

SEEDS FOR THOUGHT

Official Newsletter
of
Marathon Garden Club
Marathon, Florida



MARATHON GARDEN CLUB

Come grow with us...

November, 2017

Volume 20 No. 6



The President's Letter

Dear Members,

It's been a hectic two months for everyone and I'm hoping that things are starting to smooth out a little. I've

missed my board and know they have been busy with recovery, if there is any thing we can do to help, please let us know. The garden is looking much cleaner and now we must focus on making it greener. We have lost a lot but it will be fun to choose new plants and watch them grow.

Carl Miller has done a great job at collecting donations from members and friends who want to help put it all together again, thanks to all. Nancy Miller and Judy Shaw have sent a letter to the National Garden Clubs applying for a grant to help us replace our garden. We have small repairs to make to the roof and need a new fence in the front of the Club, plus repairs to the East and West sides. The nursery has already begun to grow new plants.

And now we have the Holiday Bazaar to look forward to. Lots of plant vendors and many vendors who will

offer beautiful gifts for your holiday shopping. Get involved and help with donations of baked goods, fancy jellies or nuts and those Christmas decorations that need to be recycled (if they didn't get drowned).

On a very bright note, the Millers have donated \$50,000 to the scholarship fund in the form of a stock portfolio and will add another \$50,000 in 2018. The students in Marathon will be receiving benefits for many years thanks to the "Carl and Nancy Miller Scholarship Endowment". The Marathon Garden Club is very proud to be a part of their generosity.

Come Grow with Us and make our garden beautiful again,

Scarlett Duffy

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Friday, November 10, 10:30 am **MGC Board Meeting. Note date change**

Friday, Nov. 17 1:00 pm **MGC Meeting, "Coral Restoration"**

Sat., Nov. 18, 9-noon Plant Clinic at Home Depot by MGC Master Gardeners

Sat., Nov. 25 **Holiday Bazaar, 9 am - 2 pm**

Thurs., Dec. 14 **MGC Christmas Party**

Tues., Jan. 9, 2018 **Tour** Key West Butterfly & Nature Conservatory (see p. 2)

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

Sat., Mar. 3 **House & Garden Tour** and Small Standard **Flower Show**

Janet Oechsle

1st Vice President Dale Chorebanian

Programs for the coming year look outstanding. Dale has done a great job of finding interesting speakers.. (Ed.)

2nd Vice President's Report

January Trip

Please mark your 2018 calendars for a trip to KEY WEST to visit the Key West Butterfly & Nature Conservatory on Tuesday, Jan. 9th. This lovely Facility at 1316 Duval Street, is a climate-controlled enclosure for about 60 butterfly species. We will be having a guided tour with Jim Wallace. Lunch is planned for El Siboney on Catherine Street - a hidden Cuban treasure. We will be car pooling from the Club. More details to come later.

January Jamboree

The Jamboree Team of Carole Gieck, Dee O'Shea and Janet Oechsle are busy planning for the Event on Saturday, January 27, from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. The week before the EVENT, January 22 - 26, members are encouraged to drop off gently used items at the Garden Club.

Carol and Dee would appreciate ALL your used treasures that survived the storm. We all have a great opportunity to clean out the closets, cupboards, sheds and storage units.

Janet is lining up vendors for the outside areas, and putting an emphasis on locating more plant suppliers!

We hope you sign up to help with the Jamboree at the Membership Meeting on Friday, January 19.

Our annual January Jamboree will help the Community continue it's recovery!

3rd Vice President, Anne Reams

Anne writes that she is sorry to be MIA, as they are still immersed in cleanup and restoration of their home. The good news is that they have found a place to rent while recovery continues and she hopes to be back on the scene in December. (Ed)

Gift Shop

The Gift Shop will have a grand opening the 17th, the day of the November meeting. We have many new and exciting items with an emphasis on gardening. We also carry Garden Club mugs and other merchandise and some Christmas items will be available. Plan to come in and start your Christmas shopping.

A big thank you to Laurie Reeves who has moved out of the Keys. We appreciate all the time she spent working in the shop. We welcome any Club members who would like to help by working a shift once a week, or as a substitute, to join our team. Please get in touch with Bonnie Eldridge at 305-240-9401. We will keep the shop open from 10:00 to 2:00 for as many days as possible with the exception of Sunday.

The first meeting of our committee will be the beginning of November. We will plan to meet at 9:00 on Friday, November 10 before the board meeting. Anyone interested in helping with the Gift Shop is invited and welcome to attend. Coffee and snacks will be served.

Bonnie Eldridge

Manager, Garden Shop

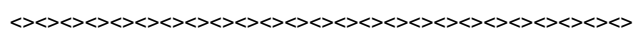


Table of Contents

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Calendar of Events..... | 1 |
| Gift Shop Grand Opening..... | 2 |
| January Field Trip..... | 2 |
| January Jamboree..... | 2 |

HURRICANE IRMA

In Case You Weren't Here A Month Ago



Scholarship Report

The Marathon Garden Club Scholarship Committee announced the winners of this year's scholarships to two graduating Marathon High School seniors at the May 30 Class Night. The winners are Alyssa Turner and Mackenzie Helms. Alyssa Turner, class salutatorian, is enrolled at Florida State University with a major in environmental science. During high school, she accumulated 405 community service hours including the Coastal Cleanup. She achieved a perfect 4.0 grade average while holding a variety of leadership positions, playing volleyball and working part-time. "I think it is vital that we act now to ensure future generations will have natural resources," said Alyssa. "Knowing that it is possible to reverse the damage to our ecosystems has inspired me."

Mackenzie Helms also achieved a perfect 4.0 grade point average while serving as president of the National Honor Society, a member of the Academic Challenge Team and Mu Alpha Theta math honorary. She was active in the high school drama program and the Marathon Community Theatre among many other activities and volunteering. She worked various jobs throughout high school to earn money toward college and is enrolled in the honors program at Florida State University with a major in environmental science. "The management of natural resources is the key to conservation efforts being successful and effective," said Mackenzie.

Scholarship checks in the amount of \$1,500 will be given to these students after successful completion of their first semester of college.

In addition, we have renewed the scholarships of our current college recipients (a sophomore and a senior). We have committed \$6,500 for scholarships during the May 1, 2017 - April 30, 2018 fiscal year.

Thank you to all members for your efforts to generate funds for our scholarship program.

Orlene Keeney & Barbara Wright

NOTES

Please print as many copies of the Holiday Bazaar poster on page 5 as you can find to post them. (You can print a single page from a pdf file.) Dick & Linnea Cunningham are in charge of posting the ads. Please let them know where you put up your posters.

Did you receive the **Fall 2017 Florida Gardener?** The cover is an oil painting of a Royal Poinciana. Let me know if you didn't receive it. Nancy Miller, Cnmil@msn.com

Campbell's Labels for Education Program has been **extended until Jan 2, 2018**. Keep clipping and bring your proofs of purchase to the meetings.

MARATHON GARDEN CLUB'S

Holiday Bazaar

& Rummage Sale



Saturday
Nov. 25
9 am - 2 pm

Holiday Sale

- ★ Gently used Christmas decorations and ornaments
- ★ Orchid sale
- ★ Holiday attire
- ★ Baked goods
- ★ Jewelry vendors
- ★ Raffle items
- ★ Craft vendors
- ★ Unique holiday gifts
- ★ Premium plants



*Garden Strong
in Marathon!*

Help us celebrate
our wonderful
Florida Keys
as you reconnect
with your
Marathon friends!

Huge Plant Sale

Featuring Plant Vendors Specializing
in Native Plants for the Keys

Just in Time to Spruce Up
Your Yard for the Holidays!

Plus!

Master Gardeners
On Site to Answer Questions!



MARATHON GARDEN CLUB

Come grow with us

MM 50 Bayside

www.marathongardenclub.org

(MM50, across from Publix Plaza) 5270 Overseas Highway Marathon, FL 305-743-4971

Marathon Garden Club Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2017

This meeting's format is a bit different with our speaker, **Franco D'Ascanio** opening the well-attended meeting by taking questions about how to save plants and trees after Hurricane Irma damage. He started at 12:30 PM and began his more formal talk after about 15 minutes of specific questions. Power Point and photos of specific plants which can tolerate wind, salt and drought assisted to describe his rating of each plant. D'Asign Source plans to have a list available later this year.

In summary; The Lignum Vitae, Silver Buttonwood and Clusia trees fared very well in the storm. Bottle palms, European Fan palms and varieties of Dypsis palms may survive. Crinum lilies, Orange Bird-of-Paradise, Cycads and certain Crotons will make it through wind and salt water. Franco spent time emphasizing that trees are able to be propped and saved in many cases. "Woodsman, spare that tree!"

Regular Meeting 1:50 PM

President Scarlett Duffy opened the meeting with thanks to Franco. Jane Byland gave a short Invocation stressing patience followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes from the April 21, 2017 meeting, published in the *May Seeds for Thought* were moved to be accepted by Rosemary Thomas

and seconded by Sandy Swantek. Accepted by all members.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Carl Miller: The Scholarship fund is providing funds for four students every year throughout their college experience. A separate account has been created for the Scholarship Fund which will carry us for 2 years. Assistant Treasurer Miller handed out information that members and friends of the garden club have contributed or pledged over \$10,000 toward the Irma clean-up fund.

President Duffy announced that Nancy and Carl Miller have set up a \$100,000 Scholarship Endowment which will enable the club to use all raffle and events money for building expenses and hurricane damage repair. All members present gave a hearty thanks to the Millers for their generosity and vision to enhance education for students in Marathon.

Pres. Duffy continued the meeting by thanking Greeters, Barbara Cowen and Sande Neiditz. Many thanks to Betsy Philipps and Shirley Singleton for tasty refreshments.

The Holiday Bazaar will accept Holiday items on Monday, November 20, 2017. Plan to donate Christmas decorations, festive apparel, jewelry, food gifts and items which will appeal to our visitors. Toni Appell, 305-849-2251 and Donna Barnes, 614-286-0992 will be chairing this event.

Next meeting will be on Friday November 17, 2017. Speaker topic Coral Restoration. This meeting adjourned.

**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

MARATHON GARDEN CLUB

www.MarathonGardenClub.org
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 500826
Marathon, FL 33050-0826
Phone: 305-743-4971

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