

# The Bloomin' News

January, 2008, Vol. VI, 4

Lisa Dugowson, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



## Chairman's Message

By Lisa Dugowson

**HAPPY NEW YEAR to all of our Garden Club members, friends, their families and loved ones.** Hope you all had a wonderful **Christmas** holiday this year. A big **"THANK YOU"** to all the folks who have worked out at the Tree Farm this past year. . You are truly appreciated and your labor of love does not go unnoticed. Honestly, the Tree Farm looks better than we have seen it in a long, long time. After the holidays, I am hoping we can pick up where we left off and complete this big project. But, of course, the next project will be planting the tree seedlings; we will need all your hands. We are working towards our next Spring Tree and Plant Sale in April. Don't forget our next meeting on **January 14 at 7:00p.m.** **Steve Korpacz will be speaking on landscaping with bananas!!!**

### Titusville Garden Club – Day Group - From the Prez

The next meeting for the Women's Garden Club will be on January 2 at 9:30a.m. Bill Warren will be speaking on "Amaryllis".

January 16 TGC Card Party 10:00a.m.

January 28 TGC Board Meeting 10:00a.m.

Please bring bird and butterfly magazines to donate to our Youth Gardeners Group

### 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 Brevard County Agriculture and Extension Center, 369 Lake Drive, Cocoa. The public is welcome.

### Garden Club Web Sites

The Titusville Garden Club web site has link to the Titusville Men's Garden Club web site:

National Garden Club: [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org)

Florida Federation of GC: [www.ffgc.org](http://www.ffgc.org)

TGC site: <http://www.nbbd.com/npr/tgc/>

TMGC site: <http://www.tmgc.djb.net/>

### 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. As a return for members' input/work, many plants are available to members at no cost. We have facilities to start plants from seeds/clippings. For more information call Tony Koromilas: 269-1931, Lisa Dugowson: 264-6389 .

### Lantanas Love Florida – by Elaine Schoch

I know what you want...Flowers all week, flowers all month, flowers from spring until fall. Flowers that you never have to water, spray or fertilize. Flowers that laugh at heat and snicker at drought. These flowers have a name – LANTANA.

Tiny flowers in tight clusters that resemble miniature nosegays appear nearly continually in warm weather. Although some selections boast flowers in solid colors, many have bicolor clusters. A lantana garden is butterfly heaven; no flowers do a better job of attracting them.

Common LANTANA, "Lantana Camara" is a rounded, shrubby plant, which grows 4 to 5 ft. high and wide, and sports orange, red or yellow flowers. Trailing LANTANA, "L. Montevicensis" has thinner, more pliable stems and spreads rather than mounding. It grows about 1 ft. tall, and up to 6 ft. wide.

Most nurseries sell LANTANAS by color, not by name. Still, it's worth looking for these specific types. "New Gold" – yellow flowers; low, trailing habit, seedless profuse bloomer. "Patriot Rainbow" compact; grows up to 1 ft. tall and wide; gaudy yellow, orange and fuchsia flowers. They need very little water once established and love the Florida sun!

## **JANUARY IN THE GARDEN**

So far our winter weather has been almost ideal. It has been cool early some mornings. I have not had any frost in my yard as of December 15th. We will still be hit by some colder weather. Freezing weather or heavy frost has occurred in Central Florida as late as the March full moon. So some chores must be put off until, at least, the end of February.

### **Do not prune undamaged Non-Deciduous Plants.**

Pruning now will stimulate new growth that will be more susceptible to cold damage. If frost or a freeze has killed the leaves or tips of non-deciduous plants; dead parts if unsightly can be removed but do not prune back to green wood until warm weather returns.

### **Do Not Fertilize During January..... don't fertilize lawns, trees or shrubs.**

Replace declining trees and shrubs. You can transplant dormant trees and shrubs, and spray trees and shrubs for Scale and Mites. Use a dormant oil spray. Follow label instructions. Add a fruit tree to your yard. Prune deciduous fruit trees, shrubs and vines. Apply dormant spray before apple, peach, pear and similar trees bloom. Divide perennials and renew mulches. Maintain a 3 to 4 inch mulch layer in shrub and perennial areas. Continue to mow lawns to control weeds. Reduce watering lawns to once or twice a week

Flower seeds of MARIGOLDS, IMPATIENS, GERANIUMS, PETUNIA and FIBEROUS BEGONIA are best planted between now and February 15th.

Bulbs for Florida planting in January include AFRICAN IRIS, AMARYLLIS, BLOOD LILIES, CRINUM, DA Y LILIES, SOCIETY GARLIC, ZEPHYRANTHES (RAIN LILIES), and refrigerated DUTCH IRIS, TULIPS and DAFFODILS.

Flowers that bloom this month in spite of the cold include ALYSSUM, BEGONIA, CALENDULA, DIANTHUS, PANSY, PETUNIA, PHLOX, SNAPDRAGON and VERBENA. The blooming period can be extended by removing old blooms as they mature so seed pods cannot develop. Fertilize container grown plants monthly.

Keep holiday plants attractive into the New Year by keeping them in bright light. Water when the soil begins to feel dry. Feed them monthly.

This is the month to thumb through those new garden catalogs. Plan your next garden. Decide the varieties of new plants or your favorite plant for planting. Local nurseries will have lots of annuals available in the spring, but most will be the old proven standbys. The catalogs will have seeds of the old proven varieties and many new hybrids developed to give us genetically stronger, hardier plants, with larger and more vivid flowers. Get your seeds started in January for setting out in March.

**Questions Anyone???** Please send questions to Lisa Dugowson, Master Gardener @ 264-6389 or [Ldugowson@cfl.rr.com](mailto:Ldugowson@cfl.rr.com)

## **BURL'S CORNER – by Burl Ferguson**

On Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the Tree Farm, we are blessed with a number of new faces. Thanks to Dan, Buck, George and Sam (Susan's grandson), who are joining the rest of you regulars.

We are busy potting up the live oak seedlings for the "Tree City Project", along with many, many cuttings that Susan has rooted from the FNATS show.

Our farm sprinkler system and mist propagation house is running at 100%, which makes us feel real good at not having to battle repairs.

Tony tells me he has 1,000 Pine seedlings and 500 Bald Cypress seedlings coming, which will keep us busy for a while. If you are looking for something to "keep you off the street", I can't think of a better fun place to be than getting your hands dirty at the Tree Farm.

## **AT THE TREE FARM – by Tony Koromilas**

Thanks to Fred Wehrum's wonderful work and who became our Garden Club's guide for about 25 children from Park Avenue Christian School. He volunteered to show them and their parents the Tree Farm, mist house and tree area while explaining the adventure of plants. He also helped distribute 25 or more seedling trees which were prepared by Jacque Haggerty. The trees are part of our "Tree City Project" initiative to plant 2,000 trees per year.

Thanks also to Dan Learned, Fred Wehrum, Emerson Johnson, Cat Lambe, her son and others who assisted in doing landscaping at Country Acres Children's Home.

Thanks to the Tues/Thurs crew: Burl, Susan, Cat, Emerson, Fred, Sam, Steve, George, Elaine, Buck, Joni, Joanie and Elaine who cleared that Southwest corner. They have been having fun helping those plants that were choking from weeds. We must clear the North area soon.

Approximately 700 small, live oak trees are being potted for school kids before Arbor Day on January 18/19. I have ordered 1,000 Pine and 500 Bald Cypress, which must be picked up around Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>. I will be requesting help after they arrive.

We are fixing the broken down shade area in front row. Susan's grandson, Sam, will do the cleaning, setup, water installation, building, etc. I propose a token scholarship to BCC since he will be taking classes there.

Please send your articles to Joanie at [freddiefla@yahoo.com](mailto:freddiefla@yahoo.com) to be included in next month's Bloomin' News.

## Work Day

### Titusville Men's Garden Club

**Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville, FL**  
**Our next meeting is January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008!!**

**Spring Tree & Plant Sale April 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Mark this date on your calendar; it's never too early to get plants ready for the next sale!!! The parking lot east of Emma Parrish Playhouse is our usual location.

**P.S. A note to all from Maureen Phillips, Water Dept.:**  
**"How sweet of you guys to invite me. Thank you!**  
**Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend your**  
**Christmas Dinner due to previous commitment.**  
**Please express my thanks to your members, and I**  
**look forward to working with you all again this**  
**coming spring". Maureen**

Please remember that the **Saturday** after our Monthly Meeting is a day of concerted effort at the Tree Farm. Individuals put in many hours during the week at their convenience, and this is very necessary for continued success. We also have some tasks that need teamwork to accomplish. This work is the focus of our Saturday events.

**Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup> is our next Work Day! We will meet at the gate between 8:00 to 8:30 a.m. until about noon. Stay as long as you are able. Please come out and join us as we continue preparing plants for our next sale.**

The Bloomin' News  
Titusville Men's Garden Club  
Joanie Opperman, Editor  
Email: [freddiefla@yahoo.com](mailto: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

**Next Meeting: 2nd Monday of each month Begins at 7:00 p.m.**

**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.**  
**Phone Tony Koromilas 269-1931 or Lisa Dugowson 264-6389**

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

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

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