

**Mandarin Garden Club**

**Newsletters, Photos & Articles**  
**June 2019 – May 2020**



**JUNE**

~~2020~~ 2019

**MGC Newsletters, Photos & Articles**  
**June 2019 – May 2020**





**National Wildlife Federation**

11100 Wildlife Center Drive • Reston, VA 20190-5362 • 703-438-6000

May 21, 2019

Mary Howe  
Mandarin Garden Club Gardens  
126 Lake Of The Woods Ln  
#110  
St Johns, FL 32259

Dear Mary Howe:

Congratulations! It gives me great pleasure to send you the enclosed Certificate of Achievement, which recognizes your yard or garden as an official National Wildlife Federation® (NWF) Certified Wildlife Habitat™ site. You now join a prestigious group of NWF members across the country who have committed to protecting and nurturing wildlife in their own yards, schools, campuses, corporate properties, parks, and more.

As one of the benefits of certifying your wildlife habitat site, you will begin receiving our monthly Garden For Wildlife e-newsletter if you provided your email address. If you would like to receive the e-newsletter but have not provided your email address please sign up at [www.nwf.org/gfwnewsletter](http://www.nwf.org/gfwnewsletter). Each issue is filled with great tips and projects to help maintain your habitat as well as program news and more. You will also receive a year's subscription to our award-winning magazine, *National Wildlife*® and 10% off all NWF catalog merchandise.

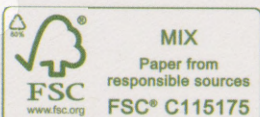
You are now eligible to post a Certified Wildlife Habitat® sign on your property. Our weather proof signs are a great way to show your friends and neighbors your commitment to wildlife in your community. A sign order form is enclosed for your convenience if you haven't already purchased one or would like to purchase more. To learn more or place an order online, please visit [www.nwf.org/cwhsigns](http://www.nwf.org/cwhsigns).

Your newly certified habitat is something to be proud of – why not share the news with your community and encourage others to certify also? Enclosed you'll find a sample of an official NWF press release, you can customize it and send to your local media to share your accomplishment. After you determine which local newspaper or media outlet you'd like to send it to, simply fill in your name and habitat information, then mail to them!

Please accept my congratulations again for successfully making a home for wildlife. We hope you enjoy your newly certified habitat for many years to come.

Sincerely,

David Mizejewski  
NWF Naturalist, Media Spokesperson, Author



Uniting all Americans to ensure wildlife thrive in a rapidly changing world.

[nwf.org](http://nwf.org)

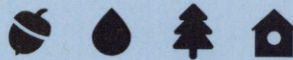




— CERTIFIED —

# WILDLIFE HABITAT

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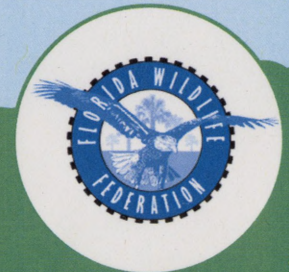
BECAUSE OF THE OWNER'S CONSCIENTIOUS PLANNING, LANDSCAPING  
AND SUSTAINABLE GARDENING, WILDLIFE WILL FIND QUALITY HABITAT  
HERE—FOOD, WATER, COVER, AND PLACES TO RAISE THEIR YOUNG.

PROPERTY NAME

Mandarin Garden Club Gardens

NO. 229,820

*in the National Wildlife Federation's  
network of habitats*



COLLIN O'MARA  
PRESIDENT & CEO

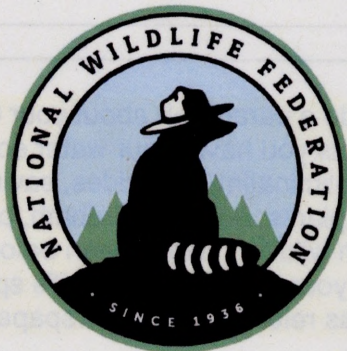
UNITING ALL AMERICANS TO ENSURE WILDLIFE THRIVE IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD



**Congratulations on your new Certified Wildlife Habitat!**

The media in your area will be interested in hearing about your efforts to garden for wildlife. Use this sample to create your own media release with specific information about your efforts. When complete, submit to your local newspaper, TV, news websites and radio stations. Don't forget to delete everything in yellow before distributing the press release. Please leave the logo at the top of the release.

**Download an editable version of this template here: [www.nwf.org/cwhpressrelease](http://www.nwf.org/cwhpressrelease)**



## **National Wildlife Federation Certifies New Wildlife Habitat in** **\_\_\_\_\_ [insert Town/City/Community]**

### ***Local resident making a difference to protect wildlife***

**Media Contact:** Jessica Ordenez-Lancet, National Wildlife Federation, 202-797-6809, [OrdenezLancetJ@nwf.org](mailto:OrdenezLancetJ@nwf.org)

\_\_\_\_\_ [insert your city, state] – \_\_\_\_\_ [insert current date] – The National Wildlife Federation (NWF), America's largest wildlife conservation and education organization, is pleased that \_\_\_\_\_ [insert your name] in \_\_\_\_\_ [insert your town or city] has successfully created a Certified Wildlife Habitat® through its Garden for Wildlife program. In addition, \_\_\_\_\_'s [insert your name] habitat has been co-certified with NWF's state affiliate, the Florida Wildlife Federation.

NWF celebrates this effort to create a garden that supports birds, butterflies, bees, frogs and other local wildlife. Every Certified Wildlife Habitat garden provides natural sources of food, water, cover and places to raise young and is maintained in a sustainable way that incorporates native plants, conserves water and doesn't rely on pesticides.

For over 45 years, the Garden for Wildlife movement has recognized over 227,000 Certified Wildlife Habitat gardens across the United States to date, encompassing more than 2.5 million acres that support wildlife locally. Backyards, urban gardens, school grounds, businesses, places of worship, campuses, parks, farms, zoos, and community landscapes can all be recognized as wildlife habitats through the program.

"Anyone, anywhere can restore wildlife habitat right in their own yards and communities," said NWF Naturalist David Mizejewski. "Whether you garden in a suburban yard, an urban area or a rural plot of land, you can make a difference for local wildlife. Creating a Certified Wildlife Habitat garden is fun,



easy and makes a real difference for neighborhood wildlife. It's the perfect grassroots way to think globally and act locally and help birds, butterflies, bees and other wildlife," he added.

**PERSONAL QUOTE:** Please insert a quote from you about why you created and certified your habitat. Sample: "I enjoy watching wildlife and wanted to do my part to help. Redesigning my yard to make it more inviting to wildlife not only gives me great wildlife watching opportunities, it also helps me to be greener – reducing lawn to mow, cutting down on watering and saving time in the long run to enjoy time outside," said your name.

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**HABITAT DESCRIPTION:** Please provide a paragraph about your Certified Wildlife Habitat garden, noting things like the kinds of native plants you have, your water source, the wildlife your habitat attracts, changes you've made such as eliminating pesticides, saving water, etc. Sample: "My yard used to be boring. After I planted native plants, added a birdbath, put up a birdhouse, and stopped spraying pesticides, my yard is alive with wildlife I hadn't seen before." The purpose of this paragraph is to provide an engaging description of your habitat and why it's special. If you have a photograph of your habitat, send it along with your press release to the newspaper.

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Many of NWF's state affiliate organizations are partners in the [Certified Wildlife Habitat®](#) program. Habitats in partnering states have national and state certification, these states include Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, New Jersey, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Wyoming.

Every Certified Wildlife Habitat garden is now also part of the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge, a national effort to create a million gardens that provide habitat for declining pollinator insects such as butterflies and bees.

Participants who have their wildlife habitat garden certified receive a personalized certificate with a unique habitat number, a one-year membership to NWF with a subscription to *National Wildlife* magazine, a subscription to the Garden for Wildlife e-newsletter, a 10 percent discount to *National Wildlife* catalog, and the exclusive right to post a Certified Wildlife Habitat yard sign.

For more information on NWF's Garden for Wildlife movement and how to qualify to have a garden space recognized as a Certified Wildlife Habitat, visit [www.nwf.org/garden](http://www.nwf.org/garden) or call 1-800-822-9919.

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#### **About National Wildlife Federation**

The [National Wildlife Federation](#) is America's largest conservation organization, uniting all Americans to ensure wildlife thrive in a rapidly changing world. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

###



**JULY**

2019



## Mandarin Garden Club members learn about sea turtles

By Betty Waldrep  
mail@floridanewsline.com

The Live Oak Circle of Mandarin Garden Club recently hosted a program on sea turtles. The speaker was George De Marino, Florida Naturalist, who has worked with the South Ponte Vedra Beach Marine Turtle Patrol for 10 years. He helps with beach nesting surveys, confirming that when a nesting crawl has been observed on the beach, the female turtle has laid eggs.

During nesting season, very Sunday morning about 5 a.m., De Marino is on the beach looking for turtle nests. When he finds one, he stakes the nest, takes GPS coordinates, and uses his hands to dig for eggs. One Sunday morning recently, De Marino was on the beach when he ran into a family he knew. The grandson of the family had a fun learning experience observing De Marino and his work with the nests. The young man was at the program at Mandarin Garden Club and helped other children and adults learn about the sea turtles.

There are seven species of turtles in the world, and five of them are on Florida's beaches. De Marino told the group about the three different turtles that frequent Northeast Florida's beaches: the Green Sea Turtle, the Leatherback, and the Loggerhead turtle. The Loggerhead is the most common turtle in Florida. They are large turtles, weighing as much as 350 pounds, and they lay as many as 100 – 120 eggs in their nests. Leatherback turtles are the largest turtles. They weigh about 700 pounds



Photo courtesy Betty Waldrep

George De Marino, Florida Naturalist, has worked with the South Ponte Vedra Beach Marine Turtle Patrol for 10 years.

and are nearly 10 feet long. They eat those pesky jellyfish. The Green Sea Turtle gets its name from the color of its body fat. They eat meat when they are young, but as adults they eat seagrass and seaweed. These turtles lay approximately 2,600 nests on Florida's beaches each year.

De Marino told the group, "The sea turtles are an endangered species and they are worth saving, because they provide nutrients to the beaches."

People who enjoy the beaches can help by being careful with what they leave on the beach. Plastic is deadly to the turtles and leaving holes dug in the sand means a turtle might fall in and not be able to get out. Flashlights should not be used on the beach at night as the lights will disturb the females who crawl from the ocean and the babies as they crawl back to the ocean.

If you are interested in volunteering with the sea turtles, call Patty Smith at (904) 343-9949. There is a required state training class to become registered to volunteer with the turtle patrol.

**TIMES-UNION** Saturday, July 27, 2019

### Gardening's 'three Ws'

Learn the about the "three Ws" of gardening (wildflowers, weeds and wind) during a workshop hosted by the UF/IFAS Duval County Extension on Thursday, Aug. 15.

The event takes place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Mandarin Garden Club, 2892 Loretto Road. Cost is \$10 to register, and checks should be made payable to University of Florida. For more information, call (904) 255-7450 or email [sfree-man@coj.net](mailto:sfree-man@coj.net).



**AUGUST**

~~2020~~  
2019



**MANDARIN GARDEN CLUB**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS**  
**AUGUST 2019**

**ANNUAL \$1 CLOTHING AND JEWELRY SALE**

This is our first fund raising sale of 2019-2020. The sale is August 2 & 3. Friday, August 2 the sale is from 9 to 2 and Saturday from 9 to noon. The work schedule has been sent out for volunteers to help set up the sale, work the days of the sale, and to clean up on Saturday. Please make your plans to help as much as you can. Each circle will provide lunch for the volunteers.

**JACKSONVILLE ROSE SOCIETY**

President Laura Miller and the Board are very happy to announce plans have been completed with the Jacksonville Rose Society to become associated with



Mandarin Garden Club. The Rose Society will hold their meetings at the club, and their Annual Rose Show will be at the club in the Spring. Please join the Board and President in welcoming them to our club.

### **HELP NEEDED IN GARDENS**

Volunteers are needed to help maintain the gardens. The beautiful gardens help keep our property rented to bring in income. They also need to be in good order when we have events at the club. Mary Forster and the Master Gardeners can't do it all by themselves. Mary is asking for members to help on 8/7 & 8/14. Then she will need help every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday all year long. The group starts work about 8 am and work until noon. Please come and help.

### **ANNUAL PLANT EXCHANGE**



## NEW MEMBER TEA

*The New Member Tea is September 25, from 2pm to 4pm at the clubhouse. Members who joined the club from October 25, 2018, through October 24, 2019, will be invited to the tea. Invitations have been sent out.*

*Sandra Varner, First Vice President, and her committee have worked on the plans for the tea during the Summer break. They have a special day planned for the new members.*

*Please plan to attend the tea and meet the Board and other new members.*



## 10th ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR

*Mandarin Garden Club  
10th Annual Craft Fair  
Saturday, October 26, 2019  
9am to 4pm*

*There will be Crafts, Baked Goods, BBQ Lunch.*

*There are spaces available outside for vendors.  
Contact Clara McGehee*

*Please tell your friends and family.*





## **EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY**

Wanda Bosworth, Chair of Yard of the Month, has awarded three yards Mandarin Garden Club Yard Signs.

The first yard was nominated by Pat Sams, Dogwood Circle. Donna and Roger Jordan were awarded the sign for their incredibly abundance of beautiful blooms. Blooming flowers were planted in multiple beds surrounding their home on a corner lot.

The next yard nominated by Past President Karen Rowe and current Chair of Web Site, is a 100% Florida Friendly Landscape. Paula and Mike Zeman own a landscaping company and incorporate Florida Friendly practices into their business, as well as their home.

The last yard awarded a Yard of the Month Sign was for one of our own members. Betty Waldrep, Newsletter and Publicity Chair nominated Karen



## Our August Clothing Sale

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with the Clothing Sale. Volunteers cleaned out closets and made donations. Some helped set up the sale, others worked the day of the sale. Others helped to clean up. All of you are so appreciated! The circles are to be commended for the good food they supplied for the workers. Hope you enjoy the pictures.





Stanley's yard. Karen is serving as Grounds Chair this year. Her inspiring and creative yard reflects her gift for capturing nature and re-purposing items in creating lovely, peaceful areas through her yard.

Thank you, Wanda Bosworth, for your work with the Yard of Month Program.

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Here's hoping everyone has had a fun Summer visiting family, taking trips, catching up on your reading and other hobbies.

Business has continued at the club this Summer. The transition to a new year and new Board is almost complete. The Board and I are looking forward to Circle meetings and other activities starting back at the club.

The \$1 Clothing and Jewelry Sale is the first sale of the new year. Hope you are planning on helping with the sale. Also, here's hoping members will help in the gardens.





August 2019 *Mandarin NewsLine*

## Mandarin Garden Club \$1 clothing sale is back

The Mandarin Garden Club will hold its Fall \$1 Clothing and Jewelry Sale on Aug. 2 and 3 at the Mandarin Garden Club, located at 2892 Loretto Road. The hours are 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Friday and 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. on Saturday. All clothing and jewelry will sell for \$1 except items in the Boutique, which will sell from \$3 to \$10. The sale features gently used clothing for men, women and children that has been donated by members of the garden club. The sale is open to the public and the community is encouraged to attend.









## ANGEL AID

The left-overs from the \$1 Clothing and Jewelry Sale this year will be donated to Angel Aid. They are located at 3851 Emerson Street. This non-profit was established in 2000 by Cristol Barrett O'Loughlin as a fundraising organization for families living with genetic disease. Cristol has committed herself to raise funds for National MPS Society ([www.mppsociety.org](http://www.mppsociety.org)) in hopes of finding a cure for Hunters Syndrome ( Mucopolysaccharidosis.) Cristol lost three brothers to this disease and is a carrier herself. The funds will be committed to research, relief and inspiration to families with this disease. <https://www.angelaidcares.org/>

Mission Statement: Serving the Children in our community who are terminally or critically ill, in a life-threatening situation, abused, homeless or transplants.

## IMPOSSIBLE COCONUT CUSTARD PIE

This yummy pie was a big hit at the February Dogwood Circle meeting. It was submitted by Janelle Watson. Here's hoping everyone enjoys it as much as the Dogwood members did.

14 oz. can Eagle brand Sweetened condensed milk

1 ½ cups water

1/3 cup Biscuit baking mix or self-rising flour

4 eggs

1/4 cup butter, softened

1 ½ tsp. Vanilla Extract

½ tsp. Coconut Extract (optional-but Janelle uses it)

1 cup flaked coconut (may use more)

Combine all ingredients except coconut. Blend on high for 3 minutes with mixer. Add coconut. Pour into greased 10" deep dish pie plate. Bake for 35-40 minutes @350 degrees until knife near edge comes out clean. Cool Slightly. Serve warm or cold.



On a lovely Saturday morning about 50 members and invited guests, gathered at the club for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Plant Exchange. The members came with plants, gardening books, yard art, tools, and even a birthday cake. They came early to scout out their treasures and stake out their place before the rounds started. Mary forester rang the bell for ten different rounds and there was much laughter as everyone grabbed their item and carried it to their designated place.

The cake was for Diana Openbrier's birthday. Happy birthday was sung to her by the group. Thank you, Joyce Buscaglia, for the yummy cake.

Mary Forester was overheard saying, "the nicest thing about this sale is everyone talks about gardening." It was the topic all morning. Thank you to Mary and her helpers for this fun event every Summer.

## **CIRCLE NEWS**



# PLANT EXCHANGE PHOTOS, 2019









**SEPTEMBER**

~~2020~~  
2019



# Mandarin Garden Club

## New Member

### Coffee & Tea

Wednesday September 25, 2019

Mandarin Garden Club



This is a Special time for NEW Members

To get acquainted with Circle leaders

And the Executive Board members...

# TIME for TEA





## Welcome to our New Member Tea Party 2019

This is actually our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual New Member Tea For Garden Club members. The 1st one was hosted in the Home of Sandra Varner ( Magnolia) and new members felt more included in the workings of the Club, after meeting our Board members & Circle Leaders...

The 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> New Member Tea was hosted by Betty Waldrep, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, and was at our Clubhouse.

Now, here we are at our 4<sup>th</sup> Tea and hope that you will Enjoy our program & find your niche in our community of People that form Mandarin garden Club.

### Schedule:

2pm---2:15 Greeting and mingle

2:15 Call to order

Opening prayer: Fredi Olson (Chaplain)

Flag Salute

2:20 Welcome New Members and introduce our President, Laura Miller

2;40 Laura Miller.....brief explanation of Directory & Schedules & how To efficiently corelate to your calendars.

General Meeting.....activities like Crafty Ladies, Game day, Trash to Treasure, Public Garden days, Etc.

2:45 Circle Leaders will be called to Front to introduce their New members and we will ask a brief story of new member....and then as they stand beside Circle leader, a special favor tea pot will be present to them.

3:00 Break for refreshments, tea & mingling.....during the break a slide show Presentations of our gardens is presented, by Joyce Buscaglia, Circle leader of Cherokee Rose.

3:20-3:25 Master Gardener, Mary Forester.....brief explanation of our Gardends And if weather permits, an introductory tour of our Gardens, For New members.

4:00 Adjourn & encourage all members to watch Newsletter with upcoming Announcements and to attend the Circle meeting in October.



















**OCTOBER**

2019  
~~2020~~



**MAGNOLIA CIRCLE**  
November 2019  
**HOLIDAY GREENERY & TABLESCAPES.**





## **MANDARIN GARDEN CLUB**

### **MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING**

**Date: Thursday, October 17, 2019**

**Time: 10:00AM**

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#### **Call to Order**

Invocation/Flag Salute was directed by Fredi Olson

The Regular Meeting of the members was called to order at 10:00 AM by Laura Miller, President. A visual count of the members was performed 73) were in attendance.

The following Executive Committee members were in attendance:

Laura Miller, President  
Sandra Varner, First Vice President  
Marian Swain, Treasurer

#### **Guest Recognition:**

Mary Kay Weis head of membership introduced one guest to the membership

#### **Announcements/Remarks:**

President, Laura Miller made the following announcements:

1. An accounting software program change was made from Quicken to Quickbooks in a smooth transition; Marsha Kral, a local accountant, has been hired as a consultant on an as needed basis at \$40.00 per hour.
2. The Fire Marshall will conduct a fire inspection of the building in the coming weeks.
3. 990 N Postcard was filed in a timely manner with the IRS
4. Confirmation of the Native Plant Society's Annual Meeting to be held at the clubhouse on February 8, 2020. Representatives from all over Florida will be attending.
5. Two extra trash bins have been ordered at no cost of the club from the Waste Collection company.
6. Today's drawings for the lovely gift baskets were made possible by Magnolia Circle. All funds raised by the drawing will be used by the circle for needed expenditures for the year.

#### **Officer Reports**

First Vice President, Sandra Varner reported on the following:

1. The New Member Tea was held in September 25<sup>th</sup>, 18 new members were present. Appreciation was given to all the Circle leaders for their help which made this event a success.
2. The Discount List of Vendors has been audited and distributed to all the members through email and copies made available at the meeting. When



shopping at these vendors please show your membership card when making purchases to receive a discount.

3. The following are proposed Socials for Members and Spouses are being considered for February or March 2020.
  - a. 50-60's Sock Hop
  - b. Luau
  - c. Mystery Dinner
  - d. Tacky Party
  - e. Redneck Mardi Gras
  - f. Wild Wild West

Further consideration and decisions will be communicated with members by email including the dates and details. Please feel free to share your thoughts by email.

Mary Forester, Second Vice President was not in attendance, Laura Miller reported on her behalf the following:

1. The Trash To Treasure Annual Fund Raiser was a success, total collected \$3675.96.

Marian Swain, Treasurer- No Report Given

McGlade Holloway, Parliamentarian reported on the extensive project of the revision of the current By-Laws with her committee: Stacia Snuggs and Sue Stringer.

Discussion was conducted and approved by the Board prior to the General Meeting. A motion was made, by Lora Lewis, seconded by Kay Grondzik that the By Laws as revised be adopted and become effective immediately. The Motion was passed by a majority of those in attendance.

Joyce Buscaglia, Grounds Chair reported on the following:

1. A request was made to the members who work in the gardens on Wednesday's to stand and be recognized. She encouraged the members to participate in this weekly venture. Two new members have already joined in this effort.
2. Each circle will have a ground liaison to engage members of their prospective circles in participating.
3. Donna Crosby graciously has provided a beautiful decorated Christmas tree for a drawing at the Craft Fair held on October 26<sup>th</sup>. The proceeds have been designated for new plants for the Native Garden.
4. A plaque designating our gardens as a Native Wildlife Refuge has been awarded to the Club by the National Wildlife Federation. A thank you was given to Mary Howe for following through with this endeavor.

Kelly Swain, Program Chair reported the following:

1. The Holiday Party will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup>. Each circle will be responsible for decorating three tables. The theme this year is The Polar Express, the suggested dress is your favorite pajamas.
2. The club will adopt another family or two, recommended by the Mandarin



- Food Bank, for us to purchase Christmas gifts and collection of change.
3. All members are requested to bring food for the Christmas Party, the menu will be breakfast foods.

Joyce Datz, Crafty Ladies was not in attendance, Kelly Swain reported on her behalf the following:

1. The crafty ladies will be at the club all next week to prepare for the Craft Fair to be held on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Currently approximately 53 vendors have signed up. Request to members to help advertise the event thru Social Media and in your sphere of influence. Flyers are available for members to distribute.

#### **Speaker Introduction**

Kelly Swain, Program Chair announced our speakers Candace Barone and George DiMarino on the subject of the Monarch Milkweed Initiative.

#### **Adjournment**

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned and lunch was served; following lunch the basket and food bank drawings were held. Laura Miller, President thanked the circles for set up- Dogwood, Decorations- Crafty Ladies, Serve/Drawing- Magnolia, Clean Up-Cherokee Rose/ Live Oak.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Stanley  
Recording Secty, Pro Tem



**NOVEMBER**

2019



# **MANDARIN GARDEN CLUB**

## **NEWSLETTER**

**NOVEMBER, 2019**

The newsletter this month will be announcements and reminders due to my daughter's wedding on Halloween. I'm a little busy right now. Thanks for your understanding.

Betty Waldrep, Newsletter Editor

### **CIRCLE MEETINGS**

Cherokee Rose-November 21, 10 am

The circle will have a program on "Wild Birds in the Winter and Native Plants" presented by Brian Bidwell.

Dogwood-November 19<sup>th</sup>-10 am

Evie Parker will present a program on "Recycle Items for the Gardens."

Dogwood welcomes new member Kate Rahmes.

Live Oak-November 21, 7 pm

Live Oak will have its annual "Make and Take Holiday Gift Night." They are making Air Plant Globes. The circle will provide sand, sphagnum moss, and ball moss plants. Please bring a container, colored sand or accent plant, and a bottle for misting. The container should be clear glass with an opening for misting the plants. Examples: globe, bowl, cup, saucer. Live Oak will have popcorn available for snacking.

Magnolia-November 14, 10 am

Sharon Wagand and associates, Magnolia members, will present a workshop on "Holiday Greenery, Flora Candles, and tablespaces."





Barbara Price won the Grand Prize





## YARD OF THE MONTH

MANDARIN GARDEN CLUB (November 2019 Yard of the Month)

The lovely Mandarin Country Cottage of Dale and Ronald Schwend was chosen for the November yard of the month and nominated by many passing neighbors.

This Schwend Cottage and Garden offers nature, beauty, gorgeous views of beds, even when flowers aren't blooming. A garden of tradition and timeless maximizing space using ornaments throughout the yard for an over-all look of charm and grace.

A list of some of the plants and various blooms and flowers found during this season was various ferns planted in pots and placed in many decorative locations, a hanging rabbits foot fern, azaleas, camelias, hydrangea, blue daze, begonias, various roses, mother-in-law tongue, inpatients, English ivy, fall mums, crotons which blended nicely with all the fall decorations. Dales goal was to design a garden that felt like home, easily maintained, celebrating all four seasons, and a place to enjoy year-round.

One exciting thing about the Schwend Cottage Garden is it doesn't just give a big sweep of single blooms and plants but rather many small spots and enchanting views with a variety of color

Evergreens, surrounding the property year-round offers additional color throughout the year for a great landscape appeal for country living in a part of historic Mandarin great landscape appeal for country living in a part of historic Mandarin.

Nature is at its best with passing butterflies, hummingbirds, foxes, wild turkeys, Canadian geese, and a family of brown rabbits that call the shed and garden his/her home.

This couple works together maintaining the yard, Dale's seasonal design and garden knowledge complements Ronald's efforts keeping things neat, and well maintained.

This lovely Mandarin home shares its charm, warmth, and beauty year-round with an illusion of large creative space making the home enjoyed by all who passes or visits.

By: Wanda Bosworth  
Education and Community





## Mandarin Garden Club earns national certification

By Betty Waldrep  
mail@floridanewsline.com

Mandarin Garden Club has been certified as a new Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation through its Garden for Wildlife Program. The state affiliate, the Florida Wildlife Federation, has co-certified the habitat.



Photo courtesy Betty Waldrep

The club has received a personalized certificate with a unique habitat number and a certified Wildlife Habitat Yard Sign.

The Garden for Wildlife Movement has recognized more than 227,000 certified Wildlife Habitat gardens across the United States. Mandarin Garden Club is also a part of the Million Pollinator Garden challenge. This is a national effort to create a million gardens that provide habitat for declining pollinators such as bees and butterflies.

The club has created gardens on their property that provide natural sources of food, water, cover, and a place to raise young. The habitat, at 2892 Loretto Road, contains native plants, conserves water, and doesn't rely on pesticides. Birds, frogs, bees, butterflies, turtles, squirrels, and other local wildlife live and thrive on the property.

"The club has been creating this beautiful habitat since 1988," said Mary Howe, Master Gardener and namesake of the Mary Kay Howe Butterfly Garden.



**DECEMBER**

2019



















**JANUARY**

2020





Winter Celebration  
at  
Walter Jones Park

House decorated by

Betty Waldrep

Pat Sams

Sandra Varner

Gail Cook

















*Mandarin Museum*  
& HISTORICAL SOCIETY

January 14, 2020

Laura Miller, President  
Mandarin Garden Club  
2892 Loretto Rd.  
Jacksonville, FL 32223

Sandy Arpen

President

Street: 11964 Mandarin Road. Jacksonville, FL 32223 Mailing: PO Box 23601, Jacksonville, Florida 32241

Phone: 904/268-0784 [mandarinmuseum@bellsouth.net](mailto:mandarinmuseum@bellsouth.net) [www.mandarinmuseum.net](http://www.mandarinmuseum.net)



## DEED OF GIFT

Please contact Special Collections Department,  
Thomas G. Carpenter Library regarding the information  
on the redacted page.



FEBRUARY 2020



MARCH 2020



APRIL 2020



MAY 2020



**ANNUAL PLANT SALE, SATURDAY, MAY 23<sup>rd</sup> – 10 AM TO 3 PM  
TO ALL MGC MEMBERS:**

THE PLANT SALE IS THIS SATURDAY, MAY 23<sup>rd</sup>. WE ARE WORKING HARD IN THE NURSERY TO GET THINGS READY FOR THE SALE AND NEED HELP FROM EACH CIRCLE. PLEASE DROP OFF YOUR PLANTS BETWEEN 8 AM AND 12 NOON THIS WEEK. PLANTS SHOULD BE ROOTED AND LABELED. STAY AND HELP WITH SORTING AND PRICING, IF YOU CAN. IT'S REALLY NICE TO BE OUTDOORS WORKING WITH FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS ON BEAUTIFUL PLANTS. YOU MAY EVEN FALL IN LOVE WITH A PLANT TO TAKE HOME FOR YOURSELF. MEMBERS CAN SHOP EARLY AND PAY BY CHECK OR CASH. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.  
LINDA CARVALHO, CHAIRPERSON

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**Mandarin Garden Club's**

Gardens are open for viewing,  
taking walks, enjoying wildlife

Check our website for updates-  
[www.mandaringardenclub.org](http://www.mandaringardenclub.org)  
& on Facebook

Call 904-268-1192 for Membership  
and Rental Information





## Mandarin Garden Club celebrates National Gardening Day

By Diana Openbrier  
mail@floridanewslines.com

Mandarin Garden Club celebrated National Gardening Day on April 14. This holiday is meant to encourage gardeners of all kinds to kick off spring with a day of gardening. While many activities have been curtailed in a major way with the COVID-19 pandemic and residents are required to stay home, we can still garden in our own yard. It is fun, energizing, connects us with nature, connects us to friends, and provides a bounty of beauty for our mind and attitude as well as food for our body. Everyone can participate.



Photos courtesy Diana Openbrier

The winner of the National Gardening Day: Betsy Hogan, Live Oak Circle.

Since club members cannot get together to share gardening information at this time, the group decided to share their gardens on line. To add to the fun, plants started for the plant sale (cancelled) are prizes for the best yard presentation. Many pictures of gardens were emailed in and a winner and three runners up were chosen for recognition. Winners and runners up will get plants to add to their home,

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which they will choose from online pictures and then take home with no face-to-face contact. Club members can then drive by the winners' homes to enjoy the beauty of the yards.

The winner of the 2020 Mandarin Garden Club's National Gardening Award is Betsy Hogan, who has created a lovely and colorful respite area that would be calming and pleasant for anyone. The curved path invites visitors to a restful, peaceful seating area surrounded by colorful flowers and lush greenery. This calming, cool, vision of relaxation draws one up the path to a lovely bench — where one can watch the birds, dream problems away, and focus on the beauty of nature.

Other submissions were lovely as well and four will receive honorable mention. Linda Carvalho has many colorful flowers throughout her yard. The colors are so bright they draw your attention and lift your spirits. Peggy Martineau has nicely trimmed her yard and flowers are blooming. She has also created a "Mother Mary Garden" that warms the spirit and brightens the day. Karen Stanley has created an amazing and inviting entrance to her home. The greenery is bright and nicely trimmed. Her flowers are showing bright this spring. And for special mention for what is old is now new, Laurie McDonagh started a victory garden in a sunny part of her yard with a promise of fresh veggies soon.

This contest was just a fun way to show off work in the garden to friends. This spring it is time for us all to get out and start gardening. Till, plant, mulch, trim, clip, put dirt in a pot and plant a seed and spend time in nature. It brings beauty to your home, calm to the mind, and a feeling of accomplishment with every spout. It's time to garden! It's spring.





Vegetable garden cared by volunteers of the Jacksonville Extension Office

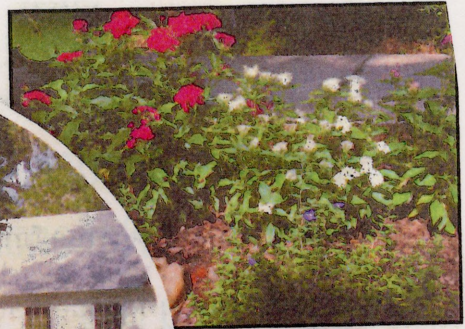


Mandarin Community Club



Mandarin Museum at Walter Jones Historical Park

Photos courtesy Shelley Howard



Flower bed maintained by volunteers at Walter Jones Historical Park



Gazebo at Billard Park

## Mandarin mainstays honored with Beautification Awards

By Betty Waldrep  
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Mandarin Garden Club has selected two properties to receive its annual Non-Residential Beautification Award for 2020. This award is given to a local business or organization whose property reflects an effort to maintain the natural beauty of Mandarin.

The two organizations selected this year are Walter Jones Historical Park and Mandarin Museum, and the Mandarin Community Club. Both organizations certainly meet the requirements of making efforts to maintain the natural beauty of the area.

The historical park is full of beautiful

oaks, native plants, seasonal beds, a kitchen vegetable garden, orange trees, an orchid tree, and many other blooming plants through the seasons. The artfully maintained museum and five other historical structures make the park a pleasant place for walks through the trails or on the walkway along the St. Johns River, as well as for picnics, photography, family gatherings, and other social events.

Mandarin Community Club is located farther down Mandarin Road from Walter Jones Park, and is an historical building and property that has huge

oak trees that are hundreds of years old at the entrance to the club and back of the post office. The quaint club house and historical post office located on the property are decorated with seasonal pots of blooms throughout the year. There is a botanical butterfly garden located by the white gazebo. The property has many native plants and the white picket fence adds to the charm of the property.

Congratulations to these two organizations for their attractive properties and for maintaining the natural beauty of Mandarin.



Magnolia at Mandarin Community Club



Orchid tree by the schoolhouse at Walter Jones Historical Park



Cherokee Rose blossom found at the Walter Jones Historic Park



















