

# SEEDS FOR THOUGHT



Official Newsletter  
of  
Marathon Garden Club  
Marathon, Florida

MARATHON GARDEN CLUB

Come grow with us...

December, 2017

Volume 20 No. 8



## The President's Letter

Dear Members,

Thanks everyone for making the Holiday Bazaar a success. It was a beautiful day, the vendors were happy with their

results and we were able to supply lots of Christmas items that people had lost due to Irma. We look forward to a kinder, gentler winter season for planting and rebuilding.

We will be canceling the floral design class that was to be held on January 18th. Nancy Miller will hold the scheduled workshop in February if there's enough interest. Let her know.

The Club was awarded a \$4000 grant from the National Garden Clubs for helping to regrow our gardens. We have dirt delivered and will soon have some new trees, bushes and plants. It will be a work in progress.

There is no membership meeting this month but we hope everyone has a Wonderful Christmas and New Year. We'll see those who have made their reservations at the Christmas party.

*Scarlett Duffy*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Thurs., Dec. 14 MGC Christmas Party

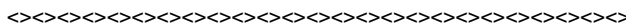
**Note: There is no membership meeting this month**

Sat., Dec. 16, 9-noon Plant Clinic at Home Depot by MGC Master Gardeners

Tues., Jan. 9, 2018 **Tour** Key West Butterfly & Nature Conservatory (see below)

Friday, Jan. 19, 1:00 pm Membership Meeting, **Landscaping with Orchids** with Peter Kouchalacos. **Orchids will be available for purchase**

Sat., Jan. 27 **January Jamboree** (see p. 2)



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## January Road Trip

Mark your calendar for January 9 - a road trip to tour the Key West Butterfly & Nature Conservatory at 1316 Duval Street. This exceptional facility is a climate-controlled/glass enclosed habitat for about 60 butterfly species. It also houses flowering plants and trees, cascading waterfalls and free flying "friendly" birds. Some species are red-factor canaries, zebra finches, cordon-blue finches and Chinese painted quail. A guided tour by Jim Wallace will commence at 11 am for our group.

Following the tour we will enjoy lunch at El Siboney - a traditional Cuban Restaurant on Catherine Street. This casual,

friendly eatery was mentioned recently on ABC's show, "The Chew".

We will car pool. Plan on departing 9:30 am from the Club's parking lot!

Any questions: Janet Oechsle 305-904-4151

### 2nd & 3rd Vice Presidents' Report

#### JANUARY JAMBOREE

The annual January Jamboree - Outside Bazaar and Inside Rummage Sale of "gently used clothing" and household items - will be held Saturday, January 27th, from 8:30 am - 3:00 pm.

The Rummage Sale portion of the event will be organized again by Carole Gieck and Dee O'Shea (*special recognition goes to **Dee** who is flying here this season for just two weeks to help **Carole** create their outstanding organized sale extravaganza!*) The Outside Bazaar will be directed by Janet Oechsle and Anne Reams in our recovering gardens.

Faithful vendors and new contributors have sent in registration forms already: Casey's Corner Nursery and Landscaping, Sun 'n Shade Tropicals, John's Jungle Market Baskets, Bill's Tomatoes, Lyn Sullivan's Woodcraft and Shells, Tobe Creed's Jewelry and Pirate Handcrafts, Peter's Crotons, Juanita's Orchids, G's Dream Honey Farm and more expected soon.

ALSO - our Club will be selling plants and plant experts from Monroe County and Florida State Parks will be sharing helpful information.

AND - Thank You to Centennial Bank for providing their hot dog & hamburger luncheon wagon for all to enjoy!

We are looking forward to the thoughtful support from the Club Members who can sign up at our January meeting for small jobs. A big Thank You to Susie Ley and Donna Barnes for their help in the organizing!

All our best -

*Janet Oechsle and Anne Reams*

#### MGC Officers & Directors 2017 - 2019

President: Scarlett Duffy  
First Vice President: Dale Chorebanian  
Second Vice President: Janet Oechsle  
Third Vice President: Anne Reams  
Recording Secretary: Sarah Lytle  
Corresponding Secretary: Toni Appell  
Treasurer: Loyal Eldridge  
Assistant Treasurer: Carl Miller  
Directors: Donna Barnes, Jackie Sauer,  
Sandra Swantek & Patti Trefrey

#### National Garden Club Grant

The check for \$4,000 from the NGC Natural Disaster Fund to restore our gardens, mentioned in President Duffy's report, has arrived! We are thrilled to receive this assistance to recover from Hurricane Irma.

#### 2017 Holiday Bazaar Results

Final results for the November 25 holiday bazaar are provided for anyone interested in the details. The boutique sold approximately \$400; the main room/Christmas items about \$560; the bakery/gourmet goodies (including coffee & water) brought in about \$420; plants from the MGC nursery \$400; raffle items yielded \$980 and space rented by vendors brought in \$950 (after refunds). Total income from the bazaar was about \$3,700.

#### 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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# Holiday Bazaar Photos

By Arlene Keeney



Above (L→R): Part of the Boutique Crew: Barbara Driscoll, Germaine Main, our talking Christmas Tree, Rosemary Thomas, and Boutique Chair, Sandy Swantek

Right: Bake Sale/  
Gourmet Goodies  
(L→R)  
Dale Chorebanian  
Jay Carvotta  
Winnie Lucht



Below: Some of



Arlene Keeney & Patti Trefrey



Mary Sibley



Gift Shop volunteer, Barbara Cowen and Manager, Bonnie Eldridge had a busy day.

## *A few of our Vendors & more Bazaar Photos*

Claudia Hamrick and Virginia Leier hawked raffle tickets and provided membership information. The inflatable stand-up paddle board the Club is raffling is shown in the background.



Above: Pots Galore and More



Left: Casey's Corner Nursery & Landscaping



Below: Some of the Club's Nursery volunteers, Janie Byland, Linnea Cunningham & Suzy Curry sold plants grown by members and containers they donated.



Below: Sun 'n Shade Tropicals



## **Marathon Garden Club Minutes November 17, 2017 Meeting**

President Scarlett Duffy called the meeting to order at 12:59 P.M. at the Marathon Garden Club. The invocation selected by Janie Byland was given by Linnea Cunningham followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes from the October 20, 2017 meeting, published in the November Seeds for Thought were moved to be accepted by Claudia Hamrick and seconded by Germaine Main. Accepted by all members. Donna Barnes introduced the visitors who were asked to stand in recognition. Donna introduced the new Membership Chairman, Lyn Paterson. Donna announced that the Holiday Bazaar is Saturday, November 25, 2017, from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. She passed around a sign-up sheet for workers. She passed out flyers to be distributed throughout the community. Scarlett thanked the head hostesses Phyllis Schewe and Dale Chorebanian. Scarlett also recognized the greeters. Floral Arrangements were beautifully done by Germaine Main and Mary Ann Worthington.

There was no Financial Report as Loyal Eldridge was not present, but Bonnie Eldridge added that the club is financially stable. Scarlett announced the House and Garden Tour would be canceled for this year due to Hurricane Irma recovery. There will be several other fund raisers throughout the year the first of which is a raffle for an Inflatable Paddle Board which was on display. Each raffle ticket is \$50.00 but only 100 tickets will be sold thus increasing the chances of winning.

Bonnie Eldridge reported that the gift shop is open with many new items. The shop will be open Mon. – Fri. 10-2, but not Thanksgiving, Nov. 23 or Fri. the 24<sup>th</sup>. It will be open Saturday during the bazaar.

Scarlett announced the Holiday Christmas Party is Thursday, December 14, at 6 P.M. The party will be at the garden club and will be catered by Irie Island Eats. The cost is \$25.00 and tickets are on sale at the gift shop. Reservations should be made by December 6<sup>th</sup>.

There will be a tour of the Key West Butterfly and Nature Conservatory on Jan. 9, 2018 at 11 A.M. It will be led by the director, Jim Wallace. Members are to provide their own transportation to Key West.

Nancy Miller announced the cancellation of the Small Standard Flower Show, as the House and Garden tour is cancelled. There were two Floral Design Workshops scheduled that will continue if there is enough interest. The first is scheduled Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 A.M. and the second Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 10 A.M. Nancy and Pat Greeley would teach the workshops. Nancy asked for a show of hands of those interested in the workshops.

### **New Business**

Scarlett read the proposed by-law change that was approved by the board May 10, 2017 and will be voted on by the membership at the January membership meeting. The proposed by-law change would be under Article V Finance and Dues, the Contracts section: "In order to avoid a conflict of interest, no Club member or his/her spouse shall enter into a contract(s) with the Club for goods or services that exceeds \$500.00 during a fiscal year. A waiver of this limitation requires preapproval by the Board."

Nancy Miller introduced two special guests from Miami, Sharon Trbovich, Director of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs District XII and the Recording Secretary, Kitty Winkler. Sharon addressed the group and announced district information.

### **Announcements**

Claudia Hamrick described the Florida Keys Concert Association and passed out the program for 2018.

Toni Appell and Arlene Keeney requested baked goods for the holiday bazaar and asked they be packaged as you would package a gift. They requested gently used Christmas items be brought to the club Mon-Wed, Nov 20<sup>th</sup> – Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> and Baked goods brought to the club Friday, Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>.

As there was no further business or announcements Dale introduced our speaker from The Coral Restoration Foundation in Key Largo who gave a very interesting slide presentation on coral restoration. Following