



Allamanda News

The Newsletter of the Wellington Garden Club

Nov/Dec 2011

www.wellingtongardenclub.org

President's Message



Susan Hillson

What a delight it was to see so many of you at our September meeting. Afterward, I rode up to Winter Park with Barbara Hadsell, WGC Past President and District X Director, to attend my first Florida Federation of Garden Club (FFGC) board meeting, as the new 'Edible Gardening' Chair. It gave me a better understanding of the programs being put together at the state level, some of which we will participate in – "Penny Pines" to help reforest damaged forests and "Green Waters" documenting polluted waterways. I also attended the "Gala in the Garden" luncheon, celebrating the 50th Anniversary of our lovely headquarters building.

Part of the mission of the National Garden Clubs (NGC), of which the Wellington Garden Club is a member, is to offer educational opportunities. This year, our own District X is offering Course IV of NGC's Environmental Study School. I invite you to join me in attending this course in Stuart on November 29 and 30, where we will learn about 'The Living Earth – Water and Related Issues'.

On November 10 all new members are invited to a 'New Member Coffee' at Linda

DeSanti's beautiful home and gardens. Meet members of the garden club executive committee, committee chairs, and other new members. On December 5 everyone is invited to celebrate the holidays with our "Winter Wonderland" Holiday Luncheon at the Wanderers Country Club. I hope you can join us at these social events.

The garden club gives back to the community through the various volunteer efforts of its members. We landscape new Habitat for Humanity homes in Palm Beach County, provide scholarships for local college students pursuing horticulture or environmental science degrees from Palm Beach State College (PBSC), sponsor local students at environmentally focused summer camps (Camp Wekiva and SEEK), and offer educational programs and leadership for our Junior Garden Clubs. We raise the money for these projects primarily through our biennial garden tour, scheduled for April 2012. We have found some fabulous gardens for this year's tour. We still need lots of help on all our committees, so be sure to 'sign right up' at the monthly meetings, or write or call me for suggestions. It is always a lot of fun.

Welcome back to all our snowbirds!

Susan

Calendar of Events in Nov.-Dec.

Nov. 7	Garden Club Meeting Al Salopek, "Bee Understanding – A Venture Into A Hive" 10:30 am	Dec. 5	Winter Holiday Luncheon , Wanderers Country Club
Nov. 10	New Member Coffee Home of Linda DeSanti	Dec. 14	Floral Design Workshop Mary Ellen Chesnut's House 10:00 am
Nov. 15	Around 'n About Tour of Barbara Cook's Garden	Dec. 15	Adopt-A-Street Cleanup Dog Park Parking Lot, Greenbriar Blvd. 9:00 am
Nov. 29 -30	District X Course IV of National Garden Clubs Environmental Study School Stuart, Florida	Jan. 7	Garden Club Meeting Mike Harris, " <u>RARE AND UNUSUAL PALMS JUST FOR YOU</u> " 10:30 am

November 7, 2011 Monday Membership Meeting

Bee Understanding - A Venture Into A Hive

Al Salopek

Longtime Wellington resident, and a member of the Palm Beach County Beekeepers Association, Al Salopek, has begun an educational campaign called Bee Understanding. His goal is to teach people about the important role the honeybee plays in the cultivation of our food supply. Honeybees, through pollination, are responsible for approximately 30 percent of the food we eat.



Come learn about the benefits of backyard bee keeping, and the threat to our honeybees due to Colony Collapse Disorder. See an observation hive up close and get a real sense of what a honeycomb looks like and all the activity that goes on inside a hive.

Phone: (561) 346-1739
Website: www.beekeeperspbc.com

November 15, 2011 (Tuesday) AROUND 'n ABOUT

Tour Of Barbara Cook's Garden

6062 N Country Rd, Ocean Ridge, FL

CARPOOL: Leaves Ultima Fitness-Blockbuster or IHOP at 9:15 am Sharp

A huge bass chime that hangs from a half-century old strangler fig announces the arrival of visitors to Barbara Cook's tropical garden.

Barbara will lead us along the many red-rock lined paths that wind through her property. Plantings of native palms, sea grape, gumbo limbo, satin leaf, areca palms, marlberry and cherry trees set the stage for themed garden rooms on an acre of Florida hammock. Exotic jungle animals and bird sculptures lead to "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil." Then a turn down Birdhouse Lane with 16 artisan houses of whimsy leads to a Palm Alee and many bromeliads.

After moving to Florida 21 years ago, Barbara Cook and her husband developed this Ocean Ridge property, turning it from an absolute jungle on a hammock to a tropical garden rife with native trees and plants. Barbara became involved with Mounts Botanical Garden, earning her Master Gardener certificate in 2009. Always a doer, not a viewer, she is on the Board at Mounts, has been vice-president and president of the Ocean Ridge Garden Club, and is active in District X, currently Corresponding Secretary.

LUNCH afterwards. Banana Boat or Two Georges in Boynton Beach

Membership News

By Jayne Kiesewetter, Membership Chair

New Member Coffee on Nov. 10th

All new members are invited to attend a New Member Coffee on Thursday, November 10th, at 9:00 a.m. at the home of Linda DeSanti, 14022 Greentree Trail, Wellington. Enjoy the setting of Linda's lovely garden, which in the past has been on the Mounts Botanical Garden Home Tour. A delicious buffet of breakfast munchies will be provided by the Executive Committee and Membership Chairs. Susan Hillson will orient you about the areas of participation in the club as well as activities scheduled for the remainder of the season. This is a relaxed and refreshing setting to be able to get to know other new members and members of the Executive Committee. If you haven't already signed up, please do so at the latest, at the November 7th meeting, but preferably, call Jayne sooner, at 791 0273.

Hospitality Report

By Carol Lazzarino, Fall Hospitality Chair

Volunteers Bringing Food for our Nov.7 Meeting

I want to thank the following people for volunteering to get our monthly luncheons started for the 2011/2012 season. Please remember to bring enough to feed at least twelve people.

Salads

Margaret Kruger
Susan Hillson
Jo Alfenito
Carol Richardson
Carol Hoenich
Eleanor Lukasiewicz
Jean Clancy
Phyllis Goldberg

Sandwiches

Cindy Hartman
Dolores Rosen
Darlene Raepold
Cherie Panian
Sue Smith
Eileen Friedman
Barbara May
Christina Benisch

Desserts

Lee Graddon
Marilyn Walvoord
Beth Stewart
Sheila Mikita
Melanie Fry
Rosemarie Schaefer
Gail Bunce
Lisa Ferrano

Gala in the Garden

On September 16, 2011, Danese Sloan-Kendall, Susan Hillson, Barbara Hadsell and Twig Morris (photo, left to right) attended the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. 50th Anniversary Celebration of our lovely Headquarters building in Winter Park. The building was dedicated on February 2, 1961.

This special occasion was also a time to honor Addie Lou Harris for her years of devotion to FFGC and for the role she has played in the existence and life of our Headquarters, the building and grounds.



District X Fall Meeting

On October 19, despite the very early hour and gloomy, rainy weather, WGC members Stormi Bivin, Linda DeSanti, Lisa Ferrano, Barbara May, Morag MacDonald-Nimberg, Twig Morris and Diane Rice left Wellington and travelled to Vero Beach to attend the Fall meeting of District X. Superbly chaired by our own past president, Barbara Hadsell, in her new capacity as District X Director, the event provided an opportunity for garden club members from District X to meet the newly-elected Executive Team of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs (FFGC) and hear their plans for FFGC during the next two years. Also on the agenda were presentations by several district clubs describing unique projects undertaken by their clubs, including one by Twig Morris who outlined the Wellington Neighborhood Stabilization Program that the club participated in last July.

A special treat was the presentation of awards to several WGC members. Barbara May, past president of National Garden Clubs, accepted the National Flower Show Achievement Award given for the Flower Show at the 2010 Convention in Boca Raton, for which she was Vice-Chair. It was a great honor to receive the gold ribbon in this highly competitive national award.

Dual awards went to Linda DeSanti and Lisa Ferrano designating their gardens as FFGC Butterfly Sanctuaries. In addition, a special certificate was accepted on behalf of Candice Cavaleri, daughter-in-law of member Ann Cavaleri, who has volunteered for two summers at Camp Wekiva while Ann's granddaughter, Anna Louise, attended the camp.

It was a delightful event, full of information about FFGC programs, other clubs' activities, useful gardening tips, etc. In short – it was well worth the early wakeup call and long drive. The spring meeting will be held in Boca Raton on April 20, 2012. WGC members are encouraged to attend and experience a District meeting for themselves.



Linda DeSanti (left) and Lisa Ferrano



Barbara May (left) with FFGC President Jan Sillik

Wellington Garden Club and West Palm Beach Elks Lodge #1352

The Wellington Garden Club is partnering again this year with the West Palm Beach Elks Lodge #1352 to bring vegetable gardening to the 4th and 5th graders that participate in the Wynnebrook Elementary School Aftercare program. The students have been formally recognized by the FL Federation of Garden clubs at the Wynnebrook EL. Junior Garden Club.

The students met with Wellington Garden Club Master Gardeners, Fauzia Begum and Barbara Hadsell on Tuesday Oct. 11 at the Elks Lodge garden to plant vegetable seedlings and seeds. Wellington GC member and Elk, Tim Hadsell prepared the garden for planting. Funding for the project came from a grant given by the Elks National Foundation. Students will receive weekly instruction on the care and maintenance of the garden, the nutritional aspects of what is being grown, as well as tastings and recipes to take home.

While we are waiting for the garden to produce, the Junior Garden Club will be working on another type of "edible gardening"--a garden for butterflies. This project is being led by WGC members, Maria Villari, Master Gardener, and Jan Everett, Jr. GC chairman.

The first photo below shows Fauzia Begum instructing her team on planting specifics and reviewing the nutritional value. The second photo shows Fauzia supervising her team as they plant. and the third photo shows three students planting pepper seedlings provided by UF/IFAS Cooperative Extension Service.



Creative News from the Floral Design Committee

By Christine Biscoglio, Chair

Friday, October 14th was the perfect day for eighteen curious gardeners to sit in Linda DeSanti's beautiful garden to learn how to weave areca and palmetto palm fronds. Our instructor, Emilie Palmieri shared her stories while she took us step by step with the "fold one, turn, under, over, peg" technique needed for Palm Weaving. We actually used clothes pegs to keep our weaving in place! There were a series of errors, one might say "a comedy of errors", in our attempt to obtain queen palm seed pods. The final error was that the pods needed for this class ended up in the wood chipper that morning. But Emilie was able to show us the braiding technique on a pod that she had brought for demonstration and showed us several completed ones. Fauzia did a fantastic job braiding a queen seed pod that Twig contributed to the workshop. A huge thank you to Linda DeSanti, Judy Schweitzer, Sandra Sklar our photographer, and everyone who helped make this event so much fun.

Save the Date - Upcoming Floral Design Workshops:

Wednesday, December 14 "Holiday Floral Design" 10:00 AM: Bring your own flowers to complement your home this Holiday. We will create a line-mass design and enjoy some Seasonal Cheer. Details will be announced at the November meeting.

Wednesday, January 25th - 10:30 AM Creative Design presented by Guest Designer. Learn n' work.

Wednesday, March 14th - 10:30 AM - Fund Raiser - Creative Floral and Craft Design using Queen Seed Pod Shells. Completed works will be sold at our Garden Tour.

Monday, April 16th - 10:30 AM - Garden Week - Interpret a Poem or Saying with Flowers. These arrangements will be donated that day to various local places to inspire, and bring interest to Floral Design and the Wellington Garden Club.

Classes will be limited depending upon the venue and work space so sign up early and be sure to add the dates to your calendar.

Wishing everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Christine Biscoglio



Figure 1-Chris Biscoglio and Instuctor Emilie Palmieri



Figure 2- Our Busy Bees

Palm Weaving (Cont.)



Bernice Correra



Mary Drexler



Maria Villari



Linda Desanti



Deb Russell



Joan Kaplan



Jayne Kiesrewetter



Fauzia Begum



Laura Willems



Ann Parker



Nancy Cinieri



Barbara Zenker



Judy Schweitzer



Carol Lazzarino



Chris Biscoglio



Doreen Baxter

W I N T E R H O L I D A Y
L U N C H E O N

WINTER WONDER LAND

DECEMBER 5, 2011

WANDERERS COUNTRY CLUB

1900 Aero Club Drive

11:30a.m. - 2:30 p.m.



ATTIRE- Anything goes as long as
its "WHITE" or "SILVER"

Cash or check accepted. Make check
payable to: **Wellington Garden Club**

You may also mail checks to:
Suzanne Rares

15675 Lindberg Lane, Wellington, FL
33414-8367

\$28.00 p.p. includes gratuity

PLEASE BRING AN UNWRAPPED

TOY FOR LOCAL
NEEDY CHILDREN

COMMITTEE

GAIL BUNCE SHELLY CHASE MARY DREXLER BEVERLY GINN LORETTA GRANITO MARY ANNE GREELY JAN HOYT SHEILA MIKITA
YVONNE LOCKMILLER RUTH MANSMITH MARILYN MILLER TWIG MORRIS SUZANNE RARES MARGIE SANDELL ROSEMARIE SCHAEFER
MARTIE SPAIER TOBY STEINHAUSER BARBARA ZENKER
(KATHY HERNICZ - VENUE FACILITATOR)

Start

Baby Mixed Green Salad- Ginger Raspberry Dressing

Entree

All Entrees Come with Potato and Seasonal Vegetable

Stuffed Chicken Breast

Sauteed Spinach-Sun Dried Tomato-Toasted PineNut
Feta Cheese-Lemon Thyme Beurre Blanc

or

Macadamia Crusted Snapper

Roasted Macadamia - Panko Bread Crumbs
Tropical Fruit Salad

or

Sliced New York Sirloin

Fine Herb Crusted - Oven Roasted Beef
Mushroom Demi

or

Vegetable Napoleon

Yellow Squash-Zucchini-Egg Plant-Celery Root-
Carrot Pesto-Parmesan
Red Pepper Coulis

Dessert

Tropical Trio

Key Lime Tart - Tropical Fruit Tart - Chocolate Opera

Cocktail Service *Cash Bar*

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs Inc.
District X

Tropical Delights

56th Annual Tropical Short Course

Mounts Botanical Garden
West Palm Beach

January 31-February 1, 2012

Experts will present:

Techniques for growing plants to delight
your eyes and your palate

Environmentally sound principles of
horticulture and living

Guided walks through vegetable and herb gardens
that will stimulate your senses.

Demonstrations of artistic arrangements
to inspire your creativity

Our vendors will provide a variety of plants and
related items for sale.

Registration open to all garden club members,
friends and family.

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

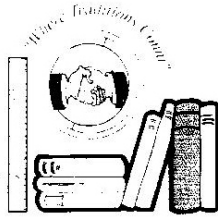
For more information and a registration form go to: www.districtx.org
Registrar: Linda Garfold, 411 Northgate Court, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411
Numbered Seating by date of registration

**Details of presentations each day are available on the web site.
Register now for best seats.**

Thank You Notes

Washington Elementary School

1709 West 30th Street, Riviera Beach, Florida 33404 ♦ (561) 494-1201 ♦ Fax (561) 494-1250



Mrs. Olivia J. Butler
Principal

Mrs. Linda J. Jakob
Assistant Principal

August 18, 2011

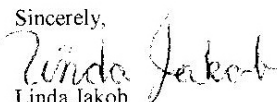
Wellington Garden Club
6506 Sandi Lane
Greenacres, FL 33467

Dear Mrs. Barbara Hadsell and team members,

I would like to personally thank you and your team for helping to revitalize our Reading Garden. Washington Elementary school can once again enjoy reading their favorite books in the shade with the sound of the foundation; eating lunch outside with the well behaved students and watching the new plants grow. It has been enjoyable to watch the enthusiasm the aftercare students have displayed pulling weeds, transporting plants, raking and laying down the mulch. It is only through such help and generosity by a community organization, like Wellington Garden Club, that we can truly make a difference in our students' lives.

On behalf of the students, their families and teachers, I would like to express our gratitude for your commitment to help our students have a wonderful school year.

Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

Linda Jakob
Assistant Principal
Washington Elementary



Palm Beach County Schools - Rated "A" by the Florida Department of Education 2005, 2006 and 2007
An Equal Education Opportunity Provider

Dear Dotti:

How is the Wellington Garden Club doing? Thanks to my scholarship, I was able to take three classes these last two semesters. I am now in my third term. Right now I am taking Botany, Landscape Situations, and Plant ID.

What does the club have on its schedule? I would like the opportunity to personally meet and thank the club so much for its help. I really appreciate it.

Grace S. Walton

Wellington Garden Club to Support "Penny Pines" Project in Florida



Donate your pennies and help the reforestation of Florida's most damaged National and State Forests. For just \$68, the Wellington Garden Club can help to purchase and plant trees in Osceola National and John Bethea State Forest which have had over 11,000 acres destroyed by the Okefenokee fires in 2010 and 2011.

The Penny Pines Program is a partnership between the National Garden Clubs (NGC) and the USDA Forest Service. Our donations will be used by the USDA Forest Service to replant burned or otherwise damaged trees in conjunction with federal funds.

You may wonder where the \$68 comes from. It was the cost of planting 10 acres when the Penny Pines program was first started in California in 1941 as a statewide conservation program, and has been retained as a minimum donation through the years. It now covers the cost to plant approximately 350 seedlings, which translates to about one acre.

Look for the "Penny Pines" contribution can at each garden club meeting, and drop in your pennies (other coins or bills also welcome).

Have You Seen This?

Take Action to Spotlight the Urgency for Strong Action to Protect Our Waterways



The water quality in our rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands, and springs is becoming increasingly polluted. Evidence of this is the ugly green slime on the waters of our state. Pollution from fertilizer, sewage and animal manure feeds the ugly green slime. No matter where you live in Florida, chances are that you are not far from a toxic algae outbreak during the summer. Where there is an algae outbreak there is a source of pollution.

Help us show our decision-makers how pollution impacts you by taking a photo of an algae outbreak in your area.

This is going to be a statewide project that is being developed with FFGC President Jan Sillik and Webmaster, Libby Curnow. If you see an algae bloom, take a picture, and send it to Libby (eacurnow@kernow.com) and to Pat Carver (carverge@aol.com) as a jpg. Please attach the photos to an email that documents the name of the photographer submitting the picture, the date the picture was taken, the name and the location of the body of water featured, and the district in which it is located. (We are District X). Libby is going to feature these pictures on our FFGC website by district.

WHY TAKE PICTURES??

We need this evidence of pollution to show our decision makers that our water quality is threatened.

- #1. The laws to protect our water and wetlands were weakened or slashed by the 2011 Legislature.
- #2. The Florida DEP is trying to weaken the new numeric criteria for water quality set by the EPA.
- #3. The US House of Representatives just passed a bill that would gut the Clean Water Act and the new limits along with it. The bill also limits the roll that EPA plays in enforcing stricter standards of the Clean Water Act than the state chooses to set.

Thank you for your very important ACTION!!!

National Garden Club Schools



The National Garden Clubs, Inc. (NGC) has an approved curriculum for three schools offered across the country. Each of these schools consists of a series of four ten hour courses, typically held about three months apart, scheduled for 2-3 days each. Instructors and schedules for each course are registered and approved by NGC and FFGC at least three months in advance. Courses need not be taken sequentially and non-members are welcome to attend. Upon successful completion (minimum test score of 70%) of two courses, a *garden club member* is eligible to join FFGC's Consultant's Council and is recognized as a Consultant after all four courses are successfully completed. To maintain these credentials, a member must take a Refresher once each five years and file the appropriate paperwork with NGC.

Environmental Studies School covers ecology, environmental science, urban forestry, backyard habitats, pollution, ethics, wetlands, endangered species, plants, animals, sustainability, youth programs, earth stewardship and outreach.

Gardening Study School covers gardening, horticulture, basic botany, soils, propagation, annuals, perennials, trees, shrubs, fruits, vegetables, lawns, pests/diseases, plant classification, composting and pruning.

Landscape Design Study School covers the history of Landscape Design, site design, color, accessories, maintenance, graphic interpretation, urban design, redesigns, regional expression, conservation areas and evaluations.

NGC Flower Show School - The National Garden Clubs, Inc. approves and registers Flower Show Schools for garden club members to become an internationally recognized, accredited Flower Show Judge. The school is comprised of four courses that are 2-3 days each. Courses cover material such as design types, design elements, horticulture presentation, flower show procedure, how to apply the scale of points, awards and individual and overall show judging. Each Course has an exam that must be completed with a minimum score of 70%. Courses need not be taken sequentially. However, all four courses and additional requirements must be completed within a four year time period.

FFGC Short Courses - FFGC sponsors three short courses around the state. These two or three day events feature knowledgeable, informative speakers and instructors with demonstrations on horticulture, design, and timely topics.

The 56th ***Tropical Short Course*** will be held in South Florida on January 31 & February 1, 2012 at Mounts Botanical Garden in West Palm Beach. Look for more information in this newsletter.

Environmental Study School to be Held in District X



Course IV, The Living Earth – *Water & Related Issues*, will be held November 29 - 30, 2011 in Stuart, FL. Registration Fee \$65.00 + (\$8 if taking test); Deadline November 11, 2011. It is anticipated that the club will have a few scholarships available for members to aid with tuition. If interested contact Susan Hillson at 561-333-0740.

Information and the registration form are available on the District X website at <http://www.districtx.org/upcomingevents.html> or contact Li Roberts, Chairman at 772-528-1088, CLRoberts@bellsouth.net or Eileen Breen, Registrar at 772-692-0288.

Tuesday, November 29

Ocean Resource Preservation - Dr. Grant Gilmore, Estuarine, Coastal & Ocean Science, Inc. (ECOS)

Ecology - Boyd E. Gunsalus, South Florida Water Management District

Wetlands - Ellie Van Os, Director of Education & Exhibits, Florida Oceanographic Society

Sustainability Amy Thoma, Sustainable Indian River

Youth Programs in Environmental Education John Wakeman, Martin County Environmental Studies Center

Wednesday, November 30

Nature Discovery Field Trip – Halpatiokee Park

Aquatic Plants - Ken Gioeli, Extension Agent, St. Lucie County

Aquatic Animals - Amanda Thompson, Education Coordinator/Naturalist, Oxbow Eco-Center

Effective Citizenship - Pat Carver, FFGC Water & Wetlands Chairman

Recycle Your Bottle Caps



Don't you just hate it that you can recycle your bottles, but not the caps? Before putting bottles in your recycle bin you are supposed to remove the cap since most recycling plants cannot recycle them.

Save the caps and bring them to a garden club meeting. Members Mary Ann Hesser and Bonnie Wenham will pick them up and take them to a local CVS where the money raised from recycling the caps is being used to help pay for patient dialysis.

The program accepts caps that are rigid polypropylene plastic - #5. Not sure what that is? It includes hard plastic caps that twist on a threaded neck such as caps on shampoo, water, soda, and milk. As well as flip-top caps on tubes and food product bottles like ketchup and mayonnaise, laundry detergents and some jar lids such as peanut butter.

Garden Club Handbook Corrections

Name:

Email:

Fred Gerkin
Sandy Sklar

fgerkin@comcast.net
sandraskl@aol.com

Growing Epiphytic Orchids Out-of-doors in South Florida

By Russ Curtis, Horticulture Chair

Pots, Baskets, and Media



When we grow an epiphytic orchid on anything other than a tree, we compromise the plant for our own convenience. The best way to give the plants a least a fighting chance is to put them on driftwood, wood baskets, or pots with porous, non-biodegradable media. Most epiphytic orchids do well on driftwood if they are watered at least every other day. The problems of growing on driftwood are 1) they are difficult to bring inside to enjoy while in bloom and 2) when the plant becomes too large or the driftwood deteriorates, then what? Most orchids also do well on wood baskets (cedar, teak) or plastic baskets with frequent watering. The advantage of baskets over driftwood is that when the plant becomes large or the basket falls apart, it can simply be plopped into a new, larger basket.

My experience has been that wood baskets deteriorate with time and become toxic to the plant as they do so. However, plastic baskets will last for many years and never harm the plant. Plants that are moved directly from pots to driftwood or baskets may need a little sphagnum moss around the roots until they become accustomed to growing in air. Most Vandas do best in plastic baskets. A third option for growing orchids out-of-doors is pots (clay or plastic) with a medium such as lava rock, Aliflor, or charcoal which will not deteriorate in our warm, humid climate. The orchid roots will be able to grown on the medium and on the inside of the pot. Orchid pots (with vertical slits near the bottom) are the best so that there is plenty of air circulation around the roots and water never accumulates in the pot. Obviously, plants grown in pots are the easiest to bring indoors when in bloom.

Another option is to make your own orchid pots by drilling or melting air holes in inexpensive plastic pots. I like the ones that have the color and shape of clay pots. The advantage of plastic is it doesn't retain minerals and algae like clay. (A highly mineralized pot becomes toxic to the plant.) The disadvantage is that it is so light that tall orchids become top-heavy and fall over. A layer of river rock in the bottom of the pot helps avoid this problem.

Is Your Orchid Sick?



Bring it to a garden club meeting, and Russ Curtis, our Horticulture Chair, and the *Orchid Doctor* for the American Orchid Society Botanical Garden, will help diagnose the problem, and suggest a cure, so you can nurse it back to health. Please bring infected orchids in plastic bags to prevent contaminating other plants.

Wellington Garden Club Meetings

Our garden club meetings are held at the Wellington Community Center, 12165 Forest Hill Blvd.

10:30 am Business Meeting
11:30 am Light Lunch
12:15 pm Program

Guests are always welcome. If you plan to bring a guest please call Jayne Kiesewetter 561-791-0273 or Doreen Baxter 561-793-6013, Membership Chairs, by the Friday before the meeting so we will plan enough food.

Newsletter

The *Allamanda News* is published five times a year. Please send your news, photos, tips, and advertising to Fred Gerkin at fgerkin@comcast.net. The deadline for the Jan/Feb newsletter is Dec 15, 2011.

Newsletter Editor Fred Gerkin
Mailing Coordinator Margaret Kruger

Wellington Garden Club Officers

President	Susan Hillson
1 st VP	Twig Morris
2 nd VP	Joan Kaplan
Treasurer	Danese Sloan-Kendall
Ass't. Treasurer	Suzanne Rares
Corresponding Sec'y	Judy Schweitzer
Recording Secretary	Loretta Granito
Parliamentarian	Dotti Hovan

Wellington Garden Club

c/o Margaret Kruger
13779 Ishnala Cr.
Wellington, FL 33414-7804

