

# The Bloomin' News

JULY, 2013, Vol. VI, 72

Les Leckron, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

**Wow – we had a bountiful Brainstorming Session at the June meeting – lots of great ideas and discussion. Realizing not everything can be acted upon immediately – we have some good things to work on in the coming months.**

**Remember the orange Florida Coontie Seeds that were available at a meeting some months ago? I have some seeds growing roots – any other's having success with Coontie?**

**Gardening is a learning adventure – like Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Life is a journey, not a destination". So it is with gardening – when we find something didn't grow or survive our method of propagation – we can take a look at what we did and try something new. Enjoy your Journey! Les**

## JULY IN THE GARDEN

June has brought much needed rain, and July is also expected to be a wet month with 7 to 10 inches of rain in north Brevard County. July will be very hot making it one of our most uncomfortable months for gardening. Despite the heat, routine garden maintenance should continue. Work early or late in the day, apply sunscreen and wear a head cover. Save water by turning off your automatic sprinkler system and operating the system manually as needed.

If you did not fertilize your lawn in May or June, it is still not too late to apply a good 16-4-8 fertilizer. If Bahia lawns still show yellowing, additional iron should be applied. Sod-web worms could arrive in July. They feed heavily on St. Augustine, but will attack other lawns. Watch for grass that is chewed close to the ground, as if cattle had grazed. Diazinon, Dursban or Thuricide are effective controls.

Chinch bugs may also be active in July. Mole Crickets in lawns and treated lawns and Mole Bait, or Dursban spray/granules. Follow label instructions.



CRAPE MYRTLES have been blooming beautifully, but this can be only the beginning. Prune back each cluster to reasonably large stems before seed pods form. Remember, strong branches can only grow from branches larger than themselves. Feed with a high, super-phosphate fertilizer every 2 weeks. If mildew occurs, spray with a good fungicide. In 4 to 8 weeks, you should have a second flush of blooms.



Continue to pinch new growth, except AZALEAS, CAMELLIAS and GARDENIAS to assure thick, compact plants. Use the cuttings to root new plants. Prune POINSETTIAS to develop compact plants. Divide and repot ORCHIDS and BROMELIADS. Fertilize shrubs and flowers lightly with a 6-6-6 or similar fertilizer every 3 to 4 weeks. Feed outdoor container plants every 2 to 3 weeks. Transplant PALMS and SAGOS during our rainy season. Remove weak or diseased tree limbs that could be damaged by storms. Make a weekly trip through your garden to check for insects, diseases or other problems. Watch for yellowing or scorching – a sign of Spider Mites. Blast them off with a hard stream of water or spray Mites with a summer oil home citrus spray which will help control mites, scale and whitefly. Use Natural or Organic sprays.

Hot weather plants that add color to the landscape include BEGONIAS, BLUE DAZE, CALADIUMS, COLEUS, IMPATIENS, MARIGOLDS, PENTAS, PERIWINKLE, SALVIA and VERBENA. Add an additional thin mulch layer to flower beds to conserve moisture and control weeds.

## Accentuate With Annual Flowers



Annual flowers are the candy of the gardening world. They kick things up a notch in the garden and are an easy way to add a burst of color if you're on a budget. One of the best uses for annual flowers is to brighten up high-traffic areas like mailboxes, sidewalks, and front doors. Whether in containers or in the ground, annual flowers provide a way to add something new without breaking the bank. And, because annuals generally grow for just one season, they're a great way to try new color schemes and combinations without fully committing.

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### TREE FARM NEWS – Tony Koromilas & Ed Rahn

Mist house has lots of propagated plants ready to up-pot then placed in proper corral. Great job and thanks to those who started cuttings. We are potting those that are not marked; thus, if you don't want them touched, please mark them immediately. We need to propagate Indian Hawthorn, Gardenia, and other cuttings. If you are trimming at home, cut ends of plant about 6 inches long and place in moisturized bag. Plant cutting in a vacant, vermiculite/perlite mixed bin, coat cutting with Ru-tone. Identify with your name, date, and species--see anyone at Tree Farm Tuesday mornings for help.

Ann and Dick were told incorrectly by City person that no one is allowed at farm on Fridays, etc. That City person was NOT correct. I checked and was advised that our old rule has not changed. Remember every other Friday the City locks the gate sometimes; thus, be careful not to be locked in. Call me or Ed etc. for the combination before you go there. (Tony 321 269 1931)

### Titusville Garden Club – Day Group -

(Resumes in the fall)

### 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 ENCHANTED FOREST on Hwy. 405. The public is welcome.

<http://www.nbbd.com/npr/SeaRocket/>

## Garden Club Web Sites

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

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

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

TMGC: <http://www.nbbd.com/npr/tmgc>

## Become a New Member!! 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: RoseMarie: 385-9051.

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## 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**

**Our next Business Meeting is on**

**July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Come join us; we look forward to seeing you as we discuss plans for upcoming year.**



**Titusville Men's Garden Club**

**The Bloomin' News**

**Joanie Opperman, Editor;**

**Email: [freddiefla@yahoo.com](mailto:freddiefla@yahoo.com)**

**Phone: 480-8807**

# The Titusville Men's Garden Club

Next Meeting: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Month, 2013 -- 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: 385-9051 or Joanie: 480-8807**

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

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

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