

HOLLYWOOD GARDEN CLUB

MAKING HOLLYWOOD MORE BEAUTIFUL ONE GARDEN AT A TIME!

MAY 2023

Member of the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs – <http://ffgc.org> – Deep South Garden Club - www.dsgardenclubs.com
National Garden Clubs, Inc., www.gardenclub.org, and Deep South Region



Next MEETING - Saturday, May 27, 2023

Home of Ann Kurtzman

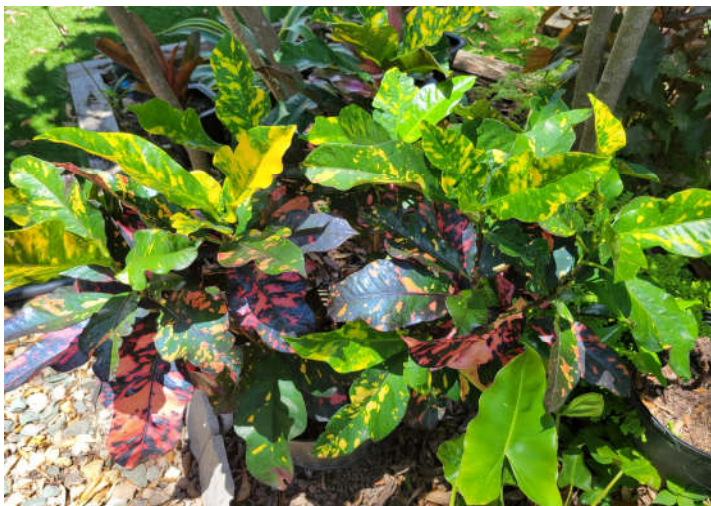
Ann is preparing tuna and chicken salad.

Members can add to the lunch menu with side dishes and desserts.



Croton & Hawaiian Ti Varieties to add a Punch of Color

We are considering a field trip to the Perfect Choice Nursery in Davie. Susan, Ann & Mary made a trip there to scout out the nursery. They came home with two (2) colorful plants to add to our gardens.

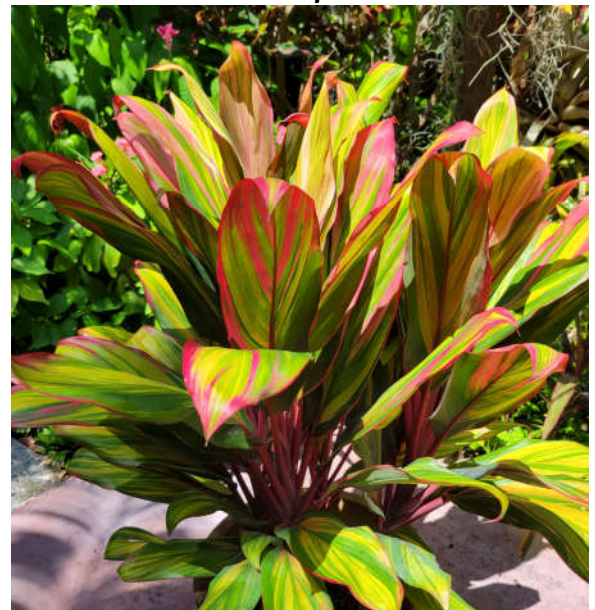


Croton, *Codiaeum Veriegatum* "Magnificent"

HAWAIIAN TI – *Cordyline Fruiticosa* "Harlequin" – (formerly known as cordyline terminalis). It is known as the good-luck-plant. They are easily rooted by tip cuttings and cane pieces. Light levels effect its color appearance. Keep it moist, Hawaiian Ti plants is not drought tolerant. Watering with city water may cause tip burn from the fluoride.

MAGNIFICENT CROTON – *Codiaeum variegatum* 'Magnificent'. It has fabulous brilliantly colored leaves shot with gold, red, orange, green and pink. A real showstopper for partial sun. It is one of the newest varieties.

Hawaiian Ti, *Cordyline Fruiticosa* "Harlequin"



HGC needs a new **Treasurer**
If you are good with numbers and handling money, please let us know.

"Friendship grows and deepens with each act of sharing from one caring heart to another."

Happy Birthday – Susan Ostheim
Welcome to the Hollywood Garden Club

VISIT OUR WEBSITE - **Hollywood Garden Club** <http://hollywoodgardenclub.com>

Email pictures from your garden or other suggestions to mtabela@comcast.net

Membership in Florida Federation of Garden Clubs is open to all regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity or religious affiliation.

Ground Covers- With all the rain Hollywood has had recently the weeds are in their glory. One way to cut down on this problem is to plant ground covers. One of the easiest ground covers is ferns. Once established the weeds don't have a chance.



Fishtail Fern

FISHTAIL FERN – *Nephrolepis falata* - Is a plant that is highly sought after by plant enthusiasts. The fronds resemble the tail of a fish. Grows best in moist soil in bright indirect light to about 3 feet. Propagated by division.

Beware of the Boston fern as it spreads like crazy on runners and will eventually take over an area. Plant at your own risk.

ARTILLERY PLANT – *Pilea microphylla* – It grows 8 to 12 inches tall and quickly forms a groundcover clump 2 ft. wide.



Artillery fern

It can be used in mass plantings, containers or above ground planter, edging, bordering a sidewalk, plant bed, and around trees or shrubs. Grown in part sun or shade. Propagation is by cutting, which root easily. Lives about two years then needs to be replaced.

LIRIOPE – *Muscari 'Evergreen Giant'*.

An ornamental grass that grows 2 ft. wide by 2 ft. high, likes shade or part sun, and is resistant to diseases. Propagation is by division. A variegated variety is available, *Liriope Muscari*, it grows slower and is smaller in size.



Liriope

MONDO GRASS - (*monkey grass, Ophiopogon japonicus*) Mondo grass is in the Lilaceae family. It grows in clumps, tolerates shade, and is only 6-10" tall. It will require a lot of plants if used as a ground cover.

How about a Large Specimen Plant

PHILODENDRON – *Selloum* - One of the stars of South Florida tropical gardening. This massive plant can grow 8-10 ft. tall and 6 feet wide. It's a moderate grower that likes part sun to part shade. It works well as a specimen plant grown in containers by the pool, on a patio or balcony, between tall palms or even indoors. Other smaller philodendrons are Hope and Xanadu.



Philadendron *Selloum*

THINGS TO DO LIST FOR MAY 2023

PRUNING – Now is a good time to do major pruning. You can improve any tree or plant's shape and production knowing when and how to prune. Fruiting or flowering trees and plants should be pruned after they have produced fruit or flowers. For hurricane preparation, hire an arborist to trim plants and trees away from power lines and your house. Remove all dead, diseased and weak branches. Heavy pruning on trees can be done in stages with a three-year program. Between each trimming I pinch the tops out of plants to make them fuller. Garden tools can be disinfected by using 70% alcohol in a spray bottle.

PLANTING The plants that are listed are just a few examples of what to plant. Peppers, sweet potatoes, southern peas and okra. Flowers are wax begonia, balsam, bromeliad, cosmos, coleus, cockscomb, crossandra, four-o'clocks, heliconia, sunflower, gaillardia, hollyhock, lantana, marigold, milk weed, portulaca, purslane, vinca, melapodium, pinta, porterweed, salvia, torenia, verbena, zinnia, ornamental sweet potato and pepper. Everglades tomato. Herbs are Mexican tarragon, basil, onions, peppers and rosemary. Bulbs are amaryllis, caladium, crinum and zephyranthes. Move a potted plant around in your garden until you see where it grows the best. I do not place my plants directly on the ground. I put them on a paver, steppingstone or on top of an inverted pot. When planting plants in the ground, soak them in a bucket of water for 10 minutes. Fill the hole with water and let it soak in first. Place plant in the hole and fill with soil. Add mulch around the top keeping it away from the base of the plant.

BLOOMING – This month will be butterfly plants, dragon fruit, bromeliad, African tulip tree, geiger tree, crown of thorns, gardenia, jacaranda, tabebuia, royal poinciana, Texas wild olive, lignum vitae, rangoon creeper, forest bell, allamanda, angel's trumpet, crown of thorns, jatropha, gardenia, bougainvillea, daylily, begonia, chenille, firespike, firebush, hibiscus, ixora, lady of the night, lantana, orchid, mussaenda, penta, plumbago, porterweed, queen crape myrtle, queen's wreath, ruellia, shrimp plant, sweet almond, star jasmine, thryallis, ground orchid, and several varieties of cassia.

PLANT ADVICE - Get information on the internet about the plant you are planting or planning to buy. Monitor the garden for pests and diseases. Adjust the irrigation based on the amount of rainfall. One inch of water wets a sandy soil to a depth of 12 inches. Use a tuna can for measuring. Now is the time to plant seeds and propagate new plants by cuttings and air-layering. Plant cuttings in a soil mix to start. Place the pot in filtered, morning sun, keep moist and out of the wind. Mulch plant beds to reduce evaporation from the soil and cut down on weeds. The depth should be 3" after settling. Put down cardboard or 8 to 12 layers of newspaper under the mulch, this will help keep the weeds down for a season. Put pulled weeds in the garbage, not the compost pile. Coleus cuttings can be started in a glass of clean water in about 3 weeks. Plant 5 rooted cuttings in a 4-inch pot. Let it grow for several months in moist soil until the roots come out the bottom. Then put it in the ground or a larger pot. Start cuttings in the ground next to the AC drip. Start enough to share.

LAWNS – Watch for dead and yellowing of the lawn grass; this could be a sign of chinch bugs. Get professional help. Keep the grass 3 to 4 inches long to choke out the weeds. Water only when it needs it. If you fertilize now, you will be mowing every week.

FRUIT RIPENING – Banana, calamondin, fig, gumichama, jaboticaba, jack fruit, lychee, lemon, mango, miracle fruit, mulberry, natal plum, papaya, passion fruit and red raspberry.

Susan Berry,
President of the Hollywood Garden Club, Florida Master Gardener,
Certified Advanced Master Naturalist, Certified Garden Consultant and Certified Landscape Designer
FNMP Land Steward, FFGC Earth Steward.