

SEEDS FOR THOUGHT

Official Newsletter
of
Marathon Garden Club



MARATHON GARDEN CLUB

Come grow with us...

December 2014 Volume 17 No. 8

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Letter from the President

Merry Christmas to all of you and your families!

It is a busy time of year for all of us and that is no exception at our garden club. We just finished a fabulous Holiday Bazaar that brought in \$2400 before expenses. A great job by everyone: Mary Ann Worthington, Sande Neiditz, Dale Chorebanian, Loi Baltes, Susie Ley, Alene Teynor, Linnea Cunningham, Janie Byland, Carl Miller, and their group of volunteers. Thank you to everyone who helped including our very own Santa, Germaine Main!

Thanks also to those of you who brought in things to sell and made all the wonderful special baked goodies.

Our next event is the **Christmas Dinner (12/13/14)** which this year will be held at the Club and catered by the Culinary

Institute at Marathon High School and as a special treat we will have one of the music students perform during our dinner!

So far attendance is very light, so please consider joining us for appetizers, dinner, dessert, wine/beer, and favors. It's a bargain at \$40 and will really put you in the Christmas mood. **See the flyer on page 6 in this newsletter.**

The garden groomers still meet each Thursday at 8:30am and would really like more help.

January brings our next meeting (1/16/2015) and our January Jamboree (1/24/2015), hope to see you all there.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!

Rosemary Thomas

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sat., December 13, 2014 MGC Christmas Dinner at Garden Club,

Sat., Dec. 20 UF/IFAS Plant Clinic 9-12 at Home Depot, 4555 O/S Hwy, Marathon

Fri. Jan. 16, 2015 Orchid Mania 1 pm

Sat., January 24, 2015 January Jamboree 8:30 - 3

March 6, 2015 Wine & Cheese Party for House Tour volunteers, art donors & property owners

March 7, 2015 House & Garden Tour 10-4

Apr. 18-19 **Rhythm of the Tropics, FFGC** 89th Annual Convention hosted by members of District XI and District XII (*that's us*) at the Embassy Suites, Boca Raton

1st Vice President's Report

The club looked beautiful and festive for the "Holiday Treasures Sale and Razzle Dazzle Boutique" on Sat., November 29th. The event was not only fun but a great success thanks to the efforts of a creative and hard-working team of MGC members. Excluding Gift Shop sales, we brought in over \$2400 for the day.

My sincere thanks go to my committee members – Sande Neiditz, co-chair and master of the glue gun, Susie Ley for her creative marketing, Loi Baltes for a stunning and yummy gourmet table, Dale Chorebanian for her diligence obtaining donations for the "Money Tree" and Linnea Cunningham who continues to amaze all of us with what comes out of the nursery. And, how could I forget Santa (aka Germaine Main), who helped drum up business curbside and delight our guests.

A special thanks as well, to the many members who made and painted signs, distributed flyers, donated time, talents, goodies and raffle items to the cause. The success of our events is dependent on your participation and you never disappoint. Please keep us in mind when you are packing up your decorations at the end of the season. We will gladly accept the items you are willing to donate for the sale next year.



There will NOT be a general meeting in December! Our next monthly meeting will be on Friday, January 16th at 1:00 p.m. where we will welcome Melana and Jim Davison, award-winning South Dade orchid growers who will present a hands on program on mounting orchids. There will also be orchids for sale.

Mary Ann Worthington

Nursery News

Sales in the nursery on Razzle-Dazzle Saturday were brisk. We sold Bromeliads, Croton, trees, succulents, air plants and even sold an Orchid to the Orchid Vendor!

Total plant sales reached \$484. A big thank you to Janie Byland and Karen Wunderlich who worked the entire day and also work every Thursday morning propagating new plants. Afrie King, Laurie Reeves, Sarah Lytle, Sandy Bourgois and Barbara Driscoll helped to direct buyers to the nursery and collect money. Their help was greatly appreciated. Thank you very much.

Beautiful potted plants are still available in the nursery. (See samples below.) They are attractive Holiday gifts for your friends and family. Please stop by on Thursday morning or phone me for an appointment at 305-743-2008. All club members will receive a discount!



Continued on page 4

Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 21, 2014

Opening

The regular meeting of the Marathon Garden Club was called to order at 1:05 P.M. at the Garden Club by the President, Rosemary Thomas. Rosemary welcomed everyone. The Invocation was given by Janie Byland, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Phyllis Schewe recognized the guests and stated 3 of the guests had become new members. Phyllis reminded the membership that renewal letters will be sent in December for renewal for 2015.

President's Report

Rosemary thanked Loi Baltes and Dale Chorebanian for the refreshments. She thanked Elynn Eiss as the Greeter. Rosemary thanked all those who had kept the club running over the summer. She especially recognized Virginia and Bob Leier for all of their efforts with club rentals over the summer. There was a huge round of applause in appreciation of the beautiful redecorated club and Dale Chorebanian who orchestrated the tasks of having the room painted with chair rail, carpeting and dance floor. The carpeting is carpet tiles that can be replaced. There are three additional boxes of tiles and the carpet was purchased at Handley Carpeting. Rosemary cautioned the members not to put drink cups on the floor with the hope of avoiding spills.

Rosemary provided information about the Club Christmas Dinner and Christmas Party. The event will be December 13th with cocktails at 6 P.M. and dinner at 7 P.M. The dinner will be catered by the Chef from the high school with entertainment by one of the students. All members and friends were invited at a cost of \$40.00 per person. Reservations have to be to Rosemary by December 8th.

Rosemary asked that the October 7th minutes be approved as they appeared in the Seeds. Scarlet made a motion with a second by Arlene Keeney and membership approval.

Treasurer's Report.

Carl Miller highlighted some aspects of the budget. Rental income for the year was budgeted as \$9000. and thus far \$3713.00 income. Nursery income for the year was budgeted as \$2000. and thus far \$1240.00. Capital improvements for the year budgeted as \$14,000 and thus far \$6000.00 spent. The total remodel expense will be approx. \$11, 600.00. With many of the Club's income in the coming months Carl reported the standing on the budget looked good.

Rosemary reported that **the Holiday Center-piece Workshop had been canceled** as Pat Dean, the Second Vice President moved and Pat Greeley was in the process of selling her home. Rosemary stated that the board had recommended and unanimously voted that Loi Baltes fill the vacant Second Vice President position, which Loi has accepted. Loi will work on a day trip later in the year with information to follow.

Gift Shop

Alene Teynor demonstrated a beautiful soy candle for sale in the gift shop, Arlene Keeney added a demonstration of a tweezers with a light. Alene needs volunteers to work in the gift shop. An order for Garden Club tee shirts will be placed later in the year for those wanting them. There was one shirt donated by Arlene Conklin available for a member.

Holiday Treasures Sale and Razzle Dazzle

Mary Ann Worthington and Sande Neiditz gave a report on the upcoming Holiday Treasures and Razzle Dazzle Boutique November 29th from 9 A.M. - 2 P.M. There are seven portions to the Boutique and Sale. They are 1. Gently used Christmas decorations. 2. Gently used holiday clothing for the Boutique. 3. Plants from the nursery 4. Holiday goodies as jams and jellies. 5. a few venders 6. Chinese raffle that will consist of a money tree with gifts to benefit the scholarship fund 7. Small table top decorated Christmas trees for sale. Items are to be brought to the garden club Monday and Tuesday from 9-2 and food items Friday. There are flyers to pass around in the community.

Sande also announced the Chamber of Commerce was sponsoring the Florida Keys Holiday Helpers toy collection December 10th from 5:30 to 7:30 at the Holiday Inn. People are asked to bring an unwrapped toy.

January Jamboree

Rosemary reported on the January Jamboree the 24th, 8:30 - 3P.M. She encouraged membership to collect their rummage items for the sale. Janet Oechsle has already organized many of the venders.

House and Garden Tour

Sande Neiditz made a plea for membership help in obtaining houses or gardens for the tour. Thus far Alene has volunteered her home on Duck Key and Cindy Wooten volunteered the downstairs and garden of her house. Susan Bankard volunteered her home. Three more homes or gardens must be obtained by the end of December so advertising can begin or there can be no tour, which is a major fund raiser for the club.

As there was no further business there was a motion by Phyllis Schewe, seconded by Susie Ley to adjourn.

(continued on page 4)

(Minutes continued from page 3)

Mary Ann Worthington next introduced the speaker Patrick Garvey, owner, Grimal Grove and Founder of Growing Hope Initiative on Big Pine Key who gave a very interesting program on Grimal Grove Following the program, the raffle was held

Respectfully submitted,
Claudia Hamrick, Recording Secretary

Horticulture Tip

Jade plants are a low-maintenance succulent and are said to bring prosperity. They make a lovely New Year's Eve hostess gift.

Pat Greeley

Gift Shop

The Gift Shop is currently open Wed. thru Sat. from 10 - 2. Gail and Alene still need a few volunteers for Saturdays and some more so they can open on Monday & Tuesday. Stop by the shop to see all the new merchandise or give them a call (305-743-2983) if you would like to help.

(Nursery News continued from page 2)

As Community Liaison, my role has expanded to Chairman of the Community Image Advisory Board of the City of Marathon. This board reviews landscaping plans of building development and has been instrumental in US1 median strip planting. It is a position which is appointed by each Council Member and has a 2 year term. Judy Shaw, a Monroe County Master Gardener and club member, is also on the Community Image Advisory Board. We will work to improve the image of our town by encouraging more attractive green spaces and to keep MGC members informed of our progress.

Linnea Cunningham

Design Tip from Germaine Main

The December "Floral Design Newsletter" contained some holiday decorating tips and attractive designs. I thought some of our members would enjoy the designs.



Christmas by
Candlelight -
A Mass Design



A Miniature Design
created with pencil
shavings

MASTER GARDENER CLASS

Preview sessions schedule

***Interested in becoming
a Master Gardener?***

Attend one of the following preview sessions. Class of 2015 will be selected from those who attend preview sessions.

Upper Keys

Wednesday, January 14, 2015, 1:00-3:00pm
Murray E. Nelson Government / Cultural Ctr.
Monroe County Extension Office, 2nd floor
102050 Overseas Hwy., MM102, Key Largo

Middle Keys

Thursday, January 15, 2015, 1:00-3:00 pm
Media Rm, 1st fl, Marathon Government Ctr.
2798 Overseas Highway, Marathon

Lower Keys

Friday, January 16, 2015, 1:00-3:00 pm
Gato Building, 1100 Simonton St, Key West
First floor conference room

For more information contact:

Kim Gabel, Environmental Horticulture Agent
UF/IFAS/Monroe County Extension Services
1100 Simonton St., #2-260, Key West 33040
Phone 305-292-4501; E-mail kgabel@ufl.edu

Membership Report

What a great year we have had. In June, Marathon Garden Club registered 97 active members with District XII and Florida Federation of Garden Clubs. This summer and fall we have added a fantastic 9 new members. In October we introduced Kathy Hendrickson from KCB. We now have her photo.

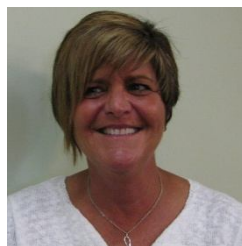


Then, Marilyn Fraelich from Grassy Key joined the club, but we failed to get her in the last newsletter, because your editor couldn't open her photo. Here's Marilyn:



Our newest members from the November Meeting and Razzle Dazzle event are as follows.

Please welcome Marathon resident Wendy Goins who is here year around.



Sarah Lytle (left) and Sandy Bourgeois (below) winter in Marathon and spend summer in Richmond,



Massachusetts.

We failed to get a photo of Eileen Johnson who joins us from Marathon and Corning, NY. Also, welcome back to Dee Speicher from Duck Key.

When you see these ladies please welcome them. Some have already lent a hand at our event last Saturday and have worked the gardens.

It's that time of year again to remind you of membership renewals. Donna Barnes and I will be sending renewal letters the 1st

week of January. Please watch for your notice. Happy Holidays and a very Happy, Healthy New Year to all.

Donna Barnes and Phyllis Schewe

Photos from Holiday Treasures Sale courtesy Marilyn Fraelich



Loi Baltes, new 2nd VP & gourmet elf

One of Sande Neiditz' lovely table-top trees with a peek at some of her Boutique items on the stage.



MARATHON GARDEN CLUB

www.MarathonGardenClub.org

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 500826

Marathon, FL 33050-0826

Member of

National Garden Clubs, Inc. & Deep South Region
Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. & District XII

Newsletter Editor, Nancy Miller 305-289-9441 or

E-mail: Cnmil@msn.com



Marathon Garden Club Christmas Party

Saturday, December 13, 2014

Marathon Garden Club MM50

Cocktails: 6:00pm (wine, beer, soft drinks included)

\$40/per person

Buffet: Herb Crusted Snapper, Balsamic Glazed Chicken, Pasta Pomodoro,
vegetables, rice and dessert

Please make checks payable to **Marathon Garden Club**; mail the
portion below with your check to: Rosemary Thomas

204 Anglers Dr South
Marathon, FL 33050

Questions: call Rosemary at 289-9537

Reservations due by: 12/08/14

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____ Amt. Enclosed \$ _____