



100 Ladies of Deering President's Report – August 2023

Miami may have been hot summer 2023, but the 100 Ladies of Deering didn't let the heat slow us down and held events on the Deering Estate and around Miami. July 10 and 18, Melissa Diaz and Ana Rojas offered 'Behind the Scenes' Tours to the 100 Ladies of Deering. We were privileged to see the Mango Grove/Maintenance area, Addison Clearing/Nursery, Stone House roof top/3rd floor, basement crossover to Richmond Cottage, the secondary stairwell from the Richmond 2nd floor to the kitchen, and how the ticket booth near the People's Dock has been reimaged as an orchid lab with space for research interns. It was exciting to see these back of house areas and learn information on the upcoming renovation plans for the Stone House and about ongoing conservation/natural areas projects. The 100 Ladies brainstormed with staff conservation projects and tours we will plan over the next year.

The Executive and Finance Committee met and allocated \$166,500 to support 19 new and continuing projects for the coming year. Several other projects did not receive funding but have been referred for more information/investigation and may be awarded funding in the future.

Echoing the schedule of the DEF, the 100 Ladies did not have a formal meeting in July, and will have our next meeting August 17 in the Deering Estate Visitor Theater. We will have a short business meeting and then Becky Roper Matkov will present her research on Julia Tuttle. 'When Julia Sturtevant Tuttle, a young wife and mother of two from Cleveland, visited her parents in remote South Florida in 1875, she fell in love with the clear blue waters of Biscayne Bay. She later purchased 640 acres at the mouth of the Miami River and returned as a widow to live there in 1891. Thanks to her convincing Henry Flagler to bring his railroad to the Miami River, and working relentlessly to build, promote, and nurture the community, in 1896 Miami was incorporated as a city. In her seven years of living on the banks of the Miami River, Julia Tuttle transformed a region.' This meeting and presentation is free to attend and guests are welcome, but please RSVP. There will be social time with light bites at 6:30 pm, with the meeting and presentation starting at 7 pm. RSVP here -

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4AADAA29A7FCC70-100lod>

The 100 Ladies of Deering continued activities including Out To Dinner at Finka and Café Catula, and monthly mahjong, and are planning the schedule of events for the rest of the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Battaglia
President, 100 Ladies of Deering

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