

WPHF Grant for Community Garden Project in Mead Garden

The Winter Park Health Foundation just awarded the Friends of Mead Gardens a grant to establish another education program within Mead Garden: a demonstration community garden for garden groups, focusing on how to start and administer community gardens. Veteran gardening project leader, Orange County/UF IFAS Extension Service **Ed Thralls**, will be leading the Friends of Mead Garden program in cooperation with the City of Winter Park.

The grant is part of the Winter Park Health Foundation Program Think-Act-Be Healthy Communities initiative. The program adds to the array of education programs happening within Mead Garden including the school year environmental education program and summer nature camp for kids, adult garden and education programs at the Winter Park Garden Club and the State Federation of Garden Clubs within the almost 50-acre park.

The new demonstration community garden project will kick off later this summer and will demonstrate how to create a community garden organization, how to construct raised garden beds, how to prepare soil for growing healthy food varieties and flowers, how to select food varieties for the season, how to control insect pest in the most environmentally friendly manner, how to harvest food, how to compost plant waste material for sustainability, and how to prepare the garden for new crops at the end of the current growing season.

The Friends of Mead Garden thanks the Winter Park Health Foundation, Ed Thralls and the City of Winter Park for helping bring this additional program to Mead Gardens!

Other organizations receiving grants include: Brookshire Elementary, Dommerich Elementary, Hungerford Elementary, Interfaith Council on Community Health and Depugh Nursing Center, along with the Welbourne Ave. Day Nursery and Rollins College, Town of Eatonville, Winter Park 9th Grade Center, and Winter Park Towers.

The morning after....



Annual Meeting

The Friends of Mead Garden Annual Membership Meeting is planned for June 20, 9:00 am – 11:00 am at the Mead Garden Pavillion. The public is invited to see and hear all that is happening in the garden and to recognize volunteers and contributors.

Night Blooming Adventure!



Lucky neighbors catch the once-a-year blooming of the cereus cactus in the garden. Dori Madison took this grainy picture with her cell phone, in the dark, of course. You really had to be there to appreciate the miracle of it anyway. They counted 80 blossoms. Thursday, June 11. Mark your calendar for next year.

