g., marigolds and nasturtiums, to assist in pest control; they are only an adjunct to the garden. We practice companion planting and rotate crop plants both during the growing season and from year to year. In south Florida, we can get several crops of green beans which are great for nitrogen fixing so we take advantage of that characteristic and move them from bed to bed. We plant tomatoes, eggplants, peppers, onions, green beans, snap peas, carrots, leek, cabbages, brussel sprouts, kale and various lettuce varieties.

Educating the children is a major objective. Last year we had a classroom session on the cultivars that the Maya, Aztec, and Inca civilizations gave us, including their farming methods. The “hands on” part of this was for the children to plant the *Three Sisters*—corn, beans, and squash. The corn provides the support for the beans, and the squash is ground cover to keep the weeds down. It was a success.



We invite you to visit this special garden and hope that you will volunteer your services. Please join us.

2023 starts off with a bang!

WGC Club Meetings

Wellington Community Center
9:30 AM Coffee service
10:15 Guest Presentation
Business meeting to follow

January 9th Presentation:

Using Native Plants in the Public Landscape
with Will Gurney, Superintendent
of Landscape, Village of Wellington.

February 6th Presentation:

Enchanted Gardens of Florida with Jana
Milbocker, garden designer, lecturer and author
of *The Garden Tourists' Florida*, a fantastic tour
of 80 tropical gardens throughout the state.

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

66th Annual Tropical Short Course

Gardening for Life Part II
Hosted by FFGC District X

Just \$75 for two days of fun.

Enjoy 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

On January 26th,
maintenance of the native butterfly
garden at the Marjorie Stoneman Preserve
at 3491 Flying Cow Road, Wellington
will take place.

Are you someone who is 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,
meet new people,
and have fun?

Text Kimberly Helms
561-350-8681

Around & About

Thursday, January 19th
10:00 to 11:30 AM

Tour the Wellington Nature Preserve
with Will Gurney. Cost: Free
Carpools from our locations leave at 9:40
Lunch to follow at Oli's Fashion Cuisine

Look what we received
from a
happy
Wekiva
Camper!



In Memorium

Thomas Wenham
1932-2022

Tom Wenham, beloved member
of the Wellington community and WGC.
We will remember Tom for his selfless service,
his tireless dedication and his deep love for
the community he called home.
Our deepest sympathies go out to his wife, Regis,
his family and friends.

Look what February has in store

Garden Arts and Crafts

Zen Garden Workshop, "Mind, Body and Soul"
Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 9:30 AM
Wellington Community Center, Everglades Room
12150 Forest Hills Blvd. Please arrive on time.

Zen gardens are miniature landscapes composed of natural elements and arranged to reflect the essence of the natural world. Zen gardens go back at least 1000 B.C., with roots in both Chinese mythology and Japanese Zen Buddhism.

Zen gardens represent a gateway to the garden of the mind. Each element placed in one's garden signifies a certain principal. For example white sand traditionally represents purity of thought, while water represents stillness.

Join us for a fun workshop and learn how to create your own Zen garden. Look around your home for small treasures you might want to include in your garden and bring them to class. For example: shells, crystals, small driftwood, a small air plant or succulent, tiny bridge, small unusual stones or rocks etc.

Supplies included in the class are the dish garden, white sand, bamboo zen rake, some shells and some small rocks to decorate as shown in photo. The cost is \$15.00 per person and must be paid in full at the January meeting so bring your checkbooks to the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can call me to sign up and then mail me the check. Carol Lazzarino 561 312-2082.



how to identify
CHRISTMAS CACTUS
THANKSGIVING CACTUS
& EASTER CACTUS



Schubertiana buckleyi
Christmas Cactus (US)



Schubertiana truncata
Thanksgiving Cactus (US)



Rhipsalidopsis
Easter Cactus (US)

NGC Gardening School Course 2 **February 9-10, 2023** **Mounts Auditorium, West Palm Beach**

If you joined our club to learn more about gardening in South Florida, you won't want to miss this exceptional course. NGC Gardening Schools were established in 1977. The four courses were designed to teach the correct way to plant, to prune and marvel at what we have accomplished.

Course 2, Day 1 will cover Plant Diseases and Garden Pests, Irrigation and Water, Lawn Alternatives and Growing Grass. We are very fortunate to have three professors from the University of Florida Research Center in Davie and our own Ken Pernezny covering these topics.

On Day 2, Larry Grosser, renown Master Gardener and WGC member, will instruct on Growing Fruits and Growing Vegetables. (We are sure he will provide "tastings" for all of us to try.)

Go to Districtx.org and scroll down to February, to find Registration forms and additional information.

Hope to see you there!!

More from Maria

We need volunteers for all the events in our 2023 schedule. There is a place for you in the Wellington Garden Club. Choose where you would like to be involved and contact me.

*Horticulture Specialty Flower Show –
Now is the time to buy, fertilize, prune and pamper the plants you would like to enter into this show. Don't be afraid to enter. We're planning classes to help educate and prepare you for entering.*

*Plant Sale –
We need volunteers to help sell plants at this community wide event. If you have cuttings and plants you can donate to the member-grown portion of the Plant Sale, that would be a huge blessing.*

*Earth Day –
The Village of Wellington and WGC are partners in this event to educate the community on how to be a better steward of our Earth's resources. Volunteers are needed.*

Here's to the best year ever!

Get Involved Today!

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 Wellington Garden Club Newsletter is published five times a year. Please send news, photos, tips and articles to Editor, Tina Richter at tinaj.richter@gmail.com
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2nd Vice President
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