

Notes from the Trail

The Bartram Garden Club, Inc. Newsletter



Volume 3, Issue 4

December 1, 2020

The Bartram Garden Club, Inc. Member of NGC

Grow + Show + Serve + Conserve



UPCOMING MEETING Tiered Holiday Centerpieces Workshop and Napkin Folding Demonstration

December 10
Hospitality 10:00am Business Meeting 10:30am
Woman's Club of Fernandina Beach

Masks and Social Distancing will be observed.

Leadership Team for December 10:
Greeters: Deb Walton, Jackie Gray

Hospitality: Deb Walton, Bev Williams, Claudia Burningham
Inspiration: Frances Tidd

Raffle: Linda Broadrick, Frances Tidd, Sue Dwyer
Clean Up: Pam Home, Karen Reilly, Jay Yates, all members

* If unable to serve please find a substitute and notify the president
ktplol@gmail.com

We Proceeded On... A Message from the President

Dear Members,

It's the most wonderful season of all, even with all the adjustments we are making these days. But as gardeners we know how to weather any "storm." Having many ways to keep in touch with family and friends—with a card, a call, or one of the online face-to-face apps—is one of the advantages of this modern time.

Although November's storm forecast caused the cancellation of our meeting, we are fortunate that **Sam Carr** and **Mike Adams** have agreed to present their informative and distinctive program about William "Billy" Bartram in January. So please be sure to mark **January 14** on your calendar! You will definitely want to attend their presentation!

Having a tiered server as a centerpiece is a wonderful addition to the holiday table—along with preparing a delightful and personally unique floral arrangement—and that is the December workshop for our members. As an extra touch there will be a hands-on demonstration of holiday napkin-folding techniques, sure to bring more smiles and laughter to this festive event!

As always, our Executive Committee values your health and safety, so every measure is being taken to provide safe distancing with masks required.

I wish you all a beautiful and blessed holiday season and the very best for a good year to come!

Kathleen

GREEN is the THING

We need foliage and red berries for our December workshop. Contributions of any small-leaf cuttings are most welcome: Boxwood, Leatherleaf Fern, Podocarpus, Ivy, dwarf Ficus, Pittosporum, Juniper, Cedar, Holly, berries, even dried and painted Crepe Myrtle seed pods, are just a few examples.

Cut the foliage at an angle in the morning and soak in tepid water overnight. For pickup contact Bev Williams, Linda Broadrick or Kathleen Lunman, or bring to the Woman's Club on Tuesday December 8th at 2:00pm or to the meeting.

January 14th Special Program

(Rescheduled from November.)

The Bartram Garden Club Remembers Our Namesake and America's First Great Naturalist

BEFORE LEWIS AND CLARK THERE WAS WILLIAM BARTRAM. In March 1774, Bartram began his much-anticipated trip to Florida and the St. Johns River, first setting foot on Amelia Island. He traveled through Old Fernandina to Lord Egmont's plantation and then continued to the St. Johns River documenting the region's flora and fauna. Bartram introduced the world to over 250 native plants.

In order to perpetuate the legacy of William Bartram, The Bartram Garden Club will host Sam Carr and Mike Adams of the Bartram Trail Conference at our general meeting on January 14. Sam Carr will discuss the establishment of The Bartram Trail National Heritage Corridor which memorializes William Bartram's explorations. Mike Adams will bring history to life in his reenactment of the naturalist using Bartram's words and illustrations.

Bring a friend! The meeting is open to all history buffs, naturalists, gardeners, hikers, bikers, paddlers and others who might benefit from the recreational trails and botanical gardens along Bartram's route.

The presentation will begin at 10:30 a.m. with a meet-and-greet beginning at 10:00. **Masks will be required at the entrance and seating will be socially distanced.**

The Bartram Garden Club and our parent organization, the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., are both affiliates of the Bartram Trail Conference and host many of the Bartram sites.

Here We Grow Again!

Our award-winning website continues to connect prospective members to our club. Since our newest members joined in October, we have received additional messages from residents new to our area who are interested in gardening.

Please be mindful of these new faces ("eyes") when guests visit our meetings. Warm welcomes are always appreciated!

OUR WEBSITE HAS A FRESH LOOK!

Take a few minutes to explore our website.
www.bartramgardenclub.org.

Our updated Yearbook and Roster are found on the Members page, which is password protected for privacy purposes. Please contact Marc Williams for the password, williamarc@gmail.com

Also look for new banners, photos, links, and special features, such as a footer on each page, which make navigation easier. Please thank **Marc Williams** for this new and improved look, which we hope will win us another FFGC award!

December Birthdays

- 13 Karen Reilly
- 18 Frances Tidd
- 19 Sue Dwyer
- 28 Patti Toohey

Reduce Reuse Recycle

Recycle
CORKS: Continue to save natural and synthetic corks to support "Save the Oceans" and "Save the Forests" conservation projects. Bring to the meetings.

CANS: KANS4K9s
TURN TRASH INTO valuable service dogs for warriors suffering from Post-traumatic Stress Disability! Bring us clean aluminum cans. (Test each can with a magnet. If it sticks it is not aluminum. We cannot accept tin cans.)

Reduce Invasives
CONTINUE to replace invasive plants, such as asparagus fern, Boston fern, and Mexican petunia, with native or Florida-friendly landscape plants. The bees, birds, and butterflies will thank you.

PENNY PINES NGC Reforestation Boost
Many thanks to member **Betty Baker** for a generous donation to Penny Pines in memory of her mentor, Barbara Coon. Combined with our monthly donations, the club was able to send another \$68.00 to NGC for Penny Pines. We are growing another forest!

December 2
Deadline to register for December Workshop
bevthepatriot@gmail.com
404-312-8530

December 10
General Meeting open to all members.
Workshop is for Members Only
Hospitality 10am
Business 10:30am
Registration required for workshop.

See details below.
December 30
Woman's Club Yard Cleanup
10:00am

THANKS to Linda Broadrick, Rich Reilly, Marc Williams, Cathy Klein and Bev Williams for volunteering in November!

January 14
General meeting
The Legacy of William "Billy" Bartram
10am

Reserve Your Space for the December Workshop: Deadline December 2nd

Tiered Centerpieces for Holiday Entertaining Workshop and Napkin Folding Demonstration

Reservations required.
RSVP to Beverly Williams
bevthepatriot@gmail.com
404-312-8530
\$10.00 fee covers all supplies

Workshop is for Members Only. Due to social distancing space is limited.

Members and prospective members do not have to make reservations for the business portion of the meeting.

Plant America with Trees: Each ONE Plant ONE

NGC president, Gay Austin, has designated this as her theme for 2019 - 2021. The initiative encourages every NGC garden club member to plant one tree each year! If implemented, that's 165,000 trees!

But YOU only have to plant ONE! Easy!

Consider planting a native tree, which supports wildlife while helping to sequester carbon dioxide. THANK YOU!

A WORD FROM the FLORIDA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS

Support FFGC as you do your Holiday shopping on Amazon.
[Click Here for the FFGC Amazon Link.](#)

Happy shopping and THANK YOU!

Thank you,
FFGC Headquarters

Gardening By The Month – December

What to Plant

Annuals/Bedding plants: Masses of petunia, pansy, snapdragon, lobelia, alysium, and viola add color in winter. See Annuals: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_annual_landscapes_plants

Bulbs: Amaryllis can be forced to bloom now or planted outdoors for spring blooms. See Bulbs for Florida: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_bulbous_flowers

Herbs: Some examples of cool-weather herbs include parsley, thyme, sage, dill, fennel, garlic, comfrey, and cilantro. See Herbs: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_herbs

Vegetables: Reliable cool-season vegetables include cabbages, collards, beets, and broccoli. See Vegetable Gardening in Florida: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_vegetable_gardening

What to Do

Poinsettias: Enjoy one of the most popular indoor holiday plants. With proper care, this colorful plant gives weeks of color. See Poinsettia: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_poinsettia

Cold damage: Wait until warm weather returns to cut back cold-damaged plants. See Cold Protection and Chilling Damage of Landscape Plants: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_landscapes_and_cold

Vegetable garden: Make sure that seeds and transplants are properly spaced for good development of tubers and vegetables. See Vegetable Gardening in Florida: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_vegetable_gardening

Houseplants: Inspect regularly for pests on indoor plants. Keep in mind that adequate light is a key factor to ensuring that indoor plants thrive. See Houseplants: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_house_plants

Soil test: Consider performing a soil test if plants do not perform as desired or if new plantings are planned. See Soil Testing: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_home_soil_testing

Compost/mulch: Use fallen leaves to provide the carbon ingredient needed for successful composting and also to make a good mulch. See Backyard Composting: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_home_composting and Landscape Mulches: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_mulch

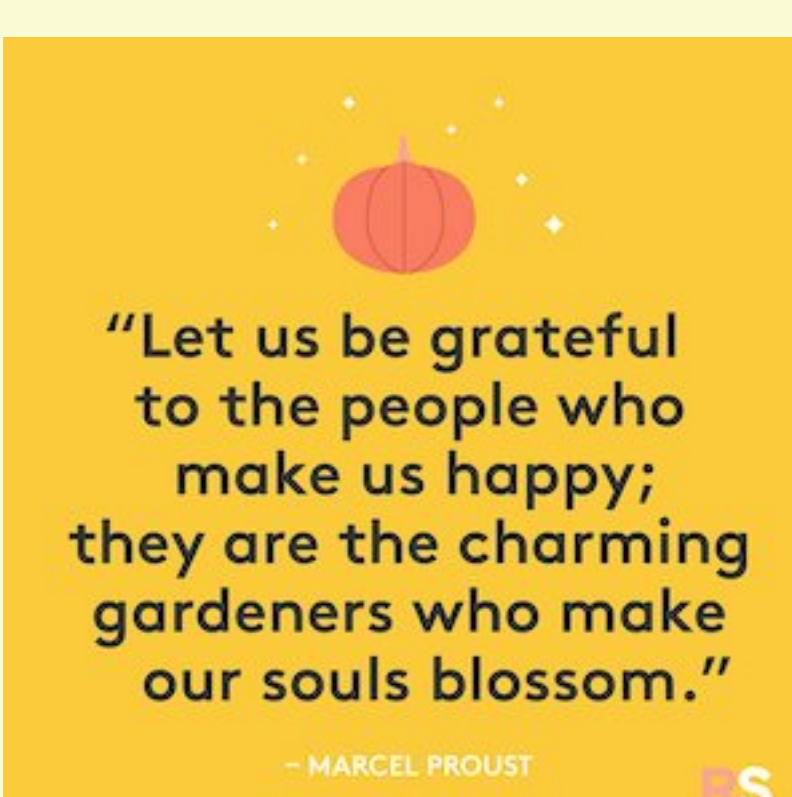
Garden pests: Continue monitoring and treat as needed. While cooler weather generally means fewer pests, some populations actually increase at this time of year. See Garden Pest Insects: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_garden_pest_insects

Library Floral Exhibits are Back!

After the COVID shutdown, the Fernandina Beach public library is once again welcoming our fabulous floral designs for the viewing pleasure of library patrons and staff.

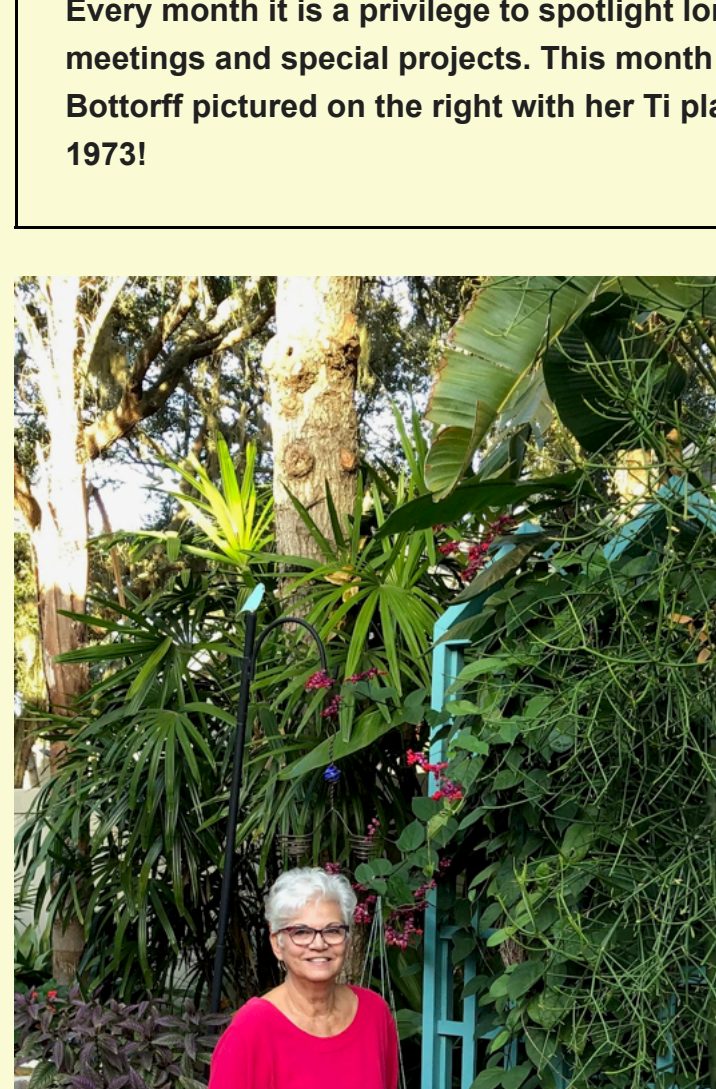
December 1 - 14 Kathleen Lunman
December 15 - 31 Frances Ambrose

Please contact **Frances Ambrose** to sign up for January.
francesambrose2@gmail.com
229-942-5307



The Trailblazers Member Spotlight

Every month it is a privilege to spotlight long-time members who have consistently supported our meetings and special projects. This month we feature Sue Dwyer, pictured on the left, and Karen Bortoff pictured on the right with her TI plant which started as a souvenir log purchased in Hawaii in 1973!



Everything I know about gardening I have learned from my failures. I grew up in Sheboygan, WI in a non-gardening family. After I married in 1978, I moved to Ohio, where we bought a house with a small garden about the size of a car. I purchased and planted about 20 tomato plants, no cages or stakes, and in the fall I had more tomatoes than I knew what to do with.

I never got to improve on my gardening because a year later we moved to Oklahoma City where the earth is red, hard clay. We purchased a new house with no landscaping, and I tried my best to grow grass and a few trees and shrubs.

My trial and error gardening continued when we moved to Fernandina Beach in 1985, and bought another new house without landscaping. But this time the earth was sand and I could get a shovel in it! Four years later we built the house we live in now, again, new with no landscaping but lots of mature trees. I have changed the landscaping in my garden at least 3 times over the last 30 years. Needless to say, I was so excited to join the Bartram Garden Club to learn more about gardening.

I have also discovered "Garden Answer" on YouTube. Laura's garden tips have been very helpful in my effort to grow flowers.

Now, if I could only grow grass!



When I was growing up in northern Indiana, gardening meant planting Benetians in the Spring, and reaping the benefits of neighbors' vegetable gardens. Fast forward to the present: I must admit my husband is the gardener. He plants, waters, and weeds, and I take cuttings for flower arrangements.

During 58 years of marriage, 26 spent in the Navy, many of our plants moved around the country with us every three years. It has been both an adventure and an education.

I did manage a few mini-careers in retail decorator fabrics, clothing, furniture, and as assistant to a decorator, which translates to never being gainfully employed!

We made our last move to Fernandina Beach 33 years ago. Our two collage-age sons soon joined us. I think it was the sound of waves breaking on this beautiful beach!

When asked what I do on our little island I always reply, "I go clubbing ---Woman's Club, Bookclub, two Bridge Clubs, Birthday Club, and of course Bartram Garden Club."

I have Sue Dwyer to thank for encouraging me to join. Even though I am not the dirt digger in the family, I find the programs very interesting and informative. Meeting new people with new ideas is always the best.



www.bartramgardenclub.org

info@bartramgardenclub.org

