

# HOLLYWOOD GARDEN CLUB

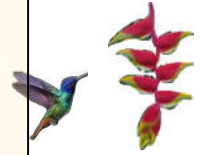
MAKING HOLLYWOOD MORE BEAUTIFUL ONE GARDEN AT A TIME!

MAY 2021

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



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



**Canna Lilies (*Cannas x Generalis*)** They are not lilies; their roots are more like irises. Care can be intense. Planted for their tropical foliage varieties and colors of red, orange, yellow, white and deep rose. Divide and transplant every 4 or 5 years. Cut back foliage to 1". They are used for dramatic backdrops, borders, and accents. Height can be 4' to 6', dwarfs 3' to 4'. Planted best in full to part sun out of the wind along a fence. Fill hole when planting with cow manure and peat. Plant 3" to 4 "deep, eyes facing up. Heavy feeders. Cut back dead flowers to above the next bloom. When all blossoms are gone cut stalk to the ground.

## **Lychee (*Litchi chinensis*) "King of Fruits"**

This fruit was brought to Florida in 1930 from China. The season is May to early July. Lychee are easily frozen for storage.

Varieties that grow well here are Mauritius, Brewster, and Sweetheart. Sweetheart has a smaller seed with more fruit inside.

Flavor is exquisite as it is unique and addictive. This is also a great shade tree for our area, it may grow to 40 feet.

It has many health benefits, fiber, Vitamin C, and Vitamin B Complex among others.



The lychee form clusters of 3 to 50 fruits. They grow well in South Florida's subtropical climate. Fruit size is 1 – 1.5"

To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.

**Happy Birthday**  
Alan Kurtzman

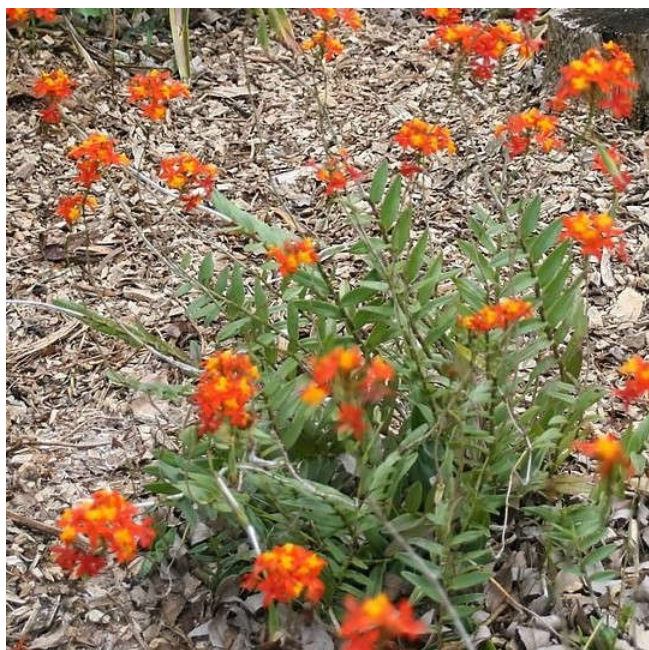
VISIT OUR WEBSITE - **Hollywood Garden Club** <http://hollywoodgardenclub.com>

What would you like to see in our newsletter?? Email pictures from your garden or other suggestions to [mtabela@comcast.net](mailto:mtabela@comcast.net)  
Membership in Florida Federation of Garden Clubs is open to all regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity or religious affiliation.

**Orchids:** We may not be an orchid club but we all love orchids. There are excellent sources of information from local growers, supply shops and our own members. Here are a few common steps to keep your orchids healthy. These apply to many orchids but not all. If you have just purchased your orchid, repotting will be necessary after the orchid blooms. You can remove it from its pot, clean off the sphagnum moss from the roots, cut off any dead brown roots and place in a similar size pot with an orchid mix. Orchids like to be packed tight in their pots. Place the orchid so that the new growth has room to grow. You can sprinkle a little time release fertilizer in the pot and water. The most frequent advice given is “to fertilize weakly weekly” and be consistent.

**Terrestrial Orchids:** Terrestrial Orchids are probably one of the easiest orchids to grow and propagate. Here are two good choices.

**Reed-Stem Orchid**, *Epidendrum radicans*. It flowers several times a year with orange, purple or red flowers and can grow to 36” tall. Plant in partial shade, on the east side of the house, 3 feet from walkways as terrestrials or they can be an epiphyte. Use as an accent plant. Amend soil with topsoil or organic peat and humus. Stalks should be cut back to the ground once they are done. Use controlled release or liquid fertilizer. Water twice a week in the summer and once in the winter. Native to Central America.



Purple ground orchid

***Spathoglottis plicata*, purple ground orchid** - This is another very easy orchid for partial to full shade in South Florida. They like well-draining soil and regular watering, but not soggy. They grow to about a foot tall and when not in bloom look similar to liriopse and can make a nice border or planted around the base of a tree.

The following article is a reprint from August 2012 by a past member, Lesa Takahashi, a professional orchid grower.

**Lesia's Orchid Corner**

With all the rain and high humid weather, these are perfect conditions for root and crown rot. NO WATERING. If you have sprinklers in your orchid collection TURN THEM OFF.

Spray weekly with Physan 20 mix with your fertilizer, 2 tsps. to one gallon of water. Its compatible and will coat the leaves, crown and roots protecting them from rot.

Chemical sprays have harmed my lungs over the 30-years of spraying toxic chemicals. Many of the sprays are systemic, SO PLEASE USE ORGANICS. Physan 20 is used in hospitals for cleaning silverware and linens. That is how safe it is to use and has a pleasant smell. I also use Dyna-Gro Pro-teKt, a silicon solution and nutritional supplement for stronger, hardier ornamental plants and food crops. Resistance to environmental stress also added to the list – insects and disease.

For foliar spray use ½ tsp. per gallon of water – also—TEST FIRST FOR SENSITIVITY TO SPRAY.

Please stay safe from chemicals and use a mask. HAPPY GROWING!

*In memory of Lesa, a past member of HGC.*

## THINGS TO DO LIST FOR MAY 2021

**PRUNING** – Now is the time to do major pruning in zones 10B & 11. Knowing when and how to prune, you can improve any tree or plant's shape and production. 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. Disinfect garden tools with 70% alcohol in a spray bottle.

**PLANTING** – It is time to plant peppers, sweet potatoes, southern peas and okra. Summer flowers include wax begonia, balsam, bromeliad, cosmos, coleus, cockscomb, crossandra, four-o'clocks, heliconia, sunflower, gaillardia, hollyhock, lantana, marigold, morning glory, portulaca, purslane, vinca, melapodium, pinta, porterweed, salvia, torenia, verbena, ornamental sweet potato and pepper. Herbs to plant include Mexican tarragon, basil and rosemary. Bulbs to plant now are amaryllis, caladium, crinum and zephyranthes. Place a name tag on it. I use a cut up Clorox jug, paint marker, hole punch and a coated wire. Move the potted plant around in your garden until it shows you where it likes it the best, that is the right place. Do not place on the ground, use a small steppingstone or on top of an inverted pot. Leave it in the pot until the roots grow to the bottom. Soak it in a bucket of water for 10 minutes then plant it in the ground. Put water in the hole first. Rainy season is a good time to plant potted plants in the ground.

**BLOOMING** – This month, some of the show-offs will be butterfly plants, dragon fruit, bromeliad, African tulip tree, geiger tree, 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, musaenda, penta, plumbago, porterweed, queen crape myrtle, queen's wreath, ruellia, shrimp plant, sweet almond, star jasmine, thryallis, ground orchid, and several varieties of cassia including Bahama, apple blossom, barkeriana and desert cassia. Purchase something different that is blooming or fruiting every month.

**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. Water a day before you fertilize. 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. Mulch plant beds to reduce the 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 down the weeds 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 larger pot. Try cuttings in the ground next to the AC drip.

**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, and passion fruit.

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.