

# BLOOMING TALES

## from Terrific Ten

August, 2022



### Direct from the Director: Michelle Maguire

A lot has happened since my last District Director Report for Blooming Tales. We had a great time at the FFGC State Convention, **WORLDS OF WONDER** with Marjorie Hendon our President. She put on some great parties for our new members to FFGC and first-time attendees to a convention. We were all excited about seeing and hugging each other. I had the pleasure of introducing our own District X environmental Chair, Reina Snyder, as one of the key note speakers at the convention.

We had a very successful District meeting after the convention with a **FIRST TIME EVER** FFSJ sponsored Flower Show. We have some incredible talent in District X and the surrounding Districts. Mary Ann Cody, the president at that time of Ocean Ridge Garden Club, held a lovely District Spring meeting, from beautiful arrangements on the tables to great food and a terrific speaker from Pan's Garden.

We welcomed some new presidents and circle club presidents in May, and I had a Zoom meeting with them that was well attended.

District X will again be sponsoring the Tropical Short Course on January 25 and 26, 2023 at the Green Acres Community Center in

Green Acres, Florida. This is the same venue as this past year. We have four speakers, one of which was at the State Convention, Jim West, known as the "Butterfly Guy". Zach Judd from Florida Oceanographic will be presenting Oyster Reef Restoration and Building. The other two speakers include Lauren Butcher, who previously was the coordinator for Green Schools and now is with the Grassy Waters Preserve, and Richard Ackerman who will be presenting the Wonderful World of Native Orchids. Please go to the District X website for more information and registration form.

Our Fall District Meeting will be hosted by The Wellington Garden Club on October 21, 2022. Maria Wolfe and her team will be hosting **THE TOUR TEAM**: FFGC officers, Marjorie Hendon, Tina Tuttle, Christy Linke and Mary Whistler. They will be in charge of the program in the morning telling us all that they do for you.

We will be hearing an update about the 100th anniversary of FFGC and what to expect from Tina Tuttle, our First Vice President. **THIS MEETING** is not to be missed. This is the time to get up close and personal with your President, Marjorie Hendon, First Vice President, Tina Tuttle, Second Vice President Christy Linke, and Third Vice President,

Mary Whistler. Please check the District X website for registration form and flyer information. I hope you all have a great remainder of your summer. I am always available to listen to your concerns and hear about your accomplishments.

Michelle Maguire, DXD

### Wellington Garden Club members visit the Caladium Festival

by Maria Wolfe



Fifteen Wellington Garden Club members traveled 2 hours to enjoy the annual Caladium Festival in Lake Placid. The group enjoyed a 1 hour narrated bus tour to see the actual caladium fields and learned a lot about caladiums and the small town of Lake Placid. Also of particular interest was the Lake Placid Garden Club Flower Show.

# Oleander GC of the Palm Beaches, Inc. introduces a book club focusing on the environment

by Beverly Lichtenstein, Book Club Chair

The Oleander Garden Club of the Palm Beaches, Inc. recently launched a new venture - a book club! Twelve bookworms meet every other month at a member's home for a pot-luck lunch and socializing before getting down to a lively discussion of the month's book selection. The titles are non-fiction, focused on broadening our knowledge of our natural environment.

To quote environmentalist Vicki Hird from her new book and our next reading choice, **Rebugging the Planet**, "We need to find new ways to live while reconnecting with the ecosystems we live in, creating a richer world in which people and nature can thrive together."

So far, we have read **Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Begins in Your Yard** by Douglas Tallamy, **The Hidden Life of a**

**Tree** by Peter Wholleben, **The Mangroves - A Slightly Salty History** by Thomas Kenning, **The Language of Butterflies** by Wendy Williams, and **Bicycling with Butterflies: My 10,201 Mile Journey Following the Monarchs** by Sara Dykman.

Rounding out the year we will enjoy reading **Rebugging the Planet** by Vicki Hird, **Buzz: The Nature and Needs of Bees** by Thor Hanson, and **The Nature of Oaks: The Rich Ecology of our Most Essential Native Tree** by Douglas W. Tallamy.

It has been a rewarding experience to share different thoughts on a topic that might seem mundane on the surface but comes to life when other views are expressed. We hope that your club will be inspired by our new venture and open your hearts and minds to explore and learn about the gifts that are all around us.

# Outside my kitchen window....

by Susan Simmens, President, Jasmine Circle, GCIRC



Outside our kitchen window is an old Ligustrum tree, and under its branches hangs a squirrel-proof bird feeder. July brought birds all day long - baby cardinals (female has orange beak, male is bright red), baby doves, baby blue jays, and a rabbit stops by mornings and evenings for the birds' fallen seeds plus a visiting woodpecker nearby.



Take note, Ladies! My husband, Joe, has become entranced and is now ultra-willing to add on to "his bird sanctuary."

## PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE WORKSHOP

**ATTENTION:** Club Presidents, Club Parliamentarians & interested Club Members

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 15, 10 AM ON ZOOM**

### Topics:

- Why and when to publish an Agenda for membership meetings
- Shortcuts on motions
- Why follow Roberts Rules when chairing a meeting
- Do you need a Parliamentarian and what is their role?
- What all Bylaws need to contain
- How often and who should review Bylaws
- What are the steps to incorporate in FL?

Barbara Hadsell, District X Parliamentarian  
barbarahadsell@cs.com 561-635-8809

# Boynton Beach GC Expands Community Focus

by Carol Stender

Spring is always a busy season for garden club members, but spring 2022 was especially industrious! The City of Boynton Beach's observance of Earth Day opened up valuable opportunities for us to interact with the community at large. We joined local government initiatives, including the city's First Friday event and their Earth Day Celebration. We also participated



Member Chris Murphy helps at Boynton Beach's First Friday event.

plants, we reviewed the many benefits of gardening and the basics for success. We suggested specific examples of Florida native plants that could easily be added to yards and existing



Co-presidents Lori Wolff and Toni Cvetko behind the tent at Earth Day Celebration

downtown center for the City of Boynton Beach's Earth Day Celebration. This was a fabulous event with over 50 tented booths, music and activities for all ages. We gave out well over one hundred and fifty free packets of milkweed seed and over one hundred free salvia plants that we had potted and raised for the occasion. Free is always a big hit! This was a "feel good" event for all!

The City of Boynton Beach has a monthly family-friendly First Friday event. On May 6, BBGC members hosted a tent where children decorated paper mache flower pots with markers, stickers, and pipe cleaners. They filled their pots with soil, planted a few zinnia seeds, added water and proudly walked away holding the hands of their parents. So much FUN!

Needless to say, these events were extremely rewarding and BBGC members look forward to interacting with our community again when we all celebrate Earth

in the city library's Earth Day Programming.

Our first community Earth Day event was on April 7, when members presented *Let's Talk About Gardens!* at the City of Boynton Beach Library. Using plenty of visuals and sample

gardens. We shared information about the many free resources available to every gardener, whether novice or expert. At the end of the presentation, time was given for a Q & A session and free plants were given to the audience. The presentation was a rewarding success and we look forward to another this coming year.

April 23 found us at the

## The Garden Club of Stuart is ready for new season

by Karen Bonney, President

The Garden Club of Stuart has been busy this summer maintaining gardens, planning to build a new Butterfly Garden at the YMCA.. We are writing a Flower Show Schedule which will be unveiled this Fall and open to the public in March, 2023.

The Yearbook is at the printers,



and we are ready to enjoy the upcoming season with our gardening friends.

We're looking forward to getting back into the meetings and schedules. This is one of our circles which meets in the summer, Satin Leaf Circle, Garden Club of Stuart.

# Wellington Garden Club earns several awards from Florida Federation of Garden Clubs

by Twig Morris, Wellington Garden Club Awards Chairman

Wellington Garden Club Awards' Chairman, Twig Morris, presented several awards from the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs (FFGC) to members at the Club's Spring Luncheon.

Kathy Siena won the FFGC Award for Outstanding Service during the 10 years she has been a member. She has served as WGC President, Assistant District



X Director and Youth Contests Chairman. She currently serves as WGC Tree Planting Chairman, Youth Garden Clubs Chairman, Co-Leader of the Boys & Girls Club Community Garden, FFGC Earth Steward Recognition Chairman and WGC Facebook Chairman.

Each year in September, Kathy organizes the community-wide tree-planting event for National Public Lands Day in partnership with the Village of Wellington.

WGC is proud to honor Kathy with this FFGC Award for Outstanding Service.

Two new WGC members, Chrissy

and Steve Wood, won the FFGC Arlington Dolly Morris Award for the landscape renovation they did in the 25' x 25' back garden of their Wellington townhouse.



This award is given to FFGC members who are non-professional gardeners who renovate an existing garden or install a new garden on their property.

Chrissy and Steve accomplished this over a two-year period by adding trees and shrubs to create a private backyard oasis filled with colorful plants that attract many species of birds and butterflies and obscure the view of a duplex home behind their property.

Congratulations to Chrissy and Steve for this well-deserved recognition.

In recognition of the outstanding work done by Jan Seagrave and Maria Wolfe to install and dedicate Blue Star and Gold Star Memorial Markers at Wellington's Veterans Memorial Park, a Blue Star Memorial Pin was presented to each of them. It is quite an

achievement for a club to install these markers in two successive years. Kudos and thanks to Jan and Maria for facilitating these installations during each of their terms as WGC President.



Susan Hillson, Former WGC President, became a three-star member of the FFGC Tri-Council which signifies that she completed all three of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC) schools: Environmental Studies, Gardening



Studies and Landscape Design.

In recognition of her achievement she received the FFGC Tri-Council pin and a certificate. Since Susan is also an NGC Accredited Master Flower Show Judge, she also received a Four-Star Member certificate from NGC.



## *Wellington Garden Club*

CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO

DISTRICT X FALL MEETING  
AND  
FFGC OFFICERS' TOUR

# A TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN HEROES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2022  
9:30 AM – 2:00 PM

THE WANDERERS CLUB  
1900 AERO CLUB DRIVE  
WELLINGTON, FLORIDA 33414



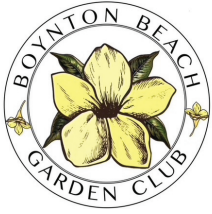
Force Blue will be the keynote speaker at this luncheon  
\$50.00 includes a continental breakfast and lunch

Register NOW at [www.WellingtonGardenClub.org](http://www.WellingtonGardenClub.org) or [www.DistrictX.org](http://www.DistrictX.org)



# Boynton Beach Garden Club

presents



## Fall Into Fashion

Noon Wednesday, November 9

Westchester Country Club

12250 Westchester Club Dr, Boynton Beach, FL 33437



\$45

FASHIONS FROM 4 LOCAL  
SHOPPES  
RAFFLE BASKETS  
50/50 RAFFLE  
VENDORS



FOR LUNCH CHOOSE FROM:

Par Three Platter

Tuna, chicken & egg salad served with a house salad and your choice of dressing

Oriental Salmon Salad

Grilled salmon, mandarin oranges and toasted almonds served on a bed of mixed greens with oriental vegetables

Fuji Apple Salad

A spring salad mix with apple chips, red onions, diced tomato, blue cheese chopped with walnuts and grilled chicken with your choice of dressing

FOR DESSERT CHOOSE FROM:

Raspberry Sorbet with fresh seasonal berries or Brownie with ice cream

FOR RESERVATIONS, call Kathy Menninger 516-849-3415 or email [Kathleenmenninger@gmail.com](mailto:Kathleenmenninger@gmail.com) RSVP by Tuesday, October 25

We are a non-profit 501(C)3 organization and all profits from this event go to community charities.



Forest Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



National Garden Clubs, Inc.

# 2023 Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest INFORMATION



Hosted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service and the National Garden Clubs, Inc., this contest is an opportunity for local garden clubs to connect with their communities and may be used to **promote** their local or State garden club, **attract** children and their parents, and **raise awareness** of the importance of caring for the environment and preventing wildfires.

- Only children from first through fifth grade can participate. You can reach out to schools, scout troops, after school programs, youth programs, and similar groups.
- Students should be reminded to check spelling as posters with spelling errors will be disqualified.
- The following information must be written on the back of each poster: The student's name, grade level, garden club name, garden club contact name address, phone number, school, teacher's name, school name, parent or guardian name and address, phone number and email. (Should school policy preclude giving students' addresses and phone numbers, please include the school address and phone number.)
- Or use the free downloadable label found at [www.symbols.gov/ngcpostercontest](http://www.symbols.gov/ngcpostercontest).
- Local garden club coordinators for the Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest should contact their State or regional poster chairman to get the promotional package. You can also download the promotional package from the National Garden Clubs, Inc., website, [www.gardenclubs.org](http://www.gardenclubs.org) or from [www.symbols.gov](http://www.symbols.gov).
- Every participating child should receive a certificate of participation. Certificates can be ordered for free at [www.symbols.gov](http://www.symbols.gov).
- Local and State garden clubs' poster coordinators are encouraged to organize recognition ceremonies.
- If there is a Forest Service office nearby, they can help facilitate the presence of Smokey Bear or Woodsy Owl at your recognition ceremony. You can find your nearest Forest Service office by visiting [www.fs.usda.gov](http://www.fs.usda.gov).
- We encourage participants and/or local, State, and regional chairpersons to make copies of the posters before submission.
- The five posters that compete for the national grand prize become property of the Forest Service. They ARE NOT returned to participants.
- **For information** about the poster contest do not hesitate to contact the National Garden Clubs, Inc., national coordinator for the poster contest, Judy Grotts at [judygrotts@cotc.net](mailto:judygrotts@cotc.net) or the Forest Service national coordinator for the poster contest, Iris Velez at [iris.velez@usda.gov](mailto:iris.velez@usda.gov).