



# Allamanda News

The Newsletter of the Wellington Garden Club January 2024

*Dear Gardening Friends,*

*As 2024 begins, I am so thankful for the many  
friends that I have in the Wellington Garden Club.  
I wish all of you and your families a healthy,  
happy new year.—Carol Ralph*



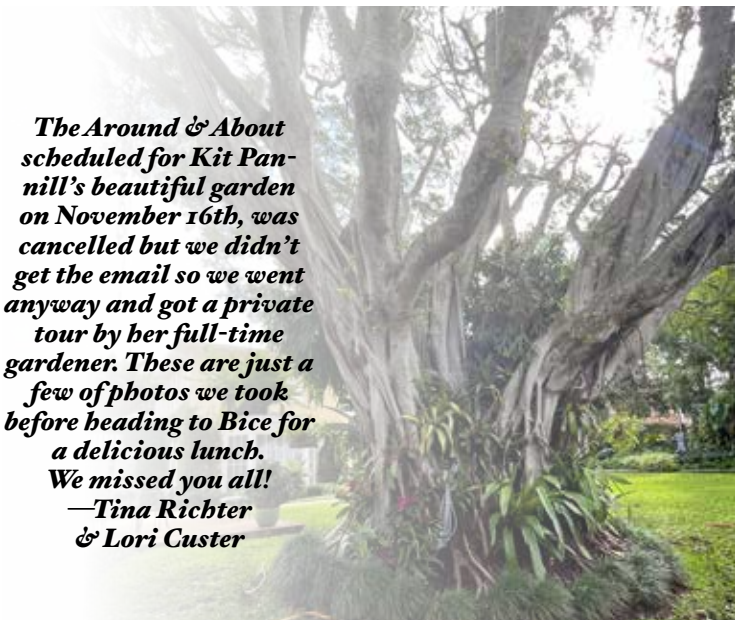


# So Much to Do in November & December



**FFGC Gardening School participants at Mounts Botanical Garden on November 16th - 17th**

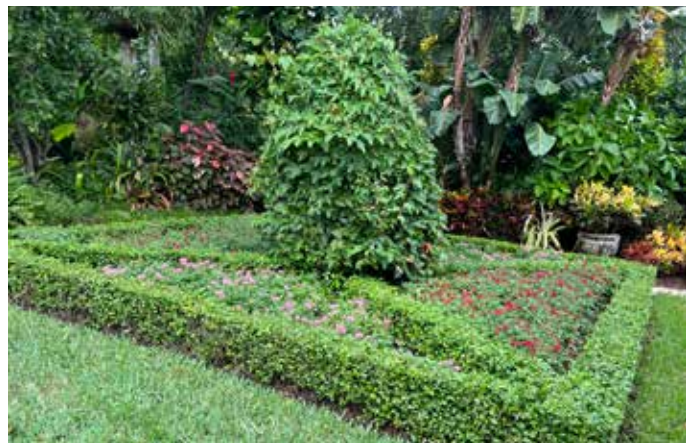
**Margaret Tamsberg, Uma Bhatti, Christine Tauber and Petra Russell at the Wellington Garden Club and Wellington Art Society Holiday Gift Boutique on December 2nd.  
—Susan Hillson**



**The Around & About scheduled for Kit Pan-nill's beautiful garden on November 16th, was cancelled but we didn't get the email so we went anyway and got a private tour by her full-time gardener. These are just a few of photos we took before heading to Bice for a delicious lunch. We missed you all!  
—Tina Richter & Lori Custer**



**83 members attended our Holiday Luncheon on December 4th at Casa Tequila. We all enjoyed a great meal and a surprise performance by a Mariachi band.**





## *Now Here's Something Fun... Debra Metzger's Body of Work*



It all started with a full body seated female mannequin I purchased to use in the car, dressed appropriately, when I had to make constant drives to Miami at rush hour. Then I started decorating her for various holidays and she is in a postcard series I made several years ago. Once "Laney" (as in HOV lane) deteriorated, I spray-painted her turquoise and she is now a yard art piece on a broken stationary bicycle.



Another mannequin, also all turquoise and on a broken inversion table. They are in a former sand arena that borders a bridle path.



***I have been purchasing mannequins from display companies and at various store liquidation sales for over 20 years. This is so much fun!  
—Debra Metzger***



# Do You Know How to Write a Plant Name?—Katherine Wagner-Reiss

Tina Richter invited me to write this blurb about a bugaboo for many plant lovers: how to correctly write a plant name.

Here's an example of one of Florida's native milkweeds, swamp milkweed, written correctly: *Asclepias incarnata*. It's easy:

- The entire species name is italicized.
- The first word (the genus) is capitalized, and
- The second word (the specific epithet) is not capitalized.

What should you do when you handwrite a plant show label? Nobody expects you to handwrite in italics. Instead, you underline each word separately: Asclepias incarnata.

## Why should we be sticklers about writing plant names in a certain way?

First, it is a convention set by the International Code of Nomenclature (ICN). It is akin to the way we are taught to write "Dear Mary," with a comma to a friend and "Dear Mrs. Jones:" with a colon to a business associate; it is jarring when convention is not followed.

Second, these conventions make sense. In general, all Latin words are italicized when we are inserting them into an English paper, e.g., *tempus fugit*, *carpe diem*, or *semper fidelis*. It also makes sense to capitalize the first word as it is the more important word (akin to a last name), while the second word is not as informative (akin to a first name).

If we keep these rules in mind, seeing a plant name written "Asclepias Albicans" would be as glaringly wrong as if I had signed my name Katherine wagner-reiss. **If you are ever unsure (and, yes, some plant names do get quite complicated), feel free to e-mail me at [botanicalkr3@gmail.com](mailto:botanicalkr3@gmail.com).**

**Here's a little quiz for reinforcement!**

**Which of the following species of milkweed is written correctly?**

- A) *Asclepias Perennis*
- B) *Asclepias exaltata*
- C) Asclepias curassavica
- D) *Asclepias 'incarnata'*
- E) *Asclepias x tuberosa*
- F) *Asclepias albicans*

- A: incorrect because the second word should not be capitalized
- B: incorrect because the name is not italicized or underlined
- C: incorrect because there is no space between the underlining of the first and second words
- D: incorrect because this is not a cultivar that requires single quotation marks
- E: incorrect because this is not a hybrid that requires a multiplication sign
- F: correct**

## Laughing at Life with Helga Mesmer



## How-to Tip from Alison Albury

I just discovered that a mild solution of muriatic acid and water will make a clay pot look like new! I used a bucket filled with water that would cover the container (maybe a bit over a gallon). Add about 3/4 cup acid (ALWAYS ADD ACID TO WATER, NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND) and drop your pot in for maybe 1-2 min. Remove, thoroughly wash off calcium deposits inside and out and rinse pot well. Let dry for a couple of days to leech out any acid that might have been absorbed thru the clay and voila, new pot. I wear a mask and rubber gloves and do this work in a well ventilated area.

**Muriatic acid will burn the skin so be very careful.**



*The District X Flower Show Judges Council would like  
to extend this invitation to you:*

**Join us for this explosion of color and creativity!**

Your Wellington Garden Club Judges: Christine Biscoglio, Susan Hillson, Ronnie Levay, Barbara May,  
Twig Morris, Jan Warshauer and Mary Ellen Chestnut



*A Posh Event*

**Saturday, February 10th, 2024**  
12 noon - 7 p.m.

Join us for a celebration of art and flowers  
featuring imaginative floral interpretations of  
selected works from the Posh Gallery collection.



Posh Art Gallery  
Delray Market Place - Suite 104  
9089 W. Atlantic Avenue  
Delray Beach 33456  
561-591-3680

**District X Flower Show Judges Council**

Free and open to the public.





## *Gardeners' Gallery*



*Laelia anceps*



*Laelia anceps* 'Gypsy Sky' x *L. Finckeniana*

### *Adrienne Bendich's Orchids Continue to Impress*



x *Potanara Burana Beauty*



*Dendrobium convolutum* x sibling

### *And Look What's Popping Out in Gigi Bard's Garden*



*Neoregelia* 'Super Fireball'



*I purchased these Tillandsia. at the green market in West Palm Beach years ago. After a raccoon divided them in my yard about three years ago, I now keep this driftwood display in my screened enclosure.*





## *Fun with Flowers Design Workshops—Twig Morris*

A series of three Fun with Flowers Workshops will be held in 2024, beginning in February. The series is based on the **FFGC Fun with Flowers** program and will be conducted by Linda DeSanti, Susan Hillson and Twig Morris.

Rather than creating a design to enter in a flower show, these workshops will focus on learning to arrange flowers for our homes and special occasions. Although entering a design for competition in a flower show is exciting and challenging, it is not always the style of design we can use in our homes.

With basic tools, traditional techniques and simple instructions, anyone can create an aesthetically pleasing floral design. Fun with Flowers designs are quick and easy to make.

**Relax! Get those creative juices flowing and take home a beautiful design after every workshop.**

**Where:** The Mall at Wellington Green in The District Meeting Space on the lower level at 1:00 to 3:00 PM

**Cost:** \$50 for all three sessions (No single workshop signups available)

**Dates:** 3 Tuesdays: February 13, March 26, and April 23

**Sign Up:** At the January 8th membership meeting

**Can't make the January meeting?  
Call/text Twig Morris at 201-230-6324**



*Succulents from Joan Valitutto*



*Kathy Perinoff would like to thank the member who brought the Cranberry Hibiscus to the raffle table. "What a joy!"*



### **My Gardening Minute**

—Anne Hlasnicek

#### **You can grow beautiful daylilies in South Florida!**

You can't have the wild ones that grow up north. But you can have gorgeous, perennial, healthy, carefree plants if you purchase only evergreen varieties.

That means they will not need the cold rest of the north and will stay green and bloom yearly in your yard.

Look for suppliers that label their stock so you can choose many appropriate varieties.

Start with [OakesDaylilies.com](http://OakesDaylilies.com).

**You will be very pleased!**



# Bulletin Board

January, 2024

February, 2024

## Monday, January 8

9:30 AM, Member Meeting

Speaker: Tom Peterson of Peterson Farms Honey

Topic: Pollinators and Natural Habitats

Tom Peterson is a dedicated beekeeper, establishing 3500 hives that span Minnesota, Texas, and California. Alongside his son and five grandkids, Tom operates Peterson Farms Honey, a family endeavor reflecting his unwavering commitment to preserving natural habitats for pollinators.

## Saturday, January 13

9:00-11:00 AM, Shredding Fundraiser

12300 Forest Hill Blvd., Wellington

## Thursday, January 18

10:30 AM, Around & About at Lion Country Safari

Drive yourself or meet at carpool locations at 9:30 AM; leave 9:40 AM Cost: \$14.00 per person, includes Self Drive-Thru and Walk-Thru. Lunch in the park at the renovated Café Roar (at the individual's expense).

## Friday, January 19,

11:00 AM, WGC Florida Arbor Day Celebration, Rotary Peace Park, Wellington

## Thursday and Friday, January 25-26,

8:00 AM-3:00 PM FFGC/District X 67th Annual Tropical Short Course NGC Tri-Refresher at Wellington Community Center, 12150 Forest Hill Blvd.

## Saturday, February 3

The King's Academy "Best of Broadway" 1:00 PM

All tickets for this performance are \$22 each, no matter which section you choose. The reason is TKA does not need to rent huge sets or costumes for this production and the students are the musicians, so no cost for renting an orchestra. Less cost to them means less cost to us. And yes, even with the reduced pricing, this still qualifies as a fund raiser! Sign up at Member Meeting on January 8, or contact Stormi at sbivin@aol.com

## Monday, February 5

9:30 AM, Member Meeting

Speaker: Lance Osborne, Professor of Entomology, University of Florida Topic: Pest Control in our Gardens

## Tuesday, February 6

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

## Wednesday, February 7

9:30 AM, Garden Art Workshop, Wellington Community Ctr. Everglades Room

## Friday to Sunday February 9-11

Wekiva Volunteer Training, Apopka, FL

## Sunday February 11 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Wekiva Youth Camp Open House, Apopka,

## Thursday, February 15

Around & About, Flamingo Gardens, All Day

## Tuesday, February 27

9:00am - 12:00 noon. New Member Reception Wellington Community Center, Lakeview West Room

# 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. Guests are welcome. If you plan to bring a guest, please contact: Alison Albury, Membership Chair: (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 March Issue: February 15, 2024

## Wellington Garden Club Officers

President	Carol Ralph
1st Vice President	Petra Russell
2nd Vice President	Kristi Westrup
Treasurer	Danese Sloan-Kendall
Assistant Treasurer	Marianne Forrest
Corresponding Secretary	Jan Seagrave
Recording Secretary	Cynthia Gardner
Parliamentarian	John Siena
Former President ex-officio	Maria Wolfe