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Notes from the Trail

The Bartram Garden Club,
Inc. Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 6

February 1, 2020

On the Trail We Blaze

Grow + Show + Serve +
Conserve

UPCOMING MEETING

The Sunny Side of the Trail

Thursday, February 13 Hospitality

10:00am

**Call to Order 10:15am followed by
program**

GFWC Woman's Club of Fernandina Beach

Leadership Team for February 13*

Greeters: Marianne Salas and Claudia
Burningham

Inspiration: Nancy Ellison

Hostesses: Elizabeth Rawson and Susan
Wilson

Raffle Item: Marianne Salas

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

**Forgotten when you volunteered? Click [here](#)
to view the entire list by the month.**

**Featured Topic: The Sunny Side of the
Trail: Brilliant Succulents**

Presenter: NGC Accredited Flower Show Judge
and Succulents Expert, Amy Wilson

**We Proceeded On...
A Message from the
President**

Dear Members,

February greets us as days of seasonably warm

February greets us as days of seasonably warm weather return. Our winged visitors—and natives—continue to delight us with their chirps and songs while they enjoy the delights of our gardens and feeders. We can enjoy the colorful plantings such as pansies, violas, and sweet alyssum along our drives and the continuing plentiful harvest of our citrus trees.

Our club offers even more to enjoy during these February days. At our membership meeting NGC accredited flower show judge and succulent specialist, Amy Wilson, will present a program on the diverse world of succulents—and it truly is diverse! Another highlight of our meeting will be the mini flower show of botanical arts entries by members—sure to bring oohs and aahs and “How did you do that?!” from the audience.

I hope you will take the time to read this month’s newsletter as our editor has carefully presented information relevant to all members. Read about our featured club member, horticulture and design tips, dates and assignments to remember—“something for everyone.” I am always so impressed by the professionalism of our newsletter.

Remember the opportunities to serve on our leadership teams, committees, and projects. The Youth Garden Therapy Committee will plant a tree at the FBHS on **March 11th**, so please see Alice and Deb if you haven’t already signed up. Interested in preparing a floral design for the lobby of the Fernandina Beach library? Then see Vice-President Sue Lord to select a date and have fun! Our Habitat for Humanity project will soon be available, so contact Karen Riley to lend a hand and a shovel. And don’t forget about the monthly Woman’s Club Workday—offering a few hours one morning a month will help maintain the lovely patio-area garden for all to enjoy.

Did you know that 2020 is a leap year? Yes, indeed: this February has 29 days—one more day to have fun in

the February has 28 days — one more day to have fun in the garden!

With happy pre-Spring wishes,

Kathleen

Dates to Remember

February 2020

3 — 4 NGC Gardening School Course II, Deland

13 Monthly Club Meeting, 10am

The Sunny Side of the Trail: Brilliant

Succulents

19 ESE Youth Garden Therapy, FBHS, 9am

26 Woman's Club Yard Cleanup, 10am

March 2020

12 Monthly Club Meeting, 10am

Leaves of the Trail: Leaf Manipulation

11 ESE Youth Garden Therapy, FBHS, 9am

21 — 22 Orchid Society Show, GC of Jacksonville,
10am

24 Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants, FB Library,
10am

Reservation required

25 Woman's Club Yard Cleanup, 10am

27 — 29 St. Augustine GC Flower Show, St. Johns Co.
Ag Center

February Meeting Mini Flower Show

MEMBERS ARE INVITED to bring any type of Botanical Arts exhibit. Some examples were presented at the January meeting and include: hats, jewelry, decorated frames and boxes using plant material, wreaths, tonics, net of flower designs, fairy gardens, collages,

topiaries, pot-et-neur designs, fairy gardens, collages, and plaques. Let your creative juices flow!

The theme is "**Heart Throb.**" *All designs must contain some fresh and/or dried plant material.* For more details please contact Sue Lord, sueblord@mac.com or Kathleen Lunman, ktlpilot@gmail.com

February Birthdays

3 Barbara Petro
8 Barb Amerigian
17 Reha London
17 Frances Ambrose
20 Karen Bottorff

Library Exhibit Schedule

February 1 – 14 Sandi Barada
February 15 – 28 Debby Arnold
March 1 – 14 Sue Lord
March 15 – 31 Bev Williams

VOLUNTEERS are needed.
Please contact Sue Lord at
sueblord@mac.com or
202-492-2257.

Reduce Reuse Recycle

Recycle Corks

BRING natural and synthetic

corks to our meetings to support "Save the Oceans" and "Save the Forests" conservation projects.

Reduce Invasives

The NASSAU COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE will replace invasive plants (such as asparagus fern, Boston fern and Mexican petunia) that homeowners remove from their landscapes with 3 - 5 native or Florida-friendly landscape plants. Take a photo of the removal of the plant pests, and email to Rebecca Jordi, rljordi@ufl.edu

Welcome To Our Newest Members

Andrea Buehler
Carol Dunlop
BJ Habig

Please give these ladies a warm garden club welcome at our next meeting!

And remember, contact information for both long-standing and new members is listed on the Members page of

listed on the members page of
our website. Contact Marc
Williams if you have forgotten
the password.
willimarc@gmail.com

Woman's Club Yard Cleanup

GET GROUNDED! VOLUNTEERS are needed to
***help us fulfill our contract with the Woman's
Club.***

Thanks to Carol Newby, Lorraine Conover, Nancy
Chere, Kathleen Lunman and Karen Reily
for volunteering in January!

The next work day is **February 26**, 10:00 a.m.

Please offer a few minutes of your time to weed,
prune and water with us.

Bring basic gardening tools, gloves, hat, bug
repellent, and a willingness to bond.

Pathways to Discovery

Crash Course in Northeast Florida

Crash Course in Northeast Florida Gardening

Three-day seminar for newcomers to Florida led by Nassau Extension Service Director, Rebecca Jordi. Saturdays February 6, 13 and 29 from 8 a.m. until noon.

Extension Office 86026 Pages Dairy Road, Yulee
Registration Required.

\$50 per person, \$100 per couple.

Attendance limited to 30 people.

rljordi.ufl.edu or call 904-530-6353

Save the Coral Reefs

OXYBENZONE AND OCTINOXATE are two ingredients in sunscreen brands believed to contribute to coral bleaching. Most popular sunscreen brands are known to contain these chemicals. On top of tourism being badly impacted, the dead reefs are inhospitable to most marine life, putting a strain on Florida's fishing industry. Key West's ban on such sunscreens from sale within the city limits will become effective in January 2021. (Bans do not apply to sunscreens prescribed by a doctor.) The cities of Miami Beach and Surfside are also exploring bans.

Can I find reef-friendly sunscreen products? Yes. A number are "reef safe" and can easily be purchased on Amazon or from local retailers. But, according to Consumer Reports contributor, Craig A. Downs, Ph.D., executive director of nonprofit Haereticus Environmental Laboratory, beware that labels don't tell the whole story. The term "reef safe" doesn't have an agreed-upon definition, and therefore isn't strictly regulated by government. One of the best ways to protect yourself and the environment may be to cover most of your body with UPF clothing, and apply sunscreen to exposed skin, requiring far less the amount.

Horticulture Tip

Susan Borge, Horticulture Chair

THIS IS A GREAT TIME of year to be imagining your 2020 Dream Garden! I'd like to encourage you to consider the pollinators when you are choosing which plants to include. Here is a link to a booklet chock full of great information on the best (and most beautiful) ways to encourage pollinators in our region, both for the health of your own garden, and for the well-being of gardens everywhere. Remember...if you plant it, they will come!

https://www.pollinator.org/pollinator.org/assets/generalFiles/OuterCoastalrx7FINAL_171017_085728.pdf

Design Tip

Mariette Wooden, NGC Accredited Flower Show Judge
IT'S TULIP TIME! But these beauties can be challenging to display. Here are some helpful tips.

- Buy stems with tight buds.
- Cut stems diagonally 1/2" from tip. Wrap in paper sleeve to keep tight. Place in cool water with floral preservative. Store in cool, dark place overnight or a few hours. Use a thoroughly clean container.
- Containers: tall containers up to half the height of cut stems keep them upright. (They grow a few inches after cutting!) Lower containers with wide lip allow them to droop gracefully.
- Cut stems diagonally again. Remove leaves below water line.
- Rotate vase to keep blooms balanced. (Tulips grow towards the light.)
- Top off water daily and replace every 3 - 4 days. Cut stems if they get too tall.
- Avoid mixing tulips with daffodils. They release a sap

that will clog tulip stems.

- If arranging with other flowers, cut tulip stems a little shorter: remember, they grow!
- Keep flowers in cool place to slow growth.

Some extra care will make the most of your tulip arrangement. Now, enjoy a little taste of spring!

State Wildflower License Plate

Get the plate that saves butterflies and bees! Each purchase or renewal of the beautiful State Wildflower license plate generates \$15 to grow Florida wildflowers for butterflies, bees and birds.

Two ways to get your plate

Visit FlaWildflowers.org/wildflower-tag to request a phone call.

Visit your county license plate agency.

Can you guess the license plate below was purchased by a

Bartram Garden Club Inc. member?

•

94th Annual FFGC Convention Opportunity Drawing

- Purchase tickets from club treasurer Beverly Williams
- \$2.00 donation per ticket, tax deductible
- Drawing is April 18th
- Need not be present to win

Prizes are shown on page 22 of the FFGC Winter 2019 issue of *The Florida Gardener* and on the

FFGC website [here](#)

Gardenina Bv The Month -

February

What to Plant

Annuals/Bedding plants: Plants that can take a chill include dianthus, pansy, viola, and dusty miller. **See Annuals:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_annual_landscape_plants

Bulbs: Try dahlia, crinum, and agapanthus. Provide adequate water for establishment and protect them from cold with mulch. **See Bulbs for Florida:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_bulbous_flowers

Flowering plants: Many trees and shrubs will be in bloom, including red maple (*Acer rubrum*) and star magnolia (*Magnolia kobus* var. *stellata*). **See Southern Tree Fact Sheets:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/department_enhort-trees

Vegetables: Plant potatoes now. Start with healthy seed pieces purchased from a local nursery or online seed catalog. Continue to plant cool-season crops. **See Vegetable Gardening in Florida:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_vegetable_gardening

What to Do

Palms: Give cold-damaged palms proper care to encourage their recovery. **See Cold Protection and Chilling Damage of Landscape Plants:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_landscapes_and_cold

Citrus: Avoid pruning until spring. Cold temperatures may still injure citrus. **See Home Citrus Culture:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_citrus_home_citrus_culture

Roses: Prune roses this month to remove damaged canes and improve the overall form. After pruning, fertilize and apply a fresh layer of mulch. Blooming will begin 8–9 weeks after pruning. **See Roses:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_rose

Figure 2. Rose

Credit: UF/IFAS Photo by Eric Zamora

Shrubs: Make certain that you know the height and spread of any shrub you plan to install. Not all shrubs are suitable for planting next to homes or under windows. **See Shrubs:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_shrubs and *The Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Guide to Plant Selection and Landscape Design:* <https://ffl.ifas.ufl.edu/homeowners/publications.htm>

Lawn: Apply a preemergence weed killer (not a “weed and feed” fertilizer) when temperatures rise to 65°F for 4–5 days to prevent warm-season weeds. Timing is important for good control. **See Lawn Weeds:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_lawn_weeds

Citrus and other fruit trees: Fertilize now if not done in January. Frequency and amount of fertilization depend on the age of the tree. **See Home Citrus Culture:** http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_citrus_home_citrus_culture and *Temperate Fruit for the Home Landscape:* http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_home_temperate_fruit

What's Happening on the Trail

Committee Reports

Youth Garden Therapy with ESE Students

Alice Caldwell and Deb Walton

"The students and volunteers had a great time in January making their very own terrarium. Please note the March program has been changed to **March 11**. We are having a special guest speaker, Rebecca Jordi from the Nassau County Extension Service. She will demonstrate how to plant and care for trees. They have an adopt-a-tree program, and the students will care for their

tree outside of the classroom at FBHS. Thank you to all the volunteers. We could not do this program without you. Donations needed for the next three months are Florida wildflower seed packets and small containers for Mother's Day succulent plants." Alice Caldwell

This program will continue through May. Volunteers may still join the team. Please consider sharing some heart-warming quality time once a month with these exceptional students. You will be blessed beyond measure! **Photos of previous programs may be viewed on the Gallery page of our website.** bartramgardenclub.org

Facebook and Awards

Frances Tidd

Facebook - Check Facebook often and post photos of committee events, your designs or gardening successes or failures - we can learn from you.

Awards - Keep a camera and note pad handy to document all your projects. You could become an award winner!

Membership Report

Linda Broadrick

Eleven (11) new members have been received this club year! Please be sure to welcome: Audrea Buehler, Suzanne Doggett, Carol Dunlop, BJ Habig, Pam Horne, Renee Kuebodeaux, Julia Lizza, Judy LaCross, Barbara Petro, Brenda Price, and Susan Wilson.

Webmaster Report

Marc Williams

The **club roster and yearbook are on the Members page**, which is password-protected for members only. **Forgotten the password?** Email Marc Williams: willimarc@gmail.com

A link to the Leadership Signup schedule is

**Click on the Leadership Signap schedule to
now at the bottom of the Home page of our
website for easy access!!!**

**Look for other updates to our website. Photos
have been added to the Gallery and
Scrapbook. www.bartramgardenclub.org**

Habitat for Humanity

Karen Reily

Habitat for Humanity is our newest standing committee with Karen Reily serving as chairperson. The committee is gearing up to begin work in February with two existing homes. Liberty Landscape supply has committed to contribute plants, etc. for any HfH projects we do. In addition to landscaping, we hope to expand our services by offering homeowners consultations about existing plants and future options.

Library Exhibits

Sue Lord

The designs created for the library have been amazing! Thank you all. The current schedule is set through March, but we need your help to fill the next several months. Remember, design spans a broad spectrum —traditional, creative, abstract, table designs, and don't forget Botanical Arts. If you need help, just ask! Guidelines and Policies for exhibiting in the library are accessed by clicking [here](#)

Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants

The SISTERS ARE RETURNING for an encore appearance! Cathy and Marilyn love to

demonstrate creative uses of flowers, fruits, and vegetables. They experiment with unique containers and tablescares. Mark your calendar!

March 24, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Fernandina Beach Public Library Community Room

Members \$10.00 Non-Members \$15.00 Checks

payable to The Bartram Garden Club

**Advanced Reservations are
Required!**

Seating is limited to 30.

Make reservation with Sue Lord sueblord@me.com

Cottages and Courtyards Tour

MANY THANKS to club members Reha London, Susannah Warner and Susan Borge for participating in the spring tour on April 18 sponsored by Amelia Island Museum of History. We are proud of these ladies for opening their homes and/or gardens to our community! In addition, garden club members will be serving as docents at Reha's home. Thank you one and all!

Blooming Art and

Other Spectacles of Nature

WHAT IS HAPPENING in your garden? Share your nature photos. Send to bevthepatriot@gmail.com

Pink trumpet vine, *Podranea ricasoliana*, dripping from a tree in Claudia Burningham's backyard provides a welcome splash of winter color.

Blooming *Thunbergia grandiflora* (Blue Sky Vine), and Pink Trumpet Vine combine to brighten the sky view from Claudia's patio.

The Trailblazers

Member Spotlight

Cathy Klein

I grew up in Lewiston, Maine and had no interest in gardening but my parents did. My Mother had an organic garden every summer of vegetables and flowers. I remember bitterly complaining when it was my turn to weed. My parents owned a

100-acre pine tree farm and I was “conscripted” every year to plant rows of white pine seedlings. In 1979 I moved to Philadelphia for my first job, met my husband and started a family. We have 3 beautiful children who now live in Huntsville, AL, Boston, MA, and Philadelphia, PA. Like many Northerners, I never imagined I would live this far south, but we have been in Florida for 15 years and on beautiful Amelia Island for 5 of those years.

I have an MBA in Healthcare Administration and a long career in hospitals and physician practice networks. I work part-time for UF Health Jacksonville, and we relocated to Jacksonville for my husband to manage the UF Proton Therapy Institute. I enjoy our year-round season of gardening — what a different place this is for moisture, temperature and garden pests of all kinds. I have so much to learn!

My volunteer work on Amelia Island includes coordinating Flowering Fernandina, residents who help the City’s Historic District manage the flower pots along Centre Street. It is fun and it feels great to see our work on display for locals and visitors to enjoy. I joined the Garden Club to learn and connect with others who have an interest in making our homes and our island a beautiful place.

www.bartramgardenclub.org

info@bartramgardenclub.org

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