

HOLLYWOOD GARDEN CLUB

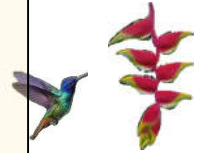
MAKING HOLLYWOOD MORE BEAUTIFUL ONE GARDEN AT A TIME!

JUNE /JULY 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



Hollywood Garden Report

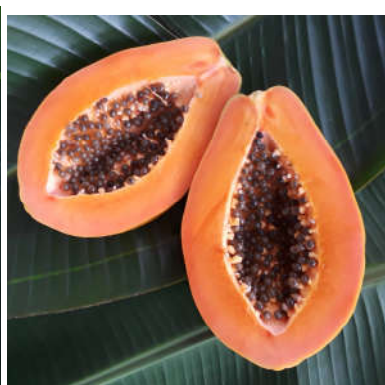
It is a challenge to stay connected since the pandemic. Members of Hollywood Garden Club have not resumed our formal meetings yet, but some of us have been meeting in small groups for lunch and visits to our local nurseries. As members are spending more time in their gardens, gardening questions are sent to me as well as gardening triumphs. I love sharing information, answers, solutions, hints and “practical how to” with our members and sharing pictures of the results inspires us all! This keeps all of us in touch and always learning.

Some are asking when we will be meeting again. The Fred Lippman Center where we have held our meetings has just opened. Many of our members are content to leave things as they are right now, maintaining our connection through our Newsletter and email blasts. We will be planning a field trip to a nursery or a park with a bag lunch when it gets cooler. It has been so hot and wet that my weeding has gotten ahead of me. Nobody has ever drowned in their own sweat.

The fruits of our labor! All us fruit lovers are in our glory at this time of the year. The mangos are overflowing, and the mango bread is baking. Alfred has shared his beautiful photos of pineapple, mango and papaya.



Pineapple



Papaya



Mango

Happy Birthday

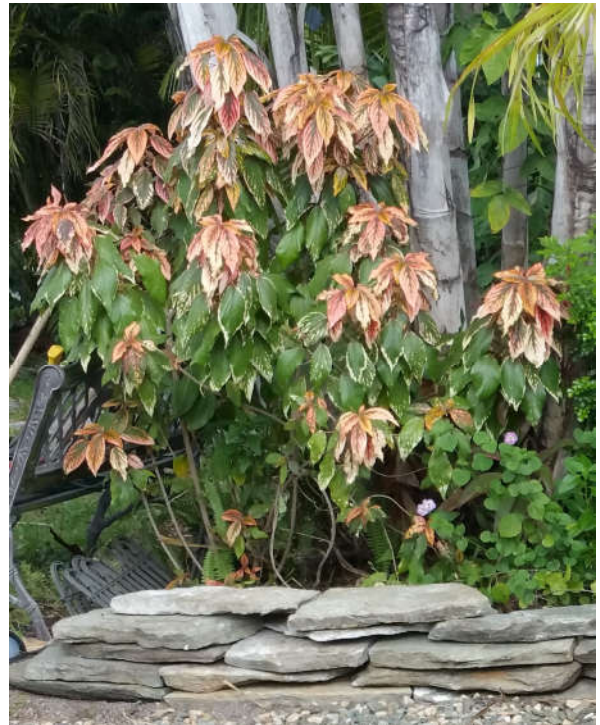
Maggy Gomez, Audrey Martin, Susan Berry. Mary Tabela & Steve Turowski

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.

Space can be a big issue in our gardens but with some creative pruning we can turn a bush type plant that can take up valuable garden area into a small tree. There are many bushes that adapt well to a tree-like form. It does take occasional pruning to maintain the tree-like form, but it is worth the effort. Start by trimming branches at the base and sides of your plant and selecting one main branch for your trunk. It's best to start this process while your plant is young. Don't hesitate to prune, and if you don't like it; it will grow back in no time. This is a technique you can use to gain space for all those "gotta have" plants. You are only limited by your imagination.

Copperleaf – this plant constantly gives off shoots at its base and requires regular pruning to retain its tree shape and may be a little too high maintenance for some of us. Here it is as a small tree in 2021.



Here is the copperleaf before it was pruned into a tree-like form. Photo from 2015

To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.

Lesa's Orchid Corner

With all the rain and high humid weather, these are perfect condition 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 tps 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 JUNE 2021

PRUNING – Pinch back the tips on plants that you want more flowers on and be compact. Poinsettias lost their color in March, and new growth needs to be cut back. Prepare trees and yard for hurricanes. Large dense shade trees should be topped, thinned out and tip pruned, so strong hurricane winds will pass through them, rather than blow the trees over. Never trim more than 1/3 of the total green growth at one time on a hedge or tree. For fruit trees, trim after fruiting and remove water shoots, and root suckers from below the graft line. Trim everything away that can hit the house. Trim palms 9:00 - 3:00. Keep perimeter shrubs high to help block the winds. Do not throw your trimmings away use them as mulch to help keep the weeds down.

PROPOGATION - The best time to air layer and graft is spring and early summer. Old coleus can be cut-back and new plants started from the cuttings. Place in water on a windowsill or in soilless mix to root. Woody plants, such as hibiscus, ixora, crotons, ti and dracaena, are easy to start just by sticking them in the ground, and well-watered till rooted. Plant 5 usually 3 will take. I planted cuttings in the ground at the AC drip outside, and they rooted. Grasses and some plants like liriopse can be divided now. Trim them back when replanting. Do not put weeds in the compost pile. Divide bromeliads to make new plants if the baby is 1/3 the size of the mother.

INSECTS – Brown spots in dry areas of your lawn could mean you have Chinch Bugs. Look over your plants carefully for insects. Mosquito season is here, eliminate all standing water. They only need 8 days to reproduce. I like to use a fan to keep the mosquitos off of me while I am repotting and working with my plants on the patio. Spray around the foundation of the house for insects. Use a strong jet of water to wash insects off your plants, cut leaves or pick them off. Termites are swarming now; outside lights at night can attract them to our house.

PLANTING –Check orchids to see if any need repotting. Mount some on the trees where you hand water. Design your garden to have three or more different plants blooming at any given time of the year. Bees like the colors, white, yellow, purple-blue flowers best. When planting potted trees or bushes, first soak them in a bucket of water for 15 minutes. Check the roots to make sure they are not tightly wrapped around each other. Remove any excess soil that is on top of the roots and plant the top of the root ball 1 inch higher than the surrounding soil. Water the plant in the hole and cover with soil. Pack it firmly in the hole. Water again. Put mulch around the base 3 inches away from the trunk of the tree or bush. Water well again. Make sure the roots do not dry out after planting for several weeks. Refresh mulch elsewhere if needed. I pile the old mulch around my plants and replace with new mulch around the beds. New mulch uses the nitrogen in the soil to break it down. PLANT: cosmos, cockscomb, coleus, vinca, dianthus, salvia, begonias, marigolds, sunflowers, zinnias, gaillardia, portulaca, purslane, torenia, amaranthus and caladium bulbs. VEGETABLES: beans, cowpeas, cassava, chayote, bonito, eggplant, peppers, cherry or Everglades' tomatoes, Chinese yams, malanga, pigeon pea, okra, peanuts, squash, onions, pumpkin and sweet potatoes. HEAT LOVING HERBS: basil, ginger, Mexican tarragon, summer savory and rosemary. BUTTERFLY PLANTS: Some examples to plant are: Corky stem passion vine, passion flower, tropical sage, milkweed, firebush, firespike, desert cassia, coontie and pentas. Do not use pesticides in your butterfly garden.

FERTILIZING – It is not good to fertilize when the temperature is over 85 degrees, only fertilizer when plants show signs of being nutrient deficient. I use water soluble, 20-20-20, ½ or ¼ strength, on my potted plants, mixed in gallon jugs. Keep a few marked for just fertilizer, by the door already mixed. On orchids use time released and water-soluble fertilizer weekly, weekly. Cow manure for those bananas.

FRUIT – Tropical fruits are coming into season including early avocado, banana, Barbados cherry, guava, fig, bunch grapes, jaboticaba, lychee, mango, monstera, muntingia - (strawberry fruit), natal plum, papaya, passion fruit, pineapple, pitomba, sapodilla, Surinam cherry, and tamarind. Now is a good time to plant fruit trees.

Susan Berry, Hollywood Garden Club President, Florida Master Gardener, Certified Garden Consultant, Certified landscape Designer, Advanced Master Naturalist, FMNP Land Steward and FFGC Earth Steward.

THINGS TO DO FOR JULY 2021

PRUNING – For plants that bloom in the summer, prune after flowering. Large dense trees should be thinned out, so storm winds can blow through them. Leave the leafy pruned clippings of the trees and plants at their base; it will replace some of the nutrients that they took out of the soil. Trim limbs that will fall on your house and the ones that animals can use to get on your roof. Palm seeds can be cut off when they are young, so they don't fall and sprout. Trim palm fronds at 9 o'clock and 3 o'clock. Keep your perimeter shrubs high to protect your yard from hurricane winds. Prune fruit trees after fruiting.

PLANTING – When purchasing plants, the largest plant with flowers is not the best one to pick. Look for one with unopened blooms. Before planting, place in a bucket of water to soak. Then put it in the hole and fill with water and soil, mud it in. Step lightly around the plant so the roots have full contact with the soil. Keep it moist for about two weeks, then every other day until there are signs of growth. Then water it along with your other plants. Repot overgrown potted plants in pots that are two inches larger in diameter. Place screening over the holes in the bottom. Make sure the top of the soil mix is two inches below the rim to allow space for watering. Hang with a hook that swivels. If plants are placed on the ground, making sure there is no contact with soil. I have small stepping stones under my pots. They can be placed on feet or on wheels if they are too heavy to move around. With the rainy season here now, it is the best time to plant your plants in the ground.

FEEDING - For potted plants, use time release fertilizer. Water once a month with a weak solution of water-soluble fertilizer mixed, ½ strength. Use Epsom salts and palm fertilizer on palms that have yellowing fronds. (see [IFAS Nutrient Deficiencies of Palms](#)). Crotons can be fertilized with palm food with minor elements. Use acid fertilizer on plants that like acid soil. or used tea bags, old coffee grounds. Left-over pickle juice that has been filled to the top of the jar with water, can be poured around the base of acid loving plants. It is too hot to use weed & feed on lawns now. Vegetable plants can be feed once a month.

WATERING – Water in the morning to keep everything alive, once or twice a week. Check sprinkler lines for clogs. Take end heads off and turn on pump too blow out the lines. Clean heads that aren't working properly with a large paper clip. When watering by hand, check each plant for signs of disease or bugs. Rinse out mosquito larvae from the center of bromeliads.

VEGETABLES –Disease and the heat will cause problems now. Especially if you do not keep your plants watered. Some vegetables that might make it through the summer are, beans, okra, peppers, Everglades tomatoes, eggplant, and watermelon. Fertilize them once a month. Container plants shaded from the noon day sun will do better than those out in full sun. Keep weeds down by mulching with cuttings and wood chips, 3 to 4 inches.

SUMMER COLOR - There are at least 80 different annuals and perennials that are in bloom now! There isn't any reason **not** to have a garden or patio full of colorful plants! Choose the heat resistant plants like gaillardia, marigold, portulaca, purslane, torenia, periwinkle, zinnia, and verbena. For leaf color try caladiums and coleus. Low growing shrubs such as pentas, lantana, and some of the salvias do well in the heat of summer and come in a variety of colors and heights. Plant plants in pots so you can move them around for, "THE MAGIC OUTSIDE."

Susan Berry

President of Hollywood Garden Club

Florida Master Gardner 1998, Certified Garden Consultant and Landscape Designer, Advanced Master Naturalist, Florida Master Naturalist Program, Land Steward & FFGC Earth Steward