The Bloomin' News

May, 2022, Vol. XI, 5

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

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS

Chairman's Message

Fellow Gardeners,
The dog days of summer are upon us and it's important that we keep an eye on our plants to make sure there are no dry spots at the farm. It's also important that plants be moved to the shade enclosures or under the oak trees if they cannot handle the summer sun. Please make sure you consult with the farm managers or myself before moving anything. Also, if you see plants in the field that are not doing so well then please bring them to the front for repotting or pruning. There are heat loving plants such as okra, basil, tarragon and rosemary that you can start in the mist house and set out in the summer sun. Let's continue to plant cuttings in the mist house, everyone has done such a good job with that.
Next week's monthly meeting is canceled and we will send you an email on when it will be rescheduled. We have had a few mechanical issues with some of our equipment and I want to thank Buck and the people who have helped fix these problems. Tom has completed the insulation inside the new shed and is in the process of starting to seal the walls. Louis has removed our sign at the main gate and is working on a new sign that includes our logo.
Everyone had a wonderful time at the appreciation dinner in April and we expect to have more luncheons at the farm soon. Regards, Alan

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. We have facilities to start plants from seeds/ clippings. We meet at 10 a.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Tree Farm behind Stuart Park. For information, please phone Rose at 321-289-8388.

MAY IN THE GARDEN

May is usually a dry month, so regular watering may be necessary. Lawns should have about 1 inch of rain or irrigation each week; bedded plants and shrubs about ½ inch every 4 days; and CITRUS and other trees 1 inch a week. Renew mulches to conserve water and keep down weeds. Continue to prune and trim your AZALEAS and CAMELLIEAS for next year. Prune GARDENIAS after they finish blooming. If mites, thrips and/or scale are present, spray with Summer Oil. Feed monthly with an acid forming fertilizer. Small monthly feedings are better for most plants than fewer heavy feedings. Cut back perennials finishing their spring bloom. Continue to prune dieback from winter damaged plant. If May is dry, I recommend waiting to fertilize in June, normally a wetter month than May. Continue to seed, plug or sod to fill in bare areas in your lawn. Mole Crickets will be active in Bahia lawns this month. May is one of the best months to combat them. They tend to nest under concrete walks, driveways and stepping stones. They come out at night to feed. Mole Cricket Bait applied to a wet lawn in the evening is effective. Check St. Augustine lawns for Chinch Bugs. Treat infected areas about 10 feet beyond infestations when noticeable damage is occurring. CRAPE MYRTLE, JASMINE, BOUGAINVILLEA, ALLAMANDA, GARDENIAS, QUEEN PALMS and other plants may show a yellowing of leaves because of a Manganese deficiency. Apply Manganese Sulfate to the soil at package recommended rates and water well. NOTE: Manganese Sulfate will stain concrete. Spider Mites can be a real pest during dry weather. While they seem to prefer JUNIPERS, MARIGOLDS and



PYRACANTHAS, they can attack any plant. Look for them as a scorched area on leaves or fine webbing in crotches or leaf bases. You can blast them off with a hard stream of water. Plant BLOOD LILY, CALADIUM, CANNA, RAIN LILY, DAY LILY, SPIDER LILY and CRINUM bulbs for summer color. Replace cool season plants with warm season plantings of BEGONIAS, BLUE DAZE, CELOSIA, COLEUS, GERBERA, IMPATIENS, MARIGOLDS, PENTAS, PERIWINKLES, SALVIA, TORENIA, VERBENA and ZINNIAS.

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VEGETABLES – by Sharon Adams

Iron Lady Tomato is in the Gardens Alive catalog, and is the newest, greatest tomato for this area! They also have Miragreen Peas. This would be for next December, for folks to have time to order and plant. The tomato is resistant to "Septoria leaf spot", early and late blight. The garden club might want to grow them, but they are NOT listed as nematode resistant, so members would order Pacific Mustard seeds from Johnny's and plant them now and later. You grow them, the bees like them and just before they go to make seeds you mow them and till them under. They are like the old VAPAM and kill nematodes in the soil. Two plantings now and in summer. They grow well and at any time would make a nematode-free garden bed. Along with Green Cure from Johnny"s for powdery mildew on squash, cucumbers etc. Also a "might be" remedy for spider mites; i.e., a cup of dark molasses per gallon sprayed on leaf undersides. They hate sulfur. You cannot spray sulfur in the summer. The molasses contains sulfur, it will contain peach brown rot and will not burn the plants.

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TREE FARM

Thanks to all the weekday workers for having fun weeding, propagating, up-potting, & planting new varieties of many plants. We were super successful at our Spring Sale, and now we must replenish the Tree Farm for future sales and donations. A special "Thank You" to Buck for cutting the grass, and in general organizing our work area. THANKS, BUCK!



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

Florida Native Plant Society – Sea Rocket Chapter

For information on The Sea Rocket Chapter's meeting contact the Enchanted Forest at 321-264-5185. The Enchanted forest is located at, 444 Columbia Blvd (Hwy 405). The public is welcome.
http://www.nbbd.com/npr/SeaRocket/

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Joanie's Corner

The Monarch butterfly, In October, starts their annual migration flying from Canada by the thousands on a 2,000 mile journey across the desert and the mountains to their final destination in Mexico. There they hang from branches so close together it boggles the mind, only leaving to eat and drink water. They hang suspended for 5 months. At a certain time only known to them, they fly to Texas, where they mate, lay 300 to 400 eggs, then die. Those eggs will hatch, and they will fly to Canada, where the cycle will continue.

Our State butterfly is the Zebra Longwing. The delicate adults may live for several months. Females deposit small, yellow eggs on young leaves and tendrils of Purple Passionflower. There are 2800 native plants and more than 180 species of butterflies. Cater to their life cycle needs by including nectar plants for adult butterflies and host plants for their larvae. Butterflies have 4 life stages: egg, larva (caterpillar), pupa (chrysalis) and adult. By planting host plants, you provide food for caterpillars and can enjoy watching them grow and transform into adult butterflies.

Titusville Men's Garden Club

Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10 am.
"At the Tree Farm" next to Stuart Park
1230 Thoreau St
The public is welcome to join us.

May's Meeting is Cancelled & will be rescheduled to later in May

The Bloomin' News
Titusville Men's Garden Club
Tom Perez, Editor; 240-285-6189
Email: tntsservice@gmail.com
Please send your articles to
be included in next month's Bloomin' News.



The Titusville Garden Club Tree Farm

Meetings are on the Second Tuesday of the Month at 10 am.

Location: "At the Tree Farm" next to Stuart Park, 1230 Thoreau St

INVITATION TO JOIN THE TITUSVILLE GARDEN CLUB TREE FARM

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 am. at "the Tree Farm" next to Stuart Park, 1230 Thoreau St. near the Titusville Water Maintenance Facility. The Tree Farm is open on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings, our workdays.

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. Members adopt trees and plants to grow and have fun. Dues are $25.00 annually, due in April.

Send application below to Titusville Garden Club, Tree Farm P. O. Box 1783, Titusville, FL 32780.

For more information, please phone Rose at 321-289-8388.

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Name: ____

Email: _____________________________ **Phone:**______________ **Cell:**______________

Street: _____________________________ **City**_____________________ **Zip** ___________