

The Bloomin' News

September & October, 2009, Vol. VI, 27 & 28

Steven Korpacz, Chairman Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



Dear Readers and Fellow Gardeners. Our Chairman, Steve, has been overwhelmed with work this summer, so his message will follow in the next few days.

Members.....Our newsletter is sorely lacking in your monthly articles and input. Come on, gang, I know this has been a long, hot summer. Let us know how your garden grows, and keep our newsletter alive and thriving.

FNATS (now being called the Landscape Show) is October 1, 2 and 3rd this year. If you are planning to go, make sure Dena has your name on the list. Tickets must be purchased by September 5th.

Titusville Garden Club – Day Group - From the Prez

WELCOME BACK, MEMBERS!

Sept. 2, 2009 Gourds – by Betty Moore

**Oct. 7, 2009 Contrived Flowers Demonstration –
by Dee Bartcher**

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 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

Florida Federation of GC: www.ffgc.org

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

TMGCsite: <http://www.nbbd.com/npr/tmgc/>

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. We have facilities to start plants from seeds/clippings. Back page of newsletter has additional information. Drop by to visit and to possibly join us. For more information, call Tony Koromilas: 269-1931 or Burl Ferguson: 267-7618.

Please send your articles to Joanie at freddiefla@yahoo.com to be included in next month's Bloomin' News.

SEPTEMBER IN THE GARDEN

September will be as hot and humid as August, and will bring about as much rain as last month. Changes that will affect our plants: night time temperatures will begin to drop, and shorter daylight hours will induce some plants to set buds.

Because plants in Florida grow continuously, regular pruning is a must. Fall pruning and fertilizing should be done early to allow new growth to harden. Late pruning and fertilizing will stimulate new growth that could be damaged by cold in December or January. Final pruning and fertilizing of cold sensitive hedges and ornamentals should be completed in September. Prune declining fronds and flower stems from PALMS. Renew mulches to save water and reduce weeds.

Do not prune AZALEAS, CAMELLIAS, GARDENIAS; their buds are already set. CAMELLIAS often set two buds side by side. If you would like larger but fewer blooms, pinch one of them off. Make sure you can distinguish between leaf and flower buds.

Give POINSETTIAS a final pruning before September 15th. Watch for mildew, white flies and tomato worms. Spray and prune ROSES, removing old flowers, hips and dead, damaged or spindly growth. Fertilize to encourage fall blooming.

Fertilize lawns now or in October with a good 16-4-8 plus Iron so your lawn will be green all winter—barring frost. Operate sprinkler systems manually to conserve water, only watering when grass shows signs of distress.

Pinch CHRYSANTHEMUMS and spray for aphids, mites, mildew and blackspot. Feed with 10-30-20 or similar high phosphate fertilizer until color shows in the buds. Feed hanging baskets and orchids every two weeks.

SEPTEMBER IN THE GARDEN (continued)

Feed shrubs, perennials and container plants for Fall. CHRISTMAS CACTUS should receive their last feeding this month. Move them into partial sunshine and reduce watering until buds appear. Till and replant flower beds. If you did not start annual flowers from seeds, local nurseries or garden shops will have a selection of plants in 4-packs. Annuals that will provide color in your yard this fall and winter include ALYSSUM, CALENDULA, CLEOME, CORNFLOWER, DIANTHUS, GAILLARDIA, HOLLYHOCK, PERIWINKLE, PHLOX, SALVIA, SNAP-DRAGONS & VERBENA. Wait another month to plant the first PANSIES and PETUNIAS.

Titusville Men’s Garden Club

Meets 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00p.m.

Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville, FL

Our next meeting is September 14, 2009

See you there!

WORK DAY !

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

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. Use a good 16-4-8 plus Iron fertilizer on your lawn so it will be green all winter (barring frost). Apply weed control products if needed. If not already done, give shrubs and hedges a final fall pruning. Remove suckers, low limbs and trim or remove storm-damaged 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 before October 15 using 6-6-6 with minor elements or a special Citrus fertilizer. 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.

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Titusville Men’s Garden Club

Meets 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00p.m.

Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville, FL

Our next meeting is October 12th, 2009 !!

WORK DAY!

Saturday, October 17th is our next Work Day! We will meet at the gate between 8:00 to 8:30 until about noon. Stay as long as you are able. Please come out and join us.

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING 2009 EVENTS

Oct. 1,2,3 Landscape Show (FNATS)

**Oct. 16-17 Fall Tree & Plant Sale -
(Downtown Titusville)**

**The Bloomin’ News
Titusville Men’s Garden Club
Joanie Opperman, Editor
Email: freddiefla@yahoo.com Phone: 480-8807**

P.S. The reason September & October Bloomin’ News is being combined is because I am going to HAWAII this year with my daughter, Laurie. We are leaving OIA on September 22 for a 7-day cruise to 4 Hawaiian islands, few days in hotels, return to OIA approximately October 6th. I wanted to get “Sept. and October in the Garden” out to our members so they may access the important information included. ALOHA ! Joanie

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 in April.

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

Or hand deliver to either Burl or Tony.

Phone Tony Koromilas: 269-1931, Burl Ferguson: 267-7618.

Name: _____

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____ **Cell:** _____

Street: _____ **City** _____ **Zip** _____