

# The Bloomin' News

November, 2016, Vol. VI, 111

Duane "Buck" Cowen, Chairman

Joanie Opperman, Editor

Member of FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS



## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE – Buck Cowen

Hi fellow gardeners..... Well, I've had a heck of a month!! Vacation got pushed in and out, up and around. Then, had a mishap 60 miles from home. But all is well, and material things can be replaced, and we just start over again.

When I was gone, all the members and workers did a great job on the Fall Tree and Plant Sale! With the hurricane and postponement, we still covered our expenses for the year. The Spring Sale will be frosting on the cake! Congratulations to all of us for the hard work!!

We do have a few things to iron out and we will address them in the meeting. Much to my chagrin, I was wrong, and we now have a key lock on the gate. I don't and won't air our dirty laundry; we will handle it in the meeting!

So again, we've been doing great as a group and we must remember we're not all the same. The people who have been there for a long time and have made tremendous strides in the last several years are not necessarily convinced that wholesale changes are needed. Talk it out !!!  
See you at the Tree Farm (garden) or the meeting on November 14th.....Just Me,..... Buck

## November in the Garden

This is a good gardening month with cooler nights and lower rainfall. Some cool days and cooler nights are needed to start dormancy in our plants for winter protection. Most plants other than hardy annuals are preparing to go dormant for the winter.

Tropical plants and many plants that retain their leaves in the winter will need some protection from frost and winter cold. You can "hill" around the base of the plant with mulch, soil or Spanish moss to provide some protection. When frost is expected, cover tender plants with paper bags, cardboard boxes, trash containers, burlap or cloth. If you use plastic, keep it well away from plants. In severe cold, a small electric bulb (40 to 100 watts) at the base of covered plants can prevent freeze damage. Running sprinklers during freezing weather can save many plants. You can reduce damage from light frost by washing frost off lawns and tender plants early in the morning before the sun hits them.

Prepare lawns and woody ornamentals for winter by withholding fertilizer. Renew mulches to conserve moisture and to reduce cold injury. Shorter days and cooler temperatures have slowed lawn growth, but lawns and citrus trees should still be watered as needed. Bahia and St. Augustine lawns should continue to be cut 3 to 4 inches tall. Remove fallen leaves from the lawn. If your lawn is

thin in areas, you can make it green by overseeding with winter rye grass; seed late in the month as the permanent grass goes dormant. Broadcast 8 to 10 pounds of seed per 1,000 sq. feet to get a good winter cover. Rye grass will grow in light shade and will need fertilizer, water and mowing.

DIFFENBACHIA, CROSSANDRA, EPISCIAS, PEACE LILY, LIPSTICK VINES and other cold sensitive plants will suffer if temperatures drop much below 55 degrees, so be prepared to bring them indoors, or place them in a heated shelter. A few nights of 50 or even 45 degrees will not harm most ORCHIDS, although it may retard flowering; however, most ORCHIDS will benefit if protected from temperatures below 42 degrees.

This is a good time to control Scale on AZALEAS, CAMELLIAS, GARDENIAS, IVY, HOLLY, MAGNOLIA, LIGUSTRUM and many other plants. When the temperature is below 80 degrees, use dormant or low-toxicity oil spray as directed..

Hardy plants that will provide winter color in your yard include ALYSSUM, CALENDULA, CLEOME, DIANTHUS, LARKSPUR, PANSIES, PETUNIAS, SALVIA, SNAPDRAGON and VERBENA.



**Garden Club Web Sites**

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.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. For info., call Joanie at 480-8807.

**-SACRED TREES -**

"It is difficult to place a monetary value on the many vital services that trees provide. However, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection calculate that a single tree that lives for fifty (50) years will contribute service worth nearly \$200,000 (in 1994 dollars) to the community during its lifetime. This includes providing oxygen (\$31,250), recycling water and regulating humidity (\$37,000), controlling air pollution (\$62,500), producing protein (\$2,500), providing shelter for wildlife (\$31,250), and controlling land erosion and fertilizing the soil (\$31,250)."

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**Titusville Garden Club – Day Group -** From the Prez  
Nov 2 – TGC Meeting @ 10am “Environmental Issues in Brevard Cty”- Jim Waymer, Fla Today  
Nov 8 – General Election Day  
Nov 18 - Board Meeting @ 10:00a.m.  
Nov 24 - Thanksgiving

**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 The Enchanted Forest, 444 Columbia Blvd (Hwy 405) Info: 264-5185. The public is welcome.

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

**Tips for NOVEMBER – RoseMarie Peurrung**

**Vegetables:** Cool/cold weather veggies love this season. Who can resist home grown broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower etc? It’s a great time to plant beets, carrots, radishes, lettuce, spinach, Swiss chard, peas and onions. **Flowers:** dusty miller will grow next to any other flower for an interesting contrast. Now is the time to plant dianthus, gaillardia, pansy, petunia, snapdragon and verbena among other plants for wonderful color all winter long. **Herbs:** Anise, arugula, basil, chives, cilantro, dill, fennel, garlic, rosemary, sage and thyme  
**Bulbs:** amaryllis; crinum, spider, day & rain lily, and iris

**Titusville Men’s Garden Club**

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00p.m.  
Garden Center, 5275 Sisson Road, Titusville, FL  
Our next meeting is November 14th, 2016

**October 14 & 15, 2016 - The Men’s Garden Club Fall Tree and Plant Sale was held at the Tree Farm for our 2<sup>nd</sup> year! The sale was a great success, and we continue to grow!!**

**APPRECIATION DINNER**

As of this writing, we have not made any decisions or plans as to date and place. Will keep you posted!

**SPECIAL SPEAKER FOR NOVEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup> MEETING: WE ARE PLEASED TO HAVE NICK SANZONE, MARINE RESOURCES COUNCIL, SHARING THE LATEST INFO ON THE RESTORATION OF THE INDIAN RIVER LAGOON WITH US. HE IS BRINGING MANGROVE SEEDLINGS FOR OUR CLUB TO “FOSTER” FOR A SEASON. THIS IS ONE SPEAKER YOU DON’T WANT TO MISS!!!!**



*Happy Thanksgiving*

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