

# The Bloomin' News



October, 2016, Vol. VI, 110

Duane 'Buck' Cowen, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



## Chairmans Message

Well I'm back with a line or two full of encouragement! We are approaching our Fall Tree and Plant Sale, and the garden looks great. The workers bees have done a fantastic job. It's good we have some new people with some new ideas ! We have established a veggie garden., which is on the south end of the mist house. Alan is very interested in this project, and is doing a good job.

I am on vacation; heading up the east coast with several stops. I will not be there for the sale ! hope you have a fantastic sale!! I know we can all get along and work together. So have fun making it a successful sale! Till next time.....*Just Me, Buck*

## OCTOBER IN THE GARDEN

Nights are slowly turning cooler, and days are shorter and slightly cooler—a relief to us and to our plants.

October normally brings less rain than September, so you will need to watch your lawn, shrubs, annuals and potted plants and water them when needed.

This is the last month to fertilize your lawn, palms and shrubs. If not already done, give shrubs and hedges a final fall pruning. Remove suckers, low limbs and trim or remove unwanted growth.

Any pruning done after mid-October will stimulate new growth that could suffer cold damage this winter. Delay all pruning of vines and fruit trees until mid-winter. Operate sprinkler systems manually to conserve water. Water lawns when grass shows signs of stress.

Renew mulches as needed to conserve moisture during the dryer Fall and Winter months. To assure holiday blooms, relocate POINSETTIAS, CHRISTMAS CATUS and KALANCHOES so no artificial light will fall on them.

If you expect to plant Winter and Spring bulbs such as TULIPS, CROCUS, DAFFODILS and HYACINTH, this is the time to begin the 12 weeks of refrigeration required by the bulbs in our climate.

If you like to pick your own strawberries, now is the time to start a bed with a bundle of 25 fresh, healthy plants from a nursery or garden center. Varieties that have given good yields in central Florida gardens include Florida 90, Tioga, Dover, Florida Belle and Douglas. They will also do well in full sun in a large wooden barrel, a pyramid, or hanging baskets using a good potting mix. Three plants in a 10" or 4 in a 12" basket will flourish in full sunshine if given adequate water and fertilizer.

If not already done, give Citrus and grapes a final feeding of special Citrus fertilizer before October 15. Feed cool-season annual plants monthly for winter blooms. Replant flowerbeds and hanging baskets with cool-season plants such as ,ALYSSUM, CALENDULA, CLEOME, CHRYSANTHEMUMS, CORNFLOWER, DIANTHUS, GAILLARDIA, GERANIUM, PANSY, PERIWINKLE, PETUNIA, PHLOX, SNAPDRAGON AND VERBENA.

**\*URGENT FERTILIZER INFO: Sharon A.**

The high number in the middle of most fertilizers is the main cause of Lagoon death; and for 3 years or so now they recommend "0" Phosphate, and.....only slow- release Nitrogen! Fast Nitrogen is also killing our Lagoon. Only apply when rain is not expected, and water down 1/4". I know, nag, nag; but I think we all need to do our part to save our resources, as dolphins and manatees and grass are all sick and dying. We can and will reach a tipping point where all is dead, and we will have no seafood resources to eat or draw tourists.



**Titusville Garden Club – Day Group -** From the Prez  
**October 5 – TGC Morning Meeting**

“Field Manor, M.I.’s historic waterfront homestead, grove and farm” – by Jane McCallum, Ex. Dir.

**October 19 - District VI Fall Meeting, in Deland**

**October 30 - Order Luminaries**

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**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, 444 Columbia Blvd Hwy 405). For info, please call: 264-5185. The public is welcome.

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

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**CALENDAR OF UPCOMING 2016 EVENTS**

**October 1** – Wildwood Community Center- Master Gardeners’ Fall Sale – 6500 Powell Rd.

9am to 1pm Call 352-569-6870

**October 8** – Ft. Pierce – Master Gardener Fall Family Fest and Plant Sale – 8400 Picos Road

8am to 2pm – Call 772-462-1660

**October 22** – Lakeland – Munn Park Fall Extravaganza – 201 E. Main Street - 8am to 3pm  
Call 863-370-4065

**Thursdays, Melbourne** – Brevard County Farmers’ Market, Wickham Park Equestrian Center – Open from 3pm to 6pm –  
Call 633-1702 ext 238

**October 22** – Enchanted Forest Sanctuary Annual Harvest Festival - 11am to 4pm  
444 Columbia Blvd., Titusville  
Visit [www.eelbrevard.com](http://www.eelbrevard.com) for more details

**TREE FARM NEWS –**

Thanks to all those who have been growing the plants etc.. As I have always believed, we are enhancing and beautifying our areas and the City. Most important, we are having fun too!

The farm looks terrific! The figs, crotons, juniper, hibiscus, crape myrtle, and trees are popular with our customers. Again, thanks to all for making the sale a real successful event. It's amazing that folks watch for our two sales. We had customers from other cities!!!

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**Five Plants that Naturally Repel Mosquitos**

Research shows the following 5 plant species make particularly potent natural insecticides that help zap mosquitos.

**Catnip and catmint** – These members of the mint family not only attract cats, but also repel a variety of insects, including aphids, squash bugs and mosquitos.

**Citronella Grass** – The oil from this tall, ornamental grass is a proven mosquito repellent. Just make sure you’re using the true varieties, Cybopogon nardus or Citronella winterianus. Place a perimeter of these plants around your porch, patio or swimming pool to provide natural barrier.

**Geraniums** – These flowering plants contain both citronella and geraniol, shown to be an effective mosquito repellent. Put in planters or pots around your outdoor living areas.

**Lantana** – Researchers found that homes with lantana contained an amazing 50% fewer mosquitos that homes without the plant. It is best to keep it in containers or hanging baskets. It can be invasive.

**Lavender** – This plant provides powerful but pleasant aroma, as well as medicinal properties for aromatherapy. The oils keep away pests ranging from mosquitos to rabbits. Lavender can be planted in your garden, and can also be kept in pots in your home. It’s hardy, resists drought, and only requires good drainage. ([www.DrMicozzi.com](http://www.DrMicozzi.com))





# 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 on April 1st.

**Send application below to Men's Garden Club, P.O. Box 1783, Titusville, FL 32781**

**For information , please call: Joanie at 480-8807**

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

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

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