

# SEEDS FOR THOUGHT

Official Newsletter  
of  
Marathon Garden Club



MARATHON GARDEN CLUB

Come grow with us...

February, 2012

Volume 15 No. 2



## President's Letter - February, 2012

Dear Members,

Absolutely Fabulous! That's the only way to describe our garden club's January Jamboree! The rain that was predicted never arrived and the day was lovely. We had many of the usual plant vendors and local not for profit groups and we also had many new vendors. Everyone loved the new vendor Exotic cactus and of course, their three beautiful children who helped in the booth and sold limes for spending money.

A huge thank you to everyone and in particular Carole Gieck, chairman of the flea market; Margaret Wendel, chairman of the bake sale; Loyal Eldridge, chairman of the parking crew; Betsy Philipps, chairman of public relations. There were so many volunteers for the entire week that it is hard to name everyone, so **THANK YOU ALL.**

Financial results appear to be about the same as 2011 (approximately \$4300).

Our lobby and ladies restroom re-do is finally complete and we want to thank friends and family of Sue Kulig and Marge Kreh. Some of their donation money was used for the new wicker furniture.

February is a time to relax (a little) as we get ready for our largest fund raiser the House, Garden Tour and Flower Show. Please sign up to help or to do a design.

There are workshops and meetings and speakers coming to the Marathon Garden Club in February and March, so check the "Seeds" and get all the details inside.

Lastly, although our Game Day (Mondays) was busy in early December, we have had no response in January, so we will no longer open the club on Monday afternoons for "Game Day". Next year we may try something a little different!

*Rosemary Thomas*

## First Vice President's Report

*by Mary Ann Worthington*

The January monthly meeting was a packed house featuring Robert Fuchs of r.f. orchids in Homestead who gave us a wonderful presentation on orchid culture. The room looked beautiful with his gorgeous varieties of orchids for sale and the stunning orchid baskets which earned \$248 for our scholarship fund.

This month we welcome Carolyne Coppolo of Redland Organic Herb Farm who will speak at our meeting on Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. The topic will be the "Ten Commandments For Growing Herbs and Veggies in the Florida Keys". Carolyne has specialized in organic farming for 15 years and will answer all of your questions regarding location, watering, fertilizing, use of containers vs. in ground, etc.

Carolyne will be accompanied by her friend Cucky Ballentine who makes exotic Caribbean fruit jams and has appeared on a speaking forum with Martha Stewart! Herbs and jams will be available for sale at the meeting.

## 2nd Vice President's Report

by Cindy Wooten

We are offering a **Horticulture** Workshop this month in connection with the Standard Flower Show, which will be held March 3, 2012. This workshop will be conducted by Nancy Miller and is requested of all who plan to participate in this division. Entries will be limited to container-grown species, there will be no cut flowers or branches. The program will take place Wednesday, **February 15**, 2012 at 10:00 am. There is no charge for the workshop, which will be held at the Garden Club. A sign-up sheet is located in the lobby. Should you have any questions, please contact Nancy (305-289-9441).

In March, we will be conducting a **Mosaic Workshop** under the direction of Steve and Fran Showerman. This program will be held **March 13 and March 21, 2012 from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm** in our beautiful gardens. We will work on a small/medium size terra cotta container, which will be provided. I am including a list of tools needed for this project. The cost for this workshop is \$20.00 and participation will be limited, so **register early** at the Gift Shop.

### Mosaic Workshop Tool List:

Small hammer	Scorer with blades
Nippers (spring loaded)	Nut or Dental pick
Table knife	Tweezers
Exacta knife	Level
Tile cutter	

Please bring your own tile and/or decorative items you would like to use in your design, and a piece of cement board or plywood to cut on. Mastic and grout will be provided by the club. Please mark your tools with your initials. The cost of the tools can add up, depending on what you have on hand. Therefore we invite participants to share tools, if possible. Should you have any questions, please contact Cindy Wooten (305-289-7700).

## Membership Report

by Phyllis Schewe

We are off to a great start with membership renewals. At our January meeting 33 members renewed and that is great! Now we need the rest of you to get your checks or cash to me by our February meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Again I will be at the club at 12:30 to take your renewals. Membership remains at \$40.00. Thanks in advance.

I am happy to announce we have 3 very active ladies who joined at the January meeting as well as one who joined at the Jamboree. Please welcome: Sandy Neiditz, Key Colony Beach; Sally Hackney, Marathon & Indianapolis, IN; Carolyn Belcaster, Marathon & Laporte, IN; and Virginia (Ginny) Davison, PA & Marathon.

Please welcome new & returning members:



Carolyn Belcaster



Ginny Davison



Carol Gross



Sally Hackney



Sandra Neiditz



Anne O'Bannon



Sandy White

photo not available

Trish McGrath

## NURSERY SALE

From **9 to 10:30 every Thursday Morning**

The Marathon Garden Club Nursery has small plants, large plants, drought resistant plants and plants not found at Home Depot. Bromeliads are \$5 dollars. These plants can live in sun or shade, have colored leaves and flowers and add sculptural structure to the garden. Stop by and find a plant! Or phone Linnea (305-743-2008) to ask for a specific plant.



## *Minutes of Membership Meeting*

January 20, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 1:13 p.m. by President Rosemary Thomas at the Club.

The Invocation was given by Chaplain Nancy Miller. It was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Rosemary welcomed back our winter resident members and the many visitors. She thanked Hostess Dale Chorebanian and her helpers Loi Baltes, Ann McLaughlin and Mary Ann Worthington; Greeters Dee Feeney and Toni Smith; Pat Dean for her floral design and all the Gift Shop volunteers.

A motion was made by Betsy Philipps, seconded by Scarlett Duffy to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

Treasurer Laurie Reeves noted that the printed budget information was available upon request. Members need to use Expense Report forms in order to be reimbursed for purchases for the Club. She also reminded members to save labels for the Federation Education Program.

Rosemary told the members that donations for Sue Kulig's memorial and for Marge Kreh's memorial have been used to purchase new furniture for the lobby.

Third Vice President Cindy Wooten reminded members that a horticulture workshop in preparation for exhibiting in the Flower Show will be held on February 15<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. Attendance is required for all intending to exhibit horticulture.

There will be a mosaic workshop presented by the Showermans on March 13th and 21st. The cost will be \$20 and limited to 16 participants. One must pay when signing up to ensure a place.

Donations for the flea market at the January Jamboree are requested to be dropped off Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week and baked goods on Friday. Diane van Beuren requested special items for the Boutique. Rosemary requested that donations should be clean and in very good shape. Betsy Philipps asked members to take fliers and put them up around town. This is especially important since we have no TDC money for advertising this event.

Pat Dean talked about the House Tour on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. There are 3 houses on Gulfstream Boulevard and a large, beautiful garden on the former Switlik estate on Grassy Key. There will be a Flower Show going on at the Club simultaneously and refreshments will be served here also. Ticket Co-Chairmen are Claudia Hamrick and Alene Teynor. Tickets will be sold at the Club, at the venues and at the Chamber of Commerce, Key Bana, Royal

Furniture, Wicker Web and Tropical Island Outlet. The drawing for the raffle of the 4 watercolor paintings donated by local artists will be held at the end of the day.

Nancy Miller spoke about the Flower Show. Nancy, Mary Ann Worthington and Pat Greeley are coordinating it. They ask each member to submit one [horticulture] entry to be judged. Judging will be on Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. It will be followed by a wine and cheese party from 5-6:30 p.m. This will be free to members and \$10 for non-members.

Rosemary mentioned that we have two choices for tee shirts to be worn during the House Tour: a green golf shirt or a pink tee shirt. If members wish to order one, they are \$16 each. They may be ordered at the Gift Shop. If you have any questions, call Roberta Hearn.

Scarlett Duffy addressed the white fly outbreak. Judy Shaw gave out a flier on the topic. Kim Gabel, Monroe County Environmental Horticulture Agent, will hold a workshop on the problem on February 9<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. at the Government Center in Marathon.

Mary Ann Worthington introduced our speaker—Robert Fuchs of R.F. Orchids in Redlands, Florida. He has traveled world-wide studying orchids, bringing specimens back to U.S., growing a wide variety of orchids and winning many awards. He told us of the various kinds of orchids, how they are genetically modified, how to take care of and enjoy them. He answered many questions from the audience. He also brought many orchids with him to sell to members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Frances Spinelli, Recording Secretary

### *Horticulture Workshop - Feb. 15th*

We need 30 plants, just one per member to display at the March 3 Flower Show. The main categories are begonias, bromeliads, any kind of succulent, cactus, orchids, herbs and aroids (such as philodendron & peace lily). Maximum container size is 12" in diameter. Orchids are the only plants that can be displayed in a hanging container.

Bring one or two plants you are thinking of entering in the show. We will provide display and grooming tips, help with plant identification and completion of entry cards. If you have information about your plant(s) you may learn about some new ones. **See you at 10 am.** Nancy



## *MGC Scholarship News*

Michelle McKenna was chosen to receive the Marathon Garden Club Scholarship for a student interested in horticulture, botany or conservation of the environment. She graduated from Marathon High School this past June. She is now attending Florida Gulf Coast University located in Fort Myers and is enrolled in Environment Studies. After completing her first full semester Ms. McKenna has achieved a Grade Point Average of 3.67. The maximum average is 4.0. She enjoys college and is not “home sick”. This young woman deserves recognition as she moves forward to reach her career goals.



Ms. McKenna received a check for \$1,000 from Past President Linnea Cunningham

The Marathon Garden Club holds raffles sponsoring a yearly scholarship award which totals \$1,000. All funds raised at the January Jamboree raffle were placed in the scholarship fund.

## *White Heron Award*



Sea Grape Apartments, located at 7151 Overseas Highway in Marathon, was recently awarded the White Heron Award by the Marathon Garden Club! This traveling award is presented throughout the year to area businesses that participate in beautification projects on properties located along the US1 corridor between Conch Key and the Seven Mile Bridge. Sea Grape Apartments opened in 2009, has 84 units, 100% occupancy & a waiting list! Their landscaping includes a variety of palms, buttonwoods, crotons & ornamental bird of paradise. Judy Shaw, Master Gardener & member of the Marathon Garden Club (left) presented the award to Aleida Roldan, Business Manager and Rudy Otero who maintains the landscaping & grounds. Sea Grape Apartments is owned by the Carlisle development group & managed by the Pinnacle company.

## *Recipe for Pineapple Cake*

President Rosemary's Pineapple Cake was a Huge hit at the January Membership Meeting. We're delighted she's shared the recipe!

### Ingredients:

2 eggs  
20 oz. can crushed pineapple, undrained  
2 cups flour  
1 cup sugar  
1 cup brown sugar  
2 tsp. baking soda  
Coconut

### Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350° F.  
In large bowl, beat eggs until fluffy; add remaining ingredients, except coconut. Mix by hand.  
Pour batter into ungreased 9x13 in. dish.  
Bake 30-35 minutes for glass dish, cool.  
Frost with cream cheese frosting and sprinkle coconut on the top.

## A few January Jamboree Vendors

January 28, 2012



Photos by Betsy Philipps

### MGC Gift Shop

**Marathon Garden Club Gift Shop is now open from 10 am to 2 pm Mon. - Fri.**

We are in the process of ordering **new** Garden Club shirts for members.

You have 2 different shirts with our logo embroidered on them to choose.

The first, shown in blue is a 3.2 oz preshrunk 100% cotton scoop neck. **\*This T-shirt will be available with our logo in Hot Pink\***

The second is our **regular sport shirt in Court Green** which is shown here in yellow.

Please let me know if you are interested in ordering a shirt. The cost is \$16 each and **MUST** be paid for in advance. An order form will be at the club for you to order your shirt. I will be at the membership meeting with a sample of the new shirt and taking orders.

Roberta Hearn  
289-1345



[All shirts are available in sizes: XS -2XL]  
{Checks can be made payable to Marathon Garden Club}



MARATHON GARDEN CLUB

5270 Overseas Hwy (MM50 Bayside) (305) 743-4971

### House & Garden Tour and Flower Show *...There's no place like home...in the Keys!*

A combination driving & walking tour featuring a spectacular collection of homes & gardens...

...Sunset Point...Sting Ray Sound...

...Paradise South...Cat. 5 House!

Saturday March 3, 2012

10am-4pm

\$25.00 per person

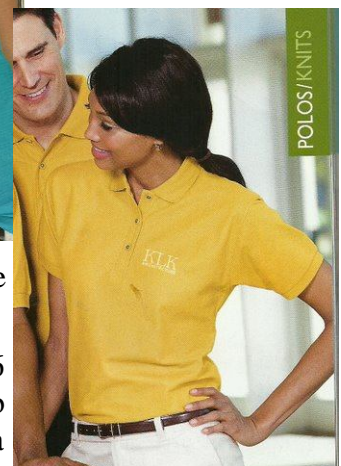
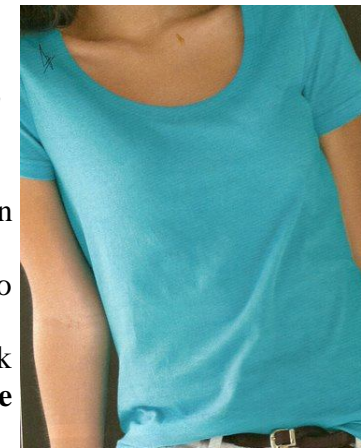
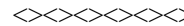
(includes light refreshments)

Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Garden Club, Chamber of Commerce, Key Bana, Royal Furniture, Tropical Island Outlet or Wicker Web!

Raffle tickets available at the Garden Club for watercolor prints by local artists Judith Conner, M. Ann Lynch, Dale Malone & Julie Joyce!

Wine & Cheese Preview Party of Flower Show on Friday, March 2 from 5pm-6:30pm  
Tickets available at Garden Club for \$10.00 per person.

Tickets available in Gift Shop  
or from Members in Advance





## Mark your Calendar

**Wed., Feb. 8 9:00 am MGC Board Meeting**

**Wed., Feb. 15 10:00 am Horticulture Workshop** (see page 3)

**Fri., Feb. 17 1:00 pm Monthly Meeting**

Carolyne Coppola of Redland Organic Herb Farm  
"Ten Commandments For Growing Herbs and Veggies in the Florida Keys" (see 1st VP; p. 1)

Sat., Feb. 18 9-noon University of Florida Plant Clinic with Monroe County Extension in gardens

Fri., Feb. 24 Upper Keys Garden Walk.  
WWW.Upperkeysgardenclub.com or Dee Dee Barreto: 305-332-0535; dbarreto@bellsouth.net

### **MGC Flower Show Calendar:**

Tues., Feb. 28: Set up for Flower Show

Wed., Feb. 29: 10 - 2 Bring Horticulture

Thurs., Mar. 1: 10 - 2 Set up Designs

Fri., Mar. 2: 1:00 -3:00 Flower Show Judging

**Fri., March 2: Wine & Cheese Preview Party.**  
5 - 6:30 pm to Celebrate Opening of Flower Show & Recognize House/Garden Tour and Flower Show Participants.

Members can register and pick up complimentary tickets for the Preview Party at the February meeting or at the Gift Shop.

Preview Party Tickets for non-members can be purchased at Gift Shop for \$10 per person.

**Sat., March 3: House & Garden Tour & A Standard Flower Show 10 am - 4 pm. See flyer on page 5 and art raffle items on this page.**

Mar. 9 Miami Beach Flower Show at Miami Beach Botanical Gardens, 2000 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach 10 am - 3pm. Free

**Tues., Mar. 13 MGC Mosaic Workshop, part 1** with Steve and Fran Showerman 9:30 am - 1 pm (see 2nd VP; p. 2)

**Fri., Mar. 16 MGC Monthly Meeting 1 pm**

Mar. 17 & 18 Metropolitan Miami Flower Show at Miami Elks Lodge, 10301 SW 72nd Street (Sunset Drive), Miami

**Wed., Mar. 21 Mosaic Workshop, part 2**

## **Marathon Garden Club** **2012 House & Garden Tour Raffle**

*Tickets \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00*



"Old Pigeon Key" by M. Ann Lynch  
16" x 20" watercolor print



"Fragrant Frangipani" by Dale Malone  
16" x 20" watercolor print

ALL RAFFLE PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS A  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR LOCAL  
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



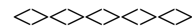
"Seductive Orchids" by Julie Joyce  
16" x 20" watercolor print



"Buoy Hangup" by Judith Conner  
16" x 20" watercolor print

**SUPPORT OUR LOCAL STUDENTS!**

You do not need to be present to win.  
Drawing will be on March 3.



**Join the Garden Groomers**  
**on Thursday mornings.**  
**We usually work on the grounds from**  
**around 8:30 until 10:30 or so.**

### **MARATHON GARDEN CLUB**

Located at 5270 Overseas Hwy.

Near Mile Marker 50 in Marathon, Florida

Phone 305-743-4971

WWW.MarathonGardenClub.org

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*Member of*

National Garden Clubs, Inc. & Deep South Region

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. & District XII

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