

HOLLYWOOD GARDEN CLUB

MAKING HOLLYWOOD MORE BEAUTIFUL ONE GARDEN AT A TIME!

MAY 2022

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

Saturday - May 21, 2022 - 11:00 A.M.

Location: Living Color Garden Center

3691 Griffin Rd, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312

Followed by

Lunch at Tipsey Boar Restaurant

1906 Harrison St., Hollywood, FL 33020

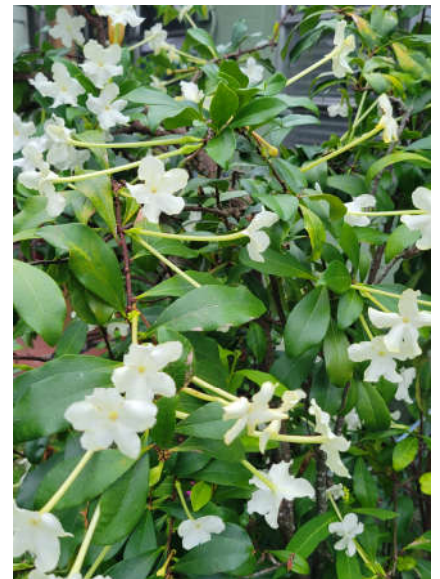
Parking at restaurant accessed by alleyway behind building.

Who wants to host an upcoming Hollywood Garden Club Meeting?

We are looking for members who would like to share their gardens for a HGC meeting. Having a shady sitting area is a plus. Whether your garden is large or small we would love to see it. Our April meeting at the home of Mary Tabela was a great success. We are featuring some photos from her garden in this issue. We want to give a special thank you to the District XI Director, Sharon Bogard, and Assistant Director, Bonny Cole for attending this meeting.

What's in Bloom: Lady of the Night (*Americana Brunfelsia*)

This plant is a frequent bloomer especially in the spring and is considered one of the most fragrant in the Brunfelsia family. The clusters of white flowers sit on the end of slender tubes. It's easy to grow in sun/part shade but keep it out of the noonday sun. We have been successfully propagating this shrub by air-layering. Sometimes a few volunteers sprout up that can be transplanted or shared. It likes average moisture and fertile soil. It doesn't take up too much room in the garden because of its upright growth that can be easily pruned. How can you get this plant? Just contact Mary who will happily share. We recommend this tropical shrub for any garden



"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow."

Audrey Hepburn

Happy Birthday – Alan Kurtzman

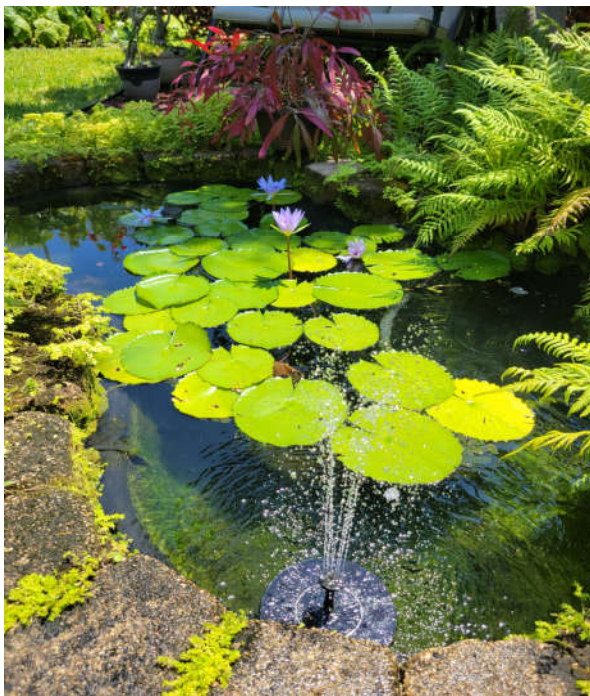
VISIT OUR WEBSITE - **Hollywood Garden Club** <http://hollywoodgardenclub.com>

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.

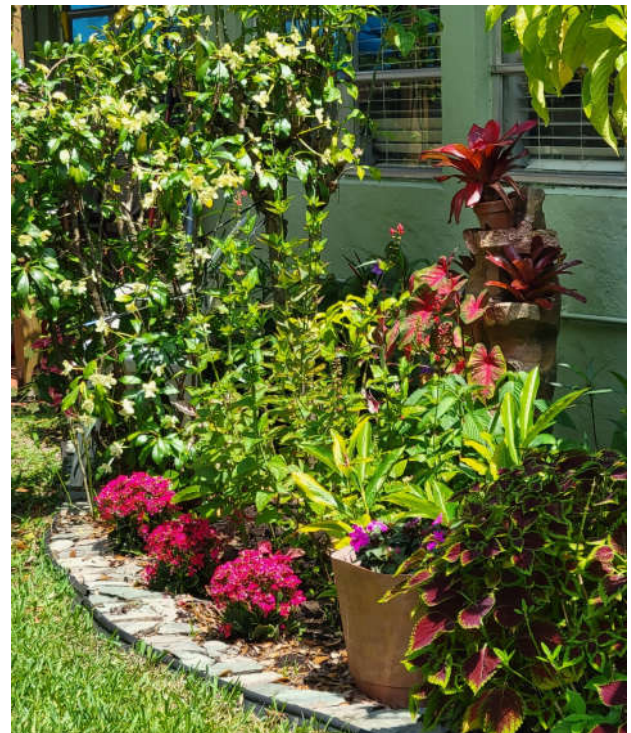
Mary's Garden The garden is in constant transition as the plants mature and new ones are added. Many of the plants are from cuttings gathered at our meeting over the years. I joined the garden club in 2009 and a few months later Susan asked for a volunteer to help with the newsletter. I volunteered and the rest is history.

The more plants I give away the more plants I have. It's true. Where the sun and shade areas are is a big factor in the garden. Also, the large palms in my yard dictate where I plant. It is amazing that the palm fronds usually do very little damage when they fall. I don't recommend large palms for any garden.

The biggest challenge is putting the right plant in the right place. I like color but don't want to solely rely on flowers blooming. So, I have filled my garden with colorful bromeliads, crotons and red Hawaiian ti plants. One surprise is the red shrimp plant, which has created a hedge along the back. This plant is constantly in bloom, is easy to propagate and requires no care. I will occasionally go out with the scissors and snip a few stems to keep it in bounds. I do have one scrawny little yellow shrimp plant and it is barely alive, go figure.



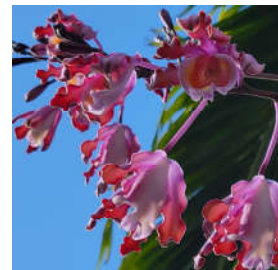
The area along the back of my house has full shade in the winter and almost full sun in the summer. I will place pots along the house in the winter that like shade and in-ground plantings to take the summer sun.



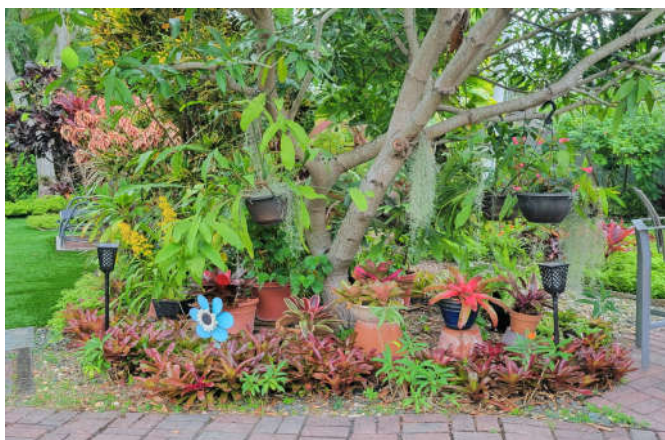
The ferns and moss around the pond add to the natural feel to the area. I love my waterlilies and they bloom frequently. The red rhipsalis has found its home sitting on the edge of the pond where it gets plenty of sun.



The lattice along the back of the gazebo holds my orchids and smaller potted plants. I was thrilled that my wild banana orchid (on right) was in bloom and had about a dozen flower spikes this year.



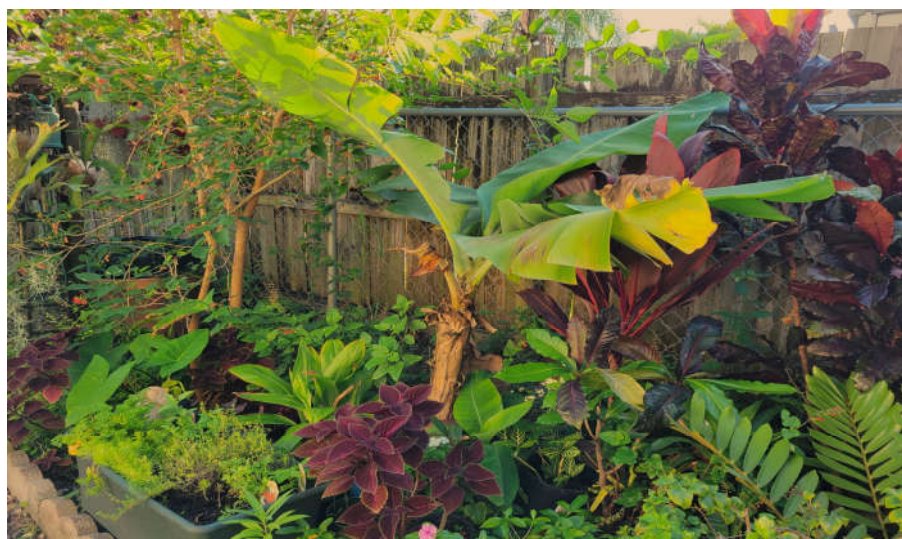
Wild Banana Orchid is Cayman's National Flower.
(*Myrmecophila thomsoniana*)



Under my Mallicka mango tree are bromeliads and a few shade plants. Hanging in baskets are a staghorn fern and night blooming cereus. I have about 6 hanging pots filled with night blooming cereus and will gladly share. My hanging pots are always on the move in the garden depending on what's in bloom or to fill in a spot.

Some of the filler plants that I use came from the garden club, the artillery fern (for sun and shade) and the Berle Marx philodendron (for shade). Periwinkles and milkweed plants are all over the yard since they seed themselves.

My mulberry bush along the westside is fruiting now and I prune it regularly to keep the height at about 7-8 feet. The banana trees are towards the back of the yard. They are messy and I like a neat garden, but I love bananas. I have 2 earth boxes that are planted with tomatoes and herbs.



A desert rose is a real showstopper when in bloom and they are easy to grow in pots. Mine sit in the full sun year-round as they are drought tolerant. They all bloom throughout the year. This is the type of carefree plant that gardeners can enjoy.

THINGS TO DO LIST FOR MAY 2022

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 away from your house. Remove all dead, diseased and weak branches. Heavy pruning on trees can be done in stages with a three-year program, trimming 1/3 each year. Large hedges can be trimmed on the top, then one side and then other side, with two weeks between each trimming. I pinch the tops out of plants to make them fuller. Disinfect garden tools with 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, morning glory, portulaca, purslane, vinca, melapodium, pinta, porterweed, salvia, torenia, verbena, zinnia, ornamental sweet potato and pepper. 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 put my pots on the ground, I put it on a small steppingstone or on top of an inverted pot. Before planting in the ground, soak it in a bucket of water for 10 minutes. Put water in the hole first before the soil. Then 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, ragoon 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 – 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 to measure rainfall. Now is the time to plant seeds and propagate new plants by cuttings and air-layering. Plant cuttings in a 70/30 mix of peat moss and perlite; place the pot in filtered, morning sun, keep moist and out of the wind. To amend the soil use compost and aged manure. 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 8-12 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. Start coleus cuttings in a clear glass of water and keep the water clean for 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 large 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 it now you will be mowing every week.

FRUIT RIPENING – Banana, calamondin, fig, 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.