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Mandarin Garden Club Newsletters

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11-2020

## Newsletter November 2020

Mandarin Garden Club

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**MANDARIN GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER**  
**NOVEMBER 2020**



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

It seems we are starting to get a little break in the hot, hot weather and possibly some let up of all the rain we have had in recent months. Jacksonville's version of autumn (leaves all over the place) is coming into play as well. Unfortunately, the weather change has not seemed to hinder the spread of the COVID 19 throughout the country. I have not seen any information on whether Mayor Curry has extended the mask requirement, at least at this time when I am preparing this note. No matter, we all need to remain vigilant.

I have gotten questions lately regarding the test center at the Mandarin Senior Center and, yes, it is still open Monday through Friday, 11 AM to 7 PM, located at 3848 Hartley Road. No appointment is needed, testing is free, and no symptoms are required. Be sure to bring proper ID.

The 75th Anniversary Committee has been working tirelessly and has put together what appears to be a memorable event. All members will be receiving an e-mail invitation - please reply as requested as a ballpark figure is needed for final preparations. In

preparation, we have had a deep cleaning of our Clubhouse done in relationship to floors. We are hopeful that the new rug at the front entry door will help keep the floors looking good for some time to come.

There have been a couple of infractions regarding members coming onto the grounds during rentals. As we all know, this is totally verboten – a member also went into the building during a rental just a week or so ago. Please, unless you are sure there is no rental do not go onto the grounds and do not go into the building.

A final note – Mandarin Garden Club will not be having its Holiday Party this year. There is no way this can be done during this time. We will wait it out and as soon as recovery is made after the first of the year, we will plan a party of all parties! Each Circle may make their own choice as to whether they will have a celebration. Insofar as our annual charity drive for a deserving family, we will provide via a note to everyone a plan we have to help Mandarin Food Bank. Please look for that information via e-mail, as we want as many to participate as possible. Until next time, please take care of yourselves, your loved ones, and your friends.

Sincerely, Laura Miller



## **MASTER GARDENERS**

### **Nursery Info:**

Teamwork in the gardens. With the blessing of the club grounds chair and after four months of moving the garden nursery to its new location, a team of club members and MGV's redesigned the grounds' nursery. Mary Clark, Kelley Swain, Bernadette Hashtak and Mary Forester made the redesign happen on September 23 with follow up work on sorting and organizing the plants. A nursery place for MGV plants was established for future use

Just a little history, the original nursery behind the camellia bed was established in 2008 at our annual plant sale and now 12 years later this area is still available for drop off donated plant arrivals and garden related donations.

### **Workday Change:**

Beginning in 2021, the Mandarin Demo Garden Master Gardener team will be working every Wednesday.

Currently the workdays have been the first and third Wednesday except for every Wednesday in February, March, October, and November.

This change is due to the needs of the gardens and less confusion of workdays. A survey was conducted with the regular attendees, which most were already working every Wednesday, and all agreed. The other demo gardens in Jacksonville, the Urban Garden at the extension office, and the Heritage Gardens at the beach, have always worked every week. With this being the new norm for this team, we welcome any Mandarin Garden Club members to join us to continue the garden vision being provided for the community and share in the opportunity to showcase the grounds of the Mandarin Garden Club. Just a few benefits - fresh air, heart healthy, exercise, pride.

Mary Forester, Master Gardener Liaison

## **COLLECTIONS**

*The following are collections that have been going on at the garden club for many years and are still ongoing for those who have participated over the years. There are new members who are not aware of how they can help their garden club and our community just by these simple contributions and wanted to share these opportunities with all the members as reminders and as an introduction.*

*Thank you for all who have participated and look forward to new participants. These collections are a way for our members to participate and give back not only to help their garden club but also with our community on a regular basis. Any of these items can be brought to your circle meetings or crafty ladies' group on a regular basis and each circle/group has designated members responsible for the collection and delivery of donations.*

***Ink cartridge recycling - since 2009*** - Used ink cartridges are taken to Staples that has a Reward Program. Joyce Datz and Mary Forester have been utilizing this program for years and with these collections have been able to purchase products that have kept down the cost of ink, paper and a variety of products Staples offers for our garden club. Not including the crafty ladies' utilization of this program, to date our members have donated 2,698 ink cartridges for recycling equaling \$5,578.00 for purchasing of items for garden club use.

***Glasses - since 2009*** - Old eyeglasses and cases are collected and given to the Lions Club for their program of providing sight all over the world. To date, our members have donated 1,474 eyeglasses to serve those in need.



**Cell Phone - since 2009** - Old cell phones are given the Duval County 4-H program to help in our local youth raise funds. To date, our membership has donated 244 to this program.

**Pop Tops - since 2011** - The pop tops from any can items are given to the Ronald McDonald House who can recycle the aluminum to help with the cost of their facility. Thousands and thousands of pop tops have been donated by our members and taken to this establishment.

**Retired Flags - since 2015** - Retired flags are collected and presented at the Mandarin Community Club's annual flag ceremony where they are properly disposed of by the SAR (Sons of the America Revolution) in a February program each year. To date our membership has properly retired 65 flags.

**Mandarin Food Bank - since 2008** - Non-perishable items are collected at all circle meetings and at the crafty ladies' group to help with our local community. Not just food items are collected but also hygiene products. You could start by simply checking your pantry and supply closets at home. Many utilized the BOGO programs in the stores

## **CRAFT FAIR**

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual Craft Fair will be November 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 4pm. The Craft Fair is a fund-raising event for Crafty Ladies and the garden club. Thirty-two local crafters will be on site selling their wares. There will be wreaths, Staghorn ferns on wood/bark, jams, yard art, Christmas ornaments, jewelry, candles, Honey, stepping stones, body Butter, Christmas stands, stoneware pottery, quilts, gourd bird houses ,photo albums, and many other homemade items. The Garden Café will be open with homemade baked goods and the Masons will have BBQ for sale. This is an outside event, and all CDC Guidelines will be in effect. Please make your plans to attend and support this event. Bring your family and friends and treat them to a walk through our gardens after shopping.



## **CIRCLE NEWS**

### **CHEROKEE ROSE**

*Will be having their circle meeting in November. Our speaker will be Wayne Myers from the Rose Society. The speaker's topic will be on Roses and possibly a walk on our grounds to give advice and guidance on the maintenance of the Roses on location.*

### **DOGWOOD**

*At the November 17th meeting, Dogwood will celebrate its 60th birthday with the theme of "All About Dogwoods". A celebration has been planned by the November Hostesses.*

### **MAGNOLIA**

*Magnolia's had a fun time playing in the dirt at our October meeting...We each made a Kokedama- A Japanese String Art Garden...see fun pictures....to take home for our own garden. Our November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting will be "What Grows Best in Florida Gardens" ...the speaker is Jen Wilkins...a new Magnolia and owner of Lush Leaves...Landscape Garden Designs and Services...we will be social distanced and wearing masks*

## **LIVE OAK**

November 19 is the next meeting at 7pm. Program TBA.

## **GROUNDS**

*For the month of October, we had a remarkably successful event of selling plants during the Trash to Treasure Sale, which took place on the first weekend in October. The plant sale drew in \$698.00 dollars which was added to the grand total. Thank you all who assisted during this sale and all members that made contributions. Many dropped off plants, pots and gardening tools that were flying off the display areas. Big Thank You to Diana Openbrier for taking the lead on this project.*

*The South Potager Garden is undergoing construction. Currently we are waiting for manure that will be donated from the Zoo. This manure will be added to the topsoil and worked into the ground. This project will take place on Wednesday, November the 4th (weather permitting).*

*The Native Bed is also under construction. Currently, we are experimenting on the front path. The paths have become a tripping hazard. The excess amount of rain, we have had since June, has caused the paths to have become very overgrown with weeds and grass. The rocks that were originally put down have sunk into the paths. The paths have now become extremely hard to navigate. At this time, we have ordered fifty bags of Granular Pine Bark Mulch. We have been weeding the path, placing cardboard over the path, and the mulch on top of the cardboard. We have a few more bags to place down and a few more bags to order to complete this task. So far, we have a better curb appeal. Time will tell if this will help with the labor-intensive weed patrol on the paths.*



*Ten (10) Bales of Pine Straw have been ordered for the Craft Fair. They should be delivered before the end of October. Due to heavy rains and people parking some of our grounds have become mud holes, with huge ruts. The Pine Straw will be put down to help hold the soil in place and prevent slip potential during the Craft Fair. Diana Openbrier has agreed to conduct another Plant Sale during the Craft Fair. Members are already dropping off plants and pots for this event. Thank you all that have participated. Your contribution and efforts have not gone unnoticed.*

*Joyce Buscaglia  
Grounds*

## **75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Mandarin Garden Club's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House, "Through the Decades," will be November 8, 2020, 2-5 PM. You have received an invitation via e-mail, which gives you the details of this event. Be sure to RSVP to Sandra Varner [REDACTED] or McGlade Holloway [REDACTED] which is necessitated by CDC recommendations due to COVID. We look forward to seeing the first 50 to notify us, so let us know as soon as possible

## **CARES AND CONCERNS**

Marie Boyer-Sympathy  
Mary Kay Weis-Thinking of You  
Ginny Anthony-Thinking of You