



100 Ladies of Deering President's Report – March 2024

We rounded out February with a 'Director's Tour' led by Jennifer Tisthammer. 25 ladies, DEF BOD and family members followed the path of water which included stops at the Cutler Slough Rehydration demonstration wetlands, Chinese bridge over Cutler Creek, Mr. Deering's pipeline through the property, a drive through the Pine Rockland eco system, and finished up at the C-100 Cutler Drainage Canal. With the guidance of the Deering Estate education team, we tested water quality for salinity, acidity and oxygen and learned the data collected through the demonstration wetlands/re-hydration project is being used to support expansion of Everglades restoration and guide long term planning for the region and improve the health of Biscayne Bay. It was a fabulous morning and everyone enjoyed exploring new areas of the Deering Estate campus, and was impressed with the passion and knowledge of the entire Deering Estate team.

In March, the Marketing Committee is continuing to work on a film about Ramon Casas' Maria Tubau painting which hangs in the Stone House. The approximately 8 minute film covers the art itself, the restoration of the piece by the local conservator ArtCare (funded by 100 Ladies of Deering,) the history between Charles Deering/Ramon Casas and Ramon Casas/Maria Tubau, and even associated stories of the supernatural. When complete the film will be posted online and shown with the piece to add depth and context to the painting as it is currently displayed.

The next Docent class completed training and Docents answered questions during Member Appreciation Day. The Furnishing and Design Committee is working with the Estate staff on accessories for the Richmond Cottage. The Grants Committee donated \$1000 towards the new DEF GEM cart, and is working with DE Staff on grants to underwrite ArtCare training and supplies to maintain the artwork correctly, fund stabilization of Mrs. Deering bible, and an appraisal of Flight into Egypt. Activities and Education sponsored 'Out to Dinner' at Golden Rule Seafood and arranged Sunrise access to the Deering Estate where member Meg Wallace talked about her installation currently on display.

Executing all this in addition to intense preparations for Chef Demo Area and Bubbles by the Bay, the 100 Ladies of Deering continue to fulfill their mission of Preserving Charles Deering's legacy of Community, Culture and Conservation.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Battaglia
President, 100 Ladies of Deering