

# The Bloomin' News

November, 2018, Vol. VI, 133

Duane "Buck" Cowen, Chairman      Thomas Perez, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE – Buck Cowen

Hello fellow gardeners.

Yes it's me again! As things are going in the world today, with the influx of large box stores, plants are in abundance and this makes it difficult to have super sales. We do well with our sales but not as well as we did years ago. We will and have in the past been open to all suggestions. It is very difficult to determine what our customers want from year to year. We sell out of one variety one year and don't sell a single one the next. This last sale, trees did not sell?? We listened to customers, got some bottlebrush and very few sold. We will not be discouraged. We are the men's garden club and we will endure. Remember all ideas should be looked at and at least tried! As I've said before, we are all here because we like plants. All of us may not work in the same way. But we should be working towards the same outcome.

We have some new members; please make them welcome. See you at a meeting or at the farm

*Just Me, Buck*

### 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 are 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. 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 8 to 10 pounds of seed per 1,000 sq. feet to get a good winter cover. Rye grass will grow in light shade and will need fertilizer, water and 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..

Hardy plants that will provide winter color in your yard include ALYSSUM, CALENDULA, CLEOME, DIANTHUS, LARKSPUR, PANSIES, PETUNIAS, SALVIA, SNAPDRAGON and VERBENA.





# The Titusville Men's Garden Club

Titusville Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville, FL 32780

Next Meeting: Second Tuesday of the Month, -- 10:00 a.m.  
(@ "the Farm" Behind Stuart Park)

## 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 Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at our Tree Farm near the Titusville Water Maintenance Facility, next to Stuart Park. 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.

For more information Phone Rose @ 321-289-8388.

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## Titusville Men's Garden Club Application

Send application to Titusville Men's Garden Club, P. O. Box 1783, Titusville, FL 32780.

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

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

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