

HOLLYWOOD GARDEN CLUB

Making Hollywood more beautiful one garden at a time!

September 2019

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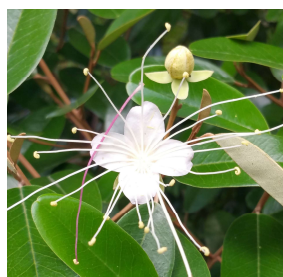


HOLLYWOOD GARDEN CLUB MEETINGS
3RD TUESDAY of the MONTH
Fred Lippman Multi-Purpose Center
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. -- 2030 Polk Street, Hollywood, FL 33023



We're going to spotlight this month shady plants that are garden staples and sure to fit and will last for many years. We especially like the ones that bring some color and interest with a minimum of maintenance. Our northern transplant members will recognize these as some of the traditional houseplants, which is a good way to recognize these shade lovers. If they're a houseplant up north then they are most likely a shade plant in our South Florida gardens. Here are some to consider: Calathea Zebrina, Calathea Ornata, Aglaonenas, purple black stem colocasias (wild taro), fish tail fern, petticoat fern (Susan has had this fern in a pot for 11 years).

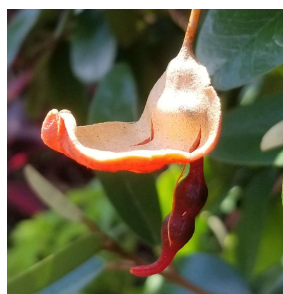
Jamaican caper is a native evergreen plant with a very delicate white flower. This plant had one seed pod. Just when you think you know a plant it unexpectedly produces a bright red pod. The photos show the flower, front, back & mature seed pod.



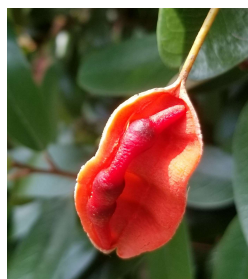
Jamaican Caper flower



Seed pod front



Mature seed pod



Seed pod back



We never get tired of showing off this beauty in our newsletter. The queen of the night flower is a showstopper. They are such a surprise when you find them blooming. To propagate each leaf can be placed in a hanging basket. Keep the cuttings coming members, so we all can have this beautiful flower that blooms only at night. *Thanks for sharing Linda.*

Happy Birthday

Judith Bostwick, Anna Fraker, Linda Salavaria

"All my hurts my garden spade can heal"
Ralph Waldo Emerson.

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.

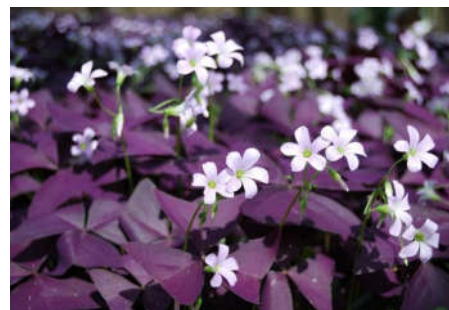
Shade loving plants for the South Florida garden

Here are some suggestions for the shady areas of your garden that have staying power. Low maintenance is the goal in many of our gardens and these plants will give you that plus interest, color, and variety in shapes and sizes. If you had any doubts the coleus at the right is the classic example of shade loving and vibrant color. These are so easy to grow and propagate. One of our favorites.



Peace Lily plant *Spathiphyllum*
Susan has this plant in 3 sizes and they have lasted for 10 years.

The oxalis and peace lily are full of flowers to help brighten areas that can be too dark to enjoy.



Oxalis purple shamrock



Alocasia black stem- Elephant ear
Dark green leaves with a black stem

For a bold statement place the alocasia in a mass planting. These can reach 3-6 feet in size.

Ferns are a great for shade, a tropical look, and very easy care for.



Fish tail fern



Petticoat fern



We also love variegated leaves and there are so many to choose from. The calathea zebrina shown above can grow to 3 feet. Its size puts this variegated beauty in a class by itself.

THINGS TO DO LIST FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

PRUNING – We are in the height of hurricane season. Prune all trees that are close to your house. Stop pruning poinsettias by Sept 15th for Christmas color. Coleus, roses and bougainvillea's can be shaped up now.

PROPAGATION – Root cuttings in water on the window sill. Repot plants that have outgrown their pots with containers that are one to two inches larger. Divide and replant perennials and bulbs that need it. Consider starting annuals and vegetables from seed. But it's better to buy the plants. You still can air-layer plants now.

INSECTS – Watch for beetles eating the lychee and canistel trees. Heavy rains are bringing insects inside the house. A chemical barrier around the foundation and ant bait trays inside will discourage them for now. The Tiki hut caterpillar, (*Simplicia cornicalis*), is feeding on thatched palm leaves. Spray at dusk with BT.

WATERING – Turn off sprinkler timers and water only when you see plants are wilted in the morning. Use a rain gauge or vegetable can to measure 1 inch of rain a week. Plants take up water when the sun is out. Watch for brown patches in your lawn from fungus. Chinch bugs eat the roots of the grass. Then the weeds take over.

FEEDING – Manures, peat and humus should be spread in planting areas. Use low-nitrogen fertilizer on bougainvilleas and poinsettias. Fertilize citrus now or in October. Palms need Lesco palm fertilizer. More palms die from nutritional deficiencies than from diseases. Put your kitchen scraps and coffee grounds around plants. Prepare your pots for fall vegetables. Place weed block under the pots so the bugs can't get in them. Feed Caladium bulbs ½ strength liquid fertilizer. Fertilize tomato plants after fruit set or you will have lush leaves only, and keep water off the leaves. Spread Miracle-Gro garden soil in planters, then mulch.

PLANTING

Plant pollen and nectar plants for the butterflies and bees. It will increase your vegetable and fruit yields.

BULBS – Amaryllis, rain, calla, and Easter lily, alocasia, and gloriosa can be planted now.

ANNUALS – Coleus, crossandra, gaillardia, kalanchoe, pentas, periwinkle, tropical milkweed and sage

HERBS – Keep parsley, mints, rosemary and basil in semi-shade for now.

END OF THE MONTH – Plant broccoli, cabbage, collards, eggplant, endive, lettuce, lima, snap, pole and bush beans, okra, onions, peppers, squash and tomatoes. If you are planting in pots, use the 15 gallon size and place them in at least 6 hours of sun per day. Planting by seed lets you plant more varieties, but using transplants from the Garden Centers gets you off to a good, healthy start. For seeds, use Pro Mix, 3B Mix or Micro Start 323. For starter plants, use organic soil or Miracle Gro potting mix in your pots with a little perlite for better drainage.

FRUIT RIPENING – Harvest banana, avocado, Barbados cherry, carambola, egg fruit, fig, guava, jaboticaba, jack fruit, Key lime, lemon, mamey, sapote, mango, miracle fruit, muntingia, natal plum, papaya, passion fruit, pineapple, rose apple, sapodilla, seagrape and sugar apple.

BLOOMING – Enjoy the flowers of allamanda, bougainvillea, bridal bouquet, bromeliads, geiger tree, heliconia, mussaenda, ixora, orchids, shrimp plant, pentas, periwinkle, marigold, begonias, Mexican bluebell, buttercup, crossandra, crown-of-thorns, firespike, frangipani, passion vine, Tahitian gardenia, portulaca, ginger, salvia, thryallis, desert rose, cassia, zinnia, silk floss, lance pod, golden rain, yellow elder, and queen crape myrtle. Visit your local nurseries every month for a blooming garden year-round.

Susan Berry

President of the Hollywood Garden Club, Master Gardener, Garden Consultant, Certified Landscape Designer, Advanced Master Naturalist, FMNP Land Steward, and FFGC Earth Steward