



Allamanda News

The Newsletter of Wellington Garden Club March 2024

Hello, Spring!



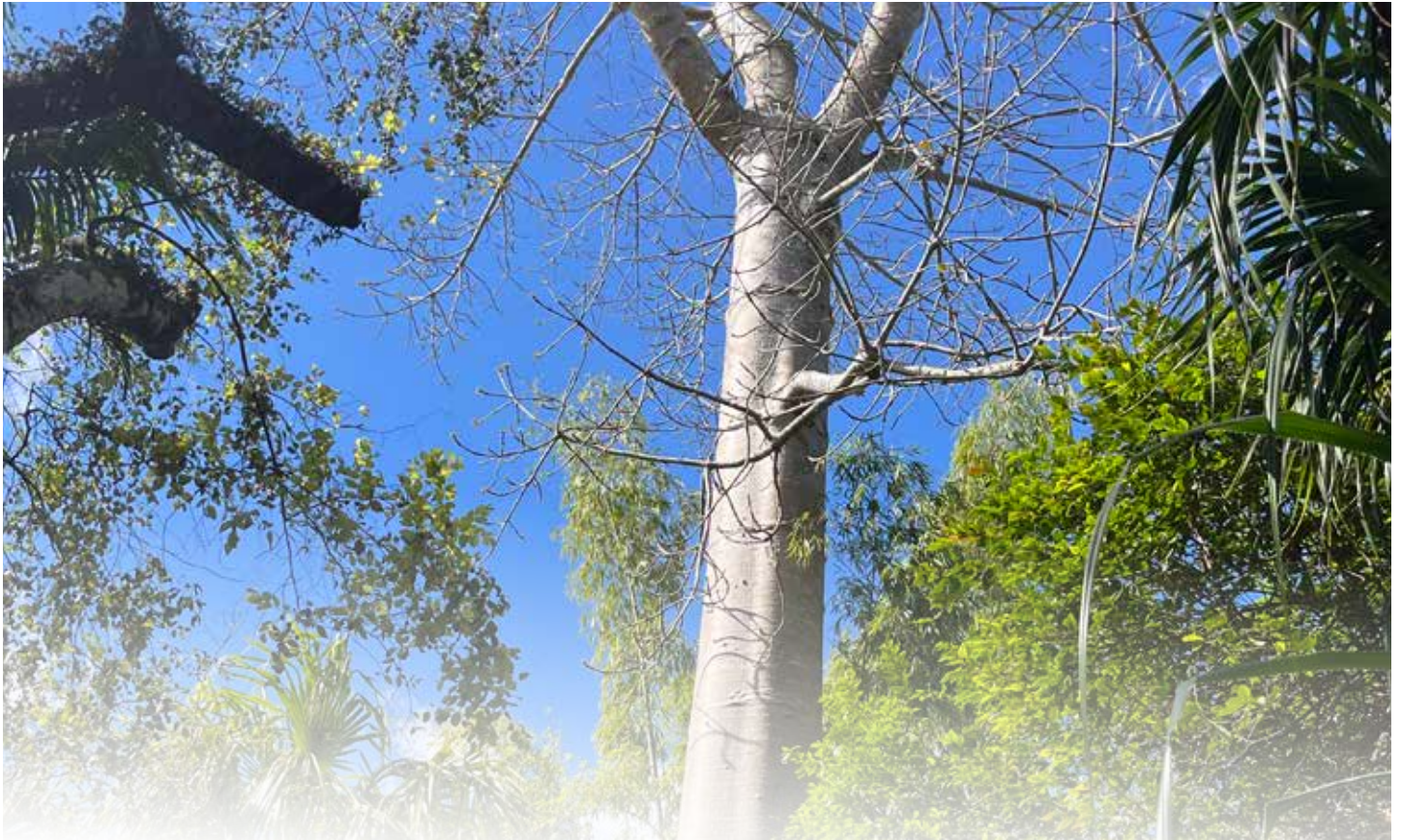
Dear WGC Members,

*As we move into Spring, enjoy as much time
out-of-doors as you can, walking, gardening,
fishing or whatever gives you peace of mind ...
before it gets too darn hot!*

*Sincerely,
Carol Ralph, President*



Around & About Goes to Flamingo Gardens



We all enjoyed a tour of the beautiful Flamingo Gardens with our awesome guides. The wildlife show with the owl, alligator and opossum was fascinating. Lunch was delish and they even gave us ice cream sandwiches afterward. After lunch we got a fun tram tour of the gardens. It was wonderful going by bus—we had happy hour (wine) on the ride home.

There were 34 on this fun trip!—Carin Griffin



Arbor Day, January 19, 2024

WGC members met at Wellington Rotary Peace Park on the third Friday in January to celebrate both Florida Arbor Day and the 100th Anniversary of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs.

The lovely native slash pine that we planted is just behind Maria!

A plaque marks the occasion. Check it out on your next visit to Rotary Peace Park— it's to the right as you face the flag poles. —*Katherine Wagner-Reiss*



Left to right are Margaret Tamsberg, John Tamsberg, Maria Wolfe, Kathy Siena, Carol Ralph, Joyce Smith, Katherine Wagner-Reiss, and Twig Morris.



Left to right are Caren Griffin, Barbara Zenker, Alison Albury, Tom Romah, Linda Messina, Dora Bellomo, Carol Ralph, Bobbi Ziegler and Terriane Tuskes.

Total Profit, Total Fun!

We made \$970 at our Shredding Event on January 18, 2024. After the fee to Total Shredding, our net profit was \$821! Not bad for three hours of "work" by our tireless volunteers on a beautiful Saturday morning.
\$\$\$\$\$

Kathy Schneider shares the winners of the Smokey Bear Poster Contest



Close Encounters



“I snapped this amazing photo of a nursing baby white rhino during our Around & About at Lion Country Safari on January 18th. Closer to home I caught my cat, Cash, posing as garden statuary. And I discovered a gorgeous corn snake out behind my barn.”
—Mary Barbara Alexander



“First I saw this pink spoonbill visiting our preserve at Village Walk. And then I caught this iguana peering in my window!”—Carol Lazzarino

What fun we had making our succulent bowls. February 7, 2024



Left to right, Carin Griffin, Carol Dima, Mary Ann Greely, Linda Messina and Helga Mesmer.



Front to back, Caroline Kessman, Maria Wolfe, Bonnie Olie, Frankie Fioretti, Janet Jones, Mimi Borowy and Dee Rolfe standing.

Gardeners' Gallery



*A moment of zen from Debra Metzger's garden.
Stormi Bivin shares her Buddah Belly Jatropha.*



*"The orchids around my pool are in their glory!"
—Mary Barbara Alexander*



Joan Kaplan's Caladium is a beauty.



*"I spend summers in Ocean City Maryland. This dahlia came up by itself in my garden and surprised me. The bloom was huge. I just bought the poker this year. Always loved them but never saw one here in Florida."
—Helga Mesmer*



Teachers, Students & WGC Volunteers at Work



WGC Volunteers Bobbi Ziegler and John Siena teach Wellington High School garden students how to plant native milkweed, heirloom tomatoes and other organic vegetables.



John Siena shows Pine Jog Elementary students how to plant heirloom tomatoes.



Pine Jog Elementary teachers, WGC volunteers and garden kids.



Wellington High School Garden Club Students digging new beds.



Pine Jog Elementary garden club teacher and students receive donated native milkweed and heirloom tomatoes from WGC volunteers Kathy and John Siena.



John Siena and teacher show Wellington High School garden students how to plant onion seeds.



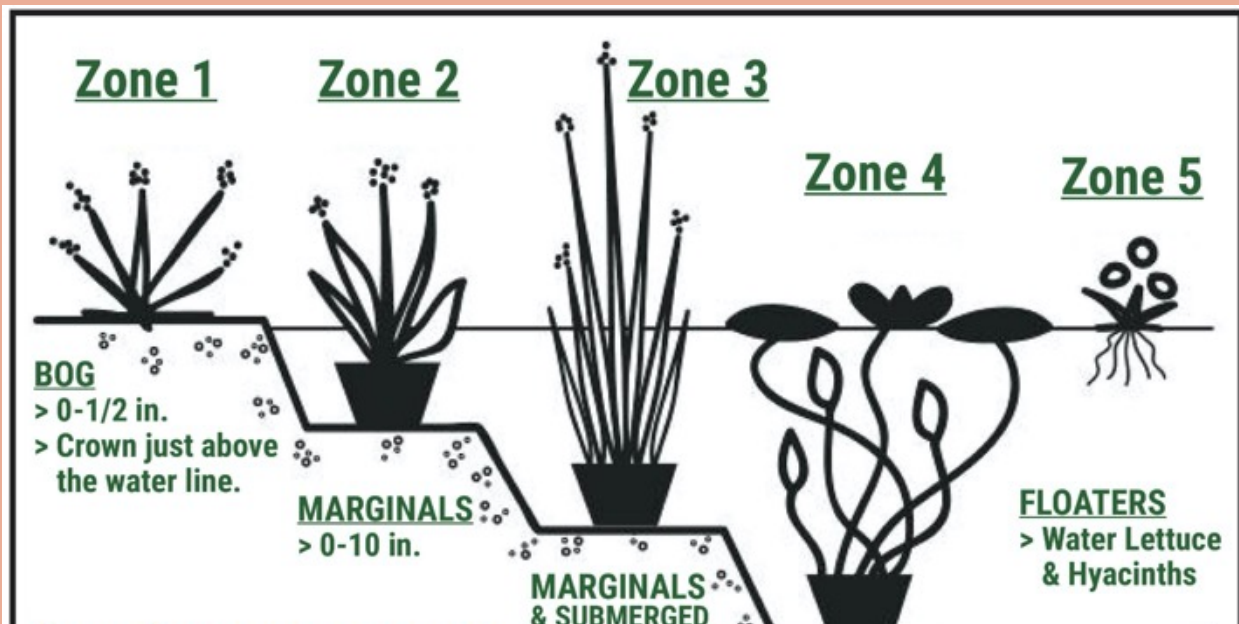
My Gardening Minute

—Anne Hlasnicek

Creating a Water Bowl Garden

Try something different! Good for the back porch or the backyard. Here's how to start.

1. Determine location—sun, shade, screened or open air, and plant accordingly.
2. Container size will be determined by your choice of plant material.
3. Select plant materials that favor “deep” water or just wet feet (Don't try to mix them).
4. Locate sources for purchasing plants before buying a container. This can be a challenge. Go on-line and search or try Pindar's Nursery for bog plants, big box stores for dwarf Papyrus or Colocasia. Zone 4 and 5 are only for real in-ground troughs or ponds.
5. Your container should be water-tight with an overflow drainage hole just above the level at which you wish to keep your water.
6. Build the support base with rock and sand (no soil) before inserting live plants.
7. Maintain the water level consistently, don't let them drown.



*FFGC State Convention
Celebrate FFGC's 100th Birthday*

*Thursday, April 11 and Friday, April 12
Southbank Marriott Hotel, Jacksonville, FL*

*Guest Speaker
Laura Dowling, White House Florist*

- *Members' Art Show*
- *State Flower Show (Schedule is on FFGC website under Convention)*
- *Registration information at FFGC.org*
- *Opportunity Tickets and 50/50 Raffle Tickets—
Last year's 50/50 won \$4,000 (You do not have to attend to win)*

FFGC District X Spring Meeting REGISTRATION FORM

Oceans of Orchids

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024

HOSTED BY PIPER'S LANDING GARDEN CLUB
PIPER'S LANDING YACHT & COUNTRY CLUB
6160 SW Thistle Terrace
Palm City, FL 34990

Registration at 8:30 am.

Program begins at 9:15 am.

Guest Speaker: Zack Jud from Florida Oceanographic Institute
Seeing Red from So Much Green...The Story of Florida's Algae Issues
Complete a Registration Form for each club member registering.
Copy this form as needed.

- Cost is \$50 to include continental breakfast and buffet lunch.
- Forms and checks must be RECEIVED by April 4, 2024.
- An additional \$10.00 will be charged after April 4th.
- No refunds will be given after March 31st.
- Interactive Registration form available on districtX.org.
- Print, fill in form, and mail with check.
- Make check for \$ 50.00 payable to "Piper's Landing Inc."
- Mail Registration form and check to: Registrar: RJ Barone
4901 SW Parkgate Blvd. Palm City, FL 34990
jbandrjb@yahoo.com (315) 794-0627
- Feel free to contact the registrar with any questions.

** GREAT SELECTION OF RAFFLE BASKETS
WILL BE AVAILABLE*



Name _____

Address _____

Please check each category that applies to you. You may check more than one category.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member | <input type="checkbox"/> District X Chairman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FFGC State Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Former District X Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FFGC Chairman | <input type="checkbox"/> Club President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FFGC Former State Chairman | <input type="checkbox"/> Circle President |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District X Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Delegate (designated by Club President) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District X Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Guest |

**Continental Breakfast and Buffet Lunch
will be served.**

Valet Service will be available.

Please note any dietary restrictions:



**Wellington Garden Club
Presents an Exclusive Tour
Of Multiple
Private Equestrian Estates**

Saturday, April 6, 2024 From 10:00am - 4:00pm

Price is \$75.00 per person



**For more information and to purchase tickets go to:
www.wellingtongardenclub.org.**

**Proceeds support our: College Scholarships, Butterfly &
Youth Gardens, Wildflower Meadow & many other Community
Projects.**

Wellington Garden Club is a 501(c)(3) organization

This tour is horse heaven... ...and we need volunteers

On Saturday April 6, 2024, from 10 AM to 4 PM, Wellington Garden Club will offer a private, self-guided tour of five of Wellington's most exclusive and spectacular equestrian stables and grounds.

These properties are home to world-renown champion horses that reside in the lap of luxury in unique stables with elegant architectural style and details such as chandeliers, decorative ceiling panels, gleaming brass finials, imported tile, and brick walkways surrounded by emerald green fields, lush tropical landscaping, and even a koi pond.

These properties will be open to the public for one day only. Garden Club members and staff of the farms will be present at all sites with information and interesting tidbits about the residents of the stables.

If you would like to volunteer, please, contact Carol Coleman at taxi44480@aol.com



It's time to **RENEW** your WGC membership for the 2024-2025 program year (Sept. – May)

Annual Dues: Single Member: \$45
Couple: \$65

Make checks payable to:

Wellington Garden Club

Give or mail your check to:

Margaret Tamsberg
WGC Membership Data Manager
121 Sulky Way
Wellington, FL 33414

Don't be **Foiled**...

**WGC 2024-2025
Membership Renewal
Due Date: April 1, 2024**



***Try your hand at a poem
with this brain teaser from
Caroline Kessman***

***Here is a quick writing exercise
that my sister, Mary Denzer,
from Westport Island, Maine,
passed on to me.***

In five lines:

- 1 Noun***
- 2 Adjectives Describing Noun***
- 3 Verbs Ending in "ing"***
- 1 Phrase Relating to Noun***
- 1 Synonym of Noun***

Here is my example:

***Garden
Colorful and Peaceful
Growing, Demanding, Rewarding
My Happy Place
Backyard***

Membership Meetings



Monday, March 4, 2024
9:30 AM
Speaker: David Valdes,
Saylor Physical Therapy
Topic: Strengthening the Body
for Gardening

David Valdes is a physical therapist whose expertise extends from treating weekend warriors and athletes to aiding stroke victims on their road to recovery. With a deep passion for functional biomechanics, he advocates for injury prevention through proper techniques. As a practitioner at Saylor Physical Therapy, he offers unparalleled one-on-one, quality-based care. His ultimate goal is to empower individuals with knowledge to remain injury-free long after leaving his care. Apart from his professional endeavors, David also shares his insights with gardening enthusiasts, enlightening them on the importance of strengthening for their favorite hobby.

Monday, April 1, 2024
9:30 am
Speaker: Katherine Wagner-Reiss
Topic: What Garden Lovers Need to
Understand about Plant Names



Katherine Wagner-Reiss is a passionate botanist and accomplished tour guide. With a Certificate in Botany from the prestigious New York Botanical Garden, she generously shares her knowledge as a volunteer tour guide at the New York Botanical Garden, Mounts Botanical Garden and now as a WGC member. Katherine's fascination with native plants and their scientific and common names drives her commitment to botanical education. Not only does she impart her expertise through engaging tours, but she also enriches the botanical community through her insightful blogs for the Morris Arboretum in Philadelphia. Katherine's dedication to the plant world is evident in her efforts to inspire others and promote environmental awareness.

Around & Abouts

Thursday, March 14, 2024 10:30 AM
Busch Wildlife Sanctuary
17855 Rocky Pines Road
Jupiter, Florida 33478
Cost: \$8.00 per person
Carpools leave locations at 9:15 AM to arrive at
10:30 AM (via FL turnpike)

Join us for a private tour of Busch Wildlife Sanctuary, a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and conservation of Florida's wildlife and natural resources. Their goal is to rescue, rehab, release, and educate. This very educational tour will visit a variety of habitats with rescued native Florida animals including bald eagles, otters, alligators, and more in their new larger location.

Closed-toed shoes are recommended plus sunscreen, water, bug spray, umbrella. Lunch will follow at Little Moir's LEFTOVERS Cafe, 451 University Blvd., Jupiter. Located in the Abacoa District (at the individual's expense).

Thursday, April 25, 2024 11:00 AM
River Lily Cruise
River Park Marina
500 East Prima Vista Blvd.
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34985
Cost: \$30/per person
Limited to 32 passengers

Join us on the ever popular River Lily Cruise. We will enjoy a narrated, relaxing 90-minute Jungle-Eco Cruise on the north fork of the St. Lucie River Aquatic Preserve. Seated on a 36-foot 34 passenger Custom US Coast Guard inspected and certified Trident Pontoon boat, you will learn about the St. Lucie River, flora and fauna, wildlife and history.

Wear comfortable clothing and shoes and bring binoculars, cameras, and bottled water. There is no bathroom on board the vessel but there is a bathroom in the park adjacent to where we board. Lunch will follow at the New England Fish Market and Restaurant, 1419 NE Jensen Beach Blvd., Jensen Beach, FL 34957 (at the individual's expense).

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

Earth Day is April 21, 2024



In conjunction with the Village of Wellington's Earth Day celebration, Wellington Garden Club will be hosting its annual Plant Sale. We will be featuring member-grown plants, which are 100% profit for the club, so start now to propagate your own. Wellington Amphitheater, 12100 Forest Hill Blvd. From 10 -4.

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



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 May Issue:
May 1, 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 <i>ex-officio</i>	Maria Wolfe