

The Bloomin' News

February, 2012, Vol. VI, 55

Dena Chemerys, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



Chairman's Message

Hello,...We have so many things going on in our Club, but especially at the Tree Farm. I want to thank everyone who covered and uncovered plants during our cold snap. It is so warm and beautiful now it's hard to believe we could have another cold event.

I want to welcome our two newest members, Cat and Emerson, who have re-joined our Club after a brief absence. Both have been very hard working members for many years, WELCOME BACK!!!

We had a very successful work day on our first official Saturday Workday early January. Thanks to all who came out on two Tuesdays and one Saturday to move all of the plants and put down our ground cloth, paint rows, and replace plants. We appreciate all you do and it looks GREAT!!!

Our first field trip of the year was this past Saturday to the 66th Annual Camellia Show in Winter Park. Our next field trip will be announced at our meeting on Monday, February 13th.

A big thank you to one of our Day Club's members, Cathy Spencer. Cathy works very hard volunteering down at the Tree Farm. On Tuesday she, Ed, and myself started labeling and identifying plants for our Labeling Project, which will be chaired by Ann Wicks. Our next big Tree Farm Workday and labeling project takes place Saturday January 27th. At that time, Dick Wicks and past-Chairman, Leland Chemerys, will be making our remaining "veggie boxes". It is almost planting time—so, members get your seeds, young plants, and ideas ready.

At the farm we are up-potting, fertilizing, and getting plants ready for our Spring Sale March 16th and 17th. We will have a Master Gardener table at the sale, and all of our plants will be labeled. On Tuesday morning, Pat, Susan, and Kathryn went over to Jon's nursery and ordered our plants. They were excited about what we will have to offer, and what will be blooming for our sale. God Bless and happy gardening!!.....Chairman Dena Chemerys

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. We meet at 7:00p.m. on the 2nd Monday of each month at the Garden Center on Sisson; drop by to visit and possibly join us. For more information call RoseMarie at 385-9051.

NOTE

We are so happy to see our beloved Burl Ferguson coming to the Tree Farm once again after a brief absence. We welcome his knowledge and wisdom he so willingly shares with us.

FEBRUARY IN THE GARDEN

This has been a good winter in our gardens. The cold snaps served to intensify Citrus color and harden most shrubs. We have had some frost and a few freezes so far. Some plants have been damaged by cold, but none beyond recovery. Remember, cold spells are common in Florida during February full moons, and have occurred during cold winters as late as the second week of March.

Judicious pruning of cold-damaged plants can be done. Grape and Kiwi vines and all deciduous fruit and shade trees should be pruned in February, if not already done. Begin routine apple, peach, fig and similar tree spraying. Till and enrich sandy soils with organic matter. Complete transplanting bare root trees and shrubs as soon as practical. Divide and replant large perennials.

You can thin and prune dormant shrubs. **GRAPE MYRTLE** should be pruned. Remove all small, spindly stems from the base of the plant, and small shoots on the main stems. Thin to 3 to 7 main trunks to open up the plant. Prune stems up to about ½ inch in diameter.

OFFICERS

Chairman:	Dena Chemerys	749-1051
1 st Vice-Chairman	Steve Korpacz (unl. 407-832-8325)	
2 nd Vice-Chairman	Kathryn Woidtke	604-2366
Recording Sec'y:	Kathryn Woidtke	604-2366
Correspond Sec'y	Patti Meredith	269-8756
Treasurer:	Amanda Marcle	264-0976
Bloomin' News Ed.	Joanie Opperman	480-8807
Membership:	RoseMarie Peurrung	385-9051
Farm Managers:	Tony Koromilas	269-1931
	Burl Ferguson	267-7618
	Susan Murphy	225-4773

CRAPE MYRTLE only blooms on new wood. Thin twigs will seldom produce big blooms.

ROSES can stand heavy pruning by mid-month. Cut vigorous bushes back by 1/3 to 1/2. Remove all twigs and any branches that are dead, diseased, injured or thin and spindly. Shorten main canes and remove small twigs and older canes that have become too hard. Miniature **ROSES** should be pruned as you would a bush **ROSE**, but lightly. Vigorous varieties may need heavier pruning to keep them compact. Clean up as much of the cut foliage as practical. Add a new layer of mulch to cover old **ROSE** leaves and Black Spot spores.

Hedges can be pruned heavily and shaped. Keep the top of the hedge narrower than the bottom to allow sun to reach the lower branches.

By the middle of the month, you can work your beds for annuals by removing old plants, checking soil for pH, and correcting, if necessary. Treat for pests, work in compost, mulch or other organic matter and, when needed, colloidal phosphate, other amenders and fertilizer.

By the end of the month, all except spring blooming trees, shrubs and vines can be pruned. Spring flowering plants should be pruned after they finish blooming. A good pruning now will shape the plants for much of the summer. Renew mulches to control weeds and conserve water.

By the end of February, you should fertilize all plants except your lawn. Use 6-6-6 with minor elements, or if you prefer one for a special plant, such as Citrus fertilizer. Citrus trees will need 1/2 pound per inch of circumference measured 6 inches above the ground. Shade trees will need 1 pound per inch when less than 6 inches in diameter, and 2 pounds for each inch above 6 inches. Feed container grown plants monthly.

Major lawn care and fertilizing should wait until March. Repair winter damage. Spraying for weeds can continue. If crabgrass has been a problem, remove brown but surviving crabgrass and apply a pre-emergence herbicide by mid-month. Mow lawns as needed at the normal cutting height. Water normal lawns once a week.

If you did not start seed in January, start the seed now. Seeds started in trays or flats will grow rapidly and be ready to set out in March or April.

YEARBOOK – by Kathryn Rigell

The Men's Garden Club offers it's members the opportunity to "give back" to our community.

Plants are gifted to non-profit organizations, trees are planted on City and County roadways, children are sponsored to Conservation Camp, educational programs are offered to the public, Spring and Fall Tree and Plants Sales are conducted.

All our endeavors offer our members the opportunity to spend quality time with each other as we work toward our common goal—"giving back".

We all are so grateful for the City Tree Farm, our work space.

GARDEN NEWS – Joanie Opperman

Just wanted to share some info I have learned in first few classes of the Master Gardener course:

It is advised NOT to "boot" PALM trees, especially if a machete, etc is used, as any cut or nick can cause disease in trunk of Palm. Also, only remove BROWN Palm fronds, which are dead. Even yellow fronds provide nourishment to the Palm.

Start Seeds in Paper Towels!

Supplies: Bounty paper towels, Zip lock baggies, seeds and water.

- 1) Place paper towel under running water – press paper towel between your hands to squeeze out excess water.
- 2) Lay paper towel down and spread out seeds. (Soak hard seeds in water overnight)
- 3) Loosely roll up paper towel. Place rolled up towel in baggie, but **do not** zip it shut!
- 4) Start checking seeds in a few days by un-rolling paper towel. Once the seeds have sprouted, pot them up in 4" pots with fast- draining potting mix. If seeds haven't sprouted, roll up paper towel again & put back in baggie. Keep checking every couple days until all seeds have sprouted and been planted in a 4" pot.

***** **COMMITTEES** *****

Advertising (Spring/Fall Plant Sales)	Tony Koromilas	269-1931
Advertising (Garden Club News)	Kathryn Woidtke	604-2366
Education:.....	Ann Wicks:	386-847-6452
Fall Plant Sale.....	Leland & Dena Chemerys:	749-1051
Garden Club Liason.....	Susan Egglar ...	269-7234
(For Master Gardeners, AG Center & University of FL)		
Landscape Show.....	Pat Kern.....	268-4458
Mapping.....	Lisa Dugowson.....	254-8226
Mist House.....	Susan Murphy.....	225-4773
Plant Markers.....	Leland Chemerys.....	749-1051
.....Kathryn Woidtke.....604-2366		
Procurement.....	Tony Koromilas.....	269-1931
.....Buck Cowen..... 269-4859		
Refreshments.....	Jeanie Huppert.....	383-3416
Signs.....	Janice Wagoner...383-2091 & John Fry...264-0021	
Speakers.....	Steve Korpacz...(unl: 407-832-8326)	
Spring Plant Sale.....	Leland & Dena Chemerys....	749-1051
Travel.....	Kathryn W..269-2338 & Jayson Ramsay..	960-2410

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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 Rt. 405. The public is welcome.

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

01/25 thru 01/30 -- 15th Annual Space Coast Birding & Wildlife Festival, Brevard Community College, Titusville Campus

www.spacecoastbirdingandwildlifefestival.org

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>

TMGC site: <http://www.nbbd.com/npr/tmgc>

W A N T E D-----HISTORIAN FOR OUR CLUB

ATTENTION MEMBERS: Please gather old pictures, newspaper clippings, articles or any other info regarding Men's Garden Club of Titusville, and bring to our next meeting. We are compiling this valuable information into archival format. Join us in this exciting endeavor! Questions: Joanie @ 480-8807

Sending continued well wishes, speedy recovery, lots of love and prayers to: Burl Ferguson, Jim Ratliff & RoseMarie Peurrung

MASTER GARDENERS

Lisa Dugowson	243-8226
Pat Kern	268-4458
Susan Egger	269-7234
Linda Krupp	269-0322
Susan Murphy	225-4773
RoseMarie P.	385-9051
Jeanie Huppert	383-3416

*Joanie Opperman started classes in January to become a Master Gardener.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR – Ann Wicks

February 08,

[Florida Native Plant Society Blog: Conference Field Trip Preview ...](#) Fabulous Florida Forever offers an EcoSafari tour of "Real Florida" and a quaint restaurant.

Saturday, February 11th

at the Duval County Extension Office, on "Eating Seasonably (includes taste sampling and demonstration) and the Basics on Growing Warm-Season Vegetables" Pre-registration required, call 255-7450 for registration.

http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/lawn_and_garden/calendar/pdfs/February_Central.pdf What to plant and what to do in your gardens in February

Please send your articles for The Bloomin' News to Joanie Opperman, Editor

Email: freddiefla@yahoo.com Phone: 480-8807

Titusville Men's Garden Club

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

Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville. FL

Our next meeting is February 13th, 2012

Garden Calendar of Events for 2012

Women's Day Group Plant Sale :

Fri. Feb 17 (9am–5pm) Sat. Feb. 18 (8am – 2pm)

Spring Tree & Plant Sale – March 16 & 17

Wildflower Flower Festival – Deland – March 24

**Brevard Rare Fruit Council Sale - April 21st
at Melbourne Auditorium**

SATURDAY WORK DATE:

FEBRUARY 18th from 8:30a.m. to NOON

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 type work is the focus of our Saturday events. Plan on coming out Saturday 2/18 and join us at the Tree Farm.

Titusville Garden Club – Day Group - From the Prez

The next meeting for the Women's Garden Club will be

February 1st – Honoring Past Presidents

February 17 & 18 - Plant Sale

February 29 - Card Party

****Start collecting items for the Fantastic Sale on March 16th & 17th, 2012**

TWIGS & BERRIES are MOVING TO Hwy. 50!!!

WELCOME BACK!!.....EMERSON & CAT

More Gardening Resources:

Florida Master Gardener

<http://mastergardener.ifas.ufl.edu>

Gardening in a Minute

<http://gardeninginaminute.com>

Florida School Gardens

<http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/schoolgardens>

Florida-Friendly Landscaping

<http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu>

Solutions for your Life

<http://solutionsforyourlife.com>

EDIS

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>

Univ. of Florida, IFAS Extension

<http://brevard.ifas.ufl.edu/>

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** _____