

The Bloomin' News

DECEMBER, 2012, Vol. VI, 65

Dena Chemerys, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



Chairman's Message – Dena Chemerys

Hello fellow gardeners,

I hope each of you had a Happy Thanksgiving and safe travels. Our Appreciation Dinner was held at Dixie CrossRoads on Saturday, November 17th, and we had 45 members and their families in attendance. We held our awards presentation at this time and our Guest of Honor was Burl Ferguson. A Life Time Membership in F.F.G.C. was awarded to Burl, who first joined our club in 1973, when the club was first formed. A Life Time Membership was presented later to our beloved Susan Murphy, who could not join us that night due to illness. I am happy to report Susan is doing well and resting at home.

We also honored our four previous Chairmen with beautiful pins from F.F.G.C. They are Les Leckron, Leland Chemerys, Lisa Dugowson, and Steve Korpacz. Joanie Opperman received a pin for all of her hard work as Editor of our monthly newsletter, The Bloomin' News. Mrs. Kathryn Rigell received a pin as our longest active female member. Kathryn came to us from our sister Day Group years ago. Don Hawthorne and RoseMarie Peurrung also received pins for their work for many years at our plant sales, down at our little farm, and at the Landscape Show. Don and Rose Marie give to our club in ways I could not possibly list in a short message. We had two members who could not be with us to receive their awards. They are Kathryn Woidtke and Jim Ratliff. On behalf of the Men's Garden Club, our sincere thanks to all of our recipients for all you have done and continue to do for our club, our community, and the City of Titusville. Thank you to Dixie Cross Roads and to Dawna for a delicious meal enjoyed by all!

Our next meeting will be on Monday December 10th. at 7:00 p.m. Hope to see everyone at the meeting. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays, Dena Chemerys

Pearl Fryar - by Dena Chemerys

At our November meeting, our members enjoyed a video entitled "A Man Named Pearl". Mr Fryar is from Bishopville, S.C. off of Interstate 20. He has gone from the "worst yard" in his community to having the "Yard of The Month", and now world-wide recognition for his stunning 3-acre gardens. He is in his 70's and does all of the pruning and work by himself!! For more information please go to Pearl Fryar.com. I met Pearl at the Landscape show in Orlando in September and attended one of his workshops. Pearl does not charge to visit his gardens, and will even give you a personal tour. He sees many tourists each day including chartered buses and Tour groups from other countries. Mr. Fryar does not use pesticides and, therefore, encourages bees, butterflies and birds in his gardens. Proceeds from donations to his Gardens go to a scholarship fund



for local "C" students, who might otherwise not be able to attend college. Pearl is supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and is supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and Oprah Winfrey to name a few. So, if you are in South Carolina, please stop by and see Pearl; he would love to see you.

Potential New Members, YOU are welcome!

To prospective members, 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. There are facilities to start plants from seed/clippings. We meet at 7:00pm 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.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE APPOINTEES –

By Dena Chemerys, Chairman

Pages 37 and 38 of the current 2012-2013 Yearbook states the procedures for appointing the nominating committee, by the chairman, for the upcoming elections in February, 2013 of Club Officers. This is the only committee which the current chairman is not a participating member. The chairman will present the recommendations at the December 10th meeting. However, as your Chairman, I prefer to ask the question, "Is there anyone willing to serve on this committee?" One member must be a previous member of our Board, and will chair the committee of four members who's duties are to present a slate of nominees for Chairman, First Vice Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary.

The Elections are held in February, but the Nominating Committee must meet one month prior to the election and shall prepare a ballot for presentation to the Club. The term of office is two years, and a member may not serve a second term in the same office unless approved by the current board. The current board consists of Dena Chemerys, Kathryn Woidtke, Amanda Marcle, and Steve Korpacz. Elections are held in February and the elected officers are to be installed at the conclusion of the year's business at the May Meeting according to Section Six, Article VIII, page 38 of the ByLaws.

This is a very important meeting, and I want to encourage all members of our night group to attend. This Committee has a very important responsibility in choosing the nominees to represent our members for the elections, and the elected members as your leadership for the next two years. Please refer to your 2012-2013 handbook for procedures, duties, etc. If you do not have a copy please see Rose Marie for a copy.

This will be a very busy first half of our upcoming year and your attendance is critical. If you are not able to attend the February meeting, whether due to illness, being out of town, or lack of a way to get there, you will be given the names of the Nominating Committee and you will be able to contact them to receive a ballot prior to the February meeting so your vote will count. We will be preparing for our spring sale which is our biggest Plant Sale of the year, and we will be choosing the recipients of our yearly scholarships in the spring. If you don't usually attend the meetings, please try to do so in the upcoming months so that your voices are heard and the Leadership which is chosen is chosen by the entire membership. We all strive for a smooth transition and continuity of the club and its many endeavors. Thank you, Dena



DECEMBER IN THE GARDEN

December is normally a dry month with about 2 inches of rain. While we may have heavy dew, lawns will still require about ½ inch of rain or irrigation each week. AZALEAS and CAMELLIAS can suffer bud drop later if not watered as needed

Temperatures during December should have average lows in the low 50's and highs in the 60's and 70's. Night low temperatures may occasionally be in the 40's or even 30's with the possibility of frost or, although infrequent, even a freeze when a cold front moves through. Make sure the ground is moist before a frost or a freeze. Be prepared to move ORCHIDS and other cold sensitive plants indoors or provide protection when cold temperatures are predicted.

If not already done, December is the time to cover greenhouses, lath and shade houses with plastic for the winter. Clear 4 to 6 mil polyethylene film provides an inexpensive cover. Check heaters or plan for heating if you expect to protect plants during infrequent freeze periods. Check those plants you bring inside for mites, mealy bugs and other pests.

This is a good month to add or transplant trees, shrubs and other plants and to divide perennials. Because of the cool weather, water loss through foliage will be low and above ground new growth minimal. Start flower and PAPAYA transplants.

Continue fertilizing hardy annuals and container grown plants monthly. Discontinue fertilizing other outdoor plants except vegetables. Delay any major pruning until after winter. Renew mulch where needed.

Clean, oil and repair garden equipment. Drain gas tanks, change oil, clean and lubricate idle garden equipment and engines. Sharpen and paint tools for next year's use. A bucket of dry sand mixed with a quart of used motor oil makes an excellent long-lasting cleaning device for shovels, trowels and other similar tools. Just push the tool into the sand several times after each use. Hardy annuals that will provide color in your yard and survive our normal winter cold include ALYSSUM, CALENDULA, CLEOME, DIANTHUS, PANSY, PETUNIA, PHLOX, SALVIA, SNAPDRAGON and VERBENA. Remove faded blooms to extend flowering.

Extend the life of holiday plants by putting them in a cool, bright location. Water them when the soil surface begins to dry.



HONORARY MEMBERS

BURL FERGUSON

SUSAN MURPHY

MASTER GARDENERS

Lisa Dugowson 243-8226

Pat Kern 268-4458

Susan Murphy 225-4773

RoseMarie P. 385-9051

Joanie Opperman . 480-8807

The Bloomin' News

Titusville Men's Garden Club

Joanie Opperman, Editor

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

Farm fun folks are sponsoring a "Lunch at Farm Get Together" at the Tree Farm on Tuesday, December 11th at around 11 AM, after having planting fun. Ed is bringing hot dogs/burgers; we will have barbeque grill etc. there. Other folks will bring simple foods/salads, etc. Very informal--just-a-get-together. Everyone is invited!

We are trying to grow 200 or more Live Oaks from seed to continue donating to City's Tree Program, and to children. Our kids donation of about 95 Maple trees (grown from seed) at the Enchanted Forest Event was terrific.





The 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.

For more information, please phone RoseMarie at 385-9051.

Name: _____

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

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