

SEEDS FOR THOUGHT

Official Newsletter
of
Marathon Garden Club



October, 2016

Volume 19 No. 7



The President's Letter

Dear Members,

I look forward to seeing many of you at our first meeting of the season, held on Oct. 21st. We have had a very hot and humid summer and I can't wait for fall. The garden groomers and nursery helpers have been working throughout the summer to maintain our grounds.

Checks were presented to our college students whose grades continued to qualify them for our scholarships. A generous offer has been made by a club member to match any scholarship donations made by the end of the year. Our first donation was just received and a big thank you to Mary Ann and Ken Gornitz for their generosity.

In addition Vern Bloch stopped by the club this summer and made a lovely donation of orchids, in the spring he will give us more valuable orchid information.

We have started planning for the HOLIDAY BAZAAR to be held Nov. 26th. Please read Mary Ann Worthington's update. We will need many hands as always to have a successful event.

The November meeting holds yet another new event—a membership **plant exchange**. More information about this event will be discussed at the October meeting.

Please plan to attend our MGC cocktail party which will feature a \$10.00 holiday grab bag, lots of appetizers, and loads of fun. Save the date-December 8th from 6-8.

New items will be flooding in to the gift shop, so stop by before the meeting. Lots going on, so get ready to pitch in. SEE YOU SOON!!!

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Club Theme

“Inspire Community Awareness”

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

(see p 3 for a snapshot of the Oct. Yearbook for details)

Tues., Oct. 11 FFGC District XII Meeting, Evelyn Greer Park, 8200 SW 124th Street, Pinecrest, FL

Wed., Oct. 12, 9 am MGC Board Meeting

Sat., Oct. 15, 9 - noon, UF/IFAS Plant Clinic at Home Depot garden center by MGC Master Gardeners.

Fri., Oct. 21, 1 pm Membership Meeting

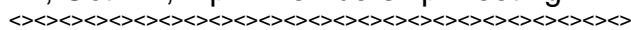


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The Club **HOLIDAY BAZAAR** is fast approaching and we need your help! On Monday, November 21st and Tuesday, November 22nd from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. we will be accepting gently used **Christmas decorations, ornaments and holiday attire** for our fund raiser to be held on Saturday, November 26, 2016 from 9 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. If you are not planning on returning to the Keys in time for the sale and have items you would like to donate, please contact Mary Ann Worthington (wewbuilder@aol.com) 410-310-8519.

If you have a special recipe for **Holiday Goodies**, those items will be greatly appreciated. We will be looking for things that make nice gifts and/or keep well such as: jams, jellies, spiced nuts, fruit cakes, truffles, pickles, relishes, dessert sauces, candies, etc. Bake sale items are also welcome this year. Those items can be delivered to the club on Friday, November 25th from 9 - 2. Please drop Jay Carvotta a note to let her know how you would like to help out. (eac290@yahoo.com)

Linnea Cunningham will be selling plants from the club nursery, so decorative pots and containers are also be appreciated.

In addition, we will be hosting orchid, craft and jewelry vendors with unique offerings from the Keys to help you start your holiday shopping. Please mark your calendar for November 26th. Your participation is key to the success of this event. Please join us, bring your guests and tell your neighbors! This should be a fun day and get you into the Holiday Spirit.

Mary Ann Worthington

Treasurer's Report

Thanks to Carl Miller all bills have been paid during the summer. Our Federal Tax Return has been filed, insurance contracts paid and still maintaining a healthy balance in the checking account. We are in good shape for our busy season.

Loyal Fldridge

Note re Holiday Bazaar

If you have any liquor/wine donations for a Basket of Cheer or "Grab Bag" items, new or never used (unwrapped) with a minimum value of \$5 - \$10, call Mary Ann Worthington to arrange for pick up. 410-310-8519.

OCTOBER 2016

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
Tuesday	11th	9:30 am	FFGC District XII Fall Meeting at Evelyn Greer Park 8200 SW 124th Street Pinecrest, FL

This meeting is hosted by District XII Garden Clubs

Wednesday	12th	9:00 am	MGC Board Meeting
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Saturday	15th	9:00 - noon	Plant Clinic by UF/IFAS Master Gardeners at Home Depot garden center
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<u>Friday</u>	<u>21st</u>	<u>1:00 pm</u>	<u>Membership Meeting</u> at the Garden Club 5270 Overseas Hwy.
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Phone: 305 743-4971

Meeting Program: "Zap Zika! Join the Fight"

*With Beth Ranson, Public Education
and Information Officer of the Florida Keys
Mosquito Control.*



Florida Keys Mosquito Control District is diligently working to keep Zika and all mosquito-borne diseases from making a home in the Florida Keys. Beth will provide an update on FKMCD efforts as well as techniques to avoid the virus and tips on safe gardening practices.

Greeters: Carol Clark & Linnea Cunningham

Head Hostess: Betsy Philipps

Floral Designer: Germaine Main

NOTE: The 2016-2017 Annual MGC Yearbook
will be available to members
at Board Meetings
and Membership Meetings

Horticulture Tip

I'M NOT A MARGARITA!!!
I'M AN ORCHID!!!
HOLD THE ICE!!!

Ice Cube Orchids are watered by letting ice cubes melt atop the soil to prevent overwatering. This is not a good idea. Moth Orchids are usually used and they are from tropical Southeast Asia, where ice doesn't exist. Ice would damage the tender foliage and roots. A Moth Orchid needs the humidity provided when its bark soil is drenched with room temperature water that drains quickly.

To get your orchid blooming, give it bright light and temperatures around 70 degrees. Twice a month, water the correct way and then feed with a liquid 20-20-20 fertilizer mixed to half strength.

Pat Greeley

"Happiness held is the Seed.
Happiness Shared is the Flower."
John Harrigan

OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

As President Neiditz mentioned, our Club Scholarship Fund has received a nice donation from a member. This is good news! Also good news is that over the past few years members have matched the Clubs contributions to the Fund over certain time periods. This has increased our ability to

support local youths pursuing advanced education.

A few years ago the Board of Directors voted to allocate the proceeds from the raffles at our monthly meetings to a scholarship fund to support Marathon High School graduates pursuing college degrees in fields related to Garden Club objectives. We started with one \$1,000 Award. By 2016 we are awarding a total of \$6,500 to four recipients.

Nancy & I had the honor of presenting the scholarship checks to our entering college senior and junior in June. It was an exhilarating experience to hear these young men explain their ambitions, including going for a PhD! Your Garden Club is doing great things in this community.

Where can we go from here? I urge all members to attend monthly meeting and contribute to the raffles. These proceeds, whether they be 50/50's, auctioning plants, other goodies or selling specialty items, benefit our Marathon Scholars. Also, the Board solicits your tax deductible contributions to the Scholarship Fund whenever you can contribute. Simply indicate on your check or letter that the contribution is to the Scholarship Fund.

Should you see it in your plans to provide a matching gift to the Fund, please advise Treasurer, Loyal Eldridge, Loyaleldri@gmail.com or President, Sande Neiditz, Sneideritz@gmial.com .

... by Carl Miller

MGC '15 - '17 Board of Directors

Sande Neiditz, President
Sandy Bourgeois, 1st Vice President
Anne Reams, 2nd Vice President
Dale Chorebanian, 3rd Vice President
Sarah Lytle, Recording Secretary
Cindy Wooten, Corresponding Secretary
Loyal Eldridge/Carl Miller, Treasurers
Directors: Loi Baltes, Scarlett Duffy,
Janet Oechsle, Sally Wood
Past President, Rosemary Thomas

MARATHON GARDEN CLUB

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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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