The Bloomin' News

JUNE, 2019, Vol. VI, 139

Alan Howland, Chairman **Thomas Perez, Editor**

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS

Chairman's Message – Alan Howland

Summer in the garden and it's hot, hot, hot. Cat is busy braiding hibiscus plants for the fall sale. Rick and Michael have finished transplanting the trees we purchased last December, and they are looking real good. They include elm, pecan, red bud and sycamore. We are putting together our wish list for an additional 100 root stock trees again in December. The shiitake mushroom mycelium inoculated into several oak logs in the winter should be slowly spreading throughout the logs. We are crossing our fingers for our first flush of mushrooms by the end of June. Rose has been rescuing the pineapple plants from excessive heat and water while Kathryn and Patty are replanting and weeding in the yard. And Buck, keeps us working by continually fixing our equipment and electronics when it breaks down.

Meanwhile, construction of the new shade enclosures has begun. We finished laying out a new layer of ground cloth last month and this month the erection of the framing has commenced. This enclosure will definitely take the stress off of many of the plants struggling in the summer heat. BTW, Don't forget summer vegetables can still be planted. Heat tolerant vegetables include peppers, lima beans, eggplant, sweet potato, small cherry tomatoes and okra.

And don't forget to stay hydrated, especially as we start acclimating to the arrival of our hot summer weather.
Alan



JUNE IN THE GARDEN

Although May surprised us with some showers, June should give us even more rain. In a normal year, we get about 7 Inches, mainly as afternoon and evening showers. An unobstructed rain gauge can save guess work, and sometimes a good deal of watering. Our flowerbeds and lawn need a minimum of 1 inch of water a week in our hot weather. If you do not get about ½ inch of rain during each 3 to 4 day period, you should water until about ½ inch of rain and irrigation has been applied. Applying and/or renewing mulches and weeding will reduce water needs and help control summer weeds.

The increased rain and higher humidity will increase Black Spot and Powdery Mildew on ROSES, CRAPE MYRTLE, ZINNIAS and other similar plants. Start a weekly fungicide spray program. This will also help control Spider Mites.

If you have Bahia lawn, June is an excellent time to seed bare and thin spots. After sowing seed, apply a thin layer of soil, water well, frequently when it does not rain.

June is one of the most active months for Mole Crickets the scourge of Bahia lawns. Follow label instructions when you begin spraying or putting out bait. Mole Cricket bait applied on a damp lawn in the evening is also effective. Mole Crickets are usually active on the surface after dark.

Pinch back the tips of bushes and shrubs to develop more compact plants. Use the cuttings to root new plants for our plant sale. Do not prune or pinch AZALEAS or GARDENIAS after the end of June, or you will sacrifice some of next year's blooms. If plants are not a deep rich green, feed with Chelated Iron, Iron Sulphate and/or Manganese Sulfate. Manganese Sulfate will also cure "frizzle top" on Palm Trees.

Root tip cuttings of CHRYSANTHEMUMS and POINSETTIAS – use 4 to 6 inch long cuttings with all the leaves left on the MUMS. Remove all but the tip leaves on the POINSETTIAS.

Fruit drop from Citrus and some other fruit trees can be expected this month. The trees shed the fruit they can not support. To reduce drop, follow an established fertilizer and watering program. Feed bananas monthly.

Brighten your yard with warm season plantings of BEGONIA, BLUE DAZE, CALADIUM, CELOSIA, VINCA, COLEUS,

IMPATIENS, MARIGOLD, PENTA, SALVIA, PORTULACA, PERIWINKLE, VERBENA and ZINNIA. June is also a good time to plant bulbs of DAY LILIES, RAIN LILIES. IRIS, CANNA, CRINUM and SOCIETY GARLIC.

NOTE: Above mentioned chemicals may no longer be available. Replace with Natural or Organic sprays.

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.. We have facilities to start plants from seeds/clippings. For more information, call Rose at 321-289-8388.



Titusville Garden Club – Day Group -
June 1 – Annual Dues Deadline: FFGC Dues

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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 Hwy 405 in Titusville. The public is welcome. For Info: 321-264-5185

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

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

Five plants that naturally repel mosquitos:

Catnip and catmint: not only attract cats, but also repel a variety of insects, including aphids, squash bugs…and mosquitos. Scatter pots of this hearty plant around your yard, balcony or home.

(Citronella grass, Geraniums, Lantana and Lavender are the other 4 repellent plants!)

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

June 7 -- **Music in the Forest** 6:30pm - 8:30pm -- Enchanted Forest Nature Sanctuary. Donation suggested. Native American Flute and World Music Duo of Holly Harris and Annette Abbondanza.

June 8 – Photography Club 9 – 11am. Enchanted Forest Nature Sanctuary. All levels of photographers welcome. View photographs and learn tips at this monthly meeting.

June 11 – Science Presentation on Lagoon Research 6pm. MINWR auditorium. Free, Shannon Egger of the Marine Resources Council will present research on the Indian River Lagoon.

For more information on many more local events this month see: http://nbbd.com/events/

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Joanie's Corner -- SUCCULENTS

Succulents store water in their thick leaves, so they do not rely on a large root system. Take advantage of this unique quality by planting in small containers crevices of rocks or any small space. For containers, use a high quality potting soil. It is not necessary to use expensive cactus potting soil if you reduce the water and ensure good drainage.

For large containers, fill the pots up halfway with empty milk jugs, soda bottles or cans or packing peanuts to take up space, increase drainage and keep the pots a bit lighter. Saving money on potting soil is an added bonus.



Succulents will grow well in full sun to part shade. You can add beautiful topdressing to accentuate the color

and texture, such as stones, pebbles, shells, gravel or tumbled glass. Propagate by setting leaflets on the top of a pot or tray of soil. Avoid temptation to "stick" them in – they will root if left just resting on the soil. A light misting every few days will be needed.

Over several weeks you will begin to see small roots growing down from the cut end and new baby plants will begin to grow. Let these small plants reach dime size before trans-planting into their own pots.

Titusville Men's Garden Club

Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9 am.
"At the Tree Farm" next to Stuart Park
1230 Thoreau St
Our next meeting will be
July 9th, 2019

The public is welcome to join us. Work at the Farm is conducted on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

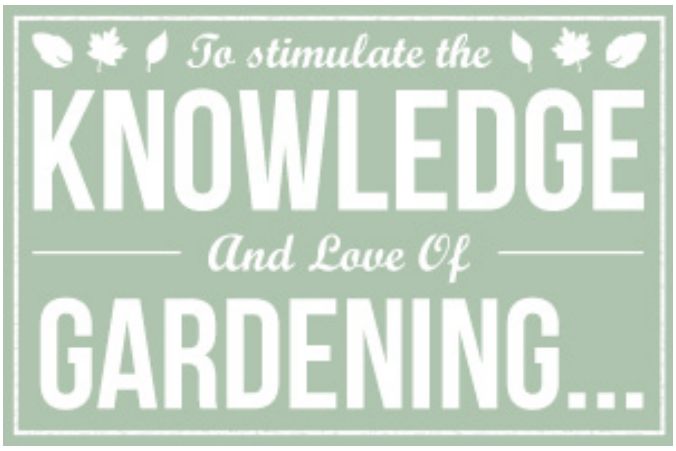
The Bloomin' News
Titusville Men's Garden Club
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Please send your articles to
be included in next month's Bloomin' News.

APPRECIATION DINNER in MAY!!

Members met at Buck's house for this wonderful event, which included a tour of his beautiful landscaped grounds.

A pleasant afternoon and a substantial meal was had from the dishes brought by everyone.







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

Name: ____

Email: ______________________________ **Phone:** ______________ **Cell:** ______________

Street: ______________________________ **City** _____________________ **Zip** ___________