

BLOOMING TALES

From Terrific Ten

September, 2022

Rio Lindo GC takes home FFGC awards

by Darlene Enzian

The May Rio Lindo GC May meeting began with a demonstration of making a flower arrangement led by member Stephanie Alessandrini-Giarraffa. Over 20 arrangements were made and delivered to offices of the City of PSL, libraries, nursing homes and fire stations in celebration of National Garden Week.



At the May meeting Rio Lindo GC also announced their winning of the FFGC Website Award #14 for adding over 60 years' worth of archives in 2021 to rio-lindo-gardenclub.org. Prior to last summer, the archives resided in several large notebooks. This was a significant accomplishment by Webmaster Darlene Enzian over a 2 1/2 month period.

In addition, an Unsolicited Landscape Design



L to R President Karen York, Rose Garden Chair Anne Nourse, Darlene Enzian and Joleen King, Awards Committee and Awards Chair Ilona Christie

Award was presented to the club for the work done at the Rose Garden at Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens (PSLBG).

An NGC/Ames Tool Grant award in the amount of \$207.40 worth of garden tools was also shipped to the club Rose Garden Chair Anne Nourse for use in the PSLBG Rose Garden.

Many of our District X clubs take a break for the summer, but not Rio Lindo. We had planned three Out 'N Abouts, one each in June, July, and August. These are not fund raisers, but just an optional informal social and/or learning event.

June 22 was a visit to Florida Oceanographic Society in Stuart and a tour of their new facility with an explanation of the work being done to preserve some of our aquatic species.



(feeding and petting of the rays shown above).

Unfortunately, our July 26

outing to Loggerhead Marine Life Center in Juno Beach was canceled due to lack of interest, and a fun putt-putt golf tournament planned for August 22 at PopStroke at Tradition in Port St. Lucie, was canceled because of renovations at PopStroke.

These events are usually followed by lunch at a nearby restaurant for those who are interested in participating. All members, their friends/family and other members from other garden clubs are invited to attend each Out 'N About.

You are receiving a few extra pages of Blooming Tales because I did not receive the stories that were submitted in my email box. I don't know why I did not get them- maybe because of electricity outages at my house, or the server had problems, but I didn't want you to miss the info in those stories, so here they are!!

Cyndie Sable,
Blooming Tales' Editor

Ocean Ridge Garden Club sends nine lucky children to a week at Camp Wekiva

by Jackie Reed

The Ocean Ridge Garden Club is pleased to announce that we awarded scholarships to six girls and three boys to spend a week at Florida Federation of Garden Club's Camp Wekiva. On the way home, we asked these children about some of their favorite things and here is a sampling of what they said: "Seeing a deer... skit night... morning walks... tacos in a bag... the food was good and it was cooked there... s'mores... swimming... scavenger hunt... looking for wolf spiders and... going to camp!"

They all had an unforgettable experience enjoying nature, crafts, and the beauty of the natural world in a magical, pristine setting. When we asked if they would like to go back again next summer, they all answered with an emphatic "YES"!

How did we manage to send so many children to the camp? At our 2021 December Holiday party, Ocean Ridge Garden Club members challenged each other to donate to the newly instituted Ann Cody Wekiva Youth Camp Scholarships, named in honor of a beloved member who was a champion of the camp during her tenure at ORGC.

We were thrilled to collect enough money to support such a large group of young people so they could

learn about the environment and grow through experiences in nature.

But we didn't stop there. From past experience, we realized that this would be a first-time overnight stay away from home for many if not all of the campers. ORGC members stepped up to serve as a mentor for each camper and their parents to build trust. We invited the children and their parents to an award ceremony and began an orientation process to build their confidence and allow their children to go across the state to the camp.

In addition to raising the money to cover the camp fees, members solicited donations for camp supplies and clothing, which many of the recipients would otherwise have struggled to obtain. We also were aware that some past recipients had not been able to go to camp because the families did not have reliable transportation for the trip. So this time our members stepped up and provided transportation to and from the camp.

Thanks to Britt Flanagan, the Scholarship Committee and all our members who so generously donated to accomplish this goal. We look forward to continuing this program in the years to come!



Garden Club of Fort Pierce meets all summer long to keep in touch with each other

By Vivian Kobe

The Garden Club of Fort Pierce, like most other clubs, does not have member meetings during the summer months. We do, however, have a tradition of planning an event each month during the summer just to socialize and keep in touch with our garden club friends. This summer was particularly active.

In June we met for a tour of Weatherbee's Nursery in Fort Pierce. Weatherbees is a 5-star rated local nursery. Our host and tour guide was knowledgeable, educational and very interesting. After the tour we gathered for lunch at Gator Trace Country Club. It was a very good day.

In July we were invited to 'tour' one of our own member's lovely gardens. Mary Cox and her husband, Brian, love gardening and it shows. They have a beautiful home surrounded by exquisite and perfectly manicured landscaping. They have planted an unbelievable number of fruit trees, shrubs and flowering plants in



their back yard and surrounding their home.

Brian showed us the plants he is propagating for our biggest fund raiser, our Mega Yard and Plant Sale held in October. Thank you, Mary and Brian, for a great time. But the day continued as we again gathered for lunch at a local eatery.

By the time August rolled around, we were somewhat tired of the persistent heat and opted to meet only for lunch which we did, and a good time was had by all.

Meeting for an outing is such

a good way to keep in touch with our garden club friends during the summer months. Of course, we miss our snow birds, but everyone is excited for the start of our new season next month. It should be a very good year.

As a side note: The Garden Club of Fort Pierce Mega Yard and Plant sale mentioned above is being held on October 22, 2022. That's one day after the Fall District meeting. The sale will be at our clubhouse located at 911 Parkway Drive, Fort Pierce, FL.