

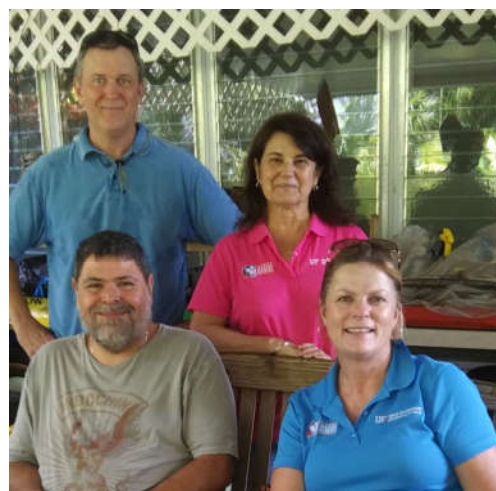
# HOLLYWOOD GARDEN CLUB

MAKING HOLLYWOOD MORE BEAUTIFUL ONE GARDEN AT A TIME!

DECEMBER 2022

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

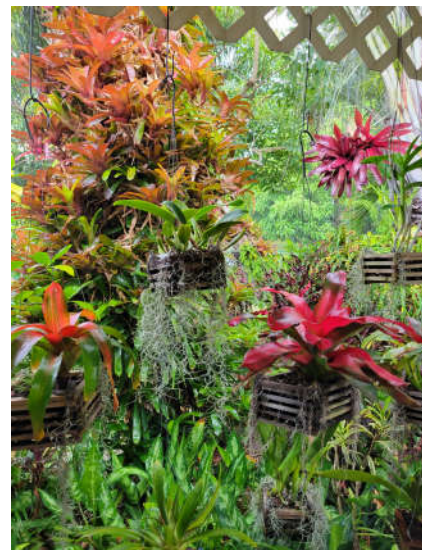
***MERRY CHRISTMAS to ALL***  
**There will be NO MEETING in December**



FFL Certified Professional Inspectors:  
Master Gardeners, Gerritt Stryker, Shauna Boughton, Mario Rios, and Katy O'Hara



The Garden Goddess



The Florida Friendly Landscape Gold Medal Award was presented to Susan Berry's garden for Broward County 2022.

**Happy Birthday to Judy Bates, Mary Ann Cannone, Ann Kurtzman, Al Pivik**

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

Email pictures from your garden or other suggestions to [mtabela@comcast.net](mailto:mtabela@comcast.net)

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





**Poinsettia** (*Euphorbia pulcherrima*) plants are associated with Christmas, it's native to Mexico. The true flower of this plant is the small yellow bloom in the center of the red bracts, which form the surrounding flower and give the plant its festive look. They are forced to bloom for the holiday season. When buying you want to look for ones where the yellow flowers in the center have not opened but are still green buds. Your plants will last longer. After the holidays these plants can continue to grow in the garden or in pots using a loose peat-based potting soil. Cut back the plant after blooming, and prune again several times to achieve a full bushy plant. It was given the botanical name *Euphorbia pulcherrima*, which means "very beautiful." The name honors Joel Roberts Poinsett, the first U.S. minister to Mexico, who introduced the plant here in 1826.



Poinsettias like well lite areas, water when the soil surface is dry to the touch. Do not fertilize until ready to move outside. Before planting prune off the bracts, it prefers full sun most of the day. They grow best in moist, well drained, fertile soil. Keep away from artificial light during the fall, it can delay or prevent flowering. It is susceptible to many diseases. Not poisonous to people or pets but can be a skin irritant. They attract butterflies and honeybees.



**Jamaican Poinsettia** (*Euphorbia punicea*) is an evergreen succulent. It can be a bush or a small tree. It grows to 15 feet, so it is suitable for small gardens or containers. The stems are rubbery and semi-succulent. Its drought tolerant and a great addition to our South Florida gardens. It can be propagated by cuttings. Just be careful of the sap as it can irritate the skin.

**Wild Poinsettia** (*Euphorbia cyathophora*) is thought to be the ancestor of most cultivated poinsettias. Their populations are being threatened by unregulated deforestation. Its growth can be aggressive as it re-seeds itself. As with other members of this family its sap is a skin irritant.



### **NEXT MEETING**

**Saturday, JANUARY 14, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.**

**Home of Judy Bates**

**Join is after the meeting at Las Vegas Restaurant**

**BRING CUTTINGS TO SHARE & A PLANT FOR THE RAFFLE**

## **THINGS TO DO LIST FOR DECEMBER 2022**

**PRUNING** – If you prune now, you will stimulate growth that can be damaged by a cold snap. Keep a record of when you prune. Do not prune shrubs that flower in spring. Plants should be allowed to become dormant, so they are ready for the cold. Winter begins on 12-21-22.

**TROPICAL PLANTS** – I have seen white fly in my garden this month, so look under your leaves for pests. Cold can cause older leaves to drop off. I water everything before we get a real bad cold front to keep the heat in the ground. Adding mulch and certified compost helps to keep the weeds down and moisture in. Water your potted plants with a water-soluble fertilizer, ½ or ¼ strength. Plants that need it that are in the ground use full strength. For a greener lawn top dress with compost and garden soil. For Orchids, water judiciously and well provide extra potassium and magnesium. You can let dendrobiums rest now for the winter.

**PROPAGATION** – Sometimes it is best to wait until warmer weather. Cuttings can sit in wet soil and rot this time of year. It never hurts to try your luck though. You can root some cuttings in a glass of water on the windowsill or dip the ends in fungicide and place them in a 4-inch pot. When the roots show at the bottom of the pot, transplant them into a pot that is 2 inches larger or plant them in the ground. Last winter I had good luck rooting my cuttings in the ground where my AC drips.

**PLANTING** – You can never have too many flowers. If you purchase the right plants, your garden can provide fruit, perfume from flowers, sightings of birds and butterflies. Plant flowers, trees, seeds, bulbs, onion sets, vegetables and any plants you want. Keep mulch 12 inches away from the trunks of trees and bushes. Pine bark mulch keeps its color longer than others. Plant native trees and large plants around the perimeter of your yard for protection from high winds and privacy.

**VEGETABLES** - Most vegetables and herbs need 6 - 8 hours of sun a day. Plant them in large pots so you can move them around. I like recycled 15-gallon black pots. Try earth boxes and large bags if you have not had success with your veg. plants in the ground. Try your luck with Everglades tomato plants. Rain or shine is not a problem for this plant to produce, just squeeze seeds into the soil. It also reseeds itself. Do not compost your weeds. Your pile does not get hot enough to destroy the seeds. Throw them away. A good tomato is not cheap, and a cheap tomato is not good.

**FRUIT IN SEASON** – Avocado, banana, carambola, citrus, sapote, papaya, sapodilla, pineapple, roselle, mulberry, and Strawberry tree. Growing your own fruit is like printing money. Keep a notebook, journal or calendar to remind you what happens each month in your garden. Keep the receipts of the named plants in a file so you will know the varieties planted.

**WATERING** – Adjust irrigation based on the rainfall. Do not let any plant sit in water for more than one hour. Your plants do not like to go to bed with wet feet. Root rot can become a problem with cacti, succulents, bulbs and many annuals when it is too wet. Some plants grow better watered with rainwater or well water, rather than city water. East of I 95 wells can contain salt. Adjust sprinklers so they don't overlap their spray and do not hit the base of your trees. If your water pressure is low, they might be clogged, take off the sprinkler heads at the end of the lines and flush them out.

**BLOOMING** –Bougainvillea, geiger tree, mussaenda, allamanda, orchid, willow in the Everglades, cassias, ixora, shrimp plant, Christmas cactus, kalanchoe, penta, periwinkle, marigold, impatiens, petunia, geranium, pansy, wax begonia, dragonwing begonia, blue daze, angel trumpet, Florida hydrangea, snapdragon, buttercup, crossandra, crown-of-thorns, ginger, desert rose, heliconia, ruellia, hibiscus, thryallis, bird of paradise, rose, golden senna, West Indian shower, salvia, firespike, scarlet red cloak, Hong Kong orchid, Turk's cap, firebush, porterweed, torenia, lantana, crinum lily, chenille, melampodium, garlic vine, alder, plumbago, clerodendrum and poinsettia. Visit a native plant nursery for different varieties for wildlife.

**MONARCH BUTTERFLY** – Is now on the endangered species list. Some do not migrate in south Florida. The breeding population is present year-round. Help by planting native milkweed, *Adepias tuberosa*, not Tropical, *aclepias curassavica*.

**SUSAN BERRY, President of the Hollywood Garden Club, Master Gardener, Advanced Florida Master Naturalist, Certified Landscape Designer, Certified Gardening Consultant** <http://www.hollywoodgardenclub.com>