

A NEW MASTER FLORAL DESIGNER AT THE GARDENS

Recent visitors to the main building at the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens have praised the beautiful floral displays exhibited on the central table. These are the creations of Paul Renwick, a multi-talented volunteer at the Gardens.

Paul is a recent transplant from western Michigan, where he spent fifteen years in the lakeside resort town of Saugatuck, a city among the top ten centers for artists. Prior to living in Michigan, Paul owned and operated a flower and design shop in the upscale community of Alameda, California. His former clients include well known politicians,



Continued on Pg 4



President's Message Board & Committees BOOtanical Halloween Table Call Bat-tastic" Night Stroll Out & About with The Gardens October Calendar October Planting Calendar

Garden of The Month Gift Shop Update Pg2 Volunteer & Wish List Update Pg2 Can You Dig It Pg3 Horticulture Know How Pg5 HORTence Pg6 Membership - Join Today Pg12 Happenings @ The Gardens Pg13 Gardens Supporters	Pg15 Pg17 Pg18 Pg19 Pg20 Pg21 Pg22 Pg23 Pg25
---	--

RemindeR

BOOTANICAL HALLOWEEN October 31st 5pm - 7pm

The Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, is charged with creating and maintaining a serene and peaceful environment for all visitors.



2410 SE Westmoreland Blvd. Port St. Lucie, FL 34952 Phone: 772.337.1959 Fax: 772.237.5952 E-mail: info@pslbotanicalgardens.org Web: www.pslbotanicalgardens.org Hours: Wednesday - Saturday 10am - 4pm Sunday Noon - 4pm Closed Monday, Tuesday & Holidays Suggested Donations: Adults \$5 Students \$2

Children 12 & Under Welcome Members and Active Military (with family) Welcome (IDs required)

Mission Statement . . .

Friends' mission is to create and maintain a beautiful, serene sanctuary in the center of Port St. Lucie that is environmentally sound and naturally diverse and to provide educational, cultural and recreational opportunities for all who visit.

Officers & Directors . . .

President: Vice President: Secretary: Treasurer: Directors: Joleen King Illona Christie Claire Clark Cheri Mabry Mike Alexander Brenda Gustafson Jeffrey Policar Gloria "Gigi" Norelli Kate O'Neill Jennifer Scee Tim Sutton

Standing Committee Chairs . . .

Strategic Planning Committee: Horticulture Committee: Finance Committee: Membership & Volunteer Committee: Gift Shop Committee: Resource Development Committee: Election Committee: Joleen King TBD Cheri Mabry

Illona Christie

Jennifer Scee

Claire Clark Debby Augst

Newsletter...

Editor: Design:

Judy Nash-Wade Mark Barnes

The Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens is managed and operated by Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, Inc. The Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, Inc. receives no funding from any government agency. Your admission donations help us maintain and grow The Gardens.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

October! The end of hurricane season... the beginning of the holiday season... and the peak of the Election season! The Port St Lucie Botanical Gardens its Election enters own Season each fall, beginning with asking members with an interest in serving on the Board of Directors to file Letters of Intent (to run for election). We will vote in a new Board of Directors at the January 2017 Annual Meeting



and more information will be available in the November newsletter. But consider this a gentle nudge: the Friends of the PSL Botanical Gardens are all volunteers. Consider bringing your own talents to our Board of Directors for 2017.

A Bootanical Halloween at the Gardens! This is a first effort to offer safe Trick or Treating to the youngsters of Port St Lucie. If you're a member of a service organization, a society, a neighborhood HOA, or just have a few friends that would like to adopt and man a table for the Trick or Treaters on Halloween night in and around the Gardens, please contact us at 772.337.1959 or email info@pslbotanicalgardens.org for more information. This is a free event for the children and for the adults. Join us!

Joleen King President





2410 SE Westmoreland Boulevard Port Saint Lucie, FL 34952 772.337.1959

www.pslbotanicalgardens.org

2016 Board of Directors

> Joleen King President

Illona Christie Vice President

Claire Clark Secretary

Cheryl Mabry Treasurer

Brenda Gustafson Director

> Gigi Norelli Director

Kate O'Neill Director

Jeff Policar Director

Jennifer Scee Director

Tim Sutton Director



Attention: all Civic groups, garden societies, homeowners associations, local businesses, et al. Join the Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens this Halloween for a public "Trick or Treat" among the trees. We need your organization to join us in this fun hour and a half of welcoming Ghouls and the Goblins of Port St Lucie for trick or treating at the Gardens in a controlled. safe, no-cars atmosphere.



Who's invited? Children, ages 0-13, in costume and their parents. No admission - this is a free event.

What does your group have to do? Claim table space somewhere in the Gardens, set up a table, decorate as much as you'd like, staff your table with costumed volunteers who enjoy (and perhaps miss) the joy of Halloween and the costume parade we all remember from Halloweens past. And bring lots of candy! Your organization will be responsible for having sufficient candy, snacks or treats for the children.

Your area in the Garden is **FREE**. Your group must supply their own table. We have a limited supply of 8 ft. and 6 ft. tables available at \$10 each, first reserved, first served.

Are you an HOA, 55 and older? Miss seeing the children? Are you a City Department that would like to adopt a site to be manned by co-workers? A garden society of retired grandparents whose grandchildren are miles away, and are missed? Are you a local business that recognizes an opportunity for team building and community outreach? A civic group or club, looking for a fun, simple new event on your Fall calendar? This is an event for you!

Trick or treating will begin at 5:00 and end at 7:00 pm. Parents, accompanying their children will be required. No children without parents will be allowed on Garden property. Sunset on October 31st is 6:38 pm in Port St Lucie FYI. This is designed to be an evening/twilight event.

Please give this opportunity your attention; talk with friends and neighbors, decide to commit to this new Community event, and send us your commitment via email. Event will be advertised through the Gardens website & newsletter, on-line calendars, community radio and more.

For more Information or to register, please call the gardens at 772.337.1959.

Continued from Pg 1

celebrities and community leaders...as well as the San Francisco Junior League. He was chosen to create the Presentation Bouquets, flower arrangements and decorations for the 1992 World Skating Championships, held in Oakland, California that year.

Now retired, Paul continues to practice his talents where he finds opportunities. A Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens member, is now using his very unique talents volunteering at the Gardens. He not only assists in the propagation area but he is also working with other volunteers throughout the Gardens' to provide some 'WOW' factor. How lucky we are that he will be designing our centerpieces, using flowers and greenery from our gardens!

Be sure to stop by the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens Pavilion to see his latest display...Gigi Norelli





"BAT-TASTIC" NIGHT STROLL IN THE GARDEN

Back in June, Florida Master Naturalists Illona Christie and Mary White asked me if there were bats in the natural area at Port St Lucie Botanical Gardens. My response was something along the lines of "I don't know, but lets find out." And that started the ball rolling.

We decided to conduct a short course on August 9th designed to teach participants about bats in Florida and how we can use bat detectors to find them. It was a rainy, stormy hot day, but my instincts told me to proceed with the class. I sure am glad we did. The rain stopped and it was a perfect night for bat detecting. Humidity + heat + dark night = insects & bats. Lots and lots of bats!

As part of this short course, participants learned about this fascinating, beautiful, misunderstood mammal and how they are an essential part of a healthy ecosystem. As the sun set, we traveled into Botanical Gardens property in search of life after dark. We brought along bat detectors and night vision goggles for our quest to discover these nocturnal creatures. Bat detectors are electronic devices that transmute bat ultrasonic echolocation to frequencies audible to people. Florida bats are both nocturnal and insectivorous. They are able to forage for their insect meals by using echolocation which helps them locate flying insects.

As soon as we stepped onto the path behind Port St Lucie Botanical Gardens, the bat detectors went off. We heard a series of clicks, squeaks and "raspberry" noises which indicated the nearby presence of bats. While the bats we have in St Lucie County are not voracious mosquito-eaters, they will incidentally eat them along with other flying insects. They are nature's pest control operators. Someone in class asked me about bat houses. I had to be honest and tell the person that I haven't had much luck with bat houses in St Lucie County. I encourage people to try, but don't lose sleep over it if the bats don't come. If you're ever on the UF campus in Gainesville, make sure you visit the bat house just before dark and you'll have an experience you won't soon forget. Build it and they "might" come (this is my take on the famous quote from the Kevin Costner film Field of Dreams).

Overall, our night bat detecting was fantastic. If you missed it the first time, you can join us for Bat Detecting shortly after BOOtanical Halloween at PSL Botanical Gardens on October 31 at 2016. Pre-registration for bat detecting is required at <u>http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu</u>.

By Ken Gioeli, Extension Agent IV/Natural Resources UF/IFAS St Lucie County Extension / ktgioeli@ufl.edu





Bill, a new volunteer shares his carpentry skills to build a Pot Hutch for the Propagation area.



Brenda, Mo, and Paul

Laurie Hart shares the sweet smells of an Orchid at the September workshop for kids.





Continued on Pg 7

August Children's Event: All About Orchids



Continued on Pg 8

The "How To" workshops presented along with the Spring and Summer Plant Sales have been a growing success. Much like "companion planting", each supports and complements the other.

Mike Overly, member of Treasure Coast Hibiscus Society, presenting Hibiscus facts and tips.



Laurie Hart and Nan Rothschild, Master Gardeners and members of both the Gardens and the Port St. Lucie Orchid Society share their extensive knowledge of Orchids.



Orchids, Orchids & More Plant Sale



Continued on Pg 10

Community Resource Specialist Jose Rivera supervises and works alongside of participants of Helping People Succeed in their weekly quest of helping keep the Propagation area neat and appealing to visitors.



Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful and St. Lucie County Master Gardeners Give-a-Tree, Spread-the-Shade Tree Giveaway





31 st	BOOtanical Halloween: Trick or Treat Ramble in The Gardens	5:00 - 7:00 PM	Children 0-13 in Costume. Must be accompanied by an adult.
26 th	Advanced Beginner Spanish Classes	10:00 - 11:30 am	Fee info. call 772.924.1002
24 th	Rio Lindo Garden Club Meeting	12:45 - 4:00 pm	Members Welcome
20 th	German American Chorus Rehearsal	2:00 - 4:00 PM	Members Only
20 th	Treasure Coast Hibiscus Society Mtg.	10:30 am - 1:00 pm	All Welcome
19 th	Ft Pierce Jazz & Blues Jazz Jams	6:30 - 9:30 pm	\$5 Donation, Members \$4
19 th	Advanced Beginner Spanish Classes	10:00 am - 11:30 am	Fee info. call 772.924.1002
13 th	PSL Anglers Club Meeting	6:30 - 9:00 pm	All Welcome
12 th	City of PSL City University	12:00 - 3:00 pm	Students Only
12 th	Advanced Beginner Spanish Classes	10:00 - 11:30 am	Fee info. call 772.924.1002
11 th	Orchid Society Meeting	11:00 am - 3:00 pm	Members Welcome
10 th	Rio Lindo Board Meeting	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Rio Lindo Board Members
10 th	Board of Directors Meeting	5:00 - 7:00 pm	Members Welcome
6 th	German American Chorus Rehearsal	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Members Welcome
5 th	Ft Pierce Jazz & Blues Jazz Jams	6:30 - 9:30 pm	\$ 5 Donation, Members \$4
5 th	German American Club Board Mtg.	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Members Welcome
5 th	Advanced Beginner Spanish Classes	10:00 - 11:30 am	Fee info. call 772.924.1002

For more information on these & other events, please call 772.337.1959

UF IFAS Extension UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

University of Florida IFAS Extension Central Florida Gardening Calendar — October

What to Plant

Annuals/Bedding plants: Even though temperatures are still warm, begin planting for the cooler months ahead. Impatiens, alyssum, and dianthus are good plants for the fall/winter garden. **See** *Annuals*:<u>http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_annual_landscape_plants</u>

Bulbs: Plant agapanthus, rain lily, and Clivia lily now for blooms next spring or summer. Add organic matter to the planting bed for best results. **See** *Bulbs for Florida*: <u>http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/</u> topic bulbous flowers

Herbs: A wide range of herbs can be planted from seed or transplants this month. Some to try include dill, fennel, parsley, and cilantro. **See** *Herbs*: <u>http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_herbs</u>

Vegetables: Easy crops that can be grown now include beans, broccoli, carrots, collards, lettuce, green onions, peppers, radishes, spinach, and tomatoes. **See** *Vegetable Gardening in Florida*:<u>http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_vegetable_gardening</u>

What to Do

Lawns: Control winter weeds in lawns before they appear. Preemergence herbicides must be applied at the right time to be effective. Apply when nighttime temperatures are 55°F–60°F for 4–5 days. **See** *Lawn Weeds*:<u>http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_lawn_weeds</u>

Ornamental trees and shrubs: Fertilize plants that are not performing as desired. This is the last month of the year to fertilize shrubs and trees. Controlled-release fertilizer provides nutrients over a longer period of time. **See** *Palm Nutrition and Fertilization*: <u>http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/</u> topic_palm_nutrition_and Landscape Fertilization:<u>http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_landscape_fertilization</u>

Lawn fertilization: Fertilize lawns if needed. See Lawn Fertilizer: <u>http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/</u> topic lawn fertilization

Strawberries: Prepare beds and set strawberry plants this month. Strawberries also make a colorful and tasty container planting. Either way, water daily until plants are established. **See** *Strawberries*:<u>http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_strawberries</u>

Palms: Palms have unique nutritional needs. Select a fertilizer that contains controlled release nitrogen, potassium and magnesium. **See** *Palm Nutrition and Fertilization*: <u>http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_palm_nutrition</u>

Oleanders: Control the oleander caterpillar, which is a year-round resident in South Florida, without harming beneficial insects by pruning off infested leaves or spraying with BT (Bacillus thuringiensis). **See** *Oleander Pest Management*: <u>http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_oleander_ipm</u>

Twig girdlers: Control twig girdlers by cleaning up and destroying fallen branches that young twig girdlers can use for harborage. **See** *Twig Girdlers*: <u>http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_twig_girdlers</u>

EDIBLES TO PLANT IN OCTOBER

North	Central	South
SurviveSting Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, SurviveSting Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Collards, Kale, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, Strawberry	Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Collards, Kale, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, Strawberry	Beets, Broccoli, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Chinese Cabbage, Collards, Eggplant, Endive/Escarole, Kale, Kohlrabi, Lettuce, Peppers, Strawberry, Tomatoes
Transplante Carrots. Mustard, Spinach	Carrots, Mustard, Spinach	Carrots, Celery, Mustard, Potatoes, Spinach
Use ds Geeds Onions, Radish, Turnips	Onions, Radish, Turnips	Beans (bush, pole, lima), Corn (sweet), Cucumbers, Onions Peas (english, southern), Radish, Squash (summer), Turnips







For more information, please visit GardeningSolutions.ifas.ufl.edu

Welcome to All Garden Goers...

This month our Jazz Jams will be held on **October 5th** & October 19th starting at 6:30 pm

JAZZ JAMS At The Gardens

Donation **\$5** per person. Gardens & Jazz Society Members **\$4** per person.

Sponsored by the Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society Repainting the GOLD on the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens Dedication Plaque.



GARDEN OF THE MONTH: ORCHID ROOM MAINTAINED BY PORT SAINT LUCIE ORCHID SOCIETY

When the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens acreage was just in its infancy, the Port St. Lucie Orchid Society undertook a major project to create and maintain a diverse and exciting orchid space. Our goal was, and is, to provide the public with a space that would educate and further peoples' interest in growing and conserving these wonderful, mystical plants. It took a lot of elbow grease, plenty of orchid donations from our members and others and a huge effort by our volunteers. I am very proud of the results of those efforts: A veritable orchid fantasy!





We have included many orchid genera, from the Phalaenopsis that the public is most familiar with, to (the "corsage orchid"), Oncidiums. Cattlevas Dendrobiums and many more. At various times of the year, visitors may look up in the trees and see blooming Vandas or down on the ground where they will spot reed stem Epidendrums growing in clumps with big, showy heads of flowers. They will also see "specimen" plants, notably Oncidium sphacelatum and Grammatophyllum. In season during the late winter and spring are the Phalaenopsis, or "Moth Orchid", with their graceful spikes of flowers which stay in bloom for many months.

So many of our members have worked on this effort that it would be hard to name them all, but a few do deserve recognition. From the beginning, our work was spearheaded by Jessica Benford, who stayed with it through difficult times and persevered. She remains on the job today. Working with her these days are John Erickson, Ena Vilabrera and David Sherlock. These volunteers are there rain or shine, heat or cold, and we could not do it without them. Many of our members also volunteer for other activities at the Gardens, including the Children's Program and the Propagation Team, to name a few.

We are happy to be a part of this effort to share the beauty and mystery of orchids with others. The PSL Orchid Society meets at the Gardens on the second Tuesday of most months, and guests are always welcome. To learn more about the Port St. Lucie Orchid Society, please visit our web site: http://www.pslos.org. We look forward to seeing you at our very informative meetings.

Submitted by: Diana Kulaga, Orchid Society Trustee

GARDEN OF THE MONTH: ORCHID ROOM



Continued from Pg 15





CONSIGNMENTS IN THE GIFT SHOP



JUMBO BAG



Volunteer at the Friends of the Port St Lucie Botanical Gardens

Propagation:

Assist with propagation, plant sales and all areas of propagation techniques. No experience needed. Bring gloves and clippers.

Thursday – Saturday 8:30AM – 12PM in the Propagation Area. Please call Brenda Gustafson at 772-678-8523.

Welle Center & Gift 💗

If you enjoy greeting and meeting 'The Gardens' guests, handing out informational materials, answering the telephone and assisting with questions and requests this is the place for you. Assist in the selection and sales of books, gifts and other merchandise. Capable of handling money and accountable for gift shop receipts. Ability to work well with other volunteers and the public. Open Wednesday – Saturday – 10AM-4PM, Sunday 12AM-4PM. No experience needed. Retail experience in Gift Shop a plus.

Please Call Illona Christie at 772-337-1959



The Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens are always in need of the following materials to help our Gardens to Grow:

- Halloween candy for BOOtanical! Halloween decorations in good condition
 - Volunteers for Welcome Center and Gift Shop
 - Volunteers in the Gardens! Help us keep the Gardens beautiful!
 - Pots for use in the Propagation garden
 - Lumber and materials for raised propagation tables
 - Yard and garden tools Holiday decorations in good condition

Please contact Brenda Gustafson (772-678-8523) or Illona Christie (772-337-1959) for more information or to arrange for item drop off.

Can You Dig It?

Established in 1944, this unique tropical botanical garden is nestled in the heart of the Redland District, just 35 miles south of Downtown Miami. Exotic fruits, herbs, spices and nuts from throughout the world are found in this lush 39-acre park. Open daily except Thanksgiving and Christmas Day 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Guided tours conducted daily on a tour tram at 11, 1:30 and 3, and are included in the price of admission. Adults \$8, children \$2 (ages 6-11), under 6 free. Enjoy a delicious lunch at the Mango Café, and sample rare fruits in their gift shop daily. Picnic facilities available.

The park contains more than 500 varieties of fruit, nut, and spice trees, including more than





80 banana varieties, 160 varieties of mango, more than 40 varieties of grapes, 70 bamboo varieties, plus guava, jackfruit, canistel, sapodilla, longan, lychee, mamey sapote, black sapote ("chocolate pudding fruit"), miracle fruit, jaboticaba, cecropia ("snake fingers"), coffee beans, and wax jambu, as well as other more exotic edibles. Visitors are free to sample fruits lying on the ground, but are not allowed to pick anything from the trees. Fruits that may be poisonous if not consumed correctly, such as ackee, are fenced for safety. The park has completed many renovations and separates the plants into Caribbean, African and Asian sections.



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fruit_and_Spice_Park



Division

HORTICULTURE KNOW HOW...

Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens Horticulture Class Series 2016 Vegetative Propagation

Many plants can be propagated by division.



Step 1

Use a sharp shovel or spade to divide a mother plant.

Step 2

You can also use your hand to divide plants into smaller sections. Each section should have a mass of roots.

Step 3

These can be potted into individual containers.

Root Cuttings

Some plants, like blackberry, can be propagated by a root cutting. FYI: This technique does not work with all plants. Have fun experimenting to see what plants can propagate using their roots!



Step 1

Cut stem at base. Remove a section of the root. Shake off any excess soil, and wash until clean .

Step 2 Use a knife to cut the root into 3- to 4-inch sections.



Step 3

Fill a pot with soil, and use your fingers to make the holes about 1-inch apart. Plant the roots into the holes. Cover your root cuttings with a clear plastic bag to keep them moist and encourage rooting. Be sure to check daily to make sure that they do not dry out .

Step 4

In no time, your new plants will form from the root cuttings. Once the plantlets are big enough to remove easily, remove the plastic and place them into their own container .

*The content of this lesson plan was provided by Propagation Resource an on-line service. It should be noted that varying propagation resources have a variety of views and it is up to the individual to determine what information best fits one's own needs.



Bug-Free Room

- Put a couple of drops of lavender or peppermint essential oil on a cool light bulb to help repel bugs.
- Place several drops of oil of lavender or peppermint on a cotton ball or two. Put them into a small jar or margarine container. Poke a few holes in the lid and cover. Put around the room.

Natural Insect Repellent

• Mix 2 drops of oil of peppermint or lavender with 2 teaspoons of almond or sweet oil and dab on the skin.

Pest-Free Picnic Table

 Add 5 drops of lavender essential oil to 32 ounces of water. Pour into a spray bottle and wipe down the table and chairs.

Body Heat Coolers

- · Place a piece of silverware on the back of your neck for a quick cool down.
- · Rest your wrist on a cold glass of iced water and feel the chill.
- Wipe your feet with an alcohol wipe to cool off your whole body.

<u>Chiller</u>

• Freeze several different sizes of water bottles to keep food chilled in an ice chest. When the water melts, you can drink it!



Are you a Member of Friends? Friends Membership is...



Become a Member of a Growing Community... Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, Inc.



Click Here to Join or Renew Your Membership Today

fike" us on **VISIT OUR facebook WEBSITE**



At The Gardens

Wednesday October 5th & 19th 6:30 - 9:30 pm

PSLBG Propagation

Purchase 2 plants & receive a small Plant FREE

Our PSLBG Propagation Center has a large variety of plants starting at \$2 and trees at very reasonable prices.

We're open: Sunday • 12pm – 4pm Wednesday-Saturday • 10am – 4pm





Bring the family for an evening of Halloween fun at the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens for our children's event



Monday • October 31st, 2016 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

It's that time again kids...put on your costume, come to The Gardens, and join in the Halloween fun. Trick or Treat in the secure and serene Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens. Join our ghosts, ghouls & goblins in their search for goodies, candies and more! The is a free event and open to Children 0-13 years old and their families. Children MUST be accompanied by an adult. No Drop-offs.



Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens 2410 SE Westmoreland Blvd. Port St. Lucie, FL 34952 772.337.1959 info@pslbotanicalgardens.org www.PSLBotanicalGardens.org

