

St Marys Garden Club Newsletter

June 2020

Dates and Events

Mon. June 8, any time of day – National Garden Week observance.

This year we are recognizing first responders, the hospital, stores that stayed open during the quarantine, and others that have gone out of their way to help others during this time. Supermarkets, hardware stores, Dollar General, convenience stores, and others have stayed open every day to keep us supplied with necessities. Another suggestion is Derek Bunkley, the owner of Second Skin Tattoo, who prepared and gave away literally thousands of meals in April. He also helped start the Restoration Church food bank and has done other generous things for the community. Other business owners have donated food and helped out the community when many people were missing paychecks. There are so many who deserve recognition, we hope all of you who can leave your houses will participate.

Deliver your arrangement to your chosen venue. Please let Joyce know your choice in advance so we can list the recipients in the newspaper article and avoid duplication. Take a picture of the flowers so we can put it on the website. **A simple vase from the dollar store with a few flowers in it is easy.** Print out the card Joyce sent in the email (change the name to your recipient) or just write a note of appreciation and sign it St. Marys Garden Club. Let's flood the city with our flowers of appreciation! I wonder if a bud vase would fit inside a roll of toilet paper?

Announcements

Christmas in July – No meetings till September, but save your items for the senior care residents. If not July, we can deliver at a later date. Suggested items include body wash, shampoo, bath soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand cream, face cream, deodorant, combs and brushes, nail polish/remover, cotton balls, tissues, either purse size or regular size, mouthwash, lip balm.

Plant Sale – The plant sale is going to happen, come hell or high water! (Well, maybe not high water...) So grow those plants and let Gail F. and Darlene know what you are growing.

Garden to-dos for June

Plant melampodium, pentas, portulaca, purslane, salvia, zinnia, lantana, buddleia, daylily, verbena, coneflower, plumbago, sun coleus. Plant bulbs like agapanthus, blackberry lily, clivia, achimenes, crinum, iris. Plant eggplant, okra, southern peas, and sweet potatoes. Watch for pests like grasshoppers or slugs who chew holes in the plants, aphids, other pests. Laugh maniacally as you handpick and execute the giant grasshoppers. If ants are running wild on your trees or shrubs, they may be farming aphids. Malathion will take care of both the farmers and the livestock. Some things like gingers, clerodendrum, and caladiums have still not come back. Keep watching for the latecomers. Deadhead, deadhead, deadhead. Fertilize most plants monthly. Keep mulch at least 1-2 inches away from the crowns of plants. It should be 2 inches deep, no more.

The Garden Maven's Advice to the "Floralorn"

Frances recently sent me this, and it seems appropriate in these times.

The Garden of your Daily Living

Plant three rows of peas:

Peace of Mind
Peace of Heart
Peace of Soul

No Garden without Turnips:

Turnip for meetings
Turnip for service
Turnip to help one another

Plant four rows of lettuce:

Lettuce be faithful
Lettuce be kind
Lettuce be patient
Lettuce really love one another

To Conclude our garden, we must have Thyme:

Thyme for each other
Thyme for family
Thyme for friends

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There will be much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow!

Plant Hero of the Month: No hero! Between the rain and the humidity, my birdseed is sprouting inside the bird feeder!