



October 2016

Brevard Botanical Garden

Bob Jaglowski, Editor

N E W S L E T T E R



MEETINGS

Garden Development / Operations:

Oct 10th from 9:00 – 11:00 at the Extension Center Office.

Fall Garden Festival was a realization of reality!

BBG's Fall Garden Festival was an awe-inspiring achievement and our appreciation goes out to so many who gave of their time and expertise. To all of you... Master Gardeners, BBG Members, UF/IFAS staff, vendors, speakers, the Brevard County Explorers and, last but not least, our attendees. It takes a team to pull off an exciting gardening festival. Special thanks go out to Sarah Cosentino, Joanie Opperman, Bob Jaglowski, Jim Baldwin, Bob Whipple, Lois Harris, Sheryl Bergstrom, and Holly Pardi for taking on leadership roles. Overwhelming thanks to the Nursery volunteers who committed many, many, hot & sweaty hours seeding, propagating and nurturing our plants for this event. For this Fall Garden Festival, the Garden Tour Guides conducted free tours throughout the day sharing the BBG vision. The Nursery shared space with Green's Nursery from Zellwood who provided an overwhelming selection of tropical fruit plants and trees to complement our vegetables and herbs...with so many vegetables, herbs and tropical varieties sold out. And sixteen lucky winners received Opportunity Baskets full of community support. Something for everyone! Each year we get better and become more resourceful in facilitating festivals of this degree. Our goal is to continue growing not only the healthy plants for our customers but to also grow an educationally-based botanical garden for all of Brevard to enjoy. Thank you to all.

Kathryn Merry, BBG Board Member & Festival Volunteer Coordinator

Nursery Event for Oct-Nov-Dec

No Friday Sales in October, other than

Fri, Oct 28 9-12 9:30 Fall Gardening Class by Sally Scalera

9:00 Sale of Strawberries (Bare root & potted), LA Irises (Bare root), Vegetables, Herbs & Succulents Dish Gardens

Wed, Nov 09 – MG Luncheon (9-11 am)

Nursery open for Plant Sale

Fri, Nov 18 – Special Sale (9-12 am)

Book Sale / Plant Sale

Master Gardeners & BBG Members – donate your gardening related books to BBG for our Gardening Book Sale to be held Friday, Nov. 18th.

Contact Kathryn at kathrynmerry2015@gmail.com to coordinate.

Wed, Dec 14 – MG Luncheon (9-11 am)

Nursery open for Plant Sale

Fri, Dec 16 – Friday Sale (9-12 am)

Holiday Gifts / Plant Sale

Master Gardeners & BBG Members (if you are also artsy/crafty) are invited to set-up a booth and sell your holiday craft during the above Friday Sale on Dec. 16th.

Contact Kathryn at kathrynmerry2015@gmail.com to register.

Browsing at the Fall Garden Festival



Orchid Donation for the Garden

Mrs. Bettie Snow, the mother of BBG member Kim Simmons was moving and downsizing her home and could not take her orchid collection with her, so she decided to share them with the Botanical Garden. Her collection consisted of Dendrobiums and Phalaenopsis. They will be placed in our Orchid House as soon as it is completed in addition to orchids donated by others. Thank you for your generosity. For anyone who may have plants that have outgrown your space, consider donating them to the BBG. We will take great care of them and visiting hours will always be available.



October Events

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF TITUSVILLE

October 7, 2016 9:00—5:00

October 8, 2016 9:00—3:00

Fall Tree & Plant Sale

Located at the "Tree Farm"

1230 Thoreau Street (next to Stuart Park)

The Enchanted Forest Sanctuary

presents:

1st ANNUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL

October 22, 2016

11:00 am—4:00 PM

444 Columbia Blvd, Titusville

Visit www.eelbrevard.com for more details.

Community Gardens Come to Brevard County

The notion of community gardens has been around for decades. Maybe you remember the Victory Gardens during The Great Depression that were born out of necessity--food was in short supply or nonexistent, and many people could not afford to buy what little food stocked the local general store.

Fast forward to the 21st century and you will find some parallels between the Victory Gardens of the 40's and today's community gardens. A revival in community gardens occurred after the economic downfall in 2008. Communities and individuals were looking for innovative ways to feed the hungry and to help underserved populations live a healthier lifestyle through exercise and better nutrition. Today, community gardens remain popular as people discover the health benefits of working outdoors, and an increased desire to control how their food is produced.

To meet the demand for community gardens, UF/IFAS Extension, Brevard County Parks and Recreation, and Brevard County Government collaborated to create the Wickham Park Community Garden. The garden consists of 40 raised beds. Twenty of the beds are rented by local members of the community. The remaining 20 beds are sponsored by local individuals, businesses, or organizations and through a volunteer work share program, will grow food for families in need. Volunteers in the work share program will receive a box of produce for every two hours they volunteer in the garden.

Growing methods and techniques are all based on the latest research provided by the University of Florida, and can easily be implemented by home gardeners. For example, the garden utilizes a micro irrigation system designed for the home gardener, compost bins will soon be built that teaches the home gardener how to reduce landfill waste while enriching the soil, the Brevard Backyard Beekeepers will donate some bee hives to aide with pollination, and rain barrels will be used for quick, hand watering.

Interest in the garden has been overwhelming, and there is a long waiting list for bed rentals. We hope to expand the garden in the future either at Wickham Park or at another location in Melbourne.

If you are interested in volunteering or becoming a sponsor, please email lseals@ufl.edu or call 633.1702.

Mission Statement: To inspire, support and educate the community through UF/IFAS Florida Friendly/Landscaping principles that protect our environment .