
Mandarin Garden Club Newsletters

Mandarin Garden Club

11-2021

Newsletter November 2021

Mandarin Garden Club

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MANDRIN GARDEN CLUB



2021 NEWSLETTER

"THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER"

Bonnie Myers, President

Is it finally ...Fall? I don't know about anyone else, but I am so ready for cooler weather. These hot and humid days and evenings are getting old..... Have you seen our beautiful grounds recently? All year our Master Gardeners and Wednesday Weeders have worked diligently to keep everything cleaned up and weeded. If you have time to help in the gardens, please do. There are plenty of opportunities and small tasks to complete. Just show up on any Wednesday and ask where you can help. Donations are always accepted and appreciated.

Last Thursday was our clubs General meeting and a great opportunity for everyone to ask questions and walk around in the gardens. If you, or anyone that you know, are looking for a location to hold an event, please consider the Mandarin Garden Club for this occasion.

We are closer to receiving our grant for the COJ Covid money. Right behind this is another grant which we are exploring as well. I am still awaiting word from our insurance company as to what they expect us to compete on their required mandates. This is on my "To Do List" to follow up with next week.

With October coming to an end and Halloween soon upon us...Let's not forget to count our Blessings and be Thankful for our families and those friends around us. Share with other and always ...be Thankful and Kind.

Bonnie Myers



Scenes from the MGC October General Meeting



CIRCLE NEWS

CHERKEE ROSE

The November program will be: "Avoid Injuries in the Garden by Stephanie Gibbons," YMCA instructor and a presentation by Master Gardener Marlys Golatz. A fun quiz will follow, Test Your Knowledge, with some prizes. Everyone is welcome. **Marian Swain**

DOGWOOD - Laura Miller

New members: (Not in the Directory) Ellen Bethea, Rebecca Seraspe, Doris Sullivan, Sandy Travis and Barbara Binkley. Our membership is now at 57.

Time flies – we are in November – Holiday Season! Dogwood's program for this month will be presented by our special lady, Tamer Britton. I know we usually have a feast but due to the nearly doubled price of groceries we have to take a buy and Tamer has, instead, have a surprise program.

As of this writing, our members number 58 – at our General Meeting we welcomed Rebecca Seraspe, Sandy Travis and Barbara Binkley. All three jumped right in to help with cleanup!! We will make sure all of our 2021 newbies are introduced at our Circle meeting so we can all get to know them better. For those few who do not have their new Yearbooks – they will be available at the meeting as well as an insert with the new members' contact info. Be sure to pick one up. See you November 16th!

Reminder: At the last regular Board Meeting it was decided that each Circle would select its own Holiday Charity. I have spoken with our Food Bank Chair, Judy Zamborski, and we have decided that rather than having everyone shopping for any items as gifts it would be better to ask each member to donate \$5.00 so we can give a cash gift to the Mandarin Food Bank. There are several perishable items they can purchase which we cannot safely donate. This would give the Food Bank nearly \$300.00. They can make that go a long way to help serve the families who rely on food banks. Hopefully, you are all in agreement with this procedure. We can collect the money at our Circle meeting.

*Caught three of our new members together....
Ellen Bethea—Rebecca Seraspe— Sandy Travis*

Judy Till



LIVE OAK

Date and location of meeting to be announced. (From the Yearbook.)

MAGNOLIA

Magnolia Circle's October meeting was a field trip to Maggie's Herbs where we found some very interesting plants...I'll let you know if the Malabar spinach...a vine spinach... takes over my yard...on the way home we stopped for a nice lunch at Woodpeckers Bar-b-que. Our November 11th meeting will be Holiday Decorating/ Floral design...it should put us in the mood to decorate for the Holidays.

Stacia Snuggs



MASTER GARDENERS

MASTER GARDENER LIAISON:

Happy Thanksgiving and as we scout our gardens, we can see the rewards of our gardening throughout the year from all the hard work during the hotter months is in full display. An array of colors is showing their best in the leaf colors and some are plants are even in full bloom at this time of the year such as the grasses. Take the time to enjoy the all the efforts your gardeners have created in your garden club's gardens this year in your visits to your garden club.

The Mandarin Demo Garden and Weeding Wednesday workday list of garden needs and responsibilities continues. Join us any Wednesday from 8am-noon and any amount of time is greatly appreciated.

Happy Gardening.

Mary Forester, Master Gardener Liaison

COLLECTION STATION:

All collection donation items can be brought to any meetings. Thank you.
Cell Phone - since 2009 - Old cell phones are donated the Duval County 4-H program.

Glasses - since 2009 - Old eyeglasses and cases are donated to the Lions Club.
Ink cartridge recycling - since 2009 - Used ink cartridges recycled at Staples for club supplies.

Mandarin Food Bank - since 2008 - Non-perishable items and hygiene products are collected.

Pop Tops - since 2011 - The pop tops from any can items are donated to the Ronald McDonald House.

Retired Flags - since 2015 - Retired flags are presented to the Mandarin Community Club annual flag ceremony for proper disposal.



A special "Find" at
our Trash to
Treasure Sale

Photo by McGlade Holloway



Bring any non-perishable items for the Mandarin Food Bank (canned soups, toilet paper, personal items, 12 count egg cartons & plastic bags), ink cartridges, glasses, cell phones, can tops and old flags.

Thank you. **Joyce Datz**

RUM CAKE

Submitted by Sue Stringer

1 cup nuts (I prefer pecans)
1 cake mix (recipe calls for yellow, but you can use any flavor – I like red velvet)
1 package instant pudding mix (I use chocolate with red velvet cake; if you use yellow cake mix, you might prefer vanilla)
4 eggs
½ cup water
½ cup vegetable or corn oil
½ cup dark rum (or any flavor rum)

Glaze

½ cup butter
¼ cup water
½ cup white sugar
½ cup dark rum (or any flavor rum)

Preheat oven to 325 degrees F. Grease and flour a 10-inch Bundt pan. Sprinkle a few of the chopped nuts in the bottom of the pan and reserve the rest for the cake batter. If the nut layer is too thick, it is difficult to get a clean slice through the nuts.

In a large bowl, combine cake mix and pudding mix (I always sift them together – I have had the cake to lump if I don't sift it). Add the eggs, ½ cup water, ½ cup oil, and ½ cup rum. Blend well with mixer.

Bake in preheated oven for 60 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the cake comes out clean. Remove from oven and set aside to cool.

When cake is within 10 minutes of removing from the oven, make the glaze as follows: combine butter, water, and sugar. Bring to a boil over medium heat and continue to boil for 3 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and allow to cool slightly before adding the rum. If the rum is added when the glaze is hot, you will lose the alcohol taste.

After adding the rum to the glaze and stirred well, poke holes around the top of the cake (still in the Bundt pan). Pour the glaze over the cake gradually, about ¼ cup at a time, allowing it to soak in before adding more. Once you have added all the glaze, let the cake continue to sit in the Bundt pan for a couple of hours to allow the rum glaze to soak through the cake.

When you're ready to remove the cake from the pan, gently use a plastic knife and go around the edges of the pan to ensure the cake won't stick. Put a plate on top of the Bundt pan and turn over, holding the edges of the pan firmly to the plate.

I usually make it the night before, store in refrigerator, then remove the next day and slice.



FALL CRAFT FAIR



Crafty Ladies Craft Fair and Club Rental

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and Christmas is not far behind. Are you starting to think about Christmas gifts for the people on your list or do you want something new for yourself or your home? Put November 6, 2021 on your calendar and come to the 12th Annual Mandarin Garden Club Craft Fair from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 2892 Loretto Road, Jacksonville, FL. There will also be BBQ from the Masons and the Café will sell baked goodies and specialties provided by the members of the Garden Club. Many gorgeous plants will be for sale in the gardens. The Craft Fair is free and open to the public. Free Parking will be next door at the Masonic Lodge. We will be following CDC guidelines.

There will be all kinds of great crafts, many of them will be one-of-a-kind items. Nativity sets, bird houses and gourds, handmade wood items, framed photography items, floral items, candles, soaps, homemade sewing items, original art, wine, Sterling Silver and beaded jewelry, handmade jewelry, blankets, scarves, home décor, stepping stones, metal décor, painted trays and other home decor, candy, greeting cards and more will be for sale. Be sure to come and check it out!

Mandarin Garden Club is available for rent for parties, weddings, reunions, and all kinds of special occasions. Retirement parties, birthday parties, funeral receptions, family reunions and other social gatherings have been held at the club. You can schedule a tour of the building and grounds by appointment only by contacting Karen Stanley at [REDACTED]

You will find the rental of the club and its gardens a perfect place for your event. In trying to be of help to our community, the prices for renting the club are lower than many venues in the area. You can find information and pictures about the rental of the club on our website www.mandaringardenclub.org.

Thank You,

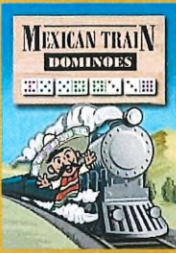
*Joyce Datz
Crafty Ladies/*



PLEASE NOTE/; Volunteers are needed the day before, Friday, Nov. 5 from 1-4pm and, of course, the day of the sale, Saturday, Nov 6 from 7am to 5pm. Contact Mary Kay Weis to let her know when you could volunteer. Crafters really appreciated all the help that was given last year.

Thanks to Wanda Bosworth for submitting the picture from last year's Craft Fair. (I mistakenly put it in the October newsletter. Judy Till)





GAME DAY

November's Mandarin Garden Club Mexican Train Day is Tuesday, **November 9, 2021** at 12:30pm. It's early in November because of Thanksgiving.

If you do not know how to play, we are happy to help you learn, with no pressure. We are a friendly, easy going, fun-loving bunch.

It takes about 3 - 3 1/2 hours to play. However, because we play with quarters, you can come in late, and you can leave earlier when you need to. Players start playing about 12:30. Usually 5-6 players to a table.

Bring your quarters to play. It will only cost you \$3.25 for all the games, that is if you don't win a round or two. We play 13 rounds at 25 cents a game. Win a round and you could take in \$1.25 & put your quarter back in for the next game.

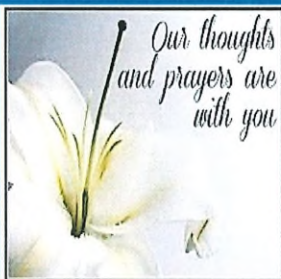
Mingle and play with different players than your usual friends. Move around, socialize and play with and get to know other members. Welcome new members and make them feel at home.

Come and meet new members from other circles. It's great social therapy, a way to keep your mind sharp, network with Club members, develop new friendships, or just a monthly outing to look forward to. Wear your mask and social distance as you see fit. We are ready to share in all the good food that you bring. Fix a dish to share and be sure to bring your drink. Come Join us!!!! *Suzanne Harper*



786 Members

Mary Kay Weis



Cards sent to:

Joann White	Sympathy
Carol Walker	Sympathy
Karen Stanley	Sympathy
Wanda Bosworth	Thinking of you
Sympathy card sent to family of Lee Burnett (Member) *	

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Judy Strassenberg

***Lee Burnett...a long time Magnolia passed away...if you knew Lee and wish to attend...her memorial service it is October 30th...10:00 am at Church of Our Savior...after the service there will be a reception at our own Mandarin Garden Club...if you wish to send a card to her family...**

Prayers

- ◇ **Cathy Kirby's sister has had a heart attack and is having bypass surgery this week.**
- ◇ **Barbara Binkley has been diagnosed with breast cancer.**

FUNDRAISING

It's so easy to fall for fall when every leaf is a flower.



Hope you were able to attend the General Meeting on October 21. It was good to see so many members together again for the first time this year. The room was full of laughter and the decorations were the colors of fall, gold and brown on white tablecloths. "Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all the other seasons." Quote - Jim Bishop

We have successfully completed two fundraisers so far this year, one in August and one in October. Both were very successful thanks to your donations and volunteering. November 6th is the Craft Fair and is presented by Joyce Datz of Crafty Ladies.

In December there will be an auction hosted by Crafty Ladies. The auction will feature items remaining from the Trash to Treasure Sale and the Craft Fair. This is a fun event and a great time for bargains for everyone. The exact date will be announced later. A reminder, the nursery is open every Wednesday from 9am to Noon for plant purchases by members. Thank you for your time and donations to fundraising. It is what keeps the club strong financially and spiritually. *We achieve when we work together.* Thank you for your support. **Linda Carvalho, Fundraiser Chair**



1st Winter Celebration at Walter Jones Historical Park

Submitted by Laura Miller

Please note the following announcement from Sandy Arpen:

The Winter Celebration Planning Committee and the Board of Directors decided to cancel the winter celebration for several reasons:

1. Even with people getting vaccinated and boosters etc., it may not be enough of the population to kick it out, which means we may continue to have these outbreaks from time to time. It is just too unpredictable and the safety of our volunteers and visitors is our # 1 priority. We can't guarantee that it would be OK to gather 1000 people together again in Dec. and we don't want to go forward as planned, advertise and then cancel at the last minute.

The Grand Reopening of the museum building just isn't going to be possible by then. We actually had almost a year delay in starting the building of the expansion due to COVID. The permits had been applied for just as it started and then everything closed, the city got very behind and it took very long to get all the permits to start. We are on a roll now and the building may be finished for the most part by Dec. 4, but we won't be able to get all the work done inside for the total redo of all exhibits.

So we are sorry. You all have been faithful participants in the past - each of you and your organizations bring so much to the event in terms of education, joy, fun and community spirit. We certainly hope you will come again and represent your organization on **Dec. 3, 2022 from 11-4.** I will connect with you again in June with details and to officially ask for your participation.

Thanks so much,

Sandy Arpen, *President of the Board*



November Recipe



After the October General meeting, numerous requests for Sue Stringer's Rum Cake recipe were made. In order to get the complete recipe to you, I have made it an attachment.

Thanks to Sue for sharing this delicious recipe. Judy Till



The Mandarin Garden Club has awarded the honor of Yard of the Month for November, 2021, to Sandra and Joe Varner, who live on Flynn Woods Road.

When you drive up to the home you immediately notice the inviting well-manicured front yard. But it's not the front yard that is the most interesting and enchanting part of the property, it's the backyard. Sandra and Joe have created a fascinating, almost magical backyard. There are lots of healthy, luscious plants throughout that enhance the many sitting and gathering areas in the large backyard. Some of the areas are wonderfully secluded allowing for time to relax, read, or have a private conversation. Everywhere you look there's something different and unique that catches your eye. In other words, something for everyone to enjoy. (The little cutie in the second pic on row two is Darla.)



Ellen Milligan—Education and Community

2021

NOVEMBER



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Setup for Craft Fair	2 Setup for Craft Fair	3 Weeding Wednesday 8 - Noon FYI - 6:00 PM (Forever Young Indeed) Setup for Craft Fair	4 Board Meeting 10 AM - (DW Setup) Setup for Craft Fair	5 Setup for Craft Fair	6 CRAFT FAIR 9:00 AM-4:00 PM CAFÉ CRAFT FAIR
7 	8	9 Game Day— Mexican Train 12:30	10 Weeding Wednesday 8 - Noon FYI - 6:00 PM (Forever Young Indeed)	11 Magnolia— 10:00 AM Crafty Ladies 12:30 AM	12	13
14	15	16 Dogwood— 10:00AM	17 Weeding Wednesday 8 - Noon FYI - 6:00 PM (Forever Young Indeed)	18 Cherokee Rose— 10:00 AM Crafty Ladies 12:30 AM	19	20
21	22	23	24 Weeding Wednesday 8 - Noon FYI - 6:00 PM (Forever Young Indeed)	25 NEWSLETTER INFO DUE Crafty Ladies 12:30 AM 	26	27
28	29	30				

PLEASE NOTE...

- ◇ Prepare for the Craft Fair—November 6
- ◇ You can use this as a planning calendar



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