

The Bloomin' News

November, 2008, Vol. VI, 17

Lisa Dugowson, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS

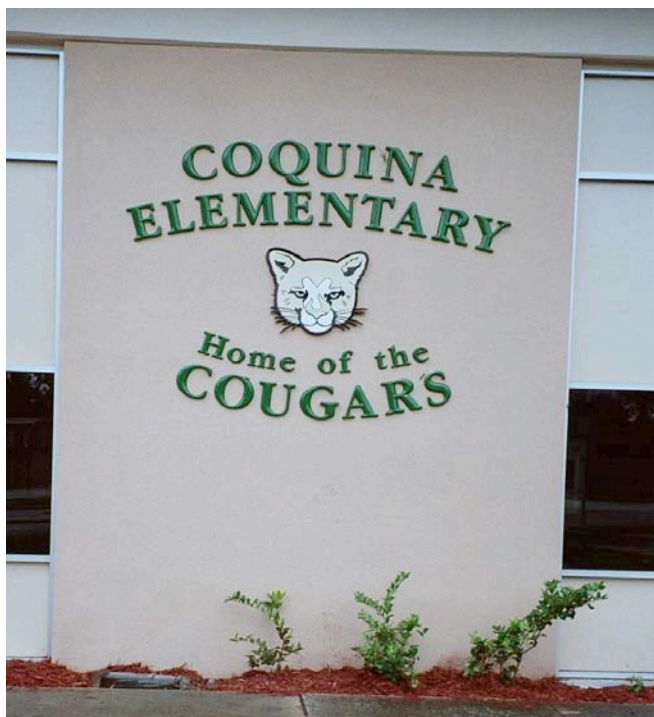


Chairman's Message

By Lisa Dugowson

Now that there is a chill in the air I find it hard to stay indoors. All those projects I put off when the weather got hot are finally getting done. Ahh... Fall. We had a busy month. The Landscape Show and our Semi-annual sale were a lot of fun but also a lot of work. We learned about some new technology that hopefully will improve our growing efforts at the farm.

We have some service projects that have been planned to improve our community. On October 25, we joined the efforts of Indian River City United Methodist Church at Coquina Elementary School for Make a Difference Day. The gardens were cleaned up and plants donated by our club now brighten up the area. We would like to continue doing these kinds of projects in our community. If you have something in mind at our local churches or schools in Titusville please bring your ideas to our next meeting which will be on November 10, at 7PM, at the Garden Center on Sisson Road. See you there. Lisa Ldugowson@cfl.rr.com



Titusville Garden Club – Day Group - From the Prez
The next meeting for the Women's Garden Club will be November 5: Culinary Herbs and Honey Varieties, with Anneke Penn.

The women are sponsoring the traditional Christmas Eve Luminaries at \$4.00 per dozen. Prices include candles, bags and cups. To order, call Jackie Hope at 267-9559 by November 10.

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

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 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

Burl's Corner

I think it is time for a "to do" list for the Tree Farm, so here goes:

1. Check plants from the Landscape Show in need of root pruning, and up-pot if needed.
2. Pot liners from the Landscape Show that are in the mist bed.
3. Pot rooted cuttings from mist bed.
4. Check trees to see if they are root bound, and prune roots as necessary.
5. Put plants from the Landscape Show with like plants in the corrals.
6. Up-pot plants in corrals as needed.
7. Check plants in corrals that need to be divided.
8. Pat Bayer and I will be at the Farm next Tuesday, after voting, to identify plants and put name in the pot. **(Lisa, can you drop off labels before Tues at Farm?)**
9. Lisa bought 100 covers for gallon pots, which have been used. I suggest we buy 500 gallon size covers. Buck is working on covers for 3-5 gallon pots. We can re-use covers in gallon pots when plants need to be moved up to larger pots.
10. As always, we need to remove weeds from pots. It is much easier to pull "baby weeds".

If you have a favorite tree or plant, we need you to adopt it from "birth" to Sale. Some we can grow from cuttings and purchase hard to root items. If this idea "whets your appetite", we welcome you with adoption papers.

At the Tree Farm – Tony Koromilas

Thanks a big bunch to all who worked on the Sale!! Terrific Job!!! Now we must move all the FNATS plants to their proper corral. Fred, Ed, Ray and I have been re-Enforcing the 4x6 and 4x4 structure with new supports and bolts, etc.; also repairing the racks in the mist house. It looks like two (2) 4x8 rafter boards need clips. Thus, I think the safety concerns should evaporate.

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 right around the corner on November 10th at 7:00pm. Please join us!

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 15th is our next Work Day! We will meet at the gate between 8:00 to 8:30a.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

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**

**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 @ 269-1931 or Lisa @ 264-6389**

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ **Cell:** _____

Street: _____

City _____ **Zip** _____

