

The Bloomin' News

DECEMBER, 2013, Vol. VI, 77

Les Leckron, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



Chairman's Message - Les Leckron



It's hard to believe that 2013 is winding down and we are heading into 2014! Thanks to all who have done so much for our Club this past year! We continue to grow in numbers and I believe that says a lot about us! December will fly by, but don't forget some important dates! We have our December Meeting on Monday 12/9/13 and then our Pot Luck Holiday Social at Elisa's house on Saturday 12/14/13. Final details of the Pot Luck will be discussed at the December meeting. Please remember to take care of your plants during the Holiday Season and put your beautiful specimens on display! I noticed some of our Christmas Cactus are getting ready to bloom and some of my bromeliads are popping up their displays of colorful flowers. Just because we are heading into winter doesn't mean we won't have blooms! December gets so hectic, so make some time for yourselves and enjoy your gardens and plants – Keep it Growing! Les

DECEMBER IN THE GARDEN

December is normally a dry month with about 2 inches of rain. While we may have heavy dew, lawns will still require about ½ inch of rain or irrigation each week. AZALEAS and CAMELLIAS can suffer bud drop later if not watered as needed. Temperatures during December should have average lows in the low 50's and highs in the 60's and 70's. Night low temperatures may occasionally be in the 40's or even 30's with the possibility of frost or, although infrequent, even a freeze when a cold front moves through. **Make sure the ground is moist before a frost or a freeze.** Be prepared to move ORCHIDS and other cold sensitive plants indoors or provide protection when cold temperatures are predicted.

If not already done, December is the time to cover greenhouses, lath and shade houses with plastic for the winter. Clear 4 to 6 mil polyethylene film provides an inexpensive cover. Check heaters or plan for heating if you expect to protect plants during infrequent freeze periods. Check those plants you bring inside for mites, mealy bugs and other pests.

This is a good month to add or transplant trees, shrubs and other plants and to divide perennials. Because of the cool weather, water loss through foliage will be low and above ground new growth minimal. Start flower and Papaya transplants.

Continue fertilizing hardy annuals and container grown plants monthly. Discontinue fertilizing other outdoor plants except vegetables. Delay any major pruning until after winter. Renew mulch where needed.

Clean, oil and repair garden equipment. Drain gas tanks, change oil, clean and lubricate idle garden equipment and engines. Sharpen and paint tools for next year's use. A bucket of dry sand mixed with a quart of used motor oil makes an excellent long-lasting cleaning device for shovels, trowels and other similar tools. Just push the tool into the sand several times after each use. Hardy annuals that will provide color in your yard and survive our normal winter cold include ALYSSUM, CALENDULA, CLEOME, DIANTHUS, PANSY, PETUNIA, PHLOX, SALVIA, SNAPDRAGON and VERBENA. Remove faded blooms to extend flowering.



Extend the life of holiday plants by putting them in a cool, bright location. Water them when the soil surface begins to dry.

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.. There are facilities to start plants from seed/clippings. We meet at 7:00pm on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Garden Center on Sisson; drop by to visit and possibly join us. For more information, please call RoseMarie at 385-9051.

.....
HONORARY MEMBERS

BURL FERGUSON

SUSAN MURPHY

TONY KOROMILAS
.....



FARM NEWS – Tony Koromilas

(Rec'd email from Frankie below)



Good new...Tony is home from re-hab center and is feeling a little better every day. Please pass the word along to other members, please. Is a very busy time but we're adjusting to changes. Tony would love company but prefers to wait till he can

talk. Might be a good idea to call first as his schedule is a little irregular right now. After the holidays would work best for us. Children are coming from NC for turkey day and all the family will be here. HAVE A GREAT THANKSGIVING TO EVERYONE AND MANY, MANY THANKS FOR ALL THE SUPPORT AND PRAYERS. YOU ARE ALL AWESOME FRIENDS. Tony considers you all as family. THANK YOU AGAIN.



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 will be
December 9th, 2013!!**

COMMUNITY CALENDAR –

Saturday 12/07 Mims Christmas Parade,

Parade Begins at 10:30am on US 1 from Mims

Elementary to Parker St. - See more at:

<http://www.nbbd.com/events>

Sunday, 12/08 25th Annual

"Christmas on the Green"

1:45pm - 4:00p. -- Free outdoor Christmas concert
LaCita Golf & Country Club, 777 Country Club Drive. -

See more at: <http://www.nbbd.com/events>

Saturday, 12/14 BETHLEHEM IN MIMS"

from 1:00 to 5:00pm (free) – Live Nativity

Mims United Methodist Church, 3302 Green St.

1:00pm - 5:00 pm. For info, call (321)267-6202

Saturday, 12/14 - Amaryllis Festival at Historic

Nehrling Gardens Holiday Celebration. Seminars,
free admission. 2267 Hempel Ave., Gotha (west of
Orlando) Event times from 9am to 5pm

407-445-9977 www.nehrlinggardens.org

**Saturday, 12/14 – The 53rd Annual Titusville
Christmas Parade**

6:00pm -- Washington Avenue from the Miracle City Mall
to Broad St., Downtown Titusville. - See more at:

<http://www.nbbd.com/events>

Titusville Garden Club – Day Group - From the Prez

Dec. 3 – Decorate Library for Christmas @ 8:00 am

Dec. 5 – Holiday Luncheon at 11:00 am

Dec. 31 – Un-decorate Library at 8:00 am



Men's Garden Club Calendar for 2013

December 9th - Business Meeting 7:00pm

**December 14th – Holiday Dinner at Elisa's
3:30pm -7:30pm**

3740 S Ridge Circle, Titusville, FL 32796

**Please R.S.V.P. by Monday, December 9th the
number of guests and the food item you're bringing
to: Elisa Artusa; 268-0343; eartusa@bellsouth.net**

Garden Club Web Sites

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.nbbd.com/npr/tmgc>

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

Florida Native Plant Society – Sea Rocket Chapter -

The Sea Rocket Chapter's meetings are held on the 4th
Wednesday of the month; 7pm to 9pm at the Enchanted
Forest, 444 Columbia Blvd. (Hwy 405) Titusville. The
public is welcome. For info: 264-5185

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



The Bloomin' News

Titusville Men's Garden Club

Joanie Opperman, Editor

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

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.

For more information, please phone RoseMarie at 385-9051.

Name: _____

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

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