

The Bloomin' News

MAY, 2012, Vol. VI, 58

Dena Chemerys, Chairperson

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



Chairman's Message

Hi Everyone,

As of this writing , our scheduled Saturday work day is this Saturday the 28th. Our short term goal is to clean up the farm. If you have time, maybe a lawnmower or trailer, it would be appreciated. We have been fortunate over the years to have use of the club's farm by the City. Lets all take pride in our farm and work together to make it safer, eco friendly, and tidy.

Our Appreciation Dinner is being held the night of the 28th. We are hoping for a nice attendance. While our club continues to work on various projects at the farm, we need to be working on labeling the blooming flowers and plants so we can keep a record of each plant's color.

A couple of reminders, first the Flower Show at Epcot is in full swing. The second is that the club will be sponsoring two children to Wekiva this summer. If you have a child or grandchild who would like to attend please contact the day group for information. Have a safe and happy summer, God Bless Dena Chemerys Chairman

MAY IN THE GARDEN

May is usually a dry month, so regular watering may be necessary. Lawns should have about 1 inch of rain or irrigation each week; bedded plants and shrubs about ½ inch every 4 days; and CITRUS and other trees 1 inch a week. Renew mulches to conserve water and keep down weeds.

Continue to prune and trim your AZALEAS and CAMELLIEAS for next year. Prune GARDENIAS after they finish blooming. If mites, thrips and/or scale are present, spray with Cygon and/or Summer Oil. Feed monthly with an acid forming fertilizer. Small monthly feedings are better for most plants than fewer heavy feedings. Cut back perennials finishing their spring bloom. Continue to prune any dieback from winter damaged plants.

May or June is the time for a second application of lawn fertilizer. However, unless you are prepared to water heavily, if May is dry, I recommend waiting to fertilize in June, normally a wetter month than May.

Continue to seed, plug or sod to fill in bare areas in your lawn. Apply an iron-only fertilizer to re-green yellow Bahia lawns. Fertilize shrubs and flowers lightly with 6-6-6 fertilizer every 4 or 5 weeks.

Mole Crickets will be active in Bahia lawns this month. May is one of the best months to combat them. They tend to nest under concrete walks, driveways and stepping stones. They come out at night to feed. Mole Cricket Bait applied to a wet lawn in the evening is effective. Check St. Augustine lawns for Chinch Bugs. Treat infected areas about 10 feet beyond infestations when noticeable damage is occurring.

CRAPE MYRTLE, JASMINE, BOUGAINVILLEA, ALLAMANDA, GARDENIAS, QUEEN PALMS and other

plants may show a yellowing of leaves because of a Manganese deficiency. Apply Manganese Sulfate to the soil at package recommended rates and water well.

NOTE: Manganese Sulfate will stain concrete.

Spider Mites can be a real pest during dry weather. While they seem to prefer JUNIPERS, MARIGOLDS and PYRACANTHAS, they can attack any plant. Look for them as a scorched area on leaves or fine webbing in crotches or leaf bases. You can blast them off with a hard stream of water.

Take tip cuttings of shrubs and plants to root in Perlite and Vermiculite. Divide and re-pot Bromeliads, Orchids and other plants that have outgrown their containers.

Plant BLOOD LILY, CALADIUM, CANNA, RAIN LILY, DAY LILY, SPIDER LILY and CRINUM bulbs for summer color. Replace cool season plants with warm season plantings of BEGONIAS, BLUE DAZE, CELOSIA, COLEUS, GERBERA, IMPATIENS, MARIGOLDS, PENTAS, PERIWINKLES, SALVIA, TORENIA, VERBENA and ZINNIAS.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR – Ann Wicks

Sunday, May 6, 9:00am-- Merritt Island--The Platinum Coast Orchid Society--Show and Sale--Kiwans Island Park Gymnasium and Annex

Saturday, May 12, 9:00am--Orange County--University of FL/IFAS--Tropical Fruit for Central Florida--Registration 407-254-9200 ask for a Master Gardener



Titusville Garden Club – Day Group - From the Prez

- May 4 – Spring Luncheon
- May 8 – Annual Reports due
- May 10-11 – FFGC Convention, Jacksonville
- May 16-19 – NGC Convention, Buffalo, NY

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 Enchanted Forest on Rt. 405. The public is welcome.

<http://www.nbbd.com/npr/Sea Rocket>

KEEPING OUR POLLINATORS – Sharon Adams

One thing is very plain. If bees don’t survive, we may not either. We need to care for our bees and do everything we can to protect them. Some bees live in ground. You will see these on the DVD we can show when I speak to your group. Google Miner Bees and Green Bees. Keep in mind that poisoning your yard will also kill these desperately needed pollinators. One out of every three bites of food you take comes from bees. Once you get to know them, you will have fun watching them come and go.

There are humble, bumble homes, plans to make bee nests for Mason Bees, Honey Bees, and I just found a new easy one. Take an 8” clay pot, bury it upside down in a sheltered place with the hole on the top. Just before you “bury” it, put soft dry grass or moss in the bottom. I will take photos of ours to show at the meeting. If you are successful, you will have made a Bumble Bee nest! Also, leave sheltered bare ground in a couple of places on your property for the Green and Miner Bees. This area can have a few of their favorite plants. African Basil is always a winner.

Take some time to get on the web and see which flowers you like to attract bees. I have a whole edible yard, and will have almost no plums or nectarines this year due to no bees. When this happens in your yard, it really comes home that we need to protect them.

Speakers for May & June – Steve Korpacz

May’s speaker will be Tia Meer. She is with the Simple Living Institute in Orlando and her topic is **“GROWING MUSHROOMS”**.

June’s speaker will be Sharon Adams who will be talking about **“GROWING APPLES”**. She will bring some trees with her for sale.

TREE FARM NEWS – Tony Koromilas

The yellow Cannas are blooming and thriving, thanks to Jeannie who has adopted them. The Agapanthas, which were finally grown from seed, are looking terrific. Thanks to Dick & Ann. who grew that huge cabbage Our club received an award, thanks to Joanie who took it to Brevard County Fair.

Thanks to Ed, Marko, Buck, Bryan and rest of gang who continue to lay ground cloth, repair mist house, mow, organize rows, weed, make trays, etc.

TREE DONATION TO GREEN UP TITUSVILLE

Thanks to Ed, Marko, Alex, Patti, Joanie, Rose, Laura, Amanda & Kathryn who have worked on the Oaks, Maple tree seedlings, Bald Cypress. We delivered about 85 to the Enchanted Forest on Earth Day event. It was our yearly contribution to the Titusville Environmental Commission. They were given to children to make them aware that trees remove CO2, which contributes to global warming. Thankfully we have about 100 new Red Maple seedlings growing from seeds for the future. Joanie, Rose, Laura, and others are helping uppot

ARBOR DAY EVENT April 27, 2012.

Again thanks to Ed, Marko, and others as we continue to donate Oaks, and Bald Cypress to the City, which were planted on Harrison Street on Arbor day per our ongoing project started years ago. Oaks were originally given to us as babies about 5 years ago from Tedler Nursery.

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 May 14th, 2012

Saturday Workday: April 28th, 8am-11:30am

April 28th – Brevard Rare Fruit Council – Edible Fruit Tree Sale (8am to 4pm) at Melbourne Auditorium

April 28th – Men’s Garden Club will meet at Whistle Junction at 6pm for Appreciation Dinner

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

The Bloomin' News

Titusville Men's Garden Club

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Email: freddiefla@yahoo.com Phone: 480-8807

The Titusville Men's Garden Club

Next Meeting: May 14th, 2012 -- 7:00 p.m.

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: RoseMarie @ 385 8051 or Joanie @ 480 8807