

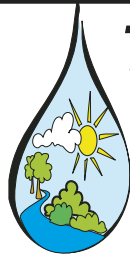
DOWN TO EARTH

with the Navarre Garden Club

NAVARRE, FLORIDA

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 3

DECEMBER 2004



THE PRESIDENT'S PATH...

Can you believe this year is drawing to a close already? Hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Now our thoughts are turning to the Christmas season with Christmas parties, shopping and getting our packages wrapped and mailed on time. This is an exciting time of the year. There is also another topic that we in the Garden Club focus on and that is Arbor Day which is officially held on January 21st.

It really saddens me to know that this year no one has stepped forward to make Arbor Day special for our Jr. Garden Club members. Last year we held a class on trees and why they are so important. The children made posters depicting that importance. We judged their posters; Wal Mart donated first, second, and third place prizes in the form of gift cards; in fact, Wal Mart was so taken by our efforts with the youth they issued a \$500 grant to West Navarre Elementary School. Remember the tree planting ceremony on the school grounds when we helped the students plant a tree? All this was so lovely and extremely meaningful. This year, everyone seems to be turning away from this wonderful endeavor and the children are the ones who are suffering. In the wake of Ivan, how much more important are our trees!

I am begging for someone to step forward and become the Jr. Garden Club Chairman and start the program off with a class on trees followed by a poster contest and a tree planting ceremony. Judith Begue has all the lesson plans; she has volunteered to be on the committee and assist the

chairman. You will not be out on a limb all by yourself. You won't know what a blessing working with 3rd graders is until you do it. Please step forward at a time when it really counts.

See you at the December 7th meeting in the morning and the Christmas Party in the evening.

God bless you all.....
Your President

Linda Henderson

WANTED

YOUTH CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE: Judith Begue, Jim & Julie Carson, Joanne Connor, Jan Courtney, Jytte Fawzy, Lee Jones, Lynn Wilson

Jr. Garden Club, West Navarre Elementary School, all third grade classes.

Meet once a month in the classroom to introduce program on horticulture, nature and related subjects to all students.

The class size may be doubled so the program of the month will be presented four times the morning of the program. The program will be from 30 to 45 minutes long. May use the same subject matter and programs that were given the previous year. There should be information and instruction with activity at each program. We will need a team leader for each subject. The chairperson may select the team leader or be a team leader for the subject. Each program will take four club members in the classroom. May have guest speakers to present subjects as we did last year.

Personal note from Judith Begue:

We need to get a tree program in the school in December and get the children ready for Arbor Day in

Continued ...





VINE LINES

by *Jungle Judy*



Hello Garden Club members. December is here at last! The cooler weather is certainly welcomed. As you know I am a real "bulb lover" and I have some December tips for you. Check the bulbs that you have in storage now. Throw out any bulbs that show signs of rot. Also look for any pest damage. If you have stored your bulbs in the garage they will attract insects. So check carefully and discard any that need be. If you have stored selected bulbs in your refrigerator for additional chill units, check them now for any signs of decay. Throw out any that are soft and unhealthy. Some gardeners have dug up their amaryllis this last month. If you are one of these gardeners, please make sure you clean them properly and store for several months in a dry location. I leave my amaryllis in the ground year round in Navarre. Some have done very well over the past several years. But other gardeners feel that by digging the bulbs, storing them and then resetting them makes

a bigger bloomhead. It would be interesting to find some statistics on this practice.

Now for a few suggestions for a gift for the gardener on your Christmas list. This year give a gift that lasts. Who wouldn't love to receive a Christmas Cactus, Kalanchoe, Poinsettia, small Weeping Fig or Norfolk Pine? And Santa knows we can always use one more pair of gardening gloves, another pair of shears or a garden tool and that cute little watering can. If you want to give something fancy pick out decorative pot feet, bright plant labels or decorative hose guides. And if you are crafty, hand paint or decorate a small clay flowerpot. Make a pine cone wreath or grapevine wreath from your own yard. And a favorite gift for all would be seeds of the best plants from your own flower bed.

Happy Holidays to all and lets watch for that first frost. It's just around the corner!

Comings & Goings ...

Just arrived! Looking for ideas for last minute Christmas shopping?

How about one of our useful **canvas totes** (only \$10) or Navarre "flower pot" **coffee mugs** (\$6 each) displaying both our sea oats and heron.

These items are available for sale at all upcoming events and the December meeting.

Get yours now!



DISTRICT I HAPPENINGS

The Gardens on the campus of PJC were badly damaged during the hurricane. Please consider joining the **Friends of the Gardens of Northwest Florida** to help in the restoration. For information, call Tina Tuttle, President, at 587-2361.

CLASSES to consider:

••• W/Th, January 26 & 27, 2005

Landscape Design Study Course II

Held at PJC Milton Campus, Room 4902. \$55 includes class/lunch/exam fee. Text book is additional. Call Tina Tuttle (587-2361) for information to register.

••• Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Gardening Made Easy

Held 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Pensacola Garden Center, 1850 North Ninth Avenue. \$25. Call Judy (484-9172) or Ruth (968-4416) to register.

••• Th/F, March 3 & 4, 2005

Gardening Study Course I

Held at PJC Milton Campus, Room 4902. \$55 includes class/lunch/exam fee. Text book is additional. Call Tina Tuttle (587-2361) for information to register.



Mary Cancel
December 9

WANTED: Youth Chairman

Continued from front page.

January. We can do the poster contest and have a tree planting and Smokey The Bear again. But we are running out of time. It will be so easy for a chairperson to take the next two months because the program has already been written and Lynn and I will help. Plus several other people. We just need a chair.

Please contact any club officer if you are willing to rescue this very valuable program.



The Garden Web



Gifts that keep on giving.

Christmas time is a time of laughter, relatives, friends, parties, decorations and gifts. Gifts are great fun. Half of the fun being guessing what's inside the gift before you open it. Then the childlike pleasure of tearing up the paper and trashing the ribbon to discover the treasure inside.

Make sure you don't get an unwanted gift this Christmas season. A gift you don't want that trashes your computer and causes you hours of grief. A computer virus.

Everyone who gets email gets all sorts of advertising and spam. Every time you look at a page on the internet, you are downloading information to YOUR computer. Be very careful what "gifts" you open in your email regardless of how nicely they are wrapped. If you don't know the sender, don't open the email. If an email has an attachment to open, be certain that it's from someone who uses a virus checker before you open it. Lots of well meaning folks spread lots of ill meaning viruses unknowingly. Some bad guys on the net can even send you email using your friends email addresses so you'll feel safe unleashing their viruses. If you get an attachment from a friend, it doesn't hurt to check with them to make sure they sent it and know what's in it (and that it was virus checked) before you open it. Just let them know you're trying to keep your computer safe and they'll understand.

This time of year we are focusing on gift giving for others and maybe saving a few dollars here and there. Save yourself untold time and potentially dollars this year by giving yourself the gift of an

Anti Virus program. This computer user prefers Norton AntiVirus but there are others on the market (McAfee for one). The important thing is to get one and get it on your computer. It really does no good sitting on your desk in its box. Set it up to scan ALL your incoming AND outgoing mail. Put it on "Auto-Protect" so that it is running from the minute you turn your computer on. Let it scan files being downloaded to your computer. Set it to automatically check it's home on the internet for virus definition updates to keep you current. Run a COMPLETE computer system scan at least once a month, once a week would be better.

Make sure you don't get a gift that keeps on giving like a computer virus. Give yourself (and indirectly your friends) a gift, and make your computer time more fun and a lot safer!

Happy Holidays to all.

Your Web Master,
Deggy Gray



Don't miss out!

REGISTER NOW
for the
**Navarre Garden Club
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Join us for fun, food, friends,
festivities and a little frivolity.

**Make your check payable to the
Navarre Garden Club
and mail to:**

**Lynn Wilson
8825 Waynell Court
Navarre, FL 32566**

(Must be received by Dec. 1st.)

For details -
call Carolyn Igo,
850-939-9604 or go to
www.navarreclub.org.



Cold Protection for Plants in Northwest Florida

Homeowners can take steps to help protect plants from cold temperatures by coverings. This actually protects more for frost damage than from extended extreme cold. The covers that extend to the ground and are not in contact with plant foliage can lessen cold injury by reducing radiant heat loss from the plant and the ground. Foliage in contact with the cover is often injured because of heat transfer from the foliage to the colder cover. Some examples of coverings are: cloth sheets, quilts, or black plastic. It is necessary to remove plastic covers during a sunny day or provide ventilation of trapped solar radiation. A light bulb under a cover is a simple method of providing heat to ornamental plants in the landscape.

Watering landscape plants before a freeze can help protect plants. A well watered soil will absorb more solar radiation than dry soil and will reradiate heat during the night. However, prolonged saturated soil conditions damage the root systems of most plants.

Plants in containers can be moved into protective structures where heat can be supplied and/or trapped. Containers that must be left outdoors should be protected by mulches and pushed together before a freeze to reduce heat loss from container sidewalls. Leaves of large canopy plants may be damaged if crowded together for extended periods. Radiant heat loss is reduced by mulches placed around plants to protect the roots. For perennials, the root system is all that needs to be protected since the plants die back to the ground annually.

For more information on cold protection see your Cooperative Extension Service, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 7

Regular Meeting

Program: "English Gardens"

Guest Speaker: Theresa Friday

Bio: Theresa is the Santa Rosa County Environmental Horticulture Agent and has been with the County Extension Service since 2001. Her focus is to teach county residents how to create and maintain environmentally friendly landscapes that minimize water use, reduce storm water run off and decrease potential pollutants. She also coordinates the Santa Rosa County Master Gardener volunteer program.

Hostesses: Angel Griesemer, Joy Griffin, Joyce Grove, Karin Heaton, Margie Henson, Maxine Hooks

Christmas Party

Social Hour: 6:00 pm

Dinner: 7:00 pm

Location: Soundside

Enjoy an evening of fun,



food and friendship including a \$10 Christmas Chaos gift exchange, door prizes and entertainment. Hurry, hurry! **Paid registration must be received by Dec. 1.**

December 11

Fun with Flowers Workshop

Program: "Celebrating the Season"

Instructor: Gina Jogan

Time: 9:00 a.m. until Noon

Location: Navarre Community Center

Workshop: Covers holiday and seasonal designs/ideas and is open to the public. \$20 for lecture, demonstrations, supplies and hands-on workshop. \$5 additional for lunch. Take home your own holiday creation. Register no later than December 1.

DECEMBER, 2004

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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

December 14

Light Up Your Life

Join us for a caravan tour to see the Christmas lights of the Navarre and Gulf Breeze areas designed for our members who no longer enjoy driving at night. A Christmas Celebration Get-Together will follow.

CHRISTMAS

BLESSINGS

Navarre, FL 32566

P.O. Box 5606

Kathy Jerram, Editor



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Kathy Jerram, Secretary

Lynn Wilson, Treasurer

Shirley Brown, Vice President

Linda Henderson, President



Club Flower ... Sea Oats

Club Bird ... Great Blue Heron

Organized 1975 - Federated 1976

Navarre Garden Club

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE