

# St Marys Garden Club Newsletter

## September 2019

### Dates and Events (events are free unless noted)

**Nassau Extension Plant Clinics (10am-2pm): Sept.9, Sept. 23** (Mondays), Yulee County Bldg. (86026 Pages Dairy Rd.) Bring your sick plants in a plastic bag for diagnosis.

**Weds., Sept. 4, 10-11:00am** – “Troubleshooting Lawn Problems”, Yulee County Bldg. (86026 Pages Dairy Rd)

**Weds., Sept. 18, 10-11:00am**, “Microgreens”, Yulee County Bldg. (86026 Pages Dairy Rd., Yulee). Cost is \$10, you will receive a Microgreen kit to take home. Call 904-530-6353 for more information.

**Weds. Oct. 2 – 10-11am**, “Native Pollinators”, Yulee County Bldg. (86026 Pages Dairy Rd., Yulee)

**Tues. Sept 10, 7pm** – Wild Nite, “Sea Level Rise in the Southeast US”, Peck Center, 516 S. 10<sup>th</sup> St., Fernandina.

**Sat., Sept. 21, 10am – 1pm** – Coastal Wildscapes Fall Native Plant Sale, Ashantilly Center, Darien. (from Rte. 17 in Darien, turn east on GA 99 (beside the Courthouse), go 1.5 miles, look for Ashantilly sign.

### Announcements

The **Earth Angels** are looking for classroom helpers on an occasional basis. Contact Barbara C., or Karen W.

**Plant Sale** – Keep getting your plants ready and growing for the October sale. Get your list of plants and quantities to Judy by Sept. 15 to get your labels printed.

### Garden to-dos for September

Prune perennials. Plant bulbs, trees. Fertilize palms with slow release fertilizer. Most palms are deficient in potassium, so add Muriate of Potash to correct the deficiency. Apply organic matter to roses, fertilize, and prune back 1/3. This is the last month to fertilize citrus trees. Plant Marigolds, chrysanthemums, onions, basil, parsley, lettuce, carrots, cabbage, broccoli.

### The Garden Maven’s Advice to the “Floralorn”

#### ***Dear Garden Maven,***

I planted some passionflower on my arbor last year to attract butterflies. It has worked too well. The caterpillars have devoured every leaf on the plants, leaving some ugly stems. My arbor looks anything but inviting. What can I do to make it look better while staying attractive to the butterflies/caterpillars?

***Butterflies are not free.....***

#### ***Dear Butterflies,***

It’s true, our gardens need to suffer a little bit to be attractive to butterflies. And sometimes this involves providing some good looking plant that will entice the caterpillars to scarf down all the leaves. Fortunately, Mother Nature has showed them how to do this without killing the plant. Your leaves will come back in time to feed next year’s crop of would be gulf fritillaries (or zebra longwings). In the meantime, plant another vine that can keep the arbor looking good but that is not so vigorous that it smothers the passionflower. Climbing roses are good. The passionflower leaves will get enough sunlight to thrive, and the roses will camouflage the chewed off foliage. And the butterflies will like the flowers. A win for both of you!

***The Maven***

**Plant Hero of the Month:** Roses are starting to look happier with the slightly cooler temperatures.