

HOLLYWOOD GARDEN CLUB

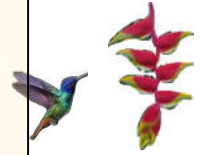
MAKING HOLLYWOOD MORE BEAUTIFUL ONE GARDEN AT A TIME!

NOVEMBER 2021

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



HOLLYWOOD GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Fred Lippman Multi-Purpose Center
3rd Tuesday of the month
NO MEETINGS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



The tropical look of South Florida that we love is exemplified by the Coconut Palm. It is the most important palm and most widely used nut in the world. This palm is commercially produced in tropical countries and Copra is the chief product used to making coconut oil, which is found in soaps, shampoos, cosmetics, and cooking oil. The tall varieties e.g. Jamaican Tall, can grow to 80-100 feet tall and produce 50-200 coconuts a year. That's a lot of coconuts falling on your garden. The palm fronds can grow up to 18 feet long. The closer it is planted to your brush pile the better. The base of the palm is swollen, and the trunk is curved. There are dwarf varieties with a straight trunk, the "Malayan Dwarf" and the "Fiji Dwarf", which researchers hope will be more resistant to



lethal yellowing disease, but more testing is needed.

Propagation is by seed, which can be planted halfway in the ground or in a pot. From experience we know that they don't need to be planted to germinate when they land on the ground with the base side of the coconut resting on the soil. These start fruiting in 6 to 10 years and require "Palm Special" fertilizer. Information contains excerpts from IFAS website document: <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/MG/MG04300.pdf>

The Hollywood Garden Club wishes all our members and friends a safe and Happy Thanksgiving. It has been over a year since we have met, and we miss our meetings. Hopefully the new year will bring us all together again sharing knowledge and plants.

We will keep you informed about the meeting schedule.



"The earth laughs in flowers."
Ralph Waldo Emerson



VISIT OUR WEBSITE - [Hollywood Garden Club](http://hollywoodgardenclub.com) <http://hollywoodgardenclub.com>

What would you like to see in our newsletter?? 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.

“BIRDS OF A FEATHER”

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD – (*Archilochus colubris*)

Represent LOVE and demand your full attention.

They can fly at 70 miles an hour and their rapid-fire twittering is usually heard long before they are seen. They show up here from late August and migrate out of the area in April and May. They eat nectar, high-energy pollen and insects.



A few plants that have grown in my yard that attract hummingbirds, bees and butterflies are:

RED FIRESPIKE - (*Odontonema cuspidatum*)

In flower most of the year. Likes full sun and filtered light. Grows to be 6 feet tall and is propagated from cuttings.



MEXICAN HONEYSUCKLE – (*Justicia spicigera*)

In bloom Summer through Fall. Cut back after blooming to control 6'X 6' size. WOW! It is an attention grabber with its bright orange flowers. Propagate from cuttings.



BLUE SAGE – (*Eranthemum pulchellum*)

Gorgeous blue flowers all year if not trimmed back after blooming. It can grow 5'X 8'. Likes full sun and on the east side of trees. Grows best planted in between larger plants so it can pop up in between for support.



PANAMA QUEEN – (*Aphelandra sinclairiana*)

There are over 175 species in this family and this variety grows best here. It is from Central America and a rare winner for any garden. Flowers in the Winter and Spring on its tips. Can grow to 10'. Trim after flowering to get more flowers the next year. Roots from cuttings. Grows in bright shade and loves full sun in the morning.

Other plants that attract the hummingbirds here are: Chinese hat plant, shrimp plant, pink trumpet vine, coral honeysuckle, orange flame vine, bleeding heart,

Mexican sunflower, porterweed, sanchezia, sage, pentas, and golden shrimp.

MOCKINGBIRD – (*Mimus polyglottos*) Designated Florida's state bird in 1927. It is the state bird of 4 other states. Size is 9-11 inches. It is a year-round resident that is helpful because it feeds on insects and weed seeds and is known for its fierce defense of the family nest. It is also described as a “superb songbird and mimic of 30 species of birds as well as other sounds, such as barking dogs. Range is from southern Canada to southern Mexico, West Indies and introduced in Hawaii. Attempts have been made to change the Florida state bird to the Scrub Jay, endangered species, but these have been unsuccessful to date.



FIREBUSH – (*Hamelia patens*) Also known as Fire Bush, Mexican firebush, and scarletbush. This plant should be the first plant that you plant in your garden. Birds, butterflies and hummingbirds love firebush. It is one of the prettiest native plants Florida has to offer. The leaves turn red in the cooler months with bright red-orange tubular flowers. Blooming more in the warmer months especially when planted in the sun. Its black berries attract birds and reseed themselves throughout the garden. Soil can be amended when planting with a few scoops of topsoil and peat moss. Trim in warm weather. No fertilizer except in the Spring, use bone meal for more blooms.

THINGS TO DO FOR NOVEMBER 2021

PRUNING — Deadhead flowers back to the first set of leaves or trim more. Some shrubs can be pruned for desired shape or size before the end of the month. It's not a good idea to prune more than 1/3rd of a plant or tree at any one time. Keep a record on your calendar when and what you pruned and fertilized. Sprinkle cinnamon on your orchids after making cuts. Sterilize pruners and hands with alcohol after working with trees or shrubs so you do not spread diseases. If diseased trees are cut by you or professionals make sure not cut other trees without first sterilizing the tools.

PROPAGATION — No single method of propagation works for every plant all the time, year-round. Make tip cuttings 4 to 6 inches long. Put directly in water or moisten the cuttings immediately by wrapping them in a damp paper towel and placing them in a plastic bag. Keep out of direct sunlight until you can get back to them. Remove flowers, buds and seed heads. Trim off all the leaves from the lower half of the cutting. On the bottom of the stem, make a fresh cut ¼ inch below a node. Dip the bottom inch in a rooting hormone. Place in a 4-inch pot with new soilless mix or potting soil. Place 5 or more cuttings in 4" pot, 2 inches apart and lightly firm around the stems. When the roots have grown out the bottom of the pot they can be potted up or put in the ground. Keep soil moist not wet and feel with your finger.

INSECTS — For slugs and snails, use organic bait or a good smash with the hoe, after a rain. Submerge potted plants in water if they have ants. Bait trays work too. For bugs, cut off or use a hard spray of hose water. Safer Soap works well when you follow up after applying again one week later. Cut spotted brown leaves on amaryllis and throw them away.

PLANTING — Buy pots, plants and trees before the Holidays. Weed with a stirrup hoe before planting. Have extra plants ready in pots to fill in the bare spots when you need them. I use potting mix, with a little added perlite. Have a instant garden by buying your flower, vegetable, and herb plants now. Some flowers to plant now are COLEUS, wax begonias, crossandra, gaillardia, pentas, sage, New Guinea impatiens, kalanchoe, moss rose, portulaca, vinca, tropical milkweed, geranium, ornamental pepper, parsley, and basil. Bulbs to plant now are onion sets, amaryllis, crinum, zephyranthes, caladiums and elephant ear.

FEEDING — Fertilize lawn now if you didn't last month. Use time release or ½ strength water soluble fertilizer in potted plants. Feed poinsettias if the foliage is light green. Keep the light off them at night, so they bloom in time for Christmas. For palms use Lesco palm food from John Deere, it is recommended by the U of F. We have "regional deficiencies." If you never add organic matter or nutrients to your soil, it will be nutrient deficient. In comparing fertilizer cost. The labels tell us the amount of nutrients that are in the bag. For example, 100 pounds of 10-10-10 contains 10 pounds each of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium. The other 70 pounds are fillers. A 25 lb. bag holds 2 ½ lbs. of each nutrient. You get what you pay for when you buy fertilizer. Fertilize till the end of the month. Move old mulch closer to your plants and put the new mulch in open areas. Buy extra in case of shortage and store in plastic bags.

FRUITING — Avocado, canistel, fig, papaya, lemon, mulberry and starfruit.

BLOOMING — Bougainvillea, floss silk, cassia, chenille, orchid tree, geiger tree, musaenda, ixora, orchid, shrimp plant, pentas, periwinkle, marigold, impatiens, petunia, geranium, pansy, wax begonia, dragon wing begonia, blue daze, angel trumpet, Florida hydrangea, begonia, buttercup, crossandra, crown-of-thorns, ginger, heliconia, ruellia, hibiscus, thryallis, bird of paradise, rose, golden senna, West Indian shower tree, golden rain tree, salvia, firespike, magnolia, scarlet red cloak, Hong Kong orchid, fire bush, porter weed, torenia, lantana, crinum lily, chenille, Mexican sunflower, dombeya shrubs, melampodium, and plumbago. If your plants do not produce flowers, they might need more sun and fertilizer. Visit a nursery every month to keep your garden in bloom all year long. Buy something new.

SUSAN BERRY, President of the Hollywood Garden Club, Master Gardener, Advanced Florida Master Naturalist, Certified Landscape Designer, Certified Gardening Consultant, FFGC Earth Steward and FMNP Land Steward.

Website: <http://www.hollywoodgardenclub.com>