

The Bloomin' News

September, 2008, Vol. VI, 15

Lisa Dugowson, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



Chairman's Message

By Lisa Dugowson

Last month our speaker was Liz Melvin, Brevard County Office of Natural Resources Management. We learned where our water runoff goes when it leaves our gardens and lawns, and how important it is to reduce our use of chemicals. Liz did a Rain Barrel Workshop the following Saturday, which some of our members attended. If you have not gotten a rain barrel yet, ask our experts to help you make one. I have 2 in my garden and recommend their use.

FNATS, now being called the Landscape Show, is Sept. 25-27 this year. If you are planning to go, make sure Dena has your name on the list. Tickets must be purchased by September 5th.

Titusville Garden Club – Day Group - From the Prez
Welcome back from summer vacation, Members. Our first meeting is on Sept. 3rd at 10:00 a.m. Our speaker is Maureen Phillips, City of Titusville Water Management.

Florida Native Plant Society – Sea Rocket Chapter
The Sea Rocket Chapter's meetings are held on the 4th 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

Florida Federation of GC: www.ffgc.org

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

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

Gardening Info: HGTV.com

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. We have facilities to start plants from seeds/clippings. Back page of newsletter has additional information. Drop by to visit and to possibly join us. For more information, call Tony Koromilas: 269-1931 or Lisa Dugowson: 264-6389.

SEPTEMBER IN THE GARDEN

September will be as hot and humid as August, and will bring about as much rain as last month. Changes that will affect our plants: night time temperatures will begin to drop and shorter daylight hours will induce some plants to set buds.

Because plants in Florida grow continuously, regular pruning is a must. Fall pruning and fertilizing should be done early to allow new growth to harden. Late pruning and fertilizing will stimulate new growth that could be damaged by cold in December or January. Final pruning and fertilizing of cold sensitive hedges and ornamentals should be completed in September. Prune declining fronds and flower stems from PALMS. Renew mulches to save water and reduce weeds.

Do not prune AZALEAS, CAMELLIAS or GARDENIAS their buds are already set. CAMELLIAS often set two buds side-by-side. If you would like larger but fewer blooms, pinch one of them off. Make sure you can distinguish between leaf and flower buds.

Give POINSETTIAS a final pruning before September 15th. Watch for mildew, white flies and tomato worms. Spray and prune ROSES, removing old flowers, hips and dead, damaged or spindly growth. Fertilize to encourage fall blooming.

Fertilize lawns now or in October with a good 16-4-8 plus iron so your lawn will be green all winter – barring frost. Operate sprinkler systems manually to conserve water, only watering when grass shows signs of distress.

September in the Garden (continued)

Pinch CHRYSANTHEMUMS and spray for aphids, mites, mildew and blackspot. Feed with 10-30-20 or similar high phosphate fertilizer until color shows in the buds. Feed hanging baskets and orchids every two weeks.

Feed shrubs, perennials and container plants for Fall. CHRISTMAS CACTUS should receive their last feeding this month. Move them into partial sunshine and reduce watering until buds appear. Till and replant flower beds. If you did not start annual flowers from seeds, local nurseries or garden shops will have a selection of plants in 4-packs. Annuals that will provide color in your yard this fall and winter include ALYSSUM, CALENDULA, CLEOME, CORNFLOWER, DIANTHUS, GAILLARDIA, HOLLYHOCK, PERIWINKLE, PHLOX, SALVIA, SNAP-DRAGON & VERBENA. Wait another month to plant the first PANSIES and PETUNIAS.

Speakers for upcoming meetings: Ed Wardingley

SEPTEMBER 8th: Xaviar de Sequin Des Hons Xaviar is the Land Manager at the Enchanted Forest, and will speak about the Brevard Environmentally Endangered Lands Program (EEL).

October: Due to scheduling error, we had to postpone the following to this month. Thanks for your understanding. This meeting will be a little different.

We are planning an informal "bring your own bag lunch/dinner" or eat before we have our first tour of "Steve's garden". His property is landscaped with a beautiful assortment of fruit and nut trees. By that time, it will be cooler and no mosquitoes☺!!

In the next few weeks, we will email you the exact date, time and other information, which will be some Saturday in October.

Please send your articles to:

Joanie at freddiefla@yahoo.com to be included in next month's Bloomin' News.

Titusville Men's Garden Club

Meets 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville. FL

Our next meeting is September 8th, 2008!!
Program on EEL, Environmentally Endangered Lands Program.

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 Work Date:

September 13th 2008 @ 9:00 a.m.
Come to our Tree Farm.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING **2008 EVENTS**

September 25-26-27	Florida Nurseryman Allied Trade Show
Oct 10-11	Fall Tree & Plant Sale Downtown
Oct 12	Garden Club's 75th Anniversary

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Titusville Men's Garden Club
Joanie Opperman, Editor
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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

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, Lisa Dugowson 264-6389.

Name: _____

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____ **Cell:** _____

Street: _____ **City** _____ **Zip** _____