

HOLLYWOOD GARDEN CLUB

MAKING HOLLYWOOD MORE BEAUTIFUL ONE GARDEN AT A TIME!

SEPTEMBER 2025

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,



Next Meeting October 18, 2025 11 am
Home of Mary Tabela



Florida Native Plants. Most of us don't make native plants our first choice for our gardens. There are benefits to adding natives along with Florida friendly plants, which through not native adapt to our soil and climate while not being invasive. At our meeting on September 20 at the home of Steve and Olivia Turowski, a tour of their gardens spotlighted the many native plants that they have incorporated. Olivia pointed out the native plants, their characteristics, and the variety of butterflies that they attract. Many native plants are either the host or nectar plants for butterflies. The result of their efforts was clear as many butterflies flitted about the garden. Native plants are a great choice for our environment and we encourage everyone to add native plants to their garden.



Beautyberry
(*Callicarpa americana*)
Photo from IFAS website



Wild Coffee (*Psychotria nervosa*)

The beautyberry, a Florida native, is a bush that blooms along its stem in spring & summer and by the fall they turn into clusters of deep purple fruits. It grows to 4-6 feet size. This is a good bush to use as a specimen plant.

Ornamental Wild Coffee is another Florida native plant that is an easy bush for South Florida gardens. It like partial sun, has glossy leaves and is a great addition to any garden. Prune to keep its size under control.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Nov 15, 2025	Home of Susan Berry
Dec 2025	NO MEETING
Jan 2026	Home of Norman Gaslowitz
Feb 21, 2026	Miramar Community Garden Tour
March 2026	Home of Luis Rodrigues & Anna Dan

Happy Birthday
Judith Bostwick and
Anna Fraker

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

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.

Steve and Olivia's garden is truly a labor of love. It is a mix of tropical plants, fruit trees, orchids and Florida native plants. They are expanding their native plants and encourage everyone to do so. Butterflies were everywhere because of all the host and nectar plants in the garden. There is also a large orchid collection featuring many vanda orchids. The multi-colored crotons add pops of color and draw the eye. Great Job!



Stoplight Croton



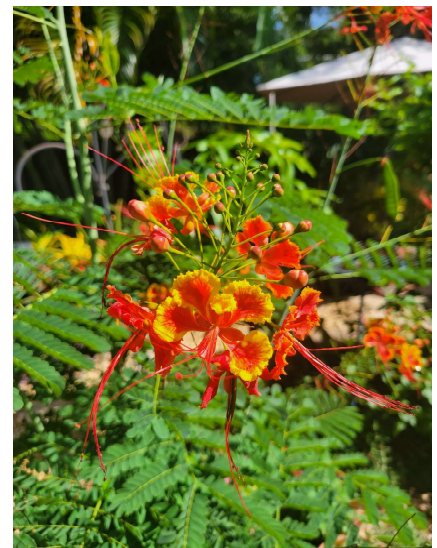
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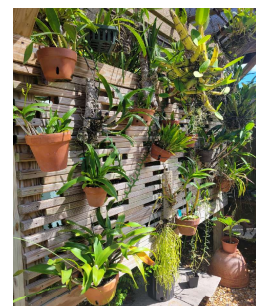
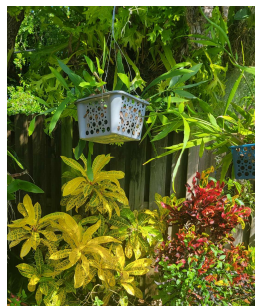
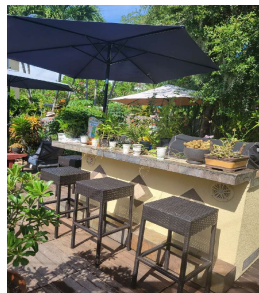
Giant Crown of Thorns



Bird Bath & Crotons



Pride of Barbados



THINGS TO DO OCTOBER 2025

PRUNING –Create a wind block on your perimeter with plants and trees for hurricane protection. You can trim them after hurricane season. They will protect your interior plants and give wildlife a safe place to stay in high winds. The first cuts for trimming a tree are to cut out the tree branches that are pointing straight down, and then remove all dead wood, and the limbs that are crossing and rubbing. Next should be to start shaping the tree by taking off some of the lower limbs. For hurricane protection make sure trees and shrubs do not touch your house. Tree limbs can break your roof tiles in high winds and give animals a way on top of your roof.

PLANTING – Now is a good time to take out or replace a particular bush or tree that isn't doing well. Get all your potted trees and landscape plants into the ground before the cool weather. Before planting, soak them in a bucket of water until they are saturated, then place them in the hole and "mud them in." For your potted plants use potting mix with a little more perlite, or sand, for drainage depending on the plant's requirements. Plant different textures and different colors next to each other to create a contrast. Purchase plants that do something like have flowers, fruit, change color or attract wildlife. Some good choices are crotons, canna, mussaenda, Hawaiian ti, chenille plant, coleus, banana, mango, avocado, and natives for the wildlife. Bulbs that can be planted now are onion, African lily, amaryllis, Aztec lily, calla, crinum, elephant ear, gladiolus, gloriosa, iris, kaffir lily, walking iris, society garlic, spider lily, rain lily. Some flowering plants to plant now are kalanchoe, crown of thorns, daisy, marigold, lobelia, impatiens, geranium, dusty miller, dianthus, crossandra, browallia, begonia, aster, amaranthus, alyssum, gaillardia, salvia, torenia, periwinkles and pentas. Herbs can be grown in containers on a porch or balcony. They can be planted in hanging baskets, so they are out of the way of crawling insects that are in the ground. That way can easily be brought in under shelter from the rain, cold or storms if needed. Start cuttings where your AC drips outside on the ground or next to the plant you cut them from. See: Florida Gardening Calendar, South.

FEEDING –Fertilize with less nitrogen now. It's the last month to fertilize ornamentals, palms and fruit trees until February or March. Use before your plants and trees show poor nutrition. When I boil vegetables, I pour the water around plants in the garden. Kitchen scraps, old coffee grounds, and tea bags too. For acid soil plants mix pickle juice with water and water in. I use time release fertilizer, water soluble, Lesco Palm food, and Black Kow manure. For poor soil, spread compost, Black Kow manure, garden soil, and mulch around plants. For mulch use pine bark, eucalyptus, or melaleuca. Melaleuca has chemicals that inhibit seed germination; Eucalyptus mulch repels many insects. Do not use cypress, it repels water when dry and is depleting our forests of the trees. No float mulch is good to use where rain washes it into the walkways or street.

WEEDS –Nutgrass, or nutsedge, grow in lawns and soil that are wet over a long period of time. Control the water and mow high every three weeks to help choke out the weeds. I drop my cuttings and leave the leaves at the base of the plant or tree I am cutting, and I hardly ever fertilize or weed. Never put weeds back on the ground, throw them in the garbage. To discourage weeds longer, before you cover the soil with mulch, lay down cardboard or newspaper first. The soft tips of palm fronds make a mat mulch that weeds, or palm seeds cannot penetrate. Throw away the shafts and the hard part of the stems.

BLOOMING – Some plants that are blooming now are: crossandra, pentas, plumbago, mussaenda, brunfelsia, chenille, cassia, begonia, blue daze, portulaca, purslane, frangipani, crown of thorns, periwinkle, marigold, impatiens, buttercup, orchid, rose, ixora, royal poinciana, dwarf poinciana, bougainvillea, allamanda, thryallis, zinnia, sweet almond, brugmansia, torenia, garlic vine, silk floss tree, Jamaican lilac, orchid tree and carambola tree. Visit your favorite nurseries monthly.

INSECTS –Check your plants regularly and tend to your problems early. Cut off the branches with the insects on them and throw them away. Use a high-power water hose and wipe the bugs off with your hands. If that doesn't work, then spray natural products like Neam Oil or Insecticidal Soap. Try to keep a chemical free garden and "choose disease-resistant plants." Invite birds into your garden by planting plants that produce seeds and berries, and they will raise their young there and eat your insects. Dragonfly ancestors are among the earth's oldest insects. Their eggs turn into aquatic nymphs that feed on mosquito larvae, while as adults they catch mosquitoes in flight.

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