St Marys Garden Club Newsletter March 2018

Dates and Events (events are free unless noted)

Nassau Extension Plant Clinic (10am-2pm): March 5 (Monday), Yulee County Bldg. (86026 Pages Dairy Rd.) Bring your sick plants in a bag for diagnosis.

Weds. March 7, 10am-11am, "Propagation", Yulee County Bldg. (86026 Pages Dairy Rd.)

Tues. Mar. 13, 7 pm, <u>Wild Amelia Wild Nite</u> — "<u>Archaeology in North Florida</u>", Peck Center, 516 S. 10th St., Fernandina Beach.

Sun. March 18, 1-5 pm - Jazz 'n Art, Woodbine Riverwalk. Bring bug spray.

Fri. and Sat. March 30-31 – Spring Plant Sale, Coastal GA Botanical Garden, 2 Canebrake Rd., Savannah.

Garden to-dos for March

Frost date is March 15. After that day, clean up dead vegetation and prune and cut back to your heart's content. (Except for things that will be blooming in spring or early summer). Fertilize citrus and loquats with citrus fertilizer. Fertilize tea olive with acid loving plant fertilizer. Plant poinsettias in the ground in late March, cut back to 1 foot. Prune and fertilize azaleas after blooming. You can prune azaleas until the middle of July. Plant tomatoes and most anything else you can find. Don't yank out things that look dead, cut back but give them a chance. **THEY WANT TO LIVE!!!**

Announcements

Start growing your plants for the plant sale. When cleaning up your yard, clip 4-6 inch tips from_the newly sprouting branches and stick in a pot with dirt in it. Keep in the shade where it will get watered. Don't give up if they drop their leaves. Sometimes they do this before sprouting new growth.

The Garden Maven's Advice to the "Floralorn"

Dear Garden Maven,

I have recently move here and am looking for garden centers. Where are they?

Itching to buy flowers

Dear Itchy,

Donini's took a real beating during the last two hurricanes, but is still there. **Ace Hardware** on Rte. 40 in Kingsland will order things within reason. (912-729-4704). **Dixie Acres** has lots of shrubs and extremely good prices. It is at 4788 US 1 North, Folkston. The GPS will not find it. It is 4 miles north of the 301/1 split or 12 miles north of Folkston. (912-496-4442). In Fernandina, **Ace Hardware** and **Reflections of Nature** (specializing in native plants) are right next to each other on A1A soon after going over the bridge. The **Fernandina Farmers Market** (9am-1pm Saturday, 7th and Centre St.) usually has a couple of plant vendors with nice things. I found a nursery in Brunswick, **Dave's Nursery**, which may be the shade plant nursery that was moving from St. Simons a couple of years ago. It is at 131 Smith. Rd. in Brunswick, which is off 17 just before the airport. (912-264-3135). Can't wait to check this one out! St. Simons has the **Ace Garden Center**, 2807 Demere Rd. (912-634-0523). It's not the cheapest, but it has lots and lots of stuff. Drive a little farther to Jacksonville and there are: **Plant Ranch** – 14108 Beach Blvd. , Jax Beach , (904-223-4546). **Trad's** – 8178 San Jose Blvd., Jax, (904-733-7488). **Pat's** – 7060 Highway 17, Fleming Island, (904-284-2011). **Gore's**—10357 New Kings Rd. Jax, (904-765-9714). Have lunch at Toby's BarBQue down the road and get the potato. Finally, **Edy's**—nothing online, but may still be there outside the entrance to Pecan Park Flea Market at exit 362.

The Maven

<u>Plant Hero of the Month:</u> Azaleas are starting up. Check out the ones recently liberated at Orange Hall. Also, there is a beautiful woodland garden full of azaleas across from Christ Church on St. Simons. I hope to get there at peak bloom time this year.