

# The Bloomin' News

November, 2007, Vol. VI, 4

Lisa Dugowson, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

*Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS*



## Chairman's Message

By Lisa Dugowson

Welcome to Fall – Florida style. According to my northern calculations, it should be getting cooler by now. I am waiting for those cool, crisp days when the garden calls out to me. I hope the next cold front actually cools our temperatures down.

It has been a busy Garden Club month. Last month we attended FNATS (Florida Nurserymen Allied Trade Show). It was great fun, and I recommend it to anyone who loves their garden. We learned a lot and got tons of free samples. The very next weekend we had our semi-annual Plant and Tree Sale, and it was a success. We sold every Plumeria (Frangipani) that we brought downtown, and we have many ideas for our next sale. Thank you to all the members who worked so hard growing plants all year, and put so many hours in getting ready for our sale and working at the sale.

On October 11, I attended Florida Federation of Garden Clubs District VI Fall Meeting. It was interesting to learn the workings of the larger clubs. I brought back lots of information to share with our members.

The TGC hosted a Floral Flavors workshop at the Garden Center on October 20. I made an arrangement for Halloween, and learned about preparing flowers from my garden to use in flower arrangements. Everyone is invited to attend events..

### Titusville Garden Club – Day Group - From the Prez

- 1) The next meeting for the Women's Garden Club will be on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am. Their speaker, Bob Freeman, will do a program about fossils.
- 2) Please bring bird and butterfly magazines to donate to our Youth Gardeners Group
- 3) The women are sponsoring the traditional Christmas Eve Luminaries at \$3.50 per dozen. Prices include candles, bags and cups. To order, call Jackie Hope at 267-9559 by November 10.
- 4) We have 2008 State Calendar available for \$6.39. This makes a wonderful Christmas gift--just address envelope and mail for \$1.59 book rate.

### Florida Native Plant Society – Sea Rocket Chapter

The Sea Rocket Chapter's meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month; 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Brevard County Agriculture and Extension Center, 369 Lake Drive, Cocoa. The public is welcome.

### Garden Club Web Sites

The Titusville Garden Club web site has link to the Titusville Men's Garden Club web site:

National Garden Club: [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)

Florida Federation of GC: [www.ffgc.org](http://www.ffgc.org)

TMGC TGC site: <http://www.nbbd.com/npr/tgc/>

site: <http://www.tmgc.djb.net/>

### Potential New Members, YOU Are Welcome

We are always looking for new members and have great opportunities for learning at our monthly meetings, at the Tree Farm and at special events. As a return for members' input/work, many plants are available to members at no cost. We have facilities to start plants from seeds/clippings. For more information call Tony Koromilas: 269-1931, Lisa Dugowson: 264-6389 .

### November in the Garden

This is a good gardening month with cooler nights and lower rainfall. Some cool days and cooler nights are needed to start dormancy in our plants for winter protection. Most plants other than hardy annuals will be preparing to go dormant for the winter.

Tropical plants and many plants that retain their leaves in the winter will need some protection from frost and winter cold. You can hill around the base of the plant with mulch, soil or Spanish moss to provide some protection. When frost is expected, cover tender plants with paper bags, cardboard boxes, trash containers, burlap or cloth. If you use plastic, keep it well away from plants. In severe cold, a small electric bulb (40 to 100 watts) at the base of covered plants can prevent freeze damage. Running sprinklers during freezing weather can save many plants. You can reduce damage from light frost by washing frost off lawns and tender plants early in the morning before the sun hits them.

Prepare lawns and woody ornamentals for winter by withholding fertilizer. Renew mulches to conserve moisture and to reduce cold injury. Shorter days and cooler temperatures have slowed lawn growth, but lawns

## **November in the Garden (continued)**

and citrus trees should still be watered as needed. Bahia and St. Augustine lawns should continue to be cut 3 to 4 inches tall. Remove fallen leaves from the lawn. Lawn weeds that survive mowing should be controlled with a liquid herbicide. If your lawn is thin in areas, you can make it green by over-seeding with winter rye grass seed late in the month as the permanent grass goes dormant. Broadcast eight to ten pounds of seed per 1,000 square feet to get a good winter cover. Rye grass will grow in light shade and will need fertilizer, water and regular mowing.

DIFFENBACHIA, CROSSANDRA, EPISCIAS, PEACE LILY, LIPSTICK VINES and other cold sensitive plants will suffer if temperatures drop much below 55 degrees, so be prepared to bring them indoors or place them in a heated shelter. A few nights of 50 or even 45 degrees will not harm most ORCHIDS although it may retard flowering; however, most ORCHIDS will benefit if protected from temperatures below 42 degrees.

This is a good time to control Scale on AZALEAS, CAMELLIAS, GARDENIAS, IVY, HOLLY, MAGNOLIA, LIGUSTRUM and many other plants. When the temperature is below 80 degrees, use dormant or low-toxicity oil spray as directed on the container. Repeat oil spray in one month.

Hardy plants that will provide winter color in your yard include ALYSSUM, CALENDULA, CLEOME, DIANTHUS, LARKSPUR, PANSIES, PETUNIA, PHLOX, SALVIA, SNAPDRAGON and VERBENA. Remove faded blooms to extend flowering. Hardy foliage plants include DUSTY MILLER and ORNAMENTAL CABBAGE and KALES.

**Garden Club Members. Please try to write an article of your choosing about gardening and forward to me at email below. Thanks, Joanie**

Please send your articles to Joanie at [freddiefla@yahoo.com](mailto:freddiefla@yahoo.com) to be included in next month's Bloomin' News.

**Our next meeting is right around the corner on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Please join us!!**

### **Titusville Men's Garden Club**

**Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.**

**Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville. FL**

**FNATS October 4<sup>th</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

**Fall Tree & Plant Sale October 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

**Spring Tree & Plant Sale April 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

Mark these dates on your calendar; it's never too early to get plants ready for the next sale!!! The parking lot east of Emma Parrish Playhouse is our usual location.

### **Work Day**

Please remember that the **Saturday** after our Monthly Meeting is a day of concerted effort at the Tree Farm. Individuals put in many hours during the week at their convenience, and this is very necessary for continued success. We also have some tasks that need teamwork to accomplish. This work is the focus of our Saturday events.

**Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup> is our next Work Day! We will meet at the gate between 8:00 to 8:30 a.m. until about noon. Stay as long as you are able. Please come out and join us as we continue preparing plants for our next sale.**

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Titusville Men's Garden Club

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**THE TITUSVILLE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB**

**Titusville Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville, FL 32780**

**INVITATION TO JOIN THE TITUSVILLE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB**

**Next Meeting: 2nd Monday of each month Begins at 7:00 p.m.**

**Who We Are:** A non-profit club that enjoys gardening and contributing to our City's beautification and our environment.

**What we Are:** As a part of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, we are a partner of the Titusville Garden Club.

**What We Do:** We educate and help each other to enjoy gardening, teach and learn to enjoy plants. We assist others to propagate, grow and distribute trees and plants to non-profit organizations. We participate in voluntary efforts to help Titusville's "Tree City" initiative to plant 2,000 trees per year.

**Where We Meet:** We meet on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road (south of SR 50 / north of SR 405). We also meet at our Tree Farm near the Titusville Water Maintenance Facility. Members adopt trees and plants to grow and have fun.

**How We Operate:** We presently sponsor an April and an October Tree and Plant Sale. The sales receipts are used to support the Club, purchase materials, and donate plants to the City and other worthy non-profit causes. Some members grow plants to landscape their own homes (all are welcome to do so). With permission from a plant's adoptee, members may take plants for personal use. Dues are \$25.00 annually, due in April.

**Send application below to Titusville Men's Garden Club, P. O. Box 1783, Titusville, FL 32780.**

**Phone Tony Koromilas 269-1931 or Lisa Dugowson 264-6389**

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**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cell:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_